

Year 2 - Grace Darling

Key vocabulary

- survivor** Someone who hasn't died after a terrible experience like a car crash or ship**wreck**.
- wreck** Something that has been destroyed often after an accident e.g. a ship**wreck**.
- rescue** To save someone or something from a bad thing. e.g. rescue a person from a ship**wreck**.
- coble** An open traditional fishing boat, powered by oars or a simple sail.
- heroine** A **female** that does something really brave or special to help someone else.
- hero** A **male** that does something really brave or special to help someone else.
- launch** To start something off or to set it in motion. e.g. put a boat in to the water.
- crew** A group of organised workers who help to run something e.g. a ship's **crew**.
- lighthouse** A building with a warning light that helps ships and boats to navigate safely especially when it is dark or foggy.
- paddle steamer** A ship that is powered by steam with huge metal paddles that move around in a circle and make the boat move.

Key People



Grace Darling



William Darling



Thomasin Darling



Queen Victoria

Key Places

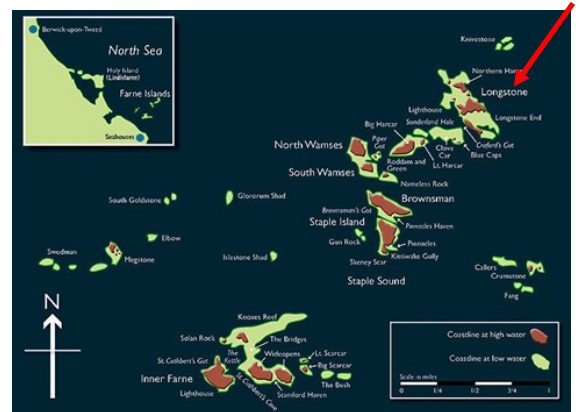


Longstone Lighthouse

Memorial in St Aidan's Church, Bamburgh, Northumberland



Map of the Farne Islands





The SS Forfarshire



A coble —the type of boat used for the rescue



- 1) Grace Darling was the daughter of a **lighthouse** keeper.
- 2) In the early hours of 7th September 1838, Grace was unable to sleep due to a huge storm. She saw a large, black shape on Harcar Rock. It was a ship.
- 3) Grace woke her father and they studied the wreck for signs of life. They saw none. As daylight crept in around 7.00am Grace saw there were indeed some survivors of the **wreck** stuck on the rocks.
- 4) William thought the sea was too rough for the lifeboat from Seahouses to set out (though we now know that it did). Grace pleaded with her father that they both take out the **coble** to rescue them.
- 5) Despite the huge physical effort involved they made towards the wreck of the **Forfarshire** and could see on the rock more survivors than they expected.
- 6) William and Grace managed to manoeuvre the **coble** near to the rock. Grace now had to steady the coble on her own for some time, until her father could gather the weak **survivors**.
- 7) They had to make 2 trips but eventually rescued 4 passengers and 5 members of the **crew**. 10 other survivors also made it to safety in a lifeboat.
- 8) The survivors were cared for by Grace and her family for the next 3 days until the storm passed over and they could be collected by boat from Longstone.
- 9) Grace Darling became a notational **heroine** for her role in the **rescue**.
- 10) The RNLi (**R**oyal **N**ational **L**ifeboat **I**nstitution) are the charity that save lives at sea and not just of shipwrecks. It was founded in 1824.

**24th November
1815**

Grace Horsley Darling was born in her grandparent's small cottage opposite St Aidan's Church in Bamburgh and was the seventh of nine children.

January 1826

The Darling family moved to Longstone Island when Grace was 10 years old. There were five levels leading up to the lantern, including three floors of bedrooms. The third floor was where Grace slept, at first with her sister Betsy.

**7th September
1838**

Unable to sleep because of a huge storm, Grace was watching out the window and saw a large ship stuck on the rocks. With her father she rowed out in a coble boat and rescued 9 survivors who were stranded on the rocks.

November 1838

Grace received a letter and £50 as a reward for her bravery from the then monarch, Queen Victoria.

**Thursday 20th
October 1842**

Grace became ill with and eventually died of Tuberculosis (TB) aged just 26 years old, despite being nursed and cared for by her family.