Puppets help teach traditions of the sea

Hayley Johnston
hayley@eastern-press.co.uk

Puppets are taking centre stage as part of an effort to educate and interest primary school pupils in the fishing trade.

Ten schools from across north Norfolk are each providing 10 children to be puppeters to put on a show inspired by a book that teaches its characters all about fishing.

The three children in the book, The Mystery of the Mackerel, are real children - Issa Millward, 15, who illustrated the book, from Sidestrand Hall School and her siblings Elodie, 10, and Louis, 13, who are homeschooled.

"The book is to enthuse children about fishing and point them to the educational and heritage sites that exist."

Karen Crance

It is also narrated by Charles Hickman, 15, who is a student at Gresham's School in Holt.

The book was written by pouppeur Karen Crance, who is organizing the show which will also be filmed.

"The book is to enthuse children about fishing and point them to the educational and heritage sites that exist, of which there is a list in the book," Ms Crance said.

"We felt there was a gap within primary schools where they learnt about fishing, and puppets are a great way to engage the pupils.

Pedlars Barracks, Ms Crance's shop in West Runton, is providing puppets such as fishermen, dolphins, seals and crabs for the play. It is being funded by the North Norfolk Fisheries Local Action Group (Flag), which aims to help ensure a sustainable future for fisheries.

Each school will receive a copy of their pupils' puppetry skills.

Children at Gresham Village School taking part in the puppet show for the FLAG project. Pictured from right to left are Erin Palmer, Madden Tragle, Imogen Batey, James Gregory and Tom Massingham.

Photos: MARK BULLMORE AND KAREN BETHELL

Norfolk fisherman Jim Lingwood with one of Karen Crance's puppets for her puppet show about the life of a Fisherman. Left, North Norfolk fisherman Peter McKeagney with his puppet Alce-Ega.

STOP PRESS
STOP PRESS
STOP PRESS

Solar Subsidies
to be slashed
Order today to protect the Bank

Got a photo to share?
Join our team of witness reporters and send us your photos and video. Sign up at www.witness24.co.uk or download the app on your smart phone.