

## **Crucial repairs for the Royal Research Ship (RRS) Discovery**

The Dundee Industrial Heritage Trust received a NHMF grant of £1,409,000 to allow them to begin vital conservation work on RRS Discovery.

### **An irreplaceable part of the UK's heritage**

Built in Dundee in 1901 for one of Captain Robert Falcon Scott's Antarctic expeditions, the [RRS Discovery](#) is the sole surviving UK ship from the Heroic Age of Antarctic Exploration. It was the first ship in the world specifically designed for scientific research in ice-packed Antarctic regions.

Docked at Discovery Point, RRS Discovery receives over 100,000 visitors every year, including school groups and tourists from around the world.

### **Risk to the Discovery had become critical**

Discovery has been deteriorating in multiple areas, including parts of the internal hull, bow and propeller shaft. Its stern timbers and portside bulwarks – the parts of the ship above the main deck – are decaying. Emergency repair works have become vital.

### **Set for the future**

NHMF funding will contribute to the first phase of the Discovery's full restoration and will eventually lead to an enhanced annual maintenance programme.

The conservation work is part of a larger redevelopment programme – '[Discovery Point Transformed](#)' – costing £12m and running until 2025. The programme will conserve the ship and create a world-class attraction for tourists and the community, with new galleries, events spaces, restaurant and facilities.

Region

Scotland

Grant awarded

£1,408,770

Year awarded

2024

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