

# Grace Darling



## Who Was Grace Darling?

- Grace Darling was the daughter of a lighthouse keeper.
- She lived on the Farne Islands.
- She lived in a lighthouse.

## The Shipwreck of 1838



## Why Is She Remembered?

There was very heavy rain on 7<sup>th</sup> September 1838. A boat crashed into the rocks. Grace and her father rowed a boat out to those who were stuck in the water. Her father saved the men while Grace stayed on the boat. Grace and her father were awarded a silver medal.

## Interesting Fact!

They rescued nine people!



# Questions

1. Where did Grace live? Tick one.

- Farne Islands
- Jersey
- France

2. Why did the boat crash? Tick one.

- It was cold.
- It was snowing.
- It was raining.

3. How many people did they rescue? Tick one.

- nine
- seven
- five

4. Where did Grace stay when he father rescued the men? Tick one.

- in the water
- on the boat
- on the land

5. What did Grace and her father use to rescue people? Tick one.

- a lighthouse
- a boat
- an aeroplane

# Answers

1. Where did Grace live? Tick one.

**Farne Islands**

Jersey

France

2. Why did the boat crash? Tick one.

It was cold.

It was snowing.

**It was raining.**

3. How many people did they rescue? Tick one.

**nine**

seven

five

4. Where did Grace stay when he father rescued the men? Tick one.

in the water

**on the boat**

on the land

5. What did Grace and her father use to rescue people? Tick one.

a lighthouse

**a boat**

an aeroplane

# Grace Darling

## Who Was Grace Darling?

Grace Darling was the daughter of a lighthouse keeper. She was born in Northumberland but moved to the Farne Islands when she was very small. She lived with her family in a lighthouse on the island. Her mother, father, four brothers and four sisters all lived in the lighthouse with her.

September 1838. Grace spotted a shipwreck from the window of the lighthouse and alerted her father. The boat had crashed into a collection of rocks. They rowed out in search of any survivors together. They returned to the lighthouse. Then, her father went on one last journey. He returned with a further four people. Her bravery was recognised by many and she was given money, letters and gifts. Grace and her father were also awarded the Silver Medal for bravery by the Royal National Lifeboat Institution. They are known as the RNLI.

## Interesting Fact!

She was offered marriage proposals after the event.

## The Shipwreck of 1838

Grace and her father rowed through the storm towards the boat which had crashed into rocks.

## Why Is She Remembered?

There was a storm in the middle of the night on 7<sup>th</sup>



# Questions

1. Where was Grace Darling born? Tick one.

- Farne Islands
- Northumberland
- Scotland

2. Find and copy one word which means 'told'.

---

3. What did Grace receive after the event? Tick **two**.

- money
- a boat
- letters

4. Fill in the missing word.

The boat crashed into a \_\_\_\_\_ of rocks.

5. What kind of medal did Grace and her father receive? Tick one.

- bronze
- gold
- silver

# Answers

1. Where was Grace Darling born? Tick one.

- Farne Islands
- Northumberland**
- Scotland

2. Find and copy one word which means 'told'.  
**alerted**

3. What did Grace receive after the event? Tick **two**.

- money**
- a boat
- letters**

4. Fill in the missing word.

The boat crashed into a **collection** of rocks.

5. What kind of medal did Grace and her father receive? Tick one.

- bronze
- gold
- silver**

# Grace Darling



## Who Was Grace Darling?

Grace Darling was born in Bamburgh, Northumberland. She was born to William and Thomasin Darling and she was the seventh of nine children. Grace's family moved to one of the Farne Islands called Brownsman Island when she was only a few weeks old. Here, her father was a lighthouse keeper and they resided in a small cottage next to the lighthouse. The family moved to another of the Farne Islands called Longstone in search of better conditions. This time they inhabited a new lighthouse. There were better living conditions but the island had limited resources so William would row back to Brownsman Island to stock up. Their lighthouse consisted of a large room at the bottom with a spiral staircase leading to the bedrooms.

## Interesting Fact!

The Forefaeshire had been carrying 62 people.

## Why Is She Remembered?

There was a violent storm in the early hours of 7<sup>th</sup> September.

Grace was looking out of the window and spotted a shipwreck on Big Harcar, which was a nearby rocky island. The ship was called Forfarshire. It was upon the rocks and it had broken in half. This was because of storms and problems with the boat. There was also confusion over which lighthouse to anchor at. Grace and her father used a four-man rowing boat to row for one mile to search for any survivors.



Grace stayed on board keeping the boat steady while her father rescued four men and the lone surviving woman.

Grace stayed at the lighthouse with the survivors while her father went back to rescue four more people. Grace and her father were commended with a silver medal and she was branded a heroine. She received many gifts, including £50 from Queen Victoria.



### The Shipwreck of 1838

Grace and her father rowed a coble boat through the storm towards survivors of the shipwreck. The ship had crashed into rocks because of bad weather and had split in two almost immediately.

### Lighthouses in Britain

The first lighthouse in Britain was built at the time when stronger and more weatherproof lighthouses were being invented. The Eddystone Rocks were a shipwreck hazard for those sailing through the English Channel and the first lighthouse was an octagonal wooden structure. It was the first tower to be exposed to open sea. It has been rebuilt three times.

### Remembering Grace Darling

Grace was buried in her hometown after her death. A large cenotaph reminds people of Grace and celebrates her life. A monument was placed on the Great Farne Island. A lifeboat was named after her and presented to Holy Island. A museum was also opened in Bamburgh where people can remember her by looking at the boat that was used to rescue the people on that tragic night.



Photo courtesy of Rod Allday (@wikimeadia.org) - granted under creative commons licence - attribution



# Questions

1. What was the name of Grace Darling's mother?

---

2. Why did the family move out of the cottage?

---

3. Which word is used to describe the storm? Tick one.

- bad  
 terrible  
 violent

4. How many women survived the shipwreck? Tick one

- none  
 one  
 two

5. Why did the ship called Forfarshire get into trouble?

---

6. In your opinion, why do you think there is a bigger memorial to Grace in the place where she was born than where the event took place?

---

---

---

# Answers

1. What was the name of Grace Darling's mother?

**Grace Darling's mother was called Thomasin.**

2. Why did the family move out of the cottage?

**The family moved out in search of better conditions.**

3. Which word is used to describe the storm? Tick one.

- bad  
 terrible  
 **violent**

4. How many women survived the shipwreck? Tick one

- none  
 **one**  
 two

5. Why did the ship called Forfarshire get into trouble?

**Pupils' own responses, such as: There was a storm and the ship had a problem. There was also confusion over which lighthouse to anchor at.**

6. In your opinion, why do you think there is a bigger memorial to Grace in the place where she was born than where the event took place?

**Pupils' own responses, such as: I think the bigger memorial is where Grace was born as it is on the mainland and more people will be able to visit.**