

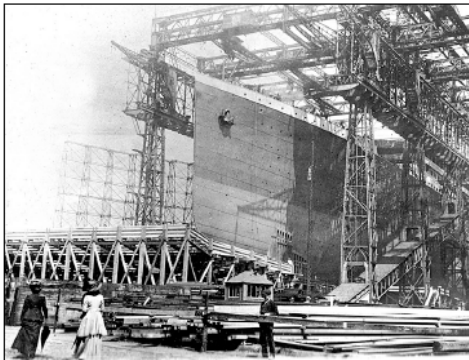


'We Built Titanic'

A landmark 5-part series exploring the Edwardian industrial era that culminated in the building of the most famous ship in modern history, **Titanic** – the largest man made moving object in the world.

Through a host of awe-inspiring, dramatic building projects we will re-create elements of Titanic's magnificent features as a launching pad to investigate the Edwardian era, from the manufacturing city hubs to the everyday men and women who worked on the frontlines of industry. We will explore the nations industrial heritage, the lives of the people that made this iconic ship, and uncover the social history of the era. We will find out what still exists today, what has been lost and what has changed in a hundred years of change.

Episode 1 - The industrial mite of Edwardian Britain and Ireland



Episode 1 begins with the origins of Titanic as we discover the industrial processes and craftsmanship that made the structure of the ship. We will set ourselves the ambitious task of **building a 30ft by 30ft section of the bow to scale**, using wherever possible traditional Edwardian techniques and machinery. This vast build will represent a third of the front of the ship once completed.

Here we will tell the story of shipbuilding in Belfast starting with the vision of the Belfast Harbour Commission and the skilled workforce that made the steel structure. We build the ship in sections at an established ship builder in Gloucester renowned for traditional shipbuilding skills. With a kit of parts we will then travel to Belfast for a week-long live-build event at the historic dockyards, creating an event spectacle and unveiling a detailed and historically accurate public work of the bow section for the world to see.

We will also explore the lives of the people who designed Titanic: the riveters that risked life and limb, the close knit dock yard community, and the women who were the unseen and often unheard supporting workforce in Edwardian Belfast. We will look at the Compensation Act that detailed compensation terms for workers injured or killed in the workplace and also the acts that protected child workers throughout Britain and Ireland.

Episode 3 - Power and the workers revolt

In Episode 3 we explore the engineering of Titanic. We will look at Titanic's powerful reciprocating engines and explore how the 46,000 tonne structure was powered through the seas. We will sail down the Thames in one of the oldest remaining Harland and Wolf ships, *The Portwey Tug*, which is powered by smaller but similar steam engines. Our team of experts will get a hands-on experience being stokers, greasers and commanding the ship to find out just how much energy was needed to fuel a steam ship and how physically demanding it was.

We will explore the lives of firemen and boiler men, looking at the amazing engineering that made Titanic the envy of the world.



Stopping the ship was no easy feat and to keep it steady and moored Titanic had three anchors, one central and one on each side. Using the original Hall's Patent anchor design, **we will re-create an original 15 and a three quarter tonne anchor at one of the oldest foundries and forges in Britain -** Forgemasters in Sheffield. This Victorian company has the unusual mix of original Victorian and Edwardian machinery and techniques, alongside some of the most cutting edge technology of the 21st century.

This will be a real mental and physical challenge for our experts, and the climax of the episode will be to **replicate the original delivery journey** from the ferry in Belfast to Queens Island using eight shire horses pulling the anchor on a wooden dray. At the time this was a huge PR event and people lined the streets of Belfast to see the iconic and massive anchor, which had been painted white especially for the photographs.

We also look at the coal industry that supplied the fuel of the industrial world, and what went wrong when the miners went on strike in demand of the minimum wage. Titanic nearly didn't sail due to the lack of coal, and all this was happening amongst a backdrop of civil disorder and social change that affected the whole of the United Kingdom and Ireland.

We will also look at the small town of Netherton in the West Midlands where most of the world's anchors and chains were made, including those on Titanic. We will tell the story of the workers there and see what is left today, and we'll tell the story of the women chain makers who fought for better working conditions and pay - a cause taken up by the suffragettes.

them: who met their fate and who survived.

As a climax to the series we will test the flares and the Marconi device. And we will consider the lasting legacy of Titanic: the ways in which it was reported at the time, and how the memory of a huge industrial achievement lives on and what we have learned.

For more information on "*We Built Titanic*"
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