Raising the Mary Rose

*……. Then, on 16 June **1836**, some fishermen in the Solent found that their equipment was caught on an underwater obstruction, which turned out to be the Mary Rose. Diver John Deane happened to be exploring another sunken ship nearby, and the fishermen approached him, asking him to free their gear. Deane dived down, and found the equipment caught on a timber protruding slightly from the seabed. Exploring further, he uncovered several other timbers and a bronze gun. Deane continued diving on the site intermittently until **1840**, recovering several more guns, two bows, various timbers, part of a pump and various other small finds.*

*The Mary Rose then faded into obscurity for another hundred years. But in **1965**, military historian and amateur diver Alexander McKee, in conjunction with the British Sub-Aqua Club, initiated a project called 'Solent Ships'. While on paper this was a plan to examine a number of known wrecks in the Solent, what McKee really hoped for was to find the Mary Rose. Ordinary search techniques proved unsatisfactory, so McKee entered into collaboration with Harold E. Edgerton, professor of electrical engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. In **1967**, Edgerton's side-scan sonar systems revealed a large, unusually shaped object, which McKee believed was the Mary Rose.*

*Further excavations revealed stray pieces of timber and an iron gun. But the climax to the operation came when, on 5 May **1971**, part of the ship's frame was uncovered. McKee and his team now knew for certain that they had found the wreck, but were as yet unaware that it also housed a treasure trove of beautifully preserved artefacts. Interest ^ in the project grew, and in **1979**, The Mary Rose Trust was formed, with Prince Charles as its President and Dr Margaret Rule its Archaeological Director. The decision whether or not to salvage the wreck was not an easy one, although an excavation in 1978 had shown that it might be possible to raise the hull. While the original aim was to raise the hull if at all feasible, the operation was not given the go-ahead until January **1982**, when all the necessary information was available.*

*….. The third and final stage was to lift the entire structure into the air, by which time the hull was also supported from below. Finally, on 11 October **1982**, millions of people around the world held their breath as the timber skeleton of the Mary Rose was lifted clear of the water, ready to be returned home to Portsmouth…..*

Questions 5–8

Look at the following statements (Questions 5–8) and the list of dates below.

*Match each statement with the correct date, **A–G**.*

*Write the correct letter, **A–G**, in boxes 5–8 on your answer sheet.*

5 A search for the *Mary Rose* was launched.

6 One person's exploration of the *Mary Rose* site stopped.

7 It was agreed that the hull of the *Mary Rose* should be raised.

8 The site of the *Mary Rose* was found by chance.

List of Dates

A	1836	**E**	1971
B	1840	**F**	1979
C	1965	**G**	1982
D	1967		

LIVEWORKSHEETS