



2017 Autumn Newsletter

The Trust has now been assisting disadvantaged young people to get on the water for over 44 years. The boats play their part in working the magic that takes place on board, but it is mainly the very excellent crews we have who complete the experience. We know from our own experience, and the reports we receive from group leaders, that virtually all the youngsters benefit and most gain immensely.

We read so much criticism of young people but our experience shows that given the opportunities and pointed in the right direction most make the best of what is available. There is too much inequality of opportunity and we do a little to redress the balance for a few, but with more money there is so much else we can do. It is our proud boast that no worthwhile candidate for sailing has been turned away for lack of money and this season we have welcomed over 600 young people on board Pegasus, Moosk and Tectona, many of them disadvantaged. The groups have been diverse and include young people who are in foster care, home schooled, from inner-city areas and from communities suffering from rural or coastal poverty/isolation, as well as those who are sensory impaired or physically or mentally incapacitated.

As usual, we had a great day out at the Eddystone Charity Sailing Pursuit, with 4 boats raising funds for us this year. Our thanks go to Terry Knapp and James Walker for entering their own boats on our behalf. We also thank Simon Bryon-Edmond, owner of Chunk of Devon, who not only joined us on the day but provided delicious pasties too, Andrew Hamilton of Drone Camera Action, who took some amazing drone footage of the race and our lovely boats. We raised the tremendous sum of £16,627, which includes £500 Sponsorship Award prize monies for the most raised.

Unfortunately our planned participation in the Tall Ships Race in the Baltic was cut short when Moosk began taking on water during an early leg and the decision was made to withdraw her for safety reasons. Bookings for all 8 legs of the event were strong and were a mix of full fee paying and disadvantaged young people to whom we had granted bursaries or helped to secure additional financial support. The race

would have boosted our income for the year. It is credit to the quality and dedication of our staff that Moosk was sailed safely home from Holland and that our bookings administrator, Helen, managed to negotiate alternative berths and travel arrangements for everyone who still wished to continue with the event. We now face a large repair bill and we are actively seeking funding to help with the costs.

In addition to our core business of residential sailing voyages, in 2017 we have taken over the good works of a closing charity (on the retirement of the founder) to provide day sailing to over 100 profoundly disabled young people from Devon and Cornwall – some with life limiting conditions. The voyages provide new experiences and widen horizons in a unique environment.

As well as sailing, the programme of activity for these young people includes marine biology sessions around the pontoons and on board, with wildlife identification games and the use of an underwater camera to explore life above and below the waves. Those unable to participate in these activities are made comfortable on deck and may enjoy the sights and sounds of being at sea. The sensory stimulation and opportunity to experience something so far removed from the confines of their everyday lives has proven psychological and medical benefits. This new venture has required extra training needs and additional financial investment. We are excited about widening the horizons of these young sailors.

Don't forget our Fundraising Dinner on 23rd November at the Royal Thames Yacht Club. There are just a small number of tickets remaining but if you can't make the night itself perhaps you might like to bid for one of the auction lots. Details can be found on our website events page.

Our season has been a busy and eventful one this year. As usual we wouldn't be able to support so many deserving young sailors without your help and kindness. Please continue to support us as generously as you can afford. Each pound donated is an investment in the future of a deserving young person.

Dick & Judy Lloyd, Trustees

It is easy to help us! You can donate to The Island Trust in a number of ways: online, cheque, standing order etc. Don't forget to 'Gift Aid' your donation!

www.theislandtrust.org.uk/donate



the Island Trust

10 Manston Terrace, Exeter, Devon EX2 4NP Email: info@theislandtrust.org.uk Tel: 01752 823007 www.theislandtrust.org.uk

President: Robert Riding Vice President: John Prout

Trustees: RF Lloyd MBE, CJ Macdonald-Brown, JM Lloyd, RF Riding, SCL Dobson, RE Crabtree, CD Humphreys

The Island Trust Ltd Reg. Charity no. 1049722 Reg. in England no. 03107339 Reg. Office: 10 Manston Terrace, Exeter, Devon EX2 4NP

Torquay Small Ships Race



All three Island Trust vessels arrived in Torquay in April to join the ASTO Torbay Small Ships Race. The assembled boats looked magnificent with their colourful dressed overall flags flying and decks tidy for the on looking crowds.

The event proper started on Tuesday and also gave us the spectacle of larger Tall Ships arriving into the bay for the start of the Rendez-vous 2017 race to Portugal. Pegasus made a quick start to the first race and was the first boat in the fleet to round the first mark, leaving both traditional boats and modern yachts behind. Sadly the wind gradually died but some highly

skilled and patient sailing saw Moosk creep close inshore and keep moving slowly but in the right direction while many of the bigger boats drifted with almost no steerage. Not that this stopped Tectona's crew, who could be heard singing and dancing across calm Torbay!

Once back alongside, it was announced that in class B, the traditional vessels, it was an Island Trust clean sweep with Moosk coming first, Pegasus second and Tectona very close behind in third. More impressively however, Moosk also claimed the Richard Langhorn trophy, awarded to the vessel which best demonstrates the 'Spirit of the Race' and is voted for by the crews of all the other boats taking part.

Wednesday morning saw nice weather and a fair sailing wind, and all the boats slipped early for a parade of sail; along the sea front of Torquay, with crews waving, cheering and generally showing off their impressive boats to the gathered crowds and cameras before the start of the race. This time Pegasus was first across the line in class B, making good speed in the conditions, and crossing the line in style with a fantastic Mexican wave, followed by Moosk second in class, and Tectona. Once again keeping the podium an all Island Trust affair.



Image courtesy of Channel 4

Mutiny - adrift in the Pacific Ocean

Nine men set out to recreate one of the greatest feats ever: the 4000-mile trip of Captain Bligh in a tiny wooden boat after the mutiny on the Bounty. Our own trustee Conrad Humphreys was the Sailing Master on the voyage. If you missed the Channel 4 series in March, be sure to watch it on catch up for adventure, drama, and amazing seamanship on the high seas.

Testimonials

This year, several parents have taken the time to write to us.

"Joe is a child with an extremely deprived background, he is one of seven siblings, who are now all in foster care. No-one in his family has ever worked. He came into care only 3 years ago, unable to read or write and with no academic skills, due to zero boundaries. I decided to give Joe the chance to find and explore what the world has to offer, trying many different things and enjoying all and each experience. He took to sailing like a duck to water! Moosk was his first serious sail out on the open sea, being on board with an inspirational captain, good shipmates and good weather, sealed his decision. He came home and decided that's it! He wants to sail and make sailing his career. After much searching, we found a marine academy, visited and tested the travel distance and timing. Joe has made the commitment to get up at 6am, leave home at 7am, be on parade at 8.30am 75miles away! five days a week. I could not be prouder of him. So, THANK YOU Island Trust and all the staff, especially those on-board Moosk Easter 2017, for making such a positive change to a young man's long term career prospects. You have without any hesitation of saying this, turned this young man's future around!" Cherry, Joe's foster mum

"I am very grateful to you, your team and the school, that you have helped my son gain an experience I could never have normally offered to him. Your work is amazing and life changing for these kids. I hope you continue to achieve the impossible for many more kids like Tamin. Tamin is a good, kind, ambitious, thoughtful young man who will be loyal in passing on the kindness and encouragement you gave him. Good luck with your future ventures and I hope you are successful in gaining more funding to ensure you continue this amazing project. Thank you." Keith M, Tamin's dad

Please help us to change the lives of disabled and disadvantaged young people living in the UK today

How does my donation help?

£550 fully funds a six day residential voyage for one person, or partially funds a similar voyage for many more. All sailing instruction, accommodation, food, waterproofs and safety equipment is provided on board.

£100 enables us to welcome a profoundly disabled child on board to experience the marine environment in a unique and stimulating way.

£100 will provide a large bean bag to make a young sailor with mobility issues feel secure and stable on deck.

£150 enables us to purchase an offshore jacket and **£80** covers the cost of matching waterproof trousers, both of which ensure the comfort and safety of our young (and often vulnerable) beneficiaries.

£45 buys a life jacket.

£20 buys I-spy booklets and marine life resources for a group of five profoundly disabled young people.

WAYS TO DONATE

Online with BT MyDonate and PayPal

visit our website www.theislandtrust.org.uk

By Cheque to the address at the top of this page

Remember us in your Will

Motivating Young People Through Sailing

Thank you to Heidi Frith for donating 28 pairs of sailing gloves. Our young sailors have been glad of those when sweating and tailing.

