



the Island Trust

Annual Report 2017

Over 40 years of life-changing sailing adventures

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2017 has been a year of consolidation for The Island Trust and we were pleased to welcome over 700 young people on board during the sailing season, most of whom were disadvantaged in some way.

In a departure from our core business of residential sail training we also delivered our new day sailing project 'Ocean Discoverability' to 97 disabled local young people and 43 carers. You will find further information about the success and impact of this later in the report.

Almost all of our young sailors achieved an RYA Start Yachting certificate or above and we are pleased to report that we have identified and encouraged a number of

tailored to the achievement of the award. Our very own Trustee Conrad Humphreys presented certificates on behalf of HRH The Countess of Wessex in the gardens of Buckingham Palace.

The practical sailing and employability skills practiced on an Island Trust voyage enhance CVs and can be used at job, training or further education interviews.

In removing the barriers to accessing the benefits, joy and challenge of sailing we help young people to achieve their potential and become active citizens who contribute to society in a positive way.

We congratulate all those who gained certificates/qualifications in 2017.

Another growth area in 2017 has been provision for young people who are Home Educated. In recognition that for those young people for whom a wholly academic, mainstream curriculum is not suited (often due to illness, special needs or bullying), The Island Trust can equip them with vocational, social and independent living skills. Our voyages help to overcome social isolation and the young crew quickly become a functional boat 'family'.

We held our fundraising dinner in November at the Royal Thames Yacht Club in London. The highlight of the evening was an incredibly professional presentation by two students from The Park School. Despite their nerves, Ciaran and Emmie delivered a polished, passionate and entertaining speech that absolutely perfectly demonstrated the benefits and enjoyment of an Island Trust voyage. All of the students at the school have learning difficulties and the pupils have sailed with us for a number of years.

A great night was had by all and the



young people this year who have gained RYA Day Skipper and Watch Leader. Some of our own professional sea staff have been supported in this way in the past and we are immensely proud of their achievements and their ability to really connect with and understand the young people on board.

Our DoF Education provision is also growing and we hosted 2 voyages that were specifically

attendees were incredibly generous, raising an amazing £75,000! Our thanks go to Charters Macdonald-Brown for his organisation of the event, Nick Bonham for his auctioneering skills and Conrad Humpreys for his keynote speech.

As I am sure that you will appreciate, keeping the boats afloat and affordable at the point of delivery for the young people is extremely costly and requires constant and ongoing fundraising, so an occasion such as this really does help us to ensure a quality of service going forward. However all those kind donations of £10 - £20 each month add up too, so please don't think that a smaller donation won't make a huge difference – I can assure you that it will!

As we now look forward to 2018, we are pleased to announce the launch of our **Next Step Appeal** and our determination to buy a new boat that will enable us to reach increasing numbers of disadvantaged/disabled young people. Please keep up to date with progress on our website.

Financial Review

The Trust increased its income by just over 60% to £373,000 largely due to the extremely successful fundraising dinner in London referred to earlier. Our ongoing, general fundraising also produced a greater income and we are extremely grateful to the Reardon Smith Nautical Trust, The Jackson Foundation and the Association of Sail Training Organisations (ASTO) for their continued annual support. As ever the Trust has to balance the desire to employ excellent crews and maintain the boats to the highest standards with the need to keep costs under control. Expenses rose again last year but we always strive to operate with prudence and care.

We are very lucky in having very dedicated and efficient staff and I would like to thank

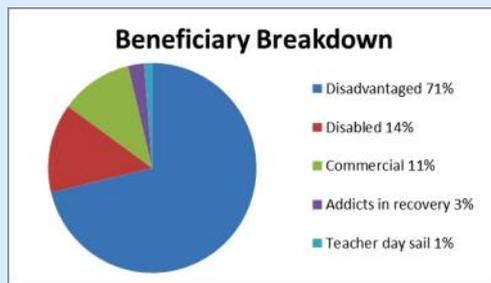
them all for the work that they do, sometimes in extremely trying circumstances, but they make the Trust the excellent organisation it is today.



Dick Lloyd
Trustee
The Island Trust

Beneficiary demographic

733 young people aged up to 25.



Please note that some young people may be both disadvantaged and disabled but for the purposes of this infographic they have been identified as one or the other.

The Island Trust is one of the foremost providers of youth sail training in the UK. We firmly believe in the social, moral and physical benefits of what we do and we work hard to remove the barriers to accessing sailing. Our funders/supporters and our professional and well experienced staff team enables us to do this. The cost of a residential sail training voyage is simply beyond the means of many of our young sailors, some of whom may have special needs or be disabled, or may suffer daily deprivation, abuse or neglect. We are proud to provide subsidised residential sailing voyages for hundreds of deserving young people annually.

WAYS TO DONATE

There are numerous ways to give to our charitable work. Visit the donate page on our website...

www.theislandtrust.org.uk/donate

Acknowledgements

As members of ASTO we continue to receive the Hammond Innes Bursary Grant to assist young people up to the age of 25, and continued support from The Frank Jackson Foundation.

We are fortunate to have secured the support of many donors in 2017 and we would like to thank them all. Regrettably we do not have the space to acknowledge every contribution, and indeed, some donors request anonymity, but we list below, those who have specifically asked to be mentioned:

- Arts Council England PRISM
- Cornwall Community Foundation
- Reardon Smith Nautical Trust
- The Clothworkers Foundation
- The Whirlwind Charitable Trust

Jen Ferrett, Post Bridge Teacher

Our students from Cann Bridge School were fortunate to be given the opportunity to spend the day aboard the Tectona. We had a fantastic day with students learning to conquer fears, learn new skills and participate in a physically active day. Staff and students alike said that they really enjoyed the day and that they loved the experience. Parents reported that their young people came home tired but having obviously enjoyed their day on the water.

Thank you very much for the hard work you do, not only in the physical sense, on the day of the sail, but also 'behind the scenes' in getting sponsorship to enable our young people with disabilities to partake in such a fantastic experience.



DAY SAILS FOR TEACHERS AND YOUTH LEADERS



Come and meet the staff and experience life on board our lovely fleet of three traditional wooden boats.

We understand that not everyone is sure what to expect and this gives the opportunity for teachers and youth group leaders to experience what a residential voyage for young people entails.

Contact Helen on 01752 823007 or by email to helen@theislandtrust.org.uk

Moosk Pegasus Tectona

www.theislandtrust.org.uk

Ocean Discoverability



In 2017, we took over the charitable works of the Bristol Chanel Pilot Cutter Trust, on the retirement of her skipper – transferring day sailing from Cornubia to Tectona and taking 97 children with disabilities, and some with life limiting conditions, day sailing in Plymouth Sound and Estuaries.

Nearly all previous organisations participated, and Mount Tamar School joined. The mother of one of their students commented, "My son George has just taken part on a day's sailing on board the 'Tectona'. He is 16 and has high functioning autism. He came back absolutely full of passion and excitement after today. So lovely to see as he doesn't get involved in many activities due to his anxiety."

Motoring up the Tamar allowed the youngsters to get used to the sound and feel of the boat, to steer if they wanted to and to see the yachts and warships in the dockyard. One watch would make tea or coffee for everyone, and the other would wash up – a new experience for some – requiring communication and organisational skills. Then we usually set some of the sails for a short sail in the Sound.

We adapted the existing 'I-Spy' Guide and the learners enthusiastically spotted seabirds, dolphins, buoys, plastic litter etc. On the days when abilities were sufficient and similar, there was a prize for the one scoring the most points.

Close-up and unusual angled pictures of mystery items on board proved to be popular and useful. Teachers say they encourage mobility, powers of observation, confidence and, on one occasion, co-operation

between autistic boys not noted for working together. A simplified sail plan enabled those who could, to calculate the sail area. Following a teacher's suggestion, we introduced counting cards. These suit a wider range of abilities than the sail area calculations, but they are not quite as simple as they look – some of the objects are concealed.

Marine life on the marina pontoons demonstrated how a variety of creatures and seaweeds live and breed. The underwater camera showed life on the seabed, with squabbling crabs a huge hit. Towards the end of the day we hove-to and trawl for plankton for examination under the microscope. For some, the wriggling things were just entertaining. Others found them a fascinating window onto a complex underwater world, raising sometimes quite sophisticated questions.

We used a simple measurement system to record perceived knowledge of marine life and maritime activities at the beginning and end of the day among both the children and their carers, recording primary and secondary satisfaction using frowning, neutral and smiley faces. Narrative comments captured what people thought they got out of the day.

A key factor in the successful transfer was the enthusiasm, cheerfulness and thoughtfulness of Tectona's professional crew.

Thanks are also due to the organisations that showed their faith in The Island Trust's ability to carry on delivering a great programme by continuing to take part, to the charities that have funded us, and to those who gave help and advice.

Shaldon Primary School wrote,

"What a wonderful opportunity for our pupils to sail aboard Tectona and Moosk for the week commencing 12th June 2017 - the buzz off them since returning is positively palpable and quite infectious. Thank you to everyone involved in giving them such a worthwhile experience and for creating a memory for life. Thank you as well for organising such perfect weather (from day two!)

How lucky the children are to have spent this time together, learning brand new skills, working as a team, pushing through their comfort zones and living and laughing together. I can honestly say, I do believe they do know how lucky they are. As a residential experience in their final half term of primary school, this was perfect. The confidence they have found will be a real asset during transition, which for some children can be a challenging experience. If you can sail a tall ship, joining year 7 should be quite straight-forward!

The staff were incredibly supportive of the children, allowing them to take charge of all the jobs on board whilst they supported quietly, patiently and calmly. They were incredibly well informed, sharing every aspect of how the ship was sailing and its history at every opportunity, balancing the need to give the children some freedom with their need to understand as much technical information as possible, ensuring a rich,



enjoyable adventure was had by everyone. The crew were amazing at reassuring everyone - we knew we were in safe hands at all times. This was extended into every part of the day — who will ever forget Dan's wonderful bedtime game of Mafia? I can see a craze for it starting already. How wonderful to go up on deck to see the stars and listen to owls hooting with Craig, and how fantastic to share Roo's culinary wizardry in the galley and his expertise with ropes on deck.

Looking at the charts, giving the children the opportunity to plot and measure the course, guiding them through the different sails, helping them to hoist them successfully, allowing them to complete the logbook, scrubbing the decks and encouraging them to understand all the different roles on board, helped the children feel they were the ones in charge of sailing it safely. What a fantastic way to learn.

What a perfect antidote to studying hard in year 6 for SATs.

But it wasn't just the sailing; the children were also supported with all aspects of domesticity - again working as a team to keep the boat "ship-shape and Bristol fashion". Taking responsibility for feeding us all, for keeping the galley clean and tidy, for cleaning the heads, all of which helped them understand the importance of working for the good of the team. They will be going home with some skills they would probably prefer their parents did not know they have!"

the EDDYSTONE

Charity Sailing Pursuit 23 June 2018

The South West's largest sailing fundraising event. Please support our teams in the 26 mile marathon challenge.

Donate at www.theislandtrust.org.uk/eddystone

MOOSK

Good news! Following her withdrawal from the Tall Ships Race in summer 2017, we are pleased to report that Moosk is back in good order and is looking forward to the 2018 sailing season with a watertight keel, new inner stem and stronger floors. We are incredibly grateful for funding from Arts Council England through the PRISM fund and Reardon Smith Nautical Trust.

Boat builder Chris Rees at Millbrook has carried out the works, and skipper Ollie Bowden has also contributed an enormous amount of time and effort to the project.

Constructed in 1906, Moosk is one of the very first private yachts to have been built with an engine, emulating technology newly pioneered in commercial vessels, and internal electric lighting which was absolutely cutting edge at the time. She certainly 'lights up' our fleet and we look forward to her being back on the water.



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



The Next Step Appeal

Read about our ambitious and exciting plans to expand our fleet

www.theislandtrust.org.uk/next-step-appeal

TECTONA TRUST

In addition to our work with beneficiaries under 25 years of age, we worked with partner charity Tectona Trust to provide three voyages for groups of adults in residential treatment for addiction. The costs of these voyages were met wholly by the partner charity and outside organisations, and did not impact on the funds of The Island Trust. Tectona is made available to The Island Trust free of charge on the proviso that Tectona Trust may use her a few weeks a year.



THE ISLAND TRUST

1973~2017

Celebrating

44 Years

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

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Widening horizons and raising aspirations through sailing



www.theislandtrust.org.uk

