



the Island Trust

Annual Report 2018



45 years of life-changing sailing adventures

Annual Report 2018

2018 was an emotional year for The Island Trust. September saw us thrilled to purchase the beautiful topsail schooner, Johanna Lucretia, but October brought the shock of the loss of our much loved and respected Trustee, Dr Roger Crabtree. You will see our tribute to Roger later in this report.

With twelve guest berths, Johanna Lucretia is rigged traditionally, with lots of sheets (ropes) to pull and a wide array of sails means there is plenty for everyone to get involved with! The topsail schooner is arguably one of the most versatile of all sailing rig types, being able to sail quickly close to the wind with her fore-and-aft sails but also with excellent downwind performance. Her large decks are ideal for group activities and spacious enough for the large bean bags used to ensure the comfort of our disabled beneficiaries.



Johanna Lucretia was built in 1945 at the Rhoose shipyard in Ghent, Belgium but she is no stranger to Plymouth waters having been purchased by Mrs Heather Henning in 1989 who registered her as a British vessel with a home port of Plymouth. In 1991/1992 she was

refitted to her present configuration. She has had only a handful of owners over the years, and has an interesting history, including a few film and television appearances. In 1978 she took the part of the Medusa in British spy thriller *The Riddle of the Sands*. In 2006 she featured in the film *Amazing Grace*, a drama about William Wilberforce's campaign to end the slave trade. She also starred in the Irish reality TV show *Cabin Fever* in 2003, where she replaced the original *Cabin Fever* ship after it ran aground off Tory Island. Autumn saw us undertake sea trials and staff training, with the expectation that she will commence youth sail training duties in 2019.

We are now actively fundraising for the works to reconfigure her to suit our needs more exactly. Please remember that any donations made with Gift Aid substantially increase the amount of money that we receive.

People often ask us to explain the benefits of sail training. The Small Ships Race, an annual event, held in Cowes on the first weekend of October demonstrates these admirably. The full report can be found on our website www.theislandtrust.org.uk under 'News' but there is a synopsis in this report too.

Every year in June we join a flotilla of boats for the South West's largest sailing fundraising event, the Eddystone Charity Sailing Pursuit; 26 miles of fun to the Eddystone lighthouse and back.

Funds raised by our teams enable us to continue our work providing sail training opportunities, through financial and moral support, to young people who could not otherwise contemplate taking part in activities of this kind. In 2018 we raised around £6,700 and we thank everyone who contributed. Anyone can sail on our behalf to raise sponsorship and every amount, no

matter how large or small is valuable to us. Plymouth Yacht Haven entered Sunmist raising over £800; mum and daughters - Islay, Isabel and Molly raised almost £1,000; and three generations of the Walker family entered Araminta to raise another £800+! Our good friend Terry Knapp, on Nouka, raised over £1,300. Please join/sponsor one of our wonderful teams in 2019.

We are very pleased to welcome Steve Arnold onto our board of Trustees. Steve was born and educated in Devon. After completing his law degree he entered the legal profession as a solicitor. Steve was a partner in the Exeter based practice of Ford Simey for twenty years before being appointed a Judge. He sat in Birmingham for three years, moving on to the Western Circuit. Since their retirement, Steve and his wife Alison enjoy spending more time with their grandchildren.

Financial Review

The Trust's income increased by just over 60% to £610,634. This increase was due entirely to two legacies and one extraordinarily generous donation which enabled us to buy Johanna Lucretia for Island (Cutter) Ltd, which owns our boats and runs them, but it did exhaust all our reserves. Our next task is to raise about £86,000 to adapt her to our requirements.

We are also extremely grateful to the Reardon Smith Nautical Trust, The Jackson Foundation and the Association of Sail Training Organisations (ASTO) for their continued annual support.

Our expenditure rose by £56,000 and this was largely due to an increase in the amount expended on sailing courses for beneficiaries. 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.

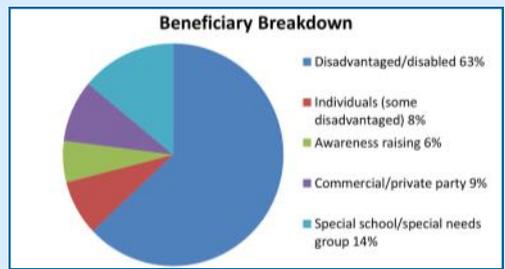
We are very lucky in having very dedicated and efficient staff and we would like to thank them all for the work that they do, sometimes in extremely trying circumstances, but they make the Trust the excellent organisation it is today.



Judy and Dick Lloyd
Trustees
The Island Trust

Beneficiary demographic

694 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 2018 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:

- Big Lottery Fund
- Reardon Smith Nautical Trust



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A free way to raise money for our charity when you shop online!

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Dr Roger Crabtree

Our friend and Trustee, Dr Roger Crabtree, suffered a stroke whilst sailing his yacht Good Hope alone in Plymouth Sound on 9 October 2018 and sadly died in hospital two days later. We first met Roger when we took over Cremyll Sailing, who operated another boat owned by Roger, Tectona, which he used a few weeks a year to support his dedicated work helping recovering addicts rebuild their lives. We helped him to carry on his good work and in turn Roger kindly let The Island Trust use her for our own work with disadvantaged young people, all on very generous terms. He subsequently became a Trustee and worked tirelessly to improve the lot of all beneficiaries and staff.



He had been a senior and respected GP, and both before and after his retirement he was a leader in offering pastoral care and support to GPs. He was a founder of The Somerset Safe House, and countless GPs have been grateful for his kind, gentle and wise guidance.

Anyone who turned to Roger for help got it in full measure as his mission was to help others. A true gentleman who will be sorely missed by all who crossed his path, but particularly his wife Barbara who was a partner in their good deeds, two wonderful people.

Dick Lloyd
Trustee

Ocean Discoverability



For the second season of running day trips for children with disabilities in Plymouth's estuaries and the Sound, we picked a new name for the project, with the help of some of our partner schools - **Ocean Discoverability**. It refers to the children being given the ability to discover the ocean, which is at the heart of the educational elements of these voyages – what lives in it, what we do with, in and to it, and what it does for us.

2018 saw records broken with 128 children and 50 carers from 13 different organisations sailing with us. This year we used the gaff cutter Pegasus as well as Tectona. The crews of both boats have enjoyed welcoming the youngsters on board.

One of our funders, who saw what we do first hand, said, "What you do grabs their attention and interest and gives them something to improve their concentration, knowledge and education in a very hands on way which they can relate to, since it is actually taking place on location, then and there, and is the 'real world' in action, so it is very 'hands on' and immediate – no text books involved!"

Each day starts with examining life on the pontoon, which illustrates so much of the whole ocean process, including human impacts. On board we look at some of the smaller creatures we find there, like barnacles, worms, hydroids, bryozoans and sea squirts. Watching crabs squabbling over the bait on the seabed on the TV screen in the saloon is always a great hit.

Activities on board include calculating the sail area of the boat, and word search. All activities and resources are differentiated according to ability, making the days fun too. For example, the children enjoy

spotting things in the guide. Highlights of the year's spots were one of the world's fastest warships, and scoring 50 points, a seal. They look for obscure items on board, and get involved in tying knots, steering, pulling up the sails, and sitting in the bow sprit netting.

Some overcame fears and went away with new confidence. "I was frightened and didn't want to come as new things scare me. I really enjoyed it and I am definitely not scared any more. I want to sail more," said Rebecca from **Pencalenick School**.

A teacher from **Beacon ACE Academy**, told us. "Violet had never managed a school trip due to emotional and violent behavioural difficulties. Her needs have been isolating for her," "Whilst sailing she started to see that she could work with another member of my class and this friendship has continued on our return to school. Having achieved this success has undoubtedly improved her confidence and belief in herself that she can try and be successful at new things. She told me the following day how pleased she was that now she can go on school trips."

This project is made possible by our generous funders, who include **The Big Lottery Fund** and **Tesco Bags of Help** community grant scheme **Groundwork UK**. Funding helps to cover the cost of safety equipment and educational material used by young people from special needs schools and day centres in Plymouth and Cornwall.



TESCO Bags of Help

Pegasus - The Small Ships Race

Pegasus' crew joined in Plymouth the week before the race, allowing them an exciting few days to make the 120 nautical mile journey to the Solent. That gave the crew, some who had sailed before and others who were completely new to it, chance to get to grips with Pegasus, sailing from Plymouth to Cowes for the race. In that time, plenty of sailing skills were practised, from faster and faster tacks and gybes to racing headsail changes and topsail hoists and drops. Not that it was all about the racing, for the long passages to get Pegasus east gave the crew plenty of opportunity to practice skills such as navigation, engine maintenance, and steering while making some excellent speeds under sail.

Sail training voyages are all about the variety, and while this trip was always going to have the Small Ships Race as a focus, there was still plenty of time for visiting new places, learning to drive the

dinghy and swimming off the boat: at least for those brave enough to! The tides granted Pegasus the opportunity to visit the Beaulieu River, a beautiful part of the Hampshire coastline, hidden in the trees of the New Forest, and giving the crew chance to explore the woods and historic shipyard museum at Buckler's Hard.

Friday saw Pegasus arrive in Cowes, and her crew, now a laughing and joking team rather than the group of individuals who arrived on day one, set to work tidying the boat, dressing her overall in flags and bunting, and exploring the pontoons of Cowes Yacht Haven. Here they met trainees from other vessels: friendship and shared

experience being what the Small Ships Race is all about. The Small Ships Race uses a class and handicap system, allowing the varied fleet to compete with each other fairly by applying a Time Correction Factor (TCF) to the finishing time, so it's not necessarily the first boat across the line who wins the race!

Race day itself was a challenging one, with light winds and rain building into much stronger winds as the day went on. The changing conditions meant that a whole variety of sails would be needed, but the training of the previous week assured the crew that they could be confident in their ability to react to events quickly and enthusiastically.

By the time Pegasus crossed the line, it was blowing hard, and the relief on all the crew to have finished and be able to think about getting into port and change into dry clothes was clear to see. Still, there were smiles all round and everyone was visibly pleased with what they had achieved.

This was reflected in the prize giving that night: Pegasus' crew leaving with a prize for third place in class; the youngest overall crew and most impressively; the prize for the Best Dressed Crew. Overall results placed 'Team Pegasus' a very respectable ninth out of twenty-three boats.

Anyone watching them leave would not have known that many of these young people had not met before the race, and a few had not sailed. They were going home tired, but full of smiles, many armed with new Royal Yachting Association qualifications, and rightly proud of the adventure they had made their own over the past week.



the EDDYSTONE

Charity Sailing Pursuit 15 June 2019

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



REARDON SMITH
NAUTICAL TRUST

Reardon Smith Nautical Trust

Young sailors from Wales were financed by Reardon Smith Nautical Trust throughout the season. The funding supported eleven voyages and ninety young people. Some of the participants were sailing with us again with the express purpose of building on existing skills and qualifications to achieve the next level of RYA certificate.

In 2018 the voyages visited a variety of places along the South West coast – Plymouth, Weymouth, Falmouth, Teignmouth, Dartmouth (there's a theme here!), Salcombe, Cawsand and Fowey, to name but a few. The weather was beautifully hot and sunny but not always with the wind that is needed for good sailing however the groups have made the most of every opportunity to raise the sails and the fleet often cruised in company with each other, meaning that there was ample opportunity for racing.

The young sailors from Wales approached the voyages with a mixture of excitement, determination and a little nervousness. Everyone learned something about themselves on board – even those who learned that sailing was not for them!

In a new initiative, we invited those Welsh young people who showed particular promise back to an exclusive voyage at the end of October and concentrated on honing their practical sailing abilities and targeting and raising awareness of sailing for professional career, sport and pleasure.



The Next Step Appeal

Read about Phase 2 to raise funds for internal reconfiguration works

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 four 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 was made available to The Island Trust free of charge on the proviso that Tectona Trust may use her a few weeks a year. Tectona Trust now wish to run her providing training for recovering addicts and we wish them fair winds in their new venture.



THE ISLAND TRUST

1973~2018

Celebrating
45 Years

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Widening horizons and raising aspirations through sailing

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