

Tall Ships Youth Trust – Highlights from 2015/16

Holly Piper, Charities Aid Foundation:

"We support a huge number of charities, and we continue to be very impressed with the Trust - in particular, its continual increase in social impact, its impressive resilience in a tough funding environment, and the professionalism and dedication of its senior team"

Tall Ships Youth Trust - Purpose

The Trust aims to increase young people's life chances and well being by supporting them to develop their life skills, to build self-esteem and aspirations, to embrace a healthier more active lifestyle and to get them involved in volunteering.

It does this using seven vessels (residential youth centres) - a 60m Tall Ship, four 22m sail training yachts, an 18m catamaran and a 16m ketch.

Key Highlights

Charitable Mission – Young People

- ◆ 1,395 young people benefitted
- ◆ 77% of these were disadvantaged or disabled – significantly up from the 43% level achieved prior to the introduction of the Challenger yachts
- ◆ 83% of all young people felt their voyage had increased their chances in life
- ◆ a further 1,065 over 25s supported inter-generational voyages

Volunteers, Supporters, Communication

- ◆ 85,600 volunteer hours donated in 2015/16
- ◆ 253 trust/foundation donors and 1,004 individual donors in 2015/16
- ◆ Following 2014/15 launch, over 4,000 Facebook followers, over 1,000 Twitter followers



British Marine on naming Tall Ships Youth Trust as its first ever Charity of the Year:

"It has been difficult choosing between charities all doing good work but what makes the Trust stand out is its networking with other youth organisations and its strong governance and management."

Charitable Mission – Young People

During 2015/16 we developed the scope and diversity of our work with a number of third parties so the voyages were an integral part of young people's longer term development programme:-

Martin, Teacher: "I strongly believe that the nature of these residentials helps our pupils to develop their character further and faster than the school can alone. Also, the intensity and inescapability of the experience makes it a more powerful tool than other outward bound type activities we've used."

Adrian, SEN Teacher: "Our young people came back far more independent, with significantly improved daily living skills. They're now able to get themselves ready for school and make their own drinks. They've developed an enthusiasm for trying new things and they're venturing out into the community and interacting with people they've never met before. The voyage was the most incredible experience ever! It's broadened their world and allowed them to enjoy life more."

A new project with Harrow School brought together 10 young Harrovians and 10 local young offenders. There were key learning experiences for both sets of young people:-



Peter, Harrow School "The experience really opened the eyes of our pupils to the lives of those less fortunate than themselves and the sorts of challenges they face just to get through each day. This lesson will stay with them for life."

Kevin, Youth Offending Team "Our young people had the usual preconceptions about the pupils. The voyage experience made them far less judgmental and more open to try new things. Six months on and they're all still in contact with each other. Who'd have thought it?"

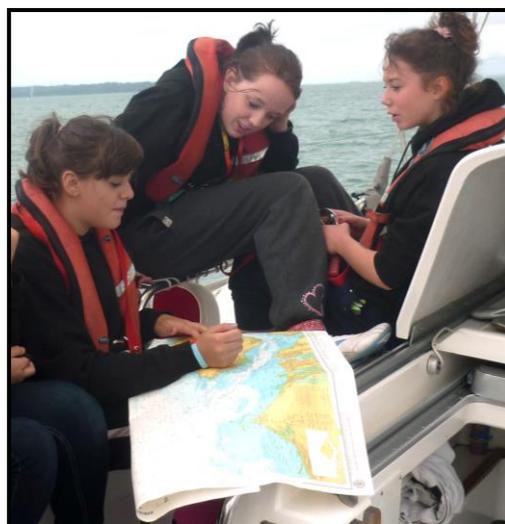
Outcomes for Young People

The Trust updated its outcome statistics for young people:-

- 93% improved team working skills
- 91% improved communication skills
- 89% increased confidence and self-esteem
- 85% improved problem solving skills
- 83% improved chances in life

Youth workers, employers, parents, teachers summarised the impact as:-

- Better concentration and more attentive
- Increased ability to learn
- More willing to work hard and take on responsibility
- Better communication
- Increased employability



Ofsted Report: *"Trust voyages enable pupils to develop their physical, social and emotional skills through working as part of a team while sailing the vessel."*

Volunteers – 85,600 Hours Donated In 2015/16

The Trust has 2,500 individuals dedicating themselves to its work. Some are involved in the Trust's volunteer support groups whilst others offer their services on its vessels or at fundraising events, exhibitions and port events. Many are involved in several different activities. The Trust's Volunteers are an essential element in everything it does and their contribution can be seen in every section of these Highlights. In total, they donated 85,600 hours in 2015/16.

Fleet Activity

The Brig – Stavros S Niarchos

In March 2015 Stavros left its berth in Greenock having completed its major dry docking to start an intensive programme of youth voyages and port events. Highlights during the year included youth voyages sponsored by the HSBC Education Trust (their 15th consecutive year), Northern Marine Management, Emmanuel Schools and five schools in Tower Hamlets as part of a project addressing various issues including poor academic achievement and low aspirations. The Wildlife and Shanty themed voyages also proved popular. At the beginning of November Stavros returned to Liverpool's Albert Dock, a non-tidal, safe berth kindly made available by Liverpool City Council and the Canal Trust. With the support of hundreds of Volunteers, our winter activities programme was very successful including open days for schools/youth groups, maintenance and volunteer crew training.



Challengers – Challenger 1,2,3,4

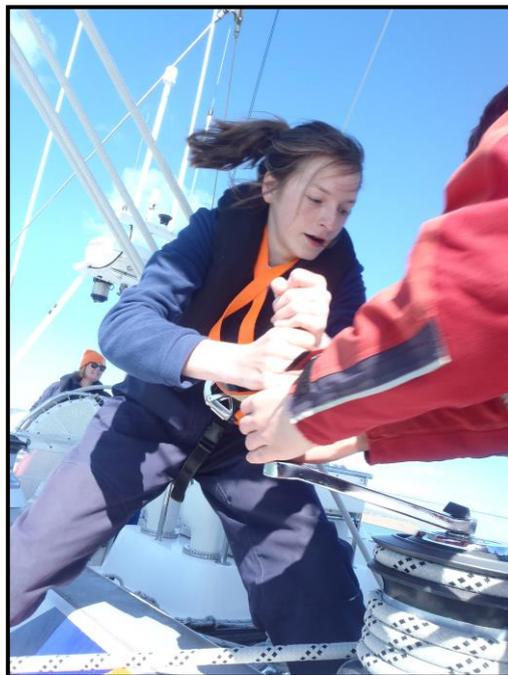
2015/16 began with two Challengers undertaking their winter voyage schedules in the UK, whilst the other two were in the Caribbean having completed the "ARC" Atlantic Rally for Cruisers. By April all four were busy in the UK with many of the Trust's partner organisations taking a voyage for their young people. Other highlights included four boats in the Fastnet, including one sponsored by the Girl Guides, and the first joint Harrow School/Young Offenders voyage. Winter saw two Challengers working around the UK whilst in November two others crossed the Atlantic with the ARC for a winter Caribbean programme.

Catamaran – Tall Ships Cat

The Catamaran was based in and around the Solent during 2015/16. Highlights included introductory sail training weekends for 12-15 year olds and voyages for young people with disabilities and special needs. Substantial remedial repairs were carried out on the coach roof to maintain its integrity and allow the vessel to continue its valuable youth work.

Ketch – Tenacity of Bolton

The Ketch was gifted to the Trust in 2014/15 by Bolton School via a tender process against fierce competition from other charities. Based at Whitehaven for 2015/16, it proved popular with youth organisations working with young people across northern England and Scotland.



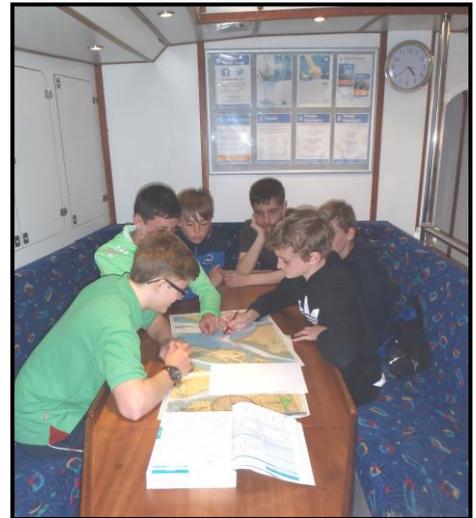
Fundraising

The Trust raised £876k from individuals, trusts and organisations in 2015/16, a 21% year on year increase (a 33% increase excluding the exceptional gift in 2014/15 of a 16m £65k ketch).

This was an impressive achievement given the tough economic climate and reflects the Trust's excellent reputation and high level of support/endorsement from the 253 trusts/foundations and 1,004 individuals that made a donation to the Trust in 2015/16.

We are now raising nearly half a million pounds a year from trusts/foundations. Equally impressive is the fact that 70% of them have been donating to the Trust for several years.

Despite the difficult economic times and national reports that donations from individuals are declining, we continue to be surprised by the generosity of our supporters. Individual giving was up 37% year on year in 2015/16. Some of our donors respond to cash appeals, others give a regular monthly donation through the Fellowship or donate proceeds from an event. Many simply find a resonance with our work and decide to support it. This was the case for the Halkes family who made a generous donation in memory of Hugo who was 12 when he was killed crossing the road, enabling us to launch the "Hugo Halkes Voyage", hopefully an annual event, for disadvantaged young people from Wiltshire where Hugo lived.



Every year we are humbled by the generosity of people who have decided to leave us a donation in their will. In 2015/16, we received legacies totalling £215k from four estates. This included a substantial legacy from the Eddie Dunhill Estate. After a life-long passion for sailing, Eddie passed away in 2015 at the age of 90. An extremely competitive racer, he collected over 100 trophies, sailing in many classes over the years and liked nothing better than encouraging young people to take to the water. His daughter and son felt the Trust's work resonated with their father's life and so have very kindly donated sufficient funds to provide bursaries for 300 disadvantaged and disabled young people and help with the upkeep of the Trust's fleet for the next 25 years.

Each year the young people will join an "Eddie Dunhill Voyage" with the most improved young person receiving one of Eddie's trophies.

Other highlights for 2015/16 included a Black Tie Charity Dinner on HMS Warrior which raised £28k. The guest speaker was Sir Keith Mills GBE DL, one of Britain's most successful entrepreneurs, best known for founding loyalty card schemes Air Miles and Nectar. Having led London's Olympic bid to success, he became Deputy Chairman of the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games and remains Chairman of the Invictus Games. A keen sailor, he is one of the main supporters behind Britain's America's Cup challenge skippered by Sir Ben Ainslie.

Whatever the motivation to support us, we are very grateful to all of the individuals, trusts and organisations that decided to give the Trust a donation in 2015/16.

A Final Thank -You

The Trust is totally dependent on donations to continue its valuable work and would like to take this opportunity to give its heartfelt thanks to all of the individuals and organisations that supported it during 2015/16.