

The Jubilee Sailing Trust

Sailing Beyond Restrictions



An Update for the Worshipful Company of Shipwrights'

The JST began 2020 with our ship, *SV Tenacious*, crossing the Atlantic from the Canary islands to Antigua, where she was able to deliver three fantastic round-trip voyages with both members of the public and a long-term corporate partner: VMware. VMware chartered *Tenacious* for 8 days in February, filling her with staff and members of Macclesfield Wheelies Sport & Activities Club - whose voyage fees were match-funded by VMware. Danni is a full time wheelchair user who sailed on that voyage, and wrote:

"Never did I think I'd be on a Tall Ship sailing with 8 other wheelchair users on board, doing all the things non-disabled people could do. Meeting others on board battling their disabilities was inspiring and I had the most amazing week. What a brilliant bunch of memories - thank you."

Shortly afterwards we departed for Piraeus, Greece, to commence our partnership with the Stelios Philanthropic Foundation (providing 80 fully funded sailing opportunities to disadvantaged and disabled people), as well as several high-profile fundraising events.

Of course the pandemic changed everything. We safely re-routed *Tenacious* to the UK and were able to return all our beneficiaries and crew home, stopping initially in Cork, Ireland, before securing a longer term berth in Barry, South Wales mid-April. In total we had taken **170** beneficiaries to sea: **36** were under 25 years old, and **65** had a disability or impairment of some kind (this includes 3 young people under 25). Our impact questionnaires for the last full 12 months of sailing (April 2019 to March 2020) revealed:

- **98%** (of our beneficiaries) said they felt more confident about working with people of different abilities and from different backgrounds.
- **94%** said they were able to achieve things they previously did not think possible.
- **97%** said the experience has enhanced their belief in their own skills.
- **97%** said they now felt more certain of their ability to tackle challenges.
- **97%** said they felt they had the freedom to explore their own ability and push their own boundaries.
- **98%** said they are now more aware of the ability and potential of others.

With *Tenacious* in cold layup and her crew and several shore-team members furloughed, we focused our activity on three key areas: engaging our beneficiaries, donors and partners virtually; raising funds (following a c.£500k loss of predicted income from the cancelled voyages and fundraising events); and, delivering *Tenacious'* Dry Docking and refit in advance of her regulatory 20 year Special Survey, a mandatory requirement for a ship of her size and age.

In May we launched *Tenacious @ Twenty'*, a wide-scale online, direct mail and social engagement and fundraising campaign. It's purpose was to continue raising awareness of what we do and why we need funding by sharing stories from our beneficiaries, volunteers, staff and permanent crew via eNewsletters, our website, and social media. This was accompanied by a detailed budget for the planned works to *Tenacious*, conscious of our existing supporters' desire for transparency following the our £1M fundraising appeal in 2019. We also launched several 'working groups' to consult a variety of stakeholders to help further support and re-launch our nationwide network of volunteer branches, and several fundraising initiatives in 2021.

With new COVID-19 safety procedures in place, *Tenacious* sailed to Sharpness Shipyard on the 9th September to begin the work required for the Special Survey. Her progress was documented by 'blogs' and social media posts from her permanent crew and our ship-ops department, further connecting our audiences with what is needed 'behind the scenes' to deliver our voyages. Key works completed during the £519k project included:

- The removal and replacement of her two main engines and main generators with new Baudouin 126 engines, and Baudouin 105 Gensets;
- The removal and service of the 6 roller-furler yards;
- Foremast standing rigging replacement and re-tensioning;
- Fabrication of a new Sewage Treatment Plant tank;
- The removal and overhaul of 9 over-side valves;
- Installation of a new Engine Room Alarm System to replace a now obsolete system;
- Full hull and keel bolts inspections (resulting in only minor repairs identified);
- Surveying and testing of safety and life-saving equipment including liferafts, davits, rescue boats, firefighting apparatus and Hi Fog systems;
- Fitting of a new ECDIS chart system, and;
- 5 shackles of anchor chain were replaced.

Tenacious was re-certified by the MCA and Lloyds on the 20th of November. She is now delivering a series of voyages in/out of Portsmouth as part of our four month partnership with the Royal Navy (RN), providing traditional sail training opportunities for young people supported by the Government's Apprenticeship Levy Scheme. Our UK-based public voyage programme begins in May, and has already had one voyage sell out. The safety of our crew and beneficiaries is of course of utmost importance, and we have introduced new policies for all coming onboard, including providing 7 days of temperature readings and a negative COVID-19 test prior to joining. We will be regularly reviewing these measures in line with government guidance.

We are delighted to announce that Charles Humpleby has been appointed as our new Chairperson, with effect from 1st January 2021. Taking over from James Crill who stepped down at the end of 2020, Charles has been a passionate supporter of the Trust's work for several years, serving as Committee Chair for our Jersey volunteer branch. His professional background is in the financial services industry, with experience spanning almost three decades, working most recently with the Barclays Family Office in Jersey. Also joining the Trust's Board of Trustees is Jessica Berry, an author and CEO and founder of the Maritime Archaeology Sea Trust (MAST). She is a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries and a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society. Through her charitable organisation, Jessica brings extensive experience in understanding our nation's maritime heritage, and how we use this knowledge to protect our future.

We believe the positive impact of our voyages will be essential for our beneficiaries to rebuild and reconnect after the challenges and isolation they have faced since March 2020. It is without doubt that the generous support of donors such as yourselves, our JST community, and significant responsive support across the sail training sector from the Association of Sail Training Organisations (ASTO) has ensured we will be here in 2021 to do this - thank you. If you would like to discuss any items of this update in further detail, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Sara Fleming | Trusts and Foundations Officer

sara.fleming@jst.org.uk | 023 8042 6868

Our Annual Report & Accounts for FY19/20 are available to download on the Charity Commission website.