



What we do

Since 2007 Sea-Change has provided action-centred learning and seamanship training for young people and vulnerable adults by offering an alternative approach in a structured and safe yet challenging environment.

How we do it

Participants live and work aboard a large traditional sailing vessel. They take part in anything the ship and the group needs and are encouraged to return and reinforce both their learning and confidence.

Why we do it

Engaging young people positively in their community is one of the greatest challenges faced by British society. Many are trapped in a downward spiral of poor parenting, petty crime, re-offending, drugs and alcohol. The cause of this is a lack of the right sort of support for young people when they most need it.

Why we are different

Sea-Change is there for the long haul. Our mentoring scheme helps prepare for a programme and to transfer positive change into normal life. The experience is intense and demanding yet takes place in an environment young people consider home while learning the skills needed to guide them in the wider world and workplace.

What next

We are raising funds towards our vision, that of a new Thames sailing barge working intensively for extended periods under sail, carrying a cargo within career-orientated training programmes - all in a low carbon environment.



www.seachangesailingtrust.org.uk

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Mission Statement

Ethos

For a sail training vessel to have value beyond the virtues of voyaging for its own sake, she must carry commercially viable cargo, and she must do so without mechanical assistance. To be a vital part of a venture which delivers the real goods to their destination using only wind and tide is not only to discover the obvious satisfactions of muscle-cracking labour, it is to appreciate one's place in the natural world. Using only vernacular artefacts we cannot hope to defeat the elements. The best we can do is to work with them and, so far as is humanly possible, turn them to our ends. Anyone working under sail alone soon learns to accept those things which cannot be changed. They also develop the fortitude to alter what can and must be altered. Understanding the difference between the two is a basic key to wisdom which few adults today ever achieve. When a young person steps ashore after discharging a cargo they have personally worked across days and nights of deep water and shoal, they will look up at the towering spars and begin to know their true worth as individuals.

It's as simple as that. The cost in money terms is minimal by today's standards. The pay-off in turning lives around will be incalculable.

Tom Cunliffe. Sailor, writer and broadcaster, Sea-Change patron



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