



Who are we?

The Tall Ships Youth Trust, incorporating the “Sail Training Association” is a registered charity, founded in 1956 and is unique in that it operates Tallships for the personal development of young people from all walks of life and in the age range of 12 – 25.

The “mission” is delivered through a 60 metre, 500 ton square rigged sailing ship, namely the “Stavros S Niarchos”, which is the successor to the “Winston Churchill” and “Malcolm Miller” along with four 22m ocean going “Challenger” yachts and a 20m Catamaran.

Young people are recruited to become volunteer crew members on a youth voyage which can last from 5 days up to 20 days. The holistic experience starts from the moment of applying to the Trust, then signing on and actually crewing the ship as part of a maximum of the volunteer crew. Being a member of the crew is partly about learning the principles of sailing but also much more about learning how to get along with people, working as part of a team, learning new skills, dealing with challenges and having great fun.

The voyages can be in various parts of the world as the fleet operate in UK waters, the Azores, Mediterranean, Caribbean, Scandinavia and the east coast of America.

Personal feedback is provided to the young people in the form of ongoing discussions and encouragement during the voyage together with a written follow up after the voyage. The entire mentoring process and operation of the ships is approved by HM Inspector of Schools as well as the MCA, DES and Child Commissioners. The Trust is recognised by the RYA and Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme as meeting the qualification of certain scheme requirements and the Department of Education also supports and recognise the value of the Trust’s work. As an aside we also enjoy the support of the United Nations and have, under their auspices, undertaken voyages crewed by young people from directly opposed communities such as the religious divides in Northern Ireland and both Greek and Turkish Cypriots.

We take pride in helping young people albeit we recognise that it can be difficult to quantify the true benefits that accrue from such experiences.

Further information is available from our web site, www.tallships.org.

We are often in many areas of the United Kingdom when we change crew members and volunteers and the vessel may be available for a visit . If yourself or any Sea Scout Groups would like to take up this offer , Please feel free to contact me .

There is a local volunteer support group who are able to provide further information including posters, brochures and handouts, give presentations and able to help with the financial costs of these life changing experiences. In the first instance please contact myself – Bryan Foley on 01446406631 , Mobile 07779658331 or by E.Mail .

Kind Regards
Bryan .