

# Merseyside Adventure Sailing Trust

Enabling young people to develop themselves



## Welcome from Jim Graves B.E.M. Founder & CEO of MAST

I am delighted to welcome you to the annual edition of MAST's newsletter.

For some of you, this may be your first visit to the activities of our amazing charity. For other readers, it is a reflection on the fantastic opportunities that MAST has offered to a wide range of people in 2021-2022.

We believe that every young person should be given the opportunity to develop themselves through guidance and practical support, so they can become the best that they can be. We want to give young people a chance to experience life at sea to find excellence, respect, aspirations and to find themselves! Through sail training individuals develop communication skills, build selfconfidence, use initiative and gain team building skills to enable them to become more resilient.

**Enabling young people to develop themselves.**



## Positive Impact!

Merseyside Adventure Sailing Trust has received a number of awards for its work as a charity.

MAST was awarded the Queen's Medal in 2019 and the Mersey Maritime 'Positive Impact Award' in 2018 and 2021, for the work that they do to develop young people and make a difference to their lives.

In 2021, Jim Graves, the Founder & CEO of MAST, was awarded the B.E.M., for his voluntary service to young people in Merseyside.



### For further information:

[www.mastyouthcharity.com](http://www.mastyouthcharity.com)

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**UK Registered Charity No. 1140905**



# Sir Ken and Lady Dodd Tall Ship Experience 2022



**We were absolutely delighted to announce that Lady Dodd has agreed to be the President of Merseyside Adventure Sailing Trust.**

In May 2022, it was an absolute privilege to welcome Lady Dodd on board the TS Pelican of London, when she had an opportunity to meet with Jim Graves B.E.M. and the MAST Ambassadors.

Later, Lady Dodd had a tour around this beautiful Tall Ship and met with Captain Axel and his amazing crew.

It was a great surprise to find that one of the crew members had his own story to tell in relation to Sir Ken Dodd. He shared that his mother had been one of Sir Ken Dodd's original Diddy Men and had carried on to have a career in the theatre.

**What a small world!**



After one of the hardest years of my life, sadly dealing with the loss of my beloved Dad, and the heartache of a breakup from my partner of 5 years, I'd like to start with WOW! The MAST tall ship experience was incredible, I have made memories I'll never forget and met people I'll never lose touch with. The sailing has changed my outlook on life completely. I was challenged in ways I never thought I could be and it made me learn a lot about myself and just how capable I really am, even whilst dealing with major life changing events. In the space of a week I learned how to take the helm and pilot a tall ship, I faced my fears climbing the rig and I gained some valuable respect for the sea currents when we dropped anchor and jumped in! The experience of sailing is amazingly indescribable and only truly rewarding. With my new found positive outlook, I say, take to the seas and LET IT GO. This experience gave me strength to pick myself back up, gave me peace to deal with my emotions, and gave me hope to deal with my heartache. I cannot thank MAST and Lady Dodd enough for this truly life changing experience.



# Every Picture Tells A Story...

## Sir Ken and Lady Dodd Tall Ship Experience 2022





# Young People Represent Liverpool City Region On 'Three Cities Voyage'

The 'Three Cities Voyage' is a celebration of sail training and maritime industries, organised as a collaboration between Liverpool City Council, Merseyside Adventure Sailing Trust (MAST) and Sail Training Ireland.

In May 2022, two voyages took part in the 'Three Cities Voyage 2022'. The over 18s left Liverpool on 30th May on the tall ship 'Pelican of London' and sailed to Dublin.



One week later, Year 10 students from SFX, represented young people from Liverpool City Region, and had an even more exciting and alternative educational experience; enabling them to increase knowledge of different careers in the Maritime Industries.

An early start at 6am on 6th June, the students travelled to Holyhead and then to Dublin on board Irish Ferries. Along the way students were made aware of the different occupations they could see in the maritime industries, from land-based work in the ports, passport security, container transporters and also onboard the ferry.

Once in Dublin, the students were given a warm welcome by organisers from Sail Training Ireland and soon joined the tall ship, 'Pelican of London', to sail around the Irish Sea, calling in at the beautiful Isle of Man along the way.

Jim Graves B.E.M., Founder & CEO of MAST, was delighted with the 9 students who represented Liverpool so well:

"These nine students worked together with other young people from all around Ireland: increasing knowledge and skills of sail training, developing communication skills, teamwork and building resilience for the future."



Parents were also excited and grateful for this wonderful opportunity and very proud that their son was representing both their school and young people in Liverpool City Region.

**Mr David Hayes, Headteacher at SFX, comments:**

"This was a wonderful opportunity for the SFX students. I am sure it will have a profound and lasting impact on those going, as well as being a great inspiration for students in other year groups and across the city region."



## Corporate Social Responsibility....

### What is it?

Corporate Social Responsibility reflects the individual's and organisation's responsibility to act in the best interest of their society by engaging in activities which will contribute to social development.

The purpose of CSR is to demonstrate how you are giving back to the community and making a difference. Not only will it truly impact on you as an individual but also on your business by supporting those less fortunate than yourselves.

### How can you help to support Merseyside Adventure Sailing Trust?

- You may wish to contribute towards the cost of a young person participating in a 7-day sail training voyage.
- Why not nominate MAST as your charity, by doing so, you will be supporting young people from disadvantaged communities and/or struggling with issues surrounding mental health and well-being.

### How will your support help a young person?

- Develop soft skills
- Increase self-confidence and motivation
- Develop teamwork and communication skills
- Develop resilience and use of initiative
- Highlight careers in Maritime and Associated industries

### Our Mission, Vision and Values

- We aim to provide opportunities for young people to develop their full potential, enabling them to become responsible members of society and enhance their life.
- We strive to advance the education and training of young people up to the age of 25, particularly but not exclusively from Merseyside.



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# Women into Maritime Careers & Environmental Impact

In November 2021, MAST was delighted to be part of the 1851 Trust's event at Royal Albert Dock.

The aim of the event was to encourage girls in Merseyside schools to explore maritime careers.

MAST offered brilliant workshops on 'Invasive Species and Environmental Impact' which was delivered on board the Tall Ship 'Blue Clipper'. The workshops were very well received by both students and staff across the schools who attended on 11th or 12th November 2021.

Over 250 girls from Merseyside schools took an active part in these workshops and the whole event contributed towards Government Career guidelines for Gatsby Benchmarks 5 & 6.

As a charity, MAST is working hard to promote the Maritime Industries with all schools to raise awareness of maritime careers and associated industries. In particular, we want to raise awareness of career pathways for girls into maritime which currently has only 2% of women in maritime careers worldwide. This is exactly the same percentage as it was 40 years ago!

MAST also offers our tall ships voyages which offer young people sail training, increasing communication skills, encouraging teamwork, developing self-confidence, building resilience and improving mental health & well-being. The girls who attended the Maritime STEM event in Liverpool had a wonderful day. Their experience on the tall ship was the highlight of the day, all the girls enthused about the ship, life at sea and the whole experience.

"The work that MAST do is inspiring young people and giving them a window to the wider world of work and adventure."

Mr Glover, Teacher MYLHA



When young people and their sponsors were asked about having this amazing opportunity with Merseyside Adventure Sailing Trust, their enthusiasm and positive impact are clearly reflected here:

"This voyage was an opportunity that I didn't want to miss. Although it will look good on my C.V. the experience and being part of a crew will be invaluable."

"I was very much looking forward to the hands-on experience of the voyage. I gained new skills, and enjoyed being part of a crew and visiting Ireland."



Matthew,  
A&P Holdings

"I learned some real sea skills including knots, navigation, sea code and being a helmsman. The people, memories and opportunities I got from this trip will stay with me forever and I recommend this experience to everyone."

"We have seen first-hand, the extremely positive impact that MAST has on young people. Both of our young people have expressed that travelling, learning, and getting to know how life is like at sea, has given them so many new skills within their own lives; skills that they are now applying practically to their day to day lives.

Working with the team at MAST, has been an absolute pleasure, its extremely reassuring to know that throughout the whole process, from the early-stage meetings to the young people returning from their sail that their welfare, and safety was always the top priority. The communication between MAST and our team was clear, understandable and most importantly an insight into how our own young people were getting on.

We'd highly recommend working with the team from MAST for any future sails and look forward to the future and how we can work together as an organisation. Once again, thank you for all of your support and the amazing opportunity to send two young people from Rock Ferry on a lifechanging experience."



Lewis C.  
Youth and Marketing Officer @ Neo Community.  
Police Support Volunteer  
& link with Merseyside Police Force

One of the young people we support, accessed the Tall ships with MAST earlier this year. This experience is something that has changed this young person and on their return from the trip, the increases in self-esteem and confidence was notable and also their level of maturity. As a result, this young person is progressing onto a mechanics course and has more belief in himself.

They got to meet and spend time with other young people and form healthy relationships and gain life skills in teamwork and improved communication. They got to experience new places and learning how to sail, was an experience and they have grown as a person.

This experience for any young person but especially for someone who is vulnerable and has the potential to take a wrong turn in life is invaluable and has a huge impact.

Regenda  
Homes

I. Watling,  
Team Leader