

Save Tall Ship Tenacious

In late December 2023 Jubilee Sailing Trust announced the insolvency of JST Tenacious Ltd. In January a community of dedicated sailors and supporters came together to try and save the ship, SV Tenacious. The only tall ship in the world designed and built for and by, a mixed ability crew, where disabled and non-disabled people sail together in equal partnership. The Save Tall Ship Tenacious group is separate to Jubilee Sailing Trust.

Built in 2000, SV Tenacious has sailed around the world - an ambassador for the UK where people from all nations, backgrounds, disabled, non-disabled and those with a range of health conditions sail together in unity.

On SV Tenacious no one is a passenger, disabled and non-disabled voyage crew work together as a team. A voyage on SV Tenacious changes lives. Crew learn from each other, building confidence, overcome challenges, share experiences and form friendships that last a lifetime. For many disabled people it may be the first time they feel trusted, valued and included.

Kate says "Before my first voyage aged 17, I was so used to being told 'no you can't do that; its too dangerous; we have no one to help you'. On Tenacious preparing to go aloft for the first time, everyone was getting their harnesses on and I remember the laughter. I thought 'Wow, this is amazing' The encouragement and helpfulness of all the crew made me think I'm going to do this and make it to the platform like everyone else"

Non-disabled crew gain new insight into themselves and others. Attitudes and perceptions are challenged and a deeper understanding of the lives of others is achieved.

Wendy says "Having been part of voyage crew on several occasions, I learned so much about myself, as well as the human courage and spirit of others. We are all differently abled in a variety of ways."

Tenacious is currently in dry dock without the funds to complete the surveys and repairs to get her certificated again and back to sea. If Tenacious is lost, people with disabilities will no longer be able to go ocean sailing, actively involved in crewing a tall ship on equal terms with non-disabled crew. The opportunities of being part of a Tenacious crew, that has benefitted so many over the last 23 years, will be gone. It is for this reason that a large group of supporters, from the UK as well as Europe, USA, Australia and the Caribbean has been established, to try and save this unique ship. A website has been created:

www.tenacious.org.uk

where more information about Tenacious, the impact she has, and the Save Tail Ship Tenacious group can be found. A Contact page is available for all enquiries.

Please help us save this very special ship. As a seafaring nation Tenacious is a shining example of British ingenuity, design and opportunity, where inclusion and equality for all, is it's guiding principle.

How you can help

- Sign our petition:

<https://www.change.org/p/save-the-tall-ship-tenacious-mixed-disabled-and-non-disabled-crew>

- Write to your MP

<https://www.tenacious.org.uk/2024/01/28/write-to-your-mp/>

For further information contact:

Anne O'Brien email: anne80343@gmail.com

Graham Strudwick email: graham.strudwick@hotmail.com