







Rialtas na hÉireann Government of Ireland



# NEIC Sail Training Voyages 2023



SAIL TRAINING IRELAND sail, train, learn, <u>live ...</u> The fourth NEIC Sail Training project took place this Summer. Twenty-six people from the Northeast Inner City of Dublin took part in the two weeklong voyages aboard the tall ship Pelican of London. The participants had the fantastic opportunity to become part of the working crew of a tall ship as trainees. This year's project had two voyages one for 14 – 17-year-olds and one for Over 18s.

The Under 18 voyage started and finished in Dublin with the Over 18's starting in Rosslare and finishing in Dublin. The participants were nominated for places by various youth and community groups from the NEIC.

This opportunity was made possible by funding support from Dublin City Council and the Northeast Inner City (NEIC) Programme Office, with trainee recruitment coordinated by Sail Training Ireland.



# NEIC

The NEIC is a major Government initiative to oversee the long term social and economic regeneration of the area. This involves a huge range of projects, including this unique sail training project.





# **RECRUITING THE TRAINEES**

A process was put in place whereby community and youth organisations in the NEIC nominated people to participate in the project. The following organisations submitted nominations:

- Bradog Youth Services
- Swan Youth Services
- North Strand Sea Scouts
- East Wall Youth Services
- Richmond Cottages Residents
- INOU Shaping Futures



## THE VOYAGES



#### **Over 18's Voyage**

The first group set sail from Rosslare Port on 18th June 2023. The ship sailed around the Irish Sea, including a visit to the UK, taking in Lundy Island, Tenby and Fishguard. They also got to meet and trade stories of their adventures with trainees from Tall Ship Tenacious who was anchored nearby



in Lundy. The voyage concluded with a challenging trip back to anchor overnight in Scotsman's Bay off Dun Laoghaire, before docking back in Dublin on the 24th of June.

#### Under 18's Voyage

The second group to set sail departed Dublin on 25th June. They sailed North and dropped anchor off Drogheda. The following day they headed for Scotland and to Dundoon on the Cowal Peninsula. The stop in Scotland included an educational trip in to see Glasgow. The ship arrived back into Dublin on the 1st of July where trainees were welcomed home by family and friends.



## AWARDS CEREMONY



Trainees having received their certificates.

On August 14th, an awards ceremony was held in St Agatha's Hall for all the participants. The trainees were awarded Sail Training Ireland certificates in front of family members and friends.

Thanks was given to Northeast Inner-City Project, the Department of Defence, Dublin City Council and Dublin Port Company. In particular, STIRL extended their gratitude to Michael O'Riordan and Michael Darragh McCauley of the NEIC.

As ever the highlight of the evening was hearing from the participants speak on how the voyages had impacted them.

## **FEEDBACK**

Craig Byas from Bradog, a recent recipient of the National Garda Youth Award will progress to sail on the Tenacious in 2024 to explore the potential of a career in youth work incorporating sail training.

Marie Moore of the INOU gained so much from the voyage personally she would like to give something back, with this in mind she has registered for a place on our 2024 mentor training.

## TESTIMONIALS

- "The end of another fantastic day aboard the Pelican of London. The day has been a rewarding one and was full of challenges. The night passage from beautiful Tenby to Fishguard was tiring, but it set us up for an exciting day".
- "Today was full of confidence building, personal growth, new and nourishing experiences, and a feeling of acceptance amongst our tight knit group.
- "Rough conditions, wet weather, and a long day of sail handling made for a day full of adventure, made so much better by the fantastic company".

#### Sail Training Ireland

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