



PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF HAMPSHIRE AND ISLE OF WIGHT

PRESENTATION TO TALL SHIPS YOUTH TRUST

July 2017



Mike Wilks with Richard Leaman CB OBE, Chief Executive Officer – Tall Ships Youth Trust

The Provincial Grand Master, Mike Wilks was delighted to visit the Tall Ships Youth Trust at Gunwharf Marina, Portsmouth and present £22,000 donated to the charity by the Masonic Charitable Foundation. The donation will be used to support young people who are not in Education, Employment or Training. The PGM seized the opportunity to talk to some of the four boatloads of young people who had recently arrived to start their adventure as well as some of the many staff members. The PGM said that some youngsters were on a ship for the very first time – and were so looking forward to playing their part in assisting the crew, whatever the weather and sea conditions. “I have no doubt they will benefit enormously from their experience and lead more fulfilling lives as a result.”

Richard Leaman CB OBE, Chief Executive Officer said, “This bursary will allow us to get 50 NEET young people on board our vessels for Sail Training, we are immensely grateful to the Masonic Charitable Foundation for their generosity and support”.



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The Tall Ships Youth Trust was founded in 1956 as The Sail Training Association to provide opportunities for young people to learn sailing skills and gain personal development. The Trust's first Tall Ship was the well-known Sir Winston Churchill.

In the time since further ships have been added to the fleet which now numbers 7 vessels of different sizes and designs. The Tall Ships Youth Trust is now able to train children as young as 12 and offer training to disabled young people and adults.

Tall Ships Youth Trust

Dedicated to the personal development of disadvantaged young people aged 12 to 25, through the crewing of ocean-going sail training vessels for over 60 years, the Tall Ships Youth Trust are one of the oldest sail training charities in the world.

As a youth charity, they provide bursaries and funding to help disadvantaged young people get on board and realise their full potential. Countless numbers of disadvantaged young people have sailed with the trust go on to a life, fully prepared for adulthood with life lessons and memories to last a lifetime.

Over 100,000 trainees have sailed, over a million nautical miles with the trust. All vessels are operated to the same high standards e.g. the same safeguarding and child protection policy, code of conduct, drug and alcohol policy; the same rigorous recruitment and screening of prospective volunteers. Sailing as part of a Tall Ships crew makes for a participative and empowering experience and the fleet provides a unique, physically and mentally challenging residential setting in which disadvantaged young people can explore their true potential. The experiences and achievements on board act as a catalyst for self-esteem and inspiration in these disadvantaged young people.

