



# Royal Yacht Squadron Isle of Wight Foundation

## Plans for next Careers Fair in the Pavilion are well advanced

Following on from the success of the last Careers Fair in 2016, a similar program in the Pavilion is planned for 28th September this year. Over 36 top quality exhibitors have signed up already and it is thought likely that the numbers of local students who visit will exceed 300.

The format will be slightly different with a series of videos from exhibitors showing in a continuous loop. Workshops will focus on interview technique and the writing of CVs.

The RYS Haven will also be the scene of much activity with the presence of a Marine Police "Commander" vessel and a relief offshore RNLI lifeboat. It is probable that the Royal Navy will once again provide a P2000 as yet another vessel for the youngsters to explore and use the opportunity to discuss career options with the personnel on board.

HRH The Earl of Wessex is offering his support as patron of the RYS Foundation.



## Successful marine careers fair shows what's on offer

A MARINE industry careers fair, organised by the Royal Yacht Squadron's charitable foundation, was attended by nearly 300 students and jobseekers.

There were 38 employers and training providers from the marine industry exhibiting, rang-

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ing from local firms to multi-national companies.

The fair covered boat-building, engineering, ferries, the Coastguard, Royal Navy, harbour management, catering, ship-broking,

shipping, insurance, water sports, sail training, super yachts, off-shore energy support, technical and electrical.

The Royal Navy had a P2000 patrol boat moored in the Royal Yacht Squadron (RYS) Haven and gave tours, as did the RNLI with its inshore lifeboat. The Coastguard had its 4x4 emergency vehicle parked outside.

Organiser Didi Nicholson said: "We were delighted how our first marine careers fair went and hope it has given a wide group of people an insight into the many possibilities there are for employment in a sea-going environment."

"We are also pleased to have raised awareness of the financial help the RYS IW Foundation may be able to offer young peo-

ple seeking to train to follow some of these careers."

The RYS IW Foundation can provide financial support for young people aged 15 to 29 living on the IW so they can participate in education or acquire vocational skills to be able to pursue their chosen marine-related career.

*Press coverage of the RYSF Careers Fair 2016*

**The Foundation's mission is to promote opportunities in the marine industry for young people living on the Isle of Wight that they would otherwise be prevented from achieving**

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# Going places.....

**There are many young people on the Isle of Wight that are now achieving their ambitions thanks to the Foundation.**

**Connor** is a very impressive 17 year old. He was born and educated on the island, leaving school with no qualifications. He explained that his family situation fell apart before he sat the exams although he had been predicted A's and B's prior to this. As a result of the family problems, he had to leave home, and was living in a hostel.



He started a Watersports traineeship (designed for 16-18 year old school leavers) at UKSA, but was unable to complete this because

of further deterioration and problems with his family life. He much enjoyed the course, despite the difficulties, and still wished to develop his skills. His stated aim is to become a dinghy instructor and use this qualification and his own experiences to work with children and young people facing difficulties.

We awarded Connor the full cost of the course. His then financial and personal situation made it impossible for him to fund any part of it himself. We arranged for him to have work experience (and later paid work) at Yarmouth Harbour while waiting for his course. He has since completed his course and now has a full time job with Yarmouth Harbour.

**Becky** was 19 years old and lives in Newport and experienced a couple of difficult years. However, she was supported on a course with Challenge & Adventure which she says helped her to get through them. Miranda Acland said that watching her at an awards celebration was very heart warming - she was head and shoulders above everyone else in her enthusiasm and commitment. She has since, with RYSF financial help, embarked on a Dinghy Instructor course at UKSA.

**Margot and Hannah** both received small contributions towards their courses and equipment whilst **Josh** received financial help towards his Yachtmaster Course at UKSA.

**Callum** is attending a water sports instructor course with help on travel and equipment costs from the Foundation. His hope is one day to run his own water sports business. His mother is supporting him and his three younger brothers - his parents have split up - and money is very short.

**JJ** is on a scholarship at the International BAC Careers Program at Ryde where we are helping to fund his ambition to achieve a BTEch in Marine Engineering in lieu of normal A levels.

JJ's parents have exhausted their financial abilities paying for Ryde School fees to date. The school have provided JJ with a scholarship of 75% of the sixth form fees. RYSF agreed to pay for all his maritime bolt on courses whilst at the ICBP.



**Ashleigh** successfully completed her commercially endorsed Yachtmaster thanks to joint funding between the RYSF and Trinity House. She is now gainfully employed at the Ellen McArthur Trust. The CEO

recently reported that 'Ashleigh has been a huge asset to the Ellen MacArthur Cancer Trust. She is enthusiastic, hard-working and a great member of the team. She always enters everything she does with 100% effort, she is a great example of how young people on the Island can build a career in the maritime industry. She is helping to change the lives of many other young people across the UK through water activities.'

*'The RYS Foundation is a very good initiative that is excellent news for the Isle of Wight'* Cowes Councillor

Click here to view the website  
[www.rysfoundation.org.uk](http://www.rysfoundation.org.uk)

**Lloyd** is a familiar figure at BAR where he is a marine engineering apprentice for which he has benefited from free travel on both Red Funnel and Hovertravel. He has proved to be sufficiently key to have moved with the rest of the team to Bermuda.



**Filip** (19) had started A levels but then moved to studying engineering for a year at the Isle of Wight College. In November 2016, he started working as a marine electronics apprentice at Comar Systems. He is doing a BTEC diploma in Electrical Engineering at Highbury College, which is a two year course on day release. As with all apprentices, he is on a low income and asked for help with travel to his college in Cosham. Filip is an extremely nice young man who is very interested in engineering, and keen to understand more about the maritime opportunities for employment and development after his apprenticeship. The Foundation has helped with his travel costs.

**Duncan** is undertaking a four year apprenticeship at Lallows with a college segment at Southampton for which he has free travel provided by Red Funnel.

He recently wrote: *'Thank you so much for helping me financially, with buying tools and equipment. The laptop has been a major help, I'm so far ahead with my NVQ questions and job write ups and it's all thanks to you and the Royal Yacht Squadron! And my hard work and effort of course ha ha!'*

**Reuben** (17) met staff from Trinity House at our Careers Fair. He impressed them with his enthusiasm and was invited to an interview in London. With guidance from an RYS member who is also a Younger Brother at Trinity House, Reuben performed well enough to be enrolled onto one of the much sought after Trinity House cadetships.

**Jack** enrolled at the Boat Building diploma at the International Boat Building Training College (IBTC), Portsmouth thanks to a financial contribution from the Foundation. He had decided that he did not want to continue to finish his A levels. The course costs of £15,000 for the year are more than what he or his parents could afford. Our contribution was increased as a generous RYS Member had expressly requested their donation was to support a student at IBTC.

**Joshua, Jack, Toby and Scott** are apprentices in marine engineering and will be attending the Highbury College in the Portsmouth Dockyard. These were referred to us by the HR Manager at Wight Shipyard.

**James** is paid his travel costs as he had applied to join the Royal Navy and needed to attend appointments and interviews on the mainland. This was referred to RYSF by the Royal Navy recruitment team. James has since been accepted on a Merchant Navy cadetship.



**Amy** completed her Yachtmaster course and has worked at 'Girls for Sail'. She is now 1st mate on a 72 ft sail training vessel with Cirdan Sailing Trust.

**10 local students** spent a week on the RONA sailing project which we partially funded. All fulfilled our criteria of need.

**?** *If you would like to be involved or contribute in any way please contact the Foundation*

Click here to view the website  
[www.rysfoundation.org.uk](http://www.rysfoundation.org.uk)



# RYS member donations:

The target of £2m is now within reach. Thanks to the (in some cases exceptional) generosity of RYS Members, the RYSF fund has now reached £1,342,450 including pledges and Gift Aid. This equates to 67% of the original target. 17% of current Full Members have donated so far with many more indicating that they intend to do so.

It is hoped that eventually 50% of the RYS membership will have contributed in some way.

The total amount of grants disbursed and committed amounts to £76,782 since the Foundation was established. Isle of Wight residents are becoming more aware of the resulting improved employment prospects for many local young people.

Donations to the RYS IOW Foundation can be either by:

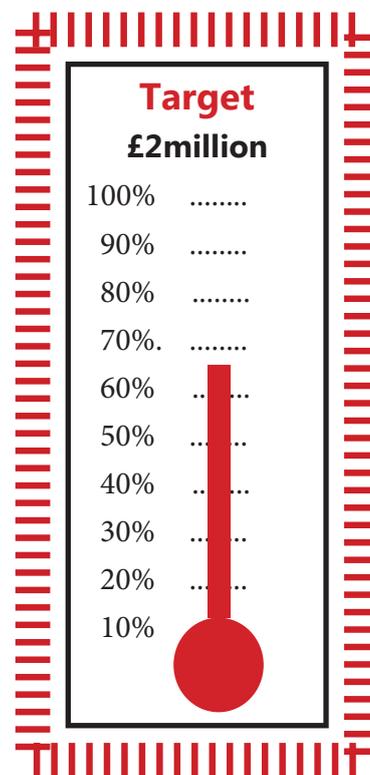
- 1) One-off cash donation
- 2) Regular annual cash donation
- 3) Legacy or legacy pledge
- 4) Donation of shares

*There are different tax benefits for UK individual tax payers relating to all these types of donations.*

Please contact the RYS office Tel: 01983 292191 or email [trustees@rysfoundation.org.uk](mailto:trustees@rysfoundation.org.uk)

## RYSF Volunteers (alphabetically)

Miranda Acland	<i>Grants Panel co-ordinator</i>
James Axtell	<i>Fundraising Committee</i>
Bertie Bicket	<i>Fundraising Committee</i>
Oscar Bicket	<i>Website</i>
Duncan Byatt	<i>Investment Committee</i>
Kate Collins	<i>Education &amp; Community</i>
Robert Colville	<i>Investment Committee</i>
John Harbord-Hamond	<i>Fundraising Committee</i>
Buddha Hunt	<i>Fundraising Committee</i>
Neil McGrigor	<i>Apprenticeships &amp; Careers</i>
Didi Nicholson	<i>Education &amp; Community</i>
Christopher Sharples	<i>Fundraising Committee</i>
Oliver Stanley	<i>Careers Fair</i>
James Stevens	<i>Grants Panel</i>



Funds received & pledged



## THE TRUSTEES

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