



Boleh
Can do

www.bolehproject.com



happy Christmas and New Year
to all our friends and supporters

The Boleh Trust Christmas Newsletter

December 2010

Boleh Goes Global!

Thanks to the Boleh website, we are now sharing memories of Boleh and an interest in her future literally across the Globe - from America to Australia! The website (www.bolehproject.com) will keep you up to date with progress during the year and can also be used to make a donation – always welcome!

Restoration Update

This is the second full year of work on restoring Boleh during which shipwright Richard Uttley and the apprentices have completed the hull repairs and made steady progress on rebuilding her topsides and superstructure. The quality of the workmanship has attracted favourable comment from our visitors and this is captured in a professional quote from a recent survey: *“It was very heartening to see the amount of work that has been carried out by relatively few people and the standard of the work. Boleh is now structurally in a very sound state”*. As our charitable object is ‘to advance young people’ it is a pleasure to report that most of our apprentices have been able to use the Boleh experience to find worthwhile employment on completion of their training with us.

The next phase of work will concentrate on building the internal structure of the vessel.

Project Team Update

Our current team includes a recently qualified shipwright, Jason Rankin who completed his apprenticeship with us, and a new apprentice, Josh Brookes; both are supported by Heritage Lottery Fund Industrial Training Bursaries.

Regrettably, after 2 very productive years, our Project Manager, Richard Uttley has had to leave the Project on grounds of ill health. We thank him for his outstanding contribution and wish him a speedy recovery. The Trust has been fortunate to find an appropriately qualified replacement for Richard with very little delay. Flint Elgie came onboard at the start of the autumn term, bringing with him first hand knowledge of sail training – a former mate of the 1903 French Pilot Cutter ‘Jolie Brise’ – and many years experience of managing a local boatyard. We will engage further apprentices as the programme requires and funds allow.

Boleh in the Community

During the past year the Trust has secured the continuing use of our excellent workshop facilities at The Old Pump House, 199 Henderson Road, Southsea, which we rent from Portsmouth City Council. We are most grateful to the Council for the support they give to the Project and the helpful way in which they have managed the transfer of site



responsibilities to us. We are now becoming established in the community and are also part of the National Historic Ships heritage and conservation network in the Solent area. It has been heartening to receive local support from two of our MPs, Penny Mordaunt (Portsmouth North) and David Willetts (Havant) Minister for Universities and Science, the latter writing *“to congratulate the Trustees on setting up Project Boleh”*.

Trustee News

Since our last Newsletter the Boleh Trust has been fully recognised by the Charity Commission and we have added 2 Trustees to the Board: David Knight who bears the scars of restoring and running ‘Speedwell’, a 1901 50ft Oyster Smack, and Guy Fithen who was inspired by the Boleh story while a child in Singapore and now works in the City of London. Guy and his brother Caspar most generously sponsored a successful fundraising evening for the Trust at the Travellers Club earlier this year. Another Trustee, Piers Middleton, has also been busy fundraising; completing the New York Marathon in November to bring in several thousand pounds for the Trust.

Funding

Throughout the year we have been busy applying to funding institutions and individuals for grants to the Boleh Trust and, despite the economic climate, have been rewarded. We are most grateful to the Mercers Company, the Shipwrights Company, the Bulldog Trust, VT Group Plc, Livingstone & Co, Portsmouth City Council, the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Community Foundation (The BAT Fund), AirTanker Ltd, ING, Hampshire County Council and numerous individuals for their generous support over the past year. To date we have raised over £60,000 recognising the value of the work we do for young people.

Into the New Year.....

There will be plenty for our apprentices to be getting on with in 2011. This next year, however, will see a number of challenges: firstly to continue to raise the profile of the Trust – please do all you can to spread the word; secondly to maintain our fundraising momentum during this period of austerity; and thirdly, as the restoration unfolds, to tackle exciting design issues which must balance Robin Kilroy’s innovative ideas with the needs of a 21st century sail training vessel.

**Thank you all most warmly for your support and interest during 2010.
Please keep in touch and come and see us at 199 Henderson Road.**



Registered Charity No 1135117 Historic Vessel No 2281 Contact us at: friends@bolehproject.com

Trustees

Chris Austin Guy Fithen David Knight George Middleton Henry Middleton Piers Middleton Michael Ricketts