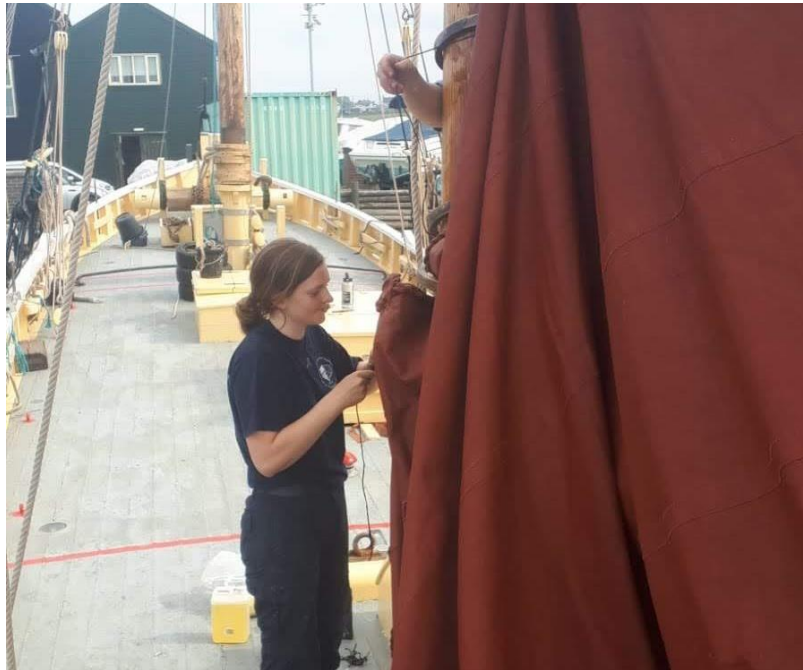


May 2020

Back to Work



Alanna
Cameron



During the first half of this month, the boatshed was still in lockdown. So to pass the time masterclasses via zoom were organised for us trainees.

Our first masterclass was with Toby Marris, skipper of *Jolie Brise*, about passage planning. It was so useful to get expert help when I am studying the Yachtmaster theory. Our next masterclass was with Tom Cunliffe. We received a signed copy of his book ‘Hand, Reef and Steer’ and he gave an interesting talk on different rig types and sail theory, which was spattered with entertaining anecdotes. We then had a Q&A, and he gave me some advice on what I needed to begin learning celestial navigation. The main ingredient to success was to buy a copy of his comprehensive book on the matter, which I promptly did. I am looking forward to getting my teeth into it and hopefully, it won’t be too long before I can put a new skill to use.



Pioneer Sailing Trust opened back up this month. It was brilliant to get back to work and see everyone again. As we have been quite happy to sit out and enjoy the sun during break times, it hasn't been too difficult to follow social distancing guidelines. Once back, we quickly got to work rigging *Pioneer*. It has been so much fun spending all day up the mast. I have learned so much by rigging the boat, it has been a brilliant experience.

First, we rigged the mizzen mast. We attached the blocks and led the halyards then we brought the boom and gaff on board and put the sail on. Then

the same process to rig the main mast, with few extra blocks. Once we had rigged the bowsprit *Pioneer* was ready to be moved out to her mooring which we are planning to do in early June. While we won't be able to go sailing quite yet, hopefully, government restrictions will ease up soon and we will be able to take to the seas again.

