**Training Programme 1: Traditional Seafarer Traineeship**

**Shipshape Heritage Training Partnership 2 (SHTP 2)**

**Summary of Training Programme**

The Shipshape Heritage Training Partnership Project (SHTP 2) has been funded by Skills for the Future, a Heritage Lottery Fund programme, to create new opportunities for vocational-based training in the maritime heritage sector. Eight organisations will support a 12-month placement to enable a new generation of people to develop vanishing essential skills in maintaining, handling and conserving historic vessels.

The successful trainees will be given opportunities to learn and develop these skills, which will enable them to pursue a career in the historic ships or maritime heritage sector. There are two clear training pathways: either traditional seamanship or museum ship-keeping. Placements will focus initially on learning key foundation skills needed by anyone seeking a career in sailing vessels up to 24 metres and will then build on this foundation with more specialist skills required for the historic ships sector.

As well as being based on the host vessel or at the host museum site, each trainee will spend time on other historic ships within the partnership through a rotation programme.

**Reporting to:**

This traineeship will be overseen by the National Historic Ships UK Project Co-ordinator. On a day to day basis this traineeship will be supervised by the Skipper or equivalent at the host organisation. Pastoral support will be provided through a mentor scheme.

**Purpose:**

* To develop and learn the skills necessary to maintain, operate and conserve historic vessels in line with the principles set out in the NHS-UK publication ‘Conserving Historic Vessels’
* To participate in the training process, including completion of the relevant NHS-UK certification programme
* To participate in day to day activities of the historic vessel where you are based
* To participate in a varied training programme, including external courses and vessel rotations

**Key Responsibilities:**

* Taking part in vessel operations as a full member of the host team, including frequent sailings, deck work, vessel handling skills, maintenance, conservation programme and ongoing ship husbandry
* Taking part in rotation and other activities to gain a rounded experience and understanding of different historic vessels
* Completing the NHS-UK Historic Vessel Conservation course and Competency Units in Operating & Maintaining Historic Vessels
* Taking part in all duties associated with being on board, including maintenance, handling ships, cooking, cleaning etc.
* Being responsible for the health and safety of oneself and others
* Working alongside experienced crew members to learn traditional maintenance skills including use of specialist tools, traditional rope work, sail repairs, rigging and basic joinery
* Assisting in welcoming clients of all backgrounds including school groups and helping them learn about and understand the vessel

**Entry Requirements:**

**Essential**

* Grade C or above in GCSE or equivalent in English and Maths
* Able to communicate effectively in English, both verbally and in writing, to understand instructions for equipment and processes and to supervise other crew
* Being flexible, self-motivated, disciplined and passionate about a long-term career in historic vessels with an aptitude for life on-board
* Demonstrable physical fitness, good spatial awareness/hand-eye co-ordination, and good at practical tasks
* Willingness to travel for approximately four months of the year, as well as being away at sea for up to four weeks at a time and undertake flexible hours as required
* The ability to work independently and as part of a team, with good people skills
* A good level of organisational and problem solving skills

**Desirable**

* Confidence in dealing with a wide range of people
* Computer literacy: intermediate knowledge of using standard word processing packages, email systems, and the internet.
* Previous experience of working in the maritime heritage sector

**Terms:**

The term of the traineeship will run from October 2018 to September 2019. The guided learning hours is based on a maximum of 48 hours per week on average with hours to be agreed with the placement provider.

There will be a set holiday period at Christmas for two weeks and additional opportunities for breaks as agreed with placement providers.

The trainee may be required to be based on or travel on any partner vessel or museum.

Tax free bursary of £12,000; trainees are expected to cover their accommodation costs from this bursary.

Successful trainees will be subject to an Enhanced DBS check as part of the appointment process.

**Programme Outline**

The placements last twelve months in order that all trainees have experience and understand the cyclical rhythm of the maritime year; with the winter refit and essential long term maintenance work followed by re-rigging and preparation for the new season, with the busy summer sailing season and on board maintenance leading once more into the winter refit.

* An induction programme and initial skills development programme at Cremyll Sea School, Plymouth
* A course in historic vessel maintenance at IBTC, Lowestoft

November- February 2018/19

* Host placement with vessel or museum, gaining experience in a vocational-based environment
* Two rotations to other historic vessels in the programme, summer 2019
* Historic Vessel Conservation course containing tailored units for traditional ship keeping trainees)
* Two week break over Christmas

Although all placements follow the programme laid out above, there are differences between the partner organisations and the experiences they offer which may make one placement more appealing or suitable than another. These differences are explained in the Description of Partner Organisations. When completing the application form, please be clear whether you are applying for a particular placement or have no preference.

**Description of Placements:**

It is intended that the trainees will have significant time with their host vessel to gain an in-depth understanding of running, conserving and handling historic vessels over a full season, as well as spending time learning skills on shore, networking and on rotation in order to get a better understanding of the different types of specialist rig.

All placements will cover the following key areas:

* Developing the core skills and aptitudes as outlined in NHS-UK workbooks
* Experience at sea and operating historic vessels with their host organisation
* Rotation to visit other vessels within the partnership to give experience with different types of historic vessel and rig
* Studying the Historic Vessel Conservation course by distance learning
* Developing communication skills needed to engage with clients/members of the public
* Opportunities to visit other historic ships and be part of the crew in the trainees’ down time, for example through the Old Gaffers Association
* Introductions and opportunities to visit other heritage organisations
* Opportunities to improve other life skills such as computer literacy, management and business skills
* Networking opportunities, particularly though the Networking Day and contact with previous trainees who have undergone the same programme
* Coaching on job applications, employability etc.