

2013 Sail Trainees Blog

29 June 2013

A note from the Skipper:

Undaunted by our delayed departure, or the weather forecast, *Swan* and her crew left Lerwick and bore away for Norway. Initially every inch of canvas flying we edged east into rising winds. Which necessitated reducing sail until eventually we were flying only the foresail and 2 reefs in the main. It's fair to say that *Swan* took it rather better than most of the crew! It's also fair to say that it was a fulsome test of their resolve. By the time we reached the Norwegian coast morale was rising as rapidly as the wind was falling.



Two reefs

Everyone made it to breakfast and enjoyed the follow up activity of tidying the boat before joining the parade of sail and entry into Lervig harbour. The crew have been through a tough experience but can hold their heads high and tell salty tales on return.

Richard Pattison

News from sail trainees:



The mountainous seas!

Emma: Can't say I had the best trip over as I was in bed for almost 40 hours through up to gale force 8 winds. I have never felt so ill in my life! I hope the rest of the trip is calmer and I can keep my food down.

Eve: well the first 2 days have been a very new experience, I was up for most of the day and nights and was one of the lucky few to not get ill. Although it was sometimes wet and cold I still enjoyed myself and knew I would probably not be doing anything like it again.

Georgia: To say I was ill this crossing doesn't even cover it! But reaching Norway and seeing all its beauty has made it all worth while ☺

Kate: I was not such a good sailor after all – stayed in bed ill for the first day or so, but now that we are in calmer water, I hope to get out on deck more.

Diana: The crossing has definitely been a new experience, although I did spend most of it in bed where I felt reasonably okay I did manage to get out on deck and lend a hand with the sails. Hope the return journey is calmer so I can enjoy it more.

Valerie: The start of the trip I was in bed. I hope the weather is better while we are in Norway.

Steven: To be honest I didn't have a very good trip across, spending most of the two days in my bunk. I feel a lot better now and I was so hungry this morning I don't think I have ever been so glad to see porridge in my life!

Laura: The trip over wasn't what I had expected but that's good because it keeps you on your toes. I tried my best to muck in and help the crew out. I spent most of my time on deck being splashed with waves and having a snooze every so often. The two most difficult things I have done so far were, drinking tea while steering and washing the dishes when the ship was rolling. But I have really enjoyed myself so far and can't wait for the rest of my time aboard!

