

Disabled Serving Personnel and Veterans Gig Project - Build a Cornish pilot gig and row her to the Isles of Scilly to take part in the World Championships.

We Need You

This project, funded by the Armed Forces Community Covenant Grant Scheme and The National Maritime Museum Cornwall started in June 2015. The boat will be built by Armed Forces Wounded, Injured and Sick serving personnel and veterans. This is your opportunity to participate.



The gig will be built in the Maritime Museum workshop gallery in Falmouth supervised by a professional boat builder, Andrew Nancarrow. The end of the project will be marked by an "Epic Row" in stages from Falmouth to St. Mary's, Isles of Scilly, arriving in time for the Cornish Pilot Gig World Championships in early May 2016. After the championships, the gig will be donated to an appropriate

Project Overview

The project, which will last for approximately one year, has the flexibility to allow you to become involved whenever you want, for as long as you want: we know that you

will often have other priorities or just bad days.



As a participant you will undergo training in basic woodworking and tool skills and, if you wish undertake individual mini projects, such as a tool box or similar. Alongside all of this will be work on the gig build with plenty to do for everyone.

Differing levels of ability can be managed, so you don't need previous experience, as there will be plenty of construction components and tasks to be undertaken. There will be three workshop days a week, and one day for a programme of offsite leisure activities each Wednesday.

Workshop Practice

Activity in the workshop will comply with current HSE regulations and guidelines. Workshop practice will

be adapted to accommodate your individual needs with emphasis on developing safe practice techniques to extend your ability, dexterity and confidence in this working environment.

NVQ Programme

You will have the opportunity if you wish to undertake an NVQ level 3 vocational qualification. Credits will be awarded for completed modules that may be transferable to other similar courses. The in-house

programme will be delivered for us by Falmouth Marine School, a campus of Cornwall College that has been teaching boatbuilding for over 50 years.

Working Environment

The project workshop is contained within the National Maritime Museum Cornwall, which has good access and facilities for disabled users, including a suitable toilet facility. The workshop has been assessed by an occupational therapist from Hasler Company, and is deemed fit for use by WIS. There will be facilities for quiet reflection if required and the Museum café is available for refreshments.

Staffing

The team will consist of a Project Manager, Mike Selwood, Master Gig Builder Andrew Nancarrow, and two assistant boat builders, Dan Scully and Al Henderson, who will help deliver basic woodwork skill training: the team will also be supported by a dedicated group of Museum volunteers. Additional skill support will be provided by a dedicated tutor from Falmouth Marine School, who will also manage the NVQ programme.

Additional Activities

The programme will include one day a week of leisure pursuits. Individuals can select from a large list of both water and land-based activities. For those who want to row, gig rowing training will be available with support from a championship-winning Cornish Gig Club.



Pastoral Care

An appropriate pastoral care programme in conjunction with Help for Heroes, other partner charities and NMMC staff and volunteers will form an important part of the programme.

Get Involved

Building the boat started on the 1st of June, so now is a great time to join in. Let us know if you would like to be part of this challenging project. With our flexible programme we can try and accommodate your personal needs. Contact Nigel Baxter or Kevin Bunt at Help for Heroes, Endeavour Centre, Plymouth on 01752 562179 or ask your supporting charity to contact the Museum project manager on your behalf, mikeselwood@nmmc.co.uk

