

This document serves as our annual report for 2021 – 2022.

The trustees send many thanks to everyone who has donated and given their support to Hilary's Dream Trust (HDT) over this year. The Trust would not succeed without the continuing commitment and work of its trustees and supporters – thank you!



On 17<sup>th</sup> September 2022 we hosted our third sailing taster day at Bewl Water enabling several adults to go sailing for the first time and give them a sense of what is possible. The weather was sunny and warm and we had a wonderful day. The sailing was amazing! All the participants commented on how well-organised and welcoming the event was.

We could not have achieved such a brilliant day without the generosity of the Mariners of Bewl who provided the boats, their sailing expertise, skills, knowledge and cake!



The trustees are pleased to announce that HDT will be funding Oceans of Hope UK with an annual grant of £5000 for the next five years until 2027. Our grants will enable Oceans of Hope UK to continue their work and will be used to fund day sails from Port Solent and enable hundreds of adults with MS to experience sailing and the freedom that sailing brings.



Participants experience a sense of achievement, hope, belonging and well-being. The challenges of MS are over-ridden by the sheer exuberance that sailing brings and opens up new possibilities. With our support Oceans of Hope UK are going to take more people sailing than they have ever taken before!

Robert Munns, the CEO of Oceans of Hope Challenge UK, wrote to us *"2022 is going to be even more exciting for us and we would love for you to be on this journey with us again. Our aim is to not only offer sailing to as many people as possible, but also help people in their own journey of training and exploring life through sailing too."*

**Going forward** - We are planning our fourth sailing taster day with the Mariners of Bewl, which will enable more adults with disabilities and disadvantages to experience sailing for the first time.

*Our goal in all our endeavours is to help and support adults with disabilities and disabling conditions to experience sailing, achieve their sailing dreams and support their recovery and increase their resilience.*

**And finally...** 'Me Too' has a new home! 'Me Too' is the Artemis 20 fixed keel sailing boat used by Hilary to sail round Britain. In 2019 Hilary's family gifted 'Me Too' to Lymington Sailability.



Hilary bought the boat new and had it converted for a 'sip-and-puff' system that allowed her to sail by herself – an activity that gave her complete freedom to control her own sea faring destiny.

Following her death in 2018, it was Hilary's wish that 'Me Too' should be actively used again by sailors with disabilities.

The project to restore 'Me Too' was put on hold due to cost issues. However, in spring 2021, Tom Morton, vice chairman, was approached by Robert Houston from London charity BOOST, which helps disadvantaged people with their sporting ambitions. He was looking for a sailing charity with a project that he and his late aunt, Rosalind Molly Hughes, could support. Tom suggested the Artemis 20 project and Robert loved the idea and provided the backing to start.

In summer 2021, the project got underway. The sip-and-puff system and the special seat were removed, the entire deck and hull were repaired and prepared for the new seating, steering and adjustments to the rigging were undertaken

After a few tweaks to the rigging and the keel lifting system, 'Me Too' was towed into the Lymington River; her sails raised and as the wind gently filled them, she heeled over and gracefully sailed into the Solent.

Lymington Sailability face a big learning curve with 'Me Too' this season. She is very well set up for teaching sailing and Lymington Town Sailing Club has offered to let her join in with some of the informal racing. It will be a great challenge for the less able sailors to learn how to sail her.

Hilary's Dream Trust would like to wish all those who sail in 'Me Too' fair winds, following seas and wonderful sailing adventures!



If you would like to donate to Hilary's Dream Trust and help others to achieve their sailing dreams, please go to our website [Support Us | Hilary's Dream Trust \(hilarysdreamtrust.org\)](https://supportus.hilarysdreamtrust.org) and click on the "Wonderful" donate button.