

# THE STEAM TUG PORTWEY TRUST

(Limited by Guarantee)

The Trust is a Registered Charity Number 1081015

(Web address: [www.stportwey.co.uk](http://www.stportwey.co.uk))

Supported by the National Lottery through the Heritage Memorial Fund

## Maritime Steam Experience Day Booking Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile No. \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Chest Size \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any special dietary needs? ☐ yes/no

If yes please specify :

Do you have any medical conditions that you feel we need to be aware of . ☐ yes /no

If yes please specify

Please make cheques payable to The Steam Tug Portwey Trust Ltd. and return them with a completed booking form for each member of your party to Dan Mothersole at the address below

To Book your place call 07833 411160

Phone: 07833 411160  
Website [www.stportwey.co.uk](http://www.stportwey.co.uk)  
E-mail:  
[stportweyevents@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:stportweyevents@hotmail.co.uk)

Company Secretary: Mrs R Selo. Company Registration No. 3978701  
Registered Office: :4 Braemore Court, Kingsway, Hove, East Sussex BN3 4FG

To Book your place call 07833 41160

# Maritime Steam Experience

*An Experience of a Life Time*



## Steam with a Difference

- Fire our twin furnace Scotch boiler
- Control the two compound steam engines
- Steer and navigate this little ship on the high seas
- Experience the life of an Edwardian Tugman

## The Ship's History

The Steam Tug Portwey was ordered in October 1926 from Harland and Wolf at Govan in Glasgow Scotland, launched 10 October 1927 and delivered to the Portland and Weymouth Coaling Company on 28 April 1928.

When delivered she was a fine example of modern technology being equipped with twin compound main engines driving twin five foot ten inch propellers that drove the ship through the water at ten knots and generated a bollard pull of some 9 tons. She had electric light in all parts of the ship, powered by a single cylinder Robey steam engine driving a dynamo that produced one kilowatt of power at 90 volts DC. A steam windlass on the fore deck aided rope and anchor handling, and a steam salvage pump capable of pumping 80 tons of water an hour was provided in the engine room to give the vessel fire fighting and rescue capability. A steam general service pump that allowed water to be moved around the ship from the various tanks and bilges with ease and the three water tanks provided in the hull of the ship allowed her to act as a water tender to larger ships calling at Dartmouth before making their dash to America across the Atlantic.

Between 1927 and 1938 Portwey assisted numerous distressed ships among which were the yacht Valetta, Steamers Bodil, Grosvenor, Winslow, Danchild and Ford Fisher, the schooner Crown of Denmark, H.M.S. PC 74 (Patrol Boat) and the Steamer English Trader., All suffered either engine failure, fire or went aground.

Between 1942 and 1946 Portwey was requisitioned into war service ,during which time she saved the lives of many sailors and rescued a number of war damaged ships that made it back into British waters. Among these was the rescue of American solders and marines at Slapton Sands when a practice D Day landing came under fire.

In 1951 Portwey became a harbour tug and worked for Falmouth Dock and Engineering Company until 1967 when she was sold for scrap.

She was rescued by Richard Dobson ,the assistant harbour master , and kept in steaming condition until 1982 when he gifted her to The Maritime Trust who allowed a preservation group, The Friends of Portwey ,to be formed.

In the year 2000 The Friends of Portwey formed a charitable trust company that is limited by guarantee and purchased Portwey. They now operate and maintain her as a living museum. They attend different maritime events, each raising funds by taking passengers on short river cruises along the Thames from Tower Bridge to the barrier and beyond.

A working party meet every Wednesday to carry out essential maintenance work.

*The Steam Tug Portwey Trust*

*Award this*

*Steam Experience Day Certificate*

**To Name of Recipient**

Recipients photo

Control the Main Engines

Stoked the Boiler

Lubricated Main Engines and other Machinery

Navigated the Ship on a safe course

Assisted the Deck Crew with Rope Handling

**Signature**

**Signature**

**Date**





Navigate the ship on your voyage.

**Under strict supervision you will steer the vessel, call for changes in engine speed and identify on the ships charts our location and progress on the day.**



Relax on deck between shifts

**Enjoy the ever changing view along the route.**



Included as part of your day will be:

- **Free membership to the Trust for one Year**
- **A photo diary on CD of your day**
- **A Certificate of Achievement**
- **All refreshments**



End of your day

**Your day will end once we have tied up and secured all machinery. Homeward journey will be your responsibility. There are local bus and DLR and train stations with in easy reach of the river and connections to all parts of the country.**

## Your Steam Experience Day

### Introduction

On arrival you will meet the crew of Portway over a cup of tea or coffee and be introduced to your mentor for the day. We will then outline some important safety rules and we will then give you a tour of the vessel and serve a traditional English breakfast.

You will need to bring a pair of strong shoes or boots, a pair of overalls, a change of clothes, toiletries and wet weather gear in case of rain. You may also wish to bring a thick pair of work gloves and a work cap.



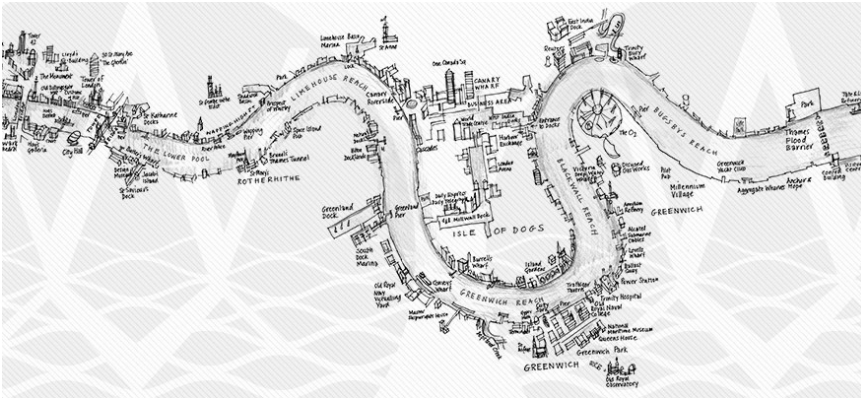
### The Experience

After breakfast you will join a crew member either in the Engine Room. Boiler Room on deck or on the bridge. Each shift will last a minimum of 2 hours.

- In the Engine Room you will have the opportunity to lubricate all or any of the seven steam engines on board, respond to telegraph instructions from the bridge to change the speed or direction of the vessel and support the crew on watch.
- In the Boiler Room you will add coal to the fires as directed to maintain boiler pressure between 100 and 135 psi, keep the water level within working limits by using the GS pump to add water, de-ash the grates, cool and dispose of the ash. Boiler room temperatures up to 40°C can be reached.
- On the Bridge you will be under the supervision of the skipper and will steer the ship to maintain a course. You may be required to telegraph the engine room to change speed or reverse the ship. You will also assist in keeping a record of the course so far.
- On deck, this is your opportunity to view the seascape, help the deck crew tidy away ropes etc and maintain a tidy ship.

All activities will be strictly supervised, at any time the crew can terminate your participation to ensure your safety and that of the ship. Should you feel unwell at any time you will be allowed to leave the activity and rest. We will then attempt to adjust the crew roster to allow you a further chance to resume the activity.

# £250



## Maritime Steam Experience

Lock out of the West India Docks London and Steam along the Thames between Tower Bridge and the lower reaches. This event will last up to 8 hours depending on weather and tide conditions. Travel to and from the vessel or over night stays are not included in the price. All donations received on the vessel are used to maintain the ship in a sea going condition.

### Sample Timetable of events:

	0900–1000	1000–1100	1100–1200	1200–1300	1300–1400
Trainee 1	Safety briefing	Boiler Room	Bridge	Eng room	Deck
Trainee 2	Safety briefing	Bridge	Eng. room	Deck	Boiler Room
Trainee 3	Safety briefing	Eng. Room	Deck	Boiler Room	Bridge
Trainee 4	Safety briefing	Deck	Boiler Room	Bridge	Eng. Room

Trainees can opt to revisit any area once the initial training has been completed.



## Start of your day

When you join the ship you will receive a general safety briefing and instructions in how to maintain your own safety and that of the Tug. This will be followed by a tour of the vessel and an introduction to the crew and your mentor for the day. Breakfast, lunch, dinner and all refreshments will be provided by the Trust.



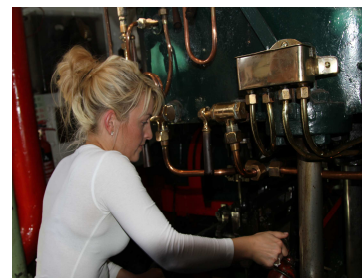
## Stoking or Firing the Boiler

You will be shown how to tend the fires of our twin furnace Scotch boiler and add coal as required (approx every 15 mins per furnace). Maintain the water level and de-ash as required.



## Controlling the engine speed

Your mentor will explain and demonstrate how to control the main engines in response to the telegraph commands from the bridge, use the engine drains and operate other engine room machinery such as the GS pump and generator.



## Lubricate all machinery

As part of your engine room experience you will be instructed in the methods of lubricating the 7 steam engines on board and will be able to practice each method on the different engines depending on your confidence. All oils and equipment will be supplied by the Trust.