

## **Clean Ocean Sailing**

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Steve Green and Monika Hertlova founded Clean Ocean Sailing. The couple renovated their 113-year-old boat “Annette” and, with a team of volunteers, sailed with “Annette” around European seas. On smaller crafts, they paddle and sail along coastlines and visit small, inaccessible beaches, where they conduct beach cleans. COS has collected seventy tons of plastic waste over the last eight years. Clean Ocean Sailing organizes about 50 clean-ups each year, most of which are at local beaches here in Cornwall, with the most frequent cleans focusing on Gwynver, Coverack, and Church Cove. In addition to its local projects in Cornwall, COS sails to the Scilly Isles and Brittany, where the volunteers spend a week away, exploring tiny islands and new coastlines and tidying up as they go. They pick up plastic waste for a few

hours each day, record it, and organize recycling workshops with local communities, educating them on how plastic can harm our environment. After every cleanup, all the waste is transported to the Clean Ocean Sailings facility in Gweek, where they currently store nearly three tons of litter. Volunteers sort through all the waste, record what they find, and collaborate with researchers to help drive change in mankind’s impact on nature. Often, they then donate the litter to other activists for it to be remade into things such as flower pots and even kayaks, giving the plastic collected new life. If you would like to get involved with Clean Ocean Sailing, contact [cleanoceansailing@gmail.com](mailto:cleanoceansailing@gmail.com) or see their website for more inquiries and events.



Images by Becket Daniel