

WOW, that was amazing!!



Georgie Wilson, Orewa College,

2017 Winner of the “Spirit of New Zealand” competition sponsored by Karen Franklin

I am so grateful for the experience and the opportunity I received on Spirit Of New Zealand. A huge thank you to Karen for making that voyage possible.

As a young girl I have always talked about going on the boat as my dad had been lucky enough to go on it at around the same age I am now. I had big expectations and they were fulfilled.

From my experience I learned not only so much about the boat and how things worked on the ocean, but about myself. It was amazing to see how I could push myself, become confident, step outside my comfort zone so easily. The people that I met really completed the voyage, I met some lifelong friends who lived all over the country. Finding out their backgrounds and bonding over silly conversations was really special to me. Once I came home I was so in shock on how much the trip really had an impact on me. It changed my perspective on so many different things about my life.

The experience itself is so hard to explain, it was one of those situations you needed to be there to realise how unique and special it really was. It taught me no matter what happens in life, take every opportunity and believe in yourself.