

THE OCC SEAMANSHIP AWARD

Donated by Past Commodore John Franklin and first presented in 2013, this award recognises feats of exceptional seamanship and/or bravery at sea. It is open to both members and non-members.

The 2019 OCC Seamanship Award goes to non-member **Susanne Huber-Curphey** from Germany, who in 2017 won the Barton Cup for her singlehanded transit of the Northwest Passage.

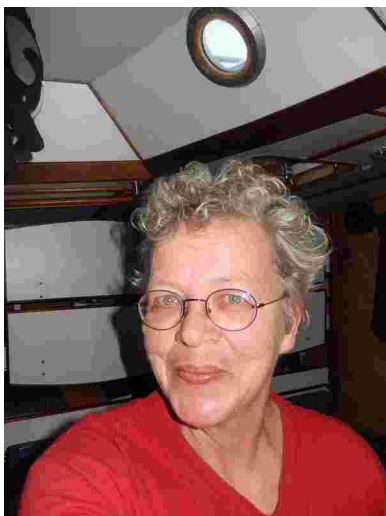


Nehaj in Iceland on her maiden voyage in 2015. Photo © Susanne Huber-Curphey

On this occasion the award recognises her participation in ‘The Longue Route 2018’, organised to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Bernard Moitessier’s role in the original Golden Globe Race. Having circumnavigated via the Five Great Capes aboard her 11.9m cutter-rigged *Nehaj*, instead of heading north up the Atlantic Susanne chose to continue towards the Pacific as Moitessier had done, circling Australia before heading back westwards.

On learning of her award Susanne wrote, ‘I am delighted by your news to award the OCC Seamanship Award to *Nehaj* and myself! It means a lot to me and I feel very honoured. It was a longdistance trip in harmony with nature and with my good boat’.

As of the end of January, Susanne estimated that she had sailed some 255,000 miles in all, 89,000 of them aboard *Nehaj* over the past 4½ years, ranging between 74°N and 56°S. Turn to page 93 of this issue to read John Franklin’s account of her achievements, illustrated by many of her own photographs.



Susanne just before landfall in Tasmania following more than 30,000 miles at sea. Photo © Susanne Huber-Curphey

