In 2014, people living along the County Down coast, from Donaghadee to Dundrum, built nine coastal rowing boats (St. Ayles' skiffs) as part of a novel interest in boats of maritime heritage and the development of maritime tourism. Strangers soon became friends and part of a team, pooling their expertise and gaining new skills.

At the time of writing most of the boats were completed and some had already sailed from small marinas for making their facilities and coastal rowing clubs for the Sea Cadets who provided

The “whole town was talking about it, I was proud to be involved and to show my grandchildren what it is to build a boat”

Danny Boyo

Dundrum

Dundrum was built on the Down Coastal Rowing Club in a shipyard at the back of a garage. It was very much a collaboration among several small craft builders who shared the same premises. It was designed to be a traditional wooden boat, but with some modern elements. The boat was completed in 2014 and has been used for a variety of purposes, including community events and training sessions for young people.

The St Ayles’ Skiff

The St Ayles’ Skiff is a boat traditionally styled, suitable both for racing and touring, smoothly a common and a competitive. Developed on Strangford Lough and produced by Ards Boat Club in Portaferry, the boat is still used to train our own younger rowers and competent rowers from our area, with no doubt that their skill will be enhanced.

The St Ayles’ Skiff is a development boat designed for local rowers, small communities, and rowing clubs. It is a development of the traditional wooden boat, but with some modern elements. The boat was completed in 2014 and has been used for a variety of purposes, including community events and training sessions for young people.

The Royal Oak

The Royal Oak is a fine vessel, suitable for both racing and touring, smoothly a common and a competitive. Developed on Strangford Lough and produced by the Ards Boat Club in Portaferry, the boat is still used to train our own younger rowers and competent rowers from our area, with no doubt that their skill will be enhanced.

The Royal Oak is a fine vessel, suitable for both racing and touring, smoothly a common and a competitive. Developed on Strangford Lough and produced by the Ards Boat Club in Portaferry, the boat is still used to train our own younger rowers and competent rowers from our area, with no doubt that their skill will be enhanced.

The Royal Oak is a fine vessel, suitable for both racing and touring, smoothly a common and a competitive. Developed on Strangford Lough and produced by the Ards Boat Club in Portaferry, the boat is still used to train our own younger rowers and competent rowers from our area, with no doubt that their skill will be enhanced.

The Royal Oak is a fine vessel, suitable for both racing and touring, smoothly a common and a competitive. Developed on Strangford Lough and produced by the Ards Boat Club in Portaferry, the boat is still used to train our own younger rowers and competent rowers from our area, with no doubt that their skill will be enhanced.

Sailing built to the same standards, it is well known as a heritage tour boat that people can visit and learn about the history of this area.

The St Ayles’ Skiff project aims to reacquaint rowers with the thrill, skill, and spirit of international coastal rowing races and races. The project has been developed and introduced by the Down Coastal Rowing Club and Lecale Partnership with the Police Service of Northern Ireland and is supported by the Down Rural Service for Northern Ireland and the Police Service of Northern Ireland. The project aims to reacquaint rowers with the thrill, skill, and spirit of international coastal rowing races and races. The project has been developed and introduced by the Down Coastal Rowing Club and Lecale Partnership with the Police Service of Northern Ireland and is supported by the Down Rural Service for Northern Ireland and the Police Service of Northern Ireland. The project aims to reacquaint rowers with the thrill, skill, and spirit of international coastal rowing races and races. The project has been developed and introduced by the Down Coastal Rowing Club and Lecale Partnership with the Police Service of Northern Ireland and is supported by the Down Rural Service for Northern Ireland and the Police Service of Northern Ireland. The project aims to reacquaint rowers with the thrill, skill, and spirit of international coastal rowing races and races. The project has been developed and introduced by the Down Coastal Rowing Club and Lecale Partnership with the Police Service of Northern Ireland and is supported by the Down Rural Service for Northern Ireland and the Police Service of Northern Ireland.