

“ Widlings sailings” : two young British sailors « confined » to the marina

Young, adventurous, without any knowledge of navigation, Nadyana and Mark, both barely thirty years old, decide one day to leave their teaching post in China to embark an adventure of navigation. From England to Wales, passing through Le Havre, they travel the world as they wish. With more than 7200 followers on their *Youtube channel*, the couple is sharing their adventures with more Internet users to watch and support their initiatives.

Moored at Nogent marina well before the lockdown, we met them on board "Good Tindings" boat, with a smile on their faces and a pressing urge ... to leave; their stopover has been prolonged, Covid-19 forcing !



Nogent Magazine : Tell us about yourself, your background, your trip.

Mark - We are « The Widlings », young sailors. We are two *Youtubers* (**Youtube channel « Wildlings Sailing »**) who started our adventure without any navigation knowledge or experience. We share videos about our progress and learnings on board the boat, but also our discoveries since our departure in England, to Paris, then Nogent.

We hope to be able to reach Morocco or Greece soon, but it all depends on the time. My parents owned several boats. The taste of sailing and being in contact with the water certainly comes from there.

Nadyana - My background is very different from Mark. From the age of 15, I went to Singapore alone to study. I have often travelled alone, especially in South America. I sometimes like to call myself the « nomadic » because I never stop discovering, I just keep going. One day, a close friend told me the story of a young woman who went to live on a boat, in the North Caribbean. He told me how she bathed in the morning with her mask while jumping off the boat... Being from the mountains, I imagined what my life would be like if I had to live the same thing...

Then, one day my friend Mark asked me to go with him. He just said, "Are you ready to sail around the world?" I found this proposal incredible and the idea made its way. I asked myself "why not change my life"? After all, I had been in the same place enough time. And I think, the most important is not to have a home, but to be able to travel with it.

NM - Why did you stop at Nogent?

Mark - We came here in November, and now it's been many months. One problem and another problem, and another problem. The first was our lack of water reserves, the second was the

challenge of navigating to the river. The third was the pandemic Coronavirus. We had to be confined on board and not leave the area until the time when the lockdown was ended. Otherwise, we are pleased to be here.

NM - *What will your sailing plan be when you leave Nogent?*

Mark - We plan to leave on 28 or 29 May to go to the South of France, to see the Mediterranean sea. We really want to explore a new side of this country. Meeting others French, maybe speak more french too... (laughs).

NM - *You explain on your Youtube channel that you finance your trips with the support of your followers, on social media. You have been docked for more than two months, how do you finance your life on board ?*

Mark - Initially, we saved money when we were teachers in China. Nadyana was in charge of the teacher cluster. We started to save money to finance and support ourselves. Then, to increase our financing capacity, we launched an operation called “Buy coffees – Ko-Fi Buy a croissant and a baguette for Wildlings Sailing” to explain for the users online how to invest in your trip.



NM - *Can you tell us more about this operation?*

Mark - It is an online platform allowing users to pay 3 euros or more according to their wish to finance our trips. The idea is simple, instead of buying a coffee, they give a boost to young sailors. Some of our followers are travelers, they enjoy our videos, and others just want to help us. In exchange, we offer them videos.

NM - *Do you have a message for the citizens of Nogent?*

Mark - This city is very peaceful, nice and really beautiful. We visited it, not enough yet. We like to walk through the city and have discovered beautiful squares (editor’s note : [place de l'Hôtel de Ville](#)). We think that the “Nogentais” are very attached to a certain comfort of life, which we understand.

The message to pass would be this, live your dreams, leave your comfort zone and you will discover wonderful things!

-
- To join these happy browsers, visit their [Youtube channel](#)
 - To support them financially, via the online platform > [« Ko-Fi Wildlings Sailing »](#)