

# LONDON GOES TO SEA

## *Restoring And Sailing an Old Sailboat On A Budget*

by Peter Baumgartner

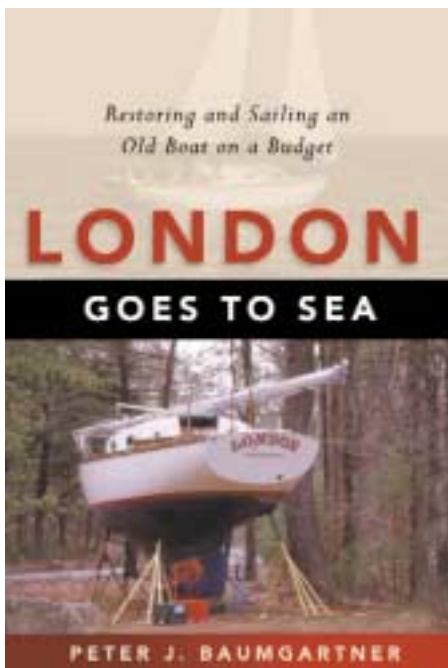
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*"This book is about my experience of repairing and improving an old sailboat, of getting and being afloat, the people I met, the wonder, the little adventures, the learning. It is in many ways a book of mistakes that I managed not to avoid - an archaeology of errors in chance, seamanship and boat handling in the face of those constant inquisitors - the sea, the wind and the self. The cruising sailboat is a vehicle of exploration, a vehicle of learning, a vehicle of challenge. "*



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REVIEWED

"Peter has accomplished what only a small fraction of sailors take on: he has brought an older, neglected sailboat back from an eventual death. Peter invested mechanical talent and elbow grease. His reward was an affordable, beautiful, and fully functional cruising sailboat...

Because he writes beautifully, shares his personal insights, and is so remarkably self-aware, Peter Baumgartner takes his readers with him on a voyage of boat ownership and the fulfillment of a dream. It is a tale well told."

— **Karen Larson, editor of *Good Old Boat Magazine***

"To have the courage to recognize your passion and to pursue it is a rare virtue in our time. Peter Baumgartner is passionate about sailboats, and about the restoring of one long-neglected boat, and about sailing the coves and bays and inlets of the New England coast. His determination and dedication are inspiring...."

— **William L. Simon, author and producer of the documentary: *Setting Sail: The Star Of India Goes To Sea*, tallship sailor and the author of the bestselling *The Art of Deception* and other books.**

"...Peter is a gifted writer who has the ability to make even the trivial and mundane seem interesting. His pleasure in and enthusiasm for this project and his cruising adventures shine through on every page. He has successfully parlayed his experience with London into a tale that will appeal to anyone who loves to tinker with, or sail in, older boats, and to all who are familiar with New England waters from Rhode Island to Maine.

"London Goes to Sea is a book I recommend, especially to those on a limited budget who dream of cruising but are held back by insecurities about their technical and sailing skills. Read this book and you may find the inspiration to live your dreams! "

— **Nigel Calder in *Sail Magazine's 'BoatWorks' Fall 2004***

"...On the other hand, the remaking, fine-tuning and equipping of a yacht into exactly the kind of vessel that suits your purpose is one of the most satisfying aspects of owning a boat.

I was forcefully reminded of this the other day by a curious book called London Goes To Sea...Not only does Baumgartner obviously love the sea and nautical and natural history, he also takes enormous pride in having retrieved an abandoned 27ft Cape Dory in Massachusetts for \$10,500, and in having restored it to its former glory..."

— **Victor Mallet in *The Financial Times* Dec. 18, 2004**

"This straightforward and tender book documents the fulfillment of Baumgartner's dream. In 1998, realizing he "needed a boat," the author bought Loon, a 27-foot Cape Dory sloop that had languished neglected in a backyard for 20 of its 21 years. He painstakingly restored her, renamed her London (after the city where he spent several years as a boy), and returned her to the waters of New England. In a series of daysails and cruises – many of them single-handed – over the next several years, he and London bonded as only a boat and a skipper can. Readers of London Goes To Sea can share in that process. The book also describes the joys (and occasional misadventures) of cruising between Block Island and Maine, and gives a detailed account of the costs involved in restoring and maintaining an older sailboat."

— **Joe Myerson in *Offshore* October 2004**