

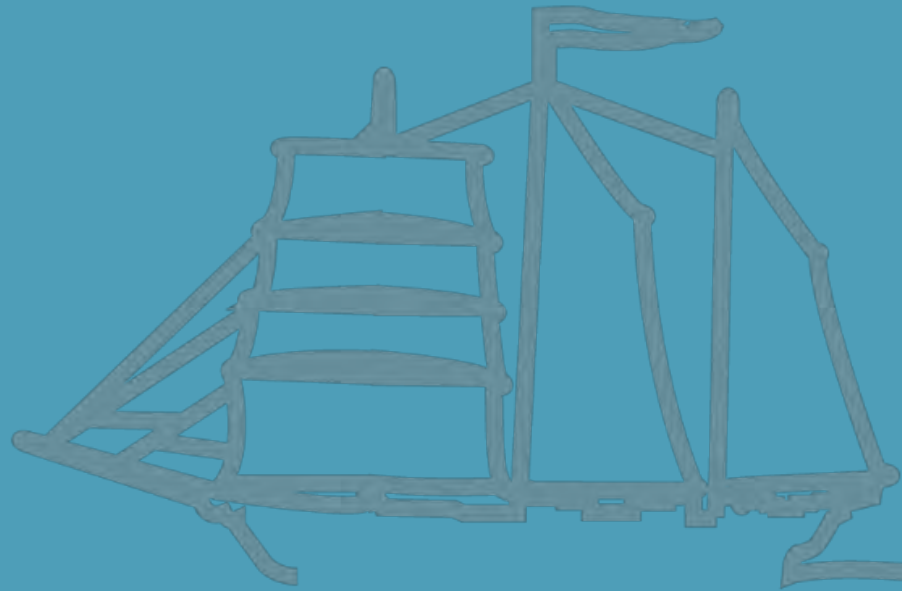
# **Session 5B**



# **Sail Training Research Grant Reports 2018**



**LEEUWIN**  
Ocean Adventure Foundation



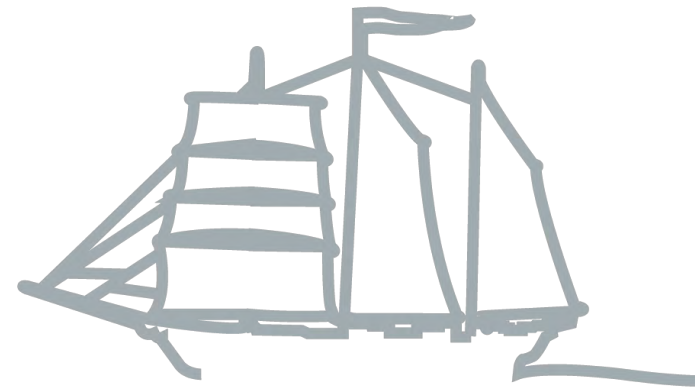
**Wind, sails and young people:**  
What does sail training do for youth?

# Authors

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Leeuwin Ocean Adventure



# Leeuwin Ocean Adventure Foundation Limited

- A Western Australian charity established in 1984

## Sail Training Ship Leeuwin II

- Purpose built sail training vessel, launched in 1986
- 40,000+ youth trainees
- Sail training voyages of 5-7 days



# STS Leeuwin II



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# Research Aims





# Research Design



# Findings



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# Overall positive experience

“Before boarding I had no idea what to expect, and now finishing it I have come to realise that this experience will be one of the best experiences that I will have in my life.”

17 y.o. female





# Personal and Social Development

“I learnt that I can trust myself and see what I am capable of.”

(14 y.o. female)







“It has really helped mould me into a better leader as well as a follower ... through the program I was exposed to challenging trials, environment and people of different walks of life. I’ve learned from all these factors that even minute gestures have lasting impact on people.”

22 y.o. male



# Challenges





# Transferrable skills



Gratitude





## Process Linkage

“This voyage to me was challenging in so many ways that *it has allowed me to see my strengths and weaknesses*, which I will go on to use and build on some I didn’t realise I had and wasn’t sure how to build my weaknesses into strengths. With this voyage *I was given a really great watch leader who shed light onto these issues.*”

18 y.o female





**Attitudes towards the  
absence of screen  
time**



Discussion and ...

...conclusion







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**Thank you**

Sail Training International

Research Team

Leeuwin Team, Trainees and Volunteers



A photograph of a tall ship's rigging, featuring a complex network of ropes and a diamond-patterned netting. The sun is setting behind the horizon, creating a warm, golden glow that filters through the netting. The ocean is visible in the background under a clear blue sky with some light clouds. The overall mood is serene and contemplative.

# SAILING THROUGH LIFE

Experiencing difference within mutuality on tall ships

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RESEARCH GROUP

SAIL TRAINING CONFERENCE

ANTWERP 2019





This study sets out to understand the experiences of young people as they undergo sail training aboard tall ships. It goes beyond current literature on the educational value of sail training by focusing on how youngsters actually experience sailing as a way of life.











SAX SINGERS

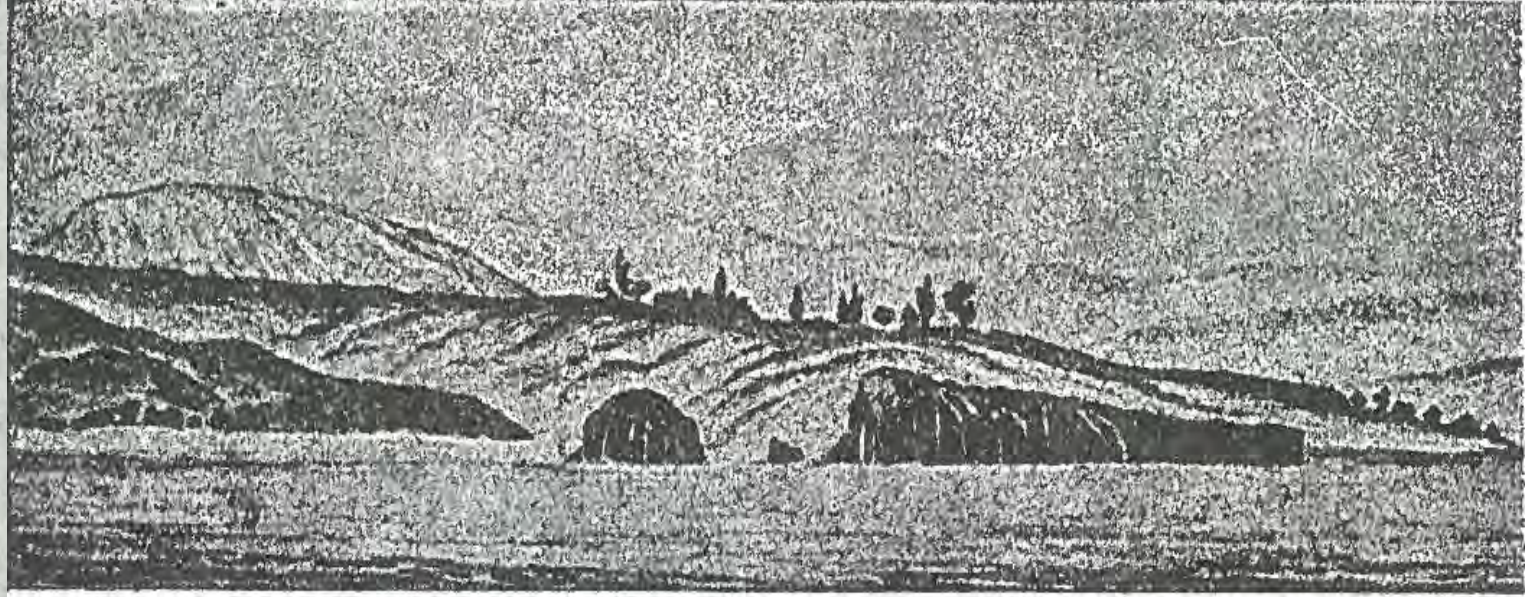
Red dry suit with white text and graphics, including a logo and some illegible text.



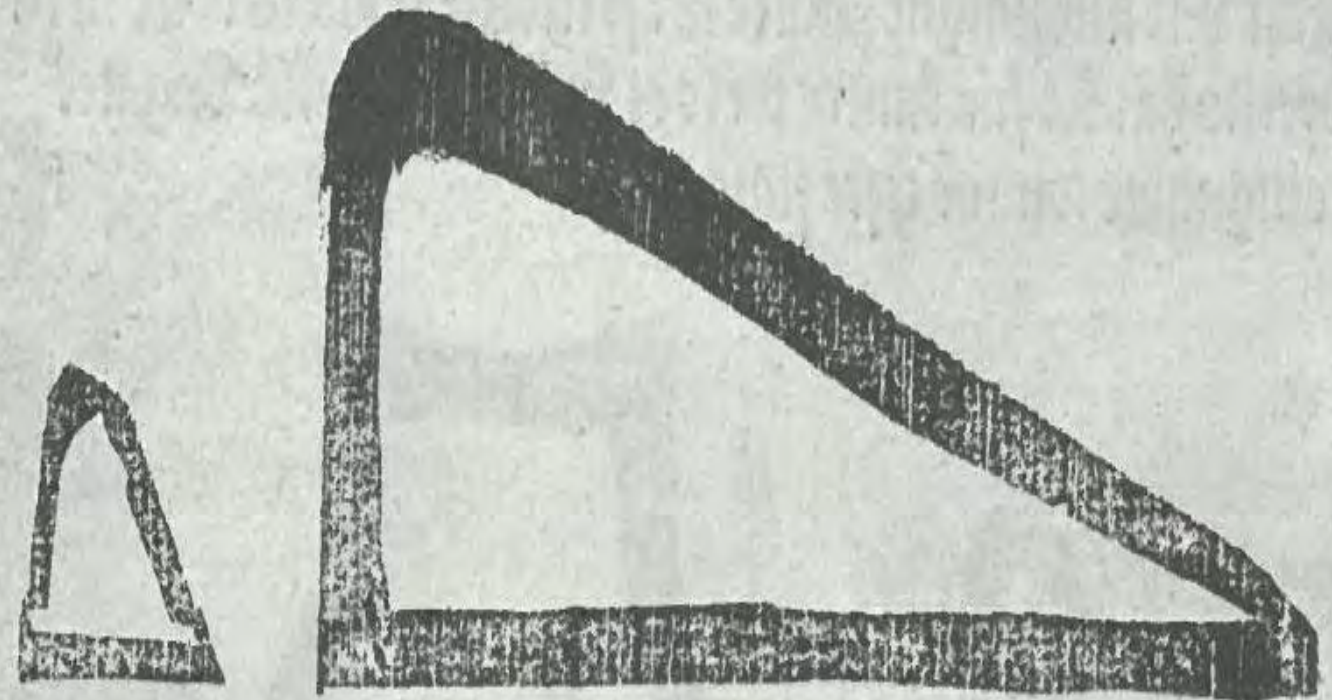
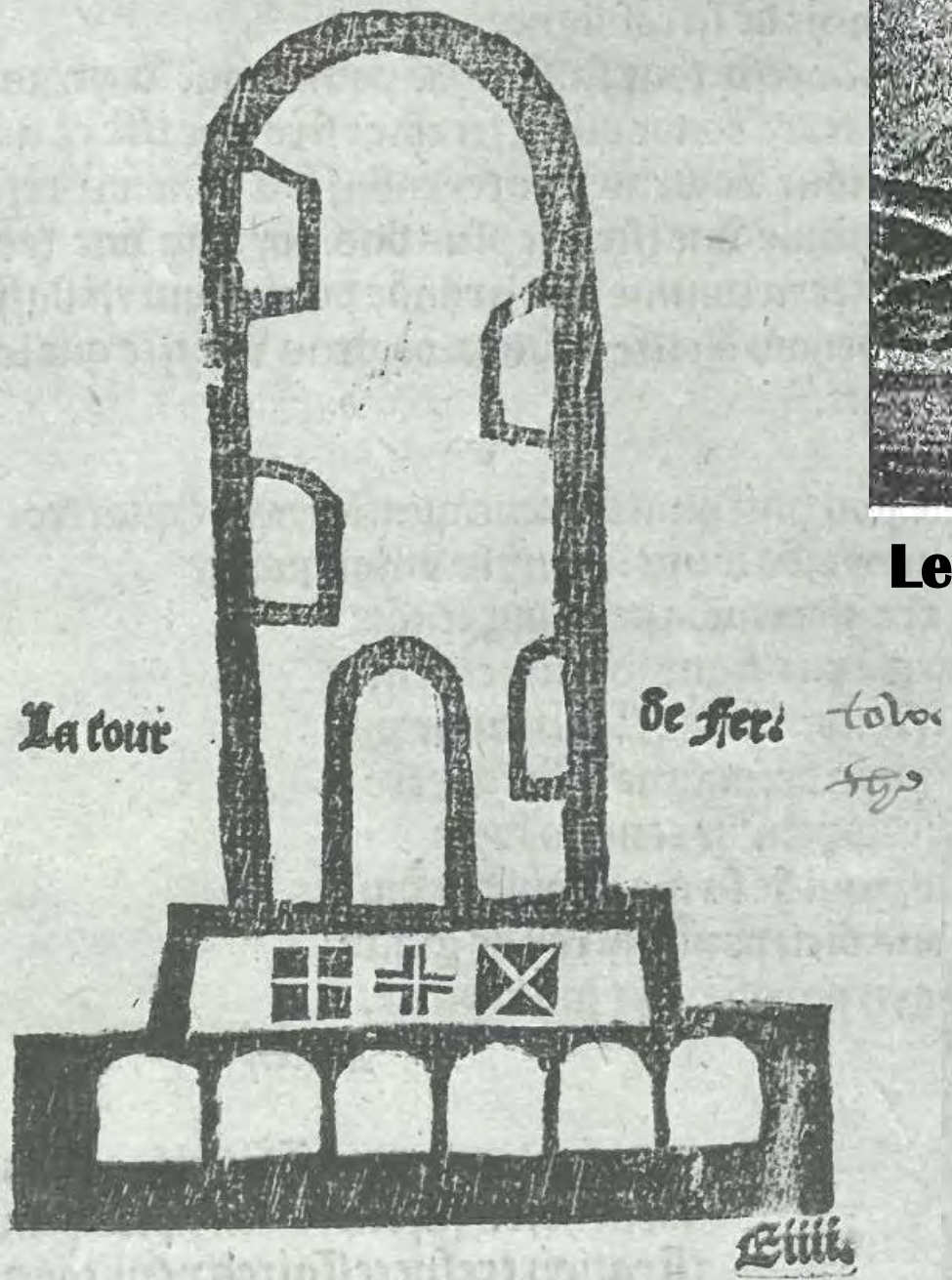


To follow the history of the maritime environment and its inhabitants reveals a complex set of skills not only for building the boat as a craft, but also for staying afloat once at sea.



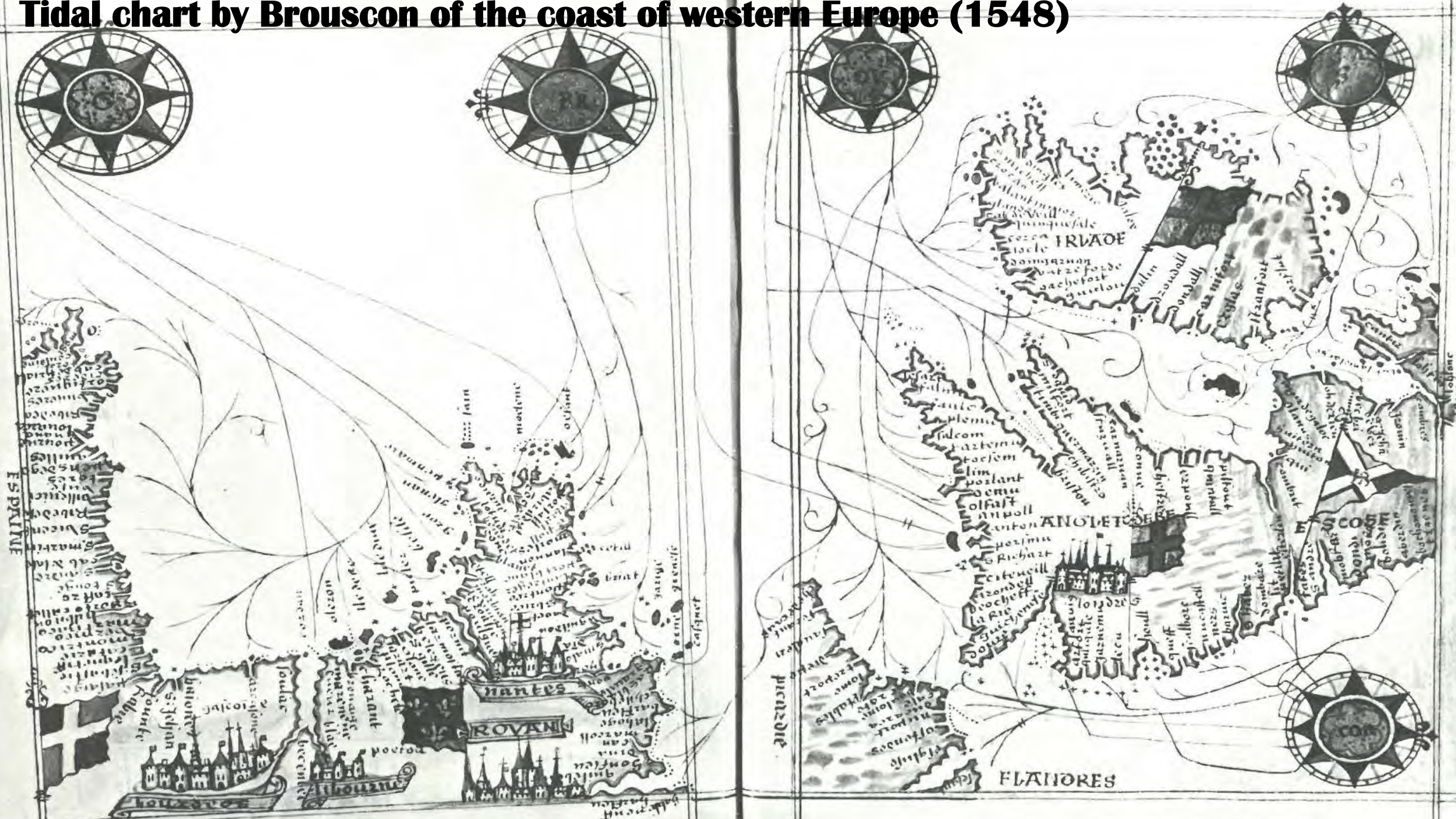


**Le grant routier. Pierre Garcie 1520**





# Tidal chart by Brouscon of the coast of western Europe (1548)





## SAIL TRAINING



Photo 14

The Norwegian sail training vessel Statsraad Lehmkuhl, complete service training and sailing, is shown in the picture. (Reading article will be page 4 later than a correspondent, on the Training in 'Today's News')

(E. Williams)

VISIT AND DEPARTURE  
OF  
STATSRAAD LEHMKUHL

The two vessels will be making their  
preparation for sailing from the  
Shetland Islands, as well as the  
Humbly Grove, the present a berth for the  
handy of the vessels.

# SHETLAND HOPIES

The long discussion on the subject then came to an end.



# Letters to the Editor

## SAIL TRAINING.

Sir,—The Norwegian Statsraad Lehmkuhl was a fine looking vessel from the onlookers' point of view, but is sail training really necessary for the seamen of today? Norway possesses what is probably the most modern fleet of motor ships afloat today.

If these boys serve as A.B.'s they will spend most of the time with a paint brush, chipping hammer, or sooji-wad in their hand, if as mates they will be using the best navigational instruments that modern science can produce, and nothing to do with sails.

Personally, I think that sail training is out of date, but I would like to hear others' views on the subject—I am etc.,

T. M. C. POLE.

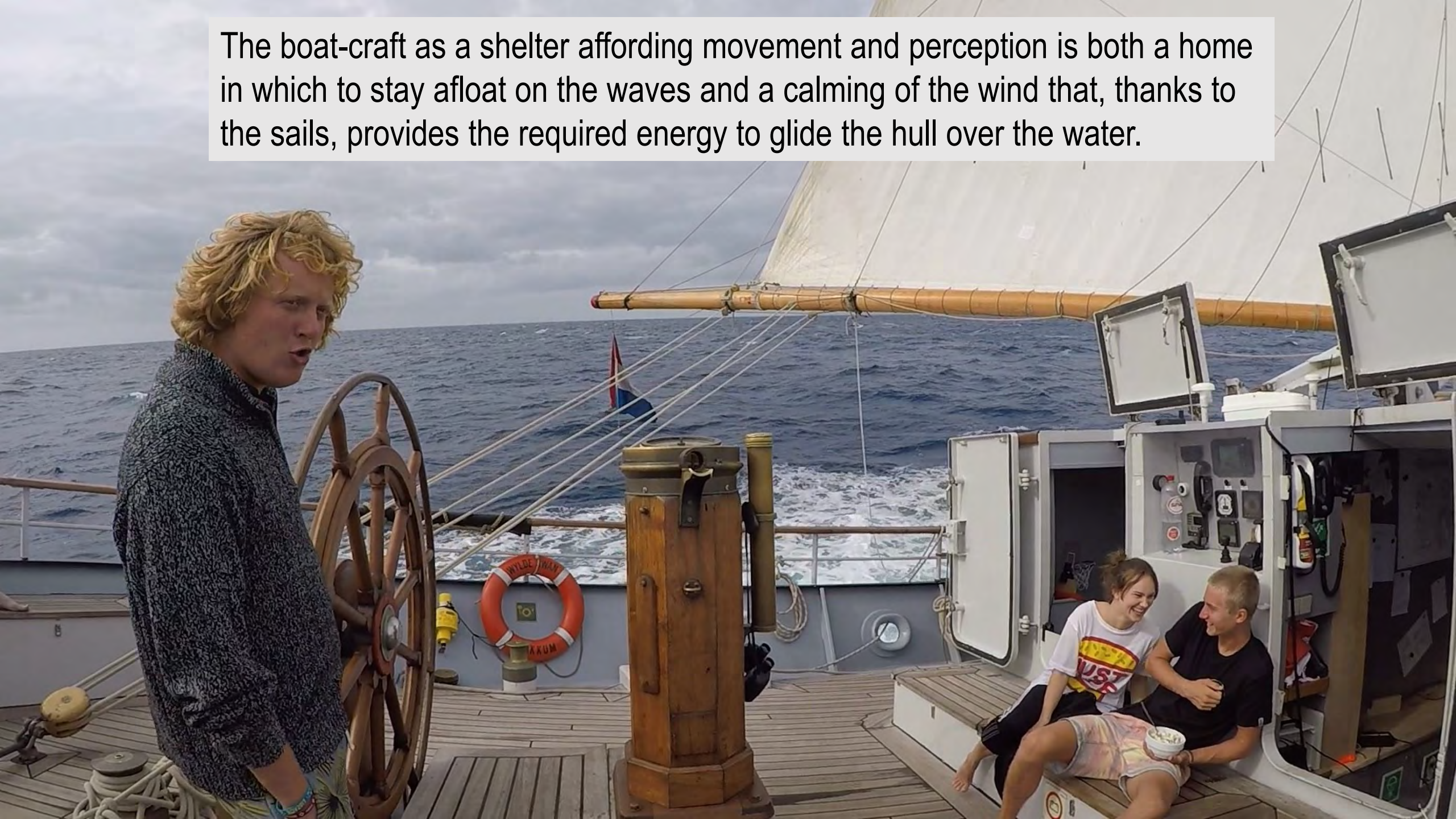




Sailing on tall ships offers opportunities to become involved in this process in which, as in every society in past times, experts instruct novices in the course of working together.



The boat-craft as a shelter affording movement and perception is both a home in which to stay afloat on the waves and a calming of the wind that, thanks to the sails, provides the required energy to glide the hull over the water.





The organisation on board, with the watch system or work shifts, seems simpler than life on land because one does not have to worry about anything other than the established routine.







However, since one follows the same daily routines, an awareness of environmental changes emerges with the perception of non-human phenomena like wind, dolphins, waves, clouds and so on.





Crew members become sensitised to the ocean environment, to the others and to themselves when responsibilities on board are shared day and night.



At sea, the watch system leads to the development of a meshwork of relationships, described as a *taskship*, a creative and trustworthy bonding which lasts for the duration of the voyage.







Optimal sailing is evidence of the quality of the relationships on board and vice versa, the quality of the relationships on board is shown through the best set of sails to get underway.

38  
36  
34





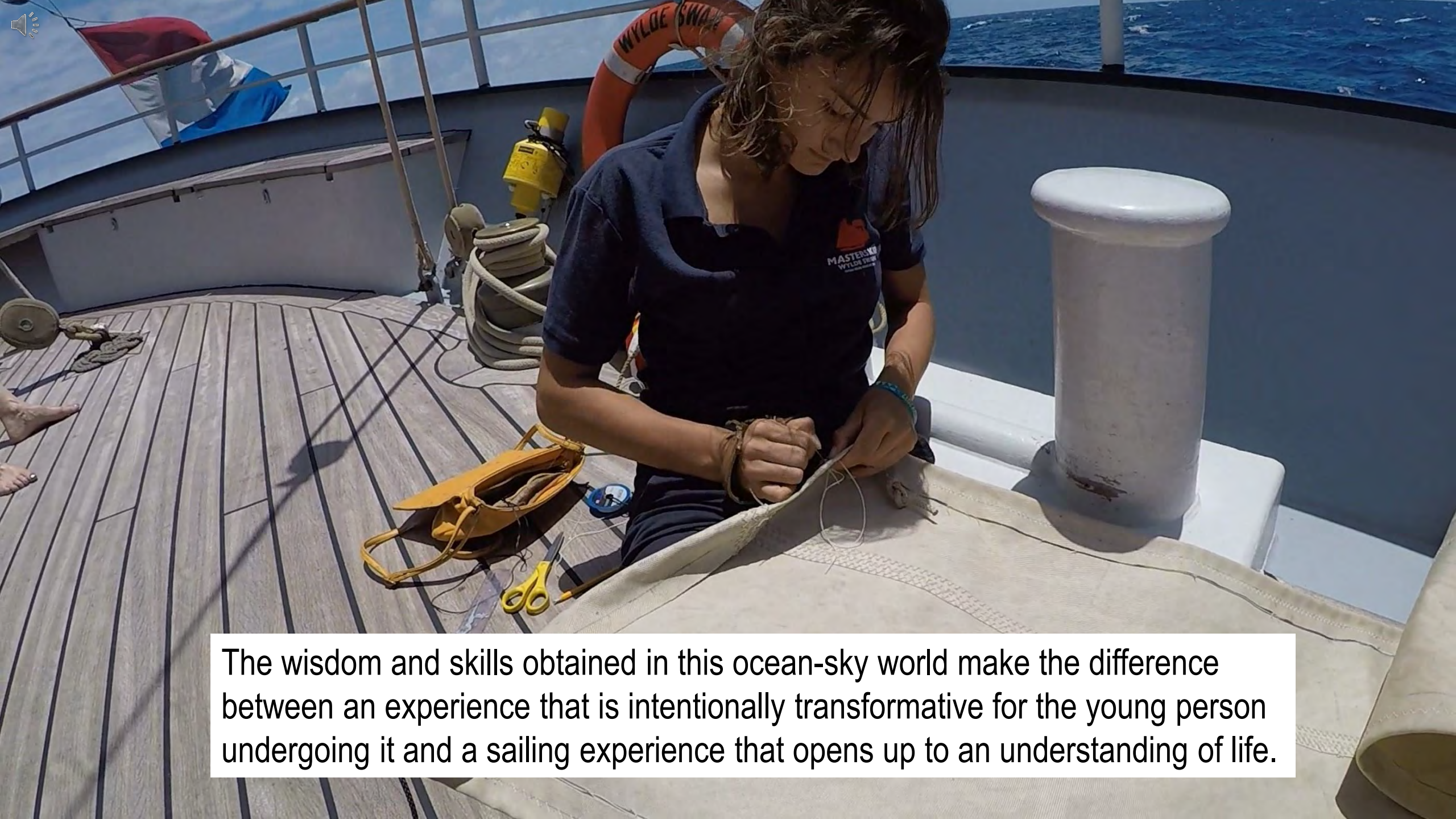
The mutuality on board allows crew members to develop a sense of who they are while in company of others.





Attention at sea is existential, it is a matter of life and death, whereas on land it remains contingent on particular interests.





The wisdom and skills obtained in this ocean-sky world make the difference between an experience that is intentionally transformative for the young person undergoing it and a sailing experience that opens up to an understanding of life.



## Questions:

If learning a craft is at every level a process that is both dynamic and responsive, involving a continual dialogue with one's environment.

What are we talking about when we speak of wisdom and skills at sea?

### **Attention – Responsiveness – Mutuality – Correspondences – Trust**

We get skilled and learn with all the practices on board, but what is it about?

'The ship is at every moment our skin, and because there are different personalities, the skin is diverse, but then the soul is just the same for all'. Sintija 2017.

When I referred that after setting habit or routine, attentionality to others, to the boat and to non-human phenomena emerges, I meant an awareness of feeling the others feeling oneself.



The skin of the boat is differentiated, not only for different crew members, but also by different skills to keep it afloat.

**All true craft is a way of telling.**

As the etymology of the word skill indicates, with its roots in the Middle Low German Schillen, 'to make the difference', and in the Old Norse skilja, 'to divide, separate, distinguish, decide'.

Could the measure of enskilment lie in the distal extension of the mind, radiating outwards from its seat in the body?

Experiences can be programmed to reproduce the same piece.

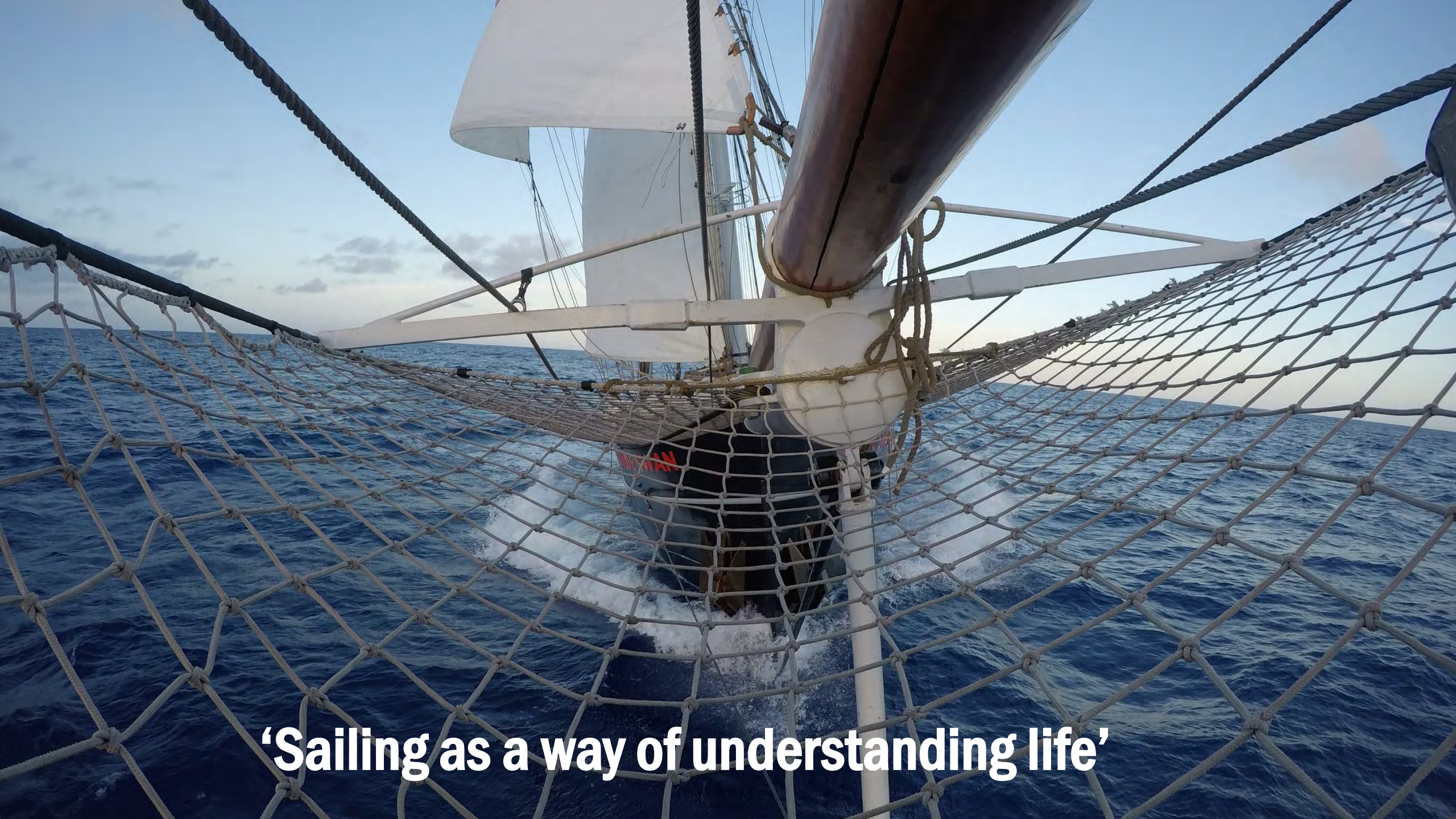
**But if the skin of the boat is an extension of its differentiated crew members and skills, one can truly be moved by the experience.** When it happens like this, sailing becomes a unique experience for everyone rather than an educational programme.



## Summary: 'Sailing as a way of understanding life'

- Sail training is rooted in the history of the maritime environment.
- The boat is a craft that shelters crew members in an open ocean-sky world.
- Attention at sea is existential whereas on land is contingent.
- Taskship in an animated world generates wisdom and skills at sea.
- Getting skilled within mutuality on board generates interstitial differentiation.





**'Sailing as a way of understanding life'**



**Safe travels and fair winds!**





