



Sail Training International

Winter 2022



Winter News



So – not only a real live Tall Ships Race Series, but also a real live conference. What a pleasure after the last three years.

Unsurprisingly, people had a lot to say to each other and to those of us responsible for guiding Sail Training International through these radically changing times.

There were lots of ideas about improving the Races experience for everyone, and we have been working through these to turn the best of them into practical proposals. You will be hearing more from us shortly.

In the meantime, please accept our thanks for your continuing support and our best wishes for a happy Christmas, a prosperous New Year, and better times ahead.

Jonathan Cheshire

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jonathan Cheshire'.

Jonathan Cheshire OBE
Chairman, Sail Training International
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Conference 2022

A welcome return for International Sail Training & Tall Ships Conference



After missing our annual in-person conference for two years running, we were truly delighted to be able to return in November to one of Spain's most famous islands, Las Palmas de Gran Canaria.

The International Sail Training and Tall Ships Conference 2022 saw 206 delegates from across the world of Sail Training and Tall Ships gather to enjoy informative and thought-provoking sessions across a range of subjects that are crucial to the way we run our Events, effective sail training, best practice in a number of different areas, and navigating an ever-changing world landscape.

The conference sessions included a number of workshops that allowed delegates to discuss and brainstorm across a number of subjects, including making The Tall Ships Races events work for all stakeholders, effective safeguarding and mental wellbeing, sustainable sail training programmes and of course a review of the Tall Ships Races 2022 and a preview of our 2023 programme.

We welcomed vessel operators, sail training programme providers, past, contracted and future Tall Ships Races host ports, potential future bidding cities, representatives from our member National Sail Training Organisations and representatives from our Youth Council. We would like to extend our warm thanks to all those who attended and made the conference such a success.

We were delighted to announce the launch of the **Sail Training International Anchor Port Scheme** and look forward to working with our host port partners to make this a scheme which will benefit not only Host Ports, but also vessel operators and young people. More details of the scheme and how to apply will be available on our website shortly.

Looking to the future, we are currently making plans for our next conference in 2023 and look forward to sharing news about this in due course.

The Programme Included



Safeguarding – Looking after Our Trainees, Our Crew and Ourselves



Ports & Ships Forum: We are Doing this Together



Designing Sustainable Programmes in Sail Training



“Getting the Balance Right”: Creative and Practical Events



The Importance of Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion in Sail Training



The Value of Cruise-in-Companies as part of the Tall Ships Race Series – making them Work for all Stakeholders



The Tall Ships Races & Regattas Future Events Update



Synergies from Collaborations between NSTOs and Vessel Operators



Sail Training Research: Where have we been and Where to Now?

If you weren't able to attend the conference, or would like to review some of the sessions presented, a number of the presentations were recorded and are available for catch-up over at the Conferences section of the Sail Training International website

We're All in this Together...

After a break of 3 years since we all met in person, the main focus of this year's conference for Sail Training International was to engage with our stakeholders.

In particular, our aim was to understand how, after the impact the pandemic has had on all of us, we can now ensure the future of the Tall Ships Races and continue to organise Events which both fulfil our mission, but importantly, are relevant and attractive to all stakeholders: the fleet, host ports, young people and NSTOs.

The Conference this year had this engagement at its core, and we are extremely grateful to all of you who were able to attend and who were so generous with your feedback. It is only through listening to all of you that we will be able to make the necessary changes to ensure the continued success of The Tall Ships Races.

We would therefore like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all of you for taking the time to share all your stories, thoughts and suggestions – we really appreciate it.

Since returning from the conference, we have gone through all of the feedback, considered all of the ideas which were put forward and we are now ready to act.

Our priority is to make sure that we can continue to work with you all to organise Tall Ships Races which attract young people, vessels and host ports.

In order to do this we have come up with an action plan and over the coming weeks we will canvas your further feedback to ensure that any changes we are considering reflect what you have told us and will be to the benefit of all of our stakeholders.



Our action plan for the coming months includes the following initiatives:



Review the Host Port Contract to ensure that the maximum number of young people will participate in the Tall Ship races. We see this as an important step to providing the fleet with their preferred income stream, but also to promoting the voyages to a wider range of young people



We will also review the current requirement for Host Ports to commit to an agreed number of deck rentals while the ships are in port. A requirement you have told us is challenging to fulfil and not one that all the ships are interested in.

Our aim is to allow Host Ports more freedom to negotiate with vessel operators to find the best way to help ships earn income whilst in port.

We appreciate that "one size does not fit all" and our hope is that this will allow for much more flexibility.



We will undertake a review of the Tall Ships Races brand to make it more visible, attractive and exciting for young people and make our Events an exciting option for them when considering their holiday plans; as a viable extra curriculum activity or a way of having the adventure of a lifetime.

We will engage the younger members of our community to help us do this and very much hope that the Youth Council will play a significant part in the review.



At a strategic level, we will create a five year plan for Sail Training International and for Tall Ships Races International Limited to ensure that all the actions we will take over the coming months will put us on the right track to achieve our charitable objectives as we look to the future.

We look forward to discussing these initiatives with you, our stakeholders, over the coming weeks and we are keen to include the proposed changes to future Host Port Contracts. Where contracts are already in place, we will also be talking to ports to ensure that they are able to benefit from the increased flexibility where possible.

We remain fully committed to the integrity of the Tall Ships Races and feel that the above proposed actions reflect a good balance for all those involved. Ultimately we want to make our events better for ships, better for young people and better for ports.

Annual Awards Winners Announced



One of the highlights of every International Sail Training and Tall Ships Conference is the Sail Training Annual Awards ceremony. The awards are presented for significant achievement in Sail Training to a diverse and international group of people, including vessels operators and host ports – who have all made the sail training world a better place.

This year in Las Palmas, we were privileged to present awards recognising some amazing achievements across the sail training community. The winners included individuals who are just starting out their journey in sail training as well as those who have dedicated much of their lives to fostering youth development at sea.

Against the backdrop of the pandemic, and all of the considerable challenges it posed to delivering sail training experiences, it was truly humbling to be able to honour the hard work of each and every winner.



The Winners Were



GREATEST LOYALTY AWARD: Esprit (Germany)



BEST NEWCOMER AWARD: Saeftinghe (Belgium)



HOST PORT TROPHY: (Esbjerg, Harlingen, Antwerp & Aalborg)



SAIL TRAINER OF THE YEAR: Maggie Adamson (UK)



YOUNG SAIL TRAINER OF THE YEAR: Louise Kjoller Olsen (Denmark)



SAIL TRAINING VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR: Matilda Dalberg (Sweden)



LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: Klaas Gaastra (The Netherlands)



LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: Harry Allaway (UK)



LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: Villy Gron (Denmark)



SULTAN QABOOS TROPHY: Christian Radich (Norway)



JANKA BIELAK AWARD: Vladimir Martus (Russia)

Coming up in 2023

Looking forward to 2023, we have two fantastic editions of The Tall Ships Races with The Tall Ships Races 2023 and The Tall Ships Races Magellan-Elcano. The events will provide two exciting racecourses, taking in the North Sea, English Channel and Iberian Peninsula.

There are over 50 ships already registered for the event and we warmly encourage vessel operators to join us for what promises to be another action packed summer of racing.

If you would like to enter either of these events, just complete an entry form found on the Captains' Page of our website and send it to office@sailtraininginternational.org



The Tall Ships Races 2023

The Tall Ships Races 2023 will see the international fleet of Tall Ships and Small Ships return to Den Helder, Hartlepool, Fredrikstad, Lerwick and Arendal from 29 June to 6 August.

- Den Helder (Netherlands): 29 June - 2 July
- RACE ONE
- Hartlepool (UK): 6 July - 9 July
- RACE TWO
- Fredrikstad (Norway): 15 July - 18 July
- CRUISE-IN-COMPANY
- Lerwick (UK): 26 July - 29 July
- RACE THREE
- Arendal (Norway): 3 August - 6 August

With four of the five Host Ports having already hosted the stunning Tall Ships fleet, we are excited to return to old friends and visit new frontiers for some exhilarating sailing, stunning cruises and celebrations across Northwest Europe.

The Tall Ships Races 2023 will offer ships and trainees an opportunity to participate in a variety of Sail Training experiences with an exciting racecourse including thrilling shorter racing, longer more challenging routes and scenic cruises on offer throughout the legs.



The Tall Ships Races Magellan-Elcano

Following on from the Tall Ships Races 2023, The Tall Ships Races Magellan-Elcano will visit Falmouth and follow a course to A Coruna, Lisbon and Cadiz from 15 August to 10 September.

- Falmouth (UK): 15 August - 18 August
- RACE ONE
- A Coruna (Spain): 24 August - 27 August
- CRUISE-IN-COMPANY
- Lisbon (Portugal): 31 August - 5 September
- RACE TWO
- Cadiz (Spain): 7 September - 10 September

The Race Committee has looked at options which deliver one short and one longer race leg and a scenic Cruise-in-Company along the Iberian coast. Having postponed our last two planned visits to southern Europe in 2020 and 2021 due to the pandemic, we're excited to return for the first time since 2016.

The variety of festivities, attractions and crew activities that will be on offer during each of the Host Port stops are sure to make the event a truly unforgettable experience for trainees and participating ships.

FOUR HOST PORTS OF THE TALL SHIPS RACES 2025 ANNOUNCED



We were delighted to recently confirm and announce the four Host Ports of The Tall Ships Races 2025 as Le havre, Dunkirk, Aberdeen and Kristiansand.

The event will start on Friday 4 July and continue through until Saturday 2 August, with three races and a scenic Cruise-in-Company. With Host Ports from three countries – France, UK and Norway – The Tall Ships Races 2025 will take in all the English Channel and North Sea region has to offer.

Tall Ships Races International Ltd.'s CEO, Alan James, welcomed the news of the confirmed Host Ports:

“It is with great pleasure that we announce the host ports for The Tall Ships Races 2025, welcoming back old friends of the races and new friends to the sail training family.

“We are confident these ports will embrace the International Tall Ships fleet, with their maritime legacy, commitment to youth development and adventurous spirit which goes hand in hand with our values of international friendship and understanding.”

Looking further forward, we will shortly launch the bidding process for The Tall Ships Races 2026, which will take place in the North West Europe sea area.

We are always looking for ports and cities interested in hosting our Events so please do get in touch if you would like to discuss applying to host the Tall Ships Races in 2026 or beyond (please contact Vanessa Mori at Vanessa.Mori@sailtraininginternational.org)



Le Havre: 4 July - 7 July



Dunkirk: 10 July - 13 July



Aberdeen: 19 July - 22 July



Kristiansand: 30 July - 2 August

Youth Development and Canada Legacy Funds Deadlines Extended

In our last newsletter, we were delighted to announce the Youth Development Fund and Canada Legacy Fund will again be available for organisations to deliver sail training programmes in 2023. We have already received some fantastic applications and interest and we are pleased to confirm the deadline for applications has been extended until 13 January 2023.

To encourage applications from more organisations who may not already have a project planned for 2023, we will be welcoming project pitches and expressions of interest. If you would like to take advantage of this, please contact us through office@sailtraininginternational.org with details of your proposed project and a member of the funding panel will be in touch.



The Youth Development Fund

The Youth Development Fund is aimed at the development of more effective Sail Training programmes for young people from disadvantaged social backgrounds.

It was launched in 2019, and since then it has helped 16 organisations deliver some amazing sail training projects. The fund supports organisations that deliver Sail Training programmes reaching young people from diverse backgrounds, particularly those from a disadvantaged background and offers one or more of the following areas of development:

- Improve trainees' personal, social, or educational development
- Enhance international friendship and understanding
- Demonstrate replicable models of innovation and good practice in Sail Training

We would like to extend our thanks to the Royal Navy of Oman whose generosity has made the Youth Development Fund 2023 possible.

Having supported young people to have a Sail Training adventure through the Oman Bursary scheme since 2011, their continued support means we are able to bring the transformative experience of Sail Training to young people around the world.



The Canada Legacy Fund

Following the success of the Rendez-Vous 2017 Tall Ships Regatta, the Canada Legacy Fund was set up with generous support from Rendez-Vous Naval de Quebec.

The Canadian Legacy Fund is under the management of the Sail Training International Board of Trustees, and is administered by the designated Legacy Fund Committee, providing a total fund of \$25,000(CAN) to be awarded in grants each year.

The Canada Legacy Fund supports organisations from around the world that provide sail training programmes focused on helping disadvantaged young Canadians aged between 14-25 years. These programmes will offer one or more of the following:

- Improve trainees' personal, social and/or educational development
- Enhance international friendship and understanding
- Demonstrate replicable models of innovation and good practice in sail training

Since being launched, we have received some amazing applications and awarded the funds to inspirational projects from different organisations.