

# TEACHERS @ SEA

Inspiring educators to encourage a greater understanding of, and participation in, the maritime sector



# Outline

- Evidence
- Why Teachers @ Sea.
- Links with education.
- A suggested program.
- Avenues for support.
- What teachers say.
- World practice.
- Avenues for further discussion



# Evidence Suggests

- Sail training is beneficial
  - University of Otago
    - “Sailing and self esteem”
  - University of Sydney
    - “Sailing into the future” - Building social capital
  - Flinders University
    - Evaluation of *One & All* Youth Program
  - University of Western Australia
    - Case study ‘Blue Watch’ *STS Leeuwin*
- Can be linked to Education
  - University of Edinburg
    - Sail training as education: more than mere adventure
  - University of Western Sydney
    - Improves engagement with education
  - University of Colorado
    - Impact of experiential learning on teacher classroom practice.



# The Question

- The Question....
  - Can teachers use sail training to create more inspired and engaging lessons?
  - Can sail training use teachers to get more students interested in the maritime world?



# Why Teachers @ Sea

- Evidence suggests getting teachers involved increases student participation in the activity
  - Duke of Edinburgh Scheme
  - Honeywell Educators @ Space Academy
- Use sail training activities to create engaging lessons.
- Students will more likely to become interested in sail training.
- How many people can a single trainee potentially influence following a voyage?
- How many people can a teacher potentially influence and possibly inspire?
- More interested students = greater awareness of and interest in the maritime industry = more applications.
- Self-Assessment Tool-Kit



# Links to Curriculum

- Science
- Maths
- Personal Development
- Health & Physical Education
- Language
- History
- Music
- Geography
- Psychology
- Communications
- Business Studies
- Visual Arts
- Technology and Design
- International Studies
- Engineering



# Suggested Programs

- The Crewman Challenge
  - 1-day taste of sail training
- The Captain's Challenge
  - Introductory 3-5 day on board live-in experience.
- The Admiral's Challenge
  - Advanced 3-5 day on board live-in experience.
- Supported by shore based activities before and after.
- Network of teachers to further develop ideas



# Specific Requirements

- Wide range of activities to encompass the entire curriculum (ensure relevance to as many teachers as possible).
- Targeted activities relating to adaptation to classroom.
- Specific resources linking ship and school.





# Funding and Support

- Local community
- Corporations
- Community grants and programs
- Local government initiatives



# What Teachers Say

- The following video snippets are of teachers who have participated in a sail training exercise (with no prior experience).



# What Teachers Say

- “I got out of it a number of ways we can incorporate this into the classroom”
- “Every time I go to the classroom we just talk about the excursion”
- “Able to share the experience with other students”
- “I’ve been inspired and would love to do something like this with other students”
- “I’ve thought about a lot of other students that would really benefit”
- “Thinking about how to create that kind of environment within the classroom”
- “Most of the subjects [in school] can link with this type of activity”
- “As teachers we are the first line (apart from parents) to give students input on things”
- “Always thinking of ways to get students thinking outside the box and when I can say ‘this is what I did’ it may get them inspired”.



# Some Examples From Around the World

- Citizen Science (UK). Scientific monitoring of the biology of marine life and chemistry of the sea.
- Irish School Curriculum: Recommends outdoor adventurous learning to complete parts of the Physical Education Syllabus / also Yearly “Transition Year” voyage with JST.
- Class Afloat (Ca). Conducts formal education “Blue Water High School” college prep program at sea for subjects like Science and Social Science from high school to university.
- Poland: Multi-month and short programs with regular classes aboard and direct links to syllabus eg ‘biology of the ocean’, ‘physics under sail’
- Cirdan Sailing Trust (UK): Indirect links - develop closer bonds between teachers and students. Increases in motivation in class.
- Helmsman Project (AUS): Selects students from schools for an extended mentoring program with sailing components.
- Marine Stewards Council (UK) provide Skype links to the classroom on “Exploring the Oceans”
- Leeuwin Ocean Adventure Foundation (AUS) - Gain credit towards senior graduation.



# Some Examples From Around the World

- Ocean Youth Trust Scotland: State school 'Curriculum for Excellence' used as the building block for on board program.
- Gordonstoun School Scotland: Sail Training for building resilience and confidence has been written into the curriculum.
- SeaMester (US) - Blends formal learning and real world application at sea (80-90 day voyages)
- Spirit of Bermuda - Connect theory with real-life applications STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics), connecting with the public middle school curriculum.
- Alma Doppel (AUS). Multi-week student restoration volunteering program. Connects with Humanities curriculum and outdoor education
- Spirit of New Zealand: Connects to every school to draw trainees from but intentionally has no direct links to curriculum. Runs a trophy program to include teachers.
- Sea Education Association (US) provide long and short term post secondary education experiences
- Ocean Classrooms Afloat (US) provide semester long and week long secondary education experiences covering curriculum whilst at sea.
- *Thanks to: Michael Byrne (Ireland), Richard Kirby (UK), Class Afloat (Canada), Agnes (Poland), Leonie (UK), Andrew Stainer (Australia), Laura Lyth (UK), Anne-Marie Archer (Australia), Craig Robinson (Scotland), Malcolm Riley (Australia), Jack Morton (Bermuda), Allan Bernardi (Australia), Paul Leppington (NZ), Jan Miles (US).*



# Summary

- Engage teachers through sail training
- Curriculum links between the ship and school
- Inspire teachers to create more engaging lessons
- Increase positive student - teacher relationships
- Increase teacher confidence and effectiveness
- Expand network of potential clientele



# Further Discussion

- Can regular crew teach students the required curriculum knowledge or do you need teachers?
- Do teachers need maritime qualifications?
- Can increases in social skills off-set low-levels of regular knowledge skills?
- How have other countries increased take-up of sail training experiences?
- As older group leaders move on, how do you get new group leaders?
- What do school's expect? / What boxes need to be ticked?
- What do teachers want out of this?
- How can you contribute to the discussion?



# Further Information

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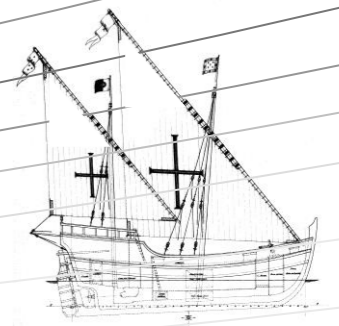
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# Don't forget the teacher also goes @ Sea!

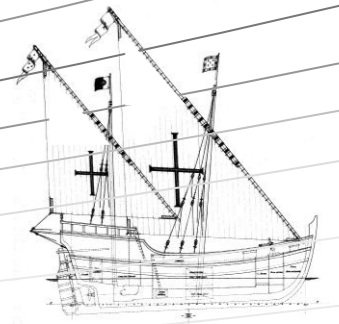
**Rui Santos – Aporvela (Portugal)**  
**Aalborg**  
**STI Annual Conference - November 2013**



# WHAT IS APORVELA?



- **National Sail Training Organization**
- **Operator of Caravela Vera Cruz**
- **Organizer of The Tall Ships Races in Portugal (1982, 1992, 1994, 1998, 2006, 2012...)**
- **Leading sail training provider in Portugal**
- **User of numerous tall ships (portuguese and foreign)**
- **More than 10.000 school visitors to the caravel a year**



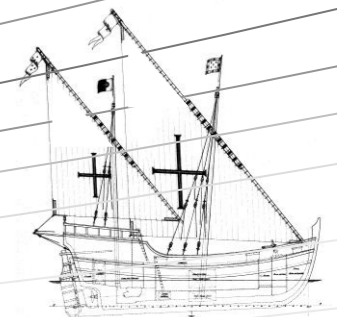




# WHAT ARE TEACHERS FOR YOU?

## Why we need teachers?

- **Client?**
- **User?**
- **Stakeholder?**
- **One more aboard?**
- **Ambassador?**
- **Social / Opinion Leader?**
- **Recruiter?**
- **Partner?**
- **Trainee?**
- **Specialist?**
- **Facilitator?**

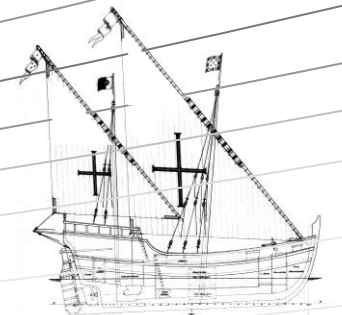


# WHY EMBARKING A TEACHER?

🚩 **The teacher always sails first!**  
**A teacher needs to have an upper-hand towards the students. We want teachers to know what to expect while at sea.**

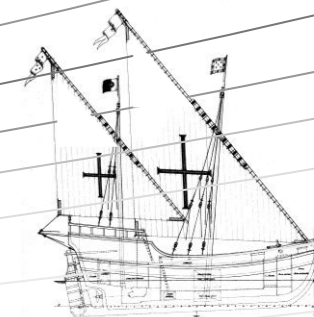
🚩 **After sailing, a teacher will have more insight, will be able to prepare classes before sailing and will organize better activities at sea.**

🚩 **Teachers help in coordinating watches, give a helping hand with sailing activities, point out expectations, needs and problems... they are good evaluators.**



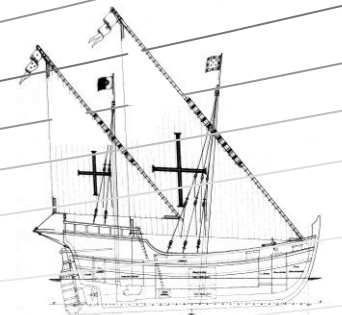
# 5 MAJOR PROGRAMS

- **Nautical activities for PE students from Lisbon – we want them to be able to become nautical facilities managers**
- **Sailing school – weekend trips for half a class with emphasis on school curricula**
- **One year all-around “sea curricula” on a youth reformatory**
- **Ocean literacy and ocean science sea expeditions**
- **School field trips to our ship**



# HOW WE WORK 1

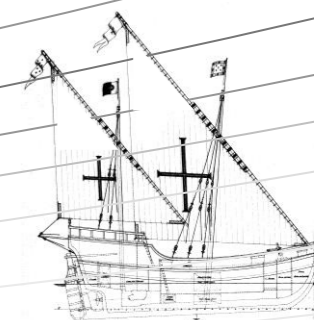
- Meeting with teachers at school or aboard (moored) to discuss possibilities
- Small day sail – at most one full day (no sleeping) to get familiar with the ship, the crew, the activities, the watch system
- Meeting to evaluate and discuss what can / should be done and what must NOT be done
- Handout of several materials regarding sailing and the ship





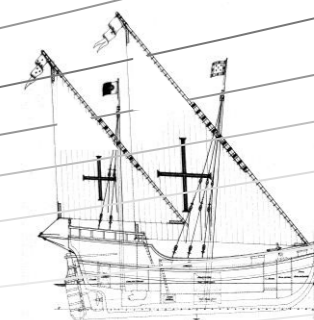
# HOW WE WORK 2

- **Class presentation before sailing (not mandatory). Teachers take command here after what they've learned.**
- **One day sail to "test"**
- **Two day sailing (sleeping aboard) to consolidate**
- **Final evaluation and, if possible, revisit school. Some students become members of Aporvela and trainees with us.**



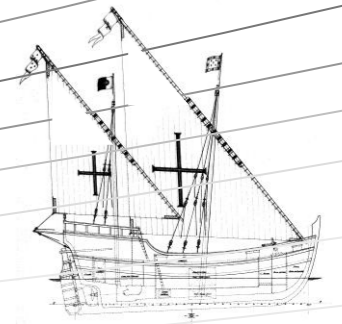
# WHAT WE KNOW?

- ✦ **Sailing with teachers is making them more confident with the activity.**
- ✦ **Teachers become partners and not passengers. They do not expect the crew to do all...**
- ✦ **Sometimes they ask us for more – more sailing; more activity onshore; tailoring programs to fit different needs of different students.**
- ✦ **Are starting to engage the sea and sail training as an opportunity.**



# OUR PLAN

- ✦ To make sure that all Lisbon teenagers have at least one sail training experience during their schooltime.
- ✦ To install easy to use and to maintain scientific equipment for educational purposes.
- ✦ To keep Aporvela as a stakeholder on all that relates with sea education; ocean literacy; blue society



# HOW TO REACH THEM?

🚩 **Teachers organizations**

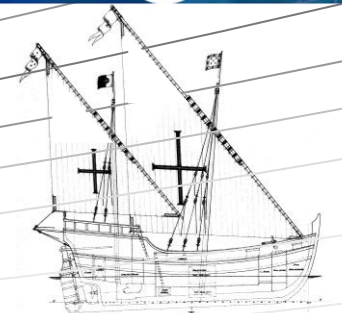
🚩 **School boards**

🚩 **School organizations ( federations; associations, etc)**

🚩 **Local councils**

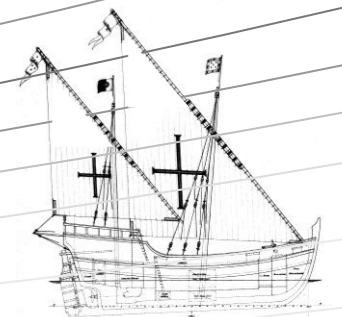
🚩 **Partnerships**

**We are partners with EMEPC and PNL on projects regarding ocean literacy, bonding reading and writing with the sea, organizing a “sea curricula” in schools**



# OTHERWISE IN PORTUGAL

- **Universidade Itinerante do Mar – a summer school aboard Creoula for graduate students – consortium between the Universities of Porto, Oviedo and The Naval School of Portugal.**
- **Kit do Mar – a “dossier” to help schools and teachers to create class activities sea focused**
- **Professores a Bordo – teachers @ sea during scientific expeditions trying to exchange information with scientist and gaining a new perspective for their classes.**



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