



## NEXT STOP: ARUBA VIA BONAIRE FOR ALL-FEMALE OCEAN PLASTIC RESEARCH CREW AS PART OF CIRCUMNAVIGATION

Leg 4 [Antigua to Aruba via Bonaire with the Red Ensign Group](#) 29th November - 8th December 2019

[eXXpedition Round the World](#) is a two-year scientific research mission to study microplastics in our ocean with a focus on pinpointing solutions to ocean plastic pollution back on dry land.

eXXpedition Round the World crews on board S.V. TravelEdge will sail through some of the most important and diverse marine environments on the planet. This includes crossing four of the five oceanic gyres, where ocean plastic is known to accumulate, and the Arctic.

The mission wants to celebrate women in STEM, exploration and sailing. It is being crewed by 300 international multidisciplinary women in teams of ten and aims to create a powerful global network of ambassadors who can use their first-hand experience at-sea to implement solutions back on dry land.

When not at sea the crews take part in land-based research and community outreach activities in each place they visit. Learn more about the [science programme here](#).

**eXXpedition Mission Director Emily Penn said:** “We’re excited to be exploring Antigua, Bonaire and Aruba during eXXpedition Round the World. These islands provide the perfect base for us to consider the issues of plastic pollution at an island scale, which is reflective of the issues at a larger, global scale. We thank all our supporters in particular our voyage leg sponsor the Red Ensign Group and all our local partners.”

### **Voyage Leg Details: Leg 4 [Antigua to Aruba with the Red Ensign Group](#)**

This voyage leg is generously sponsored by the Red Ensign Group and enables us to explore the beauty of the Caribbean, but also delve into the local issues around marine debris and plastic pollution. Starting in Antigua, we will sail to Bonaire, an island where the reef-lined coast is protected by a National Marine Park and is therefore abundant with wildlife, before sailing onto the Dutch-Caribbean island of Aruba. Our onboard expert will facilitate scientific data collection and discussion around this environmental issue. The crew will get to explore the unique beauty of each island, and the impacts of plastic pollution and work with the local population to raise awareness and celebrate the environmental outreach work that is already taking place.

The Red Ensign Group is made up of the thirteen British Shipping Registers, the United Kingdom, Crown Dependencies – Guernsey, Isle of Man and Jersey – and Overseas Territories – Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Falkland Islands, Gibraltar, Montserrat, Saint Helena & Turks & Caicos. They are committed to promoting diversity, crew welfare, innovation and sustainability across the industry and around the globe.

Chief executive of the Bermuda Shipping and Maritime Authority, Francis Richardson said: ‘The Red Ensign Group is sponsoring eXXpedition in recognition of its promotion of women in maritime, its work

exploring the impact on the environment of plastic and its innovative approach to providing solutions to the challenge of sustainability. The REG is about strength through collaboration and this is a prime example of how international technical cooperation between maritime states can underline projects like this one.”

### Aruba Event

On Saturday 7th December 2019 10:00-12:00 at the International School of Aruba the public have a chance to meet the women who have sailed as part of eXXpedition ‘Round the World’ to research and raise awareness about the issue of plastic pollution and the variety of solutions at the Sailing, Science and Solutions event. Come along to hear more about the eXXpedition crew’s adventures at sea, their scientific findings and to discuss solutions. eXXpedition have teamed up with Impact Blue who works with national stakeholders to design and promote environmentally friendly practices in daily operations of the private sectors, allowing a real focus of this talk and Q and A to be focused on the local solutions within Aruba.

Tickets for this talk are limited, [so please sign up via EventBrite at your earliest convenience.](#)

### Leg 4 Crew

<b>Sally Earthrowl</b>	<b>UK</b>	<b>Mission Leader</b>
Anna Strang	UK	Skipper
Maggie Kerr	Australia	First Mate
Sophie Dingwall	UK	Deck Hand
Julie Andersen	USA	Executive Director Plastic Oceans Intl
Rachel O’Callaghan	UK	Designer
Juliet Carvalho	Netherlands	Entrepreneur & Environmental Activist
Marena Brinkhurst	Canada	Map Maker
Liv Backhaus	Denmark	Marine Biologist
Sam Peltz	USA	Film Producer
La Daana Kanha	Trinidad & Tobago	Marine Scientist
Emma Feggetter	UK	Transformation Programme Manager
Nathalie Moreau	French	Corporate Account Manager

On the 13th of December 2019 a new Leg 5 crew [will set sail for Panama.](#)

### Leg 5 Crew: [Aruba to Panama](#)

<b>Sally Earthrowl</b>	<b>British</b>	<b>eXXpedition Mission Leader</b>
Anna Strang	British	Skipper
Maggie Kerr	Australian	First Mate
Sophie Dingwall	British	Deck Hand
Marina Fennell	United States	Student/Researcher
Sofía Nogués	Spanish	Communications & Marketing
Sheri Bastien	Canadian	Associate Professor of Public Health
Joanna Leigh	British	Analyst at an Environmental Consultancy
Pindy Bhullar	British	Director - Investment bank

Lindsey McCoy	American	CEO, Plaine Products
Lily Stuart	Irish	Sustainable Finance Analyst
Natalie Teng Yueng Shan	Singaporean	Educator (Middle school)
Jana Leberl	German	Physician
Mo Langmuir	British	Environmental science engagement

All costs of the not-for-profit expedition are covered by crew contributions, sponsorships and partnerships.

Gold Sponsors are: Travel Edge, TOMRA, Red Ensign Group

Silver Sponsors are: 11th Hour Racing, Slaughter and May

Voyage Leg Sponsor Leg 4: Red Ensign Group

Local Caribbean Partners: Impact Blue, The Clubhouse, Antigua Yacht Club, Budget Marine, Harbour Village Marina, Renaissance Marina

[Find out more about our sponsors and supporters here](#)

[www.eXXpedition.com](http://www.eXXpedition.com)

-- ENDS --

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#### Social media eXXpedition

[@exxpedition](#) on Twitter / [@exxpedition\\_](#) on Instagram / [eXXpedition](#) on Facebook

Follow news and updates via [#eXXpedition](#)

- **Press Releases** are [available here](#)
- **Press Images & Footage** [available for media here](#)
- **Scientific plan** for the mission is [available here](#)
- **Dispatches** from each voyage leg will be sent to media on request and will include film, photos and narrative (email [media@exxpedition.com](mailto:media@exxpedition.com) to be added to receive these updates)

#### Event & Media Schedule Antigua, Bonaire & Aruba

- **26th November 2019 Time 11:45-12:45 Media Call to Boat Leg 3 Antigua** - Meet the Leg 3 Exploring Antigua crew. [Leg 3 Exploring Antigua](#) is a four day mission 23 - 26th November exploring the impact of microplastics on land and at sea in the Caribbean Sea. for photos, film and interview opportunities please contact [media@exxpedition.com](mailto:media@exxpedition.com) to visit boat and meet the crew. Antigua Yacht Club, Falmouth Harbour.
- **30th November 2019 08:00 - 09:00 - Media Call to Boat Leg 4 Antigua** - Meet the Leg 4 Antigua to Aruba with The Red Ensign Group crew for photos, film and interview opportunities please contact [media@exxpedition.com](mailto:media@exxpedition.com) to visit boat and meet the crew. Antigua Yacht Club, Falmouth Harbour.
- **30th November 2019 est 12:00** Departure for [Leg 4 Antigua to Aruba with The Red Ensign Group](#)

- **3rd December 2019 - Bonaire Media Call to Boat Leg 4** - (time / location TBC please request details)
- **7th December 2019 08:00 - 09:00 Aruba Media Call** to Boat Renaissance Marina, Oranjestad, Aruba (berth TBC). Opportunities for interviews with the Mission Leader, Sally Earthrowl and the crew who have sailed from Antigua carrying out eXXpedition's mission.
- **7th December 2019 10:00-12:00 Sailing, Science & Solutions event** at the International School of Aruba. Tickets available [via EventBrite](#)
- **13th December 2019 08:30 - 09:30 Media Call to Boat** Meet the Crew Leg 5 before their departure to Panama

### About eXXpedition

[eXXpedition](#) is a Community Interest Company and not-for-profit organisation that specialises in all-women sailing trips with a focus on highlighting the devastating impact single-use plastic is having on our planet's oceans, ecosystems and on human health. It has run expeditions all over the world, and previous research has highlighted the endemic nature of microplastics within our ocean environments globally and the increasing potential impact they have on human health. Our focus now is to advance a better understanding of the plastics issue as a whole and to work with industry to pinpoint solutions and policy at a global level by addressing knowledge-gaps and delivering evidence to inform effective solutions.

### About the Red Ensign Group - [sponsors of Leg 4 Antigua to Aruba](#)

The [Red Ensign Group \(REG\)](#) is a group of British Shipping Registers. It is made up from the United Kingdom, the Crown Dependencies (Isle of Man, Guernsey and Jersey) and the UK Overseas Territories (Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Falkland Islands, Gibraltar, Montserrat, St Helena and the Turks & Caicos Islands) which operate shipping registers from their jurisdiction.

