

# LOST AT SEA

MORE SHIPS WHOSE SAILING DAYS ARE DEFINITELY OVER  
BY SUSAN DUPREY

Grytviken was once a thriving whaling station in South Georgia, near the bottom of the world. However, when the station was closed in 1966 pretty much anything of value was removed but several vessels that had become unseaworthy were left including *Petrel*, a once-important whaling ship with the harpoon gun still in place. Nearby, the sealing ships *Albatross* and *Dias* rot away. Today, this is a popular stop for tourists visiting the Arctic.



Originally completed in 1976 as *MV Tananger*, this ship had many names over the years — the last being *MV Alta*. Suspected of smuggling, she was abandoned at sea during October 2018 while on a long voyage from Greece to Haiti. Her engines had failed and the USCG came to the rescue some 1400 miles southeast of Bermuda, saving the crew but the ship went adrift. However, one report suggests that it was towed to Guyana and then hijacked only to be abandoned again. She was occasionally spotted drifting through the Atlantic as a “ghost ship” but on 16 February 2020 she smashed into the Irish coast near Ballycotton, Cork. Since the photo was taken, tidal action and strong storms have broken the ship apart.



It is estimated that over 250 ship wrecks are on the shore of Gower Peninsula in Wales. Included in that number is the *Helvetia*, a Norwegian vessel that washed ashore in 1887 on Rhossil Beach. Not much remains of the wooden ship.



Partially sunk sailing boat in Grenada. The local governments are putting together plans for removing these vessels to make way for paying ships that bring tourists to the area.

