



Ship to Shore



Autumn Edition 2017

CARING FOR SEAFARERS IN VICTORIAN PORTS SINCE 1857

Mission to Seafarers Victoria

160 Years of Service to Seafarers



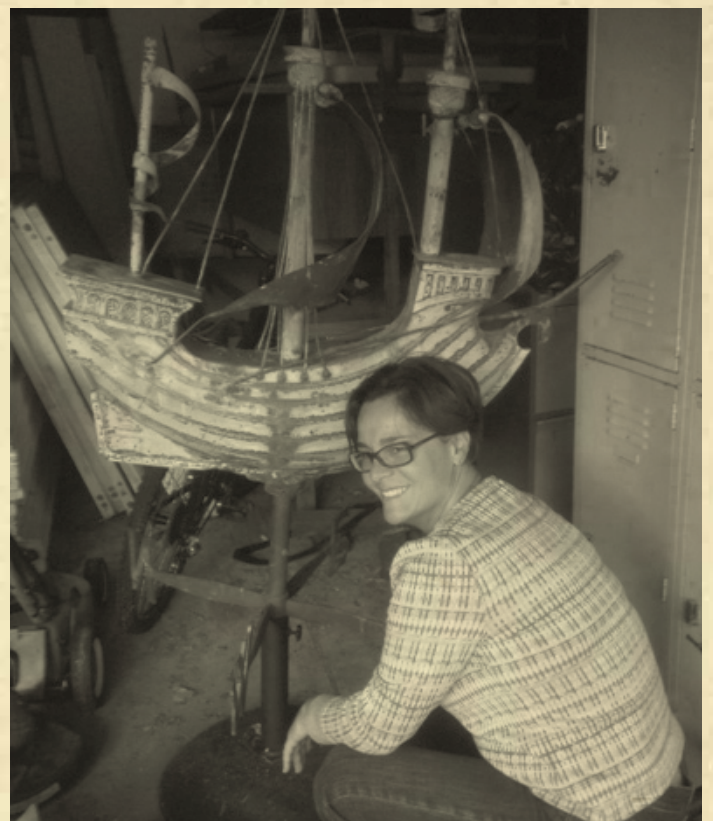
With *Early Origins* dating back to 1857 in the Port of Melbourne, custodians of the Mission to Seafarers' work today are increasingly aware of those who preceded us. They were mindful of the wellbeing of seafarers and this legacy of work is on-going today.

2017 is the Centenary Year of 717 Flinders Street Docklands and presents an opportunity to celebrate a special place in the life and community of those who live and work at sea. The Mission to Seafarers building, "...described by mariners around the globe as the best in the world – a real good concern" (Weekly Times Melbourne 21 September 1895) is a significant place for seafarers and for the City of Melbourne.

The Grimwade Centre for Cultural Materials Conservation develops Australia's capacity to conserve our continuing cultural record. Through teaching

and learning, research and engagement in cultural materials conservation, the centre enables individuals and communities to explore their past, create identity and community in the present, and access their heritage into the future. In February this year Carmela Lonetti came up close and personal with a gem, one of many features of the building that is in need of restoration, and much to our delight, her assessment of the Ship Finial has a pathway for conservation treatment and for future display.

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CARMELO LONETTI, GRIMWADE CENTRE FOR CULTURAL MATERIALS CONSERVATION



THE MELBOURNE FLYING ANGEL CLUB. G'DAY MATE! WE DON'T SEE TOO MANY AUSSIE SEAFARERS THESE DAYS, GOOD ON YOU GUYS FOR DROPPING IN.

CEO's Message

Whilst Port Chaplain, Rev'd. Onofre (Inni) Punay was between ship visits, he happened upon a seal "taking time out". There are not many work places where your colleague comes back to the office with a picture of a resting seal! The Mission is a pretty special place!

The photograph reminded me of artist Jane Flowers' entry into last year's ANL Maritime Art Awards & Exhibition. Jane's painting *Opportunity* was Highly Commended by the Judges and spoke to me also of the 'opportunity' that every new cadet may anticipate when they first set sail for a career at sea.

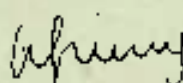
The Mission to Seafarers shares these journeys with new cadets to seasoned seamen, and we have enjoyed the hospitality with many of these over Christmas and New Year with seafarers visiting

daily and into the evening. The MtSV staff and volunteers, with others who interact with 717 Flinders Street as a place for work, worship, relaxation, interest or intrigue are all contributing to the life of the Mission in this 160th year.

2017 also marks the Centenary year of 717 Flinders Street, Docklands, providing a "home away from home" for visiting seafarers. As custodians of this work, our focus remains on the importance of 'shore-leave'. Our "grass roots" approach to isolation

and combating fatigue, is often as simple as providing a welcoming place for connectivity and rest.

Special thanks to the City Light Church for Christmas Day activities, coordinating the service at St Peter the Mariner Chapel and lunch which was shared with sweet treats gifted from the First Fleet Association. With the festivities of the New Year behind us and as we head into Easter, I hope you will enjoy some time for rest and reflection and if appropriate please keep the work of the Mission to Seafarers in your prayers.


Sincere regards,
Andrea Fleming
Mission to Seafarers Victoria

Max has a good handle of the goings on-Board



MAX HALL

Volunteer Max Hall served his National Service in the Royal Australian Navy in 1958, and he went on to serve forty years in Public Service, with the department known now as The Australian Border Force.

Max says, "Having a great grandfather who was a minister with the Methodist Church, influences my way in life," which includes his faith journey and 47 years of volunteer engagement with the Mission to Seafarers Victoria (MtSV).

Passing the Mission on a daily basis during his early career in Customs, working at Victoria Dock, Max said "I called in one day, in 1970 I think, out of curiosity". Like many volunteers at the Mission to Seafarers today, Max wandered in and was inclined, during conversation with the Port Chaplain to offer his support.

Some 47 years later, Max is a member on the MtSV Board of Management, and contributes his time working alongside Port Chaplain Rev'd. Onofre Punay as a volunteer Ship Visitor. Visiting crew on-board a ship is a different experience to welcoming crew ashore. Max is one of two Board Members of the MtSV who volunteer with the Ship Visiting Program, along with Board Secretary Tony Correll, both are considered veteran Ship Visitors, dedicated to making a difference in the day to day life of seafarers.



PHOTOGRAPH: REV'D INNI



OPPORTUNITY BY JANE FLOWERS
· HIGHLY COMMENDED 2016 ANL
MARITIME ART AWARDS



CALL FOR ENTRIES>

PROMOTING EXCELLENCE IN MARITIME AND SEAFARING SUBJECTS IN ART. THE MISSION TO SEAFARERS ON BEHALF OF NAMING SPONSOR ANL INVITES ARTISTS TO RESPOND TO THE THEME;

EXPLORATIONS OF THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HUMANITY AND THE SEA

www.missiontoseafarers.com.au/ANL-ART-PRIZE

CALL FOR SPONSORS

THE ANL MARITIME ART AWARDS SUPPORTS THE WORK OF THE MISSION TO SEAFARERS PLEASE CONTACT ANDREA@MISSIONTOSEAFARERS.COM.AU FOR SPONSORSHIP DETAILS. SEAFARERS' WELFARE WORKS TO ENSURE OUR OCEANS AND COASTLINES ARE IN SAFE HANDS.

.....
Please consider your support.

In curating the 2016 ANL Maritime Art Awards & Exhibition Katherine Edwards, Art Consultant wrote; "Artists have drawn on traditional and innovative methods to create the artworks featured in this year's ANL Maritime Prize. Using a variety of mediums including oil, watercolour, ink, charcoal, recycled materials, even sea algae, to dazzling effect, a showcase of dynamic artworks is on offer. Artists have responded to the recurring theme, "The Relationship between Humanity and the Sea", in startling and seductive ways to draw the viewer in, culminating in a thought-provoking and technically impressive exhibition of sea-inspired imagery".

Fatigue



SEAFARER NAPPING AT THE FLYING ANGEL CLUB MELBOURNE.

Since the launch of the 2010 Mental Health of Seafarers Program, pioneered by Mr. Bob Iversen with the support of the Mission to Seafarers Victoria and in conjunction with the Melbourne Port Welfare Association and beyondblue, awareness has been raised around the mental wellbeing of seafarers. Since 2010 a plethora of reports has revealed ever increasing knowledge about the work and living conditions of merchant crew.

The MARTHA Fatigue Report was published in January this year and further evidence was found suggesting a prevailing factor of fatigue at sea. The report stated that *"Fatigue at sea and related issues, such as stress and workload, are highly topical and important areas of research as the problems of mental health and wellbeing are being increasingly recognized by society. Ships' crews are under increasing pressure from competitive voyage schedules and have to handle their tasks with fewer crew members. Evidence from accident records and research literature both point to the serious impact that sleepiness and fatigue may have on the safety and welfare of seafarers".* The MARTHA

Fatigue Report was conducted by an international partnership of researchers and industry. The \$3 million project was sponsored by the TK Foundation over a three year period from 2013 to 2016.

In quantifying the impact of shore-leave, one doesn't have to be an expert to know that after weeks at sea, time away from the ship is worth more than gold. As seen in the photograph taken by one of our volunteers, when the lounge at the Mission is full and a seafarer just needs to lay down, he will find a place to do so, regardless. Shore leave is not a solution to the issues of fatigue it does however makes a difference. The Mission to Seafarers is mindful of all seafarers, and we are consistently working to advocate on their behalf. MARTHA brings to light the importance of shore leave and well resourced welfare providers who are daily dealing with fatigued seafarers. Thank you for supporting our work, we are doing our best and we couldn't do it without our donors and sponsors.



Port Chaplaincy



In the recently published *Sailor's Sunrise – Meditations for Mariners*, author Captain M. Reasoner describes methods of dealing with all matters of isolation through scripture based prayer and meditations.

Being a ship's Captain, the author has touched on topics that speak directly into situations that one might face at sea. This book is one of a broad range of resources that bring a message of hope and practical guidelines for spiritual wellbeing in the face of mental and or physical challenges. It is the role of Port Chaplains in their brief encounters with seafarers to deliver a message of hope when all else seems unbearable.

In the recently published article by Tiffany Palmer, & Esther Murray, (London Metropolitan University), Port Chaplaincy is explored through their research as a process of examination. The summary of results in the report noted how chaplains adapt to the limitations forced upon them to provide welfare, and a degree of acceptance at the injustice.

The Port Chaplain's role is a precarious one. As the report makes reference to the same, who is the Port Chaplain to judge and for which injustice would the Chaplain advocate if not them all? Other than to present without prejudice, the Port Chaplain offers words of hope and encouragement, assists in short term or long term resolutions, or just happens to be on hand for an issue that would otherwise have been difficult to prepare for in advance. The fact remains that Port Chaplaincy plays an important role and the report calls for more consideration of the fact that Port Chaplains are "on the frontline" of seafarers' welfare.



Excerpt of Paper

by Tiffany Palmer and, Esther Murray London Metropolitan University, United Kingdom

Background: The shipping industry has historically leaned towards a biomedical model of health when assessing, treating and caring for seafarers. In recent years there has been more concern for the mental health of seafarers in both the academic literature and the commercial world. However, the psychological and emotional well-being of seafarers still largely falls on the shoulders of the Port Chaplains. The aim of the study was to explore how Port Chaplains make sense of providing welfare for seafarers by taking an idiographic, phenomenological approach (IPA).

Materials and methods: Six male participants working as chaplains in United Kingdom ports took part in recorded face-to-face, semi-structured interviews covering three areas of questioning: role, identity and coping. Interviews were transcribed verbatim, and data analysed using interpretative phenomenological analysis.

Results: Three super-ordinate themes were identified from participants accounts; "We walk a very strange and middle path", "Exploited" and "Patching up". Rich data emerged in relation to the personal impact chaplains felt they made, which was facilitated by the historical role of the Church; this led to the second super-ordinate theme of how

chaplains felt towards seafarers. Lastly, the analysis demonstrates how chaplains adapt to the limitations forced upon them to provide welfare, and a degree of acceptance at the injustice.

Conclusions: Results were discussed in reference to theoretical models, including self-efficacy, empathic responding and the transactional model of stress and coping. Chaplains in ports perform their role autonomously with no input from healthcare professionals. Recommendations are made for a biopsychosocial model of health involving primary care, benefiting the health and well-being of seafarers and providing support and guidance for port chaplains at the frontline of welfare for seafarers.

Ref: Int Marit Health 2016; 67, 2: 117–124

The full article can be downloaded at www.intmarhealth.pl or email andrea@missiontoseafarer.com.au and request of copy of the International Maritime Health report. Also on this site, the findings of the 2012 European study on Fatigue in Seafarers 'Horizon'. This study has included the investigation of fatigue and sleep in seafarers performing their duties in a ship simulator - an approach previously used in aviation and for driving but not in a maritime setting.



“Garry Gangway’s” Journal

Journal note: “A very welcoming harmonious crew. The mess was spacious so I was able to communicate with crew members independently. I spent time with Cicero whose wife was expecting their first child on the 1st of August. I swapped Facebook information. Edgardo came ashore with us. He is returning to the Philippines as his mother has died. I left him to call if he needed any help. 7 crew came back to the centre”.



EDGARDO SENDS A MESSAGE OF THANKS

As a Ship Visitor I ascend the gangways of between 150 and 200 ships a year. I climb between 7,500 to 10,000 steps and I meet and chat with around 750 seafarers. When a Facebook message from a seafarer, with whom I swapped details with three years ago arrived, I was thankful for my journal to refer back on. His message thanked me for my support at that difficult time and updated me on his status.

As I have the crystal clear mind of a 72 year old, I had trawled back through my memory seeking Edgardo then referring back to my messages found the note I had sent him in August 2013, a month after the news of his mother's passing. Of the joys of being a ship's visitor, none is greater than having a one on one conversation with a seafarer. There was Cicero thousands of miles away from his

wife and missing the birth of his first child and Edgardo, whose mother had just died. Truly, as Edgardo said, “god is with us.” I know that, when I climb the 50 steps of the gangway to the deck of the ship to be welcomed by the seafarer on watch, I shall have opportunities to be a listening friend and to share and pray with a seafarer who has probably not had the opportunity to speak of the things on their heart since they left their last port.

There are more ships arriving in the Port of Melbourne than our current team can visit so if you, having read this far, are feeling that tap on the shoulder to volunteer consider becoming a Ship Visitor. Respond to that prompt, swing by 717 Flinders Street, and put your foot on the bottom step of the gangway, to a most rewarding time in your life.

THE MTSV OFFERS A 20% DISCOUNT ON VENUE HIRE FEES TO COMMUNITY AND NOT FOR PROFIT ORGANISATIONS. CONTACT: MARKETING@MISSIONTOSEAFARERS.COM.AU

Please continue to Support the MtSV

Visit our website and make a donation today or see the donor form on page 8. Seafarers rely on the Mission and we rely on the donors who support our work. **THANK YOU!**

On the search for Rev'd Ebenezer James



PORT CHAPLAIN REV'D EBENEZER JAMES 1886-1901

In the 160th year of the Mission to Seafarers Victoria (MtSV) we have reflected back on what motivated Rev'd. Kerr Johnston to establish his work with seafarers back then and why. The Heritage team headed up by Jay Miller is taking a closer look at the early origins of the MtSV's Port Chaplaincy, and the result of this year's work will be to compile a chronological record of the chaplains that have served in the Port of Melbourne.

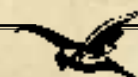
In Jay Miller's email correspondence to the MtSV team in early March, she expressed a resoundingly loud “Hooray” in sharing the news that “the brilliant and meticulous Ros Fletcher” (volunteer), had found the image all had been itching to see of the noteworthy Rev'd. Ebenezer James, Mission to Seafarers Chaplain 1886-1901”.

The somewhat stained and aged clipping, dated 1892 from the Port Gazette, gave us our first image of Rev'd James. From the journals and various published profiles explored by Ros, she compiled our first insight into the Port Chaplain, praiseworthy for having stamped out in Victoria the cruel and degrading maritime practice of “crimping”. The reference to crimping sometimes known as ‘pressing’ or ‘press-gangging’ refers to the act of ‘recruiting’ sailors by force, false pretences or while comatose. Once on board a vessel at sea, they had little option but to become part of the crew.

The affectionate remembrance of Ebenezer James born 11th March 1841 and who died on 14th July 1901 remembered

his service as a Chaplain to The Victorian Seaman's Mission and Chaplain to the Naval Forces of Victoria stating, “By friends of all nationalities and creeds, as a mark of esteem, for his unselfish and consistent Christian efforts for the social and moral advancement of our sailors and in recognition of the fact that to his indefatigable and praiseworthy exertions the stamping out in Victoria of the cruel and degrading maritime curse of ‘crimping’ was mainly due”.

We are thrilled to be learning a little more about the founding forefathers in the work of The Mission to Seafarers. The MtSV is looking for a new sponsor for the Heritage Program. The work began with Bendigo Wealth in 2010 and due to a restructure with the sponsoring company the funding finished last year. To continue this work the Mission requires \$30,000 annually which employs a Heritage Collections Manager two days per week, supported by Volunteers. The MtSV through its Heritage Program is contributing to the rich tapestry of maritime heritage in Victoria and we are sharing this history through a program of activities that includes heritage tours, schools education program, exhibitions, research facilities and digitization of the archive for public access. For further information on how you can support this work please contact marketing@missiontoseafarers.com.au



A Melbourne prominent feature calls for restoration

Continued from cover page

Thanks to an observant passerby who gave a voice to a distinguished feature of the Mission to Seafarers roofline, Mr Henry Alfred Saw silversmith has been a hot topic of conversation for the Heritage team.

As a result of a gale force wind the prominent copper ship finial that sits on the roof of the Mission building was tossed onto a noticeable angle, requiring a salvage team. The ship was carefully removed from the roof, assessed by Grimwade Centre for Cultural Materials Conservation

(and closely admired) before being catalogued as a significant object associated with the iconic maritime building.

The good work of the MtSV's Heritage Program is categorically working to ensure the preservation of unique items and

objects such as the finial, crafted by Henry Saw (circa 1920) purposefully for this special building. The admired rooftop artifact is a fine example of artisanship under the custodial care of the MtSV's Heritage Collection.

The building's restoration planning process has taken into consideration the many handcrafted and beautiful features. The list extends from timber and stained glass windows to structural and iconic features. As the heritage team works to research the stories of 717 Flinders Street, people such as Henry Alfred Saw are celebrated, for he was a true metal artificer of an art that has been mostly lost with time. Mr Saw's work is well featured at the Mission and we hope to reinstate the weather vane shortly.



Sounding Histories



DR ANNE SCOTT WILSON

Further expanding on the social history and significance of the Mission to Seafarers building as a final bastion of heritage alongside the grand designs for North Wharf'; Lecturer in Art at Deakin University, Dr. Anne Scott Wilson is currently curating 'Sounding Histories' a collaboration of 6 artists engaging with all aspects of the Mission to Seafarers.

Sounding Histories promises an experience for visitors to 717 Flinders Street, in the second half of this year. The resounding heritage of the site and purpose of the place will be explored after 100 years of service to seafarers. Sounding Histories will assist the MtSV in communicating how the building today engages with a broader public visitation as it transitions into a place of public interest.

MtSV Ship Visiting & Flying Angel Club Training Day

The Maritime Labour Convention which protects the rights of seafarers was signed by the Australian Federal Government in 2012. It provides new pathways for training and education in our industry and allocates new tasks within the port environment.

The regulatory tasks are performed by Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA), Quarantine, and Border Protection officers who may visit the ship when it berths. Compared with them, Mission to Seafarers Ship Visitors have a very different role on board a ship. Whilst ours is not of a regulatory nature, Ship Visitors need to be trained in procedures and port security.

Ship Visiting is a response to the need for interaction, community and connectivity during long contracts at sea. With time in port being a busy schedule of compliance, maintenance and administration there is always time for a chat, and for those seafarers, this contact also local information, news from home, small gifts, phone cards, and the interaction with a friendly visitor are welcomed by crew through the Ship Visiting Program.

The MtSV Ship Visitors Tony, Julia, Max and Shirley accompanied by House Committee Chair Rev'd. Ken Rogers and volunteer Ian Fletcher were led by AMSA officer Tim King in a day of information sharing on effective and efficient ways to meet seafarer needs. Special thanks AMSA for conducting the training day to the Ship Visiting team who has kept the momentum whilst the Port Chaplain was away for some rest in February. The Ship Visiting Program supports seafarers who don't receive shore leave.

For details about Ship Visiting please email:
chaplain@missiontoseafarers.com.au

“ SHIP VISITING IS A RESPONSE
TO THE NEED FOR
INTERACTION, COMMUNITY AND
CONNECTIVITY DURING LONG
CONTRACTS AT SEA. ”



REV'D KEN, TONY, JULIA, TIM, MAX, SHIRLEY AND IAN.

Vale

We will always remember them.

HASTINGS FAREWELLS ITS FOUNDER

Captain Keith Dann was a Member of the MtSV State Council and subsequently the Board of Management for over 25 years. Keith established the Mission to Seafarers in Hastings and will be remembered by the MtS as an advocate for seafarers' welfare, and an avid supporter of the work of the Mission to Seafarers. Captain Dann passed away on 17th August, 2016.

TILL NEXT WE MEET

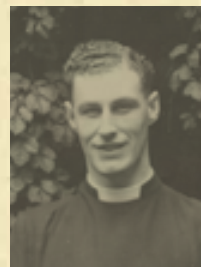
"People called him Father Bill ...and always will". Bill Dowel's ministry responded to the lonely lives of seafarers, serving the Mission to Seafarers in London, South Africa and Melbourne with an extensive parish ministry lasting into his retirement years. The MtSV acknowledges the life and witness of Port Chaplains, and the significant contribution of Fr. Bill was acknowledged at a service held at Christ Church, Castlemaine on 25th October 2016.

A SHIPPING LEGEND ACKNOWLEDGED

Phil Kelly OAM passed away on 10th January 2017. Phil served on the MtSV Board of Management for 6 years. In 2008 he was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia for services to the shipping industry and to the preservation of Australia's maritime history. Phil was a fond supporter of the Mission and in 2016 was inducted into the Australian Maritime Hall of Fame.



KEITH DANN



BILL DOWEL



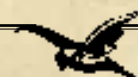
PHIL KELLY (OAM)

DATES FOR DIARIES:

April ANL Maritime Art Awards Call for Entries
April..... Australian Heritage Festival
May..... Launch of the MtSV's new website
July..... Sea Sunday
July..... Melbourne Open House
August – SeptemberSounding Histories
September..... Centenary Celebrations
October..... ANL Maritime Art Exhibition
October..... Seafarers Service St Paul's

FOR FURTHER DETAILS EMAIL:

MARKETING@MISSIONTOSEAFARERS.COM.AU
OR KEEP UPDATED VIA THE WEBSITE AND MISSION
TO SEAFARERS VICTORIA FACEBOOK PAGE.



Seafarers' welfare works to ensure our oceans and coastlines are in safe hands



Donations can be made online at www.missiontoseafarers.com.au or complete this form and return to us.

\$25 SUPPORTS THE PROVISION OF
PHONE AND INTERNET SERVICES
FOR CONTACT WITH HOME

\$35 WILL SUPPORT MTSV
SHIP VISITING

\$50 WILL SUPPORT EMERGENCY NIGHT
CALL-OUT TO HELP SEAFARERS
IN DISTRESS

\$100 WILL SUPPORT THE UPKEEP OF
MTSV ON-SHORE FACILITIES

Please accept my gift of ☐ \$25 ☐ \$35 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ Other \$ _____

☐ My cheque is enclosed. (Cheques to be made payable to Seafarers Welfare Fund)

☐ Please debit my credit card / debit card: ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard

Card no: _____ / _____ / _____ / _____ Expiry date: _____ / _____

Name: _____ Signature: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Email: _____ Telephone: _____

All donations over \$2 made to the Seafarers' Welfare Fund are tax deductible.

Please send your contribution to: Mission to Seafarers Victoria, 717 Flinders Street, Docklands 3008

Telephone: (03) 9629 7083 Email: marketing@missiontoseafarers.com.au

All seafarers are anticipated, and all visitors are welcome.



In 2016 the Mission to Seafarers welcomed crew from over 25 countries of origin. The doors that welcome seafarers to Melbourne open onto an elegant terrazzo floor in the foyer, functional for the most rugged of seagoing boots, or otherwise. The floor features a large mariner's compass, a reminder from which direction you have come, and the foyer is lit with a generous glow, even on the dullest Melbourne day.

This year in Ship to Shore magazine will celebrate the Centenary of 717 Flinders Street, Docklands and in recognizing the building's significant heritage and day to day functions, we look forward to sharing stories spanning 160 years of welcome to seafarers with you.

Thank you for your on-going support for the work of the Mission to Seafarers today.

SEAFARERS' CENTRES

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Caring for Seafarers
in Victorian Ports since 1857

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