

MISSION TO SEAFARERS VICTORIA

Caring for Seafarers in the Port of Melbourne since 1857



ANNUAL REPORT 2015

Annual General Meeting

April 12th 2016

717 Flinders Street, Docklands





MISSION TO SEAFARERS VICTORIA INCORPORATED



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OTHER VICTORIAN SEAFARERS CENTRES

Geelong*	Portland*	Hastings**
7 The Esplanade, North Shore 3214	Berth 1 Anderson Wharf PO BOX 538, Portland 3305	Bayview Road PO Box 209, Hastings 3915

* Independently incorporated and operated

** Sponsored by the Mission to Seafarers, the Apostleship of the Sea and the Uniting Church

DETAILS OF BUSINESS

Trading Name	Mission to Seafarers Victoria Incorporated
ABN	18630 990 996
Active From	21 st June 2000
ACC	Registered with the Australian Charities and Not for Profits Commission
Date of Register	3 December 2012
Business Structure	Public Benevolent Institution (PBI)
Name of PBI	The Seafarers Welfare Fund
	Endorsed as a Deductible Gift Recipient & Tax Exempt
ABN	69 302 106 434
Active From	1 st July 2000

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Please Note: Financials for Year Ended December 2015 may be received by emailing:

accounts@missiontoseafarers.com

PATRONAGE

President HRH The Princess Royal
Patron Her Excellency the Honourable Linda Marion Dessau AM, Governor of Victoria
President The Most Reverend Dr Philip Freier, Archbishop of Melbourne

VALE

Mrs. Neilma Gantner, Vice Patron 2002 - 2015
Mission to Seafarers Victoria

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

Chairman	Malcolm Reed	Member	Neil Edwards
Vice Chair	Nigel Porteous	Member	Max Hall
Clerk in Holy Orders	Bishop Jeremy Ashton	Member	Alan Knott
Clerk in Holy Orders	Reverend Ken Rogers	Member	Tony Correll
Treasurer	Ian Scott		
Public Officer	Frank Eastaughffe		
		Ex-Officio Member	Rv'd Onofre Punnay
		Ex-Officio Member	Andrea Fleming

MtSV Staff

Andrea Fleming	Chief Executive Officer
Rv'd Onofre Punnay	Port Chaplain
Craig Baru	Operations Manager
Ajith Jayasuriya	Club Manager
Cheka Samaranayake	Accounts / Admin
Jay Miller	Collections Manager

Special thanks to all of our Volunteers, Incorporated and Crew 717 Social Club Members.

ABOUT THE MISSION TO SEAFARERS VICTORIA

The national and international communications between MtS port agencies provides continuity in service to seafarers and a community of care in over 230 ports worldwide.



The work of the Mission to Seafarers Victoria (MtSV) dates back to 1857 in the Port of Melbourne and now operates as one of 29 port agencies nationally and in over 230 ports worldwide.

During 2015 the Mission to Seafarers Victoria has operated daily from 10am – 10pm, on call for seafarers visiting the Port of Melbourne.

The MTSV has operated from the now heritage listed building at 717 Flinders Street since 1917. The building is iconic to the City of Melbourne and regarded for its perpetual service of responding to the unique circumstances of those who live and work at sea.

The St Peter the Mariner Chapel, Flying Angel Club (as it is known to seafarers) and the Norla Dome make up the building complex which houses an archival collection of maritime and social history of State and National significance.

The on-going work of seafarers' welfare and the custodial obligations to the heritage collection has seen the Board of Management invest considerable resources in 2015 to ensure the preservation, management and maintenance of the building and its heritage assets.

The MtSV has been active in bringing awareness to the spiritual and mental wellbeing of seafarers and this year has been no exception in the advocacy for seafarers during times of injustice or distress. As an island nation, Australia relies on seafarers, seafarers rely on the services of the MtSV and the Mission to Seafarers worldwide relies historically and today on the generosity of donors and volunteers who are recognised with great appreciation in this year's Annual General Report.

SUMMARY OF PURPOSE

To provide on-shore facilities, practical welfare services and spiritual support to seafarers visiting the Port of Melbourne.

Seafarers live and work in isolated and often dangerous conditions at sea. Their spiritual wellbeing is identified, by the *Seafarers International Research Centre*, Cardiff University as being as important as their physical and mental wellbeing.

THE MISSION TO SEAFARERS



MELBOURNE
DOORS OPEN 365 DAYS
MISSIONTOSEAFARERS.COM.AU

VISION

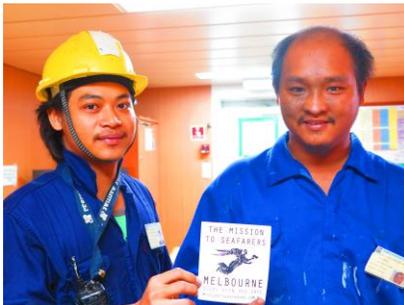
To be a preeminent maritime centre; responding to the unique circumstances of the seafaring community and an exemplary place of maritime heritage that encourages community, connectivity and social engagement at all levels

MISSION

The enduring mission of the Mission to Seafarers Victoria's is to recognize the contribution of seafarers to the prosperity of our nation by way of service, community and connectivity.

ADVOCACY

"Seafarers' welfare reduces the likelihood of seafarer fatigue and works to ensure our oceans and coastlines are in safe hands"





Nigel Porteous

It gives me great pleasure to present the 2015 Chairman's report, in my capacity as the current Acting Chair, following the retirement of the former Chairman Malcolm Reed.

I take this opportunity to acknowledge with appreciation the work undertaken by Malcolm over the past six years which provided experienced steady guidance to the Board of Management.

On behalf of the Board I also wish to record our sincere sadness following the death, in June of our long term Vice Patron Mrs. Neilma Gantner. Neilma graciously accepted the position of Vice Patron in 2002 and has been a significant benefactor to the Mission since then.

2015 has seen negotiations with the Victorian State Government progress to secure tenure to the Flinders Street building and we believe that the negotiations will be concluded by mid 2016.

The MtSV has long term philanthropic, corporate and individual supporters. In particular we sincerely thank The Myer Foundation, The Helen Macpherson Smith Trust, Bendigo Wealth, Port of Melbourne Corporation, ANL Container Lines and ASP Ship Management Group. We also thank Peter Nevile of Nevile & Co, for his invaluable and continuing contribution as our pro- bono lawyer.

I wish to thank the members of the MtSV's Board of Management members for their continuing commitment to the cause, and in particular those members of the Executive Committee; Neil Edwards, Ian Scott, Reverend Ken Rogers, who also chairs the House and Pastoral Care Committee and Frank Eastaughffe who has also announced his retirement this year due to his other voluntary commitments. Frank has been a significant contributor to the overall management and future planning of the Mission during his tenure for which we are very grateful.

Finally I give thanks on behalf of the Board of Management to our CEO Andrea Fleming, and her team in the Flying Angel Club, Heritage and Arts Programs. As the MtSV is reliant on uncertain income from year to year, the achievements and progress in 2015 have been significant. This is a great result considering the financial conditions we are currently experiencing in the corporate world and particularly in the shipping industry which impact corporate sponsorship and donations which have declined consistently since the 2007 Global Financial Crisis.

It has been a privilege to serve the Mission to Seafarers Victoria for another year. 2016 will be a milestone in our progress towards self- sufficiency, as is the goal of our Executive team, so that the Mission may be well resourced to support seafarers into the future.

Nigel Porteous

Acting Chairman



Andrea Fleming

The Mission to Seafarers (MtS) creates a community of connectivity and service for those who are living and working at sea. There are some 60,000 seafarers visiting the Port of Melbourne annually and with little time planned well, a lot can be achieved. This is dependent upon the people and resources available to them.

Seafarers' reliance upon shore based facilities and Ship Visitors is unique to their circumstances. The MtSV's *Ship Visiting Program* has benefited from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority's affiliated *Seafarers' Welfare Council* resources. Welfare providers are now better resourced in responding to seafarers during times of injustice or distress. These tools have had an immediate impact this year.

Whilst not affiliated directly with a parish, the MtSV again called on the faith community to engage in the *Sea Sunday* international day of prayer. Every ship is a multi-faith environment and as we exchange with seafarers from varying parts of the world, prayer is a strong foundation of support for seafarers and in the life of the Mission.

Whilst we report a financial loss this year, it is not without sound progress with the *717 Flinders Street, Building and Restoration Project*. This major project has required additional resources that in the short term, has left a deficit, but in the long term will establish new income. The MtSV awaits a final determination on the terms of its tenure which is being negotiated with State Government still to the end of this year.

The MtSV has thanked Mr. John Billington who headed up the Bendigo and Adelaide Banking Group's Wealth Management Division; the Bendigo Wealth partnership was developed in 2010 with a 2 x 3 year sponsorship of the MtSV's Heritage and Arts Program. John has left to his successor the future of the partnership which has seen the development of the *Dome Gallery* and contributed to the MtSV's Heritage and Arts Program. The stability that comes from philanthropic and corporate partnerships, recognized in the Chairman's Report and the sponsors of the Maritime Art Awards & Exhibition is influenced by many factors and the Mission's income is still very reliant on the generosity of our donors to whom we are most grateful.

2015 is no exception in the reliance on volunteers who support the MtSV's activities and to whom; along with my staff I am most grateful. I would like also to extend thanks to retiring Chairman Malcolm Reed and to Frank Eastaughffe who has been a good mentor to me and great support to the MtSV Board of Management.

Andrea Fleming

Chief Executive Officer

PUBLIC OFFICER'S REPORT



Frank Eastaughffe

There were no incidents during 2015 that were reportable to Consumer Affairs Victoria which administers the Incorporations Act under which we are incorporated.

There were five Board and eight Executive meetings in 2015. I can report that continuing Board members and those elected and appointed at the previous AGM have diligently attended the appropriate meetings.

I am retiring from the Board following the AGM. My thanks to fellow Board of Management members for their support while carrying out my role for the last two years, and also to the Mission's staff and volunteers who have assisted me.

Frank Eastaughffe

Public Officer & Board Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT



Ian Scott

I have pleasure in presenting the Treasurers Report for the calendar year ended 31 December 2015. Operating Revenue was \$851,904, an increase of \$181,549 or 27% on the previous year.

Donations through the Seafarers' Welfare Fund of \$266,396 and income from Investments of \$75,688 were the main contributing categories to revenue for 2015.

Total expenses for the year amounted to \$911,336 an increase on the previous year of \$157,373 or 21%. Additional staffing, consultancy

and an increase in administration expenses was the principal reasons for the overall increase. The Mission incurred a trading loss of \$39,796 for the financial year. The comprehensive result was a total loss of \$128,000 due to an unrealized depreciation of portfolio share valuation.

The Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2015 shows that financial position is well placed for the year ahead with access to liquid funds of \$912,470 through its investments in shares and fixed deposits. The Accumulated Surplus stands at \$1,311,496. The MtSV remains in a strong financial position to continue operations into 2016.

Ian Scott

Treasurer

2015 MTSV SCOPE OF WORKS

1: SEAFARERS WELFARE

The Flying Angel Club, as it is known to seafarers operates daily from 10am – 10pm and provides essential and extended services that include:

On-shore facilities provide

Transportation
 Communications
 Local Information and Referrals
 Personal Supplies
 Recreational Activities

Extended Services include

Pastoral Care
 Ship Visiting

ADVOCACY SUPPORTING SEAFARERS WELFARE:

- Spiritual Wellbeing of Seafarers.
- Mental Wellbeing of Seafarers
- Corporate Social Responsibility



SEAFARING CLIENTAL

All seafarers must speak minimal English to work onboard a ship and it is not unusual for a ship's crew to be made up of 4 – 6 differing nationalities.

Visitation 2015

Filipino's	45%	South Korean	1%	Bulgarian	1%
Chinese	23%	Russian	1%	Indonesian	1%
Indian	13%	Thai	1%	English (UK)	1%
Ukrainian	3%	Romanian	1%	Hong Kong	1%
Myanmar	2%	Sri Lankan	1%	Malaysian	1%
PNG	2%	Australian	1%		
Bangladesh	1%				

INDUSTRY INITIATIVES SUPPORTING SEAFARERS' WELFARE

From 1st July this year new ships had to comply with a revised International Maritime Organisation code, in line with the new MLC (2006) Convention. The code outlines the mandatory maximum noise level limits for machinery operations on board ships. Even moderate noise and vibration can affect comfort and also impact performance in the workplace. New ships will be constructed with noise reduction and, for seafarers finding themselves working in the future with reduced noise we hope that the incidence of *noise induced hearing loss* will decline. It is also anticipated to reduce incidences of *body vibration syndrome*, both related illness can cause long term distress for seafarers.

PORT CHAPLAINCY

Port Chaplaincy operates within a multi-faith environment and is delivered primarily through the Ship Visiting Outreach Program, under the auspice of the Anglican Church. Seafarers live and work in isolated and often dangerous conditions at sea.



Rev. Onofre Punay
Port Chaplain

“Being a Mission to Seafarers Port Chaplain is one of the best jobs in the world. Having the opportunity to interact with seafarers with the intent of goodness is rewarding in itself - outwardly, inwardly, and upwardly - this is after all a calling.

My spiritual coach - a retired Hospital Chaplain - reminded me that Chaplaincy is basically talking and listening and not just a hat you wear from time to time. It is more comparable to wearing a pair of boots which carry you to the people committed to your charge. For me, these are seafarers, some 60,000 crew who visit the Port of Melbourne annually”.

PASTORAL CARE / HOUSE COMMITTEE



Rev. Ken Rogers
Chair, Pastoral / House
Committee

“The Flying Angel Club is diverse in its activities and as a House and Pastoral Care Committee, we discuss a broad range of topics from seafarers’ welfare, services to seafarers, their entertainment during shore leave, the club house operations and pastoral care. The committee also considers the wellbeing of our volunteers, the importance their engagement and training and meeting their varied expectations as members of the MtSV community. Volunteers are vital to all aspects of our work and I extend my appreciation on behalf of the House Committee to all who have contributed their time to the operations of the Flying Angel Club; as a place of welcome and of service to visiting crew.”



On-shore facilities provide recreation, local information and a friendly welcome after long stretches at sea. Importantly the club provides a place for seafarers to relax outside of the confines of the ship and enables them to contact their families at home as well as connect with people for advice, friendship, support and recreation.

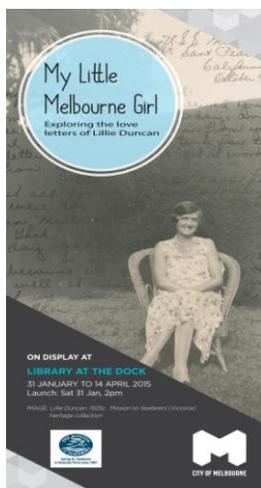
2: HERITAGE PROGRAM

The MtSV founded its Heritage Collection within the building complex in 2010. The collection is assessed by Context Pty Ltd as being of National and State Significance. In 2015 the focus of the program has been to preserve, catalogue and digitize the collection of some 10,000 items and objects. In 2015 a part-time Collections Manager Position was appointed and supported by an Intern Program and volunteers the Heritage Collection has raised new awareness and funding opportunities for the work of the MtSV again this year.

The development of the Collection's Policies and Procedures, and progression through the *Museum's Australia Accreditation Program* has sought external consultancy to achieve stages of the accreditation.

In 2015 the MtSV has received funding from Bendigo Wealth, part of the Bendigo and Adelaide Banking Group and grants through Helen Macpherson Smith Trust, Public Records Office of Victoria and National Library with in-kind support from City of Melbourne. A Heritage Collection Preservation Needs Assessment was conducted by The Centre for Cultural Materials Conservation, the University of Melbourne in May 2015.

HERITAGE PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



My Little Melbourne Girl

Produced in 2015, *My Little Melbourne Girl* exhibition invites the audience into hearts of numerous seafarers whose adoration for Lillie Duncan, a Lady of the Harbour Lights Guild, circa 1920's, is expressed in their letters to her as revealed in the MtSV's Heritage Collection and Archive.

Reminiscent of an era when seafarers had time to 'woo' a lady, take a ride at Luna Park and when whisked back to sea, kept in touch with letters written. The exhibition shares a snapshot of Melbourne's social history during a time when the Mission to Seafarers was supported by the prominent fundraising activities of the Harbour Lights Guild. The exhibition was officially launched in January at Docklands, *Library at The Dock*.

This exhibition follows on from the MtSV's *Reflections of the Sea* exhibition; *"In the new colony of Victoria, leaping to the forefront with the discovery of gold there in 1851, the Victorian Bethel Union and Sailors Mission at Melbourne was founded in 1857, to support the Welfare of seafarers and immigrants, then arriving in their thousands there. KVERKDAL – 1986.* The *Reflections of the Sea* exhibition presents a selection of stained glass windows and historical photographs from the MtSV's Heritage Collection, to capture a glimpse of some of the people and scenes integral to this relationship and was a touring exhibition in 2015.

In 2015 MtSV received a grant from Helen Macpherson Smith Trust to develop its first permanent exhibition to 717 Flinders Street. The *Early Origins* exhibition will be launched in 2016.

3: ARTS PROGRAM

Raising the public's awareness around the plight of seafarers is a challenge and advocacy is sensitive to shipping sponsors. The Arts Program raises awareness for the charity and attracts new awareness annually. The *Maritime Art Awards & Exhibition* and *Dome Gallery*, again in 2015 attracted audiences nationally and internationally to the work of the Mission to Seafarers.

ARTS PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



**Winner ANL Maritime Art Award
Richard Claremont
*Dusk Port Kembla***

ANL Maritime Art Awards and Exhibition featured both traditional and contemporary maritime artworks vying for \$29,000 in sponsored Award Categories including; The ANL Maritime Art Award, ASP Traditional Maritime Art Award, Bendigo Wealth Emerging Artist Award, Svitzer People's Choice Award and Nevile & Co Highly Commended.

Lewis Miller, prominent figurative and portraiture artist with Dr. Nathan Paramanathan, Fellow RMIT (Fine Arts) judged the Awards and winners were announced at a gala opening in November with 300 invited guests attending. The MtSV welcomed some 1200 visitors over the duration of the exhibition.



Dome Gallery

As part of an ongoing research project into the "social life" of souvenirs, Margaret Woodward, Associate Professor of Design Charles Sturt University, project "*The Sea is all around us*", mapped the mobile life of seafarers and seafaring souvenirs.



The MtSV was pleased to welcome the Latin American Arts Collaborative to *Dome Gallery*. The exhibition was opened by The Honorable Telmo Languiller MP who shared his appreciation for both the Latin American artist collaborative and Dome Gallery community arts space hosting the artists.



Touring internationally, the *Maitreya Loving Kindness Tour* was hosted in March, exhibiting ancient relics from Tibet, India and China. Seafarers have have engaged in many ways with the activities hosted at *Dome Gallery*, and the MtSV is thrilled to have provided a diverse calendar of events for their entertainment and interest as well as to the visiting public.

(left) Seafarers enjoying their time interacting with THE SEA ARE ALL AROUND US, Dome Gallery, pictured with Margaret Woodward

OUR COMMUNITY

MISSION TO SEAFARERS AUSTRALIA

MtSV operates as part of a national and international network of support. MtSV representatives; Reverend Ken Rogers, Board of Management, Rev. Onofre Punay, Port Chaplain and Andrea Fleming, CEO attended the national conference hosted in Newcastle with other delegates representing port agencies from around the country as well as MTS London, Secretary General, Andrew Wright and delegates from New Zealand. Key speakers attended from peak industry bodies; Australian Maritime Safety Authority, Maritime Industry Australia Limited, Ports Australia shared their informed views on current and future trends in shipping. Andrea Fleming was elected to the Board of the MtS Australia Council and will serve 3 years as Treasurer; Andrea welcomed the Optus partnership announced at this year's conference, assisting in raising revenue for welfare agencies nationally.

THE ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF MELBOURNE

Sea Sunday International Day of Prayer for Seafarers



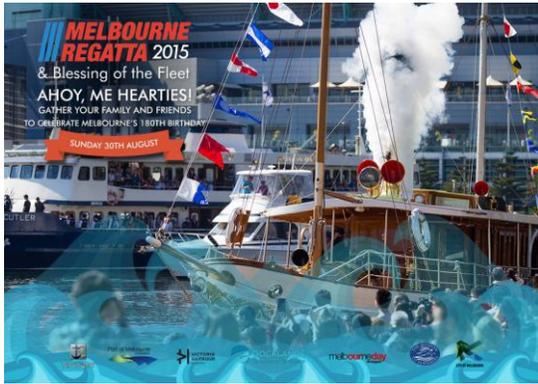
Whilst not linked directly to a parish, the MtSV ministry operates under the auspice of the Anglican Diocese of Melbourne. The MtSV's annual appeal is promoted in conjunction with the *Sea Sunday*, an *International Day of Prayer* and is held in July. In 2015 the appeal was communicated extensively through the Anglican Diocese and his year raised just over \$15,000, a 48% increase in donor giving from the previous year.

The Mission to Seafarers Victoria - Seafarers' Memorial Service

Hosted annually in October at St Paul's Cathedral Melbourne and in conjunction with the Royal Australian Navy, the 2015 Seafarers' Memorial Service was well attended and paid tribute to both merchant and naval seafarers whose lives have been lost at sea in service to Australia as nation.



DOCKLANDS COMMUNITY



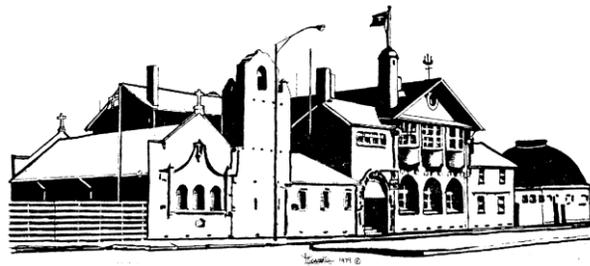
The Mission to Seafarers Victoria operates from the historic 717 Flinders Street building complex located at North Wharf Docklands. In 2015 the MtSV has continued its work to bringing a wealth of maritime heritage and history to our community. In 2012 the MtSV engaged with Docklands to introduce the Melbourne Day Regatta and Blessing of the Fleet. Again in 2015 the MtSV participated in this event and was also a feature for visitors to Docklands during Open House.

The MtSV is a member of the Yarra River Business Association and in 2015 maintains close links with the Docklands Chamber of Commerce.

The MtSV in 2015 has begun communications with Riverlee Pty Ltd, developers of the neighbouring Shed 5 and will continue to collaborate with precinct stakeholders as we plan toward the 2017 Centenary of the building and its proposed restoration and development.

In 2015 functions and events hosted at 717 Flinders Street, were catered for by local Docklands businesses and the facilities have been well utilized with thanks to the North Wharf and World Trade Centre clientele.

In 2015 MtSV has welcomed over 9,000 seafarers to Docklands. The close proximity to South Wharf Direct Factory Outlet is a convenience for seafarers who have also enjoyed the free public transport offered by City of Melbourne. During their short term shore-leave, seafarers find the Mission to Seafarers at Docklands is their “home away from home”.



717 Flinders Street, Docklands

*“We love our lady she does amaze; the years have left her age with grace
For all who come and all who stay, she soothes their soul and sets their sail”*

***Thank you to our donors and supporters
Australia Relies on Seafarers,
Seafarers rely on the Mission, and we rely on you.***

OUR SUPPORTERS

SEAFARERS' WELFARE



MTSV HERITAGE & ARTS PROGRAMS



**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF
THE MISSION TO SEAFARERS VICTORIA INC.**

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of The Mission to Seafarers Victoria Incorporated (the Association), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2015, and the statement of profit and loss and other comprehensive income for the year then ended, statement of cash flows, statement of changes in equity, a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the certification.

Committee member's responsibility for the financial report

The members of the committee are responsible for the preparation of the financial report, and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 is appropriate to meet the financial reporting requirements of its constitution and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The committees' responsibilities also includes such internal control as they determine necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We have conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the internal controls. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the committee members, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified audit opinion.

Basis for Qualified Opinion

As it is common with organisations of this type, it is difficult for the Association to maintain an effective system of internal control over certain cash transactions until their initial entry into the accounting records. Accordingly, our audit of the completeness of those cash transactions was limited to the amounts recorded.