



Ship to Shore

CARING FOR SEAFARERS IN VICTORIAN PORTS SINCE 1857



Sounding Histories and 100 years at 717 Flinders St

September 11 marked 100 years at the beautiful arts and crafts building designed by Walter Butler and built by the hard work and dedication of the Ladies Harbour Lights Guild (LHLG).

Celebrating the LHLG work, the Mission engaged with a number of artists to help us to celebrate the centenary through an exhibition and event called *Sounding Histories*.

Sounding Histories was a collaborative public art event held at the Mission to Seafarers, recognising 100 years of service in the heritage-listed building at 717 Flinders Street, Docklands.

Working across diverse art forms, the project recognised relationships between artists and seafarers; architectural, indigenous and cultural histories; and community via performance, video, archival, installation, sound, participation and text.

Artists and works included Maree Clarke's *Reed canoe*, Bishop & Reis two works: a sound work at the top of the stairs. A recording of someone descending and ascending them. The stairs have a creak that only 100 year old buildings have, and the ghosts who walk them can be heard without a sound installation.

And an interactive work at the bar with a video of the sea gently lapping at your feet on the beach.

Catherine Bell's *The Sea-fairer Sex* (2017). A site responsive installation. Bookcase, twenty-six mugs depicting female sailors and newspaper articles about women in seafaring, tea caddy and biscuit tins circa 1920, and framed photos of women sailors.

This installation explored a global history of women in seafaring. *My feminist approach* was inspired by the omission of women's contribution to seafaring in this space. Ironically the Mission's continued survival relied heavily on the entrepreneurial and charitable endeavours of the Ladies Light



Harbour Guild in the early 1900's - 1960's and their tireless fundraising.

Generated specifically for the chapel, Michael Needham's work consisted of two sculptural components: a pile of cast-lead rocks in the centre isle on the floor at the rear of the chapel, the other a large floating anchor, constructed with light-gauge steel and found, artificial cemetery flowers. Suspended from the ceiling trusses in the vestry immediately before altar, the work aims to respond to the function of the chapel as a sanctuary, a temporary ground - physically, symbolically, spiritually - for nomadic workers of the sea for 100 years...

The Rogue Academy hosted Dinner Conversations for the volunteers and their families. Members of the public and seafarers were invited to join the dinner as spaces arose, joined the conversation as to why they volunteer and there was a great display of seafarers showing how they create knots that added to the atmosphere.

Amanda Shone and Fiona Lee drew upon the rich history of the volunteer group

Ladies of the Harbour Light's Guild, as hosting dinners traditionally supported and strengthened the community and became the lifeblood of the Mission.

A packed audience in the Dome room witnessed Michael Graeve's sound installation and performance.

The evening was topped off with a performance by *Painters and Dockers* (see pic), who raised the roof with their performance of *Nude School*.



Amanda Shone and Fiona Lee
- The Rogue Academy

Chairman's Message

In September 2017, our extraordinary building celebrated its **centenary**, and with it commences a year of commemorative events – to mark its contribution to the lives of visiting seafarers and to Melbourne as Australia's premier port city; to express appreciation for the foresight and hard work of those who made it happen and those who have served as volunteers, clergy and staff over the years; and to look forward to the next one hundred years of service.

The year of commemorations will provide a chance to showcase the building and our work. They will also launch fundraising for the building's restoration and refurbishment - in concert with the Government of Victoria, and also with our colleagues in delivering and supporting services to seafarers, colleagues who we hope to join us at a refurbished site in a joint Melbourne Seafarers Centre.

Our fundraising will also tell the story of Melbourne's seafaring **history**, linking the treasures of our heritage

collection with the wider precinct of Seafarers Rest, the old wharves and the Polly Woodside Park.

There is much to do, and many challenges, but we are confident that together we can create a Seafarers Centre for another century.

In the meantime, our core business of seafarers welfare goes from strength to strength. The Chaplain, *Rev Inni Punay*, and the small army of ship visiting and Club volunteers, have delivered a measured higher 'touch' – more meaningful contacts with visiting seafarers - over the past year than ever recently recorded.

The last few months have also seen **great change in the operation of the Mission**. The Mission's long-standing Chief Executive, *Andrea Fleming* has departed. Without her vision, drive and service over a decade, the Mission would not be as successful and well-placed as it is today, and so able to plan with confidence for the next century.

The Board is honoured to extend our great thanks to Andrea for all she done, and wish her the best for her next big challenges.

The Board, and Chief Manager Sue Dight, have taken the opportunity to reconsider staffing arrangements for the Mission, and a new Club host, *Daria Wray*, has just joined the Mission. Sue has been doing a job well and above her part-time ostensible commitment, and for that the Board is very appreciative.

His colleagues on the Board and all staff also can thank enough *Nigel Porteous*, who has volunteered so much time and effort during this period of change.

Lastly, the Board is also pleased to thank the new *Port of Melbourne Corporation* for committing its ongoing support to the Mission. The new operators have kept to a fine tradition!

Board Member Profile: Ian Fletcher

How did you become involved in MtSV?

I met Andrea Fleming at a business lunch where she described the role of the Mission and some years later I saw the film Captain Phillips (organized by MtSV) and five years ago became a volunteer.

What was your main career and why did you choose that career?

I was brought up and educated in UK and came out with my wife to Australia in 1964. I was employed by Coates Bros – a company manufacturing printing ink – and we began living in Melbourne and then moved to Sydney in 1966. After Coates, I joined the Packaging Industry making aluminum cans with Comalco, tinplate cans with Containers Ltd and flexible packaging with Leigh Mardon in Sydney. I gained a degree from UTS in Management specializing in Quality Control and Assurance. In 1979, I joined Zerak – part of Sands & McDougall – and we moved back to Melbourne in 1984.

In 1986, I joined Australian Paper Manufacturers (later Amcor) and in 1994 I joined Cello Paper. Around the year 2000, I commenced my own company – Fleetpack – which was a consultancy/packaging sales agency and wound it down in 2008. I am still very involved and interested in issues involving packaging.

What are some of your career highlights professionally?

In 1975, I joined the Australian Institute of Packaging and became involved in the administration by joining the committee in NSW. I was President of the Australian Institute of Packaging in 1990 and served on the AIP Board and committees until 2008. I have been involved in the Packaging Industry for most of my working life and I am still an active member of the Institute.



What is your key motivation for being part of MtSV?

I enjoy meeting the seafarers as they visit MtSV and like to assist in making their visit worthwhile.

I rather enjoy being involved in the Mission at this time of the centenary of the Building as it is such an important milestone in the Mission's history.

Ian is now the Chair of the Flying Angel Club committee.

The Mission farwells Andrea

Andrea Fleming our long serving CEO and senior staff member for the past 10 years decided to seek “new horizons” and other opportunities in her career and finished up with us on May 31st.

Following Andrea’s announcement to all supporters and stakeholders in May, the Mission held a farewell BBQ function for her on June 1st, attended by board members, staff, volunteers, and friends.

While it was a sad occasion this was also an opportunity to formally thank and congratulate Andrea for her longstanding, untiring and dedicated work in support of seafarers’ welfare, for which she has been a highly vocal advocate. Through her urging, the shipping industry and other stakeholders understand the importance and unfailing efforts that are put in by our volunteers, staff and board members to undertake this commitment to those whose lives take them away from their families and loved ones, for long periods of time, and on occasions are subjected to dangers and deprivation when plying their profession and jobs. Andrea has never wavered from repeating that message.

To assist with this support and work, she has also put the Mission to Seafarers Victoria firmly in the minds of many stakeholders and the public in general. In particular Andrea has worked very hard promoting our now globally acknowledged annual Maritime Art Exhibition, and the Maritime Heritage Collection, and the various other art and public historical exhibitions over many years. In addition she has constantly advocated the opportunities that our iconic building now presents, to further enhance our opportunities to secure long term financial sustainability.

Andrea has also always vehemently advocated to the shipping industry, corporations, governments, etc. to recognise how much we all depend on ships, and more particularly, the men and women who sail on them. She will never depart from that stance, as it is firmly now in her persona and character. As Andrea quoted in the June issue of Docklands News in their tribute to her “Who is Andrea without the Mission?”

The Board of Management, staff and volunteers thank Andrea for

everything she has done for our seafarers, and for all of the dedicated work over the years to support the cause. We all wish her well, and will pray for her in her new endeavours, and for a successful future career.



Winners are Grinners

This year the Mission to Seafarers has been recognised for the hard work and dedication of the staff team and the volunteers and has been awarded a number of prizes.

The Heritage team led ably by Jay Miller were awarded the Victorian Collections Award for Excellence in Museum Cataloguing. The awards are presented by Museums Australia (Victoria), the peak body for more than 1,000 museums and collecting organisations in our State. They also reward and encourage best practice by individuals and organisations, and recognise the value of museums within the community.

The Victorian Collections database is an online portal used by organisations such as the MtSV to catalogue their collections and made available for viewing online.

The MtSV was also delighted and honoured to be recognised as a leader in the community sector with its selection as a Victorian finalist for the 2017 Telstra Victorian Charity Award, a category in the Telstra Annual Business Awards.

In its 25th year, the Telstra Business Awards showcases and celebrates the achievements and entrepreneurial spirit of Australia’s most inspiring small and medium businesses and charities.

This is an amazing recognition of the Mission’s work and a testament to the dedication of our board, our staff team, our financial supporters and our

volunteers across many years who believe in the importance of what we do.

In 2016, the Mission saw over 8,000 Seafarers through our doors and this year are on target to see over 9,000. Plus through the Ship visiting program we also cared for many thousands more.

Telstra Group Executive and Awards Ambassador, Kevin Russell, said: “This year, we are delighted to be celebrating 25 years of the Telstra Business Awards and all that Australian businesses and charities contribute to our economy and way of life. They inspire us with their relentless pursuit of finding new and better ways to do things through their resilience, the courage to take risks and an incredible talent and commitment.”

To see the great work of the team go to <https://missiontoseafarers.com.au/heritage>

To join the Heritage team to assist in archiving more of the collection we hold contact Jay, jay.miller@missiontoseafarers.com.au. Let’s make our archive available to all!



LEADING MARITIME ART AWARDS WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Ted Dansey was declared the winner of Australia's leading maritime art award, the ANL Maritime Art Prize. The Awards & Exhibition, run by the Melbourne Mission to Seafarers Victoria (MtSV) was opened at a gala event in October.

The Mission to Seafarers Victoria ANL Maritime Art Awards and Exhibition is a celebratory initiative, recognising excellence in maritime and seafaring subjects in art. The awards showcase artists who have created pieces based on the theme, *'the Relationship between Humanity and the Sea'*.

Since their inception in 2002, the awards have grown significantly in size and recognition and this year's submissions have been received from across Australia.

"The ANL Maritime Art exhibition is a key fundraiser for the MtSV. We rely on the support of the artists, the sponsors and the art community in raising funds. "We were thrilled with the response by the artists to the theme with both traditional and contemporary works," said Chief Manager, Sue Dight.

"The exhibition promotes all things maritime, not just ships, and helps raise awareness for seafarers' welfare."

This year a total prize amalgamation of \$29,000 was awarded to artists across five categories.

This year's winners were selected by the ANL

Art Prize Awards Judging panel:

- David Milne (Artist),
- Graeme H Williams (CIMAM),
- Julie Collins (Artistic Director- Biennale of Australian Art) and
- Ashley Lumb (Curator at BlueThumb).



The acquisitive 'ANL Maritime Art Award' – "Workhorse on the Orwell" by Ted Dansey



The non-acquisitive Neville & Co 'Runners up' – Chris Rowe – 'Guardians of an Unknown Port'.



The acquisitive ASP 'Best in Traditional Maritime Art Award' – Mary Hyde – "Another Cargo Loaded"



Viva Energy People's Choice Award Bridgit Thomas - 'Ship Spotting'



The acquisitive DP World Australia 'Emerging Artist Award' – Jamie Preisz – 'Self Portrait as the Blind Captain'.

Highly Commended

- Gillian Lodge - 'We are Sailing'
- Jane Flowers - 'Passage'
- Jennifer Viney - 'West Swanston Dock'
- Rodney Forbes - 'Little Waterfront'

Second Place

Robert J Williams - "Telegraph"

Commended

- Bridgit Thomas - 'Ship Spotting'
- Pat McKenzie - '55° S'
- Robert J Williams - 'Telegraph'

Special Commendations

- Jennifer Viney - 'West Swanston Dock'
- Julie Cane - 'Afternoon Stroll'
- Louise Price - 'Melbourne Bound'

Proudly sponsored by:



Caring for Seafarers in Victorian Ports since 1857

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

If there is a Santa, who are his real elves?



Did you know that there are 60,000 elves visiting the Port of Melbourne each year?

The amount of goods and services being delivered to Melbourne and beyond is over 90,000 million tonnes a year. That includes

the gifts you plan on giving, the baubles on your tree, the cloth on your table.

Did you send a gift overseas? That probably went by sea if you sent it early enough. Who are these elves that are taking care to ensure you have a great Christmas this year – SEAFARERS!

How can you thank these hard working elves that don't have the luxury of flying reindeer to magically whisk them home for a glass of milk and cookies with their families this Christmas? By making a donation to the Mission to Seafarers we can offer them some hospitality, a small gift and a smile and laugh when they connect with home and family via our computers.

This year the Mission needs:

- 5 new headsets for the computers so seafarers can skype home
- \$600 to repair the cloth and cues on the billiard table
- Gifts of new books, iTunes/Google apps cards (for downloading the latest games and videos)
- Stamps to send cards and letters home (yes they do still do that)

AND DONATIONS to ensure we can keep our buses running, the coffee flowing for the wonderful volunteers to keep them caffeinated, and to ensure we have qualified ship visitors and our Chaplain on board to comfort the seafarers who aren't home for Christmas this year.

Please complete the back page and send it to us.

Retirements



Right Rev. Bishop Jeremy Ashton is retiring from the Board of the MtSV after many years of service. During his time on the board Jeremy has seen many changes in the Seafarers who visit the Mission and with his dedicated team of knitters in Bendigo has provided many beanies to keep their heads warm.

His gentle guidance, support for the management team and sharp wit will be missed. We wish Betty and Jeremy many happy journeys.



Right Rev. Ken Rogers has also resigned his position on the Board due to ill health. Ken has led the Pastoral and House Committees for many years to ensure the running of the Flying Angel Club has had a smooth transition over management changes.

The Seafarers Memorial Service

On 22nd of October the 110th Memorial service for Seafarers was held at St Paul's Cathedral, Melbourne.

Attended by the guest of honour, Chief of Navy Tim Barrett AO CSC RAN, and representatives from the Royal Australian Navy, Merchant Navy, Parliament, Port Authorities and Mission to Seafarers; the Dean blessed their work, and our ports, and we gave thanks for a century in our lovely building and 160 years of outreach to seafarers through the Mission to Seafarers.

Keep the date free for next year: **21st October, 2018**



His dedication to awareness and fund-raising during the Sea Sunday campaigns has been unwavering, and we hope that the new appointees to the Board take up the cause with as much gusto.

Our prayers and thoughts are with Susan, Ken and family during this difficult time.



Crew wellbeing is bottom of CSR list

Responsibility and the seas

The shipping industry is increasingly adopting Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) principles but a new study has revealed that many of the programs adopted by the world's biggest containership companies fail to put much emphasis on the human element. Dr Lijun Tang, from Plymouth University, told the conference that CSR helps to protect a company's image and reputation, as well as reinforcing risk management, with proactive strategies to ensure that social and environmental concerns are integrated within business operations.

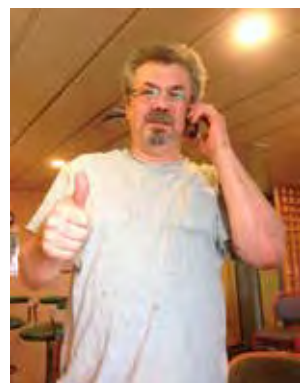
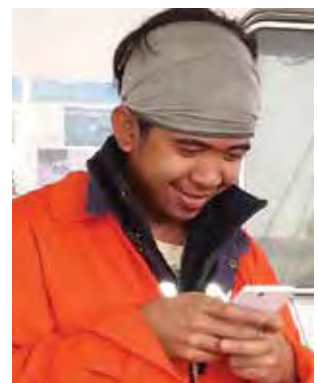
He said CSR is important for container shipping, given its central role in global trade, and with development such as the Maritime Labour Convention, MARPOL and customer pressure focusing attention on the industry's performance in social and environmental areas. Dr Tang analyzed the CSR records of the world's top 15 container shipping companies, using the results to place them in one of three categories: low CSR development; medium CSR development; and a top tier of more comprehensive CSR development.

The four companies in the lowest category all had some form of environmental policies, he noted, while their social concerns largely related to charities and supporting local communities. These companies made little or no mention of labour issues, such as occupational health and safety and human resources.

Hapag-Lloyd described how it goes beyond the basic requirements for safety

training, including an annual workshop for ship commands, while Hamburg Sud told how it gives its officers the chance to study for degree-level occupational training qualification. Only three Japanese companies and the Chinese operator COSCO reported on seafarer welfare and family issues, he added, and only three companies - COSCO, Yang Ming and Evergreen- reported on their work to monitor issues related to social security for their seafarers. It appears that CSR is prioritizing environmental issues, followed by safety, and seafarer issues such

as development, education and training, welfare and social security are the least important,' Dr Tang pointed out. His research had shown a big variation in the CSR policies being pursued in shipping- and that the stage of development of their programs is unrelated to the size of the company, with some major operators, such as MSC lacking a 'fully-fledged' policy. Although the MLC is setting requirements for 'human' issues, he said the treatment of seafarers is not being prioritized because of an absence of 'market drivers' to put pressure on companies.

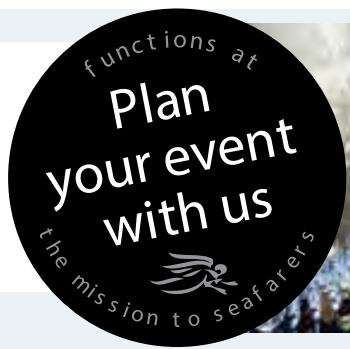


DID YOU KNOW?

The MtSV offers a 20% discount on venue hire fees to Community and Not for Profit Organisations.

Contact: marketing@missiontoseafarers.com.au

20% OFF



Lend Lease Community Day

Lendlease's Melbourne Quarter project team helped with maintenance of Mission to Seafarers on its community day on September 14.

A team of dozens of employees carried out painting, cleaning, gardening and general maintenance and tidy up at the 100-year-old heritage building on Flinders St, Docklands.

Lendlease's community day is held across Lendlease offices around the world every September, when more than 5000 employees and families work on more than 350 projects.

Since the initiative started in 1966, Lendlease's staff and volunteers have given more than 600,000 hours of help.

"Melbourne Quarter is the newest part of the Docklands community and we are very keen to connect with Mission to Seafarers, which is among the oldest parts of the community that been here for over 100 years," Brian

Herlihy, Melbourne Quarter's project director, said.

"It's all about giving back to the communities that we are in and building the connection with our neighbours. Engaging with Mission to Seafarers is part of building that community identity and bond," he said.

Mission to Seafarers' Chief Manager, Sue Dight, said Lendlease's effort would help the mission look fresher.

"It provides our volunteers and visiting seafarers with a clean and comfortable space and provides the mission a reinvigorated energy that we wanted to see," Ms Dight said.

Article via Dockland News



Government House Afternoon Tea

On September 14 the Governor of Victoria, the Hon. Linda Dessau AC welcomed The Board, the team and some of the Friends of the Mission to Government House for morning tea. As Patron of the MtsV the Governor acknowledged the contribution of the Mission to Seafarers coming to Victoria and our

marking our 160 years of service to the Seafaring community. The Mission Bus delivered us to Government House in fine style with Charlie Grima Carmel, a volunteer of many years standing, driving.



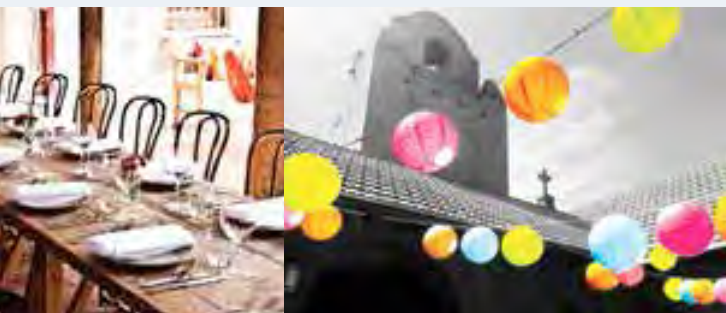
Chairman Neil Edwards presenting a commemorative LHLG pin to the Hon. Linda Dessau AC



Max Hall, The Governor, Neil and Elizabeth Edwards



L-R: Archbishop Dr Philip Frier, Ken Rogers, The Governor, Max Hall, Rev Inni Punney, Walter Dewe, Neil Edwards



**WEDDINGS
PARTIES
EVERYTHING**

**CONFERENCES
MEETINGS
FUNCTIONS**

Somalia piracy 'is on a knife-edge'

Somalia piracy is 'on a knife-edge' and the next few weeks could determine whether the threat to shipping in the region has returned with a vengeance, military experts warned last month.

Seafarers and shipowners need to increase their vigilance and redouble the efforts to comply with Best Management Practices in the face of a recent flurry of actual and attempted attacks off the coast of the troubled east African nation, the Oceans Beyond Piracy (OBP) conference in London was told.

Dirk Siebels, co-author of OBP'S annual report on the state of maritime piracy, said there is evidence showing that shipping companies have cut back on security in response to a downturn in attacks off Somalia between 2014 and the start of this year. The percentage of vessels carrying armed guards fell by around 12.5% to less than 33% during 2016, and the number carrying three armed guards instead of four rose sharply during the same period.

Colonel Richard Cantrill, chief of staff of the EU Naval Force, described the



Image via Clarke University

recent increase in incidents as worrying-warning that the situation will be on a knife-edge over the next few weeks, with resurgence of attacks possible if pirates succeed in hijacking a vessel and its crew before the monsoon season.

OBP regional manager John Steed added; 'The original investors in Somalia piracy appear to be testing the waters

and testing the industry's resolve to see if they can get away with resuming their activities.'

BIMCO's chief maritime security officer Giles Noakes said he was concerned that some ships had become complacent and it was ridiculous that vessels had been sailing within 10nm of Somalia.

In-service training day

Wednesday 28th June was a first for the Melbourne Mission to Seafarers. **Bishop Brad Billings**, director of Theological Studies for the Anglican Diocese of Melbourne brought all his charges to the Mission for a day of in-service training. The new clergy, who have been ordained in the past year came for the day. MTSV **Chaplain Inni Punay** gave a Welcome Address at the opening service and Board Member **Rev'd Ken Rogers** gave tour of the Mission and answered questions. Most had never even heard of the Mission to Seafarers nor been to the Centre. The Archbishop. **Most Rev'd Dr. Philip Frier**, President of the State Council of the Mission, came after lunch and led the afternoon workshop.

Bishop Billings was so pleased with the day that he plans now to bring each new batch of Ordinands every second year to



Informal discussion groups formed for the day of in-service training

the Mission. "We are delighted for the coverage this will give the Mission in the Parishes, hands on, as it were." Ken Rogers said.

Among the Ordinands was **Ms. E. Bitanga** from the St. Andrews Theological Seminary, Philippines, here



Chaplain Inni Punay, Archbishop Dr. Philip Frier, Ms. E. Bitanga

for experience in the Australian Church.

She and our Chaplain, Rev'd Inni Punay, came from the same part of the Islands and had a lot to chat about, especially the Seminary where he trained and she attends.

CREW FATIGUE - A real killer on the seas

The UK Maritime & Coastguard Agency has published two new research reports on the impact of fatigue associated with different watchkeeping patterns.

One of the studies looked at seafarers working an eight hours on/eight hours off pattern onboard five dredgers, while the other used predictive software modeling to analyze five different two-watch systems and three different three-watch systems.

Announcing the findings last month, the MCA said it 'considers seafarer fatigue to be a potentially serious issue which is detrimental to safety at sea and the health of seafarers.

'A particular concern is the need to improve our knowledge of fatigue science and how this can be applied to the management and mitigation of fatigue.'

The first study found that the eight/eight watch pattern is much better than six-on/six-off in terms of the quantity and quality of the sleep obtained. Researchers found that seafarers also experienced less stress and sleepiness on the eight/eight system.

The second study- which also investigated the working patterns of selected tug crews-concluded that the Royal Navy's 'dog watch' system has the lowest risk of seafarers falling asleep during work, with 12-on/12-off having the highest risk. Researchers also found that 'five and dime' system (5/5/4/5/5) and the four-on /eight off patterns had lower risks than any of the two-watch systems.

Researchers also warned that the study of tug crews had shown how removing the opportunity to take a nap may have significant effects on the risk of falling asleep, as well as the importance of individual seafarers' circadian rhythms- especially those who are described as 'morning types'.

The MCA stressed that the research should not be taken as definitive, but said the find-



ings could offer 'useful guidance to companies who wish to evaluate their current watch systems'

Ship-owners have launched a new version of a software package which aims to help seafarers ensure that they do not break work and rest time rules.

ISF Watchkeeper 3.5, unveiled by the International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) and IT Energy last month, is designed to promote compliance with international regulations for recording individual work hours, to help combat fatigue and to avoid problems with port state control.

The new version of the software, which was first developed almost 20 years ago, has been upgraded with new features including: a working schedule planning tool; a method to take account of international dateline crossings: the capture of non-conformance activity; multi-language key reports; and STCW 2010 'Manila Exceptions' calculations.

IT Energy MD Michael Papageorge said the program is 'now more effective than ever at taking care of the full range of onboard requirements for demonstrating compliance with crew work and rest hour regulations.'

As part of the update, substantial improvements have also been made to Watchkeeper Online, the sister product for shore-based personnel.

Nautilus senior national secretary Allan Graveson commented: 'The software merely records the sort of working hours which were associated with Stalin's gulags. Martha, the package developed through the Project Horizon research, will give an indication of fatigue that is not in compliance with regulatory requirements.

I'm sure that seafarers will be reassured to know that 38-hour working week will be accurately recorded with STCW 2010 "Manila Exceptions" calculation improvements', he added.



Welcome to Daria Wray, Daria has joined the team as the Club Assistant and is the events guru to ensure any event you hold at the Mission is a special occasion.

Do you have a passion?
What skills do you have
that are transferable?

The Mission is actively seeking volunteers to take up a number of roles and one off jobs to help us keep the Mission a vibrant and happy place to welcome seafarers. There are no age restrictions!

Currently seeking people to:

- Restore the garden furniture – sanding and staining
- Clean the windows occasionally
- Drive the buses – 4 hours per week
- Host in the clubrooms – 4 hours per week
- Get trained as a ships visitor
- Database management - 2 hours per week

Sea Sunday at Port Albert

**Former Board Member
Rev'd Ken Rogers reports ...**

Port Albert is steeped in a rich maritime history having been the cornerstone of the land transport connections in the early 1800's.

Home of the Gippsland Maritime Museum and numerous outdoor items from the shipping and fishing industries.

Each July the local Anglicans host a Sea Sunday luncheon and Service. This year it was my privilege, accompanied by my wife Susan, to be present and the Guest Speaker.

A fine feast with lovely locals, a presentation of a generous donation to the Mission and the gift of 25 woolen beanies were received.

Rev'd Jo White, Rector of the Yarram Anglican Parish, lead the Service and did the presentations.



Rev'd Ken Rogers with Rev'd Jo White at Port Albert

Our work is valuable to the seafarers away from their homes: Please continue to Support our Mission - We THANK YOU!

World News in Brief

Seafarers stranded off India

38 Indian and Pakistani seafarers were stranded on two Panama-flagged tankers off the coast of Kandla, in west India. The Nautical Global VII and Nautical Global XVI were both arrested in February in a dispute between the owners and the charterers.

Seafarers on the two ships say they had not been paid for six months and provisions ran so low that the master had to appeal to the Kandla port authority for food and water supplies.

A seafarer owed six month of wages tried to jump from his ship because of concerns he would be unable to provide for his family. Captain Suchittar Kumar Sharma, master of Nautical Global XVI, said shipmates had managed to persuade the crewman not to jump. 'We told him his life was more precious for his family', he said.

'Life is hell,' Capt Sharma added. 'There is no sign of our money, our families are starving and the men want to go home.'

The crews have filed a petition on their wages in the high court and 26 of them were repatriated last month. Captain Sanat Kumar Shukla, of the Kandla mercantile marine department, said other were remaining onboard because they feared losing their wages if they left their vessel.

Joseph Chako, from the Kandla Seafarers Welfare Association said: 'It was a jail-like situation on the ship, but even in jail you get food and there they were even deprived food for some time. Their welfare must be looked at because they are in distressed state. They don't know what their future holds.'

Crew's US ordeal is over

The last six members of the crew of a Flag of Convenience ship detained in the US port of Baltimore returned home after being stuck on the vessel for nearly nine months!

The Malta-registered asphalt tanker *Newlead Granadino* was detained by the US Coast Guard in September last year after suffering engine problems and failing a port state control inspection.

Local International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF) inspector Barbara Shipley and the Baltimore International Seafarers' Centre intervened after the crew reported that they were running out of food and water, and were owed five months' wages.

"At one stage, the seafarers had been forced to fish in the harbour for food. They were also unable to go ashore because of US security rules."

Twelve of the crew returned home in January and the remaining six were repatriated to the Philippines in July after the 5,887dwt vessel was sold by a bank.

During their ordeal, the crew received strong support from the local community. The Seafarers International Union stored and sorted numerous donations of warm clothing and food, local pilots and tug companies helped to deliver supplies and facilitate welfare visits. One company provided free internet to the ship, and the Apostleship of the Sea donated a television and other items.

This crew has been amazing. The conditions that they've lived with and tolerated is just unbelievable,' said Ms Shipley. 'They've been so happy and they've been so positive and I'm very thankful for everyone that's stepped up and helped out.'

News from the Heritage Collection

We recently welcomed a visit by Gary Coles to the MtSV Heritage Archive. Mr Coles very generously presented to us a reference copy of a detailed family History* co authored by him with his sister Ms. Sue Cuerden.

Mr Coles is a descendant of Captain J.G. Coles, a signatory to the very important "Letter of Petition" signed by 21 Ship's Captains in 1897 and presented to Chaplain Ebenezer James and the Mission committee at that time. A facsimile of this document is displayed in the MtsV main clubroom.

J.G. Coles captained the notable clipper "Mermerus" one of the most regular and reliable ships conveying the important 19th C. Australian wool exports.

Captain Coles also served as Chief Mate on the vessel and with a good



Mr G. Coles and Ros Fletcher inspect the facsimile copy of the 1897 Captain's Petition at MtSV

understanding of the demands of sailing, was also noted for his concern for the welfare of the crew both aboard and ashore.

This interesting connection with the Captain was made thanks to the patient research of our heritage volunteer, Ros Fletcher. Ros was able to show Gary the facsimile petition (pictured) and introduced him to the MtSV building and the heritage collection.



The Clipper "Mermerus"

*Ref: * Coles, G and Cuerden, S (2015) "Close Relations" - self Published*

Open Day: Melbourne gets a chance to see the Mission



Each year, the Open House Melbourne weekend offers the residents and visitors a chance to see inside the significant buildings of our fair city.

Our Mission is on this open list. This year we had opportunity to take crowds through the Mission along with music and entertainment, discussions, poster displays, tea & coffee and of course, we had a great opportunity to showcase

the wonderful Mission Dome and Chapel to a new crowd.

Overall, we had over 600 people come through, all delighted in the fact that this wonderful architectural marvel still exists. It took their spirits back to an era when our city was ever so dependent on the docks that surrounded the Mission and reminded them of the important work and heritage our service still provides.



Mission volunteers: Will you join us?



Caring for Seafarers
in Victorian Ports since 1857

To date in 2017, the Mission to Seafarers has welcomed crew from over 25 countries. The doors that welcome seafarers to Melbourne open onto an elegant terrazzo floor in the foyer, functional for the most rugged of sea-going 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 dulllest Melbourne day.

This year in Ship to Shore magazine celebrates 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.

Dates for diaries, 2018:

March	2018 Gala Dinner
April	ANL Maritime Art Awards Call for Entries
April - May	Australian Heritage Festival
July 8	Sea Sunday
July 28 - 29	Open House Melbourne
September	Centenary Celebrations close
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 & Instagram pages:



facebook/missiontoseafarersvic



mts_vic

Seafarers' centres

Melbourne

717 Flinders Street
Docklands VIC 3008

t. 61 3 9629 7083

Geelong

MTS Flying Angel Club
7 The Esplanade
North Shore 3214

t/f. (03) 5278 6985

Hastings

Bayview Rd (PO Box 209)
Hastings 3915

t. (03) 5979 4327

f. (03) 5979 4676

Portland

PO Box 538
Portland 3305

t. (03) 5523 2776

f. (03) 5523 5590

www.missiontoseafarers.com.au



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 #: _____ Expiry date: _____ / _____

Name: _____ CCV #: _____

Address: _____

Suburb: _____ 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

Please contact us to receive an electronic version of "Ship To Shore"