



Ship to Shore



MISSION TO SEAFARERS VICTORIA Inc. CARING FOR SEAFARERS IN VICTORIAN PORTS SINCE 1857 WINTER EDITION : 2020

SPECIAL EDITION

Australia relies on shipping and seafarers to connect to the world and to bring goods to our homes for the economy to thrive, and for the health of our island nation.

The unsung heroes of global trade are the more than 1.6 million seafarers working at this very moment. They ensure that we're supplied with food, fuel and important everyday necessities such as vital medical equipment - not only through the COVID-19 pandemic, but every day of the year.

The Mission to Seafarers provides welfare services to support the tireless work, isolation and hardships faced by those seafarers. Your support is needed now more than ever. Simple things like a hand knitted beanie or favourite treats from the supermarket can bring a smile to a seafarers' face, and a warmth to their heart.

See inside for the many ways that you can help support the work of the Mission to Seafarers.



ENTRIES ARE NOW OPEN FOR THE MARITIME ART PRIZE AND EXHIBITION

This year's Maritime Art Prize and Exhibition holds even greater significance due to the theme artists are asked to respond to during this worldwide pandemic; The Relationship of Humanity to the Sea.

The event is a major fundraising initiative of the Mission to Seafarers. The generosity of our sponsors who provide the prize money and other in-kind contributions, and the artists who pay an entrance fee and a commission

on all works that are sold, ensures the continued success and wide popularity of the Maritime Art Awards and Exhibition and in turn, contributes vital funds so that we can continue to support seafarers.

We look forward to the support of the shipping industry, the creative community, and friends of the Mission to ensure the continued success of this annual event.



2020 MARITIME ART PRIZE & EXHIBITION

Call for Entries

18 YEARS OF EXCELLENT MARITIME ART
163 YEARS OF SERVICE IN MELBOURNE

\$20,000 in Prize Money
Maritime, Traditional, Emerging Artist
and People's Choice Categories

Entries Close 31st August

Exhibition 2nd-18th October 2020
missiontoseafarers.com.au/art-prize

Thank a Seafarer Today!

Remember when the postie used to bring you a nice surprise in the post?

Imagine not getting any post, or not being able to go home, or only have a fleeting opportunity to get a message.

Seafarers are doing it tough at the moment and need to connect with the world. Our goal is to connect people across the world through postcards - independently of their country, age, gender, race or beliefs. We are thankful for all we have and now is your chance to thank a seafarer directly.

We have included a postcard for you to fill in and send back to us. Your cards will then be passed on to a seafarer in a care pack.

If you include your name and return address, they may even write back to you! You might find a new Pen Pal, or at the very least put a smile on a face.

Please also keep knitting those Beanies and sending in your donations for us to supply treats to the crews.



We are also looking for a new data projector that is compatible with smart technology and can zoom!



Maritime Super
OUR FUTURE



Your industry super fund

Maritime Super is one of Australia's longest running super funds having provided financial security to generations of members.

We're also part of the Industry SuperFunds collective that carry the symbol you can trust — run only to benefit members.

We're all about helping members make the most of their super, that's why we are the fund of choice for maritime workers.

To learn more about Maritime Super or how to join — call us on **1800 757 607**



APPOINTMENTS MUST BE MADE
Book ahead to visit
Call or contact us to arrange access to any areas or a tour

20-50 people
NUMBERS ARE LIMITED
All rooms have limits on how many people can be in each space
You must not exceed capacity
4sqm per person per room

YOU MUST SIGN IN TO VISIT
The register is inside the front door of the main hall
Everyone must sign in with their name and number for contract tracing

RESPECTING SPACE
Keep all spaces clean and sanitised
If using a space within the Mission you must clean and sanitise the space before and after use

PROTOCOLS ARE IN PLACE FOR EVERYONE'S HEALTH
To keep shipping going we must protect the seafarers and the people working at the Mission.

MISSIONTOSEAFARERS.COM.AU



Chief Manager's Message

Thank you for your ongoing support

As we slowly emerge from the COVID-19 lockdown the Mission is now ready to receive visitors once more. We have used the time wisely and have painted, tidied-up, refreshed, updated and also reconsidered several areas within the Mission.

Through a grant from the Vera Moore Trust we transformed the Baggage Room into an archive space. New floors, storage equipment (including a compactus), art storage and blinds for the space have been purchased and installed. New locks and computers will keep the information and items safe. Even the seagulls can't get in!

This has freed up space upstairs for another meeting room for bookings, and through tidying up we have reinstated the Ladies Lounge on the ground floor. A grant from the City of Melbourne gave us the opportunity to replace the well-worn stage curtains, which means we can draw them for performances in the future and better soundproof the Main Hall. Work continues with the replacement of the floor and carpet in the Celia Little Room.

The windows in the Chapel, and others around the place that were cracked or mismatched have been repaired or had the glazing replaced. Screens are now in place across all of the stained glass to protect it from stone chips.

The most noticeable difference is that the scaffolding is down and the whole front of the building received a new render. It looks spectacular, and there is an anti-graffiti coating on it so hopefully we will not see the damage of the past. We are working on grants to have the memorial plaques on the front repaired, and in one case replaced. Maureen is replanting the Garden where we had to remove plants and the Rev'd Inni turned his hand to repointing the paving in the Courtyard.

The Mission team have been employed during the last couple of months through the generosity of our supporters and the JobKeeper program. Without both we would not have been able to keep everyone on. Our volunteers have been missed, and we look forward to slowly able to welcome them back at the end of this month.

The seafarers have not been ignored at all during this time. Rev'd Inni has been kept very busy with social media and direct contact with hundreds of seafarers all over the world, and our Venue Operations Manager Ben and I have been busy shopping for everything from toothbrushes to chess sets and PlayStation games, but I think the strangest item was a volleyball.

Shore Leave for the seafarers is still away off as are crew change overs. More than 300,000 seafarers are working beyond their contracts. Travel bans and quarantine mean there is no way of leaving their ships or replacement crews taking over. Many crews have been on board their vessels for longer than the 11 months legally stipulated by Maritime Labour Convention, of which Australia is a signatory, some for as long as 15 months.

That alone poses very real risks to both their physical and mental health, not to mention the supply chain on which Australia depends.

Most people have made some degree of sacrifice as a result of the lockdown. But there is a qualitative difference between not being able to go out for dinner or a reduction of income — and what has befallen these excellent men and women. The ongoing isolation far from home, to which they are being subjected, is inhumane. They need surety of when they can return home to loved ones.

Why should seafarers be denied the entry and exit visas that are being facilitated for other key workers when our economy relies so heavily upon them. If those designated key workers still enjoy freedom of movement, which workers are more key? It is time for our Government to provide the seafarers with their entitlements for everyone's sake.

Sue.dight@missiontoseafarers.com.au

CM Sue Dight visiting seafarers onboard

Rev'd Inni taking a break

The floors are removed in the Celia Little Room





Caring for Seafarers
in Victorian Ports since 1857

Dates for your diaries:

Sunday 12 July:

Sea Sunday - a day of prayer for the seafarers

Wednesday 15 July:

MtSV Annual General Meeting

Thursday 1 October:

Maritime Art Prize and Exhibition Opening Night

Friday 2 to Sunday 18 October:

Art Prize and Exhibition Open to the Public

Sunday 18 October:

Seafarers Service at St Paul's Cathedral

Remembering the Mission beyond today

Legacies are very important to the Mission, as they allow us to continue our vital work supporting seafarers that work around the world. We have been fortunate over the years with many of the former members of the Mission remembering us in their wills, or with an ongoing legacy through a trust. We appreciate each and every donation now, but please consider the future work of the Mission.

Beanies

We thank all the wonderful ladies who have generously donated their wool, knitting skills and time to our ongoing support for keeping seafarers' heads and hearts warm.

- Banyule U3A
- CWA Avon
- CWA Bundoora
- CWA Casey Dinner Branch
- CWA North Gippsland
- CWA of Vic International Community Support Committee
- Holy Spirit Mothers Union
- St Barnabas Anglican Church
- St John's Ballarat North
- Sue Cumming, Point Lonsdale
- The Soup Bus Ballarat

Book your end-of-year celebration!

Our lives may be on hold for now, but we have already received many inquiries for Christmas parties and all kinds of celebrations.

Every event helps to support our work looking after seafarers and maintaining our glorious heritage-listed building.

Contact

daria.wray@missiontoseafarers.com.au



For Direct Deposit to our Bank Account

Seafarers Welfare Fund

Bendigo Bank

BSB: 633 000 Account No: 133 811 216

Please put your **surname** as a reference and email your **name, address** and **phone contact** to info@missiontoseafarers.com.au to receive a tax deductible receipt.

Donation form

Please accept my gift of:

AU\$25 AU\$35 AU\$50 AU\$100 Other AU\$ _____

My cheque is enclosed and made payable to: The Mission to Seafarers Victoria Inc. Or

please debit my credit/debit card: Visa/Mastercard (delete as appropriate)

Card number:

Expiry date: / CCV:

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Email: _____

Telephone: _____

All donations over \$2 made to MtSV are tax deductible.

Keep updated via the website and Mission to Seafarers Victoria social media:



facebook/missiontoseafarersvic



mts_vic



@MtSVMelbourne

Website: missiontoseafarers.com.au

\$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.



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in Victorian Ports since 1857

The Mission to Seafarers Victoria Inc
717 Flinders Street Docklands Vic 3008
missiontoseafarers.com.au
To Donate Online visit
givenow.com.au/missiontoseafarers
Charity ABN: 69 302 106 434