

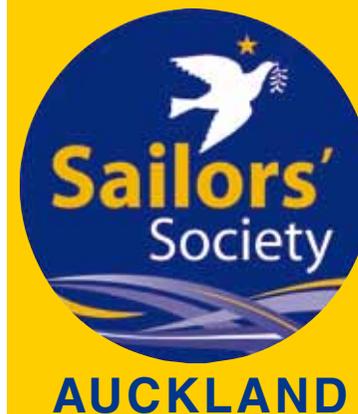
Our chaplain visits 25-30 ships per month. He often takes gifts such as magazines, including "Chart and Compass" published by the Sailors' Society (UK), which are always well received. The Bosun of one ship requested a crucifix which David Millar was pleased to source and deliver (photo top left)

A charitable organisation working in the name of Christ in the ports of Auckland for the welfare of all seafarers

The Sailors' Society is a non-denominational Christian body which is a partner, with the Mission to Seafarers (Anglican) and the Apostleship of the Sea (Catholic), in the Auckland International Seafarers Centre, www.aucklandseafarerscentre.co.nz, 114 Quay Street, Auckland. The Society contributes the services of a part-time chaplain, some volunteers, & members to the Board of the Centre, and modest financial support. The Society's Board includes representatives from the Auckland Baptist, Presbyterian and Salvation Army churches.

The Sailors' Society, Auckland - Replacing Isolation with Belonging

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NEWSLETTER & ANNUAL REPORT Summer 2011/2012

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We acknowledge the C R Stead Trust
whose support has made the production and distribution
of this newsletter possible

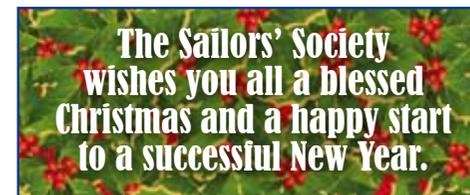
The Chaplain writes...

Since the tragic events of 5 October we have watched on television, and listened on the radio, reports of the unfolding drama in the Bay of Plenty following the stranding of the container vessel RENA. Our thoughts are with the crew of the ship who suffered such a traumatic end to a routine voyage, and also of the seafarers, maritime experts and others working to salvage the ship and her fuel oil. We think of the volunteers, Defence Force personnel and others working to remove the oil from the beaches.

It is a startling fact that on average a ship is lost at sea somewhere in the world every day-and-a-half. Seafaring is still a stressful and dangerous occupation and often the ship will be operated and manned by a ship management firm who may not have the same rapport with (or concern for) the crew, who are often just considered to be a cost of doing business. It is the Society and our sister organisations who seek to fill the gaps of care.

The importance of ships and seafarers to our daily lives is easily forgotten or overlooked. They are often called "the invisible workforce". I sometimes think of that old TV series "The Good Life" and the 1977 Christmas special where the 'posh', and somewhat worldly, Margo cannot celebrate Christmas because of a delivery problem. "My Christmas", she said "has not arrived!" How different our Christmas celebrations would be if the ships did not deliver their volumes of containers. But we need to thank God for the sailors and their efforts **every day**. Without seafarers we would not have many of those things that we 'need' and consume in our daily life.

All who work at sea face particular perils, endure



physical hardships, put up with strict discipline, suffer lonesome separations from loved ones, reduced crew sizes and increased individual workloads onboard ship. Please think of them all, especially at this time of the year when they are separated from home and loved ones.

On 25 September, following our AGM, we were honoured to dedicate a memorial plaque in the Chapel of St Peter here at the Seafarers Centre to the late Commander A V (Viv) Kempthorne. We were joined for the AGM and the service by 8 members of Viv's family. The service was lead by Board member Rev Mervyn Aitken, and son Richard Kempthorne brought some reminiscences of his father. Rev Rod Hoggard and I were able to lead in prayer. Viv's contribution to the life and work of the Society was considerable over many years and we are pleased to be able to remember him in this small way.

I am privileged to work at the Centre and to visit a number of the ships in Auckland. This year to the end of September I have visited 225 ships and each has been a joy! We could not, though, do this work without your support, financial and, above all, prayerful. Thank you for supporting us in our work as we minister to "the invisible workforce."

May you be richly blessed at this special time of year ... and indeed throughout the year to come.

David Millar

ANNUAL REPORT for the year to 31 March 2011

On 25 September 2011, the Society held its AGM at the Auckland International Seafarers Centre. The routine business of such meetings was conducted and the Sailors' Society (UK) 2011 Sea Sunday presentation was shown. As noted in the Chaplain's report, a memorial plaque to Viv Kempthorne was dedicated, and unveiled by son Richard.

An extract from the audited accounts is contained in this report; a full set can be downloaded from the Charities Commission website, or is available on request from the Hon Secretary.

Chairman Terry Nobbs presented his report. A copy is available from the Hon. Secretary. Included in the report, Terry noted that there have been fewer ship visits to Auckland over the past few months but the centre is well patronised with 8579 recorded visitors in the past year [Terry noted that we think 10-20% of the seafarers do not sign in – Ed]. The installation of Filipino TV channels has proved popular. The former Sailors Home part of the Centre's building is being converted into offices and we have been advised that the Britomart developers do not plan to take over the centre's area in the foreseeable future.

Extract from the Audited accounts Statement of Income and Expenditure For the year ending 31 March 2011

	This Year to 31/03/11	Last Year to 31/03/10
INCOME		
Interest & Dividends	43	106
Grants and Donations		
- General Donations	4801	2721
- Donations from Shipping Interests	320	425
- Donations from Churches	2120	1905
- Grants & gifts for specified purposes	1850	7814
- Grants from Sailors Society Trust	6101	4265
Legacies & Bequests	2700	2250
GST Refunds	588	539
Miscellaneous Income	10	0
Total Income	18533	20026
EXPENDITURE		
Administrative expenses	2197	2384
Salaries & allowances	13446	15583
Seafarers Centre Support	2020	1484
Fundraising/Advertising	501	215
Printing - newsletters & brochures	1476	2740
Total Expenditure	19641	22406
Net Surplus (-Deficit)	-1,107	-2,380

1. Grants were received from:
C R Stead Trust \$850 - newsletter costs
Lion Foundation \$1000 - printing costs and postage for newsletters
2. Starr Estate Distribution

Statement of Movement in Equity For the year ending 31 March 2011

	This Year	Last Year
ACCUMULATED FUNDS		
Opening Balance	2,676	5,056
Net Surplus (-Deficit)	-1,107	-2,380
TOTAL ACCUMULATED FUNDS	1,569	2,676
This is represented by:-		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Petty Cash	0	0
ASB Bank Cheque A/c	1,065	1,209
ASB Savings A/c	504	1,467
Total Current Assets	1,569	2,676
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
ISS NZ membership fees	250	0
Working Capital	1,319	2,676
NON CURRENT ASSETS	0	0
NON CURRENT LIABILITIES	0	0
Total Net Assets	1,319	2,676

Foreign Charter Fishing Vessels

The Seafarers Centre made a written submission to the Ministerial enquiry into Foreign Charter Vessels. As Archdeacon John Marcon, the author of the submission, was unable to attend in person Society Board members Larry Robbins and Terry Nobbs attended in his stead and made a verbal submission. The submission was based on our experience with a number of foreign fishing vessels over the past few years. The Seafarers' centre is not alone in expressing concerns over conditions on some of these vessels and we were pleased to have been able to participate in this process. We will watch with interest as the panel makes its report.

Seafarers write:

"Thank you very much for the wonderful service rendered to us during our stay in your good port Auckland ... More power and God Bless."

"The last five years have been the most difficult years in 33 years at sea. After arriving in port it is 'hurry hurry hurry'. The seafarer feels he is like a machine."

"Thank you. Because of Seamen's Mission Auckland and ITF [our situation] is improved and no more discrimination ... May God give you all good health and more blessings so that you can help many more seafarers in need."

"Thanks so much for all your efforts to make the seaman's life more enjoyable. Your work makes a big difference to the many of us who visit your club and it is greatly appreciated."



SNIPPETS, NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



We welcome **Captain Tony Payne** as a Sailors Society volunteer at the Seafarers' Centre.

We are extremely grateful for **your** continuing support – both prayerful and financial. We thank those who have recently made donations to the work of the Society and are especially grateful to those who make a regular donation to the Society by automatic bank payment. This is a great help.

Our thanks to **C R Stead Trust** who are subsidising the design, printing and promulgation of this newsletter and also to the Trustees of the **George Sevicke Jones Estate** (managed by the **Guardian Trust**) for financial support to our chaplaincy work. We also acknowledge receipt of a grant from the **Starr Estate**

(received through the Seafarers Welfare Board for NZ) which we have also dedicated to chaplaincy support costs including transport. Your contributions are greatly appreciated.

Our newsletter is designed by **Emma Love** emma@cetech.co.nz. Thanks Emma.

We are grateful to **BetterPrice Hotels** www.betterpricehotels.com for sponsoring our website www.iss.org.nz and to **Magic Balloons Design Studio** (www.magicballoons.co.nz) who provide a credit card facility, allowing us to accept donations in this way.

We are grateful to those supporters who have chosen to make a monthly donation to the Society. This is extremely helpful. Thank you.