

SHIP TO SHORE

The Newsletter of the Missions to Seamen Melbourne • No 2 March/April 1997

THE WAY WE WERE...



This photo of the River Yarra in 1922 shows just how much has changed in 75 years. No tall buildings, no Southbank, and certainly no casino! Instead, a bustling port, with ships coming and going from far and wide, linking the exciting young city of Melbourne to the world.

Look in the lower left hand of the photo and you'll see the dome of the Missions to Seamen. Archdeacon Rodney

Oliver, who grew up at the Mission, remembers: "From my front door I could watch the "Shandon", the last of the regular square-rig sailing ships, come up the river and moor at South Wharf just by Spencer St. She looked so elegant, even without her sails, as two steam tugs eased her into her berth."

Today, diesel has replaced steam and sail, and small cargo ships have given way to container ships, car carriers and oil tankers. New bridges have closed the river to shipping; nowadays massive cranes unload their cargo down at Appleton and Swanson docks. But one thing hasn't changed — we're still working for the welfare of seamen of all flags and all nations, to the glory of God.

But we're not resting on our past, we're planning for the future. Our new computer facilities are proving so popular that we're considering moving into cyberspace, with Internet access as well! And our ministry of practical care is growing, with the gift of more second hand clothes and goods to needy seamen. Our work is exciting and ever changing — and with your support, it will never fade into history...

Please circulate this newsletter as widely as possible or display it on your notice board. More copies are available from the Mission. Call 9629 7083.



MEET BILL ROMNEY

Bill Romney fulfils an administrative role at the Missions to Seamen Melbourne. An active member at the Geelong Centre, Bill stepped in to fill the gap left by the death of Captain John Phillips in October last year.

Bill's responsibilities include most of the administrative tasks associated with operating the Melbourne Mission and supervising routine maintenance — the behind-the-scenes work that makes the Club run smoothly.

His interest in the work of the Missions to Seamen goes back a long way. In 1990 he was appointed representative of the Geelong branch of the Anglican Men's Society on the House Committee of the Geelong Centre. During his seven years on the Committee, Bill has served two years as Chairman. He is one of the large number of volunteers who regularly help run the Geelong Mission each night.

Bill is interested in promoting the Melbourne Mission's work and increasing the level of volunteer support.

TIM HAS FUN BEING A VOLUNTEER

Where can you meet seamen (and seawomen) from all around the world? Where can you hear stories of exotic people and places? Where can you be charmed by elegant art deco art architecture? Here at the Flying Angel Club, which operates from 6-10 pm every night of the week.

I've been at the Missions to Seamen since January this year. I've found being a volunteer a very practical expression of Christian love and concern. It's also fun! Busing out with Bryce on to the docks is a real adventure. Those car carrier ships are humungous!

So if you're interested in joining Noyoun and Lydia or Sally and Bryce at the Club, or want to find out more information, give them a call on 9629 7083

SEA SUNDAY SPECIAL!

The second Sunday in July is celebrated world wide as Sea Sunday. We're planning to mark the day with some special activities at the Mission. It should be a really exciting day, so be sure to note July 13th in your diary. More details to follow in our next issue.

PLEASE PRAY...

- For preparations for our observance of Sea Sunday
- For Christians willing to give their time as volunteers
- As we encourage seamen in their faith, and share our faith through word and deed
- As we distribute Bibles and Christian literature in various languages to crew members

BECOME A FRIEND OF THE FLYING ANGEL

Yes, I'd like to become a friend of the Flying Angel Club:

I'd like to subscribe to **Ship to Shore**, at only \$4.00 a year for 6 issues.

I'll support the Missions to Seamen's work by donating:

\$10 \$20 \$50 \$_____

Please send me a **free** information kit.

I'd like to know more about becoming a member of the Missions to Seamen Victoria.

Mr/Mrs/Ms/Rev _____
(Please print) Given name Surname

Address _____

Postcode _____

Phone () _____

Please return, with cheque or money order if applicable, to:

The Missions to Seamen
717 Flinders Street
Melbourne VIC 3005

