

# SHIP TO SHORE



The Newsletter of the Missions to Seamen Melbourne • No 3 May/June 1997

## SHELTER FROM THE STORM

Our high standard of living in Australia depends on us being able to export what we produce, and import items that enable us to live more comfortably. But it is very easy to forget that our prosperity depends on trade.

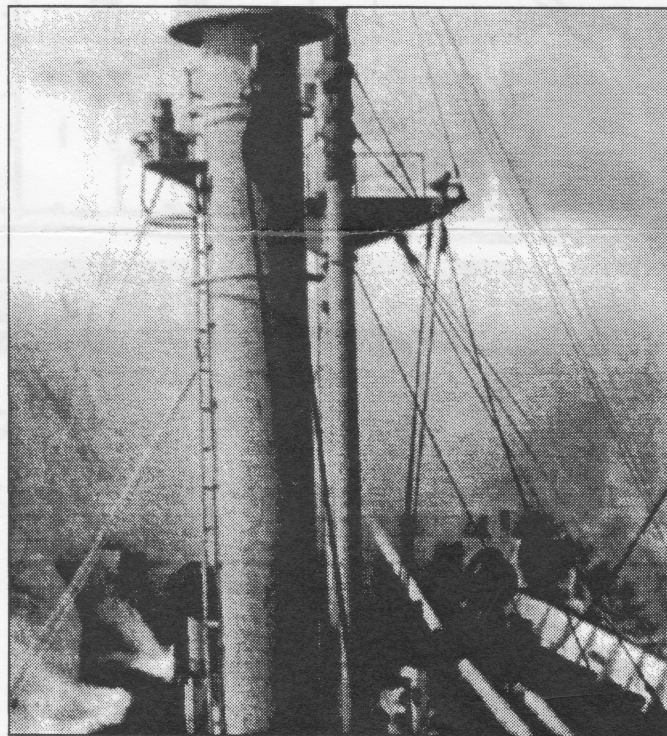
While trade is a profitable business, the benefits don't always trickle down to the people who crew the ships. Seafarers not only cope with expected hardships — two ships sink every week — they are often exploited as well.

As Christians we should encourage those who work for justice for seafarers. But the Missions to Seamen are also involved in the distinctly Christian ministry of showing hospitality. Most of the 170 ships that steam up the Yarra every month have a foreign crew. It is our mission to care for these people who would otherwise be forgotten.

Most of the people who visit the Mission are only in port for 24 hours, although many return every few months. And you should see their smiles at the sight of a friendly, familiar face at the Mission. It would be great if one of those welcoming faces could be yours.

	'94	'95	'96
Seamen visiting Mission	4684	7528	7455
Seamen transported to/from ships	5121	7744	8239
Telephone calls made by seamen	766	1105	1556
Letters posted for seamen	843	1182	1804
Bibles/tapes given to seamen	548	590	680

*As you can see from the table, the work of the Missions to Seamen in Melbourne continues to grow.*



## SEA SUNDAY PRAYERS

Lord God, we depend on you for life itself. We depend on seafarers for many of our daily needs: watch over them, keep them safe from danger, befriend them in their loneliness and bring them safely home to those they love.

*Please pray...*

- For our Sea Sunday Open Day • For Christians willing to give their time as volunteers
- For seamen facing hardship and loneliness • As we distribute Bibles and Christian literature to seamen

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



# OPEN DAY



**SUNDAY JULY 13, 11 AM TO 5:30 PM**

**SEE THE MISSION AT WORK, EXPLORE  
OUR HISTORIC BUILDINGS, VISIT SHIPS  
WITH US, AND MORE!**

**Port and river cruise - 2:00 pm.**

We'll be taking a boat tour down the Yarra to the docks, enjoying views of the city on the way. A bargain at only \$5 per person.

**Sea Sunday service - 4:00 pm.**

Celebrate Sea Sunday and the work of the Mission in our beautiful chapel. Special guest speaker.

**Bus trips to the docks.**

Come to the Melbourne container terminal, and help us as we visit seafarers aboard the ships in port. A rare opportunity to explore this little known area of Melbourne.

**Photo competition.**

The best photo of the Mission, ships or docklands area will win a prize so bring your camera.

717 Flinders Street Melbourne



For more information call (03) 9614 1282