

## Mission to Seafarers Geelong

# ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

## 2019

Wednesday 27 November 2019



**SEACHURCH**  
MINISTRY



**THE MISSION  
TO SEAFARERS  
GEE LONG**

- S**UNDAY SERVICES
- S**UNDAY MESSAGE
- S**MILE CAMPAIGN
- S**MOKE-FREE SEAFARERS
- S**Ocial MEDIA

## Mission to Seafarers Geelong

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At our MTS Geelong Centre, we welcomed 5,855 visiting seafarers from 35 different countries and also engaged with thousands of more seafarers on-board ships and through online social media such as Email, YouTube and Facebook.



During the past year, God worked continually to expand these online ministries for seafarers onboard ships and their family from all around the world. We reached out to 3,000 seafarers with daily devotional messages in English, Filipino and Chinese and weekly Sunday Service messages in the Filipino language to 1,700 ships sailing the oceans. We also conducted 20 services onboard ships when they were docked in the Geelong Port.



We are very excited for our Smoke-free Seafarers' campaign for the wellbeing of seafarers. The Smoke-free Seafarers' campaign is continuing onboard, at the mission centre and on Facebook and YouTube. According to our survey of 11,814 seafarers on 557 ships, 32.5% of seafarers are smokers onboard.

Throughout last year, we gave away 161 bibles in Chinese, Tagalog and English. We also gave away hand-knitted beanies and scarves, books and magazines donated from our local communities. Also, we helped take 17 seafarers to the medical centre and hospital during the past year. Our volunteers helped transport over 11,279 seafarers onshore and assisted 3,903 seafarers with shopping and tours.

Thank you for everyone's support, both spiritual and financial – from individuals, local churches, communities and shipping industries. I thank God for all the blessings he has poured over us throughout the year!

----- **Port Chaplain Rev. Noah Park**

**Seachurch Ministry**



Every year, our Seachurch ministry is faced with reaching out to seafarers in an ever-changing working environment of the shipping industry and seafarers due to the development of new technologies. A new paradigm is needed for our programs, including our Sunday services, Sunday messages, Smile and Smoke-Free campaigns and Social Media activities to respond to the forthcoming Fourth Industrial Revolution.

Throughout the year, I was thankful for our ministry to be able to provide seafarers spiritual support not only when they visit our Geelong Port but also when they are sailing the oceans through the internet. Every morning, I sent gospel messages to individual seafarers and ships all around the world! Our seachurch ministry has also continued through YouTube, Messengers and Facebook, sharing the gospel and helping connect seafarers and their families.



Mission's Statistics 2015 - 2019					
	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
<b>Total Attendance</b>	5855	6843	7903	8544	7905
<b>Ship Visits</b>	406	484	490	474	463
<b>Ships in Port</b>	520	561	623	665	676
<b>Seafarers Transported</b>	11279	13151	15353	16547	15603
<b>Ship served</b>	1381	1536	1625	1619	1487
<b>Bibles Presented</b>	161	282	287	260	223
<b>Christmas Parcels</b>	300	300	300	300	300
<b>Tours &amp; Shopping</b>	3903	3700	3847	3801	3656
<b>Seafarers with Worship</b>	264	175	165	182	174



## Christmas Activities (2018)



Entering into celebrations of the Christmas season onboard and at the mission centre! Our Ladies Auxiliary members packed Christmas parcels to spend Christmas at sea for seafarers on 30 November. Thank you for your care! Our MTS family came together to enjoy the Christmas Carols service at our welfare room on 10 December. On Christmas Day, we had a communion service onboard MT Athens with 18 Russian, Indian and Filipino seafarers and Mrs. Santa (thanks Lydia!) gave Christmas gifts for all crew members. Thanks to Grace who also played the violin onboard.



## Sea Sunday Celebration



Celebrated the Sea Sunday service on 14 July 2019 in remembering the work of seafarers around the world at St. Andrew's Anglican Church, Corio-Norlane with 5 seafarers from tanker ship and also joined Mission to Seafarer Geelong, our chairman, secretary and treasurer. Many thanks to the prayers and support from all our supporting churches and local community groups.



## Smoke-Free Campaign



'Smoke-Free Seafarers' campaign is continuing onboard, at the mission centre and on Facebook and You Tube. According to our survey of 11,814 seafarers on 557 ships, 32.5% of seafarers are smokers onboard. 30% of ships have no smoking rooms and so non-smokers are exposed to passive or secondary smoke in a contained environment.



## Manila Mission Project 2019



On 18-19 October, we distributed 1,000 bibles and 'Daily Bread' books to seafarers and maritime students with 10 volunteers from the Manila Family Networks of MTS Philippines. As the Luneta Park was closed, we split up the team and went to the training centre and the seafarers in the dormitories to deliver our calendars, bibles and devotional books. From this, many seafarers have connected to our seachurch ministry through online social media. We visited Ramon and his children, also we sent some gifts to the children of Mrs. Pacas.

## Pastoral care and Hospital Visitation



Visited the Emergency ward at Alfred Hospital in Melbourne where a young Korean seaman had all of his 10 toes cut off while repairing an engine at the Melbourne Port. Took two Chinese seafarers from MV Southern Star to St. John of God Hospital on 25 June for an operation of a broken thumb and on 28 June because of high blood pressure.



## Volunteer Dinner and Training Night



Our MTS bus drivers and volunteers and family enjoyed a social dinner at the Geelong Shell Club, many thanks to all who attended. Gaye, who is a nurse, conducted an education session on the automated external defibrillator. We have installed AED machine at the door side for emergency.



## MTS Australia Conference and Secretary General Visit



MTS Aust. Biennial Conference at Brisbane on 8-13 Sept. 2019. Over 50 members of the MTS family from 28 stations and 8 Regional Directors around the world shared about their ministries and other issues. We welcomed Secretary General, Andrew from London to Geelong. We shared a dinner together with Andrew and our committee and also joined by Dilip Abraham at the Sailors' Rest.

## MTS Geelong and Local Communities



During the year, we gave presentations about our MTS Geelong ministry to various groups: Anglican parishes, ProbusClubs. With Robert were interviewed by 96.3 FM about our seafarers ministry at MTS Geelong.



## ICMA Conference in Taiwan



During 21-26 October, I attended the ICMA Conference 2019, which was the 50th anniversary of the International Christian Maritime Association with over 250 people in the maritime welfare work around world. There were various seminars, training sessions and also shared times of celebration, worship, networking and relationship-building. It was a great time to grow understanding and be updated about various issues related to seafarers, fishers and their families from different ministries, organisations, situations of the world.

## Visiting seafarers by country in 2018/2019

**Total 5855**

Philippines (2259)	China (1797)	India (578)	Russia (291)	Ukraine (217)	Myanmar (127)
Thailand (132)	Vietnam (84)	Korea (56)	Turkey (44)	Indonesia (40)	Greece (34)
Croatia (26)	Georgia (25)	Bangladesh (18)	Egypt (13)	Australia (11)	Latvia (11)
UAE (10)	Rumania (9)	Poland (8)	Japan (7)	HK (7)	Malaysia (7)
Sri Lanka (3)	Italy (10)	Bulgaria (6)	Taiwan (4)	NZ (4)	German (3)
S. Africa (3)	Jordan (2)	Canada (2)	Holland (2)	Singapore (1)	Venezuela (3)
					Serbia (1)