



SAILORS' SOCIETY AUCKLAND

NEWSLETTER – Easter 2009

Contact address: 42 Knights Rd Rothesay Bay Auckland 0630
Tel/Fax 09 478 4782 secretary@iss.org.nz

www.sailors-society.org.nz/iss_auckland.htm

**A charitable organisation working in the name of Christ in
the ports of Auckland for the welfare of all seafarers**
Registered NZ Charity CC 10836

The Sailors' Society represents Auckland's "non-conformist" churches and 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 at 114 Quay Street, Auckland. The Society contributes the services of a part-time chaplain (Major David Millar, Salvation Army), some volunteers, & members to the Board of the Centre, along with modest financial support.

THE CHAPLAIN WRITES

I was visiting a ship recently and was invited by the Slovenian Captain to join him for a meal. We were joined by the Romanian Chief Officer and served by the Filipino steward. I told them what a privilege it was to share the meal though said that over my many years of ship-visiting I rarely disturbed a ship's captain given his busy schedule. The gracious captain nodded and said "Yes, what a Captain would do in 30 years in the past, he now has to do in one day!"

***Thank you all for the support -
prayerful, financial, and voluntary
effort - that you give to our work.***

- Major David Millar,
Sailors Society Chaplain Auckland

"There is a Chart - full and clear is there marked out the way; There is a Compass - to the star it points both night and day. The Bible is the Chart so bright - Faith is the compass; Christ the light" - Chart and Compass magazine 1879 [*Chart and Compass is the international magazine of the Sailors Society. If you would like a copy of the current edition please contact the Hon.Secretary*]

A SEAFARER WRITES

Sailing on ships as a Merchant Mariner for many years, like most work, has its advantages and disadvantages ... being at sea and away from home often puts the greatest strain on a sailor. A ship tends to get smaller the longer one is on it! After being at sea, a time in port is



David Millar with seafarers and volunteer Eve (Apostleship of the Sea) in the Centre, March 2009

CHARITABLE DONATIONS

The government has changed the rules relating to tax rebates on charitable donations ... Previously the maximum refund was \$630, no matter how much you donated.

You can now claim a rebate of 1/3rd of every dollar you donate to approved organisations - up to the

full amount of your taxable income. The Sailors Society is a Registered Charity and a Donee Organisation - donations over \$5 are receipted and are fully eligible for the increased rebate. You will need all your receipts to claim. If you have previously claimed for charitable donations you will automatically receive a claim form in April; otherwise you can request



one by calling 0800 257 773 or visit www.ird.govt.nz. The Society's Treasurer would also be pleased to assist you (whether or not you donate to the Society). On each claim form there is a facility where some or all of your rebate can automatically be transferred to a nominated recipient. Would you consider nominating the Society as your beneficiary in this way?




(See account details later)

something to look forward to. A change in the routine and a chance to get off the ship helps to make a tour more endurable. Although there are many things to do in most ports often it is good to have a place where one can go to relax, make a phone call, check mail, or just be off the ship. For this, the Seaman's Clubs are perfect. It is a real pleasure to know that in many ports there is a comfortable facility that's available to go to. Thanks so much for all of your efforts to make a seaman's life more enjoyable. Your work makes a big difference to the many of us who visit your club and is greatly appreciated.

(written to the Auckland International Seafarers Centre by John Wilson, Chief Officer R/V Thomas G Thompson in March 2009.)

NEWS SNIPPETS

 We are pleased to welcome Carol Forsyth to the Society's Board as the representative of the Salvation Army. Carol is the Vessels and Volunteer Manager at the NZ National Maritime Museum and formerly worked with Coastguard Boating Education Services. Welcome aboard, Carol! 

We farewell Rev Linda Hope from the Society's Board. Linda was the Minister of the St James Church which meets at the Auckland International Seafarers Centre. Linda is now studying and we wish her every success and pray God's blessing upon her continuing studies and for her future ministry.  Linda was formally farewelled from the Centre at a lunch in February, the Society's Chairman (and Chairman of the Centre Board), Terry Nobbs, expressing, on behalf of the partner societies, appreciation for her valued ministry over the past year, her smile, her communication skills, and her love for the special ministry and service to seafarers.  Father Ian Hanley has assumed the function of the St James' Seafarers Chaplain at the Centre.  The Methodist Church representative's position on the Board is currently vacant. If you are a



A busy evening in the Auckland International Seafarers Centre – March 2009 (Note the six laptop users at the tables)

member of the Methodist Church and have a heart for this ministry please contact the Hon. Secretary at the above address. 🇳🇿 We are grateful to Murray Robertson who has offered his voluntary services to the Sailors Society and who will assist with Fundraising and PR. 🇳🇿 The Seafarers Welfare Board for NZ met in March. Our Society's Hon Treasurer, Larry Robbins, was re-elected to Chair the Board (for a third and final year) 🇳🇿 The Auckland Seafarers Centre has recently increased its opening hours and is now open from 9am to 10pm each weekday (opening hours remain 6.30pm to 10pm at weekends). 🇳🇿 We would be delighted to have the opportunity to tell your Probuss, Rotary, Lions Club etc about our work. Please contact the Hon.Secretary if you need a speaker for your meeting. 🇳🇿

-o0o-

*Demands upon our finances are increasing, interest rates on our reserves are decreasing, and we need to raise more funds. Please consider a tax-deductible donation (see centre box for an important update). If you wish to make a donation by internet banking, our bank account number is: **12-3025-0214121-01**. Please ensure your name is clearly shown and send us an email (or phone) so that we can match donations and send your receipt. We can also accept credit card (Visa and Mastercard only) donations by phone or email. ALL donations (up to the level of your taxable income) over \$5 made to the Sailors' Society can be claimed as a tax rebate (1/3rd). For more information see www.not-for-profit.org.nz/tax.htm and the IRD website.*

Will you consider leaving a bequest to the Society? If so, please contact the Hon Treasurer and your lawyer.



We are grateful to BetterPrice Hotels who have sponsored the costs of mailing this newsletter. If you are looking for accommodation when travelling for business or pleasure in New Zealand or internationally please visit their website www.betterpricehotels.com



David Millar and Captain McClenaghan (above) and Chief Officer John Wilson (below) on the bridge of R/V Thomas G Thompson



To be added to, or removed from, the mailing list of this occasional newsletter please contact the Editor at the address above.