



AMWS E-News April 2023

"Welcome to the April 2023 Edition of the AMWS E-News" - Chairman, Mr David Parmeter

"In this welcoming message I want to reach out to all AMWS members. One of the things we are working on at AMWS is to grow and diversify our membership base. Over the last two years, we have welcomed a number of new members as well as our first Corporate Members.....

In that regard I want to make all AMWS members aware of the **Annual General Meeting to be held on Tuesday 16 May 2023, starting at 12:30 pm**. The venue is The Castlereagh Club, 199 Castlereagh Street Sydney. While the AGM is primarily a brief administrative process, there will be a function afterward, and we have invited a number of industry stakeholders and friends of AMWS to attend. **All members of AMWS who are able to attend in Sydney on that day are cordially invited to join us and stay for the function**".

[See Davids April 2023 video welcome here >>](#)

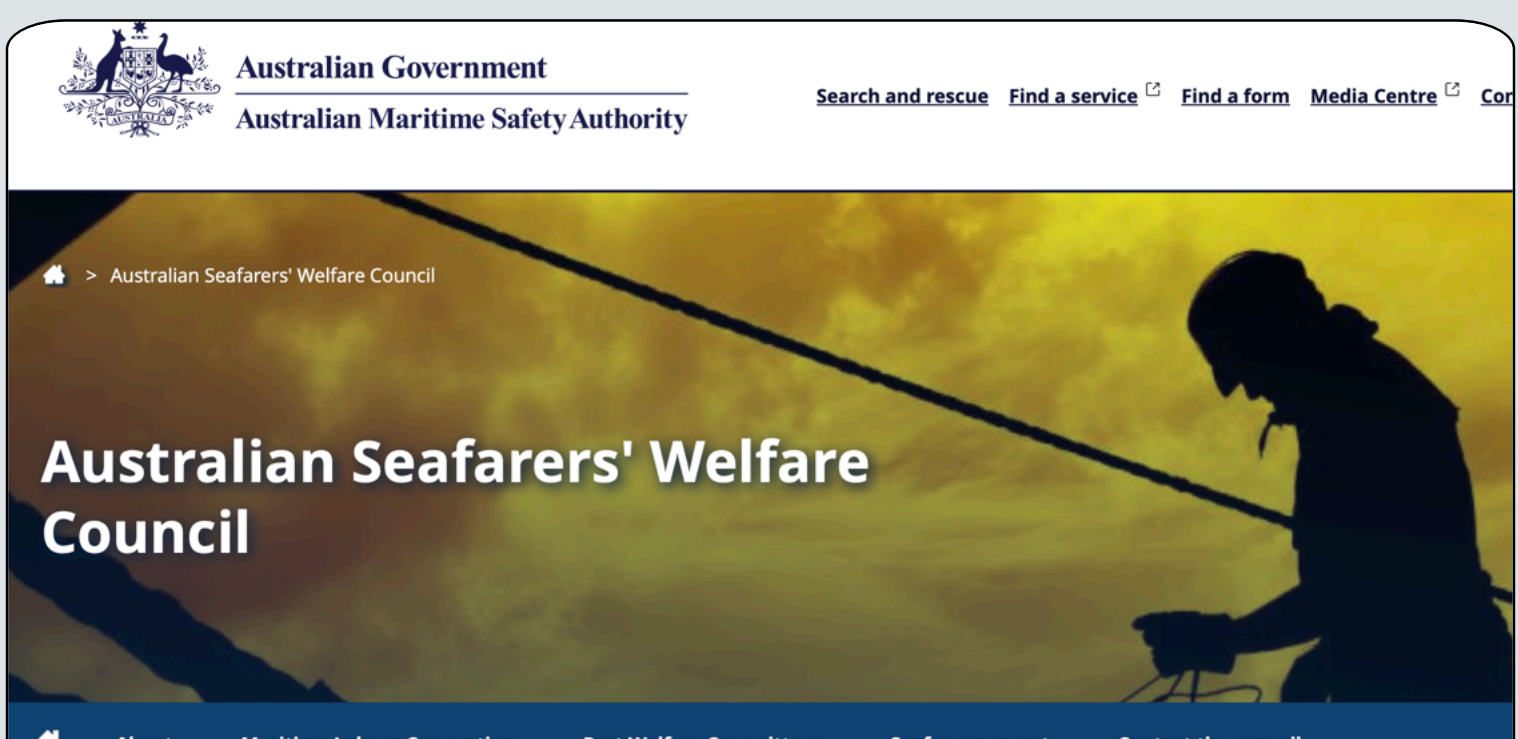


STS Young Endeavour, Departure Sydney 11th April 2023

Young Endeavour departed Sydney on Voyage 8/23 with the latest Trevor Howarth Memorial Sail Training Programme "youthie", Thomas on board.

Selected by Stepping Stone House and jointly funded by AMWS and the Sydney Cove Rotary Club, the 11 day voyage will take in NSW anchorages and return to Sydney on the 23rd April.

With Lieutenant Commander Adam "Charlie" Farley in command and supported by his exceptional RAN crew, we know that Thomas will enjoy this fantastic eleven-day tall ship sail training experience.



The Australian Seafarers' Welfare Council (ASWC) launches new interactive webpage.

ASWC's strategy is to (1) Provide leadership in the implementation of Australia's obligations on seafarers' welfare under the Maritime Labour Convention 2006, (2) Assist in the establishment of a national network of seafarer support arrangements, and (3) Promote, encourage and support the delivery of seafarer welfare services at Australian Ports.

The new site is designed to promote these initiatives by being accessible to seafarers through a fully interactive design.

[Visit the new ASWC site here >>](#)



58TH Annual Commemoration at Sydney's Merchant Navy Memorial. DCN, 17th April 2023.

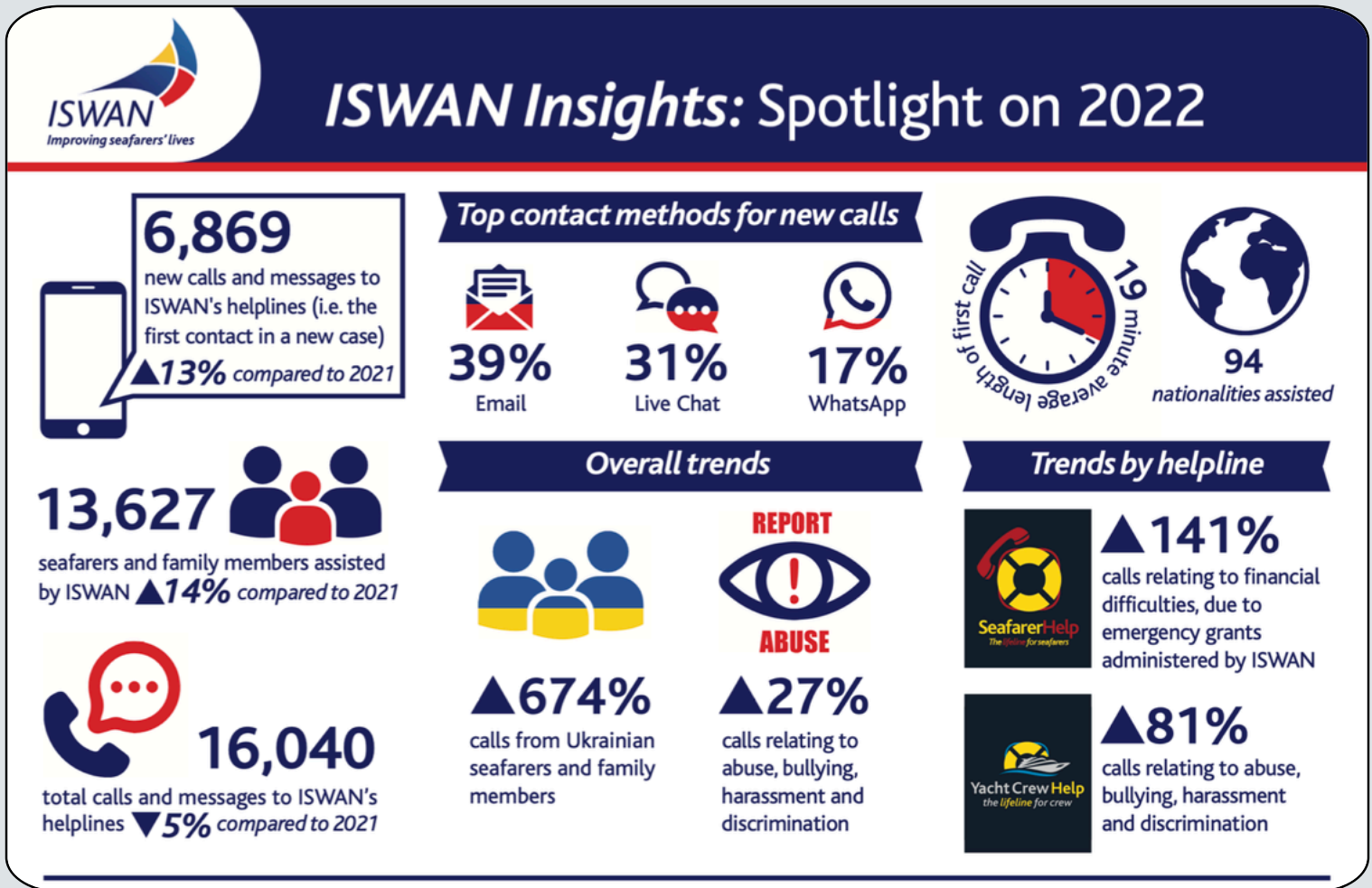
Rear Admiral Smith, the guest speaker at the event, observed the 58th annual commemoration coincided with the 80th anniversary of the sinking of the 2/3 Australian hospital ship Centaur during World War II. The ship was torpedoed on 14 May 1943. Of the 332 people on board, only 64 survived the attack. Rear Admiral Smith said many merchant seamen joined the navy during the war, wearing naval uniforms and serving on naval ships under the white ensign while the royal navy experienced a shortage of experienced seamen.

"Merchantmen suffered the greatest percentage of deaths of any service during the second world war, but the number of the Australian merchant mariners killed during conflict is difficult to estimate," he said.

"Over 70 years of peace, liberty, and our material wealth are owed to those gallant merchant navy sailors. "It is our duty to ensure that their great sacrifice continues to be remembered and honoured. And we will remember them. Lest we forget."

Read More about the centaur sinking.

[Australian War Memorial, Centaur Sinking >>](#)



New ISWAN infographic summarises major issues faced by seafarers in 2022

ISWAN provides 24/7 confidential helpline services for seafarers and their families worldwide, and in 2022 alone, the organization assisted over 13,600 individuals from 94 different nationalities through more than 16,000 calls and messages. The number of Ukrainian seafarers and their families seeking help from ISWAN's helpline increased by 674% due to the impact of the war in Ukraine. COVID-19 pandemic, and Typhoon Rai in the Philippines, also resulted in a rise in contacts relating to financial difficulties. In addition, ISWAN observed a significant increase in reports of abuse, bullying, harassment, and discrimination.

[Learn More >>](#)



STS Young Endeavour returns to Sydney at the completion of Voyage 08/23. 21st April 2023.

Graham Lightfoot, AMWS Councilor, met the ship on its return to HMAS Waterhen. He provided the following comments.

"I attended the arrival of the vessel this morning.

Thomas was up on the tallest timbers as the ship berthed and it is worthy to note that the Captain in his farewell address singled him out for special mention. He also thanked AMWS and Rotary for their support of the YE programme.

Thomas is a quietly spoken young man and when asked for his comment on the voyage he without hesitation said simply

**"It was the greatest experience of my life".**

Well done Thomas and well done STS Young Endeavour.



The Beacon:

New Monthly Section Illuminating interesting Activities, Trends, and Developments in the Australian Maritime Industry



Port Ash, Ship Handling and Research Centre, Twelve Mile Creek, NSW

Located on the east coast of Australia, approximately 2 hours north of Sydney, New South Wales, Port Ash Australia serves as a training center for ship handling. The center specializes in providing practical training to ship's Masters, Officers, Marine Pilots, and Naval Officers in controlling ships at low speeds in open, confined, and shallow waters with or without tug assistance.

Port Ash employs experienced Marine Pilots as instructors and utilizes manned ship models to facilitate hands-on training on its purpose-built 2-hectare (5-acre) lake. The lake has been constructed at a 25:1 scale and features deep and shallow water areas that mimic the depths of water when approaching a typical harbor environment.

Approximately one-third of the lake is dedicated to deep water (at a 50-meter scale depth), another third to medium depth (at a 25-meter scale depth), and the remaining third to shallow water areas (at a 14-meter scale depth).

[Interested? Learn more here >>](#)



The AMWS Vision

"To ensure all seafarers and their dependents, irrespective of nationality, gender, or beliefs, are treated with dignity, respect, and compassion".

Interested in this AMWS vision and want to know more?

[Consider becoming an AMWS member >>](#)

