

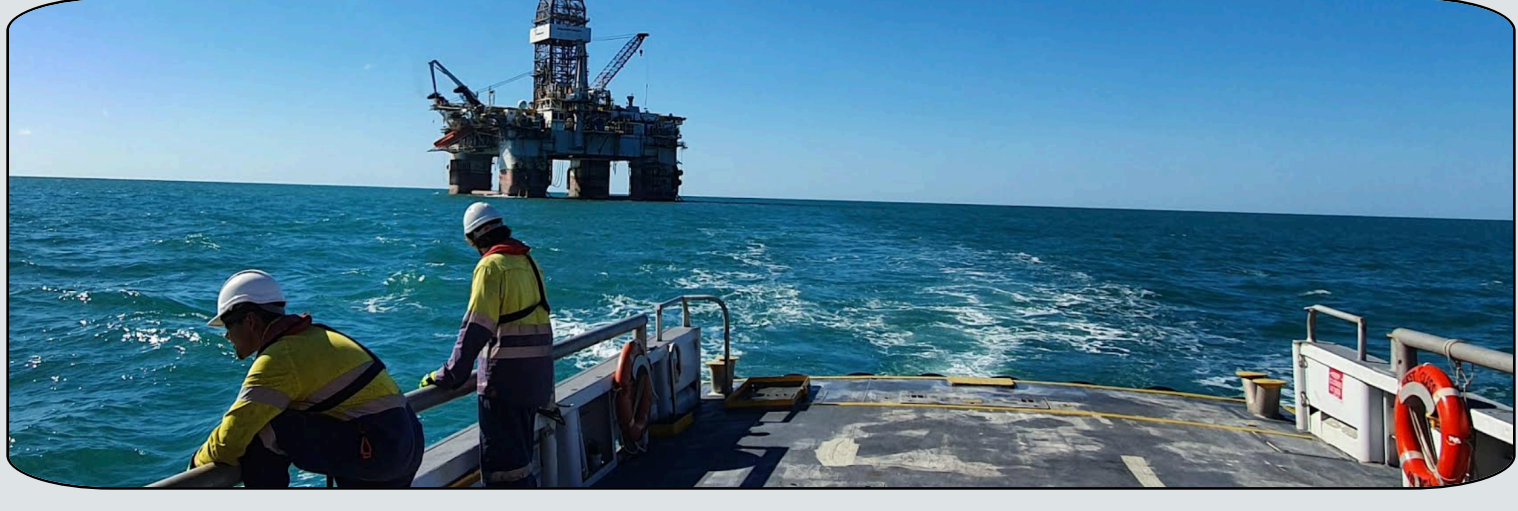


AMWS E-News February 2024

"Welcome to the February 2024 Edition of the AMWS E-News" - Chairman, Mr David

As you are aware, AMWS has its origins in the founding of the Sydney Sailors Home in 1863. So historically our charity has been very active in Sydney. With the subsequent transformation of the Sailors Home into Australian Mariners Welfare Society, the opportunity arose for the Society to play a role in seafarer welfare nationally.

[Video of David's full remarks for February 2024 can be viewed here >>](#)



"The Shifting Seascape - From Automation and Future Fuels to Welfare and Wages, the Waves Haven't Stopped for the World's Seafarers". Abby Williams, DCN News February 2024

Abby's article outlines the challenges faced by seafarers in modern shipping due to supply chain disruptions, geopolitical tensions, and crew-change disruptions.

It discusses the Mission to Seafarers' surveys on crew welfare, highlighting declining satisfaction, particularly in workloads, connectivity, and wages. The International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF) focuses on addressing underpayment issues through global inspections, uncovering significant instances of unpaid wages. The article also discusses the campaign "Nowhere to Hide," targeting regulatory loopholes and breaches of labor laws. It emphasizes the need for a comprehensive approach to address these issues effectively, including education, awareness, and legislative changes. The ITF's efforts extend to areas such as refusal of shore leave, repatriation, medical care, and food standards. The campaign's findings underscore the need for ongoing work and potential solutions to improve the lives of seafarers.

[Abby's DCN article can be accessed here >>](#)



Time to Address Bullying. International Chamber of Shipping. DCN, 22nd February 2024

The International Chamber of Shipping has unveiled a new set of industry principles aimed at eradicating harassment and bullying within the maritime sector. This initiative comes in response to a report by the International Labour Organization (ILO), in collaboration with Lloyd's Register Foundation (LRF) and Gallup, which sheds light on instances of violence and harassment in workplaces globally. Drawing from insights provided by 74,364 respondents from 121 countries and territories across various industries, the report reveals that nearly 23% of individuals in employment have encountered some form of violence or harassment, whether physical, psychological, or sexual. While the report does not specifically address incidents onboard ships, the findings underscore the importance for all industries to prioritize measures to prevent harassment and bullying, as emphasized by Helio Vicente, Director of Employment Affairs at ICS.

[Access the DCN Story here >>](#)



RSV Nuyina's Mawson Voyage to Make History. Australian Antarctic Programm News. 13th February 2024

This week, the RSV Nuyina is embarking on its inaugural voyage to the Mawson research station in Antarctica. This will be 70 years after the MV Kista Dan undertook a similar journey to establish the station. While the Nuyina will transport supplies and personnel for the winter, the MV Kista Dan's mission in 1954 was exploratory, led by Dr. Phil Law, who named the station after Sir Douglas Mawson.

The Kista Dan faced challenges such as navigating through ice and eventually succeeded in reaching Horseshoe Harbour. Mawson station quickly became operational, hosting scientific research programs, contributing to Australia's longstanding tradition of polar exploration and scientific study. Established in time for the International Geophysical Year in 1957-58, Mawson station focused on various scientific disciplines including glaciology, meteorology, and cosmic ray physics.

[Access the AAP Media Release and Video here](#)



IMO to Review Seafarer Training Standards. DCN 15th February 2024

The International Maritime Organization (IMO) aims to modernize seafarer training standards and address issues of bullying and harassment within the maritime industry. During a session at IMO headquarters, the IMO sub-committee on Human Element, Training and Watchkeeping established a roadmap for reviewing the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification, and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW) along with its accompanying code. This convention outlines the minimum training, certification, and watchkeeping requirements for seafarers, and the review aims to update these global standards to reflect new developments and challenges in the maritime sector. The sub-committee identified 22 areas of the convention and code for review, including topics such as emerging ship technologies, e-certification, mental health, and gender sensitization.

[Read More >>](#)



Shipping industry calls for release of Galaxy Leader crew still held captive by Houthis. DCN 19th February 2024

Monday, February 19, 2024, marks the three-month anniversary since the seizure of the Galaxy Leader and its 25 seafarers by the Houthis in the Red Sea, which occurred on November 19. The maritime industry worldwide has united in expressing grave concern for the hostages and urging the Houthis to release them. The crew, comprising innocent victims caught in the crossfire of global shipping aggression, has garnered significant attention, with calls from international organizations and states for their immediate release. The prolonged separation from their families underscores the urgency of the situation, demanding swift action to ensure the freedom of all 25 crew members of the Galaxy Leader.

[Read the DCN Article in full here >>](#)



AMSA Search and Rescue Trial a Soaring Success. AMSA Media Centre, 14th February 2024

The Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) has achieved a milestone with the inaugural flight of an AMSA Challenger rescue aircraft to Antarctica, marking the culmination of efforts to enhance the range of AMSA's aerial search and rescue capabilities. During the trial, the Essendon-based AMSA Challenger conducted a supply drop to researchers at Dumont d'Urville Station in Antarctica, completing the mission within an eight-hour timeframe.

Australia boasts one of the world's largest search and rescue regions, encompassing a significant portion of Antarctica. These Challenger aircraft, operated by Leidos Airborne Solutions, showcased their extended range capabilities, garnering praise from AMSA Executive Director Response Mark Morrow, who hailed the achievement as a significant advancement for Australia's search and rescue efforts. Emphasizing AMSA's esteemed status within the global search and rescue community, Morrow highlighted Australia's commitment to innovation and adaptation in search and rescue technology

Go to the AMWS media centre to learn more



The Official Opening of the New & Remedial Merchant Navy War Memorial Rookwood, will take place on Sunday 14th April 2024.

*The contribution of our Merchant Navy is of national significance with history demonstrating the critical part it played in the ultimate victory achieved in the two world wars. It is of course the individual who is at the core of the Merchant Navy and as such, those who were lost in the line of duty should be personally recognised for that selfless sacrifice to the country. Such individual recognition must be in a manner befitting their sacrifice and thereby be readily on view for all to see and reflect on.*

*Formal commemoration of the Merchant Navy and its contribution to Australia is only held once a year at the Rookwood Cemetery in Sydney(April) and at the Merchant Navy National War Memorial, in Kings Park, Canberra (Oct).*

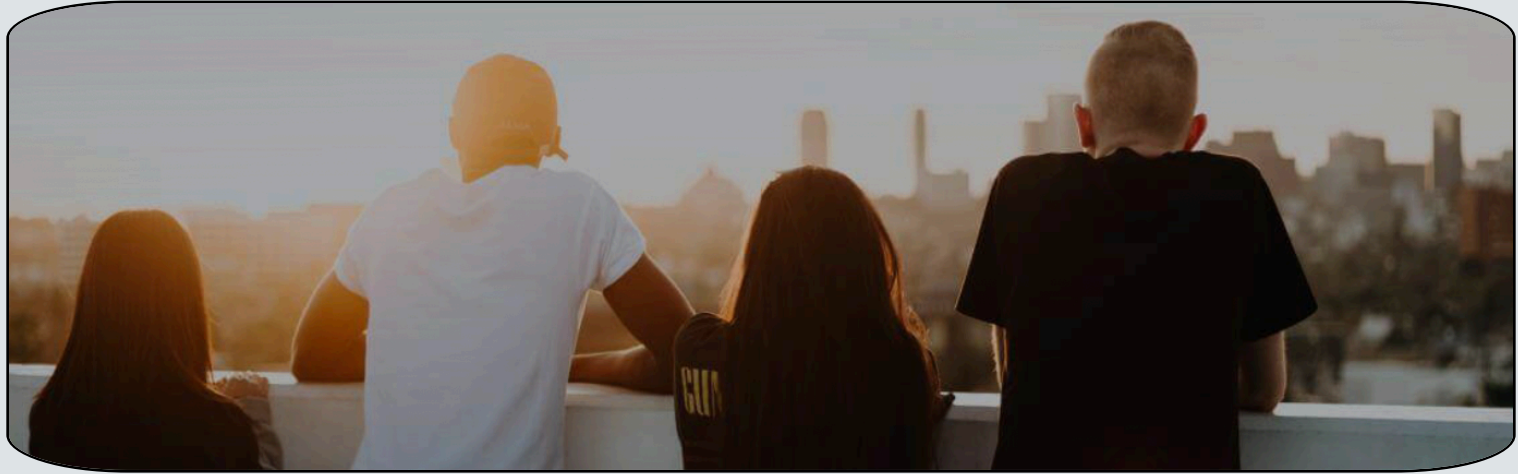
David Field

Chairman / MNWMF.

The opening of the New & Remedial works at Rookwood, will take place at the 59th Annual Commemoration, on Sunday 14th April 2024.

The Beacon:

Monthly Section Illuminating Interesting Activities, Trends, and Developments within the Australian Maritime Industry



Stepping Stone House: a Safe Place for Children at Risk or Experiencing Homelessness. February 2024

Stepping Stone House is a non-profit organisation with the mission of supporting young people aged 12-25 experiencing or at risk of homelessness. Providing long-term accommodation and support, they help young people develop their skills, resilience, and independence and become the best they can be.

Thanks to the Sydney Cove Rotary and the Australian Mariners Welfare Society (AMWS), several young people from Stepping Stone House have voyaged on the STS Young Endeavour through the Trevor Haworth Memorial Award, building their confidence alongside their seafaring skills.

*"When I came off the ship, it really felt like I did something amazing. Thank you for a once in a lifetime opportunity."* - Patrick, past Stepping Stone House resident

[Find out more about Stepping Stone House 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 >>](#)