



AMWS E-News May 2023

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



"This month on the 18th May, the global industry celebrated the International Day for Women in Maritime. This year is the second such event, which is championed by the International Maritime Organisation and strongly promoted locally by AMSA and other industry stakeholders. On behalf of AMWS I am delighted to lend our voice to this event which is designed to support and highlight the role of women in maritime".....

There will not be an e-newsletter in June, as we will be publishing our periodical newsletter "The Mariners Lifeline" but the e-news will be back in July.

I hope you enjoy this edition".

DAVID

[Read David's full comments here >>](#)



AMWS Annual General Meeting and regular Councillors Quarterly Meeting. 16th May 2023.

On Tuesday 16 May, the Australian Mariners Welfare Society held a function for AMWS members and representatives of the seafarer welfare community. The event was preceded by a meeting of the AMWS Council and the Society's Annual General Meeting.

A number of AMWS members were able to attend, including representatives of two Corporate Members, Shipping Australia Limited and the League of Ancient Mariners.

The guests able to join on the day represented a cross-section of the organisations and individuals AMWS supports and works with to promote the welfare of seafarers past, present and emerging. They included Reverend Un Tay from MTS Sydney, Sister Mary Fahey from Stella Maris, Michelle Grech the Chair of the Australian Seafarers Welfare Committee, Simon Robards from AMSA Sydney, Shane Hobday the Chair of the Sydney Port Welfare Committee, Jason Juretic from Stepping Stone House, Emily Fry from the Young Endeavour Youth Scheme and the Directors of the Sydney Bethel Union, Clive Goodwin, Derek Lightfoot and James Cowper.

A special guest was Margaret Longstaff, the widow of Malcolm, a long serving AMWS Councillor who left a bequest in his will to support the training scholarships offered by AMWS.

David Parmeter, Chair of AMWS, welcomed the members and guests and thanked them all for their support and dedication. Special mention was made of Rev Tay and Sister Mary for the outstanding work they do assisting seafarers visiting Sydney.



International Day for Women in Maritime marked in Newcastle. DCN 19th May 2023

The Second International Day for Women in Maritime was celebrated in Newcastle with an event that brought together women in the industry to share their experiences and discuss future strategies. The official theme designated by the International Maritime Organisation was "mobilising networks for gender equality," while the event itself embodied the concept of "you can't be what you can't see." Hosted by WISTA, the gathering took place at the Port of Newcastle's offices and drew an audience of over 300 individuals participating through livestreaming from various parts of the world, along with approximately 80 attendees in person.

[Read the full DCN story >>](#)



'From words to action': Addressing the maritime gender gap. ISWAN, 18th May 2023.

To mark the second International Day for Women in Maritime, ISWAN explores the challenges that continue to face women at sea, as well as potential solutions to address gender inequity in the maritime sector.

Women account for only 1.3% of the global seafaring workforce, according to the latest BIMCO/ICS Seafarer Workforce Report. Despite the International Maritime Organization (IMO) first introducing a gender and capacity-building programme 25 years ago in 1988, the level of participation of women in international seafaring has remained broadly unchanged over recent decades. A number of factors have contributed to the lack of progress towards achieving greater gender parity, including the maritime sector's lack of visibility as a career path, particularly for girls; the lack of flexibility for women who seek to start a family; and, the failure to appropriately adapt the physical environment and working culture of ships to ensure that they are a safe and supportive environment for women seafarers.

[Read More >>](#)



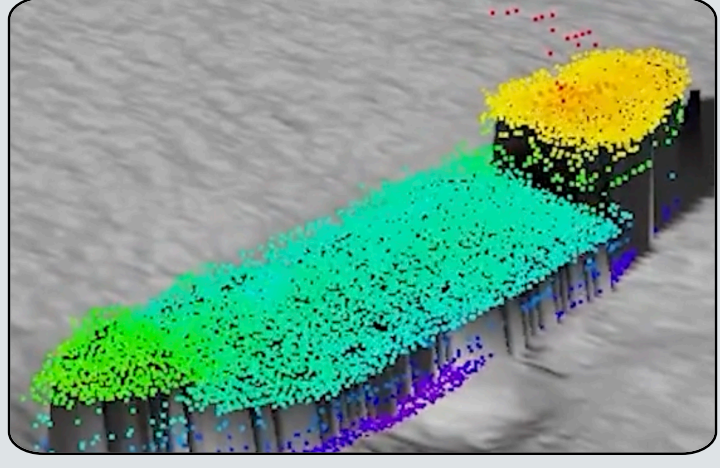
New study finds 15 key pain points for women at sea. Global Maritime Forum, 27th April 2023.

The new qualitative study from the Global Maritime Forum and the All Aboard Alliance contains a wide spectrum of perspectives from women seafarers who address the challenges they experience at sea, from ill-fitting safety gear to slower career progression, and harassment.

From interviews with women serving at sea, the Report has identified 15 key pain points which fall into four broad categories:

- Difficult for women to succeed professionally at sea
- Challenging social relations onboard
- Employment challenges at sea
- Physical conditions onboard

A copy of the full All Aboard Alliance report can be accessed via the link below.
<https://www.globalmaritimeforum.org/publications/15-key-pain-points-for-women-at-sea/>



Blythe Star Wreck discovered. 15th May 2023. ABC News and DCN.

The discovery of the Blythe Star shipwreck serves as a poignant reminder for both the government and the maritime community about the perils encountered by Australia's maritime workers. The CSIRO confirmed on Monday (15 May) that the research vessel Investigator had successfully located the wreck of the coastal freighter Blythe Star, which had vanished near Tasmania on 13 October 1973 while en route from Hobart to King Island, ultimately capsizing and sinking. Although the 10-member crew managed to escape the sinking vessel using an inflatable life raft, tragically, three crewmembers lost their lives before the survivors were rescued 12 days later. The incident prompted the largest maritime search ever conducted in Australia up to that time.

[Read the full ABC News Report here >>](#)

The Beacon:

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



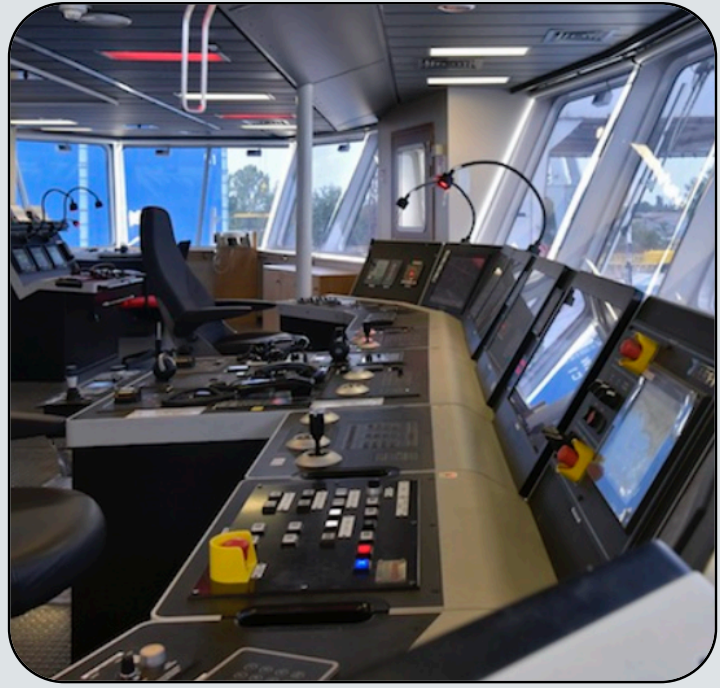
CSIRO's RV Investigator.

The Australian flagged ship RV Investigator is part of the Marine National Facility, a national research infrastructure operated by CSIRO, Australia's national science agency, on behalf of the nation.

The ship is a 94-meter ocean research vessel capable of delivering up to 300 research days each year. The vessel was purpose-built and commissioned in 2014. It has impressive scientific capabilities and possesses a wide range of onboard and modular laboratories and facilities.

The vessel supports biological, oceanographic, geological, and atmospheric research, as well maritime training and education, and outreach activities. It accommodates 40 researchers and technicians and 20 crew and has an endurance of 60 days and 10,000 nautical miles without resupply.

[Take a virtual tour of this impressive research ship 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 >>](#)

