

## Fishermen's Mission Annual Review 2015



Providing a lifeline of welfare and support to fishermen and their families

2015 saw the furthering of our Outreach programme and movement towards the final phase of the long term strategy of downsizing our centre-based facilities. The centre in Fraserburgh is being redeveloped by a local businessman to provide facilities for both fishermen and visitors. After considerable work on the site, including a new modern frontage, the Fishermen's Mission will return to the centre, leasing new 24/7 welfare and support offices in the premises. Similarly, in Newlyn the centre is being used for commercial purposes but we retain both a welfare office and meeting room along with a newly refurbished and rededicated memorial room.

We are continuing to progress with our Outreach work and we have strengthened the team undertaking this work around our ports. We have increased the number of folk we are engaging with around the UK and we are now finding that the needs are more complex and long standing. We will continue to seek out both active and retired fishermen and to provide the support they need as we move into 2016 and beyond.

Recent reports regarding the way charities raise and spend their funds have been at the forefront of the minds of most charity Chief Executives.

I would like to take this opportunity to reassure you as to the way we go about raising our funds. Every name that we hold on our database for fundraising purposes has been given to us by the person concerned. As a matter of principle, we do not buy or sell information; neither do we swap information with any other company or charity. As we rely completely on the donations we receive from our friends and supporters all gifts are very precious to us. We always treat these gifts with the utmost care and respect.

We remain vigilant with regards to our expenditure and strive to maintain our discipline so that for every pound generated we spend 88p on providing our services.

2016 will be the 135th anniversary of the Fishermen's Mission, also known of course as the Royal National Mission to Deep Sea Fishermen. I am content that we have remained true to our founder's vision. We have undertaken our work with Christian purpose, care and compassion, ensuring we deliver emotional, financial and practical support to those who need us. We always aim to be looking forward, to make sure that the fishermen of yesterday as well as those of today and tomorrow are provided for the best we can.

I remain, as always, deeply grateful to my team of staff, both paid and unpaid, who strive with such passion and energy on behalf of our fishermen and for our donors, supporters and friends for their enduring support of our work and commitment to our fishermen and their families.

Commodore David Dickens CBE RN

**Chief Executive** 



"The day the Fishermen's Mission visited the harbour it was like a cloud had been lifted. It felt like somebody was listening to us and wanted to help"

Fishermen from Cornwall

ince 1881 to the modern day the
Fishermen's Mission (also known
as the Royal National Mission to
Deep Sea Fishermen) has put the welfare of
fishermen and their families at the very front
of our work. In 2015 we provided support to
active and retired fishermen and their families
around the whole of the UK coastline.

We spread the word of our work far and wide, using our new redesigned publicity, reaching out with our new website and via a very successful digital media programme; we have reached out to thousands of people, fishermen, donors, friends and businesses both large and small.

We have steadfastly maintained our presence in ports and harbours around the UK. Within easy reach of our fishermen and their families.









# "Your Superintendent was a wonderful support to us and I will never forget his words of comfort through the darkest of times"

Family member of a fisherman lost at sea

## Fast response

Last year we responded to 280 emergencies at sea. Despite an extended safe fishing campaign, 17 fishermen lost their lives to the sea. There is much work still to be done.

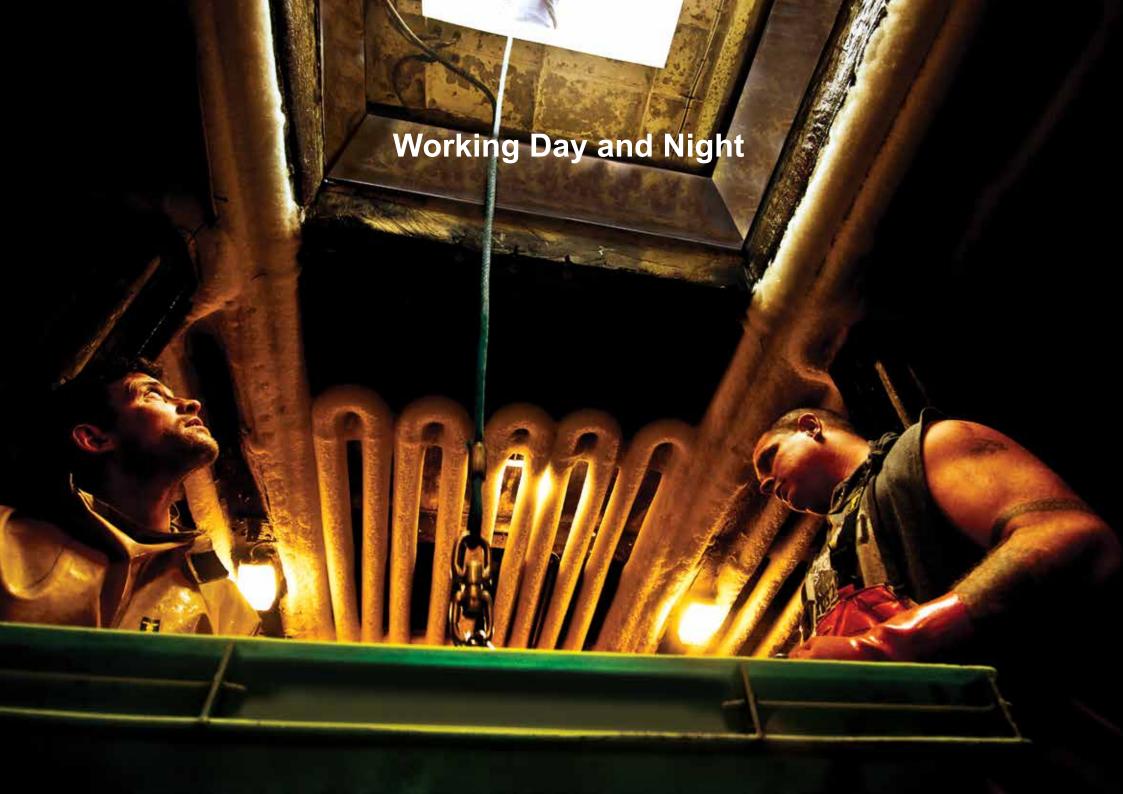
We found emergency accommodation for 59 fishermen who found themselves in difficulties.

Our work is often difficult, sometimes sad but always compassionate and meaningful.









"I've been stopped by donors and fishermen waiting for me by the car at the harbour. I've even been offered parking in the busiest ports because they know I am on Fishermen's Mission business"

Superintendent Colin Mackay, Scrabster



## On the move

## No journey is too far for us to travel to offer our support

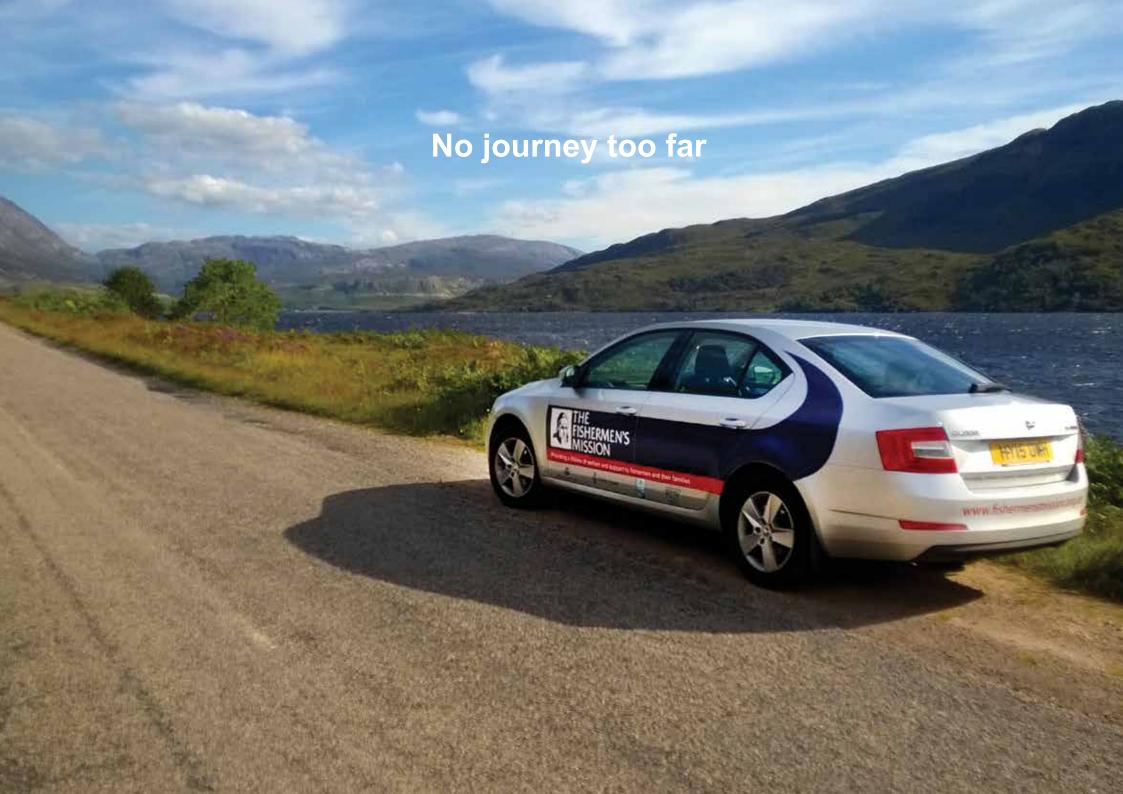
- Last year we travelled 98,795 miles providing our services
- While out and about we have visited 4,860 fishing boats (that's nearly a third of the UK fleet!)

The rebranded cars mean that we are easily recognised as we drive around the ports and the local communities.

We are grateful for the continued support of Seafarers UK, Merchant Navy Welfare Board, Trinity House and ITF Seafarers' Trust (via Nautilus International) for their support in sponsoring our vehicles.







"Thanks to local funding and support from the Merchant **Navy Welfare Board** our Troon Mini **Centre has modern** toilet and shower facilities. They are very popular with local and visiting fishing boat crews after a long day".

n 2015 we updated our facilities in **North Shields** and provided a 'Crew Hoos' (as named by the fishermen). This is a 24 hour facility for washing clothes, accessing the internet and making a snack. Later on in the year, thanks to help from our friends at Trinity House, we were able add new showers as well.

The offices at **Lowestoft** received a new facelift as the outside of the building was clad in a special weather proof plastic thanks to a grant from the Merchant Navy Welfare Board and new signage has boosted our presence considerably.

In the spring, the **Troon** Centre refurbishment was unveiled. Support again from the Merchant Navy Welfare Board and Seafarers' UK has meant that our Troon Centre is now in tip top condition with all new facilities and open 24/7.



## The Financial Year 2015

## **Overall Results**

Financial Year 2014/15 was another sound year for the Fishermen's Mission's finances. An operating surplus of £1,013,311 (2013/14: £325,482) exceeded budget due to another exceptional year for legacies. To meet the requirement of FRS 17 the final salary scheme Pension Fund income and expenditure are shown on the Fishermen's Mission's accounts.

Minor improvements to the balance sheet position in large part reflect legacies and a reduction in the Pension Scheme liability.

## **Fishermen's Mission Reserves**

2014/15 saw the continuation of the new Reserves strategy with the resultant increasing diversity of funds. Three sub-portfolios exist; one to generate much needed revenue income; one to cover a major operational emergency; and a capital fund to cover Trustees covenant to the final salary pension scheme and strategic development. As a whole, the investments also provide some £4m for 2 years business continuity. The Reserves continue to be wholly invested in pooled funds, OEICs and fixed interest products to meet an overall strategic risk profile at level 4. Argentis Financial Management continues to act as the Fishermen's Mission's IFA.

The Fishermen's Mission portfolio experienced a satisfactory net gain of just over 5.76%, this is in excess of the performance of the FTSE WMA Stockmarket Balanced Index which as a benchmark over the same period was 4.49%. The portfolio also generated £129,251 (2013/14: £114,230) in dividend/interest payments for revenue flow.

The Net Movement of Funds for the year was £1,637,165 inflow (2013/14: £162,903 inflow) which has been transferred to the relevant funds. The Fishermen's Mission free reserves at 31 October 2015 stood at £7,737,094. Free reserves available for use by the Fishermen's Mission are deemed to be those that are readily realisable, less funds whose uses are restricted or else designated for a particular purpose. The calculation excludes funds invested in property and other fixed assets that will continue to be used in the day to day running of the Fishermen's Mission.

## **Retirement Benefit Scheme (RBS)**

Investment volatility over the summer months has impacted on a positive start to the year. However, the underlying performance of the funds compares reasonably well against the FTSE WMA Stockmarket Income Index as a benchmark over the last 12 months.

The asset allocation of the scheme's assets has been improved through reducing the scheme's reliance on UK equities, and increasing allocations to regional equities and commercial property funds for diversification. Manager risk is also being reduced, as the overall reliance on Invesco Perpetual as a fund management group has been gradually reduced in recent times.

The FRS 17 Valuation on 31st October 2015 saw a reduction in the scheme's deficit which was down by £556,000 to £589,000 (2013/14: £1,145,000).

## **INCOME TO 31 OCTOBER 2015** Net realised on Legacies sale of fixed assets £1,272,000 £478,000 Income from catering Voluntary income and accommodation £1,452,000 £146,000 Charity Shop £38,000 Rental income£39,000

Investment income £172,000

## Fundraising and publicity £782,000 Governance £72,000 Charitable Activities £1,730,000

## TRUSTEES' STATEMENT

The summarised financial information shows the income raised and expenditure of the Mission for the year. The information is taken from the full financial statements which were approved by the Trustees on 23 February 2016. In order to gain a full understanding of the financial affairs of the charity, the full audited financial statements, Trustees' Annual Report and auditors' report should be consulted. Copies can be obtained from the charity.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees

Jill Henderson, Chairman Board of Trustees

## **Summarised Income and Expenditure**

For the year ended 31 October 2015

	2015	2014
INCOMING RESOURCES	£,000	£,000
Incoming resources from generated funds:		
Voluntary Income: Donations and Gifts	1,452	1,926
Legacies	1,272	930
Investment Income	172	159
Incoming resources from charitable activities		
Income from Catering and Accommodation	146	211
Charity Shop	38	15
Net realised loss on sale of fixed assets	478	(70)
Rental Income	39	37
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	3,597	3,208
RESOURCES EXPENDED		
Less: Costs of generating funds		
Fundraising and publicity	782	695
Charitable Activities		
Charitable expenditure	1,730	2,124
Governance		
Governance costs	72	63
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	2,584	2,882
NET INCOMING RESOURCES		
Before Transfer	1,013	326
UNREALISED GAIN ON INVESTMENT ASSETS	293	178
ACTUARIAL LOSS/(GAIN) ON DEFINED PENSION SCHEME	331	(341)
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	1,637	163

## "For every £1 we generate we spend 88p on our services"



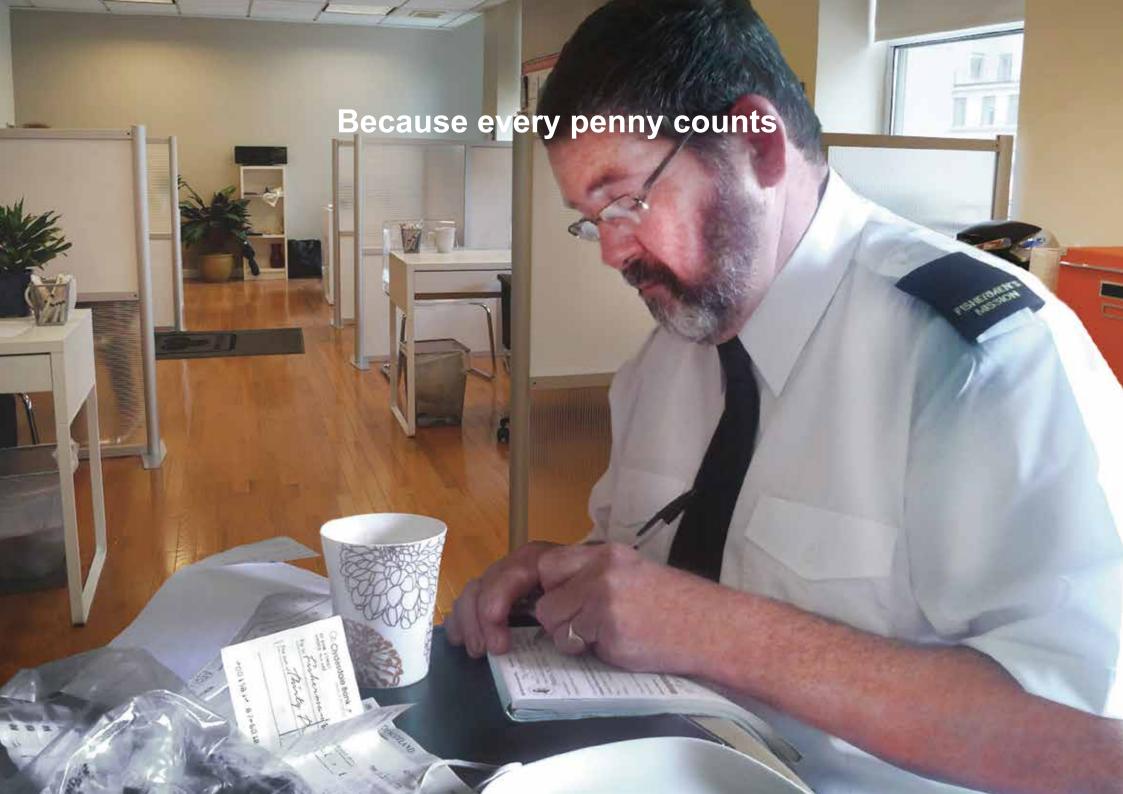
## **Efficient**

- Year on year we have kept the cost of our services stable
- Next year we plan further cost reductions with a focus on our utilities and communication contracts
- We are always looking for savings without compromising our very high standards of service delivery
- Every penny is greatly valued and wisely spent









## "Thank you. We do not receive any government or lottery funding. Our friends mean everything to us"

Alison Godfrey, Director of Fundraising

- 558 fish and chip shops from Newlyn to Great Yarmouth from Shetland to Brighton
- 17,770 donations from around the country
- Legacies totalling £1.1m from 61 supporters who have remembered us in their wills
- 440 people collecting House to House
- Donors who have given for more than 60 years
- And those who send in £2 every week, without fail
- Donations from coffee mornings and fish festivals; support from music concerts and Michelin star restaurants; from old friends and new ones









## "You listened to me when I was in pain and you have helped me through financial hardship"

Widow of a fisherman



We hold Lost at Sea Memorial Services all around the coastline. A special time for people to gather and remember those who have never come home.

This year we completely refurbished the Memorial Room at our Newlyn Welfare Office. A deeply moving church service for families and friends was held when the name of each Newlyn fisherman lost at sea was read out and a candle lit in their memory. The room was rededicated and is now, thanks to volunteers, open six days a week.

We have conducted 290 funerals for families who asked for our presence.

We continue to support families over many years. Time is irrelevant to us.









"We try not to say 'this is how we can help' but instead ask 'what is it you need?' **Everyone is different** as are the reasons they need our support. Our partners enable us to offer a wide range of help."

David Dickens, Chief Executive

In 2015 we were able to help over 2,000 fishermen and their families apply for grants from other agencies totalling £1.1m. These grants helped to keep home and hearth together.

In the longer term grants have supported our fishermen and their dependents by providing help with basic household items, assisted with mobility problems, child welfare and educational support, fast tracked medical support and given longer term financial help to those who are in need.

Being able to refer fishermen to our wide range of partners means that we like to think that we can help with most of the problems that life as a fisherman brings.







his is my last message to you all as Chairman of the Fishermen's Mission. While I will remain on the Board, I have served my three year term and will be handing the baton on to my colleague, Glyn Tonge. I have felt hugely privileged to serve the fishing community in this way and to be a part of this vital work.

This year we have strived to meet the challenges and more complex needs of the active fleet while maintaining our development with outreach and the promotion of safe fishing. The figures speak for themselves and are a reflection of the hard work of all our Port Staff working hand in hand with our Head Office team to ensure that we are able provide our services in a timely and cost effective manner.

Summer 2016 will see the Board undertaking a full strategic review, as part of our three year planning, to ensure that we continue to focus on not just the work in hand but the needs of the future. We have achieved much against our last strategy and we are constantly looking to deliver a modern, effective yet still ultimately a caring Christian service to those who need us.

Next year our priorities will continue to be on our Outreach programme as well as the safety and well being of our active fishermen. We will be working on a Data Management Project which will make our work more cost effective and help to provide a more joined up approach in supporting our beneficiaries as well as modernising some of our working practices. We continue to recruit more 'boots on the ground' to provide a better coverage around the coastline, many of these will be volunteers. As loneliness continues to be one of the most difficult and isolating issues

we deal with we are looking to find volunteer 'Home Visitors' who will visit, have a chat and share a cup of tea, breaking the cycle of the isolation of being older or suffering from ill health.

Last year we entered the world of social media in a more significant way and this has been an unqualified success. Being able to connect across the internet with thousands of people has proved a great tool. We will be looking to go further next year with more of our Port Staff becoming involved.

My final words must go to those who so generously support us. There are too many to mention but to our partner charities, our churches, groups, fish and chip shops and individuals spread around the whole of the United Kingdom, I offer my personal and sincere thanks for all you do, and hopefully continue to do, for our fishermen and their families. Without you all our work would not continue and people might be unsupported in their darkest hours.

Best wishes

Jill Henderson

Chairman



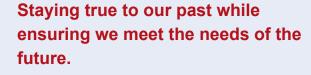
## **Christianity** with its sleeves rolled up





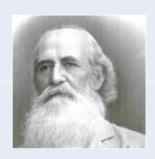






135 years steadfastly serving our fishermen and their families. Sharing the compassion of Christ with our fishermen, serving by example.

Providing a lifeline of welfare and support to both active and retired fishermen.

















## How you can help us

## Make a donation



We receive no government funding or lottery support so every single donation makes a real difference to us. You can make a donation by calling **FREEPHONE 0800 634 1020** or donate online at **www.justgiving.com/rnmdsf** or post a cheque to our address at the bottom of the page. 88p of every £1 generated is spent on providing our services.

## Become a volunteer



We are always grateful for the help given to us by our dedicated volunteers.

If you can spare a few hours each month do get in touch

FREEPHONE 0800 634 1020

or email enquiries@fishermensmission.org.uk

## Remember us in your will



Everyone wants to ensure that friends and family are well provided for if you are writing or updating your will. However, just a small gift to the Fishermen's Mission can make all the difference to our work and ensure that your help continues.

If you would like a legacy leaflet call **FREEPHONE 0800 634 1020** or email **legacy@fishermensmission.org.uk** 

## **Contact us:**

If you would like to find out more about the work of the Fishermen's Mission or you would like to speak to one of our team about how you can help you can:

Telephone: FREEPHONE 0800 634 1020 or 01489 566910

Email: enquiries@fishermensmission.org.uk

Website: www.fishermensmission.org.uk

The Fishermen's Mission Mather House 4400 Parkway Solent Business Park Whiteley Hampshire PO15 7FJ

Follow us on fracebook and Twitter (@thefishmish)

## OUR GRATEFUL THANKS TO ALL OUR DONORS, FUNDERS, CORPORATE PARTNERS AND FRIENDS







































