

Press Release

The Apostleship of the Sea



Apostleship of the Sea Chaplain Supports Crew after Man lost overboard from Sea Ferry

An incident today 2nd December 2008 highlighted just how dangerous a life at sea can be, and how vital the role of the Apostleship of the Sea, a maritime welfare charity for seafarers, is. Just before 0600 GMT, an alarm was raised for a man overboard by the crew on the passenger ferry The Pride of Rotterdam, which was on its way from the Dutch city to The Humber. The alarm was raised as the ferry approached the Norfolk coast. While lifeboats and search and rescue helicopters are searching the sea off Norfolk for the man believed to be a ferry crew member, Apostleship of the Sea Chaplain Anne McLaren is present onboard to provide welfare to the traumatised crew.

While the search at sea goes on, Apostleship of the Sea Chaplain Anne McLaren is onboard the Pride of Rotterdam to comfort the anguished crew. The loss of a team member and the aftermath of official investigations is devastating for the crew, and often there is no closure as the cause can never be identified. In times like this the support of the crew is one of the vital roles that Apostleship of the Sea chaplains perform. They are there to lend practical and comforting help, offer a friendly ear or just 'be there' in support. Anne McLaren is a regular visitor to the Pride of Rotterdam as part of her regular ship visiting duties and the crew are comfortable with her. Apostleship of the Sea is unique in the Humber as they are the only maritime welfare organisation actively ship visiting in this region.

Apostleship of the sea is a maritime welfare charity, providing vital practical and pastoral support to seafarers. The work of Apostleship of the Sea is funded wholly by voluntary contributions. For more information about Apostleship of the Sea call 07712864747.

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Anne McLaren chaplain to the port of Hull

Further information for Editors

The Apostleship of the Sea, AOS, is a maritime welfare charity, providing practical and pastoral support to seafarers, regardless of race, colour or creed (if any).

Ninety percent of world trade is carried by ship, and some 100,000 seafarers visit British ports each year. They are commonly away from home for nine to 12 months at a time, suffering loneliness, depression and even exploitation. They also have to work in gruelling and often dangerous conditions. AOS chaplains and ship visitors welcome seafarers to our shores. They recognise them as brothers with an intrinsic human dignity which can be overlooked in the modern globalised maritime industry. For more information visit www.apostleshipofthesea.org.uk

For further information about the work and vision of AOS please contact Sheila Bailey Director of Fundraising and Communications Tel: 07712864747 or at sheilabailey@apostleshipofthesea.org.uk