A Certain Presence in an Uncertain World
No media broadcast is complete without a discussion regarding the UK strategy on Brexit. This is, of course, an important subject for the UK fisheries and much consultation has taken place already. While we at the Fishermen’s Mission will not be entering into the political debate, we are aware of the uncertainty it brings to the industry but particularly to our active fishermen. We will always take the view that the Fishermen’s Mission will be here to support all those fishing on UK boats in our waters no matter what implications, opportunities or threats may arise but life might be very different in 2019.

At the beginning of 2017 we began a Data Management Project. The organisation moved from free standing computers in the Ports and servers at Head Office to the Microsoft 365 cloud-based platform. This means that all our data is more securely stored and our business continuity is strengthened as all information is accessible across the network.

Following on from this, in the summer, all staff were issued with a tablet so we could begin to move away from paper based grant applications, expenses forms etc. This is a real step change and required a considerable amount of hard work for the Project team and a willingness to change by the rest of the staff. The project came in on time and on budget, not always a common outcome for complex IT projects.

During the year we have encountered some difficult situations that have needed the involvement of several Port Officers from around the coast. MCA reports during the year highlighted the increase in the number of deaths that were either directly attributed to substance misuse or the fishermen had the substances on board in their belongings. While this is not a widespread problem it is an issue in some ports more than others. The use of drugs is widespread across the UK, particularly with the younger age group, there is no reason to assume that fishing would be excluded from this problem. The real issue is that fishing and drugs are a very dangerous combination and we have, and will continue to, work with our partners to highlight this problem and to ensure that our staff are aware of the issues.

Furthermore, we have been alerted to some migrant fishermen that may have been subjected to abuse under the Modern Slavery Act. Again, this is not a significant issue but is very traumatic for the fishermen and can be difficult to work with for our port staff as it requires a sensitive and informed approach. Again, we work with partner agencies to deal with the problem but also train our team to spot any potential problems when they are out and about meeting the fishing crews.

I travel from port to port touching base with our staff. I remain extremely proud of the contribution that each and every one of them make to those who need us. From the most practical of assistance, supported by knowledge and innovative solutions, to the most difficult of problems combined with a deep empathy and compassion for what we do. A friend that can be trusted and relied upon to act accordingly.

As always, to our donors, partners, supporters and volunteers my heartfelt thanks.

David Dickens
Chief Executive
In another busy year for our core work, good progress continued to be made across Council’s Strategic Objectives to 2021.

With the imminent introduction of UK legislation to enact the International Work in Fishing Convention (ILO 188), the fishing industry has seen a significant increase in scrutiny of fishermen’s welfare, particularly in relation to non-EEA crew. Further, government agencies tasked with responsibilities under Modern Slavery legislation continue to take an active interest in practices across the industry. In light of these developments, the Fishermen’s Mission has sought to develop closer relationships with key agencies, industry representatives and other seafaring bodies with a view to improving our support to fishermen’s welfare.

Early interventions to reduce the volume and intensity of future needs remains a cornerstone of our strategy. Sadly, over the last decade 100 fishermen have lost their lives at sea; we are committed to sustaining our strong support to initiatives to improve safety.

2017 saw major changes in working processes with the move to the Microsoft 365 platform to integrate our management of data and much preparatory work to ensure compliance with the new General Data Protection Regulations from May 2018.

The Council of Management holds ultimate accountability for this charity and we take our responsibilities seriously. Trustees undertake a vigorous training programme, while an independent review of Board performance will report in April 2018. As a Board we recognise the need to consider areas that are perhaps not so obvious within the day to day running of the business but are still important.

The strategy for the use and investment of our reserves is a key focus. Our investments ensure the future of the charity, providing for much needed unrestricted income, resilience against a downturn in voluntary donations (particularly legacies), business continuity and emergency response. In this, the Fishermen’s Mission’s reserves are now under discretionary management provided through Sarasin and Partners LLP, while management of the discontinued final salary pension scheme fund now sits with Legal and General Investment Management.

We are aware of the trust that is placed in our hands by beneficiaries, donors, staff and fishing and maritime sectors. At a fundamental level the work of Council is to ensure that we uphold this trust and continue to develop and improve our services.

Glyn Tonge
Chairman
Our Work

We aim to make a life or event changing difference to our fishermen and their families whatever their needs or difficulties

Emergency Response 24/7, 365 days a year

- Looking after the survivors of fishing emergencies or accidents
- Helping injured or ill fishermen
- Providing emergency assistance to families of fishermen who have been killed or lost at sea
- Meeting the rescue teams and helping with accommodation, food, clothing and contacting families
- Offering emergency grants to fishermen and their families in times of need

Supporting active and retired fishermen and their families

- Offering Christian pastoral and practical help across a range of welfare issues
- Helping to access grants to fishermen and their families from our partner organisations
- Assisting fishermen and their dependents in times of illness or distress
- Providing a full range of support in the UK for foreign fishermen working in the UK industry
- Acting as advocates for the welfare of our fishermen and their families

By 2021 we will have...

- Enhanced our support to both active and retired fishermen and their families
- Improved the collection, quality, management and use of our data
- Extended our support to wider areas, both geographical and occupational
- Provided, or worked with others to offer, lifestyle improvements for both active and retired fishermen and their families
- Improved cooperative and collaborative engagement with others. At the same time explaining to industry and beyond, our work, our vision to 2021 and the relevance of the Fishermen’s Mission
- Enhanced further the reputation and the face of the Fishermen’s Mission by improving the quality of our service and the governance of our charity

-FiSHERMEN’S MISSION ANNUAL REVIEW 2017
Last year, nearly 40p in every pound received by The Fishermen’s Mission came from gifts in Wills. Special donations from people who had looked out for their loved ones first, but also contributed to a cause close to their hearts.

It’s important to note that any gift in a Will to a UK registered charity is exempt from Inheritance Tax, meaning your family could save on their tax bill while you make a contribution to supporting active and retired fishermen and their families all round the UK coastline.

If you would like our Legacy Information leaflet or would like to speak to someone in complete confidence about leaving a gift in your Will, please contact Sophie on 01489 566922 or email her at SophieDavies@fishermensmission.org.uk.
Our **Impact** in 2017

- **2,452** people receiving grants totalling **£898,536**
- **177** fishermen receiving emergency financial assistance
- **2,914** fishermen **VISITED**
- **5,177** boats visited
- **6,630** welfare visits
- **79,487** miles covered by our trusty cars (and thank you to our partners who provide them)

**FiSHERMEN'S MISSION ANNUAL REVIEW 2017**
Summarised **Income** and **Expenditure**  
*Year ended 31st October 2017*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INCOMING RESOURCES</th>
<th>£,000</th>
<th>£,000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Incoming resources from generated funds:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Voluntary Income : Donations and Gifts</td>
<td>1,501</td>
<td>1,487</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legacies</td>
<td>1,318</td>
<td>957</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment Income</td>
<td>227</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Incoming resources from charitable activities</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Income from Catering and Accommodation</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charity Shop</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net realised gain on sale of fixed assets</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rental Income</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</strong></td>
<td>3,179</td>
<td>2,735</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| RESOURCES EXPENDED | | |
|--------------------| | |
| Less: Costs of generating funds | | |
| Fundraising and publicity | 926 | 822 |
| **Charitable Activities** | | |
| Charitable expenditure | 1,922 | 1,935 |
| **TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED** | 2,848 | 2,757 |

| NET INCOMING RESOURCES | | |
| BEFORE TRANSFER | 331 | 22 |
| **UNREALISED GAIN ON INVESTMENT ASSETS** | | |
| 716 | 701 |
| **ACTUARIAL GAIN/(LOSS) ON DEFINED PENSION SCHEME** | | |
| -864 | -335 |
| **NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS** | 183 | 344 |

**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 20 February 2018. 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

Glyn Tonge, Chairman Board of Trustees

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**£226,927**  
**Investment income brought in as unrestricted revenue**

**£1,318,190**  
**Legacies received**

**£1,633,733**  
**Total Income Generated**

**£1,921,454**  
**Cost of Providing our services**

**£1 generated = 88p spent on services**

**£926,004**  
**Cost of generating funds (including legacies)**

**£1 spent on fundraising brings in £3**
Health Checks Rolling On Around the UK

Following very successful health checks and with support from Seafarers UK we moved the roadshow up a notch in 2017.

The checks rolled into Cornwall visiting Newlyn, Mevagissey and Padstow. This time there was also a mobile dental service provided by charity partner Dentaid.

“Wasn’t keen at first but glad I changed my mind and was told everything was fine”
“Brilliant idea and wonderful service”
“Very reassuring” “First time I have seen a dentist in 7 years”

The heath checks on offer include: medical history, weight, blood pressure and cholesterol tests. Along with information and guidance on alcohol and substance misuse, lifestyle changes, specific information about men’s health issues and free general information packs to each attendee.

And in 2018 with the help of Seafarers Hospital Society we are off to North Shields and North Wales!

Drug & Alcohol Misuse Awareness Programme

During 2017 five young fishermen died as either a result of taking drugs or had them in their bloodstream or possession at the time of the accident. While we know it affects a small part of the fishing industry the risks are high.

We took part in a BBC Inside Out Programme and several radio interviews discussing these issues. We have assisted Seafish to produce a training module for fishermen. We have produced our own publicity and our staff are being trained for the warning signs of drug and alcohol misuse.
The story of a Constant Friend

Kilkeel, Northern Ireland. A Saturday night in September. As midnight approaches Fishermen’s Mission Superintendent Lesley Hammond receives a call from a Filipino fisherman. One of his crewmates, Jory, has fallen overboard in the harbour.

Lesley alerts the RNLI and calls her colleague Superintendent Ingrid Perry to meet her at the Fishermen’s Mission Centre. Within minutes they arrive and meet the crew rushing towards them carrying Jory’s body, wrapped in a duvet.

Jory is taken into the centre where the crew administer CPR. Lesley calls for an ambulance. She then rushes to the Lifeboat station for a defibrillator. Lesley diverts the Lifeboat crew from launching to attending Jory. Both RNLI and Coastguard take over the fight to save Jory in the Mission Centre.

There is an agonising wait for the ambulance. The battle for Jory’s life continues as the distraught crew are comforted by Lesley and Ingrid. In the early hours Jory reaches hospital with

Lesley & Ingrid
only a faint pulse. Lesley and Ingrid stay with him overnight before returning to support and pray with the crew.

After barely three hours of broken sleep, Lesley and Ingrid return to Jory in the Intensive Care Unit. They speak to Jory but he barely responds. Later they return to the Fishermen’s Mission Centre to update the crew, Skipper and the Philippine Embassy. Using a local Filipino translator, they speak to Jory’s wife, whose fisherman husband is deteriorating fast and on life support.

Ingrid accompanies the skipper and crew to the hospital. They gather around the bedside to pray and weep for their friend. A Fishermen’s Mission New Testament is placed in Jory’s hand.

It’s soon clear that Jory’s wife will not make it to Northern Ireland in time. A Filipino speaking nurse contacts her and permission is given to turn off the life support machine.

Lesley and Ingrid comfort the heartbroken crew. They return to Jory’s boat, the Constant Friend, to gather together his few belongings.

Over the course of six emotionally exhausting days Lesley and Ingrid exemplified the emergency response of the Fishermen’s Mission.
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/rmdsf or post a cheque to our address at the bottom of the page. 88p of every £1 generated is spent on providing our services.

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

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

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

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Follow us on Facebook and Twitter (@thefishmish)