

PRESS RELEASE



03 March 2010

Singapore Cyclists Show Support for Seafarers

Shipping Team takes part in OCBC Cycle Singapore Race to raise funds for the Sailors' Society

Fifty amateur cyclists in Singapore are taking on the OCBC Cycle Singapore Race on 7th March to raise vital funds for global charity the Sailors' Society. The Society has an established presence across Asia with welfare activities in ports across India, Indonesia and the Philippines. The team of cyclists were keen to support this international charity which works to support seafarers, often away from home for months at a time by helping them in response to their practical, emotional and spiritual needs and if necessary providing financial support.

The team will be cycling a range of distances in the city's mass cycling event - from 5km to 50km - with most taking on the challenge to complete 40km. As well as their hard work in training, the team have been working hard on their fundraising with over 3000 GBP raised already. The team are more used to their regular Breakfast Club at the Picotin Restaurant, but they made a commitment to get healthy and support the Sailors' Society. The restaurant followed suit by sponsoring the shirts for the team. Following their exertions, the cyclists will be holding a fundraising dinner and auction as a reward for all their hard work on the cycling event.

Jan Webber, Director of Fundraising & Marketing for the Sailors' Society said:

"We'd like to thank everybody for their commitment to the Sailors' Society, and particularly to Keith Denholm from Pacific Carriers Ltd who organised the cyclists from 25 shipping and logistics companies to take part in the cycle on our behalf. It is particularly appropriate this year as we recognise the International Maritime Organisation's *Year of the Seafarer* and the

often overlooked contribution seafarers make to our society. We wish them all the best of luck with the race, and congratulate them on their successful fundraising.”

There are two pages set up for sponsorship:

<http://www.justgiving.com/PicotinBreakfastClub>

www.justgiving.com/Shipowners-Asia

The Sailors’ Society will be attending Singapore Maritime Week in April, and plan a Sailors’ Society Singapore Ball later in the year to support their continued practical and financial assistance to seafarers across Asia. For more information about how the Sailors’ Society provides support for seafarers in Asia and across the world, please log on to www.sailors-society.org or follow the charity on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/SailorsSociety> .

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Notes to Editors:

The Sailors’ Society is an international charity that provides a personal lifeline for seafarers throughout the world. Existing to enrich and enhance the well-being of the world’s 1.2 million seafarers, the charity offers practical help, emotional and spiritual support and, when in dire need, financial assistance and family liaison through our Port Chaplains and Seafarers’ Centres.

Asia is the largest supplier of seafarers in the global labour industry and as such there is a clear need for the Society’s work here. The Sailors’ Society has an established presence across Asia with welfare activities in ports across India, Indonesia and the Philippines. The Society’s Port Chaplains here undertake an active ship visiting programme supporting seafarers. As well as helping seafarers in port, the Society’s Port Chaplains in Asia also spend considerable time supporting retired seafarers, seafarers’ families and seafarers no longer able to work due to ill health or other circumstances.

The Society is building strong partnerships throughout Asia to ensure the future sustainability and expansion of its operations.



The Sailors’ Society is backing the **IMO Year of the Seafarer** campaign with a new fundraising drive asking for just £1 for every seafarer the charity aims to support in 2010

For more information, please visit www.sailors-society.org, or contact Zoë Mitchell at Logical Creative Marketing on: 0845 345 69 69 or email: zoe@lcm.co.uk