

Impact Report 2019



Our Impact in 2019

Seafarers UK has been championing seafarers since 1917. We support seafarers throughout their seafaring career: from first considering a career at sea, to working at sea, managing relationships at home while adapting to a seagoing life, then coming ashore and during retirement.

We do this by giving grant funding to organisations and projects that make an impact on seafarers' lives, across the Merchant Navy, Fishing Fleets, Royal Navy, Royal Fleet Auxiliary and Royal Marines.

Our key aims are to improve the quality of life for seafarers and their families in times of need by securing more efficient aid and support for them, and to ensure the effective distribution of funds to those organisations that help them, so as to assist as many people as possible.

What we delivered in 2019:

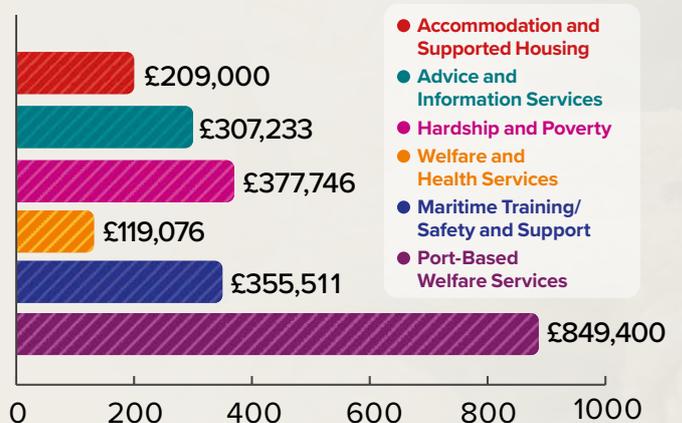
- **£2.2m** awarded in total funding*
- **43** organisations supported
- **53** grants awarded

*based on actual grants made in year

How we made a difference in 2019:

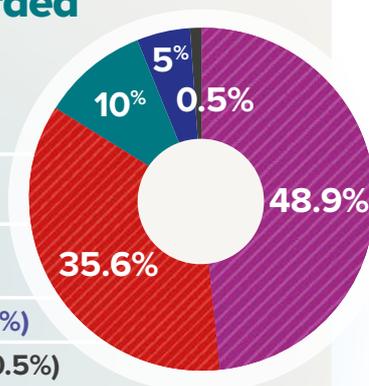
- **209,205** people supported by our funding
- **7** new organisations supported with grant funding for the first time
- **£80,556** was awarded in Merchant Navy Fund grants

Grants awarded by category:



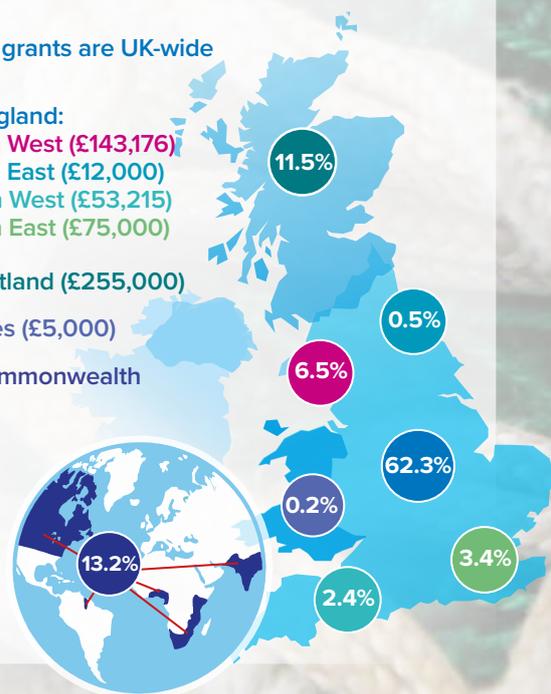
% of grants awarded by sector:

- **Merchant Navy** £1,084,238 (48.9%)
- **Fishing Fleet** £790,617 (35.6%)
- **Maritime Youth** £222,111 (10%)
- **Royal Navy** £110,500 (5%)
- **Cross-sector** £10,500 (0.5%)



Grants awarded by geographical location:

- **62.3%** of grants are UK-wide (£1,382,510)
- **12.8%** England:
 - 6.5% North West (£143,176)
 - 0.5% North East (£12,000)
 - 2.4% South West (£53,215)
 - 3.4% South East (£75,000)
- **11.5%** Scotland (£255,000)
- **0.2%** Wales (£5,000)
- **13.2%** Commonwealth (£292,065)



Our manifesto for seafarers



Launched in 2019, our ten-point manifesto for seafarers sets out our aspirations for seafarers' welfare and safety before, during and after their seafaring career.

In partnership with others, Seafarers UK will use its grant funding, encourage closer collaboration and advocate on behalf of seafarers so that all seafarers can:

- **be kept safe** and return from their seafaring voyages
- **take care** of their families and dependants during long periods away from home
- **feel less lonely** or isolated when working at sea, through maintaining connections with family and friends ashore
- **access free**, high-quality welfare services
- **access independent advice**, information and support
- **be provided with regular welfare breaks** in respect of hours of work, shore leave, length of journey, etc.
- **thrive** and have their uniqueness respected within a culturally diverse working environment without fear of bullying or harassment
- **be supported** to train and develop careers working at sea
- **transition from sea to shore**. This includes supporting the provision of short-term accommodation and other welfare and support services
- **obtain dignity** in retirement through access to financial security, appropriate accommodation and a network of support from maritime welfare charities

Our grant-making

Seafarers UK continued to support the core costs of organisations delivering services to seafarers and their families.

We believe that this approach to funding provides maritime welfare charities with the ability to develop and enhance their existing services and enables them to respond to the emerging needs of seafarers.

Our grant-making is also informed by the Maritime Charities Group's Funding Principles, jointly developed by Seafarers UK in 2019. These principles ensure that we look to encourage a preventative and innovative approach, with seafarers engaged in the development of service design and delivery in order to achieve maximum impact for seafarers. We also assisted those we fund by co-creating and presenting at an Impact Workshop, in Portsmouth, to assist our delivery partners evidence and enhance their impact.

We also aimed to be proactive in our funding. Grant applications provided evidence of the need for working seafarers to have access to an external, independent source for help and advice. We responded to this by providing grant funding for ship visitors, advice lines and caseworkers.

We also supported CHIRP Maritime – a confidential reporting programme for seafarers to report unsafe practices at sea.

'Fishing For a Future' research, commissioned by Seafarers UK, revealed the evidence of poor health care directly related to the business of fishing and the difficulty in obtaining both medical and dental appointments. This led to funding provided for an innovative partnership between the Fishermen's Mission and Seafarers' Hospital Society to deliver dental care and preventative physical and mental health care for fishers in fishing ports.



Fishing boats in Hartlepool

Our Impact in 2019

Sector Efficiency and Effectiveness

Seafarers UK continued to contribute towards strategic development in the maritime welfare charity sector via its membership and chairing of the Maritime Charities Group (MCG). It played a key part in promoting the findings of the Navigating Change research and the delivery of the very successful Maritime Charities Group Conference 2019. Seafarers UK Grants Director, Deborah Layde, chaired an important conference session on best practice in trustee recruitment.

Seafarers UK worked with its project partner Nautilus Welfare Fund (NWF) to deliver new apartments and bungalows specifically for Merchant Navy Veterans at Mariners' Park, Wallasey.

Seafarers UK 'Fishing For a Future' research has had a significant impact. It has been directly attributed by Defra as a contributory reason for taking forward their own research into the social needs of fishers. In addition to taking forward this new proposed research, Deborah Layde has been invited to be a member of the governance panel steering the development of the research.

In 2019, conversations were held with interested parties, including engagement and attendance at the All Party Parliamentary Group on Fisheries, and with the fishing community, concerning the recruitment of new entrants. Already, a new project has been funded in Norfolk to promote fishing as a career amongst local schools and other opportunities for funding are being explored. But it is clear that the challenge is perceptions around careers in the seafood sector allied with the need to send a clearer message about the diverse and exciting roles on offer and thus there is more to be done by working with key influencers in the sector.



Tower Bridge, London

Campaigning and Influence

Seafarers UK continued its policy of keeping MPs and Peers informed about the charity's work and actively developing relationships with the two Government departments that have the greatest influence over legislation and policy affecting seafarers and fishers; the Department for Transport and Defra.

Chaired by Seafarers UK, the Maritime Careers Promotion Forum secured a £250,000 grant from the Department for Transport and evolved into the Maritime Careers Taskforce, having made two key recommendations to Maritime UK: increased participation in careers promotion events and the employment of a Careers & Outreach Manager to promote the diverse range of maritime employment opportunities for UK residents, including pan-sector seafaring roles.

Refreshed with a new theme, Seafarers Awareness Week (8-14 July 2019) publicised the challenges facing UK fishers, especially the coastal fishing fleet, as they braced themselves for Brexit. Mainstream media interest was widespread across the UK, with a total of 42 TV and 24 radio items, including our Grants Director being interviewed on BBC TV News, together with 35 audio features and online coverage reaching a potential audience of more than 14m people.

Seafarers UK was invited to join the Maritime & Coastguard Agency-led 'Safety Funding Group' for fishers to assist with the distribution of £1m funding awarded by Government to the sector. This was in response to campaigning by many leaders in the fishing sector, complemented by Seafarers UK's separate campaign, backed by evidence from our 'Fishing For a Future' report.

Later in the year, local authorities and councils continued to respond positively to our popular 'Fly the Red Ensign for Merchant Navy Day' campaign, which resulted in the British Merchant Navy's official flag being flown in more than one thousand locations ashore on 3 September, including at 10 Downing Street!



 The British Merchant Navy's official flag was flown in more than one thousand locations ashore on 3 September.'

The impact of our work

Port-Based Welfare Services

-  £849,400 awarded
-  9 grants
-  176,081 people supported

£70,000 in funding was awarded to Stella Maris to support ship-visiting teams.

Stella Maris' network of chaplains and volunteers carry out 10,000 ship visits each year addressing welfare needs and helping to reduce seafarers' sense of isolation.

In September 2019, Stella Maris' team from Tees and Hartlepool won the Shoreside Team of the Year Award at the Safety at Sea Awards for their work in supporting seafarers.

Welfare and Health Services

-  £119,076 awarded
-  14 grants
-  823 people supported

£739,000 was awarded towards SeaFit, an innovative programme to provide health and wellbeing support for UK fishers and their families.

The project, delivered in partnership with Seafarers Hospital Society and Fishermen's Mission, provides free of charge clinics at the harbourside, that offer health checks, dental services, physio and mental health support to improve long-term physical and mental wellbeing of fishers and their families.

Hardship and Poverty

-  £377,746 awarded
-  9 grants
-  985 people supported

£50,000 in funding was awarded to Scottish Nautical Welfare Society to support Merchant Navy seafarers in Scotland.

The Society supports its beneficiaries by providing financial assistance and regular personal contact, enabling social interaction. Their Home Visitors visit all beneficiaries regularly on request. All visits are much appreciated, especially by those who are infirm and housebound.

Maritime Training/ Safety and Support

-  £355,511 awarded
-  10 grants
-  21,941 people supported

£20,000 in funding was awarded to CHIRP Maritime for their Confidential Hazardous Incident Reporting Programme, aimed at improving the safety of the industry.

In the last year, CHIRP Maritime received 98 incident reports concerning poorly positioned pilot ladders, mooring ropes and poor communications with tugs while berthing.

The safety lessons learned from the confidential reports are circulated to seafarers and organisations through a quarterly publication, reaching 300,000 readers worldwide.

Advice and Information Services

-  £307,233 awarded
-  7 grants
-  6,110 people supported

£120,000 was awarded to Seafarers Advice and Information Line, delivered by Greenwich Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB), to support a free advice and information telephone service for seafarers and their dependants. A new development in 2019 was our funding of a Fishing Specialist Caseworker role, based at CAB, to provide extra support for fishers and raise awareness of the service amongst the fishing industry. Our funding was assisted by additional funds from Defra and Fishmongers' Company's Charitable Trust.

Accommodation and Supported Housing

-  £209,000 awarded
-  5 grants
-  3,265 people supported

£10,000 in funding was awarded to Royal Alfred Seafarers' Society, a charity that provides housing and nursing care to former seafarers, their widows and dependants at the Belvedere House Nursing Home in Surrey.

Approximately one third of their residents require subsidy as they are unable to afford the cost of care. Local authority funding covers 50-66% of the costs for these residents. Funding from Seafarers UK will support the organisation's core costs and accommodation for 45 Merchant Navy seafarers.

Our Impact in 2019

Fundraising and Communications

Our Fundraising and Communications Team developed new avenues for growing income for the charity. Greater focus was placed on our approach to Individual Giving, with a payroll-giving scheme, a new lottery and a free online Will-writing service launched in 2019. The Merchant Navy Fund continued to focus on UK Merchant Navy seafarers in terms of both raising awareness of the Fund and donations.

Our ability to use digital channels for effective campaigning, engagement, awareness-raising and fundraising work continued to evolve during 2019. There was also a greater focus on the use of animated content in helping to promote our appeals and events and get our message across more clearly via digital means.

Collaboration continued to be a core theme for the charity's Fundraising and Communications work in 2019. A key example of this was the launch of Phase II of the Marine Engineering Pathway project, in partnership with Sea Cadets. The collaborative project won the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths) Award at Maritime UK's National Awards event in September.

Seafarers UK worked closely with International Seafarers' Welfare & Assistance Network, Mission to Seafarers, Sailors' Society and Stella Maris to deliver a successful conference at London International Shipping Week, about 'The Impact of Technology on Crew Wellbeing'. The conference, attended by over 240 delegates from across the maritime sector, looked at how technology could improve or may impact on physical and mental health and safety issues, how other industries are tackling issues like fatigue, isolation and long contracts, and how the maritime sector might learn from them, as well as how charities should prepare for the welfare needs of future generations of seafarers.



Catherine Spencer, Chief Executive Officer, Seafarers UK, at the Maritime UK awards ceremony.

Our fundraising

- £1.4m total donations and legacies received
- £185k in other funds raised*
- £3,046m total charitable activity expenditure

*From events, charitable activities and Seafarers Ltd.

Throughout 2019, we organised a number of successful fundraising events including our annual 24 Peaks Challenge and Royal Marine Band concerts across England and Scotland, and had a really good turnout for the Virgin Money London Marathon and Prudential RideLondon-Surrey 100, raising a total of £159,000.

During 2019, we had two Individual Giving appeals – the Fishing Appeal to fund essential support services for fishers and their families, and the Maritime Youth Appeal to provide access to education and training for disadvantaged young people and help future seafarers safely navigate their lives at sea, raising £11,125 and £12,286 respectively.



Tegan Jones running the Virgin Money London Marathon.

Thank you to our supporters

Seafarers UK is incredibly lucky to have a number of very loyal supporters of our charity. Through their commitment and dedication to our cause, we are able to continue helping seafarers in need and their families. We are extremely grateful to all our supporters, donors and volunteers.



Derek Cardno, from the Scottish Fishermen's Federation, who cycled in the Prudential RideLondon-Surrey 100 and raised

over £8,000; and Nigel Blazeby from Waterdance Ltd, who also took part and raised over £1,000 for the charity.

Firouz Mal and his two sons, Nadar and Neema, who ran the Virgin Money London Marathon and raised over £20,000.



Fletcher Group, who took part in the 24 Peaks Challenge for the first time and won the Top Fundraising Award for raising over £12,000.



Jordan Wylie, who has become the first person in history to row solo, unsupported and unarmed across the most dangerous body of water on the planet, the Bab-el-Mandeb Strait, and nominating Seafarers UK as one of the charities to benefit from the funds raised.



London URNU students Joshua Jelley, Isobel Larken and Daniel Grant, who were awarded the coveted 'London Classics' medal for completing the Virgin Money London Marathon, Prudential RideLondon-Surrey 100, and Swim Serpentine in aid of Seafarers UK.



Maersk who took part in the 24 Peaks Challenge and won the Top Ambassador Award, thanks to Asbjorn Kops, who recruited three teams for the event.

Mark Ashley-Miller, for raising £2,000 through his unique challenge of circumnavigating around the UK, attempting to visit all 459 Harbour Masters.



UK Chamber of Shipping CEO, Bob Sanguinetti, for running the London Marathon and raising almost £11,000.



Sea Cadets for their support for Seafarers UK at various fundraising events across Scotland and Northern Ireland.

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