

N e w s R e l e a s e
For immediate release
17 April 2023

The Seafarers' Charity set to receive donations as sailor continues epic challenge

Supporting the wellbeing and welfare of seafarers, The Seafarers' Charity is set to start receiving regular donations as Mark Ashley-Miller continues his fundraising Harbour Master Sailing Challenge.

Having departed Portland on Saturday in his 34ft Nauticat *Good Dog*, Mark is starting the next leg of his epic sailing adventure where he is endeavouring to meet every Harbour Master in the UK and Ireland.

Over the last three and a half years, Mark's journey has taken him around England, Scotland, and Wales where he has visited over 250 ports and harbours and raised over £20,000 for The Seafarers' Charity to-date.

This next stage will see Mark finish his 8,000 nautical mile challenge, circumnavigating Ireland and visiting the Isle of Man and the Channel Islands, while continuing to raise valuable funds to donate to The Seafarers' Charity.

As he stops along the way, Mark will interview the individual Harbour Masters, recording information about their harbours and varied jobs which he'll post on Instagram ([@harbourmastersailingchallenge](https://www.instagram.com/harbourmastersailingchallenge)). He will attempt to sail into every harbour - but where that's not possible he'll visit the Harbour Master on foot.

Kicking off the Harbour Master Sailing Challenge fundraising for 2023, sponsor Inland and Coastal Marina Systems presented the CEO of The Seafarers' Charity, Deborah Layde, with a sizable donation last week in Portland.

"As a proud supporter of The Seafarers' Charity, it is very exciting to have a significant boost to my fundraising from pontoon manufacturer Inland and Coastal Marina Systems," says Mark.

“A huge part of the work of the charity involves the safety of seafarers. Safe entry and exit of boats of all sizes requires high quality pontoons, and this is exactly what Inland and Coastal specialise in. Having them as my sponsor for 2023 as I circumnavigate Ireland is a huge boost to my morale and I would like to thank them very much.”

Deborah Layde, comments: “We wish Mark fair winds and safe passage. We are grateful for his ongoing support for The Seafarers' Charity and its work in tackling the disadvantages of a seafaring life by leading collaboration, funding and advocacy to improve seafarers' lives. We look forward to developing our partnership with Mark and Inland and Coastal in 2023.”

A non-profit organisation, The Seafarers' Charity (formerly King George's Fund for Sailors) has been helping people in the maritime community for over 105 years, by providing practical support to seafarers in need and to their families. With a specific focus on safety, the charity tackles the root causes of seafarer hardship and disadvantage in the UK and around the world.

To support the Harbour Master Sailing Challenge donations can be made via <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/harbour-master-sailing-challenge> or via <https://harbourmastersailingchallenge.co.uk>

To find out more about The Seafarers' Charity visit <https://www.theseafarerscharity.org>

To find out more about Inland and Coastal's pontoon ranges and unique decking options visit <https://inlandandcoastal.com> or email sales@inlandandcoastal.com

Ends

Notes to editors:

High-res images are available online at <https://maa.agency/media-centre>

About Inland and Coastal Marina Systems

- Inland and Coastal Marina Systems specialise in the design, manufacture and installation of marinas.
- Inland and Coastal Marina Systems is the official UK SeaBin supplier.
- Clients include local and regional Government, Port and Fishery Authorities, Marina Operators, Sports and Recreational Clubs, Development Consortiums, Consulting Engineers, Architects and Main Contractors.



- Inland and Coastal Marina Systems work internationally and have three offices; Banagher in Ireland, Lossiemouth in Scotland and Southampton, England.
- For more information on Inland and Coastal Marina Systems visit <http://www.inlandandcoastal.com>

Media enquiries via MAA: Susannah Hart – susannah@maa.agency, tel: 023 9252 2044