

Cargo Day nets more than \$650,000 for Mercy Ships

Shipping and trading industry support of Mercy Ships' Cargo Day has reached \$651,400 — double the figure of a year earlier.

The fundraising venture was backed by 83 companies — 24 charterers, 20 shipowners, 23 shipbrokers, seven port agents, and nine service outfits and associations.

"Who thought we could have achieved this," said Tim Webb, director and head of tanker chartering at Barry Rogliano Salles.

He has been instrumental in promoting Cargo Day after twice visiting its hospital ship, the 16,572-gt *Africa Mercy* (built 1980).

Mercy Ships Global executive director Bryce Wagner says \$651,400 is equivalent to providing:

- ▶ More than 1,200 surgery and therapy sessions;
- ▶ Or over 2,400 "new smiles" for children who had a cleft lip;
- ▶ Or dental treatment for 5,000 people;
- ▶ Or sight for 2,400 blind people;
- ▶ Or training more than 600 African doctors.

"In other words, the impact is huge," said Wagner, who thanked

TradeWinds for its involvement in spreading the Cargo Day word.

Webb added: "A big thanks to all the shipping and trading industry for the support and participating in changing so many lives."

In 2016, more than \$300,000 was raised.

Broker Joe Green of Clarksons Platou in Geneva described Mercy Ships as a "great and worthy cause", and hopefully next year's Cargo Day will be a bigger success.

Scott Moncrieff of Sahara Group said: "Amazing result for the second Mercy Ships Cargo Day."

He says Sahara was "proud to be a supporter" of a charity "where we are confident that funds raised are being utilised in a proper and proportionate way".

Gilles Rolland, managing director of Nyala Shipping, reflected on comments he made at the Mercy Ships Cargo Day Ball in Geneva on 4 October that the "shipping community getting together to support such an incredible charity is a natural and logical partnership".

He said: "Africa is also the perfect place to help. Not only because



DOUBLE JOY: Mercy Ships Cargo Day has beaten its target to raise more than twice the \$300,000 of last year's event Photo: Mercy Ships

the need for medical care is endless but also for our industry it is a place where we load crude oil and where we discharge products."

Rene Lehmann, managing director of Mercy Ships Switzerland, describes Cargo Day as an "amazing and unique initiative".

The project, which is set to become a regular fund-raising event

in the shipping calendar, generated 92 cargoes from which broker commissions flowed, nine address commissions and 31 separate pledges of money.

Mercy Ships communication manager Corinne Kemp said at the time of writing that funds from four remaining cargoes could swell the total further.

Lord Mayor toasts shipping at Baltic lunch

London's shipping community made stronger acquaintances with city politics while veteran shipbroker Lord Mountevans (Jeffrey Evans) was Lord Mayor of London.

He signed off his year in the historic post in November 2016 but the office has not lost touch with the industry.

Charles Bowman, who took on the title a couple of weeks ago with a pro-business agenda, called in for lunch at the Baltic Exchange on one of his first stops last week.

According to a circular from the Baltic to its members, the new Lord Mayor told his fellow diners: "The City of London is a national asset for the UK, accounting for billions of pounds in revenue and taxes and creating millions of jobs across the UK.

"It is also a unique, cultural and diverse institution and it is an honour to hold the position of the 690th Lord Mayor."

Baltic chairman Lambros Varnavides described London as a "maritime powerhouse" with more shipbrokers, marine underwriters, ship financiers, maritime lawyers and arbitrators, maritime accountants and ship classification societies than anywhere else in the world.

Germans beat Dutch hockey rivals for wheel prize

A team of German shipping and insurance friends and colleagues emerged triumphant against their Dutch rivals to win the ship's wheel trophy in a keenly fought hockey match.

After just two editions, the event shows all the hallmarks of becoming something of a tradition that may grow further.

Mad Dabelstein, chief executive of MC-Schiffahrt, led his German teammates to a decisive 7-2 victory against their rivals captained by DVB Bank managing director Michiel Steemann at Hamburg's Harvesterhuder Hockey and Tennis Club.

"Like in 2016, the German team was too strong for the men in orange," reflected Stefan Glaebe, director of maritime insurance broker Northern Lloyd.

The origins of the event lie in an idea kicked around by Glaebe, Steemann and Bernhard Schulte's Max Asschenfeldt during an evening at a Singapore bar.

However, the hockey is just an excuse for some serious work and networking.

Intellectual stimulation was provided with a pre-match seminar held for the 30 players and friends on ship-finance law and maritime insurance hosted by

shipping law firm ERG and Northern Lloyd.

A post-match buffet of curry-wurst and beer wrapped things up.

"Not too shabby for a cold November night," Glaebe said.

Next year, the event will be held in the Netherlands, with the Oranje outfit keen to avenge defeat amid talk of expanding the tournament to more teams.

"We are thinking about making it a slightly bigger event in the future," Glaebe said. "I am already in talks with the Belgian and London shipping/hockey community. Let's see!"



DUTCH COURAGE: Mad Dabelstein (right) celebrates Germany's victory with Netherlands' captain Michiel Steemann Photo: Contributed

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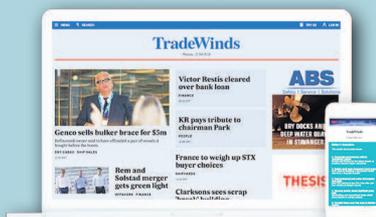
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