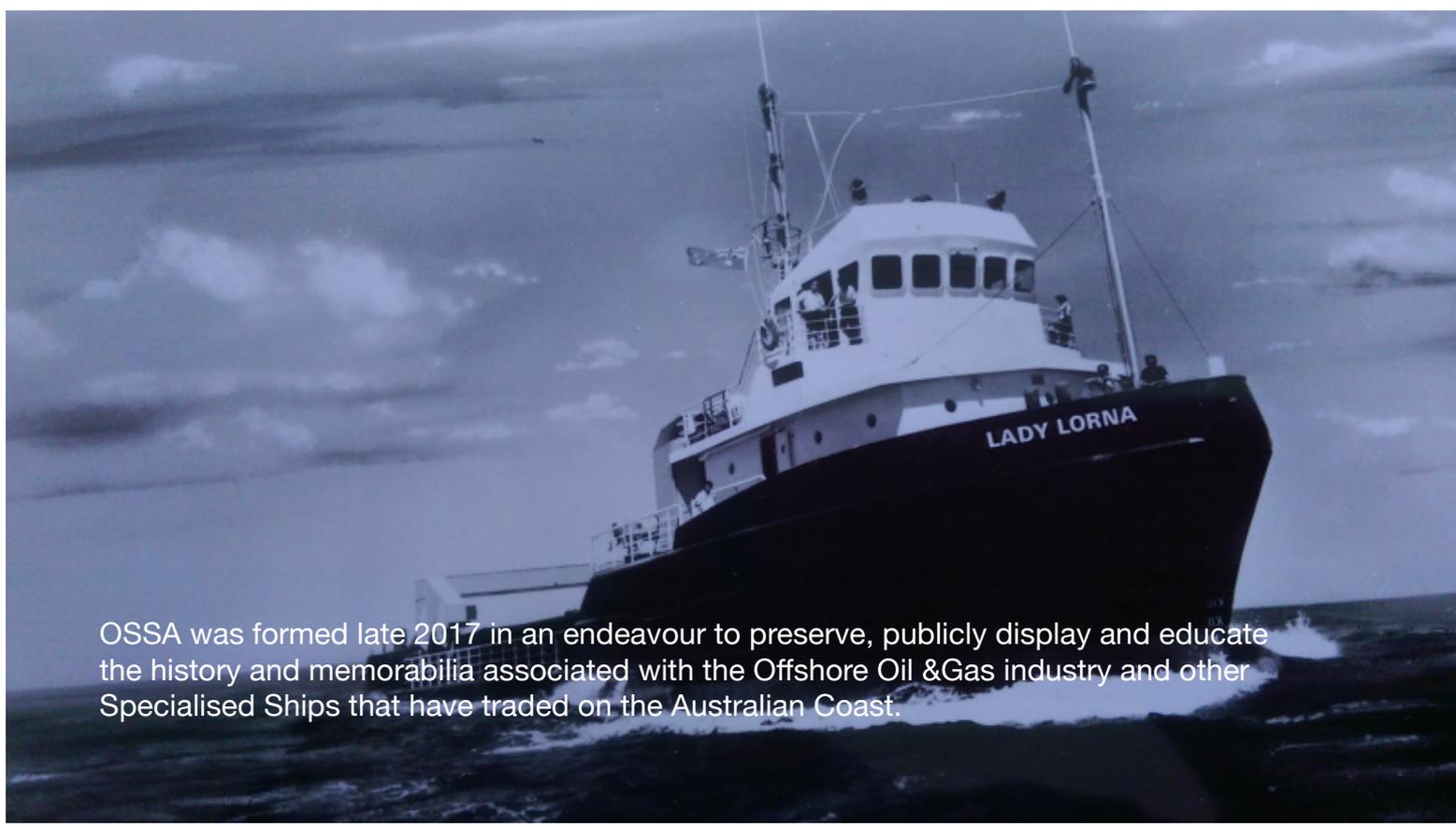


Offshore & Specialist Ships Australia

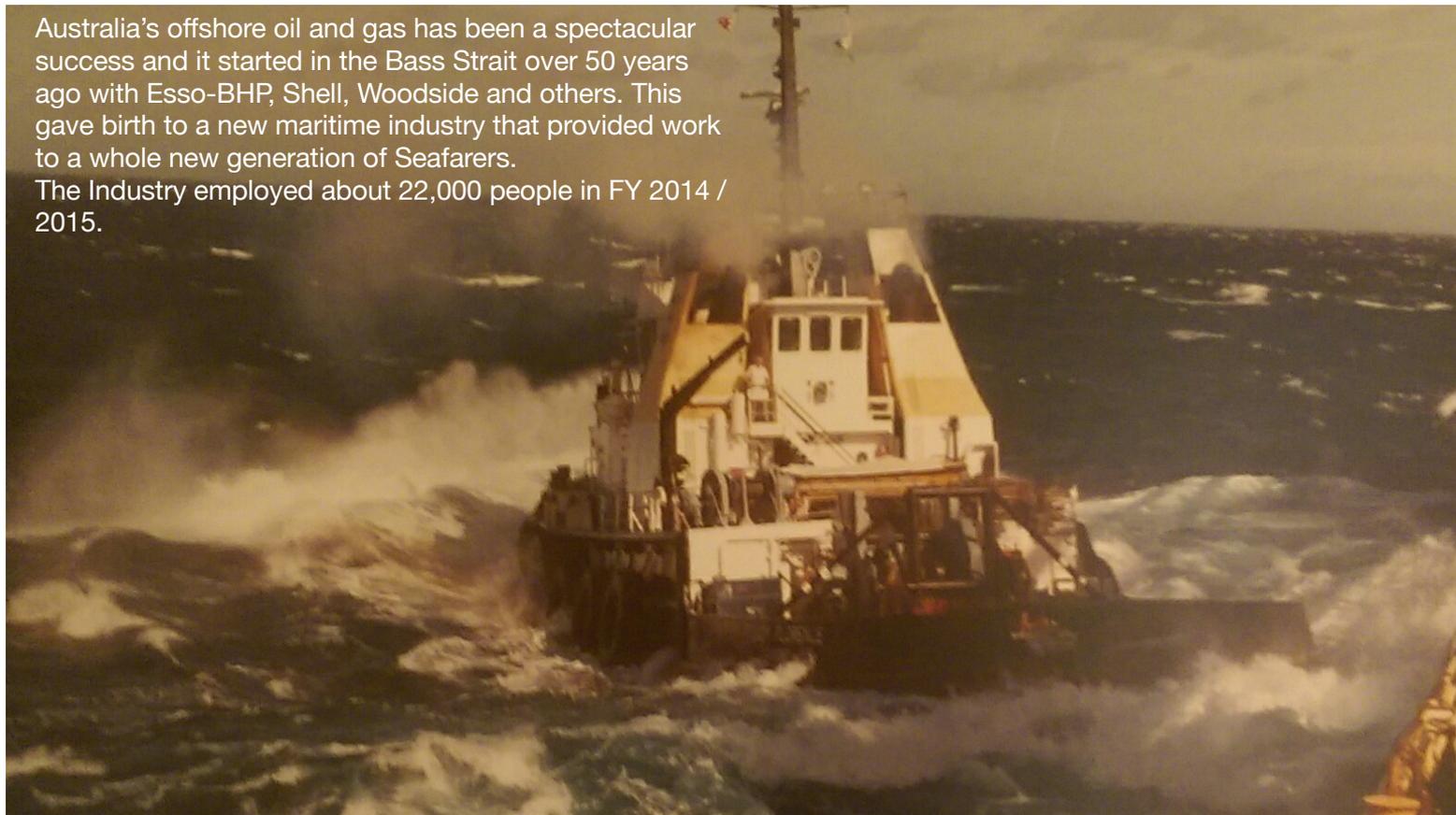




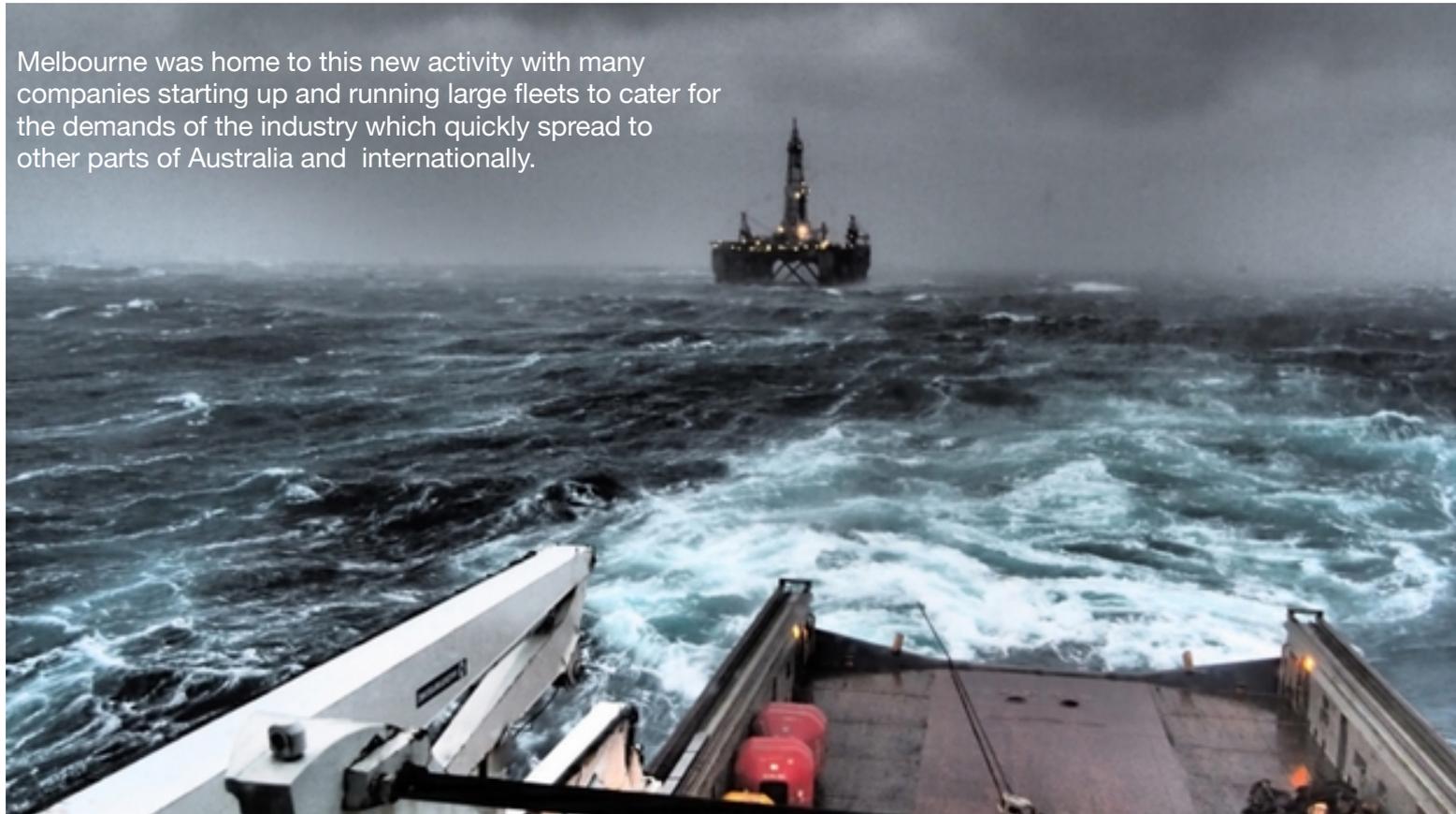
OSSA was formed late 2017 in an endeavour to preserve, publicly display and educate the history and memorabilia associated with the Offshore Oil & Gas industry and other Specialised Ships that have traded on the Australian Coast.

Australia's offshore oil and gas has been a spectacular success and it started in the Bass Strait over 50 years ago with Esso-BHP, Shell, Woodside and others. This gave birth to a new maritime industry that provided work to a whole new generation of Seafarers.

The Industry employed about 22,000 people in FY 2014 / 2015.



Melbourne was home to this new activity with many companies starting up and running large fleets to cater for the demands of the industry which quickly spread to other parts of Australia and internationally.





These new companies needed more ships and they were to be built in Australia providing more work and development of Specialist skills.

Offshore & Specialist Ships Australia

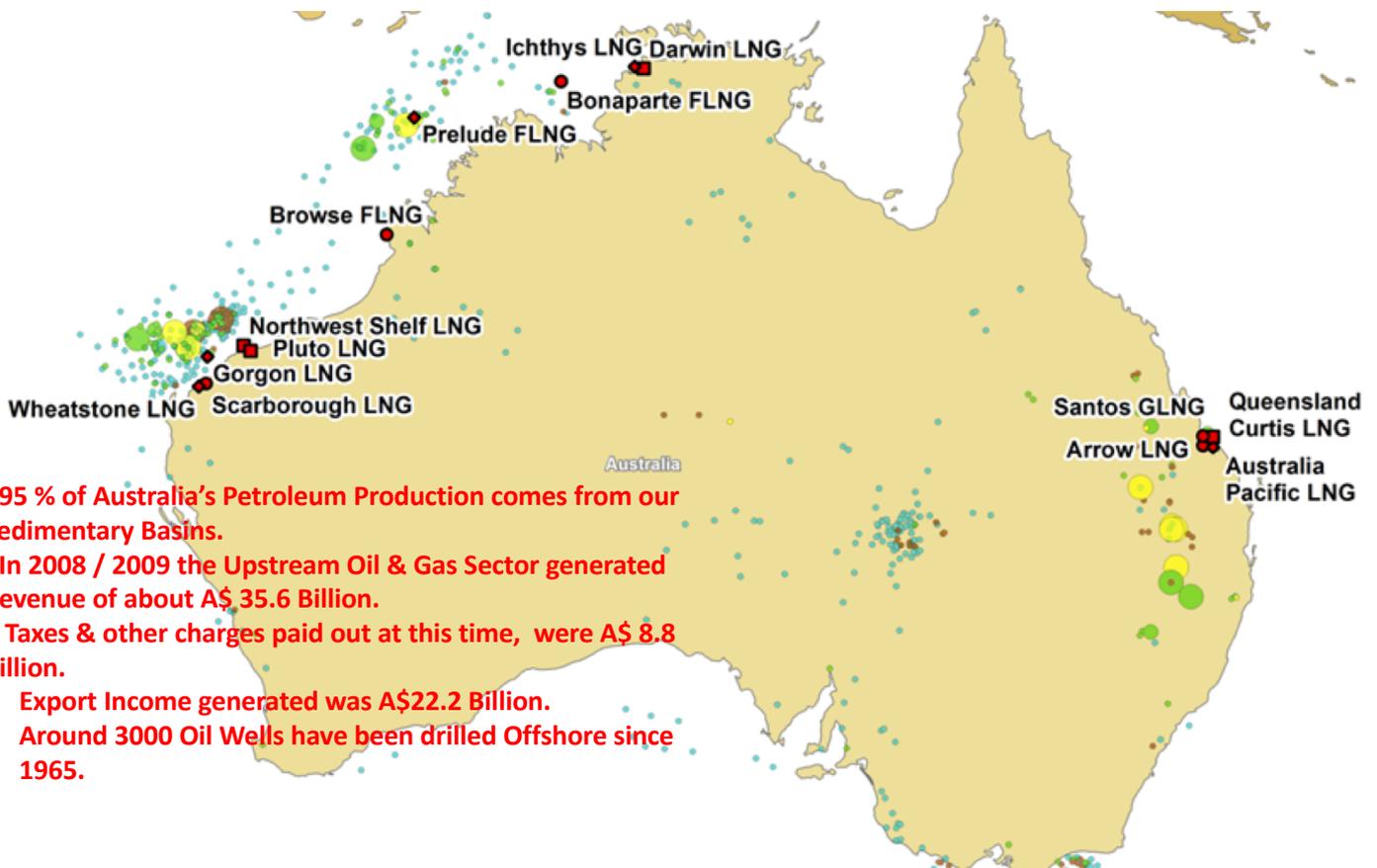


In 1965 an Esso/BHP Billiton joint venture drilled Australia's first offshore well and discovered the Barracouta gas field in Bass Strait.

Two years later Kingfish was discovered, the first offshore oil field, which to this day remains the largest oil field ever discovered in Australia.

These, and other subsequent world-class discoveries in Bass Strait, off Victoria's Gippsland coast, have led to significant changes to Australia's industry and economy.

BASS STRAIT



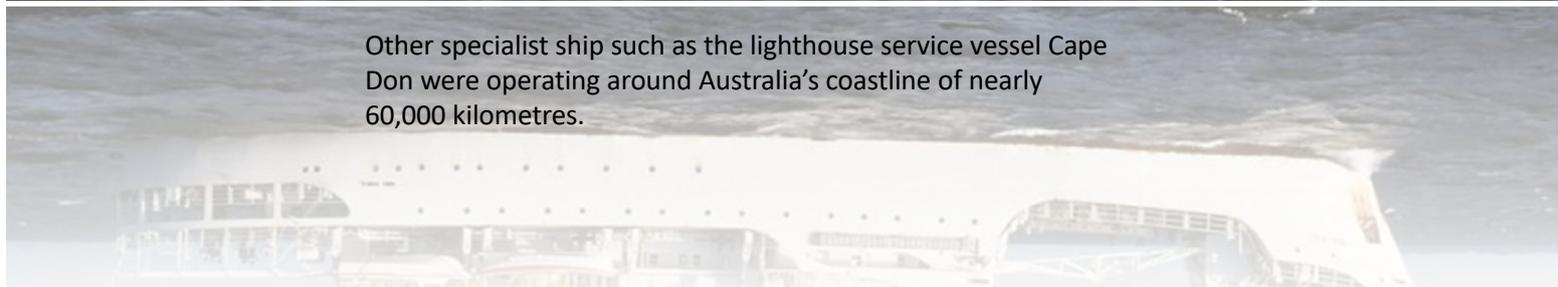
- 95 % of Australia's Petroleum Production comes from our Sedimentary Basins.
- In 2008 / 2009 the Upstream Oil & Gas Sector generated Revenue of about A\$ 35.6 Billion.
- Taxes & other charges paid out at this time, were A\$ 8.8 Billion.
- Export Income generated was A\$22.2 Billion.
- Around 3000 Oil Wells have been drilled Offshore since 1965.



This industry spawned other shipping activities with Specialist Ships as Australia now had skills equal (and probably better) to any in the world.



Other specialist ship such as the lighthouse service vessel Cape Don were operating around Australia's coastline of nearly 60,000 kilometres.



In 1990 Australia took delivery of their first specialised ice breaker. The P&O vessel “Aurora Australis” was built in Newcastle having been launched by Hazel Hawke wife of the then Prime Minister Bob Hawke. The ship was crewed totally by Australians mainly drawn from the Offshore industry. Other specialised vessels followed.





Specialist vessels such as the Emergency Response vessel to assist disabled ships in the Great Barrier Reef are also in operation

There is nothing new
about specialist vessels
such as this one the
Lady Loch a 487 tonne
iron steamship built in
Melbourne in 1886



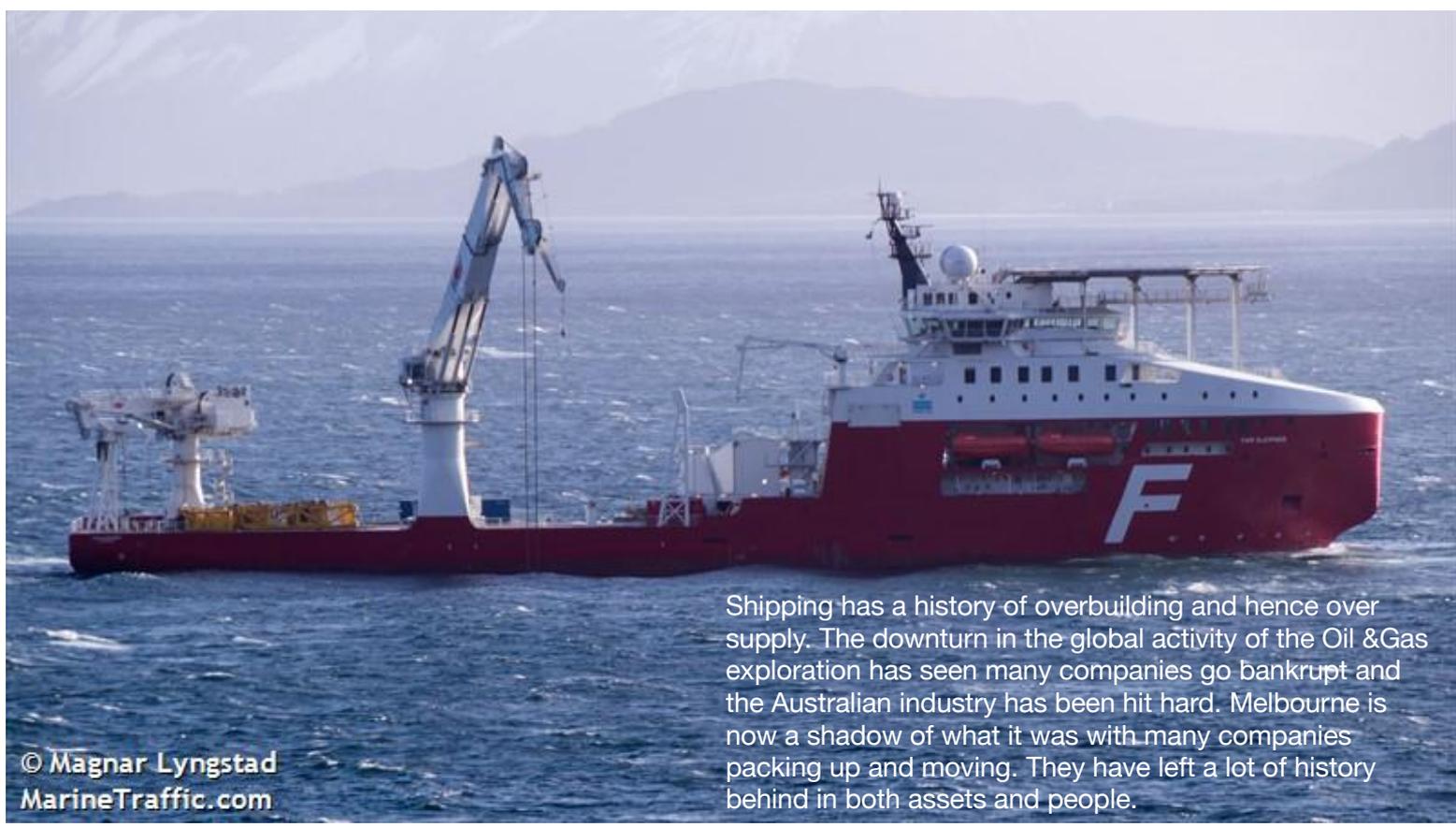
Victorian lighthouse tender SS Lady Loch



One of the latest Specialist ships in operation – the CSIRO Research vessel Investigator



Building of specialist Marine equipment was not limited to ships. The semi-submersible offshore drilling rig 'Ocean Digger' was built in Whyalla in 1967.



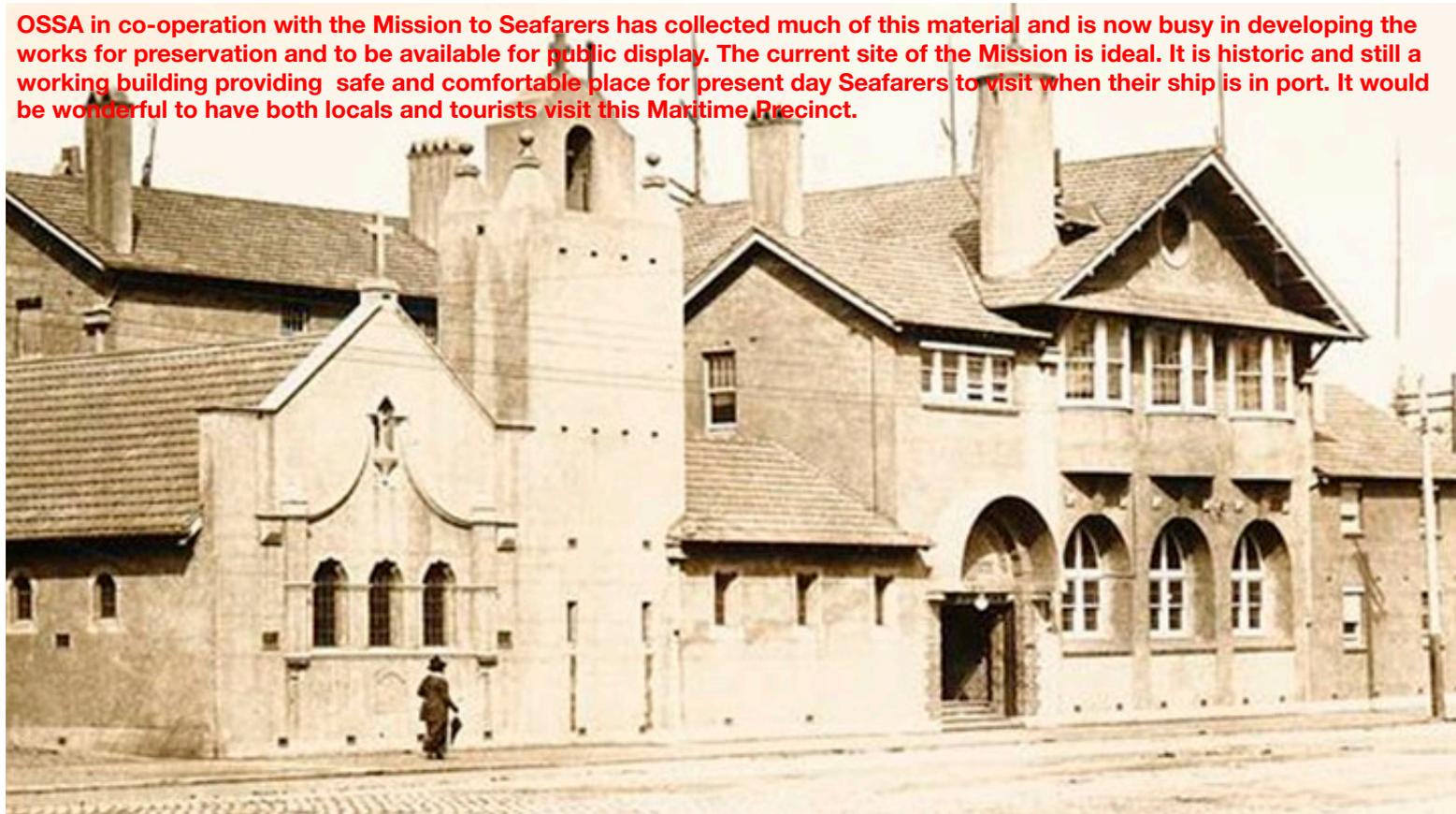
Shipping has a history of overbuilding and hence over supply. The downturn in the global activity of the Oil & Gas exploration has seen many companies go bankrupt and the Australian industry has been hit hard. Melbourne is now a shadow of what it was with many companies packing up and moving. They have left a lot of history behind in both assets and people.

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The current downturn in the Offshore Oil & Gas Industry is price driven however the current (record) low oil prices are expected to move back upward from 2019, with resultant improvement in activities within the Industry.

OSSA in co-operation with the Mission to Seafarers has collected much of this material and is now busy in developing the works for preservation and to be available for public display. The current site of the Mission is ideal. It is historic and still a working building providing safe and comfortable place for present day Seafarers to visit when their ship is in port. It would be wonderful to have both locals and tourists visit this Maritime Precinct.





The Maritime Precinct