



The Log

Newsletter of the Melbourne Branch of the Company of Master Mariners of Australia

February 2013

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Master

Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce,
Governor General of the
Commonwealth of Australia



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From the Branch Master

I hope all members had a very enjoyable Christmas break and I trust that you are now well into the swing of things and facing a successful year.

This is a very big year for the Company and in particular the Melbourne branch, as we prepare to host the second biennial Company of Master Mariners of Australia Congress (in conjunction with the IFSMA AGA) here in Melbourne. I will discuss more about this further on in the newsletter.

You will notice that the Log looks a little different this year. I am advised that every new newsletter editor likes to fiddle with the design and as we have a new editor for this edition, you also have a new-look newsletter. The task of editing The Log was taken over by Joanna Carson from a delighted Dick Francis, who is pulling back on his significant contribution to the Company to concentrate on his many other maritime interests. Joanna has some ideas for new content for the newsletter, so as always, your comment and feedback is welcomed at any time.

The most important matter facing CMMA this year is the en-masse standing down of the Federal Executive. There was no political motivation behind this - it just happened that most office holders needed time to concentrate on other things. However it did leave the company in the position of being unable to continue operating without a change to the constitution, effectively doing away with the Fed Ex, and running the Company using Branch Masters as the Federal Court. After much deliberation and due diligence from your Court representatives, we have a recommendation on the table that is palatable to us, and we urge you all to vote

‘yes’ to the proposed changes at our branch AGM on the 27th, or post in your proxy vote to the secretary before the AGM. If you want to know exactly what you are voting yes to, please read my explanation further on in this newsletter. Do note that there have been changes since I last wrote to you, so it’s worth bearing with me and continuing to follow the progress. Thanks in advance for doing this – a lot of time has been spent by the Court and a few other members to ensure your interests are looked after, and that you are kept well informed as to what we are doing on your behalf.

Finally, members have already been sent an electronic copy of the IFSMA AGA/CMMA Congress brochure or visit the website www.informa.com.au/mastermariners. I do appreciate that this congress will be too expensive for many members. While your support is always greatly appreciated, the main objective behind the congress is to ensure CMMA remains relevant in the maritime industry, and able to influence its future direction for the better. The first congress also raised a good amount of money for the Company and this is our aim again. It is always good to raise funds from others in the industry and not always from our own members. So do encourage your employer to fund your attendance, or book for the social events. If that is still out of reach, we’d love to see you at the Federal AGM on the first day – it’s free!



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News

Members invited to put their name forward to serve on the Branch Court

Due to other commitments, several members of the Melbourne Court have announced their intention to stand down at this month's AGM.

If you have ever thought of joining the Court, please feel free to put your name forward. Or if you know of a member you think would be great at representing your interests, approach them about being nominated.

The role consists of a meeting before every month's dinner – usually from 4.30 pm. It is most suitable if you are able to attend more meetings than not, although some members do have working schedules that make this difficult at times, so that might not limit you. There is the occasional need to do some

reading between meetings, to help the Branch Master obtain a mandate for representing the branch at Federal level. Assistance with such events as the Christmas party is also welcomed if possible.

Other than that, Court membership is not overly onerous, so if you care about the future direction of CMMA or the Melbourne branch, and have ideas to share, please consider putting your name forward.

To do that, please alert secretary Alex Everard of your willingness to be nominated before the AGM on March 27. Her details are: Email alex@baysideshipping.com. Phone 0438 663 466.

Call out for new speakers and topics

Do you know someone who would make a great speaker, or is there a topic you'd like to hear a talk on?

Your Court has tried hard recently to offer a lineup of succinct, interesting speakers on topical subjects in line with recent feedback.

Branch Master David Shennan says he's confident the Court's list for this year will keep the numbers up at our meetings, but is always keen to hear fresh ideas.

"Let any Court member know – if the idea is good but you don't have any contacts, we'll do our best to find the speaker for the job," he said.

He also said meetings would be moved to lunchtimes again in June for three months.

Boulton Lecture may be included in CMMA Congress

Efforts are being made to hold this year's Boulton Lecture in conjunction with the CMMA congress in April.

The Melbourne Branch is still trying to find out at Federal Level what has been organised, as it has not been raised in recent congress discussions.

If required, the Melbourne Court has several good speakers to propose, so if the lecture does go ahead next month, we will give members as much notice as we possibly can.



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Noticeboard

Make your vote count

Please make sure you use your proxy vote for the constitutional changes necessary for CMMA to move forward.

The proposed changes are attached to this email. To make your vote count, please advise the secretary by posting in the form before the AGM.

Your court recommends you vote

'Yes'

Oops.. a bit of a clash

Organisers of the Anchor Clankers reunion (see details in the Events section) apologise that their reunion clashes with the CMMA congress, but by the time that date was set, bookings had been made and it was too late. Hopefully this doesn't cause too many headaches – please try to get along to something... or perhaps a little bit of each? See you there!

Our deepest sympathies... or not!

With greatest regret we must advise members of a mistake made in the latest issue of Master Mariner. Due to an unfortunate misinterpretation by the editors, members of many branches were listed as deceased when they had simply resigned. An apology will be placed in the next edition. Meanwhile, please check with a court member before passing on any respects... just in case they're not needed.

Don't let Melbourne lag!

As you know, the Federal Court is organising the publication of a book – *Masters Under the Southern Cross* – to celebrate our 75th anniversary. Our

Branch Master believes other branches have been more pro-active in providing anecdotes, biographies, photos etc than Melbourne has, and we'd hate to be under-represented!

Anyone else able to add to the sterling efforts of John Turnbull, please put your hand up. There's still time, but not a lot!



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Events



Next Meeting - Branch AGM

Place: CQ, 113 Queen St, Melbourne

Time: 6pm for 6.30pm dinner

Cost: \$40 members, \$45 non-members

Speaker: David Shennan , Branch Master

Subject: The proposed constitutional changes and an update on other ideas for CMMA that are currently being mooted at Federal level. Other business: AGM matters, voting for branch office holders, vote for constitutional changes.

Comments: Please try to attend this meeting as your vote is critical in allowing CMMA to continue into the next year. If you cannot make the meeting, please advise the secretary of your proxy vote BEFORE the branch AGM.



Maltese George Cross Ceremony

Place: Shelter of Peace (across the road from the Shrine of Remembrance)

Time: 11-11:30 hrs

Cost: Free

Comments: Ceremony to mark the 'Award of the George Cross to the Island of Malta'.

CMMA will be providing a wreath.



Federal AGM

Place: The Rialto, Collins St, Melbourne

Time: 10:00 hrs

Cost: Free

Comments: Look for directions to the CMMA Congress and seek further directions from Congress staff



to



CMMA Congress 2013

Place: Intercontinental The Rialto, Melbourne

Time: Various – refer brochure or website dinner

Cost: \$1705.50 CMMA members, or \$165 dinner

Host: Melbourne Branch Master.

Subject: Various subjects. See brochure or website.

Other business: Federal AGM (free attendance) on first day. International IFSMA AGA held Monday – Wednesday.

Comments: Members are welcome to attend social events only.



Anchor Clankers Reunion

Please see the next page for full details.



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Anchor-Clankers 2013 Reunion

Holiday Inn on Flinders
575 Flinders Lane Melbourne Vic 3000
Bass Room and Garden Terrace
Date Friday 19th April 2013
Time from 6.00pm to 10.00pm

Cost \$45.00 per person includes canapés
(Drinks at bar prices)

Please confirm attendance by email so that we get an indication of the numbers to

sandyveys@hotmail.com or michaellarge@fastmail.fm
and send payment using one of the following options

Note bookings close on Friday 5th April 13

Option 1
Bank or personal Cheque for \$45 payable to:
Mr M Large
PO Box 102
Mt Eliza Vic 3930

Option 2
Direct transfer \$45 to:
ANZ Bank
Account Name: Michael Ian Large
BSB No 013396 Account No 563693736

Please ensure you **clearly identify yourself** if making a direct transfer

For those attendees who wish to stay the night these special rates apply (subject to availability) **Please make your own hotel booking.**

\$180 per night room only
\$200 per night single share including Breakfast
\$220 per night twin share including Breakfast

To access these rates quote the booking code **ANC** during business hours Monday to Friday on + 61 3 9648 2709

Or

by emailing reservations on reservations.melbourne@ihg.com

Holiday Inn Melbourne on Flinders is a truly friendly and personal boutique-style hotel. The hotel is close to the Docklands precinct and **Southern Cross Railway Station** is just a 1 minute walk away. We look forward to seeing you.



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Constitutional Changes

David Shennan

The changes all members are being asked to vote on before the Federal AGM in April have been in the making for the best part of a year, so between The Log and meetings, most of you should have a basic understanding of the issues, so I will try not to be too repetitive. For newcomers, a brief history is to the right.

There is, however, one significant inclusion that you will probably not be aware of, so I need to explain that to you prior to you voting.

Recent background

The proposal outlined to the right has the full support of your court, and of all branches around the country. The proposed changes to the constitution were kindly drafted by former Melbourne branch master John Turnbull, and have been unanimously approved in principle at federal level.

However much debate was created over the year by the Federal Executive and WA Branch putting up counter proposals, advocating that doing away with the Federal Executive did not go far enough, and that CMMA should be far more centralised. Ultimately, this viewpoint did not prevail – not because the concept was rejected, but because there had not been enough discussion or research as to the need, or the best way to make such significant changes.

As these proposals proved controversial at Federal level, it was considered dangerous to include them in a constitutional amendment

Why change the constitution?

For a significant period of time, CMMA has been administered and governed by a two-tier organisational structure:

- The Federal Court – made up of all branch masters (voluntary).
- The Federal Executive – made up of an elected federal master, deputy federal master, secretary and treasurer (all voluntary except the Secretary).

Sitting underneath the 'Feds' are the branches. Each branch has its own Court, which runs its affairs to suit its own members. A levy is paid by each branch to cover the costs of some centralised tasks, such as the website, Master Mariner newsletter and regulatory requirements. Branches set their own fees.

The constitution covers how the Federal, and to quite an extent the branches, are run.

Voting

During Federal meetings, each branch gets a vote, as well as all members of the executive. For practical purposes (before the advent of email etc), the federal executive positions have been held within the same branch. Therefore that branch can end up with three or more votes – which has caused some friction over the years.

Logistics

The current problem is simply one of logistics. With the WA branch having 'done its time' and most office holders standing down this year, no other branch can find enough people to take on these tasks, as well as the branch court positions required in the constitution. The answer is to do away with the Federal Executive structure (with the exception of secretary) and have CMMA overseen by the branch masters.



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that we all agree we MUST have, in order to keep CMMA going after the current Federal Executive stands down.

In return for rejecting the Federal Executive's proposal, the branch masters promised to keep a number of issues on the table, with widespread discussion to be held:

- Increasing relevance of CMMA in the maritime industry
- Company structure

These issues require investigation, study and discussion, and it is my belief that members must be thoroughly involved in this.

New inclusion - centralised membership

One concession was made to the proponents of centralisation, and that was to include in the constitution the ability for members to join CMMA without joining a branch.

The argument put up for this was that some people did not find branch activities for them, lived remotely, and were keen to belong to the Company without identifying with a branch. As with branches, the Federal Court would have to set a fee for doing this (which has yet to be decided).

This inclusion was discussed by your Court and assurances given that it was not the slippery slope to centralised funding or administration, but simply another way for people to join, or stay within, our ranks. At the last federal meeting, all branches voted in favour of this being included as part of the proposed amendments.

These members can, of course, attend branch events if they wish, but will otherwise receive the Master Mariner and member access to the website only.

What are the changes again?

In a nutshell:

- Do away with the Federal Executive, except the paid position of secretary. (Secretary not to be a branch master)
- Allowance for the creation of new branches
- CMMA to be run by branch masters – limited to eight, with at least one Federal Court representative per state
- Allow members to join CMMA at federal level, paying fees directly
- Reduce the number of members required to run a branch court from seven to three

I want to read the constitution.

The proposed constitution is attached to this email. The attachment also includes supporting documents. The proxy vote form is attached separately. If you receive your newsletter by post, phone Alex on 03 5424 1224 and she will post you a copy. Sorry it has not been sent with this newsletter, but it is over 30 pages long!

Why do you want me to vote yes?

You can, of course, vote yes or no, but a yes vote is particularly important for one simple reason... there is no plan B.

If the sitting Federal Executive stands down, and the constitution has not been amended, CMMA will not be able continue managing its affairs.

How do I vote?

By attending the Branch AGM on March 27 (see Events) or posting your proxy form immediately to Alex Everard, PO Box 16, Bay Street, Port Melbourne VIC 3207. Thank you!



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Court minutes

Court Meeting 27 February 2013 1630 hrs

CQ Functions 113 Queen Street, Melbourne VIC 3000

Attendees: David Shennan (Master), Ian French, Treasurer, Alex Evered, Secretary, Patrick O'Sullivan, Peter Bosman, Registrar, Francis Casellino, Dick Francis, Former Editor, Joanna Carson, Incoming Editor.

Apologies: Euan Crawford, Toby Shelton, John CARROLL, Nigel Porteous

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of previous meeting were confirmed as true and correct.

Proposed: Ian French, Seconded: Dick Francis.

Matters Arising

Bank Accounts

Ian advised that the two term deposits had now been combined.

The Log

Joanna Carson had kindly agreed to take over as Editor of the Log from Dick Francis. The Court wished to thank Dick for all his hard work in the production of the Log over the last couple of years. His efforts have been greatly appreciated. The Court Members present unanimously invited Joanna to join the Court in the capacity of the Honorary Editor of The Log. Joanna graciously accepted the invitation and is now a Court Member.

There were no matters arising that are not covered elsewhere in the Agenda.

Secretary's Report

Readings and Applications

Alex advised that she had responded to several enquiries regarding applications. An application had been sent to Graham Furlonger inviting him to join as an Ordinary Member and also to Capt. Mendonsa in the USA, who plans to return to Melbourne in the near future.

Alex reported that there were the following applications: -Jordan Low, Incitec Pivot, (Associate Member, Melbourne), Glenn Santos, PoMC (Ordinary, Melbourne), Gary Wilson, PoMC (Ordinary, Melbourne), Stephen D'Souza, PoMC (Ordinary, Melbourne), Peter Hay (Ordinary, Newcastle - re-joining), Bill Bailey (Ordinary, QLD), Egil Hansen (Ordinary, SA), Greg Chaffy (Ordinary, WA), Peter Aplin (Ordinary, WA), Burjis Wadia (Ordinary, WA)

Upcoming Events

2013

- 14 March – ISO Lunch
- 27 March – CMMA Melbourne Branch AGM
- 15 April – CMMA Federal AGM, Melbourne (Date to be confirmed)
- 16/17 April – IFSMA Conference
- 17/19 April – CMMA Congress, Melbourne (possibly to include Boulton Lecture)
- 19 April – Anchor Clankers 2013 Reunion
- 3 May – Institute of Chartered Shipbrokers Dinner Dance (more details to come)
- 14 July – Sea Sunday Appeal, MTS (date to be confirmed)
- 3 September – Merchant Navy Day
- September 2013 – Joint CoMMA and MLAANZ Function – MLC 2006, AMSA
- (Date to be confirmed)
- October – Seafarers Service followed by the Tim Muir Lunch (Date to be confirmed)

Speakers

It was agreed that no speaker was required for our March meeting as David Shennan will be addressing the Branch Members in relation to the proposed changes to the constitution that are required to be voted on that night at the meeting.

David suggested that VTS Determination might be a good subject and comes into force in July 2013. A draft Marine Order is expected in April.

David advised that Ralph Kenyon was not confirmed in the post of CEO at the Port of Hastings. The CEO is former Australian Defence Force Commander, Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) Mike Lean. Accordingly, it might be appropriate to ask Mike Lean to speak.

Nigel also suggested the new HMAS Cerberus Commanding Officer Capt. Katherine Richards would make a good speaker.



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Suggested speakers for future meetings:

- Ro Ros for Australia – Toby Shelton – Dale Emmerton, TT Line
- Neil Trainer (or other), AMSA - on VTS marine order.
- Frank Cronin, Naval Historical Society
- Tabatha Pettitt, Economic Port Regulator and Licensing of Ports. *Euan to follow up*
- AMSA – MLC 2006 – Wayne Cooper / Tim King
- Bob Iverson – Beyond Blue etc
- Toby Shelton – Dale Emmerton, TT Line. *Ro-ros for Australia*
- John Francis – Pasha Bulker and The Port Authority
- Ian Thompson – Sinking of the Noongah
- Mike Lean, Port of Hastings
- AMSA rep – changes in Navigation Act 2012. *Francis to contact.*
- Dan Whelan - CMMA member - on being arrested in Singapore for accidental non-compliance with regulations. *Dick to contact*
- Developers of a new coal berth at Barry's Beach. *Francis to contact.*

The Boulton Lecture

The Boulton Lecture was inaugurated in 1991 in honour of our founder Captain AN (Norman) Boulton MBE, VRD, B.Com, AAUQ (1904 – 1992). The lectures are held from time to time and are initiated by a Branch of the Company, sometimes working in concert with other maritime industry bodies. The subject of the lecture is on a theme of relevance and interest to the maritime community. The aim is to contribute to and promote industry discussion or decision-making.

Alex enquired if the Federal Court would be finding a speaker for the Boulton Lecture due to be held in April. *David to find out.*

Dick Francis suggested Joe Homsey at Farstad. Apparently, he is an excellent speaker and would be very capable of giving a good overview of the industry as a whole. Joe is Managing Director of the Farstad Group's entities in Australia and Singapore. He joined Farstad Shipping in June 2003 upon the Group's purchase of P&O's 50% share in IOS and P&O ship management organisation in Melbourne. Joe worked for P&O Maritime Services for 22 years and was the Director responsible for that company's offshore and marine science fleet activities. Prior to that he had ten years with Industry Associations in Australia relating to Shipping and Mining respectively. He holds a B. ECO. from Monash University, Melbourne.

Correspondence

Alex Advised she had written to Capt. Paddy Michaelson offering condolences on the loss of his wife Noelle recently. Ian advised that he had received a letter from David Keyes, resigning from the Company. *Alex to write to David.*

CMMA Anniversary Book

Alex advised she had received several responses to her requests for contributions from the Melbourne Branch Members. These were being passed on to Jane Edwards. David advised he was concerned that there did not seem to be any consistency on the quotations provided by the Federal Court. Joanna advised that it was necessary to know in advance of the final specs so that additional quotes could be undertaken in Melbourne. Research to date indicated that it may be possible to produce a good quality publication for about A\$12 per copy locally in Australia. However, there was some discussion still ongoing on whether a hardback publication with offset printing rather than a soft-back digital printing was more appropriate. The main challenge is not to be left with a large volume of unsold books. Some quotes from China had come in at around A\$17,000 for 500 copies which seemed expensive and may mean carrying stock. Whereas a short run of digital prints may be more cost effective. *David to follow up.*

Errors in the Last Master Mariner

The Court had discussed the errors in the Master Mariner, particularly the reference to retired members as deceased members. Additionally, the Federal Master's message was that of last year rather than this year. David advised that an apology was to be published in the next Master Mariner and that the producer had waived his fee in relation to this matter.

The Branch AGM and Changes to the Branch Court

The Branch AGM is to be held on Wednesday 27 March 2013 and David will outline the proposed changes to the Constitution that will require the members to vote on prior to the Federal AGM in April.

David will press the Federal Court for the updated draft constitution along with explanatory notes, so that the Melbourne Branch can advertise these amongst its members and call for votes (and proxies) in time for the Melbourne Branch AGM on 27 March 2013.

A message will go out in the Log (*Joanna to do*) and will be followed up by Email. *Alex to do.*

In relation to the membership of the Melbourne Branch Court, Dick Francis advised that he would not be standing for re-election at the Branch AGM. Patrick



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O'Sullivan advised he would not be standing for re-election as Deputy Branch Master, but was prepared to remain on the Court as a sea-going warden. Alex advised she would write to all the other branch court members, asking them to confirm if they will be standing for re-election.

Branch Meetings

It was agreed that despite the Congress, we should press ahead with a Melbourne Branch meeting on 24 April 2013. Lunchtime meetings would be held in June, July and August. Alex had spoken with CQ Functions regarding the quality of the dinners provided. From next month, three options would be given, steak, fish and pasta.

The Propeller Club

Alex had spoken with MLAANZ about ideas for a 'one stop shop' events website for the Maritime Industry. Alex will get a basic quote for a website. *Alex to do.*

Treasurer's Report

Ian confirmed that a donation of \$200 had been presented to the Mission to Seafarers on behalf of John Turnbull. As a result, John has kindly agreed to allow CMMA to use excerpts from his book, A Brief Look Back in the CMMA anniversary book. Otherwise, the treasurer reported as follows:

Membership

Membership currently stands at:

Ex Officio 00

Life Members 03

Honorary Members 01

Retired Members 37

Ordinary Members 67

Associate Members 15

Total 123

Ian confirmed that about 70 Members had remitted their Membership Fees.

Finances

Cheque Account \$ 14,309.45

Term Deposit \$ 15,566.45

Registrar's Report

Peter advised he had very little to report. David Keyes had resigned and John Turnbull wished to apply for retired membership.

There were no other matters to report.

Branch Master's Report

Christmas Party

Ian advised that the Xmas function had been subsidised by about A\$500, which was about the budget agreed. Everyone agreed the event had been a huge success,

largely due to the hard work undertaken by Joanna Carson and David Shennan. Well done!

CMMA / IFSMA Congress

David advised that there had been more exchanges regarding the congress, however numbers to date are slow (but it is still early days so not entirely unexpected). The response to sponsorship opportunities had been good. David asked Alex to liaise with Andrew Probert, CBP, Maurice Thompson, HWL Ebsworth and Rob Springall at HFW regarding sponsorship opportunities and speaking slots. *Alex to do.*

It had been suggested that the various Branch Masters chair sessions for the congress. Denis Naphine and Anthony Albenese had been invited to speak but responses had yet to be received. However, her Excellency Quentin Bryce had regretfully declined, citing other working commitments. At this stage, and depending upon final numbers, it was hoped that the Company should make around a minimum of A\$8,000 out of the Congress and hopefully much more.

Constitutional Changes

David advised that the Melbourne proposals had been accepted by a unanimous vote at the Federal Court Meeting. David advised that he was waiting for the final draft of the constitutional amendments to put to the membership for a vote. David wished to specifically mention his thanks to:

Capt. John Turnbull

Capt. Ian French

Capt. Peter Bosman

Capt. Nigel Porteous

Capt. Francis Castellino

for their extensive assistance to David in the drafting and consideration of proposed changes to the Constitution.

Francis noted that there were two titles called 'Membership' and this should be amended. *David will mention to the Federal Executive.* Ian confirmed that he would be prepared to stand as Federal Treasurer.

General Business

There was no other business to report.

Any Other Business

There was no other business to report.

Next Meeting – Branch AGM

27 March, 4.30pm, CQ Functions, 113 Queen Street.

Meeting concluded at 6.20 pm.

Details of branch correspondence and emails can be obtained on request



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Speaker Summary

Last month our secretary Alex Everard, a P&I Club correspondent, spoke on an issue she had recently come face-to-face with – and which proved something of an eye-opener.

Liquefaction – An Australian Case Study

Liquefaction is a common problem in third-world countries, where the laws, and commercial pressures, result in bulk cargoes such as iron ore and nickel ore fines being loaded with scant regard to the potentially catastrophic effects of liquefaction.

With such bulk cargoes being increasingly common export products in Australia, and also considering our first-world safety standards, the risk of liquefaction was not something Alex expected to have to worry about in this country.

However she was recently involved with an issue in a port in WA, which involved a cargo of iron ore fines and a brand-new, state-of-the-art bulk export facility.

While that vessel appears to have reached its destination safely, (unlike the seven ships known to have been lost due to liquefaction since 2009 and which have resulted in the IMO changing the code and creating new resolutions), Alex found it difficult to obtain the necessary moisture content certifications long enough before the ship started loading to allow the ship owners to take their own samples if they were concerned about the results. It also proved difficult to ascertain where the provided samples were taken (they

should be taken from the shore-side stockpile at the terminal, and after any significant rain, etc), not to mention obtaining permission to take samples from the stockpile before loading. Finding out that the facility's lauded automatic testing ability was not operational cast further doubt as to the trustworthiness of the provided test results.



In the case of the WA facility, the problems appeared to be caused by a lack of understanding as to the needs of the ship owner and the captain, but also threw up some grey areas in the relevant SOLAS code, which is partly made up of recommendations - the

legal status of which is a grey area.

P&I urges captains and ship owners to refuse to load any cargoes prone to liquefaction if not totally comfortable as to the moisture content, even if pressured to carry out their own tests after or during loading. It is very difficult to remove such a cargo – particularly as it may already be considered 'exported'!

With liquefaction so lethal, the message of the evening was "just don't load" if there is any risk at all. You can't safely trust your fate to a system – even in Australia.



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Member's Lounge



This is the place to escape to for a laugh, to share a memory or a good yarn, or perhaps an idea, opinion or even a gripe with your fellow members.

Not all members can attend meetings, so consider this your 'monthly catch-up on a page'.

Contributions are welcome... email joanna@northandtrew.com or phone me on 03 5250 6323

Check it out...



What happens next?

From a video posted recently on YouTube. This classic interaction during a passing manoeuvre near Singapore is worth checking out. Here's the link...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FmDybTlXrJc>

The Wisdom Scrolls

An old German Shepherd starts chasing rabbits and before long, discovers that he's lost. Wandering about, he notices a panther heading rapidly in his direction with the intention of having lunch. The old German Shepherd thinks, "Oh, oh! I'm in deep *#\$% now! Noticing some bones on the ground close by, he immediately settles down to chew on the bones with his back to the approaching cat. Just as the panther is about to leap, the old German Shepherd exclaims loudly, "Boy, that was one delicious panther! I wonder if there are any more around here?" Hearing this, the young panther halts his attack in mid-strike, a look of terror comes over him and he slinks away into the trees. "Whew!," says the panther, "That was close! That old German Shepherd nearly had me!"

Meanwhile, a squirrel who had been watching the whole scene from a nearby tree, figures he can put this knowledge to good use and trade it for protection from the panther. So, off he goes. The squirrel soon catches up with the panther, spills the beans and strikes a deal for himself with the panther. The young panther is furious at being made a fool of and says, "Here, squirrel, hop on my back and see what's going to happen to that conniving canine!"

Now, the old German Shepherd sees the panther coming with the squirrel on his back and thinks, "What am I going to do now?," but instead of running, the dog sits down with his back to his attackers, pretending he hasn't seen them yet, and just when they get close enough to hear, the old German Shepherd says...

"Where's that squirrel? I sent him off an hour ago to bring me another panther!"



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Industry Issues

The following notices from the Standard Club may be of interest to members:

Increased fines for federal maritime offences in Australia, 22 February 2013

Under new legislative amendments brought into force in December 2012, members trading to Australia now face significantly increased fines for a range of Commonwealth maritime offences.

Maximum pecuniary penalties imposed for Commonwealth maritime offences in Australia are calculated using 'penalty units', which are set at a prescribed monetary amount. Until 28 December 2012, the value of a penalty unit was AUD110. However, the recent legislative changes have increased this value to AUD170, a rise of more than 50%. So for example, whilst a corporation previously faced a maximum fine of AUD275,000 for the strict liability offence of discharging garbage into the sea in contravention of Commonwealth pollution laws, they now face a maximum fine of AUD425,000 as a result of the changes. Perhaps of more consequence is the fact that members (including charterer members) now face a maximum fine of AUD17 million (USD17.5 million) for discharging oil or oily mixtures into the sea under those same pollution laws, up from the previous maximum of AUD11 million.

The increase in the value of penalty units is not retrospective and will not apply to offences committed before 28 December 2012.

Marpol Annex V – Cargo Residues

On 1 January 2013, the revised MARPOL Annex V entered into force. The responsibility for implementation of the annex has now extended beyond the shipowner and operator to include ports, terminals, shippers, charterers and manufacturers of cleaning agents.

The club is receiving an increasing number of enquiries from members regarding the treatment of dry bulk cargo residues under the provisions of the annex. The requirements of the revised MARPOL Annex V are summarised below:-

- Shippers must declare if a bulk cargo is or is not harmful to the marine environment in the declaration required by the IMSBC section 4.2 'Provision of Information'.
- Manufacturers of cleaning agents must declare if their product is harmful to the marine environment or provide evidence for ships' records that it is not.
- The definition of 'cargo residues' means the remnants of any cargo which remain on deck or in the holds after cargo operations. This does not include dust remaining on deck after sweeping or dust on the external surfaces of the ship.
- Hold bilges cannot be pumped overboard when carrying cargo or using cleaning agents that are harmful to the environment. Residues of cargo or cleaning agents classified as harmful to the marine environment can only be discharged into a port reception facility.
- Discharge of cargo residues and cleaning agents that are not harmful to the marine environment is only permitted when not in a special area and at least 12 nautical miles from the nearest shore line.
- Discharge of non-harmful to the marine environment cargo residues and cleaning agents are permitted in special areas only, provided that the following conditions apply:-
 - o Both the port of departure and the next port of destination (load port) are within the special area
 - o The ship will not leave the special area
 - o No adequate reception facilities are available at either port
 - o The discharge is made as far as practical from the nearest land or ice shelf and not less than 12 nautical miles from the nearest land or ice shelf.
- Discharge of cargo residues and/or cleaning agents that are classified as harmful to the marine environment is totally prohibited regardless of area and whether or not they are mixed with cargo hold wash water.

Further details and reporting formats can be found in the Intercargo Technical Brief 'Revised Marpol Annex V & Dry Bulk Cargoes at www.intercargo.org/reception-facilities.html .



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