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INTRODUCTION

Who would have thought at the time of writing the last **ALL HANDS!** Newsletter in February, that the majority of the world would end up in varying degrees of “lockdown”? While the health impact of the Covid-19 pandemic within our region has been relatively contained, it has to be acknowledged that lives have sadly been lost, with loving family and friends forcibly constrained in their grieving, economic independence and certainty severely affected for so many and the far greater impact in other nations, with many still in the midst of wide-spread infection and a large daily fatality count.

At the same time, we all must again recognise the unselfish actions and efforts of health workers and their support services, everywhere.

The often-used phrase “the new normal” is premature, in my view. Our medical experts are still in the stage of gathering intelligence to understand this coronavirus and the development of a workable and proven vaccine is many months away, if able to be grasped at all. Nothing has settled and everything is still in a state of flux - normal yesterday is not normal today and will not be normal tomorrow.

All take care and stay well.

ALL HANDS!

THE AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND BRANCH NEWSLETTER

Your Branch Committee

Chair	: Capt. Robert Hawkins, FICS
Vice-Chair	: Mr Adam Kuner, FICS (Editor)
Ex-officio	: Mr Nicholas Vann, FICS
Treasurer	: Capt. Francis Castellino, MICS
Secretary	: Capt. Asoka Ranjith Munidasa, FICS
Education	: Capt. Norman Lopez, FICS
Public Officer	: Capt. Nigel D’Souza, FICS
NZ Chapter	: Capt. Robert Hawkins, FICS
Committee	: Mr Michael Newman, MICS
	Mr Mark North, MICS
	Mr Anthony Pegum, FICS
	Ms Emily Pointon MICS
	Mr Munaf Shaikh, MICS
	Mr Felix Van Aalst, MICS
	Mr Stuart Wilkinson, MICS
Student Rep.	: Ms Jessica Warren (Young ICS and LinkedIn)
Webmaster	: Ms Janani Dissanayake

MEMBERSHIP

The Branch cordially welcomes and congratulates the following members elected and re-elected in March 2020:

Ms Karen Kwok, The China Navigation, Swire Shipping, Melbourne

Mr Michael Laloli, Trans Global Projects Australia, Perth

Mr David Kelly, Roy Hill Holdings Pty Ltd, Perth – re-elected

The Branch also recognises and congratulates **Mr Mark North** of Thurlestone Shipping Australia Pty Ltd, Perth for his promotion to Fellowship. The editor of **ALL HANDS!** posed some questions to Mark:

Briefly explain your current role and position.

Director at Thurlestone Shipping Australia Pty Ltd, providing dry bulk and sale and purchase ship brokerage services.

When did you begin your career in shipping?

I began my shipping career in 1993 sealing hatch covers on steel loaders in Durban Harbour. I went on to then spend 5 years at sea with Safmarine/Maersk, become a Marine Surveyor and then work in P&I Insurance before entering into the Chartering world in 2007.



(with permission)

You became a member in 2013 after successfully completing the Qualifying Examinations. What attracted you to become a member of the ICS?

I started studying with the ICS during my time at sea in the late 1990's. Assignments were handwritten in triplicate and posted to the tutor. I suspended my studies to complement them with an LLM in Maritime Law before finally returning to complete my ICS qualifications in 2013. It was important to complete the ICS course and learn more about the finer details of commercial shipping, particularly ship economics, chartering and sale and purchase. I fondly remember my tutors in South Africa all coming from diverse backgrounds in their field of shipping and each contributing to different parts of the coursework. The ICS held interesting, topical and beneficial opportunities to collaborate on the different aspects of ICS coursework. One of the most looked forward to aspects of the ICS year was the annual "weekend away" comprising of a series of lectures for students from across the country to participate and prepare for the annual exams.



For our current and prospective students, what would be your advice in order to be successful in their studies and the exams?

Application and interpretation is key. As a shipbroker we tend to be finding solutions to scenarios and interpreting what any given market condition is likely to mean. Applying the coursework to be able to elaborate in context is a skill to be developed during the coursework.

Congratulations on your promotion to Fellow. What does being a FICS mean to you today?

As a part of the journey through ICS studies it seemed only appropriate to complete the process. After completing the qualifying exams and then contributing to the ICS as a tutor, fellowship made sense.

RECENT EVENTS/FUTURE EVENTS

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, all events planned for March-May were cancelled.

With restrictions affecting venues and physical distancing requirements starting to ease in most jurisdictions, thoughts may again turn to arranging our next events, as circumstances allow around our Branch. This will likely include the re-scheduling of the next **Commercial Shipping Practice** course.

The **New Zealand Chapter** is planning to hold the **Combined Shipping Industry's Annual Dinner on Friday 4th December 2020** at the **Northern Club in Auckland**. Further details regarding this event, including registration information will be provided closer to the date.

Keep watching out for event details in other locations.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS/ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Branch Committee Meetings were held via conferencing facilities on 27 March 2020 and on 28 May 2020. Thank you to Capt. Nigel D'Souza and Ms Helen Gui (student) for making the necessary arrangements.

The **Branch Annual General Meeting (AGM)**, will be held during the week commencing 10 August 2020. The final date, time, location (travel restrictions permitting) or teleconferencing arrangements will be advised at least 30 days prior.

Subject to travel and physical distancing requirements, details regarding the next Committee Meeting are to be finalised.

EXAMINATION RESULTS/BRANCH AWARD

We congratulate the following successful students for the 2019-2020 academic year:

Mr Michael Laloli	Introduction to Shipping – eligible for and elected to Member.
Mr Giles Jephcott	Awarded the Advanced Diploma in Liner Trades having also successfully completed Shipping Business. Also awarded the Branch Award for the highest marks gained in 2019-2020 academic year.
Ms Yingwei Tok	Awarded the Advanced Diploma in Dry Cargo Chartering having also successfully completed Shipping Business.
Mr Nathan Crawford	Liner Trades
Mr Ben Hogan	Shipping Law

STUDENTS

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, it was proposed by London that the May examinations be postponed to 6-16 July. At the time the decision needed to be made in mid-April, members of the **Branch Committee** petitioned London to forgo the May/July exams and look to November 2020. It was felt that this would give students more certainty for their study and preparations and hopefully provide greater likelihood that all exam centres across our Branch would be able to physically allow students. Accordingly, all students registered for the May examinations will be transferred to November 2020.

Key dates for students:

8 October 2020: registration deadline for November examinations

2-12 November 2020: examinations

25 February 2021: November exam results published

YOUNG ICS (YICS)

As a reminder to younger members and students, please note points of contact for social events and collaboration in studies, where assistance may be sought.

Contact details:

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STAY IN TOUCH

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