

## **THE NAUTICAL INSTITUTE (QUEENSLAND BRANCH)**

**Minutes** of the Annual General Meeting held at the Officers Mess of the Victoria Military Barracks, Petrie Street, Brisbane, 8<sup>th</sup> November 2007.

**Attendance:** P. Liley (Chairman), I. Steverson , C. Thompson , E. Gold, E. Van Buuren, C. Kline, P. Small, P. Chapman, P. Martin, P. Murday, S. Hall, P. Quirk, C. Beadley.

**Apologies:** S.Derrington, J. Watkinson, S. Pelecanos, A. Diack. , A. Rae, C. Richardson M. White, P. Jepson, R. Johnson, R. Nicholls, N. Lopez, W. Burton, R. Pincott, C. Williamson, J. Hall.

The meeting commenced at 1750 with the Chairman Captain P. Liley welcoming those in attendance.

Apologies were noted.

Minutes of the 2006 Annual General Meeting were tabled and accepted as read.

### **Chairman's Report**

Captain Liley presented the Chairmans's report with the following main items detailed. The Queensland Branch of the Nautical Institute had completed another successful year with three successful public meetings and together with the current AGM in progress.

The first Technical Meeting in association with the Company of Master Mariners of Australia, Queensland Branch and the University of Queensland, T.C. Beirne School of Law, Marine and Shipping Law Unit (MASLU), was a tremendous success, raised considerable interest and resulted in an attendance of 94 which due to limited space unfortunately resulted in a number of people having to be turned away. It took the form of a Hypothetical, "*Collapsed Crane - Where Do you Stand? A Hypothetical Debate*" which drew comparisons with the unfortunate incident with Captain Schroeder and the *Zim Mexico III*. The scenario was set out as if the incident had happened at Brisbane's, Fisherman's Island 1, Container Terminal. The august panel was facilitated by His Honour Justice James Allsop and consisted of prominent practical shipping personnel each participating in their respective roles.

The next meeting was another successful Technical Meeting and Dinner held in North Queensland at Townsville and was again sponsored by The Navigation Centre and special thanks are once again extended to Raymond Pincott MNI and the Pincott Family for doing an excellent job with the organization. 45 attendees enjoyed an interesting presentation by Bob O'Halloran a senior master with local firm Sea Swift who outlined his career development from fisherman to master and how it went in parallel with the development of Sea Swift. This company is one of the major shipping companies servicing the remote coastal and island communities on the north Queensland coast.

We remained with our formula in holding a World Maritime Day Seminar as close to the actual day as possible to avoid clashing with other events that would have preoccupied our target audience. A pleasing number of 41 attendees enjoyed the seminar the theme being *Environmental Challenges for Shipping; Australian Responsibilities and Interests*. Again we were fortunate to have an excellent quartet of speakers with Dr. Sarah Derrington presenting the World Maritime Day message from IMO Secretary General, His Excellency Admiral Mitropoulos.

The Branch was most appreciative through out the year of the tremendous support provided by the Law firm of Blake Dawson Waldron and especially to Ernest Van Buuren MNI. Recently the firm has been restyled simply as, Blake Dawson .

Thanks also are extended to the support received from Dr. Derrington AMNI and the continued support of the Maritime and Shipping Law Unit (MASLU) and Captain Kaspar Kuiper Branch Master of the Queensland Branch of the Company of Master mariners for their support and interest.

Congratulations were extended to Captain Brian White of Cairns on being made a Fellow of the Nautical Institute during the year. Prof. Gold was also congratulated on being awarded an Honorary Doctorate as Doctor of Science (Maritime Affairs) for outstanding contributions to International Maritime Law and the World Maritime University at the WMU graduation ceremony in Malmo, Sweden on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2007. This was greeted with applause.

Finally thanks were extended to the NIQ committee for their support for what has been a very successful year. The Chairman indicated he would be standing down in order to concentrate on further tertiary studies and work requirements.

The report was accepted by consensus

#### **Secretary's Report;**

Captain Steverson presented the Secretary's report.

Current Membership remained static with two new members indicated together with one companion and one associate. The actual numbers who have not paid their membership fees has not been ascertained and unless members advise the deletions are a bit of a mystery. Even new members appear reluctant to notify their local Secretary.

Recruitment opportunities were undertaken wherever possible and there are a few in the wings who have indicated an interest.

Main mode of communications has been by email and in that regard I am appreciative of Assistant Secretary Cade Richardson MNI and Treasurer Chris Thompson MNI for assisting during my frequent absences.

Communications with NI Head Quarters has been satisfactory together with an excellent rapport with Editor of Seaways, Claire Walsh CNI.

The report was accepted by consensus.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

Captain Thompson tabled the Financial Report as at 31/10/07

Closing Balance 17/10/06	\$2,552.84
Income	\$542.47
Expenditure	\$214.64
Estimated closing Balance	\$2,880.67

The report was accepted by consensus.

### **Election of Branch Committee**

The Election of Branch Committee for the year 2007-08 was adjudicated by Ex Officio Prof . Edgar Gold FNI.

Duly elected for the year 2007-08 were

Branch Chairman : Captain Chris Kline MNI

Immediate Past Chairman : Captain Peter Liley MNI, Ex Officio

Hon. Secretary: Captain Iain Steverson FNI

Assistant Secretary: Captain Cade Richardson MNI

Hon Treasurer Captain Chris Thompson MNI

Branch Committee: Captain Ernest Van Buuren MNI , Captain Arthur Diack MNI ,

Captain Peter Small FNI, Captain Steve Hall MNI , Captain Paul Chapman MNI

(Gladstone), Captain Peter Martin MNI (Cairns).

The addition of Committee members in central and north Queensland will assist in strengthening the NI Branch in those areas.

### **Others Matters.**

It was pleasing to note that the Branch website had been receiving an average of 200 hits a day which is quite exceptional. Members are requested to send appropriate photos of unusual incidents for the Web. However due to MSQ computer screening process it is important to ring ahead to advise if large copy is being transmitted.

### **Branch Activities 2008**

A quick discussion re the programme for 2008 was held and it was decided that it would be similar to the standard format

1. Presentation first quarter
2. North Queensland Meeting mid year
3. World Maritime Day Seminar
4. AGM + Presentation

### **Technical Presentation by Captain Liley**

Captains Liley, Kline and Pelecanos attended the first joint meeting of the Korea Marine Pilot's Association (KMPA) and the Australian Marine Pilots Association (AMPA) held in Seoul, South Korea on 17 October. Captain Liley gave an excellent presentation on the meeting which arose from an approach by KMPA to AMPA to sign a Memorandum of Understanding on joint training, safety management and other pilotage issues. The Queensland Branch also offered to assist AMPA in future meetings that are expected to be held in Australia

The meeting finished at 1900 and attendees joined their partners for what was an excellent meal in superb surroundings.

Our thanks are extended to Hon. Treasurer and the staff at the Victoria Barracks for allowing us to utilize the excellent venue for our AGM and annual dinner

Iain Steverson , FNI Hon. Secretary