



ISO Club

History

By Michael B Halley

ISO CLUB
an attempt to record history
[Michael B Halley Secretary 2004 -]

I was elected to the position of Secretary-Treasurer of the ISO Club commencing duties in December 2003 for the year 2004 and beyond. I had previously been a President of the Club and had some longevity as a member, and knew a little about the past, and some of the historical moments.

But when asked about specific issues I was sometimes found wanting and needed to tap into the memory banks of some other past executives or loyal members who somehow missed being co-opted to high office.

I decided to let current members and friends know who had gone before [initially in regards to executive positions but unfortunately also in the mortal coil sense] and this led to many exchanges of emails and telephone calls and face to face discussions. It became a sort of wake up call to remind us that if we forget history then history will forget us.

In discussion with Doug Bourne-Jones the founder of the Club a “misinterpretation of intent” led to my deciding to produce this history paper. At this preamble stage I state that the information collated and transposed into this chronicle will be to the best of my ability a true detail of what has transpired over the years since foundation in 1970. I wish to write history right not rewrite history wrong!

Being an organisation somewhat unique in structure and rules and reliant on honorary secretarial input which was at the good graces of their employers [and sometimes possibly bad graces] there are not a lot of records retained, or that we found. When I took over from Frank Beaufort the records that he had commenced in the year 1983 and efforts to locate any earlier documents failed, but perhaps some anthropologist may find them during a study into the character of Victoria, where the ISO Club was born and survived.

BACKGROUND [compiled by Doug Bourne-Jones]

First President:

- Doug Bourne-Jones founded the Club. He began his involvement with the Australian Shipping Industry when he arrived in Australia in November 1959, and was employed by The Victoria Stevedoring Company as a Cargo Superintendent. In 1965, he joined the Melbourne Harbour Trust Commissioners as an Assistant Harbour Master and left in February 1969 at the start of containerisation. He joined Freightbases Pty Ltd as Operations Manager, was made Manager in February 1976 and was transferred to Adelaide in August 1981, as SA Regional Manager Trans-Ocean Terminals Pty Ltd.
- During this period the change from “conventional shipping to containers” took many people by surprise and some did not wish to accept the change. In the early stages of containerisation it became evident people and organisations were not communicating with each other face to face and were unable to see the urgency of decisions not being left until tomorrow, but being made today - vital for this modern style of shipping.
- It was through frustration with this practice that Doug came up with the idea of providing a venue as neutral ground where key players in this new industry could meet, discuss and receive an answer to their problems. From this idea he formed the ISO Club 1970/71.

CLUB RULES - (Very Simple)

- Membership was open to senior management (only two persons per organisation) from shipping, transport, terminal (only one {STL} in those days], depots, railways, port authority, customs, quarantine, freight forwarders, customs agents, VRTA and so on.
- **It was NOT OPEN TO OUR CLIENTS - importers and exporters.**
- Venues were selected where we would gather for a monthly luncheon. Being “neutral territory” it enabled everyone to talk freely. Importantly, it allowed people to informally discuss problems they might have and, being senior management, quite often solve them. Members could bring guests, providing they were not clients.
- One of the first venues was Jimmy Watson’s Wine Bar. Unfortunately, some members from the “Transport Industry” decided to bring beer – we were not welcome from then on! Our next venue was The Prince of Wales in St Kilda, followed by 9 Darling Street.
- The Club caught on and Doug was elected its first President). One of our Members - Neil Mercer (now deceased), Manager Seabridge Australia, put forward the idea of the Port of Melbourne Cargo Facilitation Committee.[
Ed-Another Victorian unique organisation with longevity]
- When Doug left Melbourne, we were still holding our meetings at No 9 Darling Street, South Yarra.

ABOUT DOUG BOURNE-JONES:

Between 1952 and 1954 he was a Third officer on “*Stirlingshire*” and “*Clan Maclachlan*” and made several trips to Australia and met Ken Williams who was with Wm Haughton’s the ships agent in Melbourne. Doug visited Australia in 1957 on the “*Argylshire*”, and having just got married was looking for a shore job. He met A G [Alistair] Reed who helped him obtain a job with Victoria Stevedoring Co. Doug and his wife emigrated on the “*Clan Sinclair*”, arriving Adelaide on 5th November 1959, and immediately travelled to Melbourne where he joined Victoria Stevedoring.

CONTAINERISATION REVOLUTION:

Containerisation was not a new concept and was a widely used method of transporting freight in Australia. In fact Associated Steamships [ASP] had introduced the world’s first cellular ship for transporting containers around Australia’s coast.

In June 1965 the M.V “*Kooringa*”, the world’s first purpose-built container ship, commenced a fortnightly service between Melbourne (23 Appleton Dock) and Fremantle.

Her details were: - LOA 413' (10.5 ") x Beam 62' (8.25") x Draft 25' 00" x Speed 15.5 Knots. Originally fitted with 12 bays 18' long and a capacity of approximately 328 containers. She was fitted with two travelling gantry cranes capable of lifting 17-ton containers.

ASP also used “D Boxes” measuring approximately 4' deep x 8' high and 6' wide with lugs fitted to each corner at the top and slung from each corner and loaded individually.

Bigger cranes allowed for a series of slings on to one hook thus handling 10 at a time. She was converted in 1969, to 10 bays for the new 20' container and had a capacity 276 units. There were up to 60 reefer points available on deck.

The railways had used containers for many years to assist in the orderly transfer of freight at state borders due to the break of gauge. In 1962 when Melbourne and Sydney were connected by the one gauge a number of rail freight forwarders developed a whole new industry using containers.

In 1969 UK shipping companies formed two groups – Overseas Containers Limited [OCL] with a depot and their Seaintainers Limited [STL] Terminal and Associated Container Transport [ACT] with Freightbases as their depot.

Doug Bourne-Jones joined Freightbases, and came into contact with Phil Kelly at ACTA [The A to signify the Australian company]. Seabridge under the stewardship of Neil Mercer was formed later to represent the continental Shipping Companies.

In 1969, the container ship “*Encounter Bay*” (arrived in Fremantle on 28th March 1969) followed soon after by “*ACT 1*”, and established international container service between the UK and Australia and the start of the transition from conventional to containerised shipping (One container ship replaced approximately six conventional vessels).

The changeover from “conventional shipping to containers” took many people by surprise! Many shipping company managers, and their staff had to alter their modus operandi, and some did not wish to accept the change.

In the early stages of containerisation it also became evident that people and organisations in the Industry were not communicating face to face and were unable to see the urgency of decisions being made today and not being left until tomorrow - vital for this modern style of shipping.

ESTABLISHMENT OF ISO CLUB:

It was through frustration with the above listed malaise that Doug came up with the idea of the “ISO Club” to provide a venue as neutral ground where key players in this new industry could meet, discuss and receive assistance with their problems.

He called upon an unwritten law at sea – *a ship will always go to the aid of another if they require assistance - no matter what size or nationality-* and believed that there could be a similar code within the Shipping Industry whereby ship’s agents, stevedores, government agencies, and others, will assist each other if the other requires help - even though one can be in competition between “9to5” - after 5 you can have a beer together.

[One wonders how this approach would go down in the politically correct 21st century where social engineering is the Holy Grail!] [It would seem that nine to five is also somewhat outdated]

During the late 1960’s Doug Bourne-Jones became Social Secretary of the Company of Master Mariners and their Dinner Dances became the Industry Ball held in November each year at 9 Darling Street South Yarra – “the after 5 industry social get together”.

So the “ISO club” was formed early in “1970”. The first venue was Jimmy Watson’s Wine Bar. Unfortunately, some members from the “Transport Industry” decided to bring beer – and the welcome mat was rolled up.

Recorded as the attendees at the first meeting are: -

- Ian Macfarlan
- Tim Beamish
- Keith Beitzel
- Stan Mayne
- Keith Hicks
- Doug Bourne –Jones
- Alan Stubbings

Our next venue was The Prince of Wales in St Kilda. It was at this venue on 22nd September 1971, Acting Chair Phil Kelly and 14 other eminent Victorian shipping industry identities, attended a specially convened luncheon and paid a total cost of \$4.00 per head - including a tip!

In Doug's absence, they elected him President.

The venue was moved to No 9 Darling Street South Yarra. The Club caught on and continues today 35 years after the appointment of our first president making it probably older than a majority of members.

Doug continued as President until 1975, when Charles Burne took over.

WHAT IS I.S.O

The ISO standardization system

ISO (International Organization for Standardization) is a global network [www.iso.org] that identifies what International Standards are required by business, government and society. ISO develops them in partnership with the sectors that will put them to use, adopts them by transparent procedures based on national input and delivers them to be implemented worldwide.

ISO standards were developed to cover the deep ocean containers that were needed to allow for the orderly development of what is arguably the most important change in ocean shipping practices.

For instance the container codes, also known as BIC codes, are recognized in ISO International Standard 6346, Freight containers - Coding, identification and marking, which sets up a system of identity allocation of freight containers in all international transport and customs declaration documents.

So the new containers became known as ISO Containers and the nomenclature in Australia was varied between ISO [pronouncing the three letters as a word] and ISO [eye so].

The ISO Club has no allegiance or proprietary rights to the three letters and may well be in contravention of some of the real ISO organisation rules.

Over the years many documents and accounts for the Club have been wrongly made out to International Standards Organization

EXORDIAL SECRETARY:

Mentioned above as acting chair Phil Kelly, due to work commitments never actually held the high office but was the early Secretary-Treasurer and played as a vital part in the formation of the Club with Doug Bourne-Jones.

CLUB'S MISSION STATEMENT:

"To be an industry informative avenue in which to enhance networks and relationships in a relaxed atmosphere"

ORGANISATION FOR ADMINISTRATION:

The executive positions are all Honorary and comprise of a: -

- President
- Vice President
- Junior Vice President
- Secretary-Treasurer

The evolved system provides for the President to preside over a year's proceedings and for the deputies to step up. That provides for continuity and, contrary to current business practice, on-the-job training.

The position of Secretary is hoped to be in perpetuity and to some extent it is, as there have only been only eleven [11] incumbents making it a ratio of one to three.

The only mandatory requirement of office passed on is the President's obligation to tell the assembly a "joke for the day". But as holder of high office the President may delegate the task.

One other member of the executive is required to authorise and countersign monies withdrawn from the bank. We are registered as an Australian Business but are not required to submit taxation returns or able to reclaim any GST paid out.

The Secretary is allowed free access to the monthly dinner but all other executives pay the fee. An annual New Year dinner is hosted by the outgoing President and attended by the past year's executive and the incoming President.

Residual monies are used to provide a donation to our selected charities that provide succour to visiting seafarers. These are Stella Maris Society and the Missions to Seafarers. A tradition is to also provide each attendee at the final luncheon with a bottle of wine.

EXECUTIVES THROUGH THE AGES:

I managed to collate a listing of the executives through the years, and although some of the historical decisions taken [or maybe not] during their reign may not be in the records we need to pay due homage to these folk who gave of their time so that the ISO Club continued.

We should also reflect upon those who have predeceased us.

In response to an invitation to the 2004 end of year activity Bert Chandler claimed that at 96 he was too old to attend, but has agreed to come along in 2008 and show of his letter from the Queen.

PRESIDENTS

Year	Name
1971	Doug Bourne-Jones
1972	Doug Bourne-Jones
1973	Doug Bourne-Jones
1974	Doug Bourne-Jones
1975	Charles Burne
1976	Bert Chandler
1977	Alan Stubbings
1976	Ian Macfarlan
1979	Frank Macindoe
1980	Tim Beamish
1981	Len Atkinson
1982	Alf Dyer
1983	Bill Hoffmann
1984	Don Swanton
1985	Ken Williams
1986	Phillip Walsh
1987	Ted Montfort
1988	Alistair Reed

1989	Marshall Froomes
1990	Al  Ralph
1991	Laurie Ogilvie
1992	Len Sheedy
1993	Michael Halley
1994	Peter Cox
1995	John Pollock
1996	Brendan Lothian
1997	Peter Bowyer
1998	Greg Gilbert
1999	Bob Bywater
2000	Wayne Stafford
2001	Phil Edgley
2002	Ric Biedukiewicz
2003	Ken Wakefield
2004	Simon Richards
2005	Tricia Crombie
2006	John Carroll
2007	Chris Ryan

Bold indicates deceased **Vale!**

SECRETARY-TREASURER

Years	Name
1971	Phil Kelly
	Wal Fyfe
	Dan Goodall
1983-85	Alan Ralph
1986-89	Howard Brown

1990-91	Yvonne Arthur
1992	Geoff Deppler
1993-97	Allen Jones
1997-03	Frank Beaufort
2004>>>	Michael Halley

THOSE WHO CREATED HISTORY:

Having written similar history papers of other special interest groups my findings here are similar. If you read a history book of anything, such as the early explorers, only a handful of the people who were involved get their name "in print".

How many people have walked up the gangplank of the ISO Club over the years? Since 2003 330 name tags have been produced and we average over 60 members at the meetings. So if we take a conservative position that 50 is the average number of attendees per meeting and we hold eleven a year the number will be considerable.

As an American would say do the math! [Personally I hate the phrase]. 35 years X 11 meetings X 50 people = 19250 or with GST rounded to twenty [20] thousand.

The only way all of those who have supported us over the years could be mentioned would be to simply list them, which would be nice but boring reading. [Already I wonder if anyone will read it!]

So only our handful of people who contributed other than by coming to meetings or obtained notoriety for some reason will be named.

BIOGRAPHY OF EXECUTIVES

Each living past executive officer was asked to provide a personal biography to include in this document.

I also asked some of the older brigade to provide a testimonial about those who have predeceased us.

Information that is provided will be included, but the request leaves the decision to provide with the individual.

THOSE WHO PREDECESED US:

As noted above I made an effort to obtain information about our colleagues who have died but only Alan Ralph provided me with some information.

I met each of them at some stage and have related my own recollections of each with appropriate acknowledgement of Alan's information.

Alan Stubbings

Alan Stubbings was a career transport manager and was employed by a number of Australia's pioneers in transport innovation and concepts.

He was recognised as the guru of rules and regulations and the practicalities of transport of hazardous materials by road, rail and sea.

After retirement he shifted to the South Coast of NSW and each year until his death wrote an appropriate apology for his reason to not be able to join with his peers at the final meeting of the year.

Ian Macfarlan

Was the Melbourne Harbour Trust [now Port of Melbourne Corporation] Harbour Master and was one of the attendees at the original luncheon where the ISO Club was devised and formed.

Alan Ralph commented "his regular attendance on the waterfront kept many workers under good control when union activity was questionable"

Tim Beamish

Was the President of the Victorian Road Transport Association [VRTA] and the Long Distance and heavy Haulage Association

Alf Dyer

Alan Ralph advised "Was an A-Class-1 Senior Tally Clerk who joined Independent Bridgeford and Sons and became a Director.

After the Bridgeford family withdrew it was BSC Pty Ltd until stevedoring companies employed their own clerks leading to the collapse of independents"

Bill Hoffmann

A director of R Hoffmann and Company one of the few remaining family owned transport groups in Australia.

He rowed for Australia in the Olympic squads of -----and later became an Australian Delegate to the International Olympic Committee.

Hoffmann Transport was an early converter to intermodal and played a major part in the early activities of the container revolution and the resurgence of rail in container transfers.

Don Swanton

I met Don Swanton when he was with HA Chalmers Transport and recall he was a very pleasant and positive person.

Len Atkinson

Len was put up against the wall twice by the Japanese during WW2 but as a fluent speaker of the language managed to talk his way out of execution.

This skill obviously held him in good stead in civilian life for he, at the time of his Presidency, was the Commonwealth Railways representative in Melbourne.

His main office was the back bar of the London Hotel which you entered off Equitable Place.

He was also an aficionado of the punt and several big wins were astutely invested in bricks and mortar.

WHO ARRANGED WHAT AND WHEN:

I have taken the records for each year and read the correspondence contained in it with a view to extracting things that are considered important to know. Anything that may not be of great importance historical but worthy of mention because of some facet is also included.

As indicated earlier the records between 1970 and 1983 are somewhere in the twilight zone so we will have to remain somewhat ignorant as to what may have transpired during those years.

As the executive table shows some of those who were in high office during that period are no longer with us, and as there is a saying "all we owe the dead is the truth" it is probably best to not speculate.

ABOUT CHARLES BURNE

President 1975

Michael, Apologies for taking so long to reply to your letter of 19th Sept [2005]

It got over stowed and overlooked in my muddle of an in-tray!

Firstly I'm afraid I won't be able to attend your end of year function on Nov 9th. That week is a very busy one for me. Nor can I help with anything useful on the Past Presidents you mention.

I knew all of them of course but have no particular information that you haven't already got, I'm sure.

As far as I am concerned the following may be useful-;

Born in London in 1930 and educated in the U.K. Wanted to farm and attended agricultural college there

Went to N.Z. in 1950 and for almost 2 years did various jobs connected with the land- the most memorable, some weeks in the "dead wool bin" in Dalgetys wool store in Napier.

In early 1952 returned to the U.K. on the "Orion" meeting my wife of almost 54 years on the voyage.

Returned to the Antipodes in late '52 intending to travel on to N.Z. later but fell in love with Australia, and have been here ever since. Married early '53

Worked as a general farmhand on a property near Mansfield for almost 2 years but following a serious back injury had to give up the land.

Got a job with the "Orient Line" in late '54-- my father in law was a friend of the manager!!

Started in the Accounts Dept; but luckily got a transfer to the Passenger Dept; in less than a year. Saw a report in the press about a new aircraft being designed by Boeing and knew that passenger shipping was a dying duck. After much beating on the manager's door I got a transfer to the Freight Dept; in '64 just in time to see "proper" cargo ships. In '66 P&O sent me to the States & Europe on what was called an "experience trip". Some "Experience"!! No one else was ever sent!!!

I was lucky enough to be asked to join O.C.A.L. as one of the very early staff in mid-66. Organized the Maiden Voyage Party at Swanson Dock for the "Encounter Bay", the first overseas containership to arrive in Australia, notable for a screaming northerly wind which blew one of the tents down just as the party was starting!

In '69 became involved with the trade to Japan and spent 2 long periods on secondment to Head Office in Sydney helping establish A.J.C.L. Appointed Japan Trade Manager in Melbourne on return and subsequently Assistant Manager for Victoria.

In '79 (presumably because scum always rises to the top) I became Manager for Victoria and a member of the Board of O.C.A.L. Agencies Pty Ltd.

In Dec '85 I retired of my own volition, probably a silly move as had I stayed on I would have been made redundant and got more money within a year or two!!

Since then my wife and I have lived very happily in Flinders, travelling a good deal in winter and playing a great deal of golf.

Michael, I don't know if this is the sort of thing you want-- feel free to edit any or all of it if you want to. Hope it's not too late. If not and you would like to talk about anything my phone number is 5989 0356.

Cheers and best wishes for November 9th. Charles Burne.

ABOUT FRANK MACINDOE
President 1979

Frank Macindoe is in his 80th year when this is being written and will [not through ill health] be able to attend the 2005 end of year event. He was President in 1979 and in retirement has continued an association with the ISO Club.

Frank joined John Sanderson & Co. (which became John Sanderson & Co. (Shipping) Pty Ltd) in 1947 after returning from war service. He worked mainly in Melbourne but spent 1952-3 in the UK gaining experience with Alfred Holt & Co. (Blue Funnel Line) and most of 1963 in Brisbane with an affiliated company. Was appointed a director in 1965.

With the advent of containerisation Sanderson's wound up in the early 70s, and Frank joined the then newly-formed Seabridge Australia Pty Ltd early in 1970 as Operations Manager, eventually becoming State Manager until retirement in 1986.

He was Chairman of OSRA (Overseas Shipowners Representatives Association) in 1975 & 1979 and served on various AEWL committees including as Chairman of Safety & Accident Prevention and Training for some years, succeeding the late Martin Speyer in those roles.

Now retired in Mornington but active in Legacy, golf & gardening. Was an Honorary Probation Officer 1987-2000 and for some years was involved in several youth welfare organisations until "*advancing age made it impossible to relate to the little buggers*". He was also an honorary guide with The Melbourne Cricket Club for 10 years. Married to Bette with 4 children and 10 grandchildren.

The year of **1983** opened with an invitation for members to attend 9 Darling Street South Yarra for the princely sum of \$14.00 per head. The invitation categorically stated that guests were welcome, but clients were excluded.

Members were invited to advise the Secretary [Alan Ralph of Columbus Lines] in writing of any business they wished to have discussed at the meeting.

There were 69 companies or individuals on the mailing list, with some companies having more than one nominee-----this would indicate that the original determination as to membership may have been revised over the preceding decade.

Today only fourteen of the names listed are in the Melbourne phone book; some as we knew them still exist under new ownership but other have gone out of business. As an example ANL and Australian Customs remain whilst ABC Container Lines, ACTA and Australian National Railways are no longer. Many of the employees are still attending regularly.

Interestingly the paper used for the listing of members was Foolscap which was outdated at the time of metrication. [Originally the name came from a watermark of a fools cap on the paper ----- would be a civil libertarian's feast today]

In the May invitation the Secretary Alan Ralph on behalf of the President Bill Hoffmann asked that members respond on time to save all the chasing up - ----little has changed in that regard!

But bad news was at hand for in August the price of luncheons went up to \$16.00, but it was the first since early 1980.

Australia continued to work whilst ISO Club members networked, probably worth recording is a political event and its consequences: -

Liberal Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser and Labor Opposition Leader Bob Hawke were about to face each other and the Australian people in an election.

Bob Hawke replaced Labor Leader Bill Hayden twenty minutes after Malcolm Fraser had announced the coming election on February 3rd and a month later Bob Hawke was Prime Minister of Australia.

Petrol prices were also of concern at the time and in the August Budget of 1983 the Hawke Government began the indexation of petrol excise.

The disastrous Ash Wednesday fires will long be remembered and paradoxically this was the year that the Franklin River Dam was stopped and Hayai won the Caulfield Cup on a very wet track, along with some memorable mud baths at Waverley Park. [AFL football for the younger folk]

So the year of **1984** came around and Secretary Alan Ralph introduced Don Swanton, President Ken Williams, Vice President and Phillip Walsh as the new Junior VP.

Advice was also given that new Club ties were available at \$9.00 each and to be careful where you parked around 9 Darling Street.

Nothing else of importance within the Club is recorded so a memory refresher for those who may have imbibed too long and missed some regular news.

Over in New Zealand the now deceased [2005] David Lange was elected in a snap election brought on by an opposition sponsored anti-nuclear bill. Following his election Lange enacted anti-nuclear laws banning nuclear powered ships and ships carrying nuclear weapons.

Collingwood fans were cheering their team in the finals in 1984 - with the introduction of Sunday games in 1982, Collingwood had just won the first ever Sunday Elimination Final, beating Fitzroy at the MCG.

ABOUT THE CLUB TIE

Phil Kelly advised that he and Alan Stubbings met in a hotel about half a dozen times to discuss the tie. Several concept drawings on bar coasters were swapped and finally "*the worst tie of all time*" [Phil's words] was ordered.

Members were able to select a plain colour red, brown or blue with ISO highlighted in yellow.

The writer recalls hearing a member run together words to the effect-----they left the P off at the start of the word.

'The Great Debate' between Prime Minister Bob Hawke and Opposition Leader Andrew Peacock lead up to the Australian Federal Election held on 1st December 1984, was much more difficult than ours that saw Ken Williams become President and Don Swanton join that elite group of Past-Presidents

In **1985** Ted Montfort came in as Junior VP and voted in the affirmative in April when the executive debated a \$2.00 increase so that meetings could continue at 9 Darling Street South Yarra

The invitation for the end of year event read inter alia "*Obviously, Sir Brian will not be the guest speaker, nor have, under the circumstances, invitations been issued to Mr Cain or Mr Keating, for respective individual reasons*".

The out going President Ken Williams in this correspondence bore the letters I.R.A after his name, but as Alistair Reed was elected as Junior VP for 1986 there was no nepotism declared.

Beyond the portals of 9 Darling Street, Jeffrey Kennett was suggesting that the number of MP's in State Parliament of Victoria should be cut. The then Premier John Cain described him as a 'Bull in a China shop'.

It was ten years since Gough Whitlam had been sacked at which time Charles Burne was our President having replaced Doug Bourne-Jones, who like some African dictators may have had an idea of announcing he was *President for Life*.

So to the year of **1986** when Halley's Comet [not related!] passed over Australia and would have seen issues about the high cost of petrol, a beer strike and power shortages, as well as the nurses dispute.

Australia had a census on 30 June and in this year Ferdinand Marcos was disposed and apartheid was abandoned in South Africa which led to Nelson Mandela being released.

We had released Alan Ralph from Secretary and his replacement Howard Brown commenced what was to be a three year stint. No longer did members have the opportunity to hand deliver responses and cheques to Marland House in the city as Howard's office at Liquid Air was way down in South Melbourne.

Howard hopped right into it to dance to Phillip Walsh's tune and increased the fee to \$19.00. Later in the year past Presidents Frank Macindoe and Tim Beamish were invited as Guests and were presented with a pewter tankard engraved with their initials. The invitation carried the rider "*you can anticipate being called on to respond to a few words from one of your colleagues*".

The woes of a Secretary are carried in a letter for Howard to Phillip Walsh viz "*I have been advised that Alantrafik have gone into receivership-more alterations!*"

Frank Macindoe of 10 Fairfield Avenue Camberwell wrote a nice note of thanks. Tim Beamish responded using a with compliments slip bearing his handwritten thanks. Both documents are stabilised in our archives

In September personal invitations were sent to Neil Samuels, CEO and Martin Shirley, Marketing Manager of the Port of Geelong. It was not a freebee as the price was clearly stated in the letters.

An outlay of \$515.00 was authorised in October when an order to replenish the tie stock was given to T D Noone at a unit price of \$10.25 per unit.

A subsidised lunch for members in November was passed at \$10.00 per head and the attendance of 75 people brought the year average attendance to 64.

It was in October that Marshall Froomes was co-opted to fill the vacancy of Junior VP due to Phillip Walsh completing his year and Ted Montfort itching to fill his seat.

The 1986 year started with a bank balance of \$166.19 [probably due to average attendance in 1985 of 49] and although \$44.00 was spent on tankards the new committee had a carry in of \$1020.18. Records show that the new signatories were Edward Bradish Montfort and Howard William Linton Brown.

In **1987** the stock market crashed, Ansett Airlines celebrated 50 years of existence, Joh Beljke Petersen made his famous Joh for Canberra push and Melbourne won the night Grand Final over Essendon.

The new executive suffered a "stock market crash" before the first meeting as the bill for the ties came in and the bank balance was halved. As well as that the Committee Meeting was held at Tiffany's on the Park in the Fawkner Club Hotel.

Norman J Kilkenny of Australian Customs nominated Barry Wheeler to take his place in the ISO Club as he had been transferred, at the same time thanking the executive for past good times.

Not so was a letter from John R Hall of Hall Ship Broking who had brought along a guest and amongst other things "*.....it was found that not enough seating places were available, and the suggestion was made that my Guest and I sit at different tables*" "*This suggestion was not taken too kindly.....*".

Liaison with the Port of Melbourne allowed for 30 members to inspect the Port aboard the M.V. "Commissioner" on 6th November which was three days before Jack Firman took over as General Manger and Chief Executive of PMA.

Neither Jack nor the vessel is any longer part of the Port's infrastructure! Peter Bosman of George and Sim is the only person who was on that voyage of discovery and attended ISO Club luncheons in 2005

Although Andrew Young had written in October to stress that Linertrains must be the only wording on his name tag, it is noticed that on the acceptors for the voyage ANL is bracketed after Linertrains.

In the spirit of co-operative cost reduction Howard Brown when telling Andrew that the name tag had been altered also advised him that the Liquid Air Australia contract with ANCM had been extended to include Linertrains.

Bests Winery was awarded the contract to supply the end of year gratuity, which was a Cabernet Port from the St Andrew's cellar at Lake Boga and 18.3% alcohol.

Only recipients will know if: - *"bottle ageing will mature and develop into an excellent tawne [sic] style port"*.

We also went to the expense of having an ISO Club Port label printed. The total outlay was \$975.20 but at the close of books there were 39 bottles and 400 labels in inventory worth \$435.30. TNT delivered the cartons to Howard's office but it seems the freight was included in the price.

We know who purchased ties in 1987 but I [Michael Halley] am the only one listed who is still involved. My tie was "lost strayed or stolen" from my wardrobe at the railways during one of the many office shifts I endured.

Through all of the purchases and sales and inventory holding, although the average attendance dropped to 55 the balance sheet improved by \$11.18 to \$1031.36 which was there for the 1988 executive Captain Alistair Reed, Group Services Manager STL, Marshall Froomes State Manager Nedlloyd Swire and Les Jones Manager Barrier Control [Vic & TAS] Australian Customs to manage.

No media gave much [substitute any] coverage to the fact that the year **1988** was the ISO Club's seventeenth focusing only on Australia's bi centennial.

Bob Hawke managed to get Her Majesty out to open new Parliament House but we stayed at 9 Darling Street.

Hawthorn's 1988 Australian Rules Grand Final Team went on to defeat the Melbourne Team by a new record margin of 96 points,[22.20.152 to 6.20.56], which may have been bad news for some but 'every cloud has a silver lining'. Collingwood did not make it—again!

During the 1988 Cricket Test series drunken spectators had been throwing full and empty beer cans to the danger of other spectators and players. The MCG introduced a rule that banned the sale of beer in cans.

Furness Withy advised that Mr P F Lewis had departed the company, and we invited Captain Ivan Buer of Gearbulk to join the club, but nothing confirms or denies his acceptance.

At the March meeting thirteen new members were listed. Only three are still on our mailing list in 2005. A note against Paul Raward shows "old member new company" as Paul had joined Celsinuator as Marketing Manager. We still allow "new" new members to get in a plug for their new position.

Perhaps it was one the new members but someone complained about the quality of red wine, which resulted in "Mario has agreed to provide an equivalent priced, different brand for the April luncheon".

In June mention was made under the heading "Members who have given up smoking" that Ted Sherman of Freightbases was at home recovering after a heart attack. Don Elliott of Nedlloyd Swire - broke leg at hip-chasing possums on the roof....goes home Tuesday.

BSC moved to 487-489 King Street Melbourne in July which was duly noted, but overshadowed by the fact that an executive meeting was scheduled for 15 August with five agenda items.

Alistair, Marshall and Howard attended the meeting and the minutes record: -

- **Client attendance.** Clients defined as consignees or consignors and not to be invited. Transport Operators and Customs Agents are Ok. Freight Forwarders [and clients] are out.
- **Female attendance.** A ballot to be conducted at October meeting, with ballot papers accepted up until 1.00pm. A 75% yes vote needed for acceptance.
- Les Jones had returned to Canberra full time and it was decided to ask Alan Ralph to fill the Jnr VP role for the rest of the year.
- An approach was to be made to Laurie Ogilvie of BSC to become Jnr VP in 1989.
- An additional four dozen Port was ordered.

No invitation for the October meeting or ballot paper for the Referendum about female members is in the records. Alan Ralph faxed Howard Brown on 3 October and asked for a ballot paper for Bill Gent who had not received one.

As the 2005 President was Tricia Crombie, a female it must have been more than a 75% affirmative vote.

I recall the meeting where several members spoke out quite vehemently against the motion. Amongst them was John [Wilko] Wilkinson, then employed at the Port of Melbourne!

At the next meeting four females were in attendance and guess what? Wilko sat at their table.

Probably the executive had been all “voted out” when Esmond Fernand of Australian National Railways asked for a ballot to canvas his suggestion that a Guest Speaker be provided. *“My criticism is that there is insufficient interest, from my point of view, to be able to justify the expenditure [EF]”*

[Isn't it interesting to reflect on the English language? Above one could think that the executive lost their positions in a ballot but voted out there means had enough of voting]

At one meeting during this time Esmond had brought along a supply of ANR brochures and left them at reception. Marinus van Onselen, who had some personal feelings about ANR, on arrival seized them and dropped them in the bin whilst saying “The *ISO Club does not foster commercialism just friendship*”.

All of this was a trivia to the executive as 9 Darling Street could no longer provide the venue. Rising costs and the need to open especially for us was the final determinant.

Alan Ralph, Laurie Ogilvie and Howard Brown went on a reconnoitring of several possible venues with a twelve point evaluation sheet. Fisherman's Wharf, Richmond Football Club Social Club, Queens-Lodge Motel and The Mansions were given the once over, but a venue that is not recorded on an evaluation sheet was to become the new venue.

North Melbourne Football Club Social Club was our new home from February 1989 under the new President Marshall Froomes, but an increase in cost to \$22.00 was a result of shifting.

The year of 1988 ended with an average attendance of 59 and a balance sheet in the black to the amount of \$1728.95. Labels, ties and Port were assets in inventory balance.

The person or persons who complained about the quality of the wine at 9 Darling Street had tasted nothing yet, as the memorable after dinner Port at North Melbourne awaited us.

ABOUT MARSHALL FROOMES

Started work in January 1957 at John Sanderson and Co, one of the bigger agencies at the time. Eventually the principals we represented formed their own agencies with Seabridge to look after the European trades and Nedlloyd Swire to look after the Asia Pacific trades.

I fell into the Nedlloyd Swire agency managed by Morris Crawford, then by Ron Hadley and then myself

I was very fortunate to experience the many changes in the industry over the years from break bulk stowage to unit-load, including side port loaders, RO-RO and then of course full containerisation.

The ships I first visited in the early sixties you stepped down onto them .The larger versions invariably carried some passengers and many could be in port for two weeks. There were even steam tugs in Melb Thank goodness for progress, hopefully the channel depth saga will not drag on so long that Melb no longer can remain the top port in volumes and performance

Somehow along the way I also was democratically elected to the chair at ISO, and enjoyed that experience

I also survived the agency split by Nedlloyd -- seems Nedlloyd did not as Maersk now own the mighty P&O Nedlloyd.

I went on to early retirement in August 2002. Fortunately I enjoyed every day in the industry and yet I have no plans or desire to return Retirement is even better!!!

Where once ISO facilitated contact within the industry for operational purposes, having regard to all the company breakups and changes in recent years perhaps the ISO role now is to facilitate job placement.

Things out in mainstream Australia and the world were not too good in **1989** but we had a record attendance of 92 persons at the new venue, and *“apart from a few problems with the cheese and greens we were quite satisfied”*.

The number must have included a lot of guests for records show 38 companies and 98 persons on the mailing list.

Bill Hayden AC became Governor General of Australia in 1989 and stayed until 1996. Paradoxically his views on Australia becoming a republic had been made well known over the years.

The Tiananmen Square massacre occurred on June 3rd, and remains an historical event worth recording given the reliance on many ISO members with Chinese trade.

Whilst we were attending the August meeting the Saviour of the Brisbane Bears, free spending entrepreneur Christopher Skase was unable to attend as he had a previous engagement in far away Majorca.

If you have forgotten high interest rates, the crippling airline pilots' strike and job problems then this was the year.

We had problems of our own and became involved in the problems of others. March and April luncheons were held at North Melbourne without mention but the May meeting was at Richmond Football Club Social Club, due to North Melbourne's *“current problems”*.

It was a matter where North contracted the meeting to Richmond and all seemed well. But the planets were all lining up against us!

Ten vehicles were booked for parking in a reserve and infringement notices of \$30.00 were imposed. As the Richmond manager had advised that there would be no parking problems the Secretary withheld \$300.00 from the payment and the Senior Vice President took on the Melbourne City Council regarding the technicality of the issuing of notices.

That matter was to drag out for sometime, but from 2nd July Richmond lost their liquor licence due to many breaches of the licence. As the Commissioner said *"It is a shell, functioning only as a landlord collecting rent. The club is a sham....."* So we returned to North Melbourne.

In September Alan Ralph was still battling with the Melbourne City Council but on 19th he faxed inter alia *"Your advice that proceedings will be halted on the matter of the ten vehicles booked, including DRO 597 which had found its way to the Magistrate's Court.....we also confirm your advice that even in the event that council can not concede to our submission only the prescribed original penalty will be sought"*

Mind you in May the council had promised to reply to our letter in 6 to 8 weeks. A cryptic note from Marshall Froomes read *"Howard I will visit you in goal/jail if this does not work out the way we were told it would"* Nothing further is recorded about the matter in the 1989 file!

In October the Executive met and passed a motion that all Past Presidents and Secretaries would be invited to the end of year event as guests but future committees would need to make their own decision. All were invited but who attended is not recorded, however we do know that each attendee got a bottle of Bests Cabernet Port at a price to the Club of \$8.70.

A handwritten letter expressing an inability to attend but sending regards to all members is on file, the sender being Alan Stubbings who was then living at Merimbula NSW.

Howard Brown relinquished his position as Secretary at the end of the year and was replaced by Yvonne Arthur of Port of Melbourne. So if the 1988 decision to allow female members had not been yes then this paragraph would read differently.

Arden Street remained as our home ground for the first year of the last decade of the twentieth century and activities for **1990** were guided by President Alan Ralph who had been catapulted into the executive ranks back in 1988 when Les Jones relinquished the Junior VP position.

As an MCC member President Alan probably did not worry too much about the controversy raised when it was found that Corporate Boxes were going to be installed in the new Southern Stand.

Children were still living in poverty and Victorians faced a new water rating system based upon a quota.

On the shipping front a large oil spill in Bass Strait killed dozens of fairy penguins and this was the year that Iraq had invaded Kuwait on August 2nd. Some interruption to members' work activities ensued as a result of the invasion.

The February luncheon was at the 1989 price of \$22.00 but an increase in catering costs saw the price rise to \$24 from March for the rest of the year.

It took more than the original six to eight weeks as originally promised in May of 1989 but a response came in from the Melbourne City Council dated February 6 1990 advising that *"there are insufficient circumstances that would warrant the infringements being excused."*

We paid the monies owing at the witching date to avoid the matter being referred to the Magistrates Court, but the money withheld from the Richmond Social club was retained in accordance with our contention that they advised there would be no parking issues.

The committee met on 11 October to discuss the end of year function and again past executives were invited as free guests and Bests Cabernet Port was the gift to members attending.

A note says that we need to discuss with NMFC *'the predictability of their menu'*, which was duly done and rectified.

Yvonne kept a magnificent set of books but nothing else of note is recorded. The average attendance for the year was 58 and the balance sheet improved by nearly 7%.

Laurie Ogilvie stepped up to be the **1991** President but no record was kept of who replaced Alan Ralph, but my recollection is that it was Glen Woodbridge as junior to Len Sheedy the vice President.

Len became President in 1992 and I was elected as Junior VP to Glen, but he started G&J Containers early in his term as President in 1993 and resigned his ISO Club commitment, making me President a year early.

United Nations resolution 678 was passed and President Saddam Hussein of Iraq was given till the 16th of January to withdraw his troops after his invasion of Kuwait, as we know he did not and the Gulf War followed and lasted until March 3.

In June a trial Sunday Football match was conducted and on Sept 28th the state's morale was lifted by the victorious members of the Hawthorn Team when they won the Australian Rules Grand Final, played for the first time at the now defunct Waverley Park Ground, and for the first time against an interstate team, the West Coast Eagles.

It was a year on since Elvis had died in August and although various sightings were made he did not attend any ISO Club luncheons. Dr. John Hewson bit of more than he could chew with his GST policy.

Keating replaced Hawke as Leader of the Labor Party and as Prime Minister.

Laurie and his team steered the ship through the year without any major issue arising.

In March a questionnaire was circulated asking if the second Monday would be a more acceptable day for the luncheon. The suggestion had come from a member company suggesting that the first Monday was when most closed off the books for the previous month.

The ballot result was 12 wanting to stay the same and 7 in favour of change, so based on the number attending the April meeting 30 people did not vote.

All of the usual gratuities were arranged and the year ended with an average attendance of 49 people and an increased bank balance, and this was achieved without any ties being bought or sold!

Len Sheedy took us into the year of **1992** without the services of Yvonne Arthur who had managed to hand over the task to Geoff Deppler a colleague at the Port of Melbourne Authority.

In the wake of a campaign against skin damage from sun exposure which encouraged people to 'Slip, slop, slap' and to cover up with sunscreen creams to avoid skin cancer, Melbourne's summer featured cloudy skies, cold and rain. This continued through the year and heavy tracks were the majority during the spring carnival. The 92/93 cricket season was also threatened by unseasonable weather.

Kathy Watts won a gold medal at the Olympics but Fitzroy Football Club's economic woes were of more importance here.

Very little is recorded about the year of President Sheedy's tenure except that the cost was increased to \$24.00 and the venue remained at Arden Street.

The end of year function was gratuitous to past executives but others had to pay half price.

Allen Jones also a Port employee took over from Geoff Deppler who had some difficulty coping with the task. After an examination of records a positive surplus of a couple of hundred dollars was produced from the average attendance of 35 guests.

ABOUT ALLEN JONES

Allen joined the PMA in 1985 following a stint in the aircraft manufacturing industry and was co-opted to the ISO Club by my then manager Tony Honeyborne in 1992.

In 1997 he decided it was time to leave the Melbourne Port Corporation, primarily due to the disgraceful way Alan Ralph was evicted.

Secondly the possibility of a bleak future having to deal with a lot of port related friends and business acquaintances whilst undertaking *King Jeffrey the Evil's* [Jeffrey Gilbert] policies on destroying successful stakeholder relationships was unpalatable.

He spent a few years with Target at their Head Office in Geelong and since 2001 has been with Shell Australia at their Geelong refinery.

For the records Allen has a copy of the DCN which was published in 1997 with the wrong date (there is no truth in the rumour that Sandy Galbraith was the typesetter after attending an ISO Club meeting).

Although the Invitation said that the usual bottle of Port was available no record of payment to the usual supplier is recorded. It is thought that the bottles were provided by the caterers and charged in the meal cost.

And so to **1993** which started with Glen Woodbridge President, Michael Halley Vice President, Peter Cox Junior VP and Allen Jones Secretary.

The venue was still at Arden Street but the price had escalated to \$27.00 but this was to be a year of major deviation from the normal activities.

First and foremost the Invitation failed to mention the embargo on clients being guests! The codicil has not again been part of the invitation.

As said earlier Glen Woodbridge resigned his commission in April or May and Michael Halley stepped up for the rest of the year. John Pollock was co-opted to the position of Junior VP and remained on the executive until he had served in all positions.

Across the Pacific another President was installed and whilst Glen's may have been a Claytons Presidency the USA got a Clinton's Presidency.

Possibly as controversial as some of Bill's offerings we started the year with a guest speaker Terry Wheeler.

In March the deviation continued when Dave Butler a comedian was engaged for the amusement of the 46 members who attended. Dave's account shows that it was around \$9.00 per head for entertainment.

April was when Brain Martin the 3UZ radio race caller was the guest, only 36 entered the dining room. Ray Hodgson of Yarra Shipping, who had won a bottle of scotch in the March raffle, neither attended nor apologised in April.

In May Peter Cox jumped two rungs in the ladder and hosted the meeting as both Glen and Michael were absent. June was when a changing of the guard took place and Glen was now a past president. [History does not treat defectors well as no mention was made of Glen in the listing of past executives compiled by Secretaries over the years]

In a year of falling attendances even Brendan Barker of PMA discussing the Dock-Link Road could not draw a crowd. Whilst the presentation was high standard the attendance was just average, but the yearly average improved in September when only 35 folks left their offices.

Perhaps it was the announcement in late September that Sydney had been chosen to host the 2000 Summer Olympic Games, but in October we thought a phone box was all that was needed to accommodate the 27 attendees.

Australian's love of sport brought a few more to the venue when we had Peter "Crackers" Keenan as guest speaker, but his address embarrassed a female member who left early.

The number doubled for the end of year function, when a bottle of ISO Club vintage port was presented.

Back in April a debate started about changing the Australian Flag and sometime during the year the Executive designed and commissioned the ISO Club logo and the lapel badge.

Peter Cox, John Pollock and Brendan Lothian took us forward to **1994** hoping turn our fortunes around. History shows that they did just that for the average attendance exactly doubled over 1993 with four of the months attracting over 90 attendees.

As Julius Sumner Miller would say "*why is it so?*" Answer: - *Spirit of Tasmania*

There does not appear to be any correlation with our executive and the new president of South Africa Nelson Mandela, but for longevity we have some synergy with a group called The Save Albert Park protest formed in that year.

It was a year of little controversy, except for the defaulters who denied others a place at the table and gave Allen Jones a lot of extra work to collect the money.

Pregnant with enthusiasm the committee invited Jeff Kennett to luncheon, but he did not front. In the vein of a busman's holiday Captain Des O'Connor of the Spirit was happy to grace us with his presence.

Twelve of the then twenty Past Presidents came along to the end of year function and were among the first to become owners of the lapel badge.

Not only did Peter Cox end his innings in December but another cricket player also pulled up stumps. Alan Border made 27 centuries and if the Spirit could have accommodated more Peter would have gotten a ton of attendees.

Like Peter and Alan all good things come to an end and so did our involvement with TT Line and the Spirit of Tasmania

Peter Bowyer came in as Junior VP and for the year of **1995** we moved along the beachfront to the Danish Club with an entrance fee of \$35.00 and lapel pins at \$5.00

The year rolled along without incident under the administration of Allen Jones. He made one mistake when he advised distinguished past presidents that they could get to the Danish Club by public transport including No 10 tram.

Distinguished past president and public transport enthusiast Alan Ralph advised him that No10 tram route had been abolished.

In his file came a first inkling of past Secretaries not before mentioned, they being Michael Richardson, John Phillips and John Beamish. The latter attended but the others are still "mystery men".

The AFL continued the "I'd like to see that" campaign, and a number of members managed to get it into their banter at assembly and elsewhere.

This Committee decided to make a Christmas donation to the Missions for Seaman [since politically corrected] and Stella Maris. The file contains written heartfelt thanks from both organisations.

Frank Macindoe wrote a letter of thanks which included "*I was very impressed with President John Pollock's speech and his presentation of cheque.....a fine gesture indeed!*"

On a seafaring note French solo yachtswoman Isabelle Autissier was rescued by Australian Defence Forces after four days in her disabled yacht, battling high winds and waves, from freezing waters 1500 kilometres south-west of Adelaide in the Southern Ocean.

A survey of six questions was circulated and 34 people responded with as you would expect mixed results. Seven suggested a change of date, the venue mainly got a tick, but someone thought "*a bit of a drive-perhaps closer to Port Melbourne would make it more attractive to members. Meal is fairly ordinary.*"

Five wanted longer pre-dinner drink time whilst two wanted to chop fifteen minutes off, whilst 23 thought a guest speaker would be acceptable. On the issue of member's guests 33 were happy but the other was unsure [Perhaps it was a client!]

A monthly door prize only got ten affirmative responses and 29 thought the badge was sufficient but 26 were against a fine for not wearing it.

Four general comments were received which were no doubt considered by the incoming committee headed by Brendan Lothian and now including Greg Gilbert from Australian Customs Service.

The average attendance for the year dropped to 69.3 which apart for the Spirit in 1994 showed up as the best for many years when in 1983 it was 66.3. The balance sheet improved over the year.

The Carlton Football Club closed off its year by fielding a Soccer team. At least we stuck with our core values and competencies.

The year of **1996** was again allocated to the Danish Club and John Brumby accepted an invitation to address members at the inaugural meeting in February.

The price had increased to \$36.00 but Opposition Leader John Brumby attracted a crowd of 92 a number that would remain on top of the ladder until November when 104 showed up. The meeting had been carried in an article published in the Daily Commercial News on 30th January.

Jeff Kennet had been invited the year before but did not accept. Perhaps he was miffed by Brumby's appearance as next week he confused his deficits and surpluses leaving Federal Liberal Leader John Howard in an embarrassing position.

Obviously the embarrassment passed as John Howard became Prime Minister of Australia on 11th March, 1996

Brendan Lothian in his normal quite manner steered the ship to smooth sailing for the year, ably assisted by his vice presidents and Allen Jones the Secretary who now had two years experience under his belt.

Again a donation of \$250.00 was given to Stella Maris and the Missions for Seamen in the presence of seven Past Presidents.

Father Michael Richardson after 22 years as Chaplain to the Port of Melbourne 'came ashore' and took up a position at Mansfield.

In a diversion from tradition the customary bottle of wine was replaced with a two bottle wine pack. [Maybe the pack was easier to carry]

This was the year following the tragic events at Port Arthur, Tasmania that the Australian Federal Government introduced Gun Laws with an amnesty to allow for a gun buy-back scheme to rid Australia of guns in the community.

Accused of racism by many, Pauline Hanson was later asked in an interview with Tracey Curio whether she was xenophobic - Mrs. Hanson replied '*Please explain!*' a phrase that became the catch cry of many during the next few years.

The year ended with an average attendance of 68.2 and a healthy bank balance and a decision to have alternate venues apart from the Danish Club for the next year.

Bob Bywater was elected to fill the position of Junior VP following the vacating of the top job by Brendan and the assumption of Presidency by Peter Bowyer to carry on in **1997**.

Eighty two [82] members and guests, made their way to the Promenade at the Point Restaurant in Albert Park for the inaugural meeting of the year.

1997 was Melbourne's second year of Formula One Grand Prix. There was a transport strike and the local population had to walk or drive their own cars and use non-public means of travelling. We managed to slip in and out to the Point the week before without any drama.

In April we went on a River Boat cruise, which was subsidised from the residual cash in hand. A note says that "safety was an issue at the gangway" but does not say if it was during embarkation or on return.

Allen Jones also commented: - *"I advised Melbourne River Cruises to make sure they were well stocked for the journey. Needless to say the boat was drunk dry before the turning marker. I refused to pay the bill until a significant reduction was forthcoming as the terms and conditions were "all inclusive"*

In May we returned to the Danish Club for a smorgasbord and members watched as a sea fog came in across the bay and blocked out or views.

Although President Peter had written very detailed letter reasoning why The ISO Club would like the Port of Melbourne Corporation to continue to provide the Secretarial services it was not agreed to by the new CEO Jeffrey Gilbert, due to "significant staff and resourcing setbacks".

The July invitation indicated that Allen Jones had relinquished his position and that Ellen Newman of Strang Stevedoring was co-ordinating the meeting. Ellen managed to get job done, but had no permanence for after the July meeting Frank Beaufort took over the position.

In October Frank called on Ellen to co-ordinate the meeting which she did without incident.

The next meeting was back at the Danish Club with the charge going to \$40.00 for which Phil Kelly sent in an apology. He was leaving the employ of the Polly Woodside and taking over a role at the Schooner Enterprize replica.

Enterprize was the ship that brought the first settlers to Melbourne on 30 August 1835. [Contrary to rumour Phil was not there to meet it!]

Allen Jones and seven past presidents turned out for the end of year function where \$300.00 each was donated to representatives of our accepted charities. The wine gift was a bottle of Penfolds 1999 Koonunga Hill Shiraz Cabernet.

St Kilda got beaten in the AFL Grand final that year and during a controversy concerning the use of Government credit cards, the Kennett Government passed legislation to limit the powers of the Auditor General.

We had no such issue as we do not take credit cards and in his role as our Auditor General the ever vigilant Frank Beaufort gave no mercy to delinquent non attendees who had booked but not cancelled.

As Peter Bowyer passed the baton to Greg Gilbert for the **1998** control no one knew what awaited them during the President's address. This will go down in history as the most memorable tenure since foundation---and he did it without an intern!

Nothing of a sexual nature or mistruth was involved as was the case with his counterpart in the United States, William Jefferson Clinton.

Well, technically Wayne Stafford as Junior VP was an intern! Think about that!

In the Daily Commercial News in June 1998 the section entitled *Overboard* carried an article written by Andy Gash and the editorial side bar read:-

Members of Melbourne's shipping fraternity meet at the ISO Club once a month, not only to exchange industry news and views, but increasingly to listen to the address by the President Greg Gilbert of Customs.

If Greg decided to 'give up his day job' he could do well in stand-up-comedy, and certainly the industry provides him with endless material.

Following on his views on 'why the new wonder drug Viagra made the front cover of Time magazine, supported by a four page feature, whilst the Australian Waterfront dispute managed a meagre seven centimetre report, and his unforgettable 'Spice Girls Routine', this month he shared his thoughts on 'The need for the Gilbert family to become more internationally competitive' as ANDY GASH reports.

Not much more needs to be said! Except during that year Jeffrey Gilbert was the CEO of the Port of Melbourne Authority who had found some of Max Moore-Wilton's axing pills.

Some folks had fallen foul of the PMA Gilbert by calling him Jeff an issue that did not go unnoticed or unmentioned by Greg.

Frank sent a letter to all members advising of the new executive and soliciting their continued support. Simon Aynsley responded saying the Hugh Saunders had left CGM on Christmas Eve 1997 and Simon had replaced Hugh.

Bucking the adage never say never Simon said "*I can assure you that there will be no further changes.....*" History shows otherwise!

Some notes appended to the back of the March attendance list was the first inkling that the ISO Club was considering arranging a Golf Day.

Many things happened in the shipping world in 1998 the changes at the Port Authority and the Waterfront dispute amongst them. But a change that was to spread across the world happened in New Zealand when the third umpire was introduced into cricket.

The average attendance for the year was 80 boosted by the 103 at the last meeting, where 12 past executives attended, and our usual charity donation was presented.

ABOUT GREG GILBERT

It would be unfair to make any editorial changes to the following!

OK, the bio. What do you need?

- Career Customs Officer since 1975.
- First worked in the Port of Melbourne about 1980 - Stationed at Seatainers where we had responsibility for Victoria Dock etc. Remember Victoria Dock, the Duke and Orr dry dock, the Vishva vessels.....?
- I was the Senior Inspector Sea Cargo Enforcement around 1990 when I was first dragged along to the ISO by my Chief Inspector. Ah yes, those were the days - we worked out of the old HQ at North Wharf Rd (the old gas works) and we had proper dress uniforms - I had three gold stripes and 2 red stripes. I thought it looked pretty neat, but it wasn't unusual to be greeted by the phrase "G'day Admiral" by certain sectors of the waterfront fraternity, although the uniform was more Air force than Navy, and with the red stripes I was at times mistaken for a Doctor. But that's another story.
- At that first ISO lunch I couldn't work out what the ISO was, why a

lunch that had something to do with sea cargo was held at a football club (North Melbourne?), why I was sitting with these rail guys, and what they had to do with sea cargo! My Chief Inspector told me to shut up; Customs paid for the lunch that was all I had to know.

- In the late 1990's I was again dragged back to the ISO (this time at the Danish Club) by my Director and Chief Inspectors. This time I was the scapegoat - sorry, Officer responsible - for the introduction of SCA in Victoria. Actually a good number of the Port community who were members of the Cargo Facilitation Committee which acted as the steering committee for SCA also attended the ISO. This time I worked out that a good deal of the work of the Port really got sorted out at the ISO. And Customs still paid for the lunch! Too good to be true!
- Then a dark cloud descended. I think Tony Honeyborne (the Harbour Master at the time, although I think he was called Manager something...) suggested me for Junior VP. This was unexpected - I'd now have to sing for my supper! But I had a plan.... heh, heh, heh..... I thought that I'd be transferred to another section of Customs and would not be attending the ISO by the time I was expected to step into the President's shoes. Free lunches 'till then - but the best laid plans.....
- I think I was President in 1998. In Customs I was still being introduced as "that young man" - I was 44 at the time (this was probably about the time we worked out that the average age of the waterfront community was 107). By this time I'd also been assigned to a non-cargo project and then assigned to the Intelligence Branch where I worked primarily on drug related crime with Victoria Police.
- No, the drugs do not account for my performance as president. It was just a little hard to keep up with happenings in the Port, and I didn't like telling jokes, so the President's address each month was a bit of a challenge. You saw the result. Actually, despite appearances, I used to be nervous and feel pretty sick waiting for the call to get up and speak. I was very relieved after the last speech/joke for the year got a very big laugh (It was about 3 shipping execs, implanted electronic communications and a fax coming through - I thought one guy from the Port of Seattle delegation was laughing so hard he was going to have a heart attack. Great I thought you put in a year's work and all that anyone will remember is that you killed a guy) and I could bow out.
- After '98 Intelligence work etc kept me away from the ISO (hooray, I hear you cry) for a number of years, but now as Manager Cargo & Ports Services I'm back.

So there you have it. If you want actual facts, well, I can make them up too.

The democratic vote saw the outgoing President replaced by the elevation of Bob Bywater and the election of Phillip Edgley as Junior Vice President for **1999**.

We will attribute it to a Freudian slip but the first invitation for the New Year gave the title of President to Bob Considine. The meeting was held at The Point and the cost was \$37.00 which did not deter 54 people from starting the festivities.

There was nothing of history making note worthiness until April when two things occurred simultaneously [or in legal parlance jointly or severally].

Australia's Daily Commercial News was acquired by the international Lloyds List and became Lloyds List DCN. To celebrate Sandy Galbraith shouted the luncheon which reduced the members' contribution to \$15.00 for drinks.

One hundred and six came forward belying the saying that there is no such thing as a free meal!

May was also a bit momentous when we changed dates so as to not conflict with the PMA Golf Day and at the same time tried a new venue- Rivers Restaurant Pier 35.

A new segment was introduced called *What's the Goss* where Sandy Galbraith gave a few minutes overview of happenings around the Port during the previous month. It was mainly a recalling of reports carried in Lloyds List DCN.

As the influx of illegal migrants continued, debate raged in Australia about whether or not the country should become a Republic and whether it should adopt a new preamble to the constitution. The debate started formally with the formation of the Australian Republican Movement in July, 1991 and resulted in a no vote at a referendum held on the 21st November 1999

It was about this time that we received word that the Danish Club's future was in doubt and that the kitchen was already closed. So we stayed at Rivers for two more months and then moved over to Bells Hotel and Brewery in South Melbourne for the August meeting.

In September at the same venue Mick Cottrell Sate Secretary of the Maritime union of Australia was a guest speaker.

Australian Rules Football Final on the 25th was won by the North Melbourne Kangaroos but Jeff Kennett was the big loser for the year.

Billy Bell's was again the venue for October and what was becoming a customary October happening Ellen Newman co-ordinated the meeting for Frank.

Trevor Gissing of Logistic Solutions gave a short address about his company and involvement with the waterfront. The company paid for the drinks consumed at the meeting as "Quid Pro Quo".

The wind up for the year was at the Point and 106 people attended including 13 ex executive officers, but excluding Tim Beamish who was in hospital.

The Golf weekend conceived the year before came to fruition when 24 members registered to pay \$250.00 each to travel to Corowa NSW on the 19th of November for the weekend. Secret "men's business" prevents information about these weekends being talked about, but a residual of \$492.30 was passed into the club's bank.

Some things noted in the expenditure report should remain sealed to protect the innocents. Paradoxically if the "items" remain sealed there is no protection.

The millennium bug had hit us a year earlier [See Bob Considine above] but we flowed into the new century and the year **2000** without any noticeable effect.

Wayne Stafford moved up to President and Rick Biedukiewicz came on board as Junior VP.

We started off the year at the Point and returned there in March with Phil Kelly, our original Secretary-Treasurer and power broker who gave an overview of the early years, with emphasis on some of the past presidents. The 29 years since our federation [not the 99 years of Australia's] had not dimmed Kelly's memory or wit.

A clipping in the file dated 10/4/00 probably from DCN detailing David Stephenson's [then with Strang Stevedoring] foot-in-mouth episode at the luncheon. David had paid out on Tim Watson the coach of St Kilda only to then be introduced by the smirking Wayne Stafford that his neighbour at the table was Mark Watson from Freight Australia----Tim's brother.

In June 119 members and friends attended the Point when the luncheon took the form of a Roast. Not the food, the proceedings were for Laurie Ogolvie who was changing jobs and joining The Retired Company. Laurie was then at Kings Transport but had been at BSC and Bridgeford in previous years.

The number more than halved for the July function when things returned to normal, or what we call normal. At the start of the year April, June, August and October had been advertised as being at Bells Hotel and Brewery in South Melbourne, but this was changed and all meetings were held at the Point due mainly to the parking arrangements.

This did not go down well with Billy Bell who took every opportunity to castigate Frank Beaufort, even though the "players and stayers" always went there for cleansing ale after the luncheon.

Of course another influence was the introduction of the GST from 1 July, but we obtained an exemption, having only to register an ABN to allow companies to pay the full odds and not withhold 10%.

Sydney had the Olympics, forty-four years after Melbourne!

If only Jill Murphy [whom we have lost track of since] had know what was to come we wonder if she would have joined HIH Insurance the company shown against here name in October. We had our own trouble with collecting some monies, so much so that a member was summarily removed by Frank, and contrary to Frank's advice he was invited in 2003, only to default again, not once but twice.

Eleven past executives swelled the ranks to 102 for the end of year function, at which the first country member, the quietly spoken Ken Wakefield for Merbein was elevated to Junior VP to support Phillip Edgley and Rick Biedukiewicz manage affairs for 2001.

Back in 1998 Ken had made a conscious decision that involvement with the ISO Club was good for business and regularly paid the not inconsiderable air fare to attend meetings. On the flight home one day he was reading the in-flight information [that he should have read in the morning] and read that a set of Golf Clubs was secreted in one of the advertised hire cars. It was only then that Ken realised that the un-investigated rattling in the boot all day may have been to his advantage. This was later to pale into insignificance with the birth of his baby!!

The Golf Weekend that year was held at Cobram-Barooga and was as memorable as the first but the details are sealed under the Official Secrets Act 2000. A small residual was paid into the Club account, and planning started for the next year.

For **2001** the meetings were all scheduled for Promenade at the Point, which is the correct name, and the fee was raised to \$43.00.

But the Grand Prix meant that for March we got the boot and moved to the Railway Club Hotel in Port Melbourne, where we were under the watchful eye of one of our Guests Sgt Paul Eddybone of Docklands Police.

Again it was a torrid time secretarial wise as the Club and member companies came to grips with the changes in accountancy as a result of the introduction of the GST.

This was a year where world events impacted upon the shipping industry, the Mad Cow Disease in Europe slowed our beef exports, and the Tampa incident brought container shipping to the fore.

No one was not effected by September 11 and the attack on New York. Home of the Port of New York and New Jersey we lost a confrere Bill Fallon who was in the early days at Farrell Lines in Melbourne.

In May President Phil Edgley brought two Chinese guests along to the meeting. June saw a return to the revamped [see note in 1999 year] Danish Club and 71 folks attended reinforcing the popularity of the venue. A second visit to the Danish Club was made in August and a third in October.

The other meetings including the November Finale were at the Point and the final event saw a record attendance of 129 people, including twelve past executives. The result was mentioned in Lloyds List DCN the next week where Phil Edgley was quoted as being delighted with the attendance.

If he was delighted with his golf score at the Horsham Golf Club the venue for that year's weekend is not recorded.

2002 was when Simon Richards moved into the Junior VP ranks as support to Ken Wakefield who became Vice-President to Rick Biedukiewicz.

This was the era when email communication started to become more prevalent and Simon commenced to put his footprint on the ISO Club.

It was proposed that P&O Ports would be willing to sponsor a meeting, but although an exchange of emails took place and it seemed to be supported all meetings were charged out at full price.

Perhaps it was the Queen Mother's death or the expanded detention centres to control the illegal immigration or some other event that put paid to the proposal.

In May President Rick took himself into the new offices of NYK Line at Level 3 303 Collins Street. Later in the year Contship Container Lines came under the banner of CP Ships.

The Bali Bombing in October gave Australia a wake up call that Terrorism was omnipresent and the Government was right to say we need to be alert. [Not alarmed is possibly subjective]

We rounded out the year with 100 people at the Point which along with the Danish Club had been our home for the year.

Again the Golf Weekend was held, this time at Rich River Golf Club Resort Echuca and the accommodation was at the Winbi River Resort operated by a friend of the ISO Club Gavin Lowe the long time manager at Ricegrowers Echuca

It is interesting to note that Golf overpowers all, for most years the Presidents and other executives manage to attend both the duties of office and the Golf Weekend.

Ken Wakefield moved to high office for **2003** year and Paul Paparella then at Patrick Shipping became Junior VP.

ABOUT KEN WAKEFIELD

Ken commenced his own business as a builder after finishing trade school, and then attended night school to become more qualified. He spent 2 years overseas in South Africa as Project Manager for a brick veneer housing program with the South African government

He then spent 12 months travelling in South America and North America before returning home to take a position as truck driver in family business Wakefield Transport and becoming General Manager in 1992.

Through an association with V/Line Freight In 1995 Ken formed IronHorse Intermodal and continued expansion of intermodal services through the Inland Port and Regional Hub at Merbein and is one of the pioneers of the re-engineering of

container transport

After diversifying into mineral sands distribution Ken formed Basin Sands Logistics in 2005 to service a customer with agreed annual tonnages toward a million tonnes.

Apart from the prestigious position of Past President ISO Club he is a director of and chair of many transport related boards and associations.

Australia joined the coalition of the willing and sent troops to Iraq, but another Waugh finished when Steve gave the game away.

As if to confuse the enemy we held meetings at seven [7] venues; so our coalition of the willing members had to do many of the tasks that soldiers are trained to do.

Meetings were at The Point, The Clare Castle Hotel, The Railway Club Hotel, The Danish Club, Wharf*, The MCG and a cruise. The Danish Club got four meetings whilst the others had one each.

Tim Steel and Kim Westcombe from Patrick Stevedores became the smiling faces of ISO Club when Lloyds List DCN carried a write up of the February meeting and the boat trip. Greg Norman parked his new yacht in the way but we navigated around it without incident.

Mark Dale General Manager Administration wrote and told us that as from 1 July the Melbourne Port Corporation ceased to exist and the new name was the Port of Melbourne Corporation.

Our member Mark Greaney was probably living high on the hog for a good part of the year as his company Link Logistics had the contract to ship Harley-Davidson motor cycles to America. It was the 100th anniversary year of the Harley-Davidson company and big celebrations were planned.

If we believe all of the stories that go around about the Harley Owners we must believe that all were delivered in good order, for Mark was still attending in 2005.

In August Frank had to write a letter of disappointment to the Danish Club about "to name a few":-

- Food was Luke warm
- Insufficient hot meat
- No butter with rolls
- Slow clearing away of tables
- Desert held up due to above
- Waiter service below par

No written response seems to have been sent but we did not return there that year or since. We had been to the Club many times over the years and supported them through good times and bad but enough is enough, I guess.

The hardy band of Golfers obviously had no trouble with the food or drinks the year before-- they returned to Echuca and the Rich River Country Club.

After bringing some country humour to the President's official duties Ken Wakefield retreated to Merbein and more familiar surrounds.

But as well as telling the same joke two months running [the jumper leads were refused a drink on the basis that they were likely to start something] he was going to reappear as a history maker some months later.

History was made at the end of 2003 when only fifteen years after females were allowed to become members Tricia Crombie became Junior VP.

Some say the vote was rigged for along with Simon Richards and Paul Paparella Tricia supports an interstate club in AFL football. Worse still is the three of them support Port Power.

Frank Beaufort attaining the age that he thought he should slow down relinquished the position of Secretary-Treasurer and I was elected unopposed to the position.

With some trepidation I took control and **2004** rolled on. At the first meeting of the executive it was decided that three years of the twenty-first century had already passed and we were still working to 20th Century practice.

So a major undertaking was launched to switch communication with members to E-mail and to expand membership. The February meeting invitation was by “snail mail” but from March it switched over to electronic mail, save for Alan Ralph who does not have access to the Internet. [Past Presidents who are not so connected are also mailed but only once a year]

The postage expenditure for 2003 was \$634.10; today we send one regular letter a month.

Electronic Funds Transfer [EFT] had also been encouraged and close to 50% of payments is direct to our bank account.

At an executive meeting I proposed that a News Letter would be a way of keeping in touch with members, and to provide information to those who were unable to attend a particular meeting. It was also deemed a good way to introduce new members to anyone who may have been absent for a meeting.

Activities at ISO Club was launched in February 2004 after several editing sessions by President Simon Richards and was emailed to members on our mailing list.

As the historical activities of the club are hopefully recorded in the monthly bulletin a “cut and paste” from them will be sufficient for the purpose of this paper.

February meeting:

We had our maximum number for the venue [Clare Castle] with five waitlisted. Simon provided a brief resume of events affecting the “waterfront” during the month of January – it was well received with a number of requests for further information that have been referred to the relevant ISO contact.

Changes to procedures:

Several changes are planned for the year:-

- Invitations/return bookings via e-mail to improve communication and reduce costs.
- Faxed, mailed or phone bookings will continue for those who desire a hard copy.
- Electronic funds transfer [EFT] direct to our bank account is encouraged.
- We will complete the formalities of business prior to the meal being served.
- The Vice or Jnr Vice President will welcome guests and first timers.
- The President will endeavour to have a monthly port happenings report.
- A limited number of guest speakers will be presented but on very limited time.
- Some organisations have asked about sponsoring meetings. In keeping with our mission we will not become a commercial organisation but will accept assistance with costs and mention the gratuity.
- We are not able to accept credit cards for payment.
- The president’s joke is still on the agenda.

New members:

Michael Knowles – Continental Freight Services (Aust) Pty Ltd

Craig Faulkner - Adsteam Harbour Victoria (Adsteam Marine Limited)

(Craig was then the current holder of the “Comment of the Year Award with his “if you need a tug give me a call”)

We tried a new venue in March-- The Air Forces Club at South Yarra, but it was to close a few months later.

New Members and news items

- Clint Priestman of Link Logistics and
- Graeme Mortimer of Global Maritime Agency
- Richard Gooden of Chalmers Industries is recovering from open heart surgery. We wish Richard a speedy recovery.
- Roger Fawcett previously of Globe Star Shipping agency has returned to the fold in his own right as operator of GlobeChart.
- Barry Keogh of Tradegate ECA has retired to become a private consultant. He has already secured some work from his previous employer, but is available for other.
- John Carroll has been appointed CEO for Port Phillip Sea Pilots

We tried another “new” venue for the April meeting – Sort of back to the future, really! Due to the MCG redevelopment we were in the Tom Wills Room.

Chris Ryan of P&O Nedlloyd picked up the ISO prize for correctly answering the question on the antecedents of the person after whom the Tom Willis Room is named.

Ray Ridolfi became the current record holder for the number of guests introduced at a meeting. He mustered five, including his brother Mark whose birthday was the next day.

Ray later achieved his then plan to be the first to book a table!

Channel Deepening

A rather controversial issue was raised and we addressed it as follows: *Whilst the club is a non-political organisation and has no agenda it is important that members are aware of what is arguably the single biggest issue facing the Victorian shipping industry - channel deepening.*

During the President's address we became aware of the pros and cons reported in the press in recent weeks and more importantly how competitor ports are capitalising [in both sense of the word] on Victoria's perceived procrastination and malaise over this very important issue.

Attendees at the luncheon were given the opportunity to predict the teams that will be in the final eight at the end of the home and away season.

In June we had almost a full house of 69 at the MCG, plus a bit of drama, when the gates were locked and the tables were incorrectly set. Some were disappointed as they came along to the MCG expecting to have a follow up to our football competition.

Stewart Garmey was made a “new” member as had started Tradelanes Global Solutions. Brooke Benfield left the world of journalism at Lloyds List DCN for a career in Merchant Banking. Ted Muttiah took a position with APL in Jakarta for three years.

Ray Ridolfi lost the title of record holder for the number of guests introduced at a meeting in May when Rob and Len at Clarklift Melbourne booked a table for eleven. He lodged a protest for although he had six at this meeting and claims that as some of Rob’s guests did not front last month he is still the leader.

The stewards adjourned the inquiry sine die! [Not Shane the Jockey he was in enough trouble]

Members showed a distinct lack of football knowledge during the competition relating to Tom Wills [whose memory the venue recognises]. Interestingly on radio 774 the same night a question foiled listeners for some time. It was>> Thomas Wills and Henry Harrison started what sport in Australia?

The Vice President Paul Paparella was mentioned in a book about sailing. It seems he perfected the art of heave to!

We had a pseudo new venue for the July meeting when we had the downstairs Lakes Room at the Point Restaurant.

Daryl Snibson from Australian Customs advised us about forthcoming information sessions on Cargo management Re-engineering [CMR]. Tricia Crombie referred members to the Port of Melbourne web site for current information about Port.

Tony Smith Victorian Manager Hetherington Kingsbury was introduced as a first timer and new member. Ambrose Rajadurai changed jobs to Special Counsel with Norton White Lawyers and Notaries. Trudi Dosser from Lloyds List DCN returned from maternity leave and honoured us with her presence.

Alan Ralph chose to spend the day with Margaret as it was their Anniversary----otherwise he may have been on the move. Ron McAlister at MOL was sailing calm seas toward retirement and John Mokdsi had taken over his role in MOL Bulk.

We had a competition to Use ALL of the letters and re-arrange PRESIDENT CLINTON OF THE USA and see what new sentence you can come up with. [With no letters left over and using each letter only once]

Adrian Sambell offered *Pontificate on endless hurt* The answer we had originally was *TO COPULATE HE FINDS INTERNS*

It seems that Tom Wills whose name is on the room we used at the MCG was haunting us. Another mention of him was made on Who Wants to be a Millionaire [A TV quiz show] when it was revealed he attended the English school where Rugby started and later wrote the original rules for the VFL.

Ken Wakefield whose customer relations meetings often made him a late arrival at Tullamarine for his return flight became an "expectant father" and managed to board a shut Mildura plane on the tarmac on 29th June. Delivering the baby after 1 July was eligible for a Government baby bonus of \$3000.00.

The ISO Club golf trip was at Shepparton and we had some input into advertising the International Freight & Shipping Industry Charity Ball

Westgate and the Port of Melbourne announced a joint venture to develop Victoria Dock. The channel deepening has received a clear EEF but would remain controversial for some time to come. At an earlier meeting Brett Maginness of P&O Ports was the only one who knew the name of an anti-deepening group The Blue Wedges Coalition. [Some irony there as Rod Quantock a red haired comedian was a front person]

The numbers at the Point for the August luncheon were such that we had to play musical chairs for a while, but all the assembled were well fed and watered.

Ken Kinlock the sole Geelong representative excelled by bringing three guests and they all expressed a desire to return but visits were few and far between.

After over five years as the Commercial Manager at West Swanson Dock Brett Maginness became "Manager TT Line Services" for P&O Ports on Monday August 2, 2004.

Robin Warby of Container Logistics [earlier life at Columbus] left to travel overseas for the next several months on an extended honeymoon. It was a well kept industry secret but congratulations were extended to both and bon voyage!

With regret we advised the passing of Nereo Dizane of Blue Seas Container fame. His life was celebrated on 28 July and the church was filled to overflowing.

In his summation of Nereo, Murray Allen told of a much loved and astute business man who will be remembered by all who came into contact with him. A Nereo mantra is repeated “if you have a big problem—find a bigger solution”.

The “expectant father” was not at Monday’s meeting, choosing instead to participate in a Variety Club bash. In his words up to his ears in mud, dust and beer; P&O Trans, China Shipping and Port of Melbourne Corporation sponsored his participation. Funds raised were used to supply children’s wheelchairs.

Paul Paparella on behalf of The Club “adopted” the baby known as Ken Jnr and in keeping with the pressure cooker circumstances of his birth celebrated his third birthday on Monday.

Not quite a Grand Final crowd but right on the year’s average for our “one day in September”.

The ghost of Tom Wills whose was still haunting us. He certainly possessed Jim Tsalikis, Peter Elliot and Greg Duncan in our football tipping competition. The former two put Collingwood up to finish uno-numero and Greg thought the wooden spoon winners Richmond were better than the rest.

Paradoxically, or ghostly, Jim and Peter had five teams correct and without the magpies would have been finalists. [Well September is magpie swooping season]

Ian Scott tired some industry “dirty tricks” by selecting Sydney twice in his tips. Peter Bosman ‘surveyed” the situation and had no teams [out of the three he did have] in correct order.

Twenty people had six teams correct but the winner was David Muir who had four in correct order. Spotless Catering graciously donated some excellent wine as rewards and six people benefited.

Michael Halley went overseas and left it to Tricia Crombie to arrange the October meeting.

The position occupied by Adrian Sambell at Mediterranean Shipping [MSC] was made redundant.

The “expectant father” was not at Monday’s meeting, but the foster parents keeping a watch over Ken Jnr advised he was on solid foods and had started asking for amber stew. His father is fond of a thinner concoction called lunatic soup. In keeping with the pressure cooker circumstances of his birth we put Ken Jnr at about age seven. Paul Paparella hoped to give him the key of the door sometime next year.

The final 2004 meeting was held in the Directors Room at the Western Bulldogs Football Club when 116 members and guests registered for the event.

It was gratifying to have not only the founders as special guests but also fifteen other past executives ranging from 1979 up to the present day.

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| ➤ Doug Bourne-Jones
Founder President | ➤ Ken Williams 1985
President |
| ➤ Phil Kelly Exordial
Secretary | ➤ Phillip Walsh 1986
President |
| ➤ Frank Macindoe 1979
President | ➤ Alistair Reed 1988
President |

- Alan Ralph 1990
President-Secretary '83-85
- Laurie Ogilvie
1991President
- Michael Halley
1993President
- John Pollock
1995President
- Peter Bowyer
1997President
- Greg Gilbert
1998President
- Phil Edgley
2001President
- Ric Biedukiewicz
2002President
- Ken Wakefield Immediate
Past President
- Howard Brown Secretary
'86-89
- Allen Jones Secretary '93-
97

We invited all of the past executive officers and had some apologies to read out to the audience.

Bert Chandler 1976 President said: -

Claims that at 96 he is too old to come along, but is waiting for the Queen's letter in four years and may come to the 2008 event to show it off.

Charles Burne 1975 President via Frank Macindoe said: -

We will be away on holidays and will not be able to attend.

Ted Montfort 1987 President wrote: -

Thanks for the invite but unfortunately I am unable to be there. Give my regards to all; I hope Kelly and Bourne Jones have some new stories to tell Have a great lunch; I will catch up with you one day

Len Sheedy 1992 President advised: -

Perth is along way away but my thoughts are with all my mates today, particularly Eagles' fans

Peter Cox 1994 President wrote: -

I know that I responded in the affirmative to the lunch but have now a business meeting that I cannot get out of, as you know the ISO Club is extremely important to me and I am saddened to miss the final luncheon for 2004.

Please say hello to all my past colleagues and pass on my apologies and best wishes to all

Brendan Lothian 1996 President wrote: -

I won't be able to attend the next Luncheon as I will be overseas but we have a new year ahead of us. Best Regards to all.

Bob Bywater 1999 President wrote: -

Unfortunately I will not be able to attend the luncheon because of business commitments, but please pass on to the members my apologies and best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

Frank Beaufort Immediate past Secretary Treasurer said: -

I will be in Queensland on holidays.

When Tricia Crombie was handed the baton on Monday 8 November, for the **2005** year some members heard the sound like glass breaking.

Tricia is the first female President of the ISO Club. The sound was obviously the glass ceiling shattering.

John Carroll [Port Phillip Sea Pilots] became the 2005 Vice President and Chris Ryan [PONL] the Jnr VP.

Paul Paparella the 2004 Vice-President chose to leave us and Patrick Shipping to return to Adelaide and take a position with Aust Asia Shipping.

David Muir whom we thought was an institution at Mayne Nickless' Conrail Park had taken a package and joined CRT Group before joining P&O Ports. That position was made redundant in October and David finally appeared at Westgate Ports in 2005.

Brendan Lothian advised that McArthur Shipping was closing and he was going overseas for rest and relaxation. Tom Holyman of ANL became Regional Manager Europe and Middle East and transferred to London.

Ray Ridolfi and Alan Ralph both had a bout of ill health. Alan managed to attend the final meeting, but Ray decided to recuperate a little longer.

Baby Ken came to the meeting with his father but saw the gym and joined the Western Bulldogs for a work out.

Frank Guerra from Hai Win Shipping attended the meeting at the insistence of Doug Bourne –Jones. Hai Win commenced a direct Shanghai-Darwin container shipping service with the aim of attracting business from Adelaide via the rail or road links. Frank said this would be the first direct service between the two ports and would reduce the travel time to 10 days.

The Annual Golf Day was held at Shepparton Golf Club on the penultimate weekend of November and as usual “our lips are sealed”!

On Boxing Day 2004 [26th December] a tsunami struck neighbouring countries Thailand, Sri Lanka and Indonesia as a result of an earthquake in the Indian Ocean. Deaths were in the hundreds of thousands and relief efforts brought the Australian Shipping industry and ISO Club members to the forefront for many months to come.

So that was the lead into **2005** and our first female President Tricia Crombie.

The first meeting for 2005 under the stewardship of Tricia was held in the Directors Room at the Western Bulldogs Football Club when 56 members and guests registered for the event.

Simon Richards attended in his capacity of Past President. Allen Jones our past Secretary introduced Fred Runia and Andrew Williams of Josies Transport Geelong.

Robert Conder from Toll Geelong Port and Ken Colwell, now with Michael Knowles at Continental Freight were there as prodigal sons.

Colin Hall was the new chief at Hetherington Kingsbury Shipping Agencies and renewed several acquaintances. Tim Mills and Mark Shepherd from Tuckwell Personnel were encouraged along by Michael McRae of Evergreen Marine

Leigh Taylor of Melbourne Reefer Services brought Jim Bramich, who owns an electrical company, along as a guest. And Jodie Pyne a new face at CRT Group was amongst the contingent from that stalwart company.

Newspapers had a lot to say about that Shane Watson---c Asif b Danish 31---- on his debut to test cricket! But they said nothing about our Shane Watson when Owens-Braid Liquid Logistics took a name change to Braid Logistics Australia and Shane “carried his bat” to the new company.

Ian Graham had moved to New Zealand and got involved with Inter-Islander. Simon Mahady left the Port of Melbourne and joined Bryn Systems.

Peter Bowyer moved from Toll AutoLogistics to Patrick and Tony Smith departed Hetherington-Kingsbury to also join Patrick.

Georgie Whitehead of Five Star Shipping changed back to her maiden name and is off on maternity leave. [The last time we had a maiden birth a star fell from heaven]

Baby Ken apparently became uncontrollable over the festive season [must be in the genes!]. As a result he was adopted by the Paparella family that recently relocated to Adelaide

We had several complaints about the food at the Western Bulldogs and returned to the MCG.

Those who attended commented upon the ground redevelopment being carried out for the 2006 Commonwealth Games. During the luncheon were entertained by a cricket game being held between the Twenty-niners and the President's Eleven

Having successfully chaired the first meeting of 2005 Tricia Crombie was not at the MCG, but decided that she needed a break in the sun at Port Douglas. John Carroll stepped up and the event went off without any drama.

We had a number of first time attendees: -

- o Shane Casley of Clarklift Melbourne introduced by Rob and Len.
- o Scott Brimelow from P&O Trans introduced by Simon Richards.
- o Emily Bell and Naomi Smailes of Tuckwell Recruitment introduced by Michael McRae
- o Guy Murphy from Australian Customs introduced by Greg Gilbert
- o Robert Thorpe[Thorpe Transport] a guest of John Ahkin

Apologies from all around the world came in from Members: -

- o Brendan Lothian in Sarawak
- o Shane Watson in Darwin
- o Richard Bond somewhere interstate
- o Ambrose Rajadurai somewhere overseas
- o Terry Smith from China
- o And Roger Fawcett on a Cape Ship unloading yachts

Tennealle O'Shannessy an operations support manager at Patrick Stevedores ESD won the annual Women in Freight Logistics and Marine Management Scholarship.

Declining attendances had been of concern and after much discussion with regular attendees we decided that Monday had become the new Friday and members were simply not able to afford the time away from the office after a weekend break.

At Monday's meeting the assembly was asked if a change of date would be of assistance. The response was overwhelming in the affirmative and the first Thursday was selected as the new meeting day.

We tried a new venue Albert by the Lake and the result was quite positive. Central location-adequate and free parking-good food-excellent wine!

This was to remain our venue for 2005 and 2006!

So our history breaking President made another major change in Club activities.

We had a number of first time attendees: -

- o Phil Constantine of Josie's Transport Geelong.
- o Patrick Finlayson of Port of Melbourne Corporation
- o Liza McDonald of Port of Melbourne Corporation

Liza McDonald joined the Port of Melbourne Corporation as Stakeholder Relations Manager to oversee the continuing issues regarding the enhancement of our port for future generations.

The day after the meeting I left for America to achieve a life-long ambition to attend a St Patrick Day Parade in New York and Sandy Galbraith kindly reported my attendance in Lloyds List DCN.

Our Vice President John Carroll was elected as Federal Master of the Company of Master Mariners and Peter Bosman a regular attendee to the post of Deputy. Laurie Ogilvie and Trevor Martyn were conspicuously absent from the April meeting; the former holidaying in England and Trevor somewhere enjoying long service leave.

David Morgan and David Morgan were apologies, the one from The Retired Company on holiday and the other changing jobs from Direct Recruitment to Auslink Consulting Group.

Port of New York New Jersey
Don Lotz the Intermodal Development Manager for Port of New York and New Jersey advised *“On April 28th Port Auth. Board passed an item authorizing \$141 million for investment in port rail infrastructure, after prodding by the New Jersey Governor. Thus, we just accelerated our construction plan by at least a couple of years, which is a good thing since the customers are screaming for more capacity. Now the challenge is how fast we can actually build.*

Reflecting on his visit to Melbourne Don recalled having lunch with someone from the Port. He lost all records when his office in the World Trade Center was destroyed and initially could not remember the name. We were able to identify the host as Alan Ralph and the venue the London Inn.

We had a number of first time attendees: -

- Mark Anderson Patrick
- Ash Nguyen K Line
- Doug Mladenovic K Line
- Sean O’Farrell Stolt Neilson

After a long absence Eddie Ladbroke of Container Liners also attended.

Len Kirk at Clarkliff Melbourne was not only organising the Golf Day but became a sub-committee of one. Concerned about low attendances Len took it upon himself to call up folks who had been notably absent over the last year or so.

At the half way mark for the year we were encouraged by the number of members and guests that attended the June meeting at our new venue, Albert by the Lake. In all 66 were registered to attend with a number of regulars sending in apologies. [66 was our average for 2004]

After a number of years absence Eddie Ladbroke of Containerliners attended the May meeting and returned in June with six guests. Stuart Rowlinson of Containerliners Australasia --Meredith Adams of Mitsui OSK Lines—Andrew Smith of Interport-- Marlene Frost of Sumitomo Australia-- Frank Moody and Steve Hende of Patrick Logistics

Rob Ferris and Len Kirk of Clarkliff Melbourne came forward with their customary table of ten. Chris Kleanthous of Austpac Transportation-- Michael Knowles of Continental Freight-- Ray and Mark Ridolfi of Ridolfi Transport-- Les Snowden of Cargo Master-- David Stephenson of Southern Independent Liquor and Luke Thomas of Patrick Port Services. Nick Hilton and Mark Stanley of Asean Cargo—Tony Walshe of Commercial Reality Insurance and Murray Price of Corporate Finance were also encouraged by Len Kirk

Alan Whale of FBT Operations introduced John Magnifico of International Cargo Express; David Morgan now at Auslink Consulting introduced the General Manger Nick Calvi, Garry Salomans of Patrick Terminals attended with Peter Formin as a new representative of the company.

Our President Tricia Crombie of Port of Melbourne Corporation introduced Simon Upchurch of POMC and Richard Bond of Toll SPD brought along Suzanne Crowe of Zinifex whilst Paul Ryan now at Flinders Shipping made his own way as replacement for Greg Duncan

With the large number of guests, many of whom were first time attendees we decided to tag them with a Guest badge so that members would be able to discern the need to be especially hospitable.

Port of Tacoma

Under the heading *Port Realigns Organization for Stronger Customer Focus* when addressing the *Domestic Carriers Line of Business* the following sentence appeared. "Leading this important segment of the Port's business is Ed Engelhard; Director of Container Terminal Businesses. In another life Ed was in Melbourne and at Columbus Line.

It was encouraging to again have a large percentage of the attendees as guests the July meeting. [As I composed this section I decided that repeating all of the names of the guests each month would be quite boring reading and stopped from then.]

The information is already recorded in the monthly **Activities at ISO Club** and those records will be available along with this compilation.

Laurie Ogilvie whilst holidaying in England damaged a ligament in his left knee and apologised as follows, *"I am sorry I will miss lunch but I do need to get this knee fixed, it is giving me buggary!!* Shane Watson would not come back from Fiji and Frank Guerra claimed that Perth was too far away. Peter Elliot was on a journey that seemed to circumnavigate the country.

The best reason for not attending was received form Michael Knowles who wrote: -

"I would love to attend on 7th July but I am unfortunately busy as this day is my birthday and I do not want to embarrass others due to my drunken state.

A few of my birthday facts:

I was born on the 7th day of the 7th month at 7 minutes past 7 in the morning in the 7th wing of the 7th ward on the 7th floor in the 7th room in the 7th bed and i weighed 7 pounds 7 ounces - my favourite number in life ? You guessed it - number 10 and of course in 1977 my birthday was the 7/7/77!

All the above is ACTUALLY TRUE"

More and more payments were being made by Electronic Funds Transfer [EFT], giving improved the customer service at the registration desk and also a reduction in secretarial input.

The Shipping Industry Charity Ball was back again and based on overwhelming support and feedback from the last two balls it had been decided to make this a yearly event.

Due to the size of this event, and wanting to have some independence, the organisers registered a Charity Organisation called "Shipping Friends For Kids Inc" ABN 41 012 362 240.

This registered Charity was to give some independence on the distribution of money raised. In 2005 it was planned to donate money as follows:

- Royal Children Hospital 40% of proceeds
- Can Teen Australia 20% of proceeds (This is a support group for Kids with cancer)
- Smith Family 20% of proceeds
- Seafarers Mission 20% of proceeds

2005 sponsors were Impex Personnel, Crown Ltd, The Port of Melbourne Corporation, CP Ships, P&O Cruises, ANL, K-Line and Visy.

Our Junior Vice-President Chris Ryan was appointed Vice-Chairman of Shipping Australia.

Freight Australia although under the ownership of Pacific National the company still supported ISO, however there were some happenings to report.

Mark Watson has been absent from recent meetings and also from work due to ill health Peter Taylor returned to South Australia and is at Booth Transport as Manager Barossa Valley.

Michael McRae departed Evergreen Marine and popped up at Austex Logistics in Oakleigh. He attended the meeting as a new member.

Although the ownership of CRT Group transferred to Queensland Rail on 1 July Trevor Hutchinson, Joanne Kapitel, and Jodie Pyne were noted amongst the attendees. Col and Phil Rees took "early retirement".

It was encouraging to note that almost 25% percent of the attendees were guests at the meeting. Eddie Ladbrooke at Containerliners admitted that he was trying to get into the Guinness Book of records for the number of guests invited.

Having been introduced by Richard Bond and a guest last month Craig Martin of Western Forklift Services on his second visit [also bringing a guest] was elevated to Membership and received a badge of office.

Our President planned to invade the northern state during her holidays and triumphantly return for the September meeting. But it was planned when we met on the first Monday and September started on the first Thursday so Tricia was away for the meeting.

John Carroll took the reins and indicated that he will be sufficiently skilled for the 2006 Presidency.

Back in April ISO had an AFL finals tipping competition. The task was to pick the final 8 teams after the home and away rounds.

The football tipster's equivalent of the golfing NAGA, the NAFTA was a three way tie. Rob Ferris, Robin Warby and Allan Whale only picked 4 of the final 8.

Nobody managed to pick all 8 finalists. But Jenny Keown of Lloyds List DCN tried a sting by putting the same team in twice. ---sprung bad!

Seven people picked 7 out of 8 and they were the finalists – Shane Watson, Alan Ralph, John Carroll, Tricia Crombie, Chris Ryan, Peter Pretty and Simon Richards.

The result was: -

- In third place - John Carroll
- In second place - Simon Richards
- In first place - Congratulations to Alan Ralph who can claim to be the ISO authority on AFL, for Alan picked four teams in their correct order and was the only one to pick Adelaide in the final eight.

Alan was noticeably shocked by his expertise, but accepted the prize in the spirit intended.

Alan Henderson of Multiflex and Stewart Rowlinson of Containerliners were appointed as new members. Alan was one of the guests introduced by Eddie Ladbrooke of Containerliners he liked us so much that he came back a second time and therefore showed enough interest to become a member.

We were still looking for a sponsor for the end of year wine gift and offered the donor a 100 word advertorial in the February 2006 issue of **Activities at ISO Club** and have the company logo embedded in the News for the year.

In October we were able to tap into the good graces and resources of the 2003 President Ken Wakefield.

Ken managed to get us a very special deal on four different varieties of Red from one of his customers Maurice Dean Managing Director of Cheviot Bridge.

Then **Michael Knowles** of **Continental Freight** made a magnanimous offer to pick up the tab.

Continental Freight Services [Aust] Pty Ltd [CFS] list their basket of goodies on the company web site. www.continentalfreight.com.au Contact details and other valuable information can be read on the pages. Michael Knowles and Ken Colwell are regular attendees at the ISO Club luncheons and we would ask you to consider CFS if you have a need to outsource any services.

Summary of day's event

- ❖ Judy Sampson of Bridgewater Personnel was elevated to Member
- ❖ Barry Keogh gave up the good life in Lyon to be with us.
- ❖ We had 28 apologies with one stand out! Alan Stevens was undertaking a Drug and Alcohol Induction and Testing Seminar.
- ❖ Ambrose Rajadurai has branched out on his own and is now Principal at Ambrose Rajadurai and Associates
- ❖ Malcolm Adey was on board the cruise ship *Iron Sturt*
- ❖ David S Morgan of The Retired Company was in China.
- ❖ Peter Elliot and his wife was entertaining Doug Fletcher's widow and could not be with us.
- ❖ We had Guests:-
 - Colin Burton of Westgate Ports introduced by David Muir
 - Michael Horne of Intermodal Solutions at the Container Logistics table
 - Mark Sims from Missions to Seafarers with Nigel Porteous
 - Linda Xie with Meredith Adams from MOL.

It was a difficult year for the Committee to manage the funds, and whilst the situation was not critical the bank balance at the end of the year was reduced.

Over the past several years most venues had been taken over by Corporate Caterers and costs rose significantly. Some of our earlier venues had been taken over and others became unviable. Parking around the desirable locations was just one difficulty.

We were forced to move from a venue that provided most of the things to which we have become accustomed, including a small residual from each meeting. The only problem was that the food was unacceptable and although we "complained" it did not improve.

We moved to Albert by the Lake after recommendations for long time supporters and it is satisfactory for location and service. After our initial verbal quotation the manager was directed to charge a room hire which Tricia and John were able to have dropped after two meetings, based on an agreed number at each luncheon.

We were not able to maintain the numbers and although the room hire was not reinstated the price per head was increased by mutual agreement. It was deemed better to take a loss that try to relocate mid year.

Some respite came when the wine was sponsored and the venue subsidised the price by \$15.00 per head.

Gary Phillips previous owner of Phillips Transport now owned by Patrick Port Link retired from the company. Bruce Verlander took Gary's place and has requested he be retained on the mailing list.

The final meeting of the year attracted a century of registrations but it was disappointing that a number of past presidents neither attended nor apologised.

Past Presidents apologies and acceptors

Apologies received from past executive officers:-

- Bert Chandler President in 1976 is our oldest living president and at 97 is not able to attend.
- Marshall Froomes President in 1989 had a family commitment at Hamilton and wrote: - *I went on to early retirement in August 2002. Fortunately I enjoyed every day in the industry and yet I have no*

- plans or desire to return Retirement is even better!!! Once ISO facilitated contact within the industry for operational purposes, having regard to all the company break-ups and changes in recent years perhaps the ISO role now is to facilitate job placement. Whether right or wrong about that I wish ISO and all attendees ongoing success in the years ahead, and best wishes for the festive season*
- Frank Macindoe President in 1979 said: - *Thanks for the email re the end of year soiree. Regrettably, Wednesdays are sacrosanct to me & I will therefore be unable to attend on 9/11. I therefore apologise but as I am fast approaching 80 years of age I am grateful that I am still considered eligible!*
 - Charles Burne President in 1975 said: - *Abject apologies for taking so long to reply to your letter of 19th Sept. It got over stowed and overlooked in my muddle of an in-tray! I'm afraid I won't be able to attend your end of year function on Nov 9th. That week is a very busy one for me, but best wishes.*
 - Ted Montfort President in 1987 had another commitment but wished us well.
 - Doug Bourne-Jones our founder president said: - *I had hoped to attend; unfortunately this will not be the case this year. Please accept my apologies and pass on my very best wishes to everyone, especially all my old Melbourne friends. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year*
 - Laurie Ogilvie President in 1991 said: - *Again I have to tend my apologies as I am double-booked for that day. I am sorry to miss my bottle of wine, but hope to catch up in 2006 Meanwhile have a great day and all the best to everyone for the Festive Season.*
 - Alan Ralph who along with Michael Halley has held both the President and Secretary positions is here today but apologises in advance for 2006. Alan wrote: - *Year 2005 is my last year as a regular attendee. Approaching 70 years of age my connections in the industry has significantly dropped. I may come as a guest of someone on the odd occasion.*
 - Phillip Walsh President in 1986 was a paid up acceptor but had to withdraw at the last minute said: - *Sorry I have to cancel out on the Xmas Lunch, first one I have ever missed in around 25 years.*
 - Phil Kelly who never officially got to be President but was one of the founders wrote: - *I appreciate that only yesterday I registered for the ISO Luncheon. Have since had time to reflect on my Doctor's advice as I am not feeling all that bright following an encounter with a heavily laden Bunnings trolley a few weeks ago. Alan White has the full story. Nothing very serious, I hope but I have decided to rest. Please accept my apology.*
 - John Pollock President in 1995 was an acceptor but: - *No drama – my fault totally. With all the changes over the past month I pencilled in the luncheon for today – if you hadn't replied I would have just turned up at noon today and thought “where is everyone”? I hope yesterday went well, I can't believe how I stuffed up the date – please accept my apologies for any inconvenience. Stupid thing, our office is now at 100 Albert Road and at lunch time yesterday I part walked around Albert Park Lake as I had nothing else to do!!!*
 - Ken Williams President in 1985 was also an acceptor but a bout of ill health meant he had to cancel at the last minute.
 - Simon Richards President in 2003 was a late cancellation due to an unplanned meeting called in Adelaide.

- Chris Ryan 2005 Junior Vice-President *was missing as he had to attend 'an unfair meeting in Sydney'.*

Past presidents attending	Past secretaries attending
Alan Ralph 1990	Howard Brown 1986-1989
Michael Halley 1993	Allen Jones 1993 to 1997
John Pollock 1995	Frank Beaufort 1997 to 2003
Greg Gilbert 1998	

Twenty eight other apologies were received from regular attendees, many being interstate or overseas or having too great a work load.

The Missions to Seafarers was this year's recipient of our annual donation to the two groups that give pastoral and personal care to seafarers who visit Victorian ports.

Mark Sims State Development Manager accepted the donation and thanked us for the welcome \$500.00. He said that during the year over 11,000 visitors had passed through the Mission doors, and volunteers gave up nearly 20,000 assistance hours.

Nigel Porteous of ASP Ships Management hosted Mark at the luncheon.

All attendees had a chance to select a bottle from four different red wines magnanimously donated by Michael Knowles of Continental Freight Services.

The year [or any year] would not have been as successful as it was without the guests of member companies.

The average attendance for the ten meetings was 56 which in a year of many changes and some turmoil is a real indication of the worth that members place on the networking opportunities.

Eddie Ladbrooke of Containerliners, earlier in the year, made a bid to be in the Guinness World records for the most guests. A leader for most of the year he was beaten in the home straight by Cheryl Valneris of Victorian Container Management who booked two tables for 18 people, including Robin and Renee Warby.

The donation made to our Charity is supported by residual from the annual golf day, this year held in Mildura. Results were:-

1st Day Friday 21st October - "Ambrose Event"

- Len Kirk, Clarklift Luke Thomas, Patrick Port Services Malcolm Adey, Jebbens Mark Stanley, Asean Cargo Services

2nd day Saturday 22nd October - "Stableford Event"

- 1st Len Kirk, Clarklift 38 points 2nd Ken Wakefield, 36 points (on count back from Alby Francis, Patrick 36 points)
- NAGA Award Greg Winstanley - Patrick 12 points

Several changes of status happened in December 2005 ---John Pollock became Operations Manager at Oceania Maritime Services the newly formed joint venture between Beaufort Shipping Agencies and Adsteam Agencies

Adam Holland relocated to Sydney, having accepted a position with P&O's international risk management team as Manager- Global Safety.

Trevor Martin sold FBT Operations but intends to remain a friendly face at meetings

Paul Blake, a long term supporter joined the Port of Melbourne Corporation.

Tricia Crombie bowed out as President and John Carroll took control for **2006** with Chris Ryan as deputy. By a unanimous vote Don Forsdyke of Port of Melbourne Corporation was elected as Junior Vice-President.

We commenced the thirty-fifth year of our existence [based on Doug Bourne-Jones being elected President on 22 September 1971] and more history making events were on the horizon.

ISO Club web site was launched and is be a long way from the original documents that were copied with carbon paper and later Xerox machine and then photocopiers.

Invitations these days are all on email and a large majority of members will not ever had a message on the Telex machine or even by facsimile. Our own situation replicates industry and posted correspondence is very rare.

Already a number of shipping lines have been taken over and their names expunged. P&O or as history shows Peninsular and Orient has had many changes over the centuries but in 2006 will also fade from memory. The container line P&O Nedlloyd [PONL] has been acquired by AP Moller Maersk Lines and that company has flagged that all the PONL ships will be re-named and re-flagged.

The P&O Board also sold off the P&O Ports operations and at the same time their Australian competitor Patrick lost an unfriendly takeover battle with Toll.

As indicated earlier I now produce a monthly newsletter that records our history as it is made and so it would seem appropriate to conclude this history paper.

It is doubtful that the current and future generations will ever have the opportunity to shape history to the same extent as those about whom this paper slanted.

I have enjoyed researching and compiling the work and express my thanks to all who have assisted me.

In the text there are boxes where past executives are “written up”. All past executives were asked to compile a few words about themselves but readers will note that many did not provide any information.

If any information comes to hand the original can be amended!

Michael B Halley
Secretary-Treasurer ISO Club
Melbourne 2006

ANOTHER VIEW OF HISTORY

Just think back . . . the next time you are washing your hands and complain . . . because the water temperature isn't just how you like it . . . think about how things used to be, here are some facts about the 1500s

1. Most people got married in June because they took their yearly bath in May and still smelled pretty good by June. However, they were starting to smell, so brides carried a bouquet of flowers to hide the body odour.
2. Baths consisted of a big tub filled with hot water. The man of the house had the privilege of the nice clean water, then all the other sons and men, then the women and finally the children -- last of all the babies. By then the water was so dirty you could actually lose someone in it hence the saying, "Don't throw the baby out with the bath water."
3. Houses had thatched roofs -- thick straw, piled high, with no wood underneath. It was the only place for animals to get warm, so all the dogs, cats and other small animals (mice rats, and bugs) lived in the roof. When it rained it became slippery, and sometimes the animals would slip and fall off the roof; hence the saying, "It's raining cats and dogs."
4. There was nothing to stop things from falling into the house. This posed a real problem in the bedroom where bugs and other droppings could really mess up your nice clean bed. Hence, a bed with big posts and a sheet hung over the top afforded some protection. That's how canopy beds came into existence.
5. The floor was dirt. Only the wealthy had something other than dirt, hence the saying "dirt poor." The wealthy had slate floors that would get slippery in the winter when wet, so they spread thresh??" the straw left over after threshing grain-- on the floor to help keep their footing. As the winter wore on, they kept adding more and more thresh until when you opened the door it would all start slipping outside. To prevent this, a piece of wood was placed in the entranceway hence, a "thresh hold."
6. They cooked in the kitchen with a big kettle that always hung over the fire. Every day they lit the fire and added things to the pot. They ate mostly vegetables and did not get much meat. They would eat the stew for dinner, leaving leftovers in the pot to get cold overnight and then start over the next day. Sometimes the stew had food in it that had been there for quite a while, -- hence the rhyme, "peas porridge hot, peas porridge cold, peas porridge in the pot nine days old."
7. Sometimes they could obtain pork, which made them feel quite special. When visitors came over, they would hang up their bacon to show off. It was a sign of wealth that a man "could bring home the bacon." They would cut off a little to share with guests and would all sit around and "chew the fat."
8. Those with money had plates made of pewter. Food with a high acid content caused some of the lead to leach onto the food, causing lead poisoning and death. This happened

most often with tomatoes, so for the next 400 years or so, tomatoes were considered poisonous.

9. Most people did not have pewter plates, but had trenchers, a piece of wood with the middle scooped out like a bowl. Often trenchers were made from stale pays and bread which was so old and hard that they could use them for quite some time. Trenchers were never washed and a lot of times worms and mold got into the wood and old bread. After eating off wormy, moldy trenchers, one would get "trench mouth."

10. Bread was divided according to status. Workers got the burnt bottom of the loaf, the family got the middle, and guests got the top, the "upper crust."

11. Lead cups were used to drink ale or whiskey. The combination would sometimes knock them out for a couple of days. Someone walking along the road would take them for dead and prepare them for burial. They were laid out on the kitchen table for a couple of days and the family would gather around and eat and drink and wait and see if they would wake up -- hence, the custom of holding a "wake."

12. England is old and small and they started running out of places to bury people. So they would dig up coffins and would take the bones to a "bone-house" and reuse the grave. When reopening these coffins, one out of 25 coffins were found to have scratch marks on the inside and they realized they had been burying people alive. So they thought they would tie a string on the wrist of the corpse, lead it through the coffin and up through the ground and tie it to a bell. Someone would have to sit out in the graveyard all night (the "graveyard shift") to listen for the bell; thus, someone could be "saved by the bell" or was considered a "dead ringer." And that's the truth.

Who said that History was boring?