



SEMAPHORE

Newsletter of the Maritime Law

Association of Australia and New Zealand



President's Message

Dear Members

As most of you know, the 2014 Annual Conference in Queenstown was a great success. The responses we have received from many of those attending praised the speakers and the content of the sessions very highly. Of course, having a conference in a beautiful location like Queenstown didn't do any harm either.

It was with great pleasure at the Conference that the Board voted unanimously that Tom Broadmore and Ian Maitland be life members of MLAANZ. Both Tom and Ian have been great supporters of our association, as well as being former presidents. I thank them for their help and support over the years.

My thanks to everyone who assisted in making this an excellent and memorable conference. In particular, I note my gratitude to our major sponsor, Clyde & Co, and to our general sponsors, AMSA, Clifford Chance, DLA Phillips Fox, DLA Piper, HWL Ebsworth, Lowndes Associates, Norton White and Thynne Macartney.

On a different note, I acknowledge the passing of Judge Ken Taylor, former chairman of the New South Wales branch of MLAANZ. His Honour was a judge of the District Court of New South Wales from 1991 to 2010, the New South Wales Privacy Commissioner from 2008 to 2010 and the Acting Information Commissioner of New South Wales in 2009. On behalf of MLAANZ, I extend our sympathy to his family and friends.

We are working hard to keep the MLAANZ website up-to-date. My thanks to Ron Salter for "cracking the whip" by ensuring that current and newsworthy items are contained on the website. I strongly urge you all to visit the website in order to see what is happening in your local branch.

As to imminent Christmas parties in the local branches, the New South Wales branch has a function on 10 December 2014 and the Victorian Branch has one on 28 November 2014. The Richard Cooper Memorial lecture will be held on 27 November 2014, together with the Queensland branch AGM.

The New South Wales mini conference will be held on 27 February 2015 and the New Zealand conference will be held on 1 May 2015 at Lake Taupo. Next year's annual conference will be held in September 2015 in Perth. The Board is currently working out, with the WA branch, a program that, I hope, will entice many of you to participate in that conference.

Frankly, it seems that the Christmas season has come very quickly this year. I hope you, your family and friends have happy and safe Christmas holidays. I look forward to catching up with you in 2015.

Kind regards

Matthew Harvey
President
MLAANZ
November 2014