



SEMAPHORE

Newsletter of the Maritime Law

Association of Australia and New Zealand



MLAANZ NSW Branch – Chairperson’s Report 2022-2023

MLAANZ NSW Mini-Conference

On 28 February 2023, the NSW Branch held its bi-annual mini-conference at the Sydney Harbour View Hotel in North Sydney. We were blessed to have the wonderful Sydney Harbour as our backdrop.

Our keynote speaker was The Honourable Justice Steven Rares of the Federal Court of Australia, introduced by Melanie Faithfull, Federal Court Admiralty Marshal.

Justice Rares’ extensive experience in maritime law and his contributions to the legal field have been invaluable. We were very honoured to have his keynote address, which set the stage for an engaging and insightful conference.

We were grateful to have presentations from:

- Dr Tim Moss, director of science, Asia Brookes Bell – Boxing Clever? Some case studies and lessons from the carriage of dangerous goods in containers. Dr Moss shared lessons and fascinating case studies on the carriage of dangerous goods. With the increasing number of incidents involving dangerous goods on ships, the topic was more critical than ever before
- Peter McQueen, arbitrator/mediator – latest developments on Australian COGSA, misdelivery of cargo after discharge and charterparty laytime/demurrage disputes. Peter discussed the status of the review of section 11 of the Carriage of Goods by Sea Act which will have significant implications for the maritime industry in Australia and beyond. Peter also discussed cases involving time bars on misdelivery claims, and recent laytime and demurrage disputes
- Dr Robin Bowely, senior lecturer UTS Faculty of Law – the maritime sanctions regime in the United Kingdom and Australia in relation to Russia post-Ukraine occupation. Dr Bowley discussed the sanctions regime here in Australia and in the United Kingdom relating to Russia, post-Ukraine occupation

The event was well attended and well received by members and their guests.

MLAANZ Federal Conference

On behalf of NSW Branch members, we would like to thank the MLAANZ Board and the Perth Branch for their efforts in preparing for the 48th Annual Federal Conference which will take place in Perth between October 4 to 6 this year. This year’s theme is the “Future of Shipping” and we look forward to connecting with members at the event.

Expression of Thanks to the NSW Branch Committee

This year there were a number of outgoing members of the committee – Tim Rout (secretary), Maurice Lynch, Amber Albrecht and Ryan Hunter. Thank you for your efforts. A special thank you to Tim Rout who stayed on as secretary for a couple of months to assist with the transition.

We welcomed several new members to the committee – Joseph Nicholls (Wotton + Kearney), Lorna Anderson (Mills Oakley) and Melanie Faithfull (sharing the role of Federal Court representative with Paul Farrell). Thank you to Joseph for taking on the role of secretary.

I took on the role of chairperson this year, with Alexis Cahalan continuing in the role of treasurer. A special thank you to Alexis for her continuing support over the year.

Edward Cox SC steps down from the committee this year. I would like to extend a very special thank you to Edward who has been on the committee for well over a decade, providing wisdom and volunteering his time for countless matters over the period.

The 2023 committee members are Peter Craney (chairperson), Joseph Nicholls (secretary), Alexis Cahalan (treasurer), Anna Elizabeth, Lorna Anderson, Robert Wilson, Charles Street, and Paul Farrell and Melanie Faithfull (Federal Court representatives). I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all members of the NSW Branch Committee for their support and enthusiasm for the work of the Branch.

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September 2023

