



The Voicepipe

The Company of Master Mariners of Australia
QUEENSLAND BRANCH
April 2026

Next Meeting will be held on

Tuesday 28th April 2026

At

**Royal on the Park,
The Walnut Restaurant
152 Alice Street, Brisbane CBD**

1200 for 1230 hours

Two Choices from the menu with 2 Drinks and Coffee at \$ 75.00 per person

PAYMENT BY EFT TO: - BSB: **064-012** ACCT NO: **0080 0150** NAME: **COMPANY OF MASTER MARINERS OF AUST**

This Meeting, our third for the year, is to gather round for Lunch

If you are attending, or need to lodge an apology, please advise Captain Kasper Kuiper as soon as possible during business hours or at the latest by Noon on **FRIDAY 24TH APRIL 2026** by

Phone (07) 3839 7551 or Mobile 0409 322 484

or kkuiper@ozemail.com.au

or to PO Box 2162, ASCOT, Qld 4007

Queensland Branch Court and Member Responsibilities 2025 - 2026

Position	Name	(Home)	(Business)	(E-mail/Fax/mobile)
Branch Master	Capt. Kasper Kuiper	3268-6616		kkuiper@ozemail.com.au 0409 322 484
Past Master	Capt. Ernest van Buuren	3899 0869	3234 3023	Ernest.van.Buuren@clydeco.com 0419 403 263
Hon. Secretary	Capt. Arthur Diack	3264 1674		diackaj@bigpond.net.au 0412 220 698
Hon. Treasurer	Capt. Mike Handfield	3263-8487		michael.handfield@gmail.com 0407 177 419
Archivist	As above			
Branch Registrar	As above			
Court Member	Capt. William Burton	3886 9744		burton7@bigpond.com 0418 712 239
Hon. Editor	As above			
ANZAC Day Rep	As above			
Court Member	T B A			TBA
MN Welfare Soc.	T B A			TBA
Court Member	Capt. Charles Lunn	3871 0782		candplunn@optusnet.com.au 0412 749 518
Seafarers Day	As above			
Seafarers Day	Capt. Peter Marchbank	3300 1884		pmarchba@bigpond.net.au 0424 674 740
Seafarers Centre	Capt. Bochenski			minsbski@gmail.com 0418 290 812
Web Master	Capt. Mike Tyler	3378 5234		mrt Tyler90@outlook.com
Chaplain	Rev Stephen Briggs	3267 5329		stephen.briggs@anglicanchurchsq.org.au 0428 136 116
Qld Maritime Museum	Capt. Kasper Kuiper	3268-6616		ceo@maritimemuseum.com.au

MASTER MARINERS' WEBSITE.

Please note that with the appointment of Capt. Francis Castellino as Federal Secretary, the newsletters / magazines from other branches will be available on our website.

<http://www.mastermariners.org.au/>

Members' Anniversary and Birthday in MAY

CONGRATULATIONS FOR

48 years M Handfield
23 years P Kerkenezov
16 years P Liley
33 years C Mackey
30 years A Munro
53 years M Tyler

MANY HAPPY RETURNS TO

W Burton
C Langford
T Foster
R Pincott

**THE COMPANY OF MASTER MARINERS OF AUSTRALIA
QUEENSLAND BRANCH**

BRANCH MASTER REPORT

Welcome to the April edition of our monthly newsletter, the Voicepipe.

Our March meeting was our AGM and the former committee incumbents were re-elected, including myself as Chairperson. Thank you for your continued faith in your committee.

The Federal AGM was held on Saturday 18th April.

On Sunday, 19th April, Capt Ted van Bronswijk, our federal master, and his team attended the annual commemoration at the Rookwood Merchant Navy Memorial in Sydney.

This Saturday is ANZAC Day and I am hopeful that those of you in good health will be able to march with us in the parade, to commemorate the many men and women who fought for our rights and freedom, and especially those that gave the ultimate sacrifice. We are Group 3, Section D, Number 19 forming up at 10:00 hours this year, so you will want to ensure you are on time!

The year is already going very quickly and for April we will be having a luncheon meeting, rather than dinner. If you need assistance in getting to the meeting, please ask our members if they can assist you. Your presence always makes a good difference.

I hope to see many of you for our April meeting at the Royal on the Park on Thursday, 28th April 2026 at 1200h for 1230h.

Capt Kasper Kuiper
Branch Master

**THE COMPANY OF MASTER MARINERS OF AUSTRALIA
QUEENSLAND BRANCH**

**Minutes of the General Meeting held at the Royal on the Park Hotel on 26th
March 2026.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Captains Kuiper, Burton, Coy, Diack, J. Ellis, Handfield, Lunn, Marchbank, Murday, and Thompson.

APOLOGIES: Captains Bailey, Bochenski, Ballantyne, Kavanagh, Langford, Mackey Tyler, Dr M. White and Reverend S. Briggs.

The meeting was opened by Captain Kuiper at 1840 hours. Captain Kuiper welcomed the members attending. He extended our best wishes to members who are unwell and wished them a speedy recovery.

Grace was written by Rev. Briggs and said by Captain Diack.

Captain Burton invited members to stand and drink a toast to our former colleague and friend Captain John Crowsley who crossed the bar on 28th February and was farewelled on 12th March. Members drank the toast and prayed that he rest in peace.

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING: The minutes of the general meeting held on 26th February 2026 were circulated in the March 2026 edition of the "Voicepipe". They were proposed by Captain Kuiper as a true record of that meeting. Seconded by Captain Handfield and carried.

TREASURERS REPORT:

Business Account Balance 1st January 2026				\$5,486.94
INCOME				
1	Meetings	\$1,425.00		
2	2026 Subscriptions	\$3,545.00		
	TOTAL INCOME	\$4,970.00		
EXPENSES				
1	Catering Meetings		\$1,125.00	
2	Catering Gratuity		\$20.00	
3	Transaction Fee		\$10.00	
	TOTAL EXPENSES		\$1,155.00	
Business Account Closing Balance 25th March 2026				\$9,301.94

	Investment Account balance as at 26th February 2026		\$24,239.74
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The Branch now has 34 financial members.

Captain Handfield proposed that this report be accepted as a true record of the Branch finances since the beginning of the current year. Seconded by Captain Marchbank and carried.

BRANCH MASTER'S REPORT: This was published in the March 2026 edition of the Voicepipe.

FEDERAL COURT REPORT: Captain Burton advised that the Federal AGM will be held on Saturday 18th April by videoconference. He confirmed that all accounts have been approved. He also noted that the proposal to amend the Constitution to remove the requirement for an annual financial audit will be considered at the AGM.

Captain Diack reported that he had received 11 votes from Branch members, all in favour of the proposal. These results will be conveyed to the Federal Secretary.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

1. Captain Murday asked how many paying members there are in the Branch. Captain Handfield confirmed that we now have 34 paying members. (There are 4 non-paying members, making the total Branch membership 38).
 2. Captain Thompson advised that the Australian Marine Pilots Institute (AMPI) is running a fund-raising project to raise money for the Mission to Seafarers. To date it has raised \$7,200.
 3. Captain Marchbank asked to which particular Mission the funds are to be donated. He pointed out that there is no central management of the various Mission centres in Australia. So, if the money is donated to, say the Sydney Branch, that is where it stays. There is no mechanism for donations to be distributed among centres. This has been a bone of contention for many years. Captain Thompson said he would make further enquiries.
- There being no further general business, Captain Kuiper closed the general meeting at 1940, and opened the Annual General Meeting.

At 1950, the re-elected Branch Master, Captain Kuiper, resumed the general meeting. Members enjoyed a fine meal and engaged in general discussion on a range of topics. Following the meal, Captain Kuiper invited Captain Marchbank to challenge members with his quiz on matters nautical. For this event the group was divided into Port and Starboard watches. Following the 20-question quiz, and much head scratching, the Starboard Watch was declared the winner. On behalf of the members, Captain Kuiper thanked our quizmaster for the considerable effort of compiling the quiz questions and presented him with a bottle of wine in appreciation of his efforts. The meeting thanked him with a round of applause.

In closing, Captain Kuiper thanked members for their attendance at a very enjoyable meeting. He wished members a safe journey home and closed the meeting at 2115 hours.

The next general meeting will be a lunchtime meeting held on Tuesday 28th April 2026 at the Royal on the Park Hotel, commencing at 1200 for 1230 hours.

Arthur Diack,
Honorary Branch Secretary.

Our Toast to Departed friend Capt. John Crowsley RIP





NAVAL ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

Queensland Section Inc

and

ASSOCIATION OF OLD WORCESTERS

Invites and welcomes Members of the

**COMPANY OF MASTER MARINERS OF
AUSTRALIA, QUEENSLAND BRANCH,**

to

SUNSET 2026



A Memorial service to commemorate the nautical training ship HMS WORCESTER
and the cessation of the Association of Old Worcesters.
Incorporating the final lowering of the "Worcester" Ensign

Thursday 21st May 2026 at 1100 hours
Naval Jack's Memorial,
South Brisbane Memorial Park, Southbank
Followed by Luncheon at the SHIP INN.

RSVP to Chris Langford 0488 788 780 or Peter Marchbank 0424 674740
by Thursday 14th May 2026.

DATE CLAIMERS FOR 2026

PLEASE NOTE THESE DATES AND VENUES IN YOUR DIARY

Thursday	16 Apr	10:30	Court	Hamilton
Saturday	25 April	10:00	ANZAC DAY PARADE	BNE CBD
Tuesday	28 Apr	12:00	General	Royal on the Park
Thursday	14 May	12:30	Court	Hamilton
Thursday	28 May	18:00	General	Royal on the Park
Thursday	11 June	10:30	Court	Hamilton
Thursday	25 June	12:00	LADIES	TBA
Thursday	09 July	10:30	Court	Hamilton
Thursday	30 July	18:00	General	Royal on the Park
Thursday	13 Aug	10:30	Court	Hamilton
Thursday	27 Aug	18:00	General	Royal on the Park
Sunday	6 Sept	13:00	Seafarer Service	St Johns
Thursday	10 Sept	10:30	Court	Hamilton
Tuesday	29 Sept	12:00	General	Royal on the Park
Thursday	08 Oct	10:30	Court	Hamilton
Thursday	29 Oct	18:00	General	Royal on the Park
Thursday	12 Nov	10:30	Court	Hamilton
Thursday	26 Nov	18:00	LADIES	T B A

FROM our Roving Reporter Capt. Marcus.....sent 02 April

The vessel Ho Chi Min sailed on to France as a kitchen hand



Tàu Đô đốc Amiran Latouche Tréville, nơi Nguyễn Tất Thành (Nguyễn Ái Quốc, Hồ Chí Minh) làm phụ bếp khi rời Tổ quốc đi tìm đường cứu nước, tháng 6/1911.
L'Admiral Latouche Tréville ship where Nguyễn Tất Thành (Nguyễn Ái Quốc, Hồ Chí Minh) got a job as kitchen helper and went abroad to find a way to save the country (6/1911).
Le navire de l'Amiral Latouche Tréville où Nguyễn Tất Thành (Nguyễn Ái Quốc, Hồ Chí Minh) travaillait en tant que commis de cuisine lorsqu'il a quitté son pays pour rechercher le chemin du salut national (6/1911).

Sighted at Danang on 28 th March HMAS Toowoomba



Picture of BP ship in Missima circa 1930 now MAWATTA.....sent 21 April



Hello Marcus

Hold the presses !!

Found a black and white drawing of MAWATTA an ex German Prize GERMANIA (1,096/1904) seized in August 1914 and that is definitely the ship in the photo

Confirmed by the bridge set up and centre castle arrangement , one lifeboat having had passenger accommodation under the Germans

She was only chartered to BP's from Feb 1915 and she was registered in London the name of the Commonwealth of Australia

Until June 1920 when she was chartered to James Patrick & Co. Ltd., purchased by a Noumean owner in 1928.

Mawatta visited Papua, New Guinea, Nauru and Ocean Island, the Gilbert and Ellice and the New Hebrides

Cheers

Iain Steverxon