



The Voicepipe

The Company of Master Mariners of Australia
QUEENSLAND BRANCH
May 2025

Next Meeting will be held on

Thursday 29th May 2025

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

Two Choices from Three Course 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**

1800 for 1830 hours

This Meeting, our fourth for the year, is to plan for Our Ladies 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 MONDAY 26th MAY 2025 by

Phone (07) 3839 7551 or Mobile 0409 322 484

or kkuiper@ozemail.com.au

or to PO Box 251, HAMILTON, Qld 4007

Queensland Branch Court and Member Responsibilities 2025 - 2026

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>(Home)</u>	<u>(Business)</u>	<u>(E-mail/Fax/mobile)</u>
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 JUNE

CONGRATULATIONS FOR
No one this June

MANY HAPPY RETURNS TO
P. Kerkenezov
K. Kuiper
E. van Buuren

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

BRANCH MASTER REPORT

Welcome to the May 2025 edition of the Voicepipe.

Our lunch meeting, held on 22nd April was well attended with 14 attendees including our guest speaker from Offshore & Specialist Ships Australia (OSSA), Michael Barraclough. Michael spoke about the organisation's mission to encourage school leavers into the maritime world and how to forge a career path in the industry. It was a very enjoyable topic - so enjoyable, many of the Company stayed until almost 1500h.

The May meeting will be back to our usual dinner format on Thursday 29th May at 1800h for 1830h. If you might need some assistance to attend the meeting, please let us know and we will see what we can do to assist you.

The Federal Court has decided to hold the 2025 Boulton Lecture in Brisbane . Date and time is still to be finalised. We are open for ideas and sponsorship opportunities to ensure this event is a success. Doing so helps to ensure that the Company of Master Mariners is still an important organisation in Australia, which I believe it is.

I hope that many of you can make our May meeting which will be held at the Royal on the Park on Thursday, 29th May 2025 1800h for 1830h. I am an apology for this meeting but have handed the reins over to Capt. Diack to step in as Branch Master who I am sure will do a stellar job. A reminder that parking is available on site if required.

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 22nd April 2025**

MEMBERS PRESENT Captains Kuiper, Bochenski, Burton, Coy, Diack, J. Ellis, Handfield, and Thompson.

APOLOGIES: Captains Bailey, Crowsley, Kavanagh, Langford, Lunn, Murday and Williams.

GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. Michael Barraclough, Director and Queensland representative of Offshore and Specialist Ships Australia (OSSA)

The meeting was opened by Captain Kuiper at 1235 hours. Captain Kuiper welcomed members. He extended a special welcome to our guest Mr. Barraclough. He also extended our best wishes to members who are unwell and wished them a speedy recovery.

Grace was said by Captain Diack.

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING: The minutes of the general meeting held on 27th March 2025 were circulated in the April 2025 edition of the "Voicepipe". They were proposed by Captain Kuiper as a true record of that meeting. Seconded by Captain Coy and carried.

TREASURERS REPORT:

Business Account Balance 1 st March 2025				\$8,093.79
1	Annual Subscriptions for 2025	\$835.00		
2	March Meeting	\$1,350.00		
3	Catering March Meeting		-\$1,075.00	
4	Refund of excess subscription		-\$70.00	
5	Bank Charges		-\$20.00	
6	Queensland Maritime Museum		-\$500.00	
7	Post Office Box Rental		-181.00	
	21st April Closing Balance			\$8,432.79

- \$500 to reimburse the Hon. Treasurer for payment of Queensland Maritime Museum membership on behalf of the Branch. (6)
- All Queensland Branch Members have now paid their 2025 Subscriptions.
- Captain Kerkenezov has paid 2025 Subscriptions twice and has received, but not banked, a refund cheque. (4)

Investment Account Balance at 1 st January 2025			\$27,375.63
	\$5,000 was transferred from the Investment Account on 20 th January	-\$5,000.00	
	Interest earned at maturity on 20 th .January 2025 was \$1,166.65	+\$1,166.65	
	\$23,542.28 reinvested on 20th January for 8 months at 4.45% interest		\$23,542.28

Captain Handfield proposed that this report be accepted as a true record of the Branch finances. Seconded by Captain Bochenski and carried.

BRANCH MASTER'S REPORT: This was published in the April 2025 Voicepipe.

FEDERAL COURT REPORT:

Federal Court met in Melbourne on Saturday 5th April 2025. Captain Kuiper attended as a director and Captain Burton attended as Federal Treasurer. Captain Burton reported some highlights of the meeting:

- The Governor General, Her Excellency the Honourable Ms. Sam Mostyn AC has agreed to be the Master of the Company.
- Federal Court has determined that the federal levy for 2026 will be \$80.00 per member:

More detail will be passed on when the minutes are circulated.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

1. Captain Thompson informed the meeting that the Port of Townsville is widening and deepening the entrance channel to accommodate ships, including cruise ships, up to 300 metres in length. Training of pilots and tug crew is being carried out at Port Ash.
2. Captain Coy circulated a photograph of the British cargo liner "Ben Cruachan" showing severe damage to the bow caused by hitting a rogue wave off the South African coast in 1973 on passage from Durban to Cape Town. The wave was estimated to be 100 feet high. Captain Diack commented that he had been watch keeper on a ship off Port Elizabeth in the early 1960's when the ship hit a very large wave. Fortunately, no damage, but a bad scare.
3. Captain Bochenski reported that the postponed AGM of the Mission to Seafarers has now been held. The meeting was chaired by Padre Ian McGilvray in the absence of the President. Captain Ross Nicholls was re-elected as President. The first meeting of the Committee will be on 30th April. The meeting will need to make decisions on curtailing services as the number of volunteers is shrinking. As an example, some companies are using the MTS as a free bus service. There are not enough drivers to meet the resulting demand.

There being no further general business, Captain Diack introduced our guest speaker, Mr. Michael Barraclough. Michael worked with P&O from 1969 to 1992 in management. After a spell with Australian Offshore Services, he returned to P&O Maritime as CEO. From there he moved to the oil and gas industry. He is now retired but is the Queensland representative of Offshore and Specialist Ships Australia (OSSA).

OSSA was established in 2017 by a group of people from the maritime industry who were concerned about the decline of the maritime industry in Australia. It was registered as a charity in 2018, with 30 members in Victoria. It now has 200 members in Victoria and is working to expand into all states.

OSSA has three basic goals:

- To preserve the history of the offshore industry.
- To encourage young people to take up careers in the industry, both afloat and ashore; and
- To advocate for a resurgence of the industry in Australia.

To achieve these ends, OSSA is working with maritime museums by providing materials for displays, and also providing representation at major industry events and manning stands at major exhibitions, particularly those focused on the oil and gas industry. Their particular historical focus is on preserving Australia's proud history in the offshore oil and gas industry, and marine scientific exploration including the Antarctic scientific program.

They also run a Schools Program, with members attending school careers workshops, where they talk to students about the opportunities for careers in the maritime industry. At present, the focus is on schools with some maritime link.

A recent initiative working towards the resilience of the industry has been a letter written by the Chairman to all candidates for the forthcoming general election encouraging them raise their own awareness of the importance of the maritime industry. If they are elected, they are urged to raise awareness of the need for a viable maritime industry at the highest level and to support measures to restore Australia's sovereign maritime capability.

Michael concluded by announcing that there will be an OSSA function at the Queensland Maritime Museum in October. Members are invited to support this. Members are also invited to join OSSA. Membership costs \$50.00 p.a. Life membership costs \$300.00. More information is available on the OSSA website <offshorespecialistships.com>

Captain Diack then proposed a vote of thanks to Michael, commenting that he was preaching to the converted. The vote of thanks was carried by acclamation.

During intervals in the presentation, members enjoyed a fine meal and engaged in general discussion on a range of topics.

In closing, Captain Kuiper reminded members that the Branch would be participating in the ANZAC Day March on Friday 25th April. He encouraged all members to come along and swell the ranks. He then thanked members for their attendance at a very enjoyable meeting. He wished members a safe journey home and closed the meeting at 1450 hours.

The next general meeting will be held on Thursday 29th May 2025 at the Royal on the Park Hotel, commencing at 1800 for 1830 hours, TBC.

Arthur Diack

Honorary Branch Secretary.

FEDERAL UPDATE FROM AGM and COURT MEETING

HELD 5 APRIL 2025

Please see in the April issue of The Voicepipe

Our Guest Speaker Michael Barraclough on the left, to inform us of their out reach to Schools.



More information about the OSSA School Program is in The Voicepipe Supplement

With thanks to Dr Capt. Peter Kerkenezov, our Member in Ballina -
My war horse 'Georgie' immortalised in bronze for the qTSS dawn service



Hon Ed: including the above and following photos as this year was honouring the animals lost in war.
Hence I am wearing the Purple Poppy, with many thanks to Val Ellis for making and loaning this one.



Please note the brollies that were to hand



Dear William and Colleagues,

You were lucky at the 11am Anzac March as it was fine. For our 5.30am Submarine Memorial Service at Teneriffe it poured fairly steadily and we were all soaked. Reminds me of the old days ... "Your watch in 10 minutes sir. Cold and wet on the bridge."

Rgds,

Michael White

All ready to march and not a drop throughout



Also please note the brave young people carrying the Ensign, House Flag and Banner.

"This year our youth organisation members provided 210 individual acts of service to the parade (up 20% on 2024), with pre-registration of service requests accounting for 90% of the final demand on the day. This service was supported by 20 youth marshals."

Clare Reardon

Senior Youth Marshal, Anzac Day Parade Brisbane

Phone: 0419 682 591 Email: youthtent@rslsouthqueensland.org

Senior Youth Marshal, Anzac Day Parade Brisbane

Hon Ed has completed their survey and will request a letter of thanks be sent at our next Branch Court meeting

DATE CLAIMERS FOR 2025

PLEASE NOTE THESE DATES AND VENUES IN YOUR DIARY

Thursday	8 May	10:00	Court	Hamilton
Thursday	29 May	18:00	General	Royal on the Park
Thursday	12 June	10:00	Court	Hamilton
Thursday	26 June	12:00	LADIES	TBA
Thursday	10 July	10:00	Court	Hamilton
Thursday	31 July	18:00	General	Royal on the Park
Thursday	14 Aug	10:00	Court	Hamilton
Thursday	28 Aug	18:00	General	Royal on the Park
Sunday	14 Sept	12:00	SEAFARERS SERVICE	St Johns Anne Street
Thursday	11 Sept	10:00	Court	Hamilton
Tuesday	23 Sept	12:00	General	Royal on the Park
Thursday	9 Oct	10:00	Court	Hamilton
Thursday	30 Oct	18:00	General	Royal on the Park
Thursday	13 Nov	10:00	Court	Hamilton
Thursday	27 Nov	18:00	LADIES	T B A