

**September 2023**

## Points West Magazine

Journal of the Western Australian Branch

Company of Master Mariners Australia



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## Branch Masters Report

Zubin Bhada

Branch Master



### Branch Master's Report – Sept 2023

On behalf of the Branch, please find below the Branch Master's report for Sept 2023. This month we held the general meeting at the FAC Club, Fremantle as a face-to-face session as well as an HYBRID TEAMS online meeting.

#### Branch Court

The Court meeting was held on 27<sup>th</sup> Sept at FAC premises. The face-to-face meeting followed the standard format whilst Sec'y took minutes.

- *Review of Last Minutes - BM thanked the court for their attendance (Last Meeting Aug 2023).*
- *Review of Registrar's report / Review of Secretary's report / Review of Treasurer's Report*
- *Update from Federal Secretary – The BM & WA Branch Sec'y gave an update from correspondence received from federal court.*
- *Update on the Federal Court – provided by WA Branch Sec'y & BM.*
- *Update from WA Branch Secretary – Correspondence from last month/new applications etc.*
- *Business Arising from Previous minutes followed by any Other Business.*

#### BM Update

Below is our current status of the court, members are encouraged to come along and support the court team whenever they can.

Branch Master	<b>Zubin Bhada</b> - (fifth year standing, noting that there was no interest from the membership Zubin has committed to continue as BM (fifth year) until a suitable replacement is available to assume the position.
Deputy Branch Master	Mark Gooderham stepped down as Deputy BM on 08 Aug 2023. Currently this court position in VACANT
Immediate Past Branch Master	Steven Wenban
Secretary	Peter Bartlett
Treasurer	<b>Raul Pereira</b> - Announced that he intends to step own at next AGM, however will continue in the role until a suitable replacement is available to assume the position.
Registrar	Eric Barron
Editor, Points West	Mark Beal
FPA Liaison Officer	David Heppingstone
<i>Branch Social Coordinator</i>	<i>Steve Harris</i>
<i>Branch Court IT Advisor</i>	<i>Mani Bajwa</i>

➤ **News from FAC:**

John Hague has returned as FAC staff and working with Jimmy Khamassi will continue to support our monthly COMMA-WA session at FAC. There will be a session cost each time we utilise the FAC premises for our monthly court & general meetings.

➤ **General Meeting**

The General meeting for month of Sept 2023 was a standard COMMA-WA session where we had a total of 20 attendees. (members & guests) and three online members. This was the 2nd time we successfully coordinated a HYBRID General meeting via TEAMS. Below snip shows the TEAMS meeting duration with three (3) attendees.

Name	First join	Last leave	In-meeting duration	Role
Bhada, Zubin (Zubin) Zubin.Bhada@santos.com	6:02 pm	6:04 pm	1m 31s	Organizer
MB Mani Bajwa mbajwa@jwms.com.au	6:02 pm	8:08 pm	2h 5m 37s	Presenter
PG Pasquale Guida	6:17 pm	8:08 pm	1h 50m 42s	Presenter
DA Alley, David D. DAVID.ALLEY@woodside.com	6:32 pm	8:10 pm	1h 38m 22s	Presenter
DB David Bowden	6:57 pm	8:07 pm	1h 8m 52s	Presenter

The session followed the usual process/format at the FAC Club

- We had our IT Adviser (Capt. Mani Bajwa) along with BM (Capt. Zubin Bhada) who setup the TEAMS meeting and conducted the general session and the keynote speaker session via TEAMS.
- BM handed over the general meeting to Hon. Secretary (Capt. Peter Bartlett) who presided over the meeting format.
- Review of Registrar’s report / Review of Secretary’s report / Review of Treasurer’s Report
- Business Arising from Previous minutes followed by any Other Business.



COMMA Members in attendance for 27<sup>th</sup> Sept keynote speaker session

The session then broke out for members to grab their Indian curry dinner and glass of wine whilst the keynote speakers prepared for their presentation.

**CoMMA Branch Sec’y introduced** our keynote speakers for the evening. **Capt. Ajith Nair**, who graciously volunteered being the keynote speaker at short notice and spoke to the membership on a great topic – **“Seafarer well-being on board”**.



Capt Peter Bartlett – introducing guest speaker Capt Ajith Nair for his presentation on Seafarer Well-Being on Board

### About our speaker:

**Captain Ajith Nair** is a seasoned maritime professional with over 16 years of sea-going experience and more than 10 years of marine surveying experience. He currently serves as the Operations & Quality Manager at Propel Marine Pty Ltd, a leading provider of ship inspections, surveys, repairs, marine and technical consultancy, audits, and cargo handling solutions in Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, China, and India. Captain Nair has substantial experience in ISM Audits, Risk Management, and QHSE systems. He is also an IRCA certificated Lead Auditor for ISO 9001-2015 and ISM.

### The presentation:

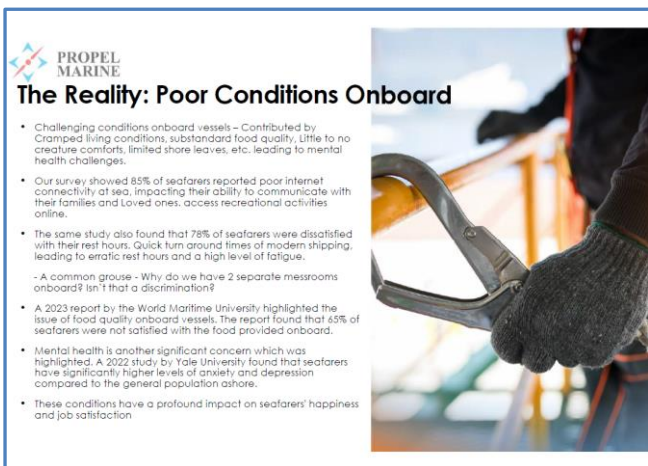
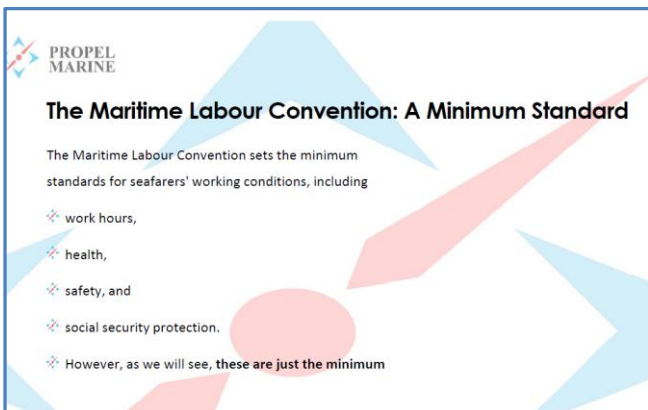
Capt. Ajith Nair, spoke on the topic of “Transforming Seafaring into a Career of Choice”.

### The Reality: Poor Conditions Onboard

- Challenging conditions onboard vessels – Contributed by Cramped living conditions, substandard food quality, Little to no creature comforts, limited shore leaves, etc. leading to mental health challenges.
- **Our survey showed 85% of seafarers reported poor internet connectivity at sea, impacting their ability to communicate with their families and Loved ones. access recreational activities online.**
- The same study also found that **78% of seafarers were dissatisfied with their rest hours.** Quick turnaround times of modern shipping, leading to erratic rest hours and a high level of fatigue.
- **A common grouse - Why do we have 2 separate messrooms onboard? Isn't that a discrimination?**
- A 2023 report by the World Maritime University highlighted the issue of food quality onboard vessels. The report found that **65% of seafarers were not satisfied with the food provided onboard.**
- Mental health is another significant concern which was highlighted. **A 2022 study by Yale University found that seafarers have significantly higher levels of anxiety and depression compared to the general population ashore.**
- These conditions have a profound impact on seafarers' happiness and job satisfaction.

### The Good Work: Organisations Making a Difference

- **Flying Angel Club / Mission to Seafarers:** Provides help and support to the 1.5 million crewmen and women globally.
- **AMSA and other PSC Enforces the Maritime Labour convention, promoting the welfare of seafarers.**
- **Sailors' Society:** Offers practical help, emotional and spiritual support, financial assistance, and family liaison to seafarers.



- *The Seafarers' Charity - Provides vital funding to support seafarers in need and their families.*
- *These organizations are making a significant difference in the lives of seafarers, highlighting the power of collective action.*
- *Is this enough, what are we prepared to do?*



*Key attention to the presentation by attending comma members & guests*



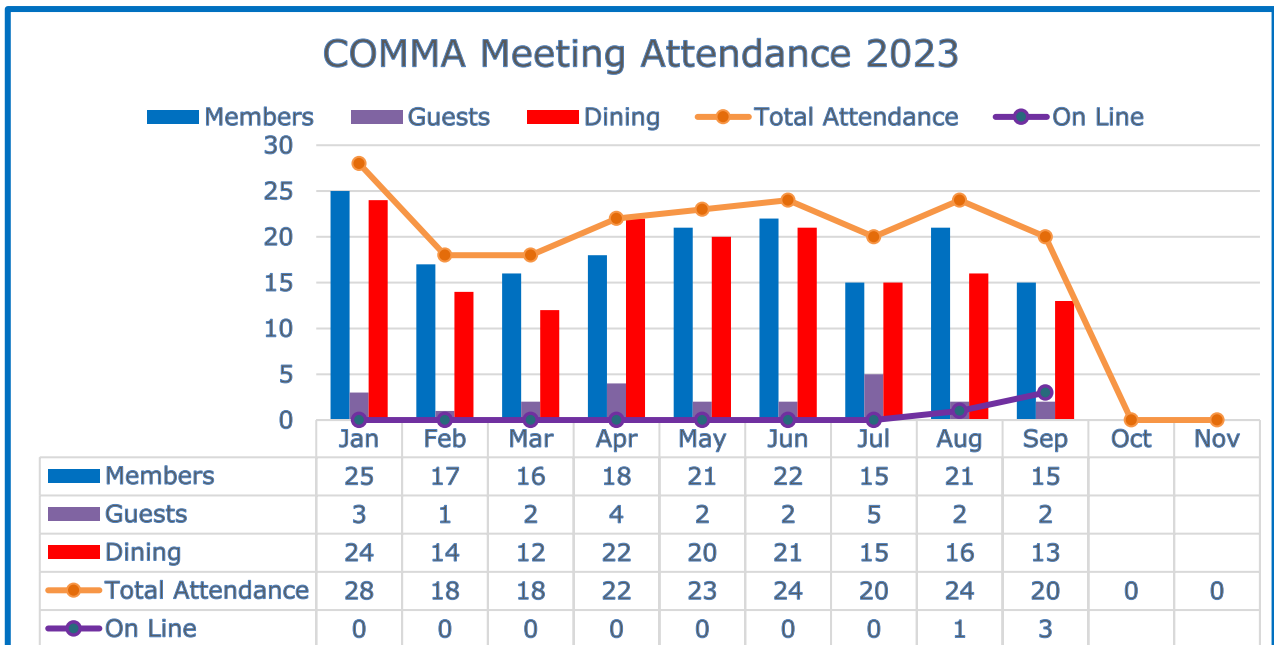
*Hon. Secretary (Capt. Peter Bartlett) handed over a small token to Capt. Ajith Nair after his presentation.*

## **Points West**

Our in-house newsletter “**Points West**” continues to grow and deliver exceptional quality articles and information for our members. A big thankyou to **Mark Beal** who continues to provide us a quality newsletter every month. Please do send in articles and/or stories that we can share with our membership.

## **General News**

Based on attendance and now using the FAC facility, we can see members attending our monthly sessions. I encourage more members to please attend these sessions and thank those who attend and support the branch.



- a. Our next session will be on 25<sup>th</sup> Oct 2023, please do come along and support the branch/court who spend time and effort to provide information and keynote speakers that help to keep us informed of key marine issues around us.
- b. Our total membership is slowly increasing with the current total number of members being **127**.

### Look Ahead for 2023:

Month	Activity: Keynote Speaker & Topic	Venue / Topic
25-Oct-2023	Month end Session Keynote Speaker – Capt. Savio Fernandes (Harbour Master Fremantle Port)	FAC Club – Fremantle & via TEAMS Topic: Pilot Transfers and due diligence
11 Nov 2023	CoMMA & NIWA Annual Dinner Event	The Swan Yacht Club, Fremantle
29 Nov 2023	Month end Session Keynote speaker - TBC	TBC

Thanks for all those members who make it a point to attend our monthly sessions and interact with other members over a glass of wine and a nice sit-down Indian Curry. Going forward we will try and continue with hybrid meetings whilst we finalise the IT gear required to continue with such formats. I hope we see more members join in via TEAMS to participate online with our monthly sessions going forward. **Stay tuned for more on this new technology....**

Capt. Zubin Bhada (AFNI)  
Branch Master

*End of Report*

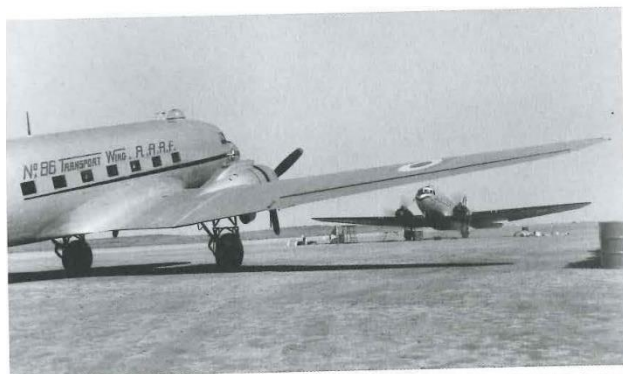


# News and Views

## Local Author recognises the nuclear bomb tests conducted at the Monte Bellow Islands off Western Australia's Pilbara Coast.

A friend of mine, John Grace is the son of Flight Lieutenant Ron Grace who is pictured below. Ron was the Grand Father of the Author of "Operation Hurricane" Paul Grace, who also served in the Australian Defence Force. John served as a warrant officer in the SAS and saw two tours of duty in Vietnam.

The book was released this year, and presents a fascinating history of the secrecy and cover ups by both the British and Australian governments at the time.



Top: RAAF Dakotas at Onslow, Western Australia. (Australian War Memorial)

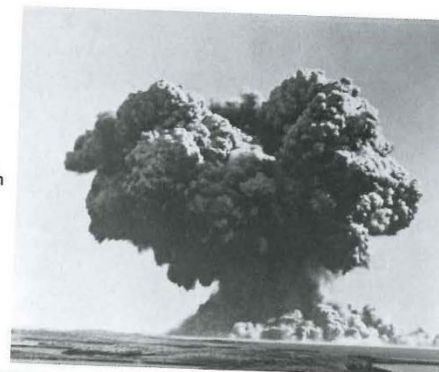


Middle: RAAF airmen at Onslow. From left to right: Warrant Officer Stephen Hardman (signaller), Flight Lieutenant Clarence Donnelly (pilot), Flight Lieutenant John Finlay (navigator) and Flight Lieutenant Ron Grace (pilot). (Australian War Memorial)



Bottom: RAAF Dakota 'beating up' the WA Newspapers observation post at Mount Potter. (Australian War Memorial)


Two of a series of photos of the developing mushroom cloud taken by HER scientists at H1, Hermite Island, 6 nautical miles south of the blast. In the second photo, the top of the cloud can be seen heading east - towards the mainland. (Australian War Memorial)



An alternative view of the cloud, taken by WA Newspapers photographers at Mount Potter, 55 miles south-east of the Montebellos, on the North West Coast. (© West Australian Newspapers Limited)

The story of Britain's first atomic test  
in Australia and the legacy that remains

# OPERATION HURRICANE



PAUL GRACE

# Scrapping EU liner exemption will backfire on shippers, analysts warn

By Shipping Australia

The European legal regime that boosts competition in shipping, increases the frequency of liner shipping, increases the connectivity of port pairs and reduces freight rates will be allowed to die. The legal instrument goes by the snappy name of the "[Consortia Block Exemption Regulation](#)," and it will be allowed to lapse in April 2024.

## Analysts are impressed and enthusiastic about this stunning and brave decision

"The new rules will reduce competition between carriers, reduce the number of services calling at smaller ports, and probably raise freight rates, as a result," warned Philip Damas, Head of Supply Chain Advisors, at the internationally-regarded and wholly-independent shipping analyst, [Drewry Shipping Consultants](#).

Mr Damas was backed up by his colleague, Simon Heaney, a senior manager of container research at Drewry. "This development is likely to backfire on shippers... the logical conclusion is that each carrier will have to downsize their service portfolios in terms of frequency and connectivity. That would reduce, not increase, competition on a port-pair basis and push up freight rates".

Drewry is not alone in its reaction.

## Detrimental for shippers

Mike Wackett, a well-known chartered shipbroker, shipping consultant and former director of a short-sea liner shipping company, warned that the new move could be detrimental for shippers and that it could result in more merger and acquisitions, and consolidation.

Joining in the chorus of condemnation was Adam K. Prokopowicz, an independent consultant, economist and lawyer, who argued that there is too much prohibition and regulation on maritime transportation and the new move "doesn't help this industry".

Also chipping in was [Hercules Haralambides](#), distinguished Professor of Maritime Economics and Logistics at the Erasmus University of Rotterdam – and who also holds / has held similar positions at Dalian Maritime University, the University of Paris, the Texas A&M University, Singapore Management University, the National University of Singapore, the World Maritime University ... and more universities besides... not to mention he was an advisor / staff member / consultant to a slew of foundations, policy advisory bodies, ports, governments and supra-national institutions. He has written and published well over 300 scientific papers, books, reports and articles on the area of ports, maritime transport, and logistics. It's fair to surmise that he knows a thing or two about the economic impact of shipping-related rules and policies.

## They do not learn from their mistakes; they are about to make an even bigger mistake

Professor Haralambides had this to say:

"In 2005, we had warned the European Commission... that the prohibition of conferences from European trades was a big mistake. Its consequences, we had claimed, would be stronger and fewer alliances, i.e., more concentration and opportunities for its abuse. They did not listen. Dressed to kill, hand-in-glove with shippers... they [forbid] liner conferences and we have all seen the results of this, which are exactly as we predicted in 2005.

"But the Commission, it seems, does not learn from its mistakes and is bound to make an even bigger mistake which will lead to mergers, acquisitions and hostile takeovers. In the end, the shipper will pay again through fewer services and heightened unreliability.

"Following the prohibition of conferences, the [Consortia Block Exemption] Regulation was affording carriers some 'self-regulatory' discretion because, in industries such as liner shipping, outright competition on marginal cost becomes destructive".

**It could never happen here...**

Thankfully, all of this has happened half a world away in Europe.

Fortunately, there's nothing like this being discussed in, or advocated for, in Australia? Right?

It could never happen here... could it?



Pictured: "Catène de Containers", a sculpture located in Le Havre made from international shipping containers by artist Vincent Ganivet. The mis-matched medley of colours and the inner confused looping of containers in this picture, reminds us, for some reason, of EU container shipping policy. Photo: DDZPhoto from Pixabay.



# THE COMPANY OF MASTER MARINERS OF AUSTRALIA - WESTERN AUSTRALIA BRANCH

## General Meeting Minutes 27<sup>th</sup> Sept 2023 FAC Club, Fremantle

The Hon. Secretary – on behalf of the BM opened the meeting at 1834hrs, welcoming COMMA WA members and their guests to the September general meeting at the FAC, Fremantle.

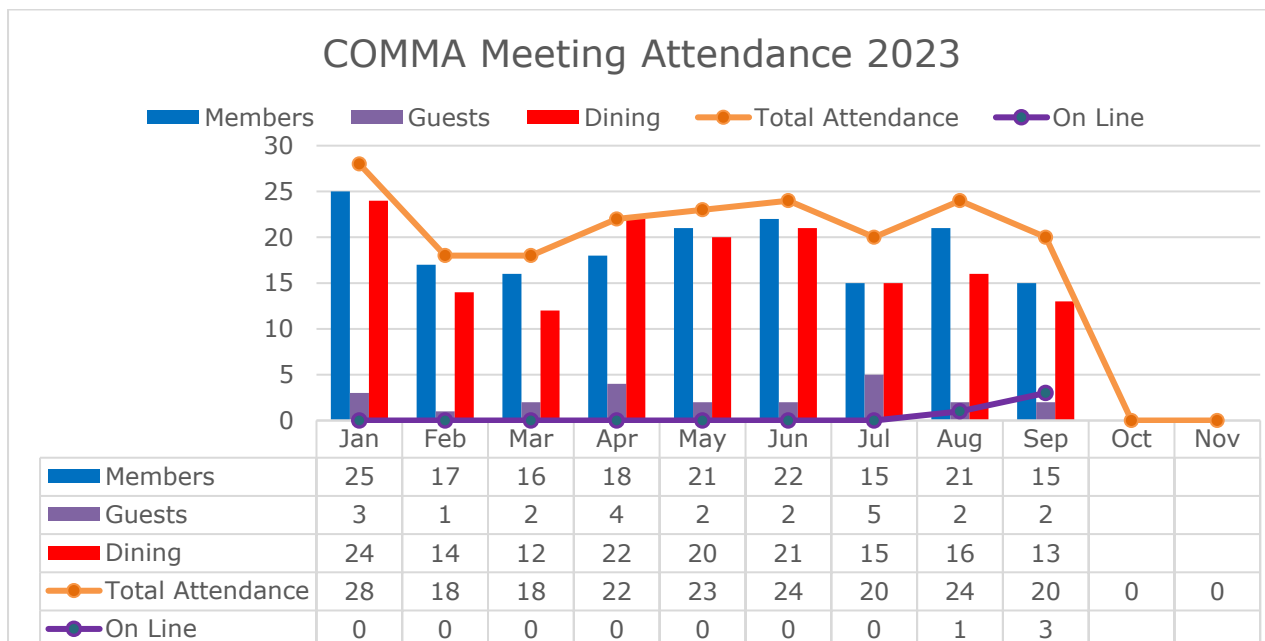
### Hon. Chair requested members to introduce their guests.

- a. Guest Speaker Capt. Ajith Nair – introduced by Hon. Secretary
- b. Carol Dooley – guest of Capt. Geoff Howard

The guests were made welcome -

### Apologies & Guests

Apologies received and guests attending were captured in the attendance sheet distributed before the meeting. We have a total of 20 attendees including 2 guests and 3 member attending online.



### Keynote Guest Speaker – Captain Ajith Nair

#### The topic / Theme for the presentation will be *Seafarer Well-Being Onboard*

At Propel Marine, Captain Nair is instrumental in ensuring the quality of services provided and maintaining the company's reputation for excellence in the maritime industry.

Captain Ajith Nair is a seasoned maritime professional with over 16 years of sea-going experience and more than 10 years of marine surveying experience. He currently serves as the Operations & Quality Manager at Propel Marine Pty Ltd, a leading provider of ship inspections, surveys, repairs, marine and technical consultancy, audits, and cargo handling solutions in Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, China, and India. Captain Nair has substantial experience in ISM Audits, Risk Management, and QHSE systems. He is also an IRCA certificated Lead Auditor for ISO 9001-2015 and ISM.

## Update from BM: Court Positions – Status

Tittle	Status
<i>Branch Master</i>	<i>The Branch Master (Zubin Bhada) would have stepped down at this AGM session (March 2023), however, noting that there was no interest from the membership he has committed to continue as BM (fifth year) until a suitable replacement is available to assume the position.</i>
<i>Deputy BM</i>	<i>The court is looking for a new Deputy BM. All members are encouraged to review potential to support this role and help the court team.</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Hon. Treasurer announced at the Court Meeting that he intends to step down at next AGM – we are looking for replacement -</i>

### Leeuwin update:

*The latest info/news is that the Minderoo foundation (Andrew Forrest) to salvage financial wreckage of Leeuwin Ocean Adventure Foundation (19 Sept 2023 – West Australian News). In addition the present boards (Governors and Directors) are to be replaced  
It is recommended that both NIWA & CoMMA be established in ‘Maritime Advisory Roles’ within the Leeuwin Foundation organisation.*

### News on FAC:

Following costs for each session have been agreed/accepted:

- a. The cost of outsourcing to and obtaining supply of the curry supper from Zab’s Curry House is fully covered by the \$25 charge per plate.
- b. A service fee of \$150/- will be paid to FAC per session.
- c. The standard nibbles at the bar will be \$50/- per session.
- d. With the stable situation regarding Curry Supper supply from Zab Curry House and our funding agreement with FAC in place it has become apparent that we are able to reduce the ‘cost per plate’ to \$20.00 – provided the number of members dining is 15 or more. With less than 15 diners the meal cost requires that the plate cost is \$25.00. *Note: at less than 12 diners even the \$25.00 plate cost will not fully cover the meal cost. This is the present situation – should conditions & prices change substantially we may have to modify this regime.*

### Sea Scouts session:

1. Held on 17 Sept 2023 (Sunday) great day with the young budding mariners.



**COMMA Volunteers who attended were:**

- a. Jim Tunmore
- b. Peter Bartlett
- c. Steve Harris
- d. Eric Barron
- e. Simon Moray
- f. Bill Prins
- g. Chris Keys
- h. Zubin Bhada
- i. Dai Davies
- j. David Heppingstone



**Federal Court meeting held 19 Aug 2023.**

- a. The Court agreed that the Company should acknowledge Honorary and Life members with a plaque. The Federal Secretary shall collate the list of members requiring a plaque and source the costs thereof. **Sept 2023, all directors of Fed Court approved the Fed court to organise and recognise all Hon. & Life Members of COMMA (all branches) and award them a small plaque. Costs for this will be one off – paid by Fed Court.**
- b. Some Branches require additional ties. Federal Secretary to follow up with purchase of 200 pieces each of Company tie clips and cufflinks.
- c. All Branches were informed that there is no prescribed minimum or maximum amount of annual subscription they can charge the different category of members and they should consider their actual expenses in running the Branch, the Federal Levy payable and what they believe each category of member can afford, when setting their annual rates.
- d. The Federal Master iterated the need for all Branches to seek a suitable member to take over the role of Federal Registrar. The incumbent Registrar would be pleased to have an understudy. **(WA Court recognised the shortfall and minuted the vacancy and have requested WA COMMA members to review their option to support this fed role).**
- e. Master Mariner magazine Update – **Carol is currently working on pulling together a DRAFT of the Master mariner magazine for end Oct review by Fed Court. BM encouraged the court to provide support to carol by submitting a few articles if they can.**
- f. **COMMA 2023 Outstanding Achievement Award** - WA COMMA Court have nominated Carol Shannon for this award, BM submitted nomination in Aug 2023.
- g. With Governor General approval in hand, we can now publish our revised CoMMA Constitution. Attached is a copy of the revised Constitution and the results of the Special

Resolution passed at the Federal Court meeting on 19 August 2023. All queries regarding the Special Resolution and the revised Constitution are to be directed to the Branch Court in the first instance.



CoMMA  
Constitution 2002 a:



Amendments to the  
CoMMA Constitution

### Actions for Court Team:

- a. Sponsorship for CoMMA dinner (update from Steve)
- b. BM to investigate Key-Note Speaker for coming months.
- c. Master Mariner magazine. Carol (Editor) will have draft publication ready by end of October 2023

### **2023 Activity Status:**

Below table is a look ahead of monthly sessions along with other events:

<b>Month</b>	<b>Activity: Keynote Speaker &amp; Topic</b>	<b>Venue / Topic</b>
25-Jan-2023	Glen McDermott Incident Controller - Maritime Environmental Emergency Response DoT, WA	Navy Club, Fremantle WA Spill Exercise Report
19-Feb-2023	CoMMA Family Cruise – STS Leeuwin	Leeuwin, Victoria Quay
22-Feb-2023	Month end Session	Q&A Session – BM News & Views (recent marine incidents) News & Views (recent marine incidents) Flying Angel Club
29-Mar-2023	Mark Gooderham AGM	Sustainable Shipping in the Marshall Islands AGM Flying Angel Club
15 April 2023	Federal AGM Held in Sydney, WA Court represented by Capt. Peter Bartlett as Zubin's delegate.	Peter attended Fed AGM/Court Meeting via TEAMS.
25 April 2023	ANZAC DAWN Service – Monument Hill	Attended by BM (Zubin) and Wreath laid.
26-Apr-2023	CPOET Clint Metcalfe Month end Session	The Pacific Patrol Boat Programme
31-May-2023	Lt Cdr Nick Carter	The Grounding of HMS Nottingham
28-Jun-2023  (Combined session – CoMMA & NIWA)	Sea Scout Presentation on their Leeuwin trip that was sponsored by CoMMA. Carol Shannon providing an introduction on Leeuwin program. Plus, Carol to introduce?	Carol Shannon Angelino Gibbins
26-Jul-2023	Tim Gourlay & David Paynter Month end Session	Dynamic Mooring Analysis of 6-Buoy Spread-Moored Ships at Cape Cuvier.

30-Aug-2023	Nik Smith (General Manager Jetwave Marine)	Challenges with Small Vessel Operations
17 Sept 2023	Sea Scout Master Mariner Weekend	Pelican Point
27-Sep-2023	Keynote – Propel Marine Seafarer Well-Being Onboard	Captain Ajith Nair -
25-Oct-2023	Month end Session	
11 Nov 2023	CoMMA & NIWA Annual Dinner	
29-Nov 2023	Lunch Session - FAC	

## Hon. Secretary Report

### Social Coordinator Update

Items to review:

- a. Annual Dinner 11 Nov 2023 – venue at Swan Yacht Club
- b. KATZ are available for band/music
- c. Dinner count = 5 – SH to send out reminder to CoMMA & NIWA
- d. Sponsorship:
  - NIWA = \$750
  - Arie = \$500
  - Propel Marine = \$500
  - Jetwave = KATZ band sponsorship \$800

### For the SWAN Yacht Club:

Room Hire = \$ 500

Bronze (alternate drop) @ \$70 p.p. x 80 = \$ 5,600 + 500 = 6,100 / 80 = \$76.25 p.p.

Silver “ @ \$80 p.p. x 80 = \$ 6,400 + 500 = 6,900 / 80 = \$86.25 p.p.

Date: Saturday 11-November

Venue: Swan Yacht Club

Menu: Alternate Drop - \$90.00 version (3 courses)

### Actions:

- a. **Annual Dinner reminder to be sent out in Oct 2023 (Steve Harris)**
- b. Confirmation of CoMMA subsidy of tickets for members
- c. Confirmation of benefits provided to sponsors. A Sponsor donation \$500 will receive 2 free tickets to the event. 2 more tickets for each additional \$500
- d. NIWA members will be charged at same rate as COMMA member
- e. All Guests will pay the discounted amount for the dinner
- f. Members \$60 guests \$75

### Treasurer's Report

The Hon. Treasurer Sept-2023 report was provided to the Court by the Treasurer Capt. Raul Pereira.

<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 380.00</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 45.00</b>
<b>Cash Book Balance</b>	<b>\$ 33,678.70</b>
<b>Fixed Deposit</b>	<b>\$ 30,000.00</b>
<b>Community Solutions Cash Reserve Account is</b>	<b>\$ 21,049.26</b>
<b>Total Balance including Reserve Account</b>	<b>\$ 84,727.96</b>

### Note:

- Treasurer Report was read by the Hon. Treasurer, proposed for acceptance by the Hon. Secretary and seconded by Capt. Bill Prins

## Registrar's Report

The Hon. Registrar provided the following membership and applicant update for June-2023

- **Total WA Branch Members = 127**
- **Federal Levy Payable = 107**
- **Fee Paying Members = 103**
- **Contributing Members = 80**
- **Pending Members = 0**
- **Total including 'Read' = 127**

## WA Membership Applications – Recently Ratified by Federal Court

Nil

## WA Membership Applications - Pending Ratification

Nil

## Membership Applications - to be read Sept 2023

<i>Name</i>	<i>Branch</i>	<i>Comment</i>
XX		
XX		

## Resignations WA –

Nil

Other Notes: None at this time

## Federal Business

General Meeting / Court Meeting held online (via TEAMS) on 19<sup>th</sup> Aug 2023.

Salient points captured by BM in BM update above.

**Federal Levy** - The Federal Levy for 2023, as set at the 19 November 2002 meeting, is \$75.00 per eligible member.

**WA Branch Fed levy paid 24<sup>th</sup> July 2023**

## General / New Business

The following items were discussed in this section:

- **Hybrid Meetings:**
  - ✓ Session in Aug 2023 was the first trial of online TEAMS session.
  - ✓ Sam wrote up a few notes for us on the equipment set-up at FAC, and a short piece to send to remote joiners that have not used 'Teams' before.
  - ✓ It was decided, to procure minimum IT gear to commence using HYBRID meetings going forward, with a view that this may encourage out of Perth members to join the sessions.
  - ✓ At the Court meeting we requested Capt Mani Bajwa to undertake the procurement of the following items to support our Hybrid Meeting requirements:
    - This Year: Laptop + Mouse etc... / HDMI cable / Camera / Telstra 'Nighthawk' Modem. Also require subscriptions for Modem sim card & Windows / Office

- Next Year: Projector (Current projector bulb blown)
  - Treasurer to prepare Asset Register & confirm capability to fund purchases by 'Direct Debit' from our accounts.
- **Library Books:** Discussion about our Library books. Court recommended at our April meeting that the library is donated to FAC for use of seafarers attending FAC. Members agreed to this proposal at our April General meeting. Hon. Treasurer handed over the library keys to SH and the Branch PO Box key to the Hon. Secretary (**Action: Steve Harris to commence process to donate the library books**). **The Court agreed that a 'Formal Hand-Over' should be held at our next meeting.**
  - **Honour Board at FAC:** Steve H noted that the displayed 'Honour Board' needs to be updated with BM incumbents going back 13 years. (**Action: Steve Harris to make contact with the company to provide estimate to add new names to the board**).
  - **World Maritime Day.** SH noted that there is no intention to hold a WMD event towards the end of this year.
  - Just prior to the presentation by Captain Ajith Nair, Hon. Secretary discussed the meeting experience 'online' with 2 of the online members ( Dave Bowden & Pasquale Guida). Both confirmed good quality audio reception and reasonable video quality except for some blurring in distant views. Overall, they considered the experience was 'close to being there', except for missing out on the curry, drinks & comradery.

There being no further business the general meeting was closed by the Hon. Secretary on behalf of the BM, at 1910hrs.

Capt. Zubin Bhada (Chair)  
Branch Master

Capt. Peter Bartlett  
Hon. Branch Secretary



## REGISTRARS REPORT

Membership Movements				
Ratified by Federal (1)	0			
Resigned to Friend	0			
Transferred to Retired	0			
Resigned from COMMA	0			
Rejoined	0			
Un-financial Members	0			
Membership Terminated	0			
Deceased	0			
Transferred Branch	0			
Membership Upgraded	0			
Membership Summary				
Federal Life Members	2			Voting rights / No levy / No fees
Friends	17			Over 80 years old / No voting rights / No levy / No fees
Ex-Officio Members	1			No voting rights / No levy / No fees
WA Honorary Members	4	4		Voting rights / Federal Levy Payable / No fees
Ordinary Members	67	67	67	Master (Unlimited Trading)
Associate Members	16	16	16	Master (Restricted Trading) / Deck Officers & Others
Retired Members	20	20	20	+65 years / 15 years membership / no longer employed
<b>Total Members</b>	<b>127</b>			
<b>Federal Levy Payable</b>		<b>107</b>		
<b>Fee Paying Members</b>			<b>103</b>	
<b>Contributing Members</b>			<b>80</b>	Revenue-generating members paying full membership fee
Pending Members (Read)	0			Application received / awaiting ratification
<b>Total incl "Read"</b>	<b>127</b>			

WA Membership Applications Pending Ratification		
Name	Type	Comment
Nil		

Membership Applications Read for WA Branch – 31 <sup>st</sup> May 2023		
Name	Branch	Comment
Nil		

Membership Applications Read for Other Branches – 31 <sup>st</sup> May 2023		
Name	Branch	Comment
Nil		

Comments
(1)

## WAYPOINTS

### Forthcoming Birthdays

The following Members celebrate birthdays in the period until the end of October 2023. Ages are withheld to “protect the innocent”...

5 <sup>th</sup> September	Michael Desa
11 <sup>th</sup> September	Davy Huang / Frans Schlack
17 <sup>th</sup> September	Neville Amaria
20 <sup>th</sup> September	Raymond Alfreds
23 <sup>rd</sup> September	Alexander Small
24 <sup>th</sup> September	Michel Lagesse
26 <sup>th</sup> September	Jim Major
27 <sup>th</sup> September	Richard Van Der Spoel
28 <sup>th</sup> September	Roger King
3 <sup>rd</sup> October	Sarah Robinson
4 <sup>th</sup> October	Bill Prinns
5 <sup>th</sup> October	Alicia McCarron
6 <sup>th</sup> October	Shane Phillips
16 <sup>th</sup> October	James McAuliffe / Mark Beal
17 <sup>th</sup> October	Rod Silvester
22 <sup>nd</sup> October	Dai Davies / Stephen Fant

### Forthcoming Membership Anniversaries

The following Membership Anniversaries occur in the period until the end of October 2023.

4 Years	Yazdi Khambatta
4 Years	Jonathon Willis
4 Years	Josh Gonsalves
5 Years	Alicia McCarron
8 Years	Raul Pereira
8 Years	Andrew Hogan
9 Years	Graham Davey
9 Years	Michael Edwards
9 Years	Roger King
9 Years	Sarah Robinson
9 Years	Adam McPhail
9 Years	Leo Rego
9 Years	Andre Winkler
9 Years	Phil Dooley
10 Years	Zubin Bhada
11 Years	Pasquale Guda
13 Years	Shane Phillips
13 Years	John Mangini
35 Years	Fred De Rooji
40 Years	David Notman
45 Years	Roger Pettman
47 Years	David Aslett
47 Years	John Abernethy
54 Years	Dai Davies
55 Years	Michael Gusterson

## Long-Serving Members

The Branch Court wishes to acknowledge and thank the following members who have achieved significant periods of COMMA membership during January.

<b>Period</b>	<b>Name / Membership</b>	<b>Ratification Date</b>	<b>Years</b>
<b>60+ years</b>	Capt <b>Robert Leggat</b> / Friend	1 <sup>st</sup> Feb 1957	66
<b>50+ years</b>	Capt <b>David Clarke</b> / Friend	17 <sup>th</sup> Feb 1964	59
	Capt <b>Alexander Small</b> / Friend	30 <sup>th</sup> Mar 1967	56
	Capt <b>Corney Durham</b> / Retired	15 <sup>th</sup> May 1967	56
	<b>Capt Peter Shoebridge</b> / Friend	<b>19<sup>th</sup> Jun 1967</b>	<b>56</b>
	Capt <b>Mike Gusterson</b> / Retired	11 <sup>th</sup> Sep 1969	53
	Capt " <b>Dai</b> " <b>Davies</b> / Friend	30 <sup>th</sup> Oct 1969	52
<b>40+ years</b>	<b>Capt Richard Ireland</b> / Retired	<b>19<sup>th</sup> Jun 1972</b>	<b>51</b>
	Capt <b>Mike Kiely</b> / Retired	18 <sup>th</sup> Jul 1974	48
	Capt <b>Paddy Eveleigh</b> / WA Honorary	3 <sup>rd</sup> Feb 1976	47
	Capt <b>John Abernethy</b> / Friend	1 <sup>st</sup> Oct 1976	45
	Capt <b>David Aslett</b> / Retired	4 <sup>th</sup> Oct 1976	45
	Capt <b>James Major</b> / Retired	12 <sup>th</sup> Jul 1977	45
	Capt <b>Alan Keane</b> / Friend	18 <sup>th</sup> Jul 1979	43
	Capt <b>Roger Pettman</b> / Ordinary	10 <sup>th</sup> Sep 1979	43
	Capt <b>Patrick Tebbutt</b> / Friend	7 <sup>th</sup> Feb 1981	42
	Capt <b>Chris Grubba</b> / Ordinary	4 <sup>th</sup> Feb 1981	42
	Capt <b>David Gardiner</b> / Ordinary	8 <sup>th</sup> April 1981	41
<b>30+ years</b>	Capt <b>Bill Prins</b> / Ordinary	6 <sup>th</sup> Feb 1983	40
	Capt <b>David Notman</b> / Friend	28 <sup>th</sup> Sep 1983	39
	Capt <b>Wim Van Alebeek</b> / WA Honorary	19 <sup>th</sup> Feb 1985	38
	Capt <b>Eric Barron</b> / Ordinary	19 <sup>th</sup> Feb 1986	37
	Capt <b>James Tunmore</b> / Ordinary	19 <sup>th</sup> Feb 1986	37
	Capt <b>Richard Purkiss</b> / WA Honorary	19 <sup>th</sup> Feb 1987	36
	Capt <b>Ian Harrod</b> / Ordinary	14 <sup>th</sup> Feb 1987	36
	Capt <b>Alfred De Rooij</b> / Ordinary	12 <sup>th</sup> Sep 1988	34
	Capt <b>Richard Gordon</b> / Ordinary	14 <sup>th</sup> Nov 1988	34
	Capt <b>Lindsay Copeman</b> / Ordinary	28 <sup>th</sup> Jul 1989	33
	Capt <b>Frank Kaleveld</b> / Life	5 <sup>th</sup> Nov 1989	33
	Capt <b>Robin Chester</b> / Retired	8 <sup>th</sup> Feb 1990	33
	Capt <b>Richard Court</b> / Ordinary	11 <sup>th</sup> Mar 1990	33
	<b>Capt Mike Dawes</b> / Retired	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> June 1991</b>	<b>32</b>
	<b>Capt Mike Dunham</b> / Retired	<b>30<sup>th</sup> June 1992</b>	<b>31</b>
	Capt <b>Phil Griffin</b> / Ordinary	12 <sup>th</sup> August 1991	31
	Capt <b>David Best</b> / Ordinary	8 <sup>th</sup> February 1993	30

## Updating Contact Details

Members are asked to please update the Registrar with changes of residential address, email address, or phone numbers when they occur. Contact details follow: -

Eric Barron / [registrar@comma-wa.org.au](mailto:registrar@comma-wa.org.au) / 0483 181 228

# TREASURERS REPORT



## COMPANY OF MASTER MARINERS OF AUSTRALIA

Western Australia Branch

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT 30TH AUG to 27TH SEPT 2023

BANKS			WESTPAC	TOTAL
CASH BOOK BALANCE as at 30 AUGUST 2023			\$33,343.70	\$ 33,343.70
<b>INCOME</b>				
			\$ -	
Annual Dinner 2023 ticket sales			\$ 300.00	
CoMMA Raffle Money August 2023 Meeting			\$ 80.00	
<b>TOTAL INCOME WESTPAC</b>			\$ 380.00	
				\$ 380.00
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
Peter Bartlett - August Wine Raffle 2023			\$ 30.00	
Flying Angel Club August Monthly Meeting (Invoice 6669)			\$15.00	
			\$ -	
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES WESTPAC</b>			\$ 45.00	
				\$ 45.00
			Westpac	
<b>CASH BOOK BALANCES as at 27TH SEPTEMBER 2023</b>			\$33,678.70	\$ 33,678.70
<b>CASH RESERVE ACCOUNT AT 31TH AUGUST 2023</b>				\$ 21,021.59
<b>INTEREST and Fees on 31 AUGUST 2023</b>				\$ 27.67
<b>RECONCILIATION WITH BANK STATEMENTS 31ST AUGUST 2023</b>				\$ 21,049.26
<b>FIXED TERM DEPOSIT (FTD) ACCOUNT opened 12TH MAY 2023</b>				\$ 30,000.00
<b>INTEREST EARNED ON FTD ACCOUNT 27 SEPTEMBER 2023</b>				\$ -
<b>RECONCILIATION WITH BANK STATEMENTS 27TH SEPTEMBER 2023</b>				\$ 30,000.00
Plus Cheques/Cash on hand				\$ -
<b>Adjusted Cash Balance as at 27TH SEPTEMBER 2023</b>			\$ -	\$ 84,727.96

# Company of Master Mariners of Australia - WA Branch

## Branch Court Contact Details

Position	Name	COMMA Address	Mobile Number
Branch Master	Zubin BHADA	<a href="mailto:branch.master@comma-">branch.master@comma-</a>	0408 165 306
Deputy Branch Master			
Immediate Past Branch	Steve WENBAN	<a href="mailto:past.bm@comma-wa.org.au">past.bm@comma-wa.org.au</a>	0457 562 622
Hon Treasurer	Raul PEREIRA	<a href="mailto:treasurer@comma-wa.org.au">treasurer@comma-wa.org.au</a>	0434 803 525
Hon Secretary	Peter BARTLETT	<a href="mailto:secretary@comma-wa.org.au">secretary@comma-wa.org.au</a>	0448 879 176
Hon Registrar	Eric BARRON	<a href="mailto:registrar@comma-wa.org.au">registrar@comma-wa.org.au</a>	0483 181 228
Points West Editor	Mark BEAL	<a href="mailto:editor@comma-wa.org.au">editor@comma-wa.org.au</a>	0409 299 290
Social Coordinator	Steve Harris	<a href="mailto:social@comma-wa.org.au">social@comma-wa.org.au</a>	0412 928 275
Branch Court (Group)	<b>Copies to all above</b>	<a href="mailto:branch.court@comma-wa.org.au">branch.court@comma-wa.org.au</a>	n/a



# UPGRADE YOUR FUTURE

FIND OUT HOW THE NAUTICAL INSTITUTE CAN  
HELP YOU ACHIEVE YOUR GOALS





## Joining the Company of Master Mariners of Australia

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>The Company of Master Mariners of Australia</b></p> <p>is an independent association established to promote the interests and status of the Merchant Navy generally and of Master Mariners in <u>particular</u>.</p> <p>The Company was founded in 1938 by Capt. A. N. Boulton, MBE, VRD, <u>B.Com</u>, Ex-C and became an incorporated body in 1988.</p> <p>The Company of Master Mariners of Australia Limited is a not-for-profit professional association that is limited by guarantee.</p> <p>The Company has FIVE (5) Branches based in Adelaide, Brisbane, Fremantle, Melbourne and Sydney.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Ordinary Membership</b></p> <p>A person may be admitted as an <b>Ordinary</b> ("full") <b>Member</b> if he or she holds:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• an AMSA Master over 3000 grrt Certificate of Competency ("Class 1"); or</li> <li>• an AMSA Master under 3000 grrt Certificate of Competency for Unlimited Trading ("Class 2"); or</li> <li>• an overseas equivalent Certificate of Competency <u>recognised</u> by AMSA; or</li> <li>• is an RAN Officer of Lieutenant Commander (Executive Branch) rank or <u>above</u>.</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Associate Membership</b></p> <p>A person may be admitted as an <b>Associate Member</b> if he or she is not otherwise eligible for Ordinary membership but wishes to be associated with the activities of the Company and <u>is seen as</u> having qualifications or expertise conducive to furthering the objectives of the Company.</p> <p><i>Examples of this membership could be someone who holds:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Deck Watchkeeper Certificate;</b></li> <li>2. <b>Master &lt;24m &lt;35m &lt;80m</b></li> <li>3. <b>Marine Engineer qualifications</b></li> <li>4. <b>Naval Architect qualifications</b></li> </ol>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Objectives</b></p> <p>The principal aims, among other things, are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provide in Australia a unified body of Master Mariners capable of collective representation on all occasions and in all matters affecting their interests or the status of the Merchant Navy and its Officers;</li> <li>• carry on its activities to maintain an apolitical and non-industrial emphasis;</li> <li>• create and sustain a social organization of privileges within which members, either alone or in association with others, can be afforded facilities, and occasion, to discuss matters of mutual interest connected with the Merchant Navy or any related aspect of maritime concern;</li> <li>• establish scholarship grants for young seamen <del>at</del> and ashore</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Why Join the Company of Master Mariners of Australia?</b></p> <p>The Company works to educate and advocate on issues that are important to the MARITIME INDUSTRY. We <u>organise</u> and attend events that recognize achievements as a Master Mariner.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Socialising and networking – Branch Membership</b></p> <p>Equally important is the social and networking advantages of meeting our fellow Master Mariners.</p> <p><b>Real Benefits</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Opportunity to hear and meet monthly Guest Speakers – on Fantastic Marine Related TOPICS.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Meeting &amp; <u>Socialising</u> with Senior &amp; Prominent Master Mariners who are either in active service and/or retired.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Participation in supporting Sea Scouts.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Participating in Memorial Services like ANZAC Day, Merchant Navy Memorial, etc.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Participation in World Maritime Day.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Provide feedback to industry via consult process for Marine Legislation.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Avail the benefits of International Federation of Shipmasters' Association (IFMSA).</li> </ul>	

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## Application for Membership

### 2 easy ways to join

Online at [www.nautinst.org](http://www.nautinst.org) Complete the application form below

Last name .....

First name(s) ..... Title (Captain, Mr, etc.) .....

Employer ..... Position .....

Date of birth ..... Nationality .....

Postal address .....

Tel no. .... Email .....

I have attached scans/photocopies of my relevant certificates and/or CV

How did you hear of The Nautical Institute? .....

If a Nautical Institute member has introduced you to us, please state their name and membership number: .....

Signed ..... Date .....

The information you supply will be used and stored by The Nautical Institute within the terms of the General Data Protection Regulation. In certain parts of the world, membership fees are allowable for tax deduction purposes.

## Payment

Cheque – make payable to 'The Nautical Institute' (we can accept a cheque drawn on a UK bank account or a banker's draft)

Bank transfer by BACS – please provide your full name and address as a reference on the transfer for which the details are as follows:

The Royal Bank of Scotland, PO Box 412, 62/63 Threadneedle Street, London EC2R 8LA

Account no 23110027 Sort code: 16-00-15 BIC/SWIFT Code: RBOGGB2L IBAN: GB96 RBOG 1600 1523 1100 27

Credit card – please complete the following:

Card number: .....

Security code: ..... Expiry date: .....

Name of card-holder: .....



Signed: ..... Date: .....

### Return this form to:

The Nautical Institute, 202 Lambeth Road, London SE1 7LQ, UK  
Tel: +44 (0)20 7928 1351; Email: [member@nautinst.org](mailto:member@nautinst.org)