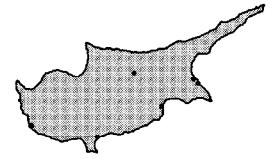




THE INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED SHIPBROKERS

CYPRUS BRANCH



Newsletter - January 2007

Dear Fellows, Members and Friends,

I would like to welcome you to the first edition of 2007 of our Branch's Newsletter, which, admittedly, arrives with a bit of delay. Our Newsletter will (hopefully) be sent out at regular intervals.

The aim of the letter is to keep you up to date with news of the Institute's and the Branch's affairs. I would like to welcome any ideas for improving the format and content of the Newsletter, so that it becomes a better means of communication amongst the members.

The newly elected committee and I will strive to do our best in the next two years to keep up the excellent work of all of the previous committees and to meet the Members' expectations.

The main targets for these years will be:

1. Education:

a. We shall be joining forces with the Government and the CSC, later this year, in a school campaign where the Shipping Profession, both at sea and ashore, will be presented to students. The campaign will be an ongoing effort in the attempt to attract school leavers to the Maritime Professions.

b. We shall maintain and enhance our relationship with the CSC in organising the "Understanding Shipping" course, whose main aim is to educate people working in shipping and shipping related companies, to give them a

basic understanding of what shipping is about and the opportunity to further enhance this basic knowledge, by introducing them to the Membership Qualification Exams. Any Members who are interested in assisting in this effort in the capacity of a tutor should get in touch with any of the committee members.

c. We shall continue organising the exams in Limassol as one of the centres outside of London where people can sit their exams. In fact, our centre has been used not only by Cypriots but by people residing in neighbouring countries, where it has not been possible for the Institute to organise exams.

d. We shall assist students studying for the Qualifying Exams, by holding tutorials in subjects where they face particular problems. The intention is to have such tutorials next March and those Members who would be willing and interested to devote a couple of hours to help answer questions that students may have on specific subjects are requested to contact any of the committee members.

e. Further, we shall try to enrich our Branch's Library, which is hosted by the CSC, both for Members' and Students' use.

2. Controlling Council:

Our Branch's voice has always been heard at the CC and we shall continue being present there with positive criticism and input to the Institute's deliberations.



3. Members' Meetings:

The aim will be to have three meetings annually, where guests will be invited to talk on subjects of interest, in addition to the AGM and the Annual Dinner. The number of meetings will be dictated by the interest shown by the Members themselves. Unfortunately, up to now, attendance has been confined, at best, to one third of the Members. Please support these meetings.

4. Social Events:

Following discussion during the last AGM and the first committee meeting in early December, a sub-committee for "under 35's" has been established. The purpose of the sub-committee is to:

- a. Encourage participation of the younger members of the Institute into the activities of the Branch,
- b. Encourage the integration of students and future members of the Institute in our Branch,
- c. Act as a focal point for reporting on the above issues to the Branch Committee,
- d. Offer support to the Branch Committee, if and when requested, in organising events or other activities of the Branch.

The sub-committee is chaired by the Branch's vice-chairman, Michael Taliotis, and its members are:

- Maria Kazamias, Marlow Navigation Co. Ltd,
- Stephanie-Ghiwa Mogharbel, M.I.E Group Ltd,
- Sergey Smoking, Reederei "NORD" Klaus E.Oldendorff Ltd,
- Xanthos Kyriacou, Columbia Shipmanagement Ltd.

Suggestions and ideas are most welcomed by

everybody but, foremost, participation in future events is essential.

5. Recognition of the Qualification by the Cyprus Government:

This has been a subject that has been repeatedly discussed in Members' meetings and elsewhere. Attempts have been made in the past through "ΚΥΣΑΤΣ", the relevant governmental department for academic qualifications, for the recognition of the ICS qualification as an equivalent to a Bachelor's Degree from recognised Universities. Unfortunately our efforts have not been successful. We recognise the anxiety, especially of new members, in having this problem solved, giving them the opportunity to apply, predominantly, for governmental jobs in Shipping related departments. We shall resume our efforts with the Government and shall keep you closely informed.

All of the above can only be achieved if the Members support the efforts of the Committee by actively participating in the various events of the Branch, submitting their suggestions, ideas and constructive criticism, to assist in improving the service to the Members for their common benefit. With the increasing number of members and active participation in the Branch's affairs our voice can be heard louder and clearer.

I take this opportunity to extend my thanks and sincere appreciation to all past chairmen; Edward Markoullides, the late George Christodoulou, Sotos Karantonis, Andreas Neophytou and John Hadjiparaskevas, with whom I served on the various committees they chaired since the incorporation of the Branch. It is always very difficult to follow on the steps of people who have inspired, created and served the Branch in such a professional manner.



BRANCH'S NEWS

1. 10th Annual General Meeting Friday 1st December 2006 –New Committee elected

The Branch's 10th Annual General Meeting took place on 1st of December 2006 at Alasia Hotel in Limassol with usual deliberations taking place, including the Chairman's report giving a brief summary of the Branch's activities during the preceding year **and election of a new committee.**



The Branch's Committee: Left to right S. Fyfe- Secretary, A. Andreou – Chairman, J. Hadjiparaskevas –Ex Chairman, A. Neophytou – Previous Chairman, C. Tsangaris – Education Officer, M. Taliotis – Vice Chairman, Front row: E. Kalli-Treasurer

The newly elected committee members for the next two years are:

- Andreas Andreou, Columbia Shipmanagement Ltd , Chairman;
- Michael Taliotis, Sheerline Services Ltd, Vice-Chairman;
- Stephen Fyfe, Uniteam Marine Limited, Secretary;
- Christos Tsangaris, CYMEPA, Education Officer;
- Elena Kalli, IC Shipmanagement Ltd, Treasurer;

As per the Rules and Regulations of the Branch, the retiring Chairman, John Hadjiparaskevas, of Uniteam Marine Ltd,

remains an Ex-Officio Member of the Committee.

I would like to welcome Elena and Stephen to the committee and wish them luck in their tasks. In fact Elena is the first lady to be elected on the committee

I look forward to co-operation, not only with them but, of course, with John, Michael and Christos, who have served in the previous committee. Special thanks go to Philippos Antoniades, **our Branch** Treasurer for the last four years **who** opted not to stand for re-election this time.

Captain Mark Bull, QA Manager and Designated Person Ashore of Columbia Ship management, our guest speaker for the evening, kept everybody's interest high with his presentation: "Shipping: Past, Present and Future – A personal experience of 35 years" especially when he referred to the early years of his career and the transformation he has seen over the years



Our Branch Ex-Chairman presenting Mr Mark Bull with a small gift after his presentation at the Branch's Annual General meeting.



2. Membership

Four new Members, who completed their qualifying examinations in April 2006, were recently admitted to Membership, namely,

- Maria Pourgouri
- Maria Kazamias
- Demetris Constantinides and
- Tassos Tryfonos (Affiliate).

We would like to welcome all of them and are looking forward to seeing them participate in future events of the Branch.

3. Annual Dinner – Friday 2nd March 2007

As Easter comes rather early in the year we were somehow forced to move our Annual Dinner beyond the month of February, when it has been traditionally held in the last years, in order to avoid the Carnival period.

Having considered Members' comments relating to the previous venues we have decided to hold the Annual Dinner at the St Raphael Hotel in Limassol. We trust that this new venue will be able to offer us not only the good food we like to indulge in but also the atmosphere we are looking for, for an enjoyable evening.

Our Guest of Honour this year will be the Mayor of Limassol, Mr Andreas Christou. Having announced his interest in the shipping and other international businesses having their work place in Limassol during his inauguration speech, he actively proves this by accepting our invitation. Invitations will be despatched to CSC and CYMEPA, which are the two organisations with which we closely co-operate in organising the "Understanding Shipping" course and the ICS Qualifying exams, respectively.

As usual, all members and their spouses are invited to attend and we shall be happy to see everybody there. The Branch is subsidising the

dinner. Invitations will be sent separately to all members.

4. Understanding Shipping

The Institute's "Understanding Shipping" Examinations were organised on Saturday 9 September 2006 at the premises of Marlow Navigation Co. Limited. Forty five out of the sixty four students initially registered have successfully completed last year's course.

This Year's course has already commenced and sixty two students have enrolled for the course.

ICS NEWS

1. ICS 2007 Examinations – New Module

The Institute has announced that a new module, namely Fundamentals of Finance, will be offered to students worldwide at this coming April 2007 ICS Examination sitting. Information regarding the new subject has been posted on the ICS website.

The exam will be sat at the same sitting as Financial and Management Accounting.

The Institute does not currently offer a distance learning course for this course but a list of recommended reading books are included in the Syllabus for those who may require extra reading material as part of their preparation for the examination but it will be up to the individual student to purchase these themselves.

The April 2007 exams will take place at CYMEPA House. Foley's Grammar School will be assisting with the organisation of the exams as well as the invigilation.

2. Baltic Exchange Bursary

The Baltic Exchange supports the educational objectives of the Institute of Chartered



Shipbrokers and wishes to demonstrate this commitment by awarding an annual bursary.

The bursary, to the value of £500, will be awarded annually. The bursary is intended to cover the cost of two TutorShip distance learning courses, one of which must be Shipping Business.

The winning applicant will need to demonstrate to the Chairman of the Institute's Education and Training committee the following:

- a. A genuine need for monetary support to be able to prepare for and sit the ICS professional qualifying examinations
- b. Local branch support
- c. A commitment to pursuing a career in shipping

If any member wishes to recommend a student of our Branch who may fulfil the above criteria he/she should contact the Chairman or Vice Chairman of the Branch.

3. The Institute's Controlling Council meeting held in London on 25 – 26 October 2006

The ICS Controlling Council ("CC") meeting is a yearly event where all the ICS Branches, UK and overseas meet, to review the policy of the Institute and set up its strategic objectives for the years to come. Our Branch was represented at the meeting by John Hadjiparaskevas, the acting Chairman of the branch at the time.

The most significant issue on the agenda was to analyse the Institute's medium term development plan, covering a five year horizon and to receive its members' feedback and input. One of the prime targets of the ICS is to promote and expand Membership in new areas, such as Ukraine, Russia and China.

The institute is trying to raise its profile through international publications, the Branches, as well as by widespread travelling of its Officers. For this reason the Institute's Chairman and Director General have travelled extensively all over the world for marketing the ICS in new areas. They have also attended Branch meetings to enhance the Institute bonds in existing areas.

The objective of creating a Branch in Greece has been achieved. New Branches are planned to be formed in Nigeria, Kenya, and South West Europe (covering France, Spain, Portugal and Switzerland) and in other areas.

After the difficulties ICS faced with its finances during the last few years, its financial position is considerably better. Reserves are reasonably strong whilst there is support from the industry for raising the professional standards in commercial shipping worldwide. In addition, it was stressed that ICS has still an important role to play as a professional body, as an examining authority and an education and training provider since the ICS qualification is considered unique.

During the CC meeting, the Institute's Bye Laws were amended in order to be streamlined with the more international role of the Institute as it is emerging today. The new Bye Laws will be put into force upon approval by the Privy Council.

One significant development which will be the result of amending the Bye Laws is the creation of a UK Zonal Branch which will in effect also affect considerably the composition of the CC. Traditionally, each UK Branch held a seat on the CC. Foreign Branches were also allowed to participate in the CC but only zonal representation was permitted and, for example, if a zone consisted of 3 Branches, each Branch could attend the CC meeting every 3 years.



Lately, however, due to the voices from Branches, this unfair treatment has stopped and all Branches were invited even though officially they were not allowed to vote. Unofficially all Branches were allowed to vote. In any case, most decisions are unanimous. With the change of the Bye Laws, UK Branches will be given much fewer seats in the CC and representation of all Branches with voting rights to the highest body of the Institute will become official. Our Branch represented by its Chairman has always had a voting right and has been a member in the CC.

Members' Contact Details

All Members whose contact details have changed are requested to advise the Branch Chairman or Secretary of their new details for updating our records.

The latest list of Members may be obtained from the Branch's website www.icscy.com or the secretary of the Branch Mr Stephen Fyfe.

Wishing you all a successful, healthy and prosperous 2007

Andreas Andreou FICS
Chairman