

# MARITIME LAW ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

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## REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING FRIDAY 18 SEPTEMBER 2015

I am pleased to present my report on the activities of MLAANZ following the 2014 AGM.

### 1. Board of Directors

<b>President</b>	Matthew Harvey (Vic)
<b>NZ Vice-President</b>	Neil Beadle/Kerryn Webster <sup>1</sup>
<b>Australian Vice-President</b>	Pat Saraceni (WA)
<b>Secretary</b>	Paul Baxter (Qld)
<b>Treasurer</b>	Nathan Cecil (NSW)
<b>Director</b>	Peter Dawson (NZ)/Neil Beadle <sup>2</sup>
<b>Director</b>	Danella Wilmshurst (NSW)
<b>Immediate Past President</b>	Sarah Derrington (Qld)
<b>Administrator</b>	Annie Chahwan

Peter Dawson has served on the MLAANZ Board for a number of years. I thank him for his many contributions to the Board and to MLAANZ generally. He has always been a pleasure to work with and I wish him well.

### 2. Board Meetings during 2014-2015

Board meetings were held on 14 October 2014, 23 December 2014, 3 February 2015, 3 March 2015, 8 April 2015, 29 April 2015, 28 July 2015 and 29 August 2015.

<sup>1</sup> Kerryn Webster became the Chairperson of the New Zealand branch on 1 May 2015. Thus, she became the New Zealand Vice-President on that date.

<sup>2</sup> Peter Dawson resigned on 29 April 2015. The Board resolved to appoint Neil Beadle to take up the vacancy.

**3. Finances**

The finances of MLAANZ remain in a healthy state. Full details are contained in the Treasurer’s Report presented at the AGM.

**4. Annual Conference**

The principal work of the Board in 2014-2015 has been the organisation of the annual conference, held in Perth from 16 to 18 September 2015.

I acknowledge the work of Pat Saraceni, the Australian Vice-President of MLAANZ. She together with her colleagues in the WA branch have worked tirelessly to make this conference a success.

Thank you Pat.

Yet again, the Board has been spared the administrative organisation of the conference by engaging The Meetings Manager. I thank Helen McKenzie for her dedication and patience.

**5. Members**

We have 337 members who have renewed their subscription this year. This number includes 9 retirees, 6 honorary members and approximately 18 students.

	Individual	Corporate	Total per State
ACT	1	4	5
New South Wales	27	38	65
South Australia	2	—	2
Queensland	28	26	54
Tasmania	4	—	4
Victoria	30	32	62
Western Australia	17	42	59
New Zealand	42	40	82
International	4	—	4
	155	182	337

**6. Newsletter – “Semaphore”**

“Semaphore”, the MLAANZ newsletter, was published to members in November 2014, April 2015 and July 2015.

**7. Arbitration Panel**

The Panel comprises 30 members. It was last updated in August 2015. Jagannath Muthu of Nau Pte Ltd Singapore and Angus Stewart SC of Sydney have joined the Panel and Dr Damien Cremean and Captain Peter Klausen have resigned.

**8. The ANZ Maritime Law Journal**

Two issues of the ANZ Maritime Law Journal have been published since the last AGM. I thank Dr Craig Forrest for his work in editing the journal.

**9. Prizes Awarded in 2015**

*MLAANZ Achievement Award* at the International Maritime Law Arbitration Moot competition held in Melbourne.

**9. Presidency**

At this AGM, I stand down as President of MLAANZ. I thank the members for their support and their many kind words. I thank the directors for all their work and assistance over the last three years. Paul Baxter has been an excellent secretary; I have always appreciated his words of wisdom and relaxed approach. Nathan Cecil has performed the unenviable task of treasurer with characteristic good humour and diligence. The Vice-Presidents, Pat Saraceni and Neil Beadle, have never been content to “sit on their hands” but have always supported the Association with their many contributions. I also thank Danella Wilmshurst and Sarah Derrington for their thoughtful advice. I regret that I have not worked that long with Kerry Webster but, in my view, she will be an excellent contributor to the MLAANZ Board.

I am delighted that Neil Beadle has agreed to be nominated the President of MLAANZ. Quite frankly, I think it is time for a New Zealand president and I cannot think of a more amiable and intelligent person from the Land of the Long White Cloud to take us into the future.

Finally, I thank Anne Chahwan our administrator and Linda Boyce our bookkeeper for their work on the administrative activities of MLAANZ.

I thank all of the Board members for their counsel and assistance over the last 12 months.

**Matthew Harvey**

President  
MLAANZ