



ICS NEWS

Institute of Chartered Shipbrokers

SETTING THE HIGHEST STANDARDS OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICE TO THE SHIPPING INDUSTRY WORLDWIDE THROUGH EDUCATION AND EXAMPLE

CYPRUS BRANCH January 2013

Dear Members,

With the growing membership of our Branch and the enthusiastic involvement and contribution, 2013 promises to be an eventful and productive year. This Newsletter will surmise some of the highlights from 2012 and recent developments.

[Annual Dinner 2012](#)

It had a slightly different character this year being held in a new season and venue. This was in response to the great majority of members who felt that a change of scenery would make our event more enjoyable.



The positive feedback received from the attendants, proved them right. The Dinner was honoured by the presence of the active Director of the Department of Merchant Shipping, who represented both the Department, and the Ministry of Communication and Works, the Chairman of ICS, the Deputy Director General of the Cyprus Shipping Chamber and other distinguished guests.



It was a very enjoyable evening; another successful event of our Branch. The Dinner was enthusiastically attended by a large number of our members, who contributed their part to the success of the event.

Social Gatherings

Two social gatherings had been successfully organised by the 'U35' Sub Committee this year. Even though the participation was not as expected, those who have attended the events have thoroughly enjoyed them. The social gatherings are for all members of our Branch, and their purpose is to increase the opportunities for our members to meet in an informal and friendly environment.

Understanding Shipping

Last September, 52 out of the 62 registered students, have completed successfully the Understanding Shipping course. 6 of them passed with Merit and will be invited to receive their diplomas at the Annual Dinner, in recognition of their achievement. We thank 'Marlow

Navigation' for hosting the 'Understanding Shipping' exams, free of charge at their premises.

This year's Course has been already commenced with 50 enrolled students.

Professional Qualifying Examinations

The Professional Qualifying Examinations have taken place at CYMEPA House, between 16th and 27th of April. 49 students have registered for the exams (some of them from neighbouring countries) sitting 105 subjects, an all-time record for our Branch. We thank CYMEPA for offering their premises, for another year, free of charge.

The results were once again impressive. Eight of our students have completed the Professional Qualifying Examinations successfully, and have been approved as members. In addition, two members of our Branch have been promoted to Fellows.

With the addition of the eight new members, our Branch's membership status is at (119) members (a 7% annual growth – not as impressive as the 10% of last year, but quite

satisfactory), with (62) Fellows, (48) Members, (6) Life Members and (2) Retired Members.

Past Chairman Advisory Council

Quite recently the Committee decided the formation of the Past Chairmen Advisory Council, after obtaining the approval from the great majority of the Branch's Past Chairmen. It is an informal Council without voting rights. The Council will consist of all Past Chairmen and the current Ex Officio Chairman and they will meet twice a year.

The formation of such a Council is considered important as the Committee will maintain a line of communication with the Past Chairmen where it can seek advice on important issues.

Charity

This year's proceeds of our Charity were donated to the Cyprus Antileukemia Association "ZOE". 'ZOE' is a voluntary organization whose main objective is the support of people who are suffering from leukemia and other related blood

diseases. It was founded in May 2002 and approved by the competent authority as a charity. Its main income is membership fees, various contributions, proceeds from fundraisers, and other events as well as state sponsorship.

This year's charity was dedicated to the living memory of our Member Demetris Georgiades, who passed away in 2010.

Thanks to generous contributions from members, companies and employees we raised EUR3700.- The cheque was presented to 'ZOE' by our Vice Chairman Xanthos Kyriacou accompanied by our Secretary Yiannis Shittas and the Chairman of the Under-35's Sub-Committee Stavros Kavalierakis.



Institute's Internal Auditor

A success for our Branch was the re-election of our Treasurer, Mr. Demetris Constantinides - FICS to the position of the Institute's Internal Auditor, during the last Controlling Council. The re-election of Demetris amongst a number of distinguished delegates is a testament of the good job he has done during his first term of service, but also reflects the respect that our Branch enjoys by our peer Branches and the Controlling Council members.

Congratulation Demetris !!!!!

Education Training Committee

Our ex-Officio Chairman Mr. Michael Taliotis - FICS has been nominated and accepted onto the Institute's Education Training Committee.

Annual General Meeting

The 16th Annual General Meeting of our Branch took place on the 22nd of November 2012 at Columbia Plaza in Limassol.

Capt. Dirk Fry, Director of Columbia Shipmanagement Ltd made a very

interesting presentation on the latest developments and opportunities in the Shipping Industry.



Elections were held with six nominations for five positions on the Branch Committee. In combination with an impressive attendance and some proxies, 76 ballot papers elected the new Committee. The structure of the new Committee has already been circulated to all members and we look forward to your continued support.

Institute News

2012 was a year of change for our Institute. Under a new leadership, a new Chairman and a new Director, ICS has been already sailing into calmer seas.

The financial situation of ICS has improved substantially by reduction in expenses and increase in the

revenue, the latter achieved by an increase in both the number of students and members, as well as the promotion and sale of ICS own published books. The intense promotion of ICS and its Courses, on a global basis, has resulted in an all-time record in the number of students who sat last April's exams, as well as the number of subjects taken. It is expected that the figure will be even higher for April 2013 exams.

Education is on the top of the Head Office Agenda, and it is certain that standards will not only maintained, but will be improved further. The process of the full review of all PQE books is at the final stage. Many of the books had factual inaccuracies, and four subjects had to almost be completely rewritten. The PQE books will be published soon, in a more attractive appearance, with improved contents. The 'Understanding Shipping' Book will be also updated, and it is expected to be ready by next year.

The increase of Members' benefits is also high on ICS Agenda. The Head Office is working intensively on this, and it is expected to have some

developments soon. Networking is considered an important benefit to Members, and as an attempt to improve it, the Head Office decided to create a data of all ICS members, accessible by any member through the ICS website.

The Institute quarterly magazine for members, will be doubled in size (from 24 to 48 pages) with editorial concentrating on professional development and industry sector articles. All Branches have been invited to submit such articles. The magazine is considered the ICS key direct communication to members, and the increased Branches participation is considered important.

New Members

We would like to welcome on board the following new members:

Swapneel Kulkarni

Charis Ioannou

Lambros Lambrou

Anna Pittalis

Dimitra Themistocli

Andreas Eleftheriou

Marianna Kyriacoudes

Stephen Fyfe - *FICS*

Chairman