



Newsletter - August 2001

Committee Meetings

Our Branch Committee members have continued meeting as usual on the first Wednesday of every month at 18:45 hours at the Alassia Hotel in Limassol.

During the last four months the Committee has dealt with various matters.

It has reviewed and followed up the ICS Head Office Controlling Council Meeting (CCM) held in Dublin on 14th and 15th March, 2001.

Membership and Education as well as suitability for Membership by Dissertation, Branch Library matters, the Institute's Finances and our course Understanding Shipping are the items which have been continually on our Agenda, together with the April 2001 Examinations of our Institute, Branch Reporting to the Head Office and others.

Membership

Our membership as at July 2001 has increased by another member and is as follows:

FICS	25
MICS	23
Retired	6
Affiliates	2

Sadly, as most of you are aware, one of our Members, George Christodoulou, a member of the Institute since 1972 passed away after a short illness on 3rd June, 2001.

Born in Limassol in January, 1947 and member of a large family, George had a difficult teenage life. Having graduated from Gymnasium and Lyceum education with excellent grades, at the

age of eighteen he enlisted for his military service, which he completed as a Second Lieutenant.

His thirst for further education led George initially to Piraeus and subsequently to London, where he effectively combined both an active career and his studies. After five years abroad, he decided to return back to Cyprus and he was appointed as the Chartering Manager of Hanseatic Shipping Company Limited. Shortly thereafter, he was promoted to the position of the Chartering Director.

George played a great part in helping to set up the Cyprus Branch of the Institute, where he has served as vice Chairman and then Chairman, from 1996 to 1998 and from 1998 to 2000 respectively. During the last two years he was a member of the Controlling Council of the Institute.

With the establishment of the Institute's Distance Learning Centre in Cyprus, he was amongst the first to offer his services as a Tutor. Despite his painful illness he had the remarkable determination, until his last week, to continue offering guidance to his students.

George is survived by his wife and two sons to whom we extend our sincere condolences.

A very close friend, always smiling, hardworking, trustful and ready to offer his support and friendship to all. George never wished to disappoint anybody.

It is for these special qualities, he will be remembered and greatly missed by all of us.



Following the tradition of the Head Office in London, it had been decided by our Branch to present to our ex-Chairmen of the Branch with the “Past-Chairman Medal”.

We had received the Medals for both our past Chairmen during May, but because of George’s illness and his inability to attend we were not in position to convene earlier and therefore honour him in person.

Consequent his demise our Committee had decided to visit his family on 4th July. In a very modest ceremony the wife and children of George Christodoulou were presented with a Certificate from our Institute for his services as Vice-Chairman and Chairman from 1996 to 2000 and with his “Past Chairman Medal”.

Education / DLC

Altogether 82 Students had initially been registered to follow our foundation course “Understanding Shipping” which has been introduced in October 2000. Seven Students for maternity, illness or other personal reasons have not commenced or continued their studies and therefore we have currently 75 active and very eager Students.

The course is structured and designed for completion within 9 months and as per the regulations, the closing date is the 20th August, 2001. The participants study at home and submit their assignments to their Tutors for correction and guidance.

Each month our Committee has been examining, discussing and submitting to the Head-Office the latest “Student Assignment Tracking Record”, together with samples of the Tutors’ work and replies.

Some participants, about 15, have meanwhile completed their 9 Chapters, and therefore their overall results together with Assignment No. 9, are being sent to London for reconfirmation of Readiness to attend their short Interview with

two Tutors and to answer a written question on subjects studied in the manual.

The personal interview as well as the venue for the written test of all Students, is currently being discussed and will be accordingly coordinated.

Candidates successful in both the written papers and the interview will be awarded a numbered certificate issued by TutorShip, the Correspondence College of the Institute, countersigned by the Chairman of our Branch.

It is planned for the new Course for the year 2001 – 2002 to be advertised in September and begin at the end of the same month.

Tutors

After the loss of George Christodoulou we have been left with 6 Tutors fully approved by TutorShip

Andreou Andreas	Cowling Graham
Hadjiparaskevas John	Karantonis Soterios
Neophytou Andreas	and Taliotis Michael

another 2 Members,

Pallaris Costas and Tsangaris Christos

are in the process of submission of the sample essays, from previously enrolled students, duly marked by them, for correction and evaluation by the Education Officer in London and their approval to Tutor status.

No doubt the duties of a Tutor are demanding and time consuming, but at the same time, well rewarding in the sense of guiding each Student and hopefully progressing to the more advanced courses of our Institute.

All our Tutors, despite having to dedicate a lot of time and certain of their Weekends, are unanimously reporting that they have great pleasure and are enjoying assessing the work of



the Students. And they have re-affirmed their readiness to continue offering their services for the next year as well.

All Tutors are offering their services and guidance free of any charge, therefore we do express our appreciation to each of them for all the many hours they have to work for our Institute.

We need more tutors. Members who are interested to become approved Tutors, a praiseworthy and creditable addition to one's own qualifications, may provide the Branch with their C.V. for submission to the Institute in London.

Spring 2001 Examinations – Cyprus Exams Centre

ICS examinations were very successfully held at our Cyprus Exams Centre between the 19th April and the 27th April 2001. They were organised by our Branch once more with the assistance of Foley's Grammar School, who also provided the necessary invigilators. Our Education Officer, Andreas Andreou and all our Committee members were daily attending the examinations for coordination.

The venue was the Alassia Hotel, with 32 Students registered for the examinations. This year we had even the pleasure to give hospitality to a Student from Egypt.

Subscriptions / Finances

Our Secretary, John Hadjiparaskevas, has mailed all notifications for the renewal of the annual Membership subscriptions and the majority of our Members have already responded timely; the remainder as far as I am aware are following.

We are proud of the swift response of our Members.

In fact this item was discussed during the Controlling Council Meeting in London. Our Branch was one of the very few with Members conscientiously and responsibly honouring their obligations.

As you may have noticed a number of changes were recently introduced for the purpose of enhancing the capabilities offered by the Electronic Database.

A *membership Number* has been allotted to all members, which has to be quoted on all correspondence with the Institute.

The *membership details* in the future may be available on the *Institute's website*, therefore you were requested to confirm whether you wish information about yourselves to appear on the Internet.

To ensure that the Institute's database will be accurate and to date we will be contacting you again with a short questionnaire detailing your personal information.

Following the change of Financial Year from June to May instead of the earlier January to December periods, our Vice-Chairman, Andreas Neophytou, and our Treasurer, Philippos Antoniadis, are coordinating for the accounts of our Branch to be audited by our usual Auditors PricewaterhouseCoopers. After completion they will be presented as customary to our Members, as well as to the Head Office in London.

With all best wishes for a happy vacation to all our members and their families,

Soterios Karantonis FICS., ACI Arb.
Chairman