



October 2000
Volume 1, Issue 2

Inside This Issue

- 1** • Annual Golf Day
- 2** • Presidents Prologue
• Calendar
- 3** • Safety - FPS View-point
• Apprentice Training
- 4** • Hot Air
• Movers & Shakers
• Executive Committee

Fluid Power Society
of Western Australia Inc.
3 Cooper St
Mullaloo WA 6027
Website:
www.fluidpowersociety.com.au

FLUID TALK

The Official Newsletter of the
Fluid Power Society of Western Australia Inc.

Fluid Power Society's Annual Golf Day

By Phil Bristow-Stagg

Sunday 10th September 2000 provided perfect weather for the FPS Annual Golf Day which, this year, was held at Glen Iris Country Club.

Thirty five aspiring Greg Norman's tried with varying degrees of proficiency, to propel little white balls around what would have been a pleasant country paddock, except for some silly bugger having dug numerous sand holes, and created lakes right where you were supposed to hit the ball.

In spite of this a fun day was had by all and the Country Club provided an excellent BBQ after the event.

The FPS committee and members sincerely thank all the sponsors for without them, the Golf Day would not be possible, a full list of the sponsors follows along with all the prize winners.

SPONSORS

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Alfa Engineering Pty Ltd | Atkins Hydair Drives |
| Berendsen Fluid Power Pty Ltd | Commercial Hydraulics Pty Ltd |
| Danfoss (Australia) Pty Ltd | Denison Hydraulics |
| Engineered Products Group | Felcon Distributors |
| Festo Pty Ltd | Frederick Duffield Pty Ltd |
| Gerrard Hydraulics | Goyen Controls Co Pty Ltd |
| Hagglunds Drives Pty Ltd | Hycon Hydraulic Systems |
| Hydac | Hydraulic Contracting & Supply P/L |
| Hydraulic Manifolds Australia | John Honey Hydraulic Services |
| Mannesmann Rexroth Pty Ltd | Mining And Hydraulic Supplies |
| Pneumatic Systems International P/L | Pressure Dynamics |
| Prime Hydraulic Power | Simon WA Fluid Power Services |
| SMC Pneumatics (Australia) Pty Ltd | The Greek Restaurant |
| Transeals Pty Ltd | |

AWARDS

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| First Team: | Ken Fletcher, Ken Fletcher Jnr, Alex Bain |
| Second Team: | George Romek, Doro Smargiassi, Steven Yeomans, Graham Price |
| Third Team: | Nick Noble, Des Rath, Jim Muir, Malcolm Tucker |
| NAGA Trophy: | Nick Carlino, Simon Binks, Doug Begg |
| Longest Drive: | Hole 3 Steven Yeomans |
| Closest to Pin: | Hole 8 Graeme Rutherford |
| Longest Drive: | Hole 11 Graham Price |
| Closest to Pin: | Hole 12 John Rushack |
| Danfoss Trophy: | Alex Bain |

Presidents Prologue

By Tim Bailey



More than fifty people came to the AGM, held at the Royal Perth Yacht Club on July 14th, and enjoyed a very pleasant evening eating good food, drinking nice wine and taking in the beautiful view of the city lights over the Narrows Bridge.

Rob West provided live music which seemed to be everyone's favourites and, I think, most people were reluctant to go home at the end of the evening.

Amongst all this good living, we managed to fit in an AGM which, I hope, was interesting to the members and not too boring for the ladies!

The AGM evenings seem to come around so quickly that I often wonder, just before the meeting, what I can tell the membership about "things done" over the preceding year. Then I go back through the files and it's always surprising just how much we really have done.

I won't launch into all the details here because the minutes of the meeting will be available through our Secretary, Stuart Coleman (Pressure Dynamics), in the near future - please ask for a copy if you want one.

We had some changes in the General Committee Membership with Clive Hicks and Jim Muir standing down and Malcolm Tucker (Hydair Drives), Barry Catanach (AMTC Subiaco) and Graeme Rutherford (Sauer-Danfoss) being elected to the committee.

On behalf of The Society, I most sincerely thank Clive Hicks and Jim Muir for their considerable contribution of time and effort in the affairs of the Society. Jim has really only stepped aside as he is still involved in organising the Golf Day and some other matters using the excuse that he is "semi-retired" from the industry!

If the health of an organisation is reflected in the strength of the General Committee, your Society would get an A+ rating when we can attract people like Malcolm, Barry and Graeme to help us run The Society and I welcome them for their tangible support.

The 2000/2001 Committee will continue the initiatives and projects embarked upon by the previous committee with an emphasis on providing the membership with good industry/technical events and information as well as pleasant social occasions.

Your committee is always open to comment from the membership and any member may attend the General Committee Meetings which are currently held on the first Wednesday of each month at AMTC, Subiaco, starting at 4.30pm.

Don't forget to check out our Web Page, which is sponsored by Hydair Drives, for information on The Society and coming events.

With Best Regards,

Tim Bailey.

Events Calendar

Wednesday 6th December 2000
General Committee Meeting
AMTC Wembley

Committee Members meet for
Monthly General Committee
Meeting.

Friday 17th November 2000
Christmas Social
Mulberry Farm

Annual Christmas function,
providing scrumptious food and
music to rock the night away.

*The above event will be
confirmed to members by
correspondence.*



From Left to Right: Malcolm Tucker, Barry Catanach, Tim Bailey, Guy Truss, Nick Noble, George Romek, Graeme Rutherford, Stuart Coleman, Neil Sarich, Phil Bristow-Stagg

Safety - The Fluid Power Society Viewpoint

By Stuart Coleman from an Article by Bill Randall - FPS Vic

Accidents unfortunately are prone to occur in virtually any field of human activity; at home; at work; travelling. In the past, particularly in the industrial setting, they may have been widely regarded as an integral part of the scenery, like the weather, with the resulting injuries, pain and misery as unavoidable side effect of earning a living.

This grim outlook has prevailed for far too long, but, all too slowly in some areas, the perceptions are changing. Safety is an issue which is receiving increasing attention as society becomes more aware that accidents are not automatically a fact of life; that they can be avoided by appropriate measures. Such measures come in various forms, both physical; such as safety barriers; and, for want of a better word; non-physical; a category which includes operator education and improved management practices.

In Victoria alone between 1996-97, there were approximately 900 Work Cover claims following injuries involving hydraulic failure. After some discussion around industry contacts, we still have difficulty visualising how 900 accidents could occur in Victoria per year where the cause is true failure of a hydraulic component or system, as opposed to such things as faulty safety systems or operator error. FPS Vic have asked for information on these injuries and have suggested to Work Cover Victoria that once we understand where the problems are occurring, The Fluid Power Society, through its newsletters, meetings, industry contacts and interstate affiliates, can assist in whatever education process is needed to reduce the national accident total. Safety cannot be pushed aside as somebody else's problem.

As professionals in the Fluid Power Industry, we have a responsibility to ensure that, in this regard, our products and services are good and safe as we can make them.

Work Cover Victoria are now "widely distributing" to work places and health and safety professionals, an educational kit which has a section on hydraulic failures.

Should you wish to obtain a copy of this publication, please contact Stuart Coleman.

Apprentice Training and Recruitment

*By Bob Randell
Technical Australia*

It is now time to consider your apprentice training and recruitment needs for 2001. Technical Australia will be interviewing and selecting applicants for Engineering Tradespersons Mechanical (Hydraulic Servicing) in October - November.

Should you be interested in the selection and training of a specially trained fluid power industry apprentice or trainee, please contact Robert Randell on 9358 1411. Technical Australia will also be conducting advanced industry specific training at their Welshpool Training Centre for apprentices and Post Trade Studies.

Technical Australia Pty Ltd
Unit 1, 1 Dampier Rd
Welshpool WA 6106

Hot Air!



Gutsy Deal!

The staff of Hydair Drives have successfully completed a management buy-out. The new company will trade under the Hydair Drives name, continuing its long tradition in the fluid power industry.

The buy-out was led by Nick Noble, formerly the General Manager of Atkins Hydair, and Vice President of the Fluid Power Society of WA. The other shareholders are Des Rath, Malcolm Tucker, Gordon Bradshaw and Mathew Palmer. The business will continue to actively promote and grow its business based on its distribution of Parker Hannifin, Commercial Hydraulics, VOAC, UCC, Hydac, Southcott and MacKay Rubber as well as its other smaller suppliers.

Hydair Drives can be contacted by telephone on (08) 9270 2544, and will continue to trade at Unit 3, 92 Franciso St, Belmont.

We wish them well in their endeavour.

Aussie Icon Sold!

Eaton Aeroquip has signed a letter of intent to purchase the privately held business of Australian based Frederick Duffield Pty Ltd, and its overseas operations, in a transaction for cash. Headquartered in Sydney, Duffield, a leading manufacture of metal hydraulic fittings and adapters, also has operations in Singapore, South Africa and New Zealand. Terms of the transaction were not disclosed.

Movers & Shakers

- Mark Robertson, General Manager, has tendered his resignation from Berendsen and will finish in October.
- Bruce Bell has joined Eaton (Vickers) as Sales Manager WA.
- Rob Bryant has left Pressure Dynamics to pursue other interests.
- Tony Brunich has retired from Gerrard Hydraulics.
- Simon Tarrant has left Berendsen to join Gerrard Hydraulics.
- Jim Harrison has left Berendsen to join Gerrard Hydraulics.



Moog Multiplies!

Moog Inc of East Aurora, NY, announced on Aug 7, that it has acquired the industrial servovalve business of Schenck Pegasus Corp. of Troy, Michigan. The acquisition is considered by Moog to be a perfect fit for its industrial group, which produces high performance servocontrols and industrial servovalves for the automation segment of the worldwide industrial market.

The addition of this product line enables Moog to offer a more complete portfolio that will provide significant advantages to its customers. Moog Australia now provides exclusive supply and service for the world's leading brands of servo valves - Moog, Ultra/Dowty, Atchley and Pegasus.

Parker Proliferation!

Parker Hannifin Corp has announced that it has bought Wynn's International, Inc., in a cash tender offer with an enterprise value of US\$497M. Wynn's is a manufacturer of precision-engineered sealing media for the automotive market, heavy duty trucks, industry and aerospace. Parker also announced that it has acquired the business of Atlantic Tubing Company in a cash-for-stock transaction. Atlantic Tubing Manufacturers tubing and extrusions for the semiconductor, bio process and electronics industries, and will operate as a unit of Parkers Instrumentation Group.

FPS Contact Names and Numbers

Position	Name	Phone	Fax	Email
President:	Tim Bailey	9244 4993	9244 4995	thbailey@wantree.com.au
Vice President:	Nick Noble	9270 2544	9270 2521	hydair@atkinscar.com.au
Secretary/Treasurer:	Stuart Coleman	9362 3722	9470 1447	stuart@pressuredynamics.com.au
Technical & Training:	Phil Bristow-Stagg	9388 3355	9388 3356	
Membership & Programs:	Neil Sarich	9356 5200	9356 5201	
Accreditation:	Tim Bailey			
Newsletter:	Stuart Coleman			
Committee Members:	George Romek, Lloyd Hollier, Guy Truss, Graham Rutherford, Malcolm Tucker			

Disclaimer
 Whilst the Fluid Power Society of WA Inc., does its best to ensure that any information that it may give is accurate, no liability or responsibility of any kind is accepted in this respect by the Fluid Power Society of WA Inc., its members, its servants or its agents.