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FLUID TALK

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

Inside This Issue

- 1 • AGM Dinner Meeting
- 2 • Presidents Prologue
- 3 • Golf Day Reflections With All The Results
- 4 • What Happened To Quality Assurance?
• Industry Regulation
- 5 • Training
• All Our Yesterdays
- 6 • Heb Farrar Obituary
- 7 • Pat Parker Obituary
- 8 • Members Profile
Phil Bristow - Stagg
- 9 • AGM Dinner Meeting Continued
- 10 • Movers & Shakers
• Classic Golf Day Shots

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Annual General Meeting & Dinner



Richard Court, Stuart Coleman & Tim Bailey At The AGM Life Membership Presentation

The Fluid Power Society AGM and dinner function was held at the Royal Perth Yacht on Friday August 5th. The evening commenced at 7:00pm with pre-dinner drinks and socialising until 7.30 when the forty people attending the dinner were invited to the dinner tables and offered a delicious selection of buffet entrées. The entrée dishes were then followed by an equally delicious buffet dinner that was complemented by a good selection of wines and beers.

Many people commented on the magnificent view of Perth city over the Swan River and the Narrows Bridge and the good fortune of those attending in having the privilege of enjoying the excellent facilities of Royal Perth Yacht.

This year, the FPS committee decided to arrange a guest speaker in place of the usual live music entertainment of previous AGM dinners to add more variety and interest to this important event in The Society's calendar. The committee was fortunate in obtaining the services of the former Premier of Western Australia, The Honourable Richard Court, AO, as the guest speaker at no cost to The Society.

Towards the end of the main course, FPS WA President, Tim Bailey, introduced Richard Court who received a warm welcome from all of the guests.

Richard talked about the many events of his life before, during and after his time in politics and he also talked about his father, Sir Charles Court, who is also a former Premier of Western Australia. He was very open about the challenges of raising children during his successful political career and mentioned some interesting anecdotes that had occurred in his life as well as his rekindled management career after retirement from politics.

Richard held his audience's captivated with a very interesting and eloquently delivered talk making it a pleasure to hear what he had to say and his words also provided insights into the life of a very prominent person and family.

He also talked about his recent experiences and travels in China and how he saw the future of the world's industrial markets. Richard finished his talk by inviting questions from the audience with a good number of interesting questions being asked and appropriately interesting answers being provided by Richard.



Tim Bailey Addressing The AGM Dinner Guests

At the conclusion of the questions, Tim Bailey thanked Richard on behalf of the Fluid Power Society for a very interesting and enlightening talk that was expertly delivered and also for giving up an evening of his time for the benefit of the Society.

Tim then invited Richard to present a life membership award to Stuart Coleman in recognition of his dedication and continual service to The Society since the inception of The Fluid Power Society of WA in 1976. **(continued on page 9)**



Presidents' Prologue

By Tim Bailey

Having recently enjoyed another very pleasant evening at the annual general meeting of your Society, I reflected on how many such evenings I have attended and it occurred to me that next year will mark the 30th year since the inauguration of the Fluid Power Society of Western Australia. As the old saying goes - a lot of water has passed under the bridge since then! Interestingly, five of the twelve members of the present committee were members of The Society in those early days.

This year's AGM was held in the prestigious surroundings of the Royal Perth Yacht Club where we enjoyed, amongst other things, excellent food, a beautiful view of Perth city across the Swan River and a very interesting address by the Honourable Richard Court, AO, former Premier of Western Australia. A full report of the AGM dinner is published elsewhere in this newsletter.

The only change to the committee as a result of the AGM elections is that Trevor Pitcher of Transeals WA was elected after being co-opted onto the previous committee and Danny Mayer of Kempe Fluidair has retired from the committee. I would like to thank Danny for his four-year membership of the committee and welcome Trevor who is very well known in fluid power circles through his involvement in the industry for more than four decades.

I also thank each of the previous committee members who renominated for the new committee for their continued efforts and dedication in running the affairs of The Society.

The Society's membership is currently at the highest level ever and, even more pleasing, is the fact that every year-2004 membership was renewed in 2005. I ask that all members of The Society take every opportunity to publicise The Society and to encourage new members. The success and strength of The Society is strongly related to the number of members so that increasing membership has a snowballing effect in returning even greater benefits to The Society's membership.

The **Moog Australia Pty Ltd** technical evening held in July was very successful with a large number of members attending a most interesting function. **Moog Australia Pty Ltd** generously met the expenses of a function room at the Metro Inn and provided more-than-adequate food and drinks.

The annual golf day was held on September 11 and was a great success with the largest number of entries of any golf day held to date. Additionally, the event was strongly supported with sponsorship from fluid power industry associated companies making it the most successful golf day yet held.

On behalf of The Society, I sincerely thank all participants and the companies that sponsored the event at a number of different levels. I urge you to read the golf day report in another part of this newsletter and take note of the companies that support your Society and support those companies with *your* business. Thanks also to the principal organiser of the event - FPS WA committeeman, Phil Bristow-Stagg of PBS Engineering - who put in a great deal of time and effort to ensure the success of the golf day.

Please peruse the coming events section of this newsletter for details of a technical evening visit to **Viscount Plastics Pty Ltd** in October, a technical evening on November 16th that will be conducted by **Olaer Fawcett Christie** covering the statutory certification requirements for hydraulic accumulators followed by an *everybody welcome* Christmas function at the Irish Club on November 25th.

The Society was involved in contacting prospective competitors and providing judges for the recent WorldSkills competition conducted at Swan TAFE. A number of disappointing aspects emerged in the organisation of the event with the most disappointing being the complete lack of contact with young people who are at the point of leaving secondary education and who would be prospective fluid power trade and professional people.

The previous WorldSkills event was held at the Superdome at Burswood in conjunction with a careers Expo that ensured a constant stream of young people and their parents passed the fluid power competition area. A twofold benefit of this was the direct exposure that the young people had to a form of hands-on fluid power activity and the public arena buzz experienced by the competitors.

It is difficult to understand why the recent WorldSkills competition was conducted separately to a trade/careers expo particularly when a *Try a Trade* event and the Careers Expo were held in the same period of time. Both of these events focused on attracting prospective young trade people and their parents who should also have been looking at the WorldSkills fluid power competitors.

Additionally, if it hadn't been for the hard work of The Society and the personal time and effort of Peter Geutjes and Gary Cover of Swan TAFE, the fluid power section of the WorldSkills competition would have been an abysmal failure as there appeared to be little support from the Department of Education and Training management. **(continued on page 6)**

This year's golf day had 49 players which is the largest field so far and reflects the growing popularity of the event, next years event will be held on the 10 of September 2006

Weather was kind and once again Dale Wharton and Brian Wood at the Maylands Peninsular Golf Course provided an excellent day's golf followed by a tasty BBQ in the Golfview Tavern

The golf day is only possible due to the generosity of our sponsors and the sincerest thanks go to them from the committee and members. This year we had a tiered sponsorship levels and the major sponsor at Platinum level was Allied Heat Transfer International, Gerry O'Connor from A.H.T.I presented the Winning Team and Most Valuable Player trophies to the Hydair team.

Platinum Sponsor

Allied Heat Transfer International

Gold Sponsors

Hydair Drives

K-One Fluid Power

Mining & Hydraulic Supplies

Silver Sponsors

Hycon Hydraulic Systems

Pneumatics Direct Australia

Pressure Dynamics

Transeals

Warner Home Video

Bronze Sponsors

Afkos Industries, Alfa Engineering, Cross Hydraulics, Custom Fluid Power, Festo, Gerrard Hydraulics, Griffiths Components, Hagglunds Drives, Hydac, Hydraulic Contracting & Supply, Hydraulic Manifolds Australia, Hydraulic Resource, JMV Hydraulic Sales, Kempe Fluidair, Linear Hydraulic Services, Olaer Fawcett Christie, Parker Hannifin (Aust), Perth Hydraulic Centre, Prime Motion & Control, Rexroth Bosch Group, Sauer Danfoss, Tyco Motion & Control

Supporters

Norgren, Reynold Hydraulics, Ryco Hose, The Greek Taverna Restaurant

Awards

First Team

Winners of the Allied Heat Transfer International Perpetual Trophy
 Malcolm Tucker, Des Rath, Mark Barron, Chris Jones

The winning team chose Des Rath to be the recipient of the A.H.T.I. "Most Valuable Player Trophy"

Second Team

Jim Muir, Barry Black, Mike McStay, Kevin Durney

Third Team

Gerry O'Connor, Ron Hind, Gavin Lorraine, Ian Lavington

Fourth Team

Heiner Louis, Bill Henderson, Todd Sarich, Alan Ryan
 NAGA Team Bob Wardley, Wayne Pendergrast (two players short)

Longest Drives Sponsored by

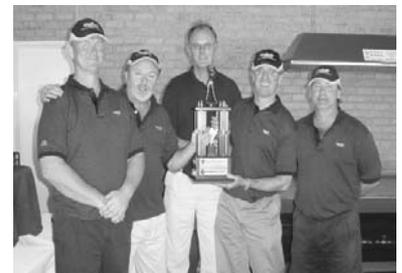
Mining & Hydraulic Supplies:	Hole 1	Mark Barron
Hydair Drives:	Hole 4	Mark Barron
K-One Fluid Power:	Hole 6	Alan Ryan
Pneumatics Direct Australia:	Hole 10	Alan Ryan
Pressure Dynamics:	Hole 15	Russell Pitcher
K-One Fluid Power:	Hole 18	Phil Bristow-Stagg

Nearest to Pin Sponsored by

Hycon Hydraulic Systems:	Hole 5	Ray Meagher
Transeals:	Hole 9	Alan Ryan
Mining & Hydraulic Supplies	Hole 13	Mark Barron
Hydair Drives:	Hole 16	Ray Meagher

Muffed Shot

This years recipient was Tony Schneider for achieving zero distance on a number of tee drives



The Grinning Winners
 Hydair Drives Team



After All His Efforts Phil Won
 The 18th Hole Longest Drive
 Prize

What Ever Happened To Quality Assurance?

By Stuart Coleman

A few months ago at a major development project briefing a colleague asked whether Quality Assurance Accreditation was a prerequisite for vendor prequalification.

Not only was the answer in the negative, but the respondent confessed the project developer was not even quality certified. Price was to be the overriding factor in the bidding process as cost targets set by the consortium partners would drive the project.

Back in the 1990's, suppliers of engineering goods and services were told to become QA certified or face being struck off approved-suppliers lists. These ultimatums were made by the Oil and Gas companies Mining companies, Engineering Consultants, Prime Contractors and the State Government agencies such as Western Power, Westrail and the Water Authority.

QA/QC was indeed 'Flavour-of-the-Month' for almost a decade. They all warned us that to remain a QA certified, uncertified would ensure commercial ostracism.

Many WA companies engaged QA consultants to bring them into the new quality-conscious world. They were told their existing work practices were fine they needed to be structured, documented and formalised.

Companies instituted new documentation and formalisation procedures employed QA Managers and Document Controllers. Need I say that this took a great deal of money, and continues to do so to maintain, the obligatory audits, the compliance documentation, the contract reviews and Quality Improvement Reports.

The problem is, although most of the companies certainly became more quality efficient and they always (almost) supply a product 'Fit for Purpose', the extra overhead effects their up front cost competitiveness. Although in some cases the manufacturing efficiencies gained through QA certification did offset the QA certification overhead.

However, in the new millennium the customer quality consciousness is suffering Alzheimer's.

Those bastions of government have now been privatised or restructured, most of the Consultants and Prime Contractors of that era have left the state and those remaining have had such a dramatic change in policies and personnel that few if any, retain QA/QC departments.

In business nothing's more certain than change but yesterday's good idea is often redundant today. It's a shame though QA seemed like a good idea at the time.

Regulation of Motor Vehicle Repairers-Fluid Power Next?

Some of you may have come across the advertisement for public comment on 'Regulation of Motor Vehicle Repairers' released by the Western Australian Governments Department of Consumer and Employment Protection. The advert was displayed in various papers around the State and is highlighting the increasing government need to regulate specific industry sectors. This was introduced in NSW a year or so ago and as you are now aware is now of interest to the government agencies here in the West.

The point is that there are very few trade sectors that interface with the general public that do not have some form of licensing or registration to which they are held accountable. With the growing number of litigation cases' coming from negligence and/or substandard work, pressure is being applied from many key stakeholders that carry the financial burden at payout time.

As you can see the auto repairers are now in the spotlight. In NSW the fluid power industry in the near future may become the next industry to come under the spotlight. This will eventually flow onto the other States and Territories. The Society is aware that this is a possibility hence why we introduced the registration process which should eliminate the bureaucratic process a government agency would implement should they gain control. Time will tell if our prediction is correct.

Events Calendar

**First Wednesday of Each Month
General Committee Meeting**
AMTC Wembley

The Fluid Power Society general committee meets on the first Wednesday of each month except January. Members are always welcome! Contact the President, Tim Bailey, for details of the meeting location and time. Contact details are on the last page of this newsletter or on our website: www.fluidpowersociety.com.au



Notification of forth coming events and site visits. Members will be advised specific dates by email or by post

October 2005

Site Visit To Viscount Plastics

November 2005

Wednesday 16th

Olaer Fawcett Christie Legislative Requirements of Accumulator Maintenance and the Responsibilities of the Maintenance Technician Under Worksafe Legislation.

Friday 25th

Annual Christmas Get Together At The Irish Club

Medal for Outstanding Achievement in Training

By Barry Catanach

The Western Australian State Training Board has announced their inaugural Medal for Outstanding Achievement in Training. The award was presented by the Minister for Education and Training at the Training Excellent Awards presentation dinner on Friday, 2 September 2005.

This award recognises outstanding achievement and contribution to vocational education and training (VET). This contribution may be through long term, single or multiple efforts, in Western Australia and/or nationally.

This award is open to an individual, group or organisation that has made a longstanding contribution to improving training opportunities in Western Australia. This includes the promotion of importance of innovative training strategies for vocational education and training.

The closing date for nominations was on July 1st 2005 so it will be interesting to hear who is recipient of this award. Information can be gained by contacting Mellisa Angwin - Manager, Office of the State Training Board. Her contact details are:

Telephone: 9264 4906

Email: mellisa.angwin@det.wa.edu.au

Fluid Power Society Award

With less than half of 2005 left your Society waits in anticipation for nominations for the FPS of WA trophy for outstanding individual in fluid power. The award is open to any individual that applies themselves to learning about fluid power.

The criteria for this award is related more to attitude and motivation rather than purely academic. The award is about rewarding the student who has shown the most interest, is more motivated, and tries their hardest when it comes to work.

The last recipient of this award was in 2002 (Rene Priest) and at this point in 2005 we would like to think that there is at least one candidate that the training organisations could nominate. If you have a person you feel meets the criteria please contact the Society Executive Officer Stuart Coleman. secoleman@iinet.net.au

Final update on the Worldskills competition (WA)

On the 14th July the WorldSkills Fluid Power category was held at Swan TAFE's Thornlie Campus in the metals and engineering section. The results have been postponed and will be announced later in the year. The reason for the postponement is due to the number of competitors not meeting the required numbers (6) to qualify as a State competition – some of the entered competitors did not front on the day. This is a disappointing result considering the time, money and effort put in by the Society and committee members ensuring this category remains viable. A lack of interest by employers and future competitors may result in this category being dropped from the overall competition. In times of skill shortages we cannot afford a decline in this area of specialisation.

On a brighter note a special thanks goes to Phil Bristow-Stagg and Jim Muir for volunteering their valuable time as Judges on the day, the Society's Executive Officer – Stuart Coleman who provided the flyers and mail out to over 200 companies and individuals. Another person to be thanked is Peter Geutjes of Swan TAFE for his efforts in coordination and time in preparing the training facility for the competition. For the employers who encouraged their apprentices to take part we thank you for your support and finally congratulations for the apprentices that took part. I hope the experience was satisfying and will build the confidence to have another attempt at it in 2 years time.

All Our Yesterdays



Taken at the 1982 Fluid Power Expo. This Expo, held at Carlisle Technical College, was the first major event organized by FPSWA.

The two characters in the foreground talking are Left to Right, Neville Isles, State Manager Parker Hannifin and Ross Goodlet principle fluid power lecturer at Carlisle Technical College. Ross is also a past president of the FPSWA .

This Expo was so successful industry asked the FPSWA to organize another Expo held two years later in 1984.

Although there were more companies participating in the 1984 Expo the venue plus the weather combined did not produce the same degree of success as the 1982 event.

Companies exhibiting at the Expos such as Pressure Dynamics, Hydair, Fluidair & Hagglands etc were in their fledgling years. Over the past twenty years many of the companies exhibiting at the Expos were either acquired and heard of no more or simply went out of business in the recession we had to have. However most companies have prospered and form the back bone of today's fluid power industry.



Heb Farrar
Vickers WA State Manager
1965 to 1984

OBITUARY

Romilly Hebden Farrar

14 June 1926 - 20 June 2005

Romilly Hebden Farrar known thought the fluid power industry as Heb was born in Carnarvon W.A. During the second World War Heb served with the Communications Unit known as Telecom, this unit was attached to the Allied Land Forces in India, Ceylon (Sri Lanka) and Singapore. Subsequent service took Heb to the Cocos Islands as a Morse code operator and maintenance engineer/technician.

On his return to W.A. in 1947, Heb was employed by Perth engineering firms in various capacities and during this time he studied on a part-time basis for the Diploma in Mechanical Engineering.

It was 1954 when Heb became involved with the Fluid Power Industry gaining employment with Atkiins (WA) Ltd who were appointed State Distributor for Vickers Detroit Hydraulics in WA.

In 1964 Heb joined Vickers Detroit Hydraulics as Resident Engineer WA with an office at Atkins (WA) Ltd who were still the Vickers Distributors.

On 1 August 1965 Heb set up the WA Branch for Vickers Detroit Hydraulics in its own right at temporary premises in Guildford with a staff of five. Not so temporary, as it was not until 1969 before the branch office was relocated to Burswood Road, Victoria Park. By this time Sperry was synonymous with Vickers and Heb was once again called upon to relocate the growing branch, this time in 1980 to Kewdale.

In June 1984, after 20 years of dedicated and distinguished service, Heb retired from Sperry Vickers to become a full-time carer for more than 10 years to his wife Fleur, who was suffering with Huntington's Disease. With Heb's care and dedication he clearly extended her life beyond any professional's expectation.

It was during this time that Heb involved himself in one of his favourite hobbies, car restoration, including MK1 MG Midget, an MGTD, a GoGo Dart and a GoGoCoupe. Heb regularly wrote technical articles for National and International GoGo publications and was recognised world-wide as a technical guru for the GoGo movement.

Heb's contribution to the Fluid Power Industry in W.A. was enormous and, as a pioneer and an icon, won the respect of the many people who came in contact with him within the industry. His leadership and guidance for people that worked with him and for the Fluid Power Industry at large have been ongoing beneficiaries of Hebs skill and knowledge.

Editorial Note: This obituary was written by Ron Babich long time friend and business colleague of Heb's especially during his Vickers years.

Presidents' Prologue (from page 2)

Given the well-publicised drastic shortage of fluid power tradespeople in Western Australia, the apparent DET disinterest in the event is inappropriate.

The International Fluid Power Society will be holding its annual meeting at the end of September in the USA. FPS WA has requested that the IFPS adopt some changes to the arrangements between the IFPS and individual Chapters that make up the IFPS particularly with respect to the recently formed chapter 72, *The International Fluid Power Society of Australia*, to allow greater autonomy of operation in the local area.

Communications with IFPS management have indicated that the changes will be acceptable and will be passed at the annual meeting. Subsequent to advice that our requests have been accepted, the full incorporation of the IFPSA will proceed.

Don't forget to visit The Society's website at <http://www.fluidpowersociety.com.au/> to keep up-to-date with the new information being posted and also don't forget to ensure that your company is linked to the website. Please contact The Society's executive officer, Stuart Coleman to make the necessary arrangements.

With best wishes..... Tim Bailey



OBITUARY

Patrick S Parker

16 Oct 1929 - 6 July 2005

Patrick S Parker
Chairman Emeritus
Parker Hannifin
Corporation

CLEVELAND, July 7, 2005 Patrick Streeter Parker, Chairman Emeritus for Parker Hannifin Corporation , died peacefully from cancer on Wednesday, July 6, 2005, surrounded by his family in his Cleveland Heights, Ohio home. He was 75.

Under Pat Parker's direction, Parker Hannifin, which was founded by his father in 1918, grew substantially in size, global reach and product breadth: From the '60s through the '90s, he guided the company's expansion into a wide array of hydraulic, pneumatic and electromechanical products solidifying its position as the global leader in motion and control technologies. Now an \$8 billion enterprise, the firm had annual sales of \$197 million in 1968 when Parker was named president.

"Pat, to everyone who ever met him, was a man of influence, integrity and warmth with a life-long enthusiasm for innovators and their inventions," said Don Washkewicz, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Parker Hannifin. "His drive to grow the company was rooted in his desire to serve customers better, whether through globalization, or a business model that places decisions close to customers, or internal product innovation, or acquisition. He made it a regular habit to talk with employees on the factory floor to get their ideas on how to improve the business. Pat touched the lives of many throughout the company and within the community. He will be deeply missed."

Born in Cleveland on October 16, 1929, the son of Arthur L. and Helen (Fitzgerald) Parker, Pat claimed in later years to have learned all that was necessary for success in the sandbox of his elementary school on the East side. The "sandbox rules" as he called them included notions of fair play, leadership among peers, and honesty that became the fabric of his life and of the organization he eventually led. Parker's working career, with the exception of serving three years as a Naval Officer, was spent at the company. He played there as a boy in the company of his father. Then worked there during the summers on break from school. Parker often joked that his jobs included foundry laborer, machinist, lift truck driver, accountant, product line manager, sales manager, operations manager, war asset liquidator, as well as President, CEO, and Chairman of the Board. Pat developed his deep understanding of human nature while serving in the wide variety of assignments. His legacy of an entrepreneurial spirit, inquisitive mind, ethic of hard work and ability to embrace fun extends beyond the brick and mortar of a modern corporation and is embedded into the company culture to inspire the company's more than 50,000 employees to believe they can make anything possible.

In an interview with Machine Design, a leading engineering trade magazine, Parker said, "Combining technologies gives us a unique niche in engineering". There's probably nowhere in the world that you can go and not be touched by a Parker product that is somehow improving the standard of living. We've worked hard to build an organization with innovation, technical excellence, superior product quality, and premier customer service as our core competencies."

Parker was one of the first U.S. manufacturing leaders to embrace the concepts of employee empowerment and building a culture of continuous improvement. In the '60s, Parker sought the advice of noted quality expert W. Edwards Deming. He later went on to personally sponsor the company's first continuous improvement program called "Targets."

In addition to his business acumen, Parker was an avid skier and sailor, who was instrumental in outfitting America's Cup yachts with Parker Hannifin hydraulics. Known for his philanthropy and pursuit of fun, he was enlisted to don a leather outfit and ride his Harley-Davidson motorcycle on stage during a Cleveland Ballet performance of Blue Suede Shoes, a ballet of Elvis Presley's career. Visitors to the corporate headquarters were enthralled by Parker's office, decorated like a ship's captain's quarters complete with oak planks cut in the 1690s for the British navy, but never used until they adorned the slanting walls to suggest the inside of a hull. In a Wall Street Journal feature on unique offices, Parker said he chose the theme because he viewed both business and life as a voyage.

Parker joined the Board of Directors in 1960. He was elected President in 1968 and served as Chief Executive Officer from 1971 through 1983. He was named Chairman in 1977, a position he retired from in 1999. He retired as an employee in 1994.

Even in retirement, Parker led a busy life, seeking new applications for the company's technologies such as fuel cells and marine markets as well as being involved in five additional privately owned businesses including an indoor sports park in Lake County, Ohio, and a real estate company owned jointly with his son in San Diego.

Parker received a B.A. degree from Williams College and an M.B.A. degree from the Harvard School of Business.

An influential figure in Cleveland, he served on the Boards of Case Western Reserve University, University School, Musical Arts Association, Playhouse Square Foundation, and the Ohio Aerospace Institute.

(continued on page 8)

Obituary - Patrick S Parker (continued from page 7)

Former associations included serving as the first Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Gateway Economic Development Corporation, a \$425 million project which led to the development of Jacob's Field and Gund Arena, member of the Board of Directors of the Greater Cleveland Growth Association, trustee of the Western Reserve Historical Society and of Woodruff Hospital, member of the Board of the College of Wooster, member of the Board of Directors of Reliance Electric Company, Acme-Cleveland, Society National Bank and Society Corporation and the Sherwin-Williams Company. He also served on the Advisory Board of the Salvation Army and on the Board of Trustees of the Kolff Foundation.

The honors he received included International Executive of the Year (1981) by the Cleveland World Trade Association, Certificate of Distinction for Executive Management by Financial World magazine and co-recipient of the 1983 Achievement Award of the National Fluid Power Association. He was inducted into Inside Business Magazine's Hall of Fame in 2004.

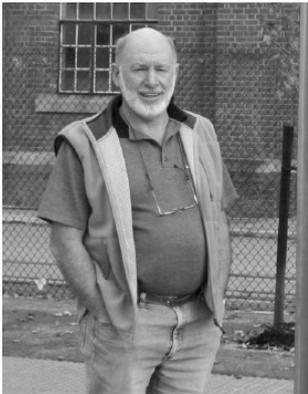
Patrick Parker is survived by his wife Madeleine; their son Maximillian, and daughter Astrid; and three children by a former marriage, daughters Susan Parker Decker and Nancy Parker, and a son Streeter; two sisters, Cynthia Mathews and Joyce Evans; brother Thomas; and four grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents and a daughter, Helen (Holly) in 1992.

Source: Parker Hannifin Corporation Website

Editorial Note: Pat Parker was one of the greats of the International Fluid Power Industry, his drive and business acumen turned Parker Hannifin into one of the Worlds biggest Motion and Control businesses. For those of us who were lucky to have met Pat were immediately captivated by his charm and knowledge of the international fluid power business. I had the pleasure a couple of years ago of showing Pat the tourist sights of Perth and although he was staying in a Fremantle Hotel he insisted I drop him at the Perth railway station so he could catch a train into Fremantle and see the 'real sights'

Members Profile

Phil Bristow-Stagg



Phil At The WAGR
Midland Workshop
Workers Memorial Wall

Phil was born in Northam, Western Australia in 1945 and educated at West Northam Primary and Northam Senior High School . At the tender age of 13 Phil took up competitive cycling representing WA at the inaugural 1960 inter state Australian Schoolboy Championships held in Adelaide. Upon graduating from Northam Senior High School Phil left Northam to take up an apprenticeship at the WAGR Midland Workshops whilst still training to advance his cycling career. Success came in 1966 when Phil won a silver medal representing Australia in cycling at the 1966 Commonwealth Games held in Jamaica.

In 1966 Phil returned from Jamaica and married his fiancée Jocelyn, he was also drafted under the National Service Act into the first Australian contingent bound for Vietnam.

Phil started his hydraulics career in 1969 with Hydraulic & Pump Service Company (HAPSCO) and progressed through the company to the position of Service Manager reporting directly to the flamboyant managing director the late John Carrington.

When HAPSCO was acquired in 1978 by Metro Industries the company was integrated in to the Sandmac Engineering arm. Phil at this stage was forced to step down a role, however perseverance, skill and knowledge paid off and he was soon back on top promoted to Sandmac Engineering's Service Manager.

In 1986 Phil left Sandmac Engineering and went into business on his own starting the fluid power consultancy company PBS Engineering, Phil still manages this company some nineteen years later.

On a personal note Phil has four women in his life, wife Jocelyn and three daughters Jenny, Sandy & Connie, Phil gave the ultimate gift of a kidney to Jenny in 2002.

Although Phil's competitive cycling days are over he has played squash for the past thirty years and is now also attempting (his words) to play the mother of all games Golf.



Phil Training At The
Lake Monger Velodrome
Prior To Departing For
The 1966 Commonwealth
Games In Jamaica

Annual General Meeting & Dinner (continued from page 1)



Members & Guests Enjoying
The AGM Dinner

Tim said that Stuart has held an executive committee position on every committee during the entire existence of The Society and that the decision to offer Stuart a life membership was made with the unanimous approval of the general committee.

Tim then opened the formal, annual general meeting part of the evening by welcoming members and guests and giving a brief review of the evening's events as well as thanking everyone for supporting the AGM dinner. He then provided a synopsis of the Society's activities over the previous twelve months mentioning events such as the recent Moog technical product evening and the WesTrac visit.

Tim spoke about the recently-held WorldSkills competition at Swan TAFE that was organised by the Department of Education and Training but that would not have happened at all if The Society had not put in a big effort to contact competitors and provide judges.

He said that Stuart Coleman organised the industry contacts and mail out, Barry Catanach represented The Society as a member of the Department of Education and Training Industry Advisory Committee (IAC) and Jim Muir and Phil Bristow-Stagg were competition judges.

Tim mentioned the current state of training and accreditation in WA and talked about The Society's interest in the Perth-based Australian Technical College and the possible role the Society will have in the new ACEPT Oil & Gas training facility that is to be built at Henderson.

Tim thanked Leeza Wray of Pressure Dynamics for her continuing, unobtrusive support of The Society and also Phil Bristow-Stagg for the hard work and effort that he puts in organising the annual golf day.

Tim said that the golf day is now so popular that it is over-subscribed and that new golf day sponsorship arrangements and opportunities for sponsors took effect this year with all of the sponsorship categories being taken up very quickly. Tim thanked all golf day sponsors for their continued support.

Tim spoke on the progress of the formation of Chapter 72 of the International Fluid Power Society of USA (IFPS) and gave details of Barry Catanach's attendance at the IFPS autumn meeting held in Detroit in September 2004 and also on the aims of the newly formed International Fluid Power Society of Australia.

Finally, Tim thanked every committee person for their individual and combined efforts in managing and running The Society smoothly and successfully.

Following Tim's address, Stuart Coleman presented the financial statement of The Fluid Power Society of WA Inc. for the previous twelve months.

Tim then asked Alan Stockdale to accept the position of interim chairman of the meeting to elect a president for the next twelve months and he declared all general committee positions vacant.

Tim Bailey was nominated for the position of president and he was elected unopposed. Tim then assumed the chairman's position and conducted the elections for the executive and general committee positions with the results being:

Vice President - Barry Catanach

Secretary/Treasurer and Executive Officer - Stuart Coleman

General Committee - Ian Lavington, Lloyd Hollier, Ken Fletcher jnr., Malcolm Tucker, Jim Muir, Phil Bristow-Stagg, Neil Sarich, Owen West and Trevor Pitcher.

Tim asked if any members had any general business matters to raise. No matters were raised and Tim then declared the AGM meeting closed with an invitation for everyone to continue enjoying the magnificent Royal Perth Yacht facilities.

Movers & Shakers

- Bruce Bell has left Eaton Fluid Power to pursue other interests.
- Parker Hannifin Corporation (NYSE: PH) and SSD Drives Holding Limited jointly announced that Parker has acquired SSD (formerly Eurotherm Drives) from the private equity firm Compass Partners International Limited for an undisclosed amount. SSD Drives had fiscal 2005 annual revenues of \$165 million, with approximately 60 percent of its business in Europe. The acquisition is expected to be accretive to earnings within the first fiscal year following integration .
- David Jukes has joined Renold Hydraulics as Product Manager.
- Alex Boyd and Ray Everon long time employees and well know to Vickers customers have taken redundancy packages and left Eaton Fluid Power.
- Manuli Fluid Connectors have appointed Berendsen Fluid Power as National Distributor for their hose and fitting range.
- Stauff Corporation have expanded their product range to include bladder and diaphragm accumulators.
- Pressure Dynamics shareholders have appointed Stuart Coleman to the Company Board
- Duncan Bain (ex Managing Director) has left Victorian Hydraulics to pursue other interests.
- Chris Reddenbach is no longer employed by Custom Fluid Power.
- Metaris is looking for a person to manage their interests in Australasia.
- Steve Carter has left Parker Hannifin to pursue other interests.
- Chris Ahrens have left Tyco Flow Control and joined Kempe Fluid Air

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Ken Fletcher Snr Ponders A Shot That Seems To Have Gone Astray Into The Flora Ken, Don't Give Up The Day Job Just Yet .



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The Fluid Power Society newsletter is edited by Stuart Coleman . Suggestions, ideas and information for the newsletter are most welcome - contact Stuart on 9401 6487 or email secoleman@iinet.net.au