



NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY
OF AIR SAFETY INVESTIGATORS

NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2023

President's Preamble

Ladies and Gentlemen

Nearly the end of the first quarter, and on the wrong side of the equinox, with the end of daylight saving looming as well. Also, an imminent ASASI go/no-go decision on the proposed golf rematch on the Friday before the ANZSASI seminar. Time flies whether or not you're having fun...

Thanks to all who responded to the Constitution voting call, and especially for the helpful suggestions. To date we have 27 responses with no dissenting votes, and that fulfils the "two-thirds (2/3) of the members voting" criterion (Article X, section 2). The 60-day voting period expires on 11 April, so we will leave the ballot open until then.

We received a query about Article 2, section 2 *Political activities*. The ISASI By-laws were less than helpful in this regard, but the best definition I found was on the US Department of Justice website: "Political activity is activity directed toward the success or failure of a political party, candidate for partisan political office, or partisan political group." This relates to the Hatch Act, 5 U.S.C. 7323(a) and 7324(a), which generally prohibits federal employees from engaging in partisan political activity while on duty, in a federal facility or using federal property. Thus, NZSASI will not participate in any 'electioneering' activity. We won't change the Constitution article, but could include the definition in the Executive Policy Manual.

This does not preclude NZSASI from making representations on proposed new or amended legislation or rules relating to accident and incident investigation. I recall extensive NZSASI submissions on the proposed introduction of the TAIC Amendment Act in the late 90's. Previous submissions had been made on the original TAIC Act as well as Civil Aviation Rules, Part 12. All came to naught on those two, however, as the concrete had long since set in the brains of the instigators.

Vice-President's Views

No report from Mike this time, but you can expect an announcement from him soon, regarding the April professional development webinar.

Sec/Treas Section

Wayne reports that he has nothing to report this month. A full financial report will be presented at the BGM.

Membership

Welcome back to Peter Stevenson-Wright (PSW), one of our CAA stalwarts after a couple of years' absence from the fold. When I first joined CAA in 1998, PSW was working as an aviation security officer, and in his off-shift time would work at CAA, processing stacks of forms CA005 (accident and incident notifications). After a few years of this, Pete retired from Avsec to become an investigator in his own right and has been so ever since.

Erstwhile President Paul Breuille reports that he has taken up a new position as Deputy Director Safety and Risk Assurance at NZDF - Defence Careers. Paul was a bit coy when I sought further details. All the best with the new position anyway, Paul.

The Life Member criteria mentioned in the last newsletter might have been a bit confusing – for clarification, if you are a seasoned air safety investigator or safety professional who is 75 years of age and have been a member for at least 10 consecutive years, you are eligible for Life Member status. A trawl through the ISASI wild Apricot membership database found no NZSASI members eligible for Life Member status under the previous criteria, so it might be a few more years now before we see new Life Members in our ranks.

A brief ISASI International Council meeting is scheduled for 0730 NZDT on Saturday 25 March. The usual ICM reports are not on the agenda except for the Membership Committee report, which includes a summary of the performance of the new Wild Apricot system. A copy is included with the distribution of this missive.

Just a reminder about the WA database – at any time you can log in and update your details (not forgetting, of course, to notify Wayne of any changes as well).

Events

Some dates to note:

- 11 April: closing date for voting on the Constitution.
- 24 April: Nominations for 2023 Exec open – nomination forms distributed.
- 12 May: nominations close – Mike will include a final reminder in his webinar intro.
- 13 May: if (and that's a big 'if') more than one nomination for a position is received, a postal ballot (electronic) will open; closing date 27 May. Peter Stevenson-Wright (PSW) has agreed to be Returning Officer, receive the nominations and handle any ballot admin if required.
- 1 June: the Great Trans-Tasman Golf Challenge return match – **IF** it goes ahead and we can assemble a team.
- 2-4 June: ANZSASI, Surfers Paradise of course!
- 9 June: NZSASI biennial general meeting, details to be announced closer to the date.
- 22-24 Aug: ISASI, Nashville.
- 7-9 June 24: our own ANZSASI (finally!), preceded by the golf challenge, subject to interest.

And further to the last item, we can now announce that ANZSASI 2024 will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Auckland, subject to the signing of a formal contract. Thanks to Wayne for his investigative work on a possible venue – the CP estimate came out well under the other venues that deigned to reply, but it still ain't cheap!. Sponsorship will definitely be needed.

More to follow on the proposed seminar theme, still under development. Watch this space, so to speak.

President's Postscript

This is the last of the 'quarterly' newsletters from the current Executeers – what would normally have been the June issue will comprise the executive reports for the BGM.

That means that I'm getting close to the end of my two-year term as resurrected president; if there's anyone out there who would like the job, please get a nomination in when the forms are distributed. I had initially thought that I would fill the position until someone came forward, but in the event, it didn't prove to be an onerous task so I stuck with it. A bit of previous practice did help, though!

Happily for us, Wayne has indicated that he would be prepared to continue in the role of Sec/Treas, a position which we have had some difficulty filling (and keeping filled) in the past. Good onya, Wayne!

At this stage the BGM will most likely be a 'virtual' meeting, given that a repeat of the 2019 arrangement would mean another hole in our bank balance – something we'll have to manage carefully in the lead-up to next year's ANZSASI. If, however, a kind-hearted host offers a suitable venue, we could have a hybrid meeting and a chance to socialise.

Nothing else to add, although there will be some further comms re the elections and the BGM in due course. So it's good night from me!

Kind regards
Alister Buckingham



Cheers! (Hofbräuhaus, München, after ISASI 2015)

STOP PRESS

I just now spoke with John Guselli, Pres ASASI. The seminar is a GO; see the registration form sent out with this missive. Numbers are still a bit thin; understandable with the seminar being so soon after the 2022 ISASI event in Brisbane. The papers count has passed the full mark, with the actual presentations to be sorted in the next few weeks. Unfortunately for the golfers, the challenge will have to wait until next year in Auckland.

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