



# FLUID TALK

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Fluid Power Society of Western Australia Inc.

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Fluid Power Society  
of Western Australia Inc.  
3 Cooper St  
Mullaloo WA 6027  
Website:  
[www.fluidpowersociety.com.au](http://www.fluidpowersociety.com.au)

## A Fond Farewell

Following the recent acquisition of Pressure Dynamics by Tyco Services, Simon Devitt and Terry Beal decided to call it a day. To acknowledge their years of dedication, a retirement party was held on the 22 June 2002 to officially farewell them.

A buffet dinner and social evening was organised and attended by around 70 people at the Swan Yacht Club in East Fremantle. The guests included many of the past and present employees together with family and friends. All who attended were treated to presentations and speeches highlighting the history and achievements of Simon and Terry. Stuart Coleman and Greg Haig presented two of the evening's speeches that encompassed the mood of the room and conveyed to Simon and Terry how much they will be missed

The evening proved to be a success and all who attended enjoyed the traditional fare of a good retirement party. The food was excellent, the wine flowed and the partygoers were in a reflective and congenial mood. The proceedings came to an end around midnight with everyone's best wishes going with Simon and Terry.

Pressure Dynamics was started in 1979 and grew to be a successful company. Tyco will utilise the large premises in Welshpool in the establishment of its business and future direction. Stuart Coleman and Greg Haig will remain with Tyco to provide their valuable experience gained from a happy and successful working relationship with Simon and Terry.



Simon, Stuart & Terry - The Early Years

## 2002 Annual Golf Day

Dust off your golf clubs and join Fluid Power Society members at the annual golf day, which is to be held at the Peninsula Golf Course, Maylands. This year's most prestigious sporting event will take place on **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2002** and will be followed by a BBQ lunch at the Golf View Tavern. The sponsors will be awarding prizes so good luck to all competitors.

Contact Phil Bristow-Stagg on (08) 9248 8255 for further information.



## Presidents' Prologue

By Tim Bailey

In the last newsletter, you were advised of some coming events which promised to be interesting and enjoyable. As usual, good fortune smiled upon us and we had an extremely interesting visit to the Observatory, an equally interesting visit to West Australian Newspapers and a very pleasant evening of excellent surroundings, food and company at our AGM. The AGM evening was particularly well received by those who attended as the surroundings at Royal Perth Yacht Club are unsurpassed and the food was plentiful and beautifully prepared.

Your committee has been very active in arranging some enjoyable events for you starting with a visit to TRANSEALS Pty. Ltd. on Wednesday August 28 to discuss the technical aspects and observe the manufacture of veebelts and seals. This will be followed by our annual golf day in September, a works visit in October and a Swan River Christmas cruise on the Paddle Steamer 'Decoy' on Friday evening November 8th. We need to have a good attendance at all of these events but, particularly, for the Christmas cruise - so feel free to invite family and friends. Details of these events appear elsewhere in this newsletter and will also be mailed to you.

You may recall, in the last newsletter, that I made mention of the Society's concern with changes in tertiary education which appeared to have been inadequately thought out. It is our understanding that further changes are occurring in the Metals Consortium and its parent body - Mersitab (Manufacturing, Engineering and Related Services Industry Training Advisory Body Ltd.) - in that Mersitab funding is available until the end of this year but uncertain after that. Additionally, a number of Metals Consortium executive positions are currently being held by people acting in the positions whilst the positions are being advertised.

These 'unknowns' and changes concern the FPS of WA because the Metals Consortium is the 'interface' body between ourselves, the tertiary education system and government structures. We hope that any further changes are properly thought out as continual change in the technical tertiary education system has a very unsettling effect on young people embarking on career paths, in industries such as Fluid Power, and can only have a detrimental effect on the quality and quantity of our future technical specialists.

As always, I urge you to actively support the Society by attending the various functions and by encouraging interested friends and workmates to join up. Your committee is always open to suggestions regarding events, which members would find interesting and we would be grateful of offers to inspect suitable industrial and commercial operations.

With Best Regards

Tim Bailey.

## Events Calendar

**Wednesday 28th August 2002**

**Transeals Pty Ltd**

Site Visit - Welshpool

Members are invited to an informative evening showcasing Transeals seal maker and beltcorp vector vee / wedge belt manufacturing machines.



**Wednesday 4th September 2002**

**General Committee Meeting**

AMTC Wembley

Committee Members meet for Monthly General Committee Meeting.



**Sunday 8th September 2002**

**Annual Golf Day**

Peninsula Golf Course

Members are invited to play 18 hole round of golf followed by a BBQ lunch.



**Friday 8th November 2002**

**Christmas Cruise**

Paddle Steamer "Decoy"

Members are invited to end of year finale - moonlight cruise - carvery buffet - entertainment by the Gumnut Stompers Jazz band.

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

## **Fluid Power Society Tours The West Australian**

Members of the Fluid Power Society were treated to an insider's look at the 'inner sanctum' of West Australian Newspapers when they were given a tour of the production facility in Osborne Park recently.

As the paper is printed during the night, the group of about 20 members met on a rather coolish night ready for the 9.00pm print run. After being divided into two groups, members were conducted through the complex from the prepress area, to the press halls and into the transport area.

In the prepress area, the newspaper is converted from electronic format to picture and print negatives on rectangular aluminium sheets known as 'plates'. The plates are then attached to the presses and become the media for transferring the printing ink to the blank paper.

In the press halls, the newspaper pages are printed and compiled and then fed onto conveyors which whiz overhead at a rapid rate. The papers are conveyed to the transport area where they are stacked and wrapped, by specialised machinery, ready for distribution.

Some interesting facts about newspaper:

- The West Australian prints about 3,000,000 newspapers every week..
- The weekly cost of the blank newspaper rolls is about \$1,000,000 with each huge roll of paper weighing one tonne and costing \$1,000.
- The newspaper uses 12 tonnes of black ink per week.
- West Australian Newspapers has the largest distribution run of any daily newspaper in the world - covering nearly 10,000,000 kms per year

The whole process was very impressive and a sight to see. Our thanks go out to the tour guides and The West Australian for allowing us to see this state-of-the-art facility.

## **2002 Committee (AGM)**

*By Tim Bailey*

As you will see in this newsletter, with one exception, all members of the previous committee were re-elected with myself as president and Barry Catanach as vice president. I thank last year's committee for their hard work and support and I thank the membership for their continued confidence in myself to carry on as president. Just prior to the AGM, the committee regretfully accepted the resignation of Nick Noble. Nick has made a solid and considerable contribution to the Fluid Power Society of WA, during his time on the committee, and we would welcome him back whenever his business commitments allow.

The vacancy left by Nick's resignation was not filled, at the AGM, as we are particularly interested in attracting a person from the pneumatics area of fluid power. I would urge anyone in pneumatics, who can contribute to the future of the industry, to contact me and volunteer to serve on the general committee.

## Quickstep™

*For High Quality, Low Cost, Fast Cycle Time, Advanced Composite, Bonded Metal, and Fibre Metal Laminate Manufacturing Technology.*

Nick Noble, former Fluid Power Society Vice President, is now the Chief Executive Officer of Quickstep Technologies Pty Ltd, an Australian company that owns a suite of patented processes for the inexpensive manufacture of advanced composite components.

Quickstep's facility is in Canning Vale, where the company undertakes research, development and production of composite components. They undertake paid development work for the end-user customer, as well as manufacturing equipment, tooling, and providing technical and support services.

The Quickstep™ Processes are breakthrough developments in Advanced Composite component manufacturing technology that utilise a unique balanced-pressure, heated moulding process.

Quickstep™ was conceptualised in an aerospace environment and then developed and tested with the assistance of the Australian Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation, (CSIRO). The need was to produce carbon, Kevlar® and Nomex® honeycomb composite parts to autoclave standards and better without the substantial capital equipment costs and cycle times of autoclaves. The process has exceeded all expectations.

For more details, or to arrange a time to visit our facility, please see the new website at <http://www.quickstep.com.au> or contact Nick Noble on phone: +61 (8) 9456-2656, fax: +61 (8) 9456-2657 or email: [nnoble@quickstep.com.au](mailto:nnoble@quickstep.com.au)

## Movers & Shakers

- Kurt Blanskby has joined Hydair Drives as customer service coordinator after 7 years with Goyen Controls.
- Jim Mays resigned from Pressure Dynamics to take up a post at Victorian Hydraulics in Melbourne.
- Sauer-Danfoss have implemented a new marketing strategy by appointing EPG as a 'Tier 1' distributor and Fremantle Hydraulics, Fluid Line Services and Boyce Hydraulics as 'Tier 2' distributors.
- William Hughes has resigned from Parker Hannifin to take a position outside the fluid power industry.
- Rod Wilson has resigned from Parker Hannifin to take up a position at Fluid Line Services in Perth.



## Commercial Opportunity

Hydraulic Resource, located at Unit 1, 30-36 James Street, Bellevue, has been given a new direction and lease of life. Ian Lavington is the new part owner and Manager. His partner, Jeff Mildwaters, an electrical contractor, said the company was formed almost two years ago but never reached it's true potential due to a lack of product and industry knowledge.

Hydraulic Resource and the industry will benefit greatly from Ian's 27 years of experience in gear pump design and application. Ian also provides his services with a face-to-face and hands-on approach. Ian believes this type of good old fashioned service tends to become harder to supply for the bigger corporations but it is still sought after by the smaller end of the market. This is the main focus at Hydraulic Resource in reaching their true potential.

## Gain Exposure With Our New Feature

There is now a new feature in every Fluid Power Society newsletter. The opportunity exists for your company to sponsor Fluid Talk. For a small outlay you can promote your business with a flyer, which will be inserted in the newsletter. Acknowledgment of your sponsorship will be highlighted within the same edition. Advertise your company, service or product to a targeted audience with an A4 flyer, single or double sided, for the low price of \$150. (Steak knives not included). Contact Lime Communications on 9291 4442 to take advantage of this unique opportunity.

## FPS Contact Names and Numbers

Position	Name	Phone	Fax	Email
President:	Tim Bailey	9244 4993	9244 4995	<a href="mailto:thbailey@wantree.com.au">thbailey@wantree.com.au</a>
Vice President:	Barry Catanach	9382 5730	9382 5797	<a href="mailto:catanb@amtc_sub.training.wa.gov">catanb@amtc_sub.training.wa.gov</a>
Secretary/Treasurer:	Stuart Coleman	9362 3722	9470 1447	<a href="mailto:stcoleman@tycoint.com">stcoleman@tycoint.com</a>
Technical & Training:	Phil Bristow-Stagg	9248 8255	9248 8256	<a href="mailto:pbseng@iinet.net.au">pbseng@iinet.net.au</a>
Membership & Programs:	Neil Sarich	9209 2344	9209 2355	<a href="mailto:neil.sarich@hydac.com.au">neil.sarich@hydac.com.au</a>
Accreditation:	Tim Bailey			
Newsletter:	Stuart Coleman			
Committee Members:	Lloyd Hollier, Ian Lavington, Danny Mayer, 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.

The Fluid Power Society newsletter is compiled by Jenny and Margaret from Lime Communications. Suggestions, ideas and information for the newsletter are most welcome - contact us on 9291 4442 or email [limecommunications@yahoo.com.au](mailto:limecommunications@yahoo.com.au).