



FROM THE INSTITUTE PRESIDENT, MICHAEL COLLINS

Dear Colleagues

It is hard to believe that 2014 is almost over. Some members have just entered a new financial year whereas for others it ends this month. Hopefully you have had a good year and can sit back and enjoy the rewards of your hard work.

Typical for this time of the year the weather events in New South Wales and Queensland have caused considerable work which will help boost the claim numbers for the adjusters involved in an otherwise quiet year for property claims. Whilst it will no doubt create a lot of work and pressure at an already hectic time it is a perfect opportunity for loss adjusters to demonstrate their skillset and that of the profession to our clients.

Information released on the ICA website on 11 December 2014 indicates that 86,800 claims were lodged with insurers for damage to motor vehicles and other property in Brisbane largely caused by hail. Of that total 22,000 claims were lodged for house contents damage, 4000 for commercial property and business damage with the balance for damage to domestic and commercial motor vehicles.

By now most of you should have received your diary for 2015. Diary sponsors are an important source of income for the Institute. If you are aware of any entity wishing to advertise in our diary please notify your Division Council at your convenience so that we can make arrangements for them to advertise the following year.

On Thursday, 13 November 2014 I attended 'Christmas Drinks' at the Goodwood Park Hotel organised by the SA Division to meet the new Chair Mark Green and the new councillors. It was good to see a number of adjusters from the South Australian firms attend the event and spend some time together. The Council is working on new initiatives and will be making further announcements next year.

I attended a Cocktail function on Thursday 28 November 2014 held in the Dinosaur Gallery of the Australian Museum hosted by the New South Wales Division. It was a very good event and well attended by adjusters, clients, diary sponsors and suppliers. Congratulations to Anthony McKinnon who was elevated to Fellow.

I was a guest at the Victorian Division Christmas Gala Dinner and Diary Presentation held at the MCG on the 8 December 2014. A record attendance was achieved with a good mix of adjusters, clients, sponsors and other suppliers. Well-known crime author John Sylvester, who authored the Underbelly Series entertained the guests about his involvement with the 'darker side' of society.

It was humorous to learn that many of his 'clients' thought that the well-known television series the 'Sopranos' should have been on the Life Style Channel rather than on the Crime channel. Well done to everyone who supported the event.

Tony Libke and I held a recent meeting with ANZIIF CEO Prue Willsford and senior staff members Luke Davies and Anton Barnett-Harris at which we discussed the Diploma Education Agreement and planning for the 2015 Sydney Claims Convention to be held in Sydney on 5-6 August. It was a productive meeting and further information about the convention will be released shortly.

A registration brochure for the Asian Claims Convention to be held in Hong Kong 24-26 March 2015 is expected to be available shortly. Expressions of interest from members has been strong for the event.

I know all members have been deeply shocked by recent tragic deaths of two innocent people in Sydney and over one hundred children in Pakistan. It brings home how fragile and tenuous life can be.

I take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Make sure you take time out to spend it with your loved ones and take care on the road.

Best Wishes
Michael Collins
President - AICLA



NEW SOUTH WALES

NSW / ACT Cocktail Function

The event was held at a new venue, Dinosaur Gallery at the Australian Museum, and was well supported by 160 members, industry guests and diary sponsors. The major sponsor was CJ Duncan Builders, with other diary sponsors contributing to the lucky door prizes.

The Division invited Michael Collins, current President to attend. Michael kindly accepted our invitation and after an introductory speech, assisted with the presentation of the certificate to Anthony McKinnon of Cerno in recognition of his elevation to Fellow membership status, and lucky door prizes.

The NSW / ACT Division wishes members and their families a safe and happy festive season and a prosperous year in 2015.



WESTERN AUSTRALIA

The WA Division held a Diary Sponsors and Members Christmas Function on 4 December 2014.

It was attended by 62 Sponsors, Members and Guests along with 6 Retired Members.

The event was held at the Royal Perth Golf Club and the guest speaker was Mick the De-motivational Speaker. Mick has worked with large corporate clients such as Enron, One Tel and Ansett. With sporting teams such as the West Coast Eagles.

Some people are concerned that we are raising the bar too high in business and that we are striving for too much.

We need something to bring the standards back down to a more manageable level. Mick's message is simple – excellence is too hard to maintain, but mediocrity maintains itself.

The delivered presentation – The Seven Magic Steps to Suppressing Your Potential.

NEW AND ELEVATED MEMBERS

Congratulations to the following recently admitted and elevated members:

NEW MEMBERS

Name	Class	Division
Muhammad Rahim	Affiliate	Int (Italy)
Judd Bolton	Provisional	Western Australia

ELEVATIONS

Name	Class	Division
Fiona Davis	Affiliate	Victoria
Wayne Fry	Affiliate	South Australia
Katrina Aarts	Associate	New South Wales
Pisinieli Matailevu	Associate	New South Wales
Sonya Bullock	Affiliate	New Zealand
Sandie Collins	Associate	Queensland
Andrew Gibson	Affiliate	New South Wales
Djakaria Prawiranata	Associate	Int (Indonesia)
Dan De Silva	Associate	Int (Singapore)



ASIAN CLAIMS CONVENTION 2015



HONG KONG

Significant work has been occurring in respect of the Asian Claims Convention to be held in Hong Kong 24-25-26 March 2015. The platinum sponsor is forensic accountants MDD and a number of other sponsors have been secured. Topics to be covered at the convention include the losses associated with the Costa Concordia, implications from the Malaysian airlines disasters. Speakers will be leading professionals from many countries including the UK, Hong Kong, Singapore, Australia and other countries in S.E. Asia. **A registration brochure will be available to members by clicking on the attached link.**

ON-LINE CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (CPD)

DRIVERLESS CARS

No longer does it take readers or viewers of the work of Stephen Hawking to imagine driverless cars! This concept is no longer absurdly futuristic. Indeed, if certain manufacturers and commentators are to be believed the phenomenon is right here on our doorstep. After a hard day's driving the busy loss adjuster may have some excuse for believing that ridding cars of their drivers would be a distinct improvement, while in cooler moments the prospect of sharing the road with hurtling pieces of metal devoid of immediate human control send shivers down the spine.

Perhaps the concept of driven cars is alarming enough. Unless on a divided road, we progress at speeds of around 100kph, passing oncoming vehicles at the same speed, so making the closing speed 200 kph, and all that separates us from disaster is a few centimetres and our utmost attention — hopefully not to be distracted by an incoming SMS or phone message! And hopefully uninterrupted by a blown tyre or worse. In fact many believe that the simple act of driving places far too high an expectancy on the infallibility of humans.

So in theory anyway, cars controlled by computers may be a huge improvement — provided that the actions of those that are still piloted by mere humans are allowed for — and provided the software is totally bug free.

It has been said that there is no such thing as an 'accident'. Something or someone is always to blame — and usually more than one culprit is involved. With driverless cars the possibility (or inevitability) of blame attaches not to the driver but to someone else. And obviously that raises liability and insurance implications.

We are pleased to be able to reproduce a paper by UK risk expert Rahul Gumber on this subject. This paper is at CPD 067, which you will find by navigating through 'Professional Development' on the AICLA website Home Page. Members should use the User Name **cpduser** and the password **aiclacpd**. Your browser may offer the opportunity to 'Remember this password'.

We look forward to seeing you there!

[Go to on-line CPD now.](#)



AICLA offers members the opportunity to advertise positions vacant in LA News.

The cost is 200.00 (+ GST) and the advertisement will be run for one month. The advertisements also appear on the AICLA website **www.aicla.org**.

If you wish to advertise, please send information to **adminoffice@aicla.org**. Advertisers can remain anonymous with job applicants responding direct to AICLA.