

## SMIX Bash — 5 December 2019

### SMIX Bash

The 20th SMIX (Sydney Marine Industry Christmas) Bash was held on Thursday 5 December aboard the beautifully-restored *James Craig* alongside Wharf 7, Darling Harbour, from 1730 to 2130. The Bash was organised jointly by the IMarEST (NSW–ACT Branch) and RINA (NSW Section). About 200 guests came from the full spectrum of the marine industry, including naval architects, marine engineers, drafters, boatbuilders, machinery and equipment suppliers, regulators, classifiers, surveyors, operators, managers, pilots, navigators, researchers, and educators. Equally importantly, the full spectrum of age groups was represented, from present students to the elders of the marine community.



*James Craig* at her berth at Wharf 7  
(Photo Phil Helmore)

It was also great to see intrastate, interstate and international visitors in the throng, including the President of the Australian Division of RINA, Martin Renilson from Launceston, Nic Bender, Jon Duffy, Nick Johnson, Gregor Macfarlane and Brian Winship from the Australian Maritime College, Paul Gay from Adelaide, Michelle Grech from Canberra, Liz Hay from Brisbane, Terry Hewitt and Tim Speer from Perth, Michael Uberti from Melbourne, and Tony Armstrong (the younger) and his wife Therese from Vancouver, Canada.

Sydney turned on a beautiful evening, albeit with some smoke haze around from the recent bushfires, and many partners in attendance enjoyed the view from the decks of *James Craig*. Drinks (full-strength and light beers, Australian sparkling, cabernet merlot and cabernet sauvignon wines, and soft drinks) and canapés (Peking duck pancakes, roast pumpkin and fetta tartlets, Thai-style spring rolls with sweet chilli, parmesan-crusted chicken skewers, and salt-and-pepper prawn cutlets with a chilli glaze) were provided. A delicious buffet dinner (roasted beef fillet served with a shiraz jus, seasoned turkey breast roast with cranberry, honey leg ham, roasted seasonal vegetables, herb buttered chat potatoes, penne pasta, Sydney rock oysters, smoked salmon, BBQ marinated octopus and calamari, and Greek, coleslaw, Caesar, Tabouli, and Vietnamese noodle salads, with brewed coffee and tea selection) was served in the 'tween decks, with afters (individual ice creams, mini mixed tarts and cream, and Australian cheese and crackers) served on deck, and many tall tales and true were told.



Some of the crowd enjoying drinks and canapés on board *James Craig*  
(Photo John Jeremy)



More of the crowd enjoying drinks and canapés  
(Photo John Jeremy)



The buffet servery in the 'tween decks  
(Photo Phil Helmore)



Dinner in the 'tween decks  
(Photo Phil Helmore)

Differential pricing for members and non-members was introduced this year and was successful, and most tickets were sold before the event.

Formalities were opened by the Chair of the NSW Section of RINA and Chair of the SMIX Bash Organising Committee, Valerio Corniani, who welcomed the guests and thanked the industry sponsors.



Valerio Corniani welcoming the guests and thanking the sponsors  
(Photo John Jeremy)

The President of the Australian Division of RINA, Martin Renilson, then gave the background to the Bob Campbell Award. Bob Campbell was born in Scotland (like Martin himself) in 1925 and obtained his degree in naval architecture from the University of Glasgow (also like Martin), and then found employment with Barclay Curle & Co. on the Clydeside. In 1965 he came to Australia to take up a position at the Australian Shipbuilding Board. In 1981 he moved to the Ship Technology Unit, and retired from there in 1987. He chaired the Organising Committee for the Sea Australia Conferences from 2000 to 2004, and these conferences morphed into the highly-successful Pacific IMCs which we have now. In his will, Bob left a grant for the establishment of an award for the best written paper and presentation at the conference.

Martin said that it gave him much pleasure to make the inaugural Bob Campbell Award to Michelle Grech for her paper at Pacific 2019 IMC, *Assessing the Determinants of Safety Culture in the Maritime Industry*.



Michelle Grech accepting the inaugural Bob Campbell Award from Martin Renilson  
(Photo John Jeremy)

The raffle prizes were generously donated by our Platinum Sponsor, Teekay, and Tony Armstrong (the younger), Vice-President, Teekay, Vancouver, Canada, said that he was proud to contribute to the organisation, and expressed his thanks to the SMIX Bash Organising Committee. We all know that we are not in the game to make money, but because we have a passion for ships and boats. We are all here to catch up with old friends and make new ones, and there is only one rule for tonight: there will be no discussion of IMO 2020 or scrubbers!

The raffle was drawn by Tony's wife, Therese, and the winners of Moet and Gourmet Nibbles Hampers, delivered to their doors, were:

Matt Buchanan of Saratoga, NSW  
Michelle Grech of Watson, ACT



Tony Armstrong (the younger) addressing the guests  
(Photo John Jeremy)



Therese Armstrong drawing the raffle and announcing the winner to Valerio Corniani (L) and Adrian Broadbent  
(Photo John Jeremy)

The Lucky Door prize was drawn by the Capability Manager, Atlantic & Peninsula Australia, Stephen Morant. The winner of a Christmas Bites Hamper, delivered to her door, was Claire Mitchell of Rose Bay, NSW.



Stephen Morant (C) about to draw the Lucky Door prize  
(Photo John Jeremy)

This year's event was sponsored by the following organisations:

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**Bronze**

- Australian Shipbuilding and Repair Group
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Our thanks to all of them for their generosity and support of SMIX Bash 2019, without which the Bash could not happen.



*James Craig at night*  
(Photo Phil Helmore)