December 2023 Newsletter

Seasons Greetings and best wishes for 2024 to all of our Members and Subscribers.

2023 Highlights and 2024 Headlights

After three years of lockdowns 2023 provided us all with opportunities to resume a more normal life and spend more time with family and friends. COVID is still around but we have learned to live with it.

Many now choose not to attend meetings or social events due to concerns for their own health and that of loved ones. Our many years with IBM taught us to have '*Respect for the Individual*' and we always will.

The Committee of IBM Quarter Century Club in Victoria strives to stay in touch with all QCC Members in Victoria and elsewhere through providing a platform for Members to communicate, and to participate in social activities where appropriate. We are looking to expand our membership base in 2024 and want to hear from you on what we can do better to keep you well informed, and give you a channel to share your thoughts and adventures with other members.

Annual Dinner

Our numbers were down on past years but the comraderie, venue, food and service made it a most enjoyable night.

Many thanks to

- **Jenny Anderson** who puts so much effort into the planning, preparation and co-ordination of this event each year.
- **May Arcilla** and **Cynthia Co** who donated some of their own artworks for sale to attendees.
- **Tom O'Dea** who provided the technical expertise and accounting skills to manage bookings, payments etc.

This year's Dinner at the Kew Golf Club on November 24 provided a great opportunity to catch up with some very familiar faces and welcome a number of new ones.

[More photos](#)

Annual General Meeting

This year's AGM was conducted on Sunday, August 20 at **Bell's Hotel** in South Melbourne, a venue well known to those QCC Members who worked out of the Sturt Street offices in the 1980's. Nineteen Members and their partners enjoyed a light lunch before the AGM took place with another five Members joining via Zoom.

[Minutes](#)   [Photos](#)

All Committee positions were declared vacant at the AGM with two nominations received prior to the meeting for the positions of Vice-President (**Jenny Anderson**) and Treasurer (**Tom O'Dea**).

Calls for nominations from the floor resulted in the following members being elected unopposed:

- **Judy Horman** - Secretary
- **Peter Chomley** - Ordinary member on Committee
- **Henry Co** - Ordinary Member on Committee
- **Noel Fidock** - Ordinary member on Committee
- **Janet Matton** - Ordinary Member on Committee
- **Ian Nash** - Ordinary Member on Committee

No nominations were received for the vacant position of President. Special thanks go to **Jim Boyle**, **Mike Ward** and **Doug Parke** for their service as Committee Members over a number of years.

Membership

We currently have 329 Members of whom 101 provide financial support through payment of an annual subscription fee.

This year we have welcomed 8 new QCC members:

- **Deon George**
- **Phil Grantham**
- **Belinda Sheehan**
- **Rob Logie**
- **Lisa Page**
- **Peter Teh**
- **Malcolm Ward**
- **Marion Snee**

and our first Partner Member **Sandy Brooks**.

We welcome Applications for Membership from any who qualified for QCC Membership in Australia or overseas. We are also delighted to have the partners of deceased members seek membership.

In Memoriam

In April this year we mourned the passing of former IBM CEO Brian Finn, a man much admired and respected by all who worked under his leadership.

To date, we are not aware of any losses amongst QCC Victoria's membership which is good news for all of us. However, we do rely on notifications from our Members or the immediate family should such sad events occur. So please, keep us informed.

What's Ahead in 2024

1. **Rebranding**

2. **Social Gatherings / Events**

3. **What do you want?**

Rebranding

The **Victoria and Tasmania Chapter of the IBM Quarter Century Club** became an Incorporated Association on 23 July 2018. This move was prompted

by growing concerns over IBM's commitment to provide financial support and notification of employees achieving 25 years of service. Little recognition or rewards were then on offer to those employees who did achieve that milestone.

Our website provides full details on our Constitution, Membership and Activities including AGM Minutes and Financial Reports.

The **NSW Chapter of the IBM Quarter Century Club** is now incorporated and is extending its membership to embrace current and former employees who may not have qualified for QCC membership.

We plan to make changes to our Constitution and title by end of June 2024 and will be seeking input from our Members on the new title (or Brand) and terms of membership to be applied under a revised Constitution. We welcome input from current members to assist us in drawing up the changes which will be put to the vote of our financial members at a Special General Meeting to be held in advance of June 30, 2024.

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How can you help?

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2024 Social Activities

We will be looking at suitable venues / locations to host our **AGM** and lunch in the July / August timeframe. We want to see a good roll-up of financial members and their partners or guests at this event, and are open to new ideas on venue, cuisine and most suitable day of week. We will consider locations outside of the city if accessible by public transport, private vehicles or a coach service.

For many years our Annual QCC Dinner has been held on a Friday evening in November. This may no longer be the best option for our membership given age demographics, traffic gridlock in Melbourne, costs of venues, food, parking, and taxis or Uber services.

While we will continue to host an Annual Dinner or Lunch event to cater for up to 60 members plus guests, we would like to encourage more informal gatherings of members at various locations/venues and will help promote such events via newsletters and Facebook.

What's your opinion?

IBM Quarter Century Club of Victoria Inc.

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