

Queensland

By GEOFF DALGLIESH,
Secretary, Shipping Australia's Queensland Committee

When reviewing a full twelve-month period for the huge State of Queensland and its numerous and very different ports, it can be difficult to know where to start.

However, we decided we would start with the events that SAL Qld hold each year, as the profits go to the Mission to Seafarers organisation. This organisation is vital to our Shipping Industry and run by volunteers who put huge amounts of their time to help Seaman whilst they are in Port and being far away from their family and friends. Hence a huge thanks to the supporters and sponsors of these events that help make a wonderful contribution to the people on our ships.

Firstly, our Annual Golf Day which due to very wet weather conditions finally got underway on the 25th June 2025. Due to these cancellations the number of players was down to just 80. This lower number did not dim the enthusiasm of all that attended the day. The eventual winners of the SAL Cup were Blue Water Shipping. Runners up for the OOCL Dennis Briant Cup and finally the Chairmans Trophy went to ES Randle sponsored by PBPL. Many thanks to MCC Group and Smit Lamnalco as major sponsors. Also, thanks go to all the other sponsors that made for a great day. We managed to donate \$1,600 for the Mission to Seafarers in Brisbane.

Then in October the SAL Gala Industry Dinner was held with a very healthy attendance of 300 people and held in the new Brisbane Casino. A great night for all organised by the State Chairman, Mr Ajaz Mir, who ensured that it would be very special. Our major sponsor DP World ensured that the night all went as according to plan. In addition, many thanks to our other major sponsors which were ACFS, MCC Group, Qube, The Star, PBPL, AAT, Smit Lamnalco, Svitzer, JBS and ES Randle. Not to mention all the additional tables with attendees at them. It all contributed to the whole event. Ajaz indicates we may

try for 350 people next year and says he may also add a new twist to the event!

The one thing that can be said in favour of these events is that they bring people out from behind their desks, computer screens and their own set of circumstances. The physical presence of people from all the links in the chain of our industry mingling, laughing, talking and catching up with old acquaintances makes a wonderful spectacle. Let's never lose that aspect of our Industry.

Moving onto other events during the year, such as the very inclement weather over the first six to seven months of this year and at almost record levels. Consequently, berth clearance levels were affected from time to time to the detriment of the many Ports along the Qld coastline.

This year Talisman Sabre was held again as it is held every second year. It is a large-scale military training exercise involving numerous countries.

Australian Border Force personnel who attend our regular meetings have repeatedly indicated the increase in incidences of illegal drug imports in legal shipments this year and I find it is a noteworthy point to make.

Of more recent times an incident occurred in the Port of Brisbane where three ships were pulled of their moorings. Two were relatively unscathed and returned while the third one went aground across the channel from where

it was moored. The Port also introduced their 60-year plan to cater for and ensure they meet the demands they believe the Port will require over that period.

The Port of Gladstone is seeking to further develop their container terminal and has asked for interested parties to apply to develop and operate the new container terminal.

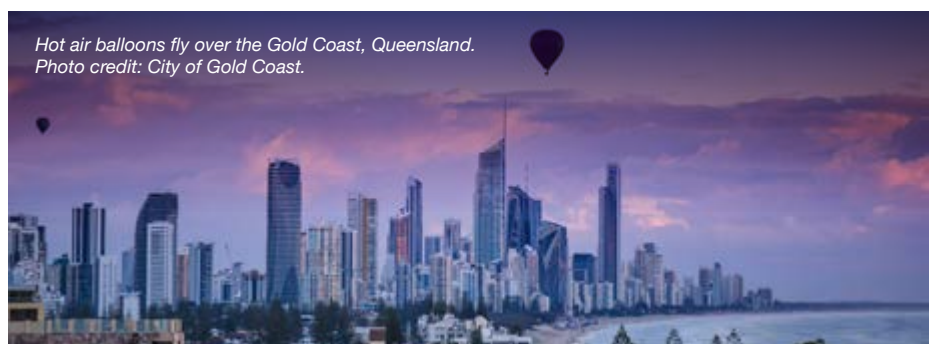
In 2025 the Port of Townsville completed the largest infrastructure project in their history with the \$251 million Channel upgrade.

The region of Mackay is the largest sugar producing region in Australia and supports the coal fields from nearby Bowen and Galilee Basins. Hence the Port of Mackay includes both Coastal and International shipping.

The Port of Cairns remains one of Australia's busiest ports for the Cruise Industry, along with a wide variety of bulk commodities. Cairns is also the centre for consolidation and re-distribution of supplies to be forwarded to the coastal and Island communities north of Cairns.

I want to mention and give my thanks to our Qld Chairman Ajaz Mir for his valuable contribution over the year.

I will also take this opportunity to thank all those people for their advice and help over 2025 and look forward to working with all of you in 2026. May 2026 bring you health, wealth and happiness. ▲



Hot air balloons fly over the Gold Coast, Queensland.
Photo credit: City of Gold Coast.

PORT ASH

REAL FEEL REAL WORLD

SHIP HANDLING
TRAINING AND
RESEARCH CENTRE



Port Ash Australia utilises manned ship models to provide real feel, real world training on its purpose built 2 Ha (5 acre) lake, and employs experienced Marine Pilots to provide world class training.

Providing specialised training for:

- ✔ Masters
- ✔ Marine Pilots
- ✔ Officers
- ✔ Naval Officers