

# FORWARD

An organization is its people. It is their vision, commitment and energy that will provide the direction of growth to ensure long term sustainability. ACS NSW has been fortunate in having so many dedicated people to assist in its growth from its inception in 1969 to its current proud position as the representative of Consulting Surveyors in NSW situated in the new office in Bathurst Street, Sydney.

The Association of Consulting Surveyors was created to provide services to benefit surveyors who are in business. It was acknowledged that a surveyor can have outstanding technical competence but if they are unable to create a cash flow statement or understand their legislative obligations to their employees they will not survive in business or be able to meet their clients' needs efficiently. It is for that purpose that we now have two organizations, IS NSW to promote and over see the technical needs and qualifications of surveyors and ACS NSW to provide business information to its members. In addition ACS NSW is active as a lobbyist for the surveying industry providing representation at the highest level. It is in this role that several councils have been convinced to change their codes to recognise the qualifications of surveyors to do some aspects of engineering design work.

Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it which is why history matters. A written history also provides the opportunity to acknowledge and document the initiatives and excellent contribution of those that have gone before. Therefore it is with sincere gratitude that the Association thanks Kevin Brown for his excellent effort in producing this record of ACS NSW past events beginning from 1969 to the present day.

Daryl Bath  
Chairman ACS NSW  
2011

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# INTRODUCTION

Sir Winston Churchill noted that “It is impossible to know where we are going if we know not where we have been”. This book, ‘The History of ACS’ sets out the origin and history of the Association of Consulting Surveyors NSW Inc. (ACS) as we mark the forty first anniversary of its very first meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> August, 1969 in the new and expanded Offices in Bathurst Street, Sydney in , 2010.

This History would not have been possible without the previous work by the former Executive Officers, Mrs. June Brand and Mrs. Diane North to whom acknowledgements and appreciation are due. I also thank our present Chief Executive Officer, Dr Veronica Bondarew and her team for their ready assistance and cooperation in the compiling of archival documentation for me to examine. I would thank the previous Past Chairmen and Members of their Committees for their help and recollections in the compilation of this History.

So many Members, too many to be mentioned, both past and present, have given of their time and service to the Association of Consulting Surveyors NSW Inc. and their hard work was and is gratefully appreciated. I am sure that the future Chairmen, their Committees and all the present Members and future Members can look back with awe and thanks for all we have achieved and build on the past for the future.

Kevin F. Brown

February, 2011

# CHAPTER 1

## THE BEGINNING

In the beginning there was the Institution of Surveyors NSW Inc. (ISNSW) to which a majority of Registered Surveyors belonged, this was the prime professional association for all surveyors. The 1960's was a time of change with many new ideas, new business regulations and financial systems affecting Registered Surveyors in Private Practice and the day to day running of their businesses. The initial thoughts and ideas were formed in 1967 in the Cumberland Group of Surveyors whose Meetings were held in Western Sydney. Some of their Members including Mr. A. Barry McLeod (President), Mr. Wal T. Ayling (Secretary), Mr. Vince K. Exley and Mr. John P. O'Keefe had become aware of existing groups in Victoria and South Australia who had been formed to promote and assist practicing private surveyors. The Practicing Surveyors' Association of South Australia had been founded in 1958 and a similar Group in Victoria was founded in 1966.

The then Secretary of the Cumberland Group, Mr. Wal Ayling wrote to the ISNSW suggesting that discussions be held between the two organisations to discuss the proposal to form an Association of Consulting Surveyors. A Committee was formed by ISNSW with Mr. John O'Keefe, a Member of the Institution's Divisional Committee as Convenor.

Following a special meeting of ISNSW Divisional Council in August, 1967 at which the proposals were discussed a multi-purpose questionnaire was circulated to all members of ISNSW which contained the following questions:-

- a) If you are a Surveyor in private practice do you favour the formation of an Association of Consulting Surveyors within the Institution?
- b) If you are an employee surveyor, are you in favour of the formation of an employee association within the Institution?

The results published in the Bulletin in February, 1968 were:-

**Question a):** YES -- 81 NO--20      **Question b):** YES -- 93 NO—50

Following the outcome of the questionnaire the formation of the Association was discussed in detail at a special meeting of the ISNSW Divisional Council on the 19<sup>th</sup> January, 1968 at which, after some contentious discussion, it was resolved:-

***“ That this Council approves the formation of Consulting Surveyors' Association and approves in principle the proposed rules as submitted, subject to such amendments as will ensure that the Association will conform with the stated policy of the Institution of Surveyors Australia ”***

It is interesting to note that this resolution used the proposed original name “Consulting Surveyors' Association”, this was subsequently changed. A committee of three was subsequently formed consisting of Messrs. Bob Alderton, E. F. (Ted) Hunter and John P. O'Keefe. On the 2<sup>nd</sup> August, 1968, Council resolved:-

***“That Council recommends to the General Meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> November, 1968, that the Consulting Surveyors' Association be formed with the rules as presented herewith.”***

A General Meeting of ISNSW was held on the 8<sup>th</sup> November, 1968 at 'Science House', Gloucester Street, Sydney. It was a stormy and robust meeting with strong arguments for and against the Motion, after a close vote supporting the formation of the Association it was finally resolved to conduct a postal ballot to decide the issue.

In the December, 1968 issue of the Bulletin the case for and against the formation of the Association were set out by private and public representative groups respectively. The Cumberland Group also formulated a series of papers discussing the immediate aims and reasons for forming the Association which were sent to all Corporate Members of the Institution. Copies of these papers and covering letter are attached in **Appendix A** under the headings of:-

1. "Immediate Aims of the Consulting Surveyors' Association.
2. Reasons for Forming the Consulting Surveyors' Association.
3. Reasons for Forming the Association within the Institution."

One of the main fears held by the objectors at the time was that the formation of such an Association would divide the Institution and would cause increased costs to the Employee Members who comprised the majority of members of the Institution. The counter arguments by those supporting the formation of such an Association felt that these fears would be unfounded as long as the Association was formed under the umbrella of the Institution.

It is worth quoting from one of the Cumberland Group's papers promoting the formation of the Association within the Institution. It says, in part:-

***"It is believed that we are all proud of the Institution, of what it stands for, of what it has achieved, of the exertion that a great number of members have made to further the Institution's objects. All of these things are part of the spirit of surveying and part of the Institution and nothing should be done to detract from this spirit or the benefit of the Institution in any way. It is envisaged that the Association will greatly benefit the Institution if for no other reason that it will take on the task of fulfilling the consulting surveyor's material needs and make the way clear for both his and the employee surveyor's greater enjoyment of the Institution from a cultural, scientific and social point of view".***

It was envisaged that the Association would direct itself to the material and commercial aspects of private practice which were of special interest and importance to surveyors in private practice while the Institution would continue to stress the cultural, scientific, educational and social aspects of the profession. It was mooted that with the Institution growing in numbers and complexity the present system of councillors voluntarily trying to cope with all the necessary business could not keep up with the demand. It was envisaged that a Professional Surveyors' Association for Employee Surveyors and a Consulting Surveyors' Association for those in private practice, both operating under the mantle of the Institution in a spirit of mutual co-operation, could take a great of the load from the Divisional Council and the two Associations could then make appropriate recommendations to Council.

In January, 1969 the results of the postal ballot to decide the formation of the Association were announced:

<b>FOR:</b>	<b>171,</b>
<b>AGAINST:</b>	<b>106</b>

Steps were then taken to form an Interim Executive Committee for the Association which comprised as Convenor: Mr. John P O'Keefe and Committee: Messrs. Wal T. Ayling, Wally G. Hunt, John E. McNaughton and John C. Stevenson.

The initial work for the Committee was to attract Members and an Application Form was drawn up and was issued in April, 1969. The financial support of the Institution was vital and ninety (93) applications had been received by June, 1969. The Association was then able to reimburse the Institution's costs and it was agreed that no further costs would be sought from the Institution.

In May, 1969 it was resolved to change the name from the 'Consulting Surveyors' Association' to the '**Association of Consulting Surveyors**'. This was done to avoid conflict and confusion with the 'Country Surveyors' Association' (CSA).

## THE INAUGURAL MEETING

The Inaugural Meeting of the Association of Consulting Surveyors NSW was held on Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> August, 1969 in the Conference Room of the Whitehall Hotel. The meeting was opened at 8.15pm by the Interim Executive Convenor, Mr. John P. O'Keefe with fifty four (54) Members present. Mr. O'Keefe gave a brief outline of the proposed future activities of the Association.

It would appear that the first business of the meeting was a Motion put by Mr. Hunt and seconded by Mr. Stevenson that the Association immediately engages the services of Mr. E. J. Burger of the firm, A.P.T. Services as the "Association Secretarial Public Relations Officer". His duties were to include general secretarial services, attendance at General and Executive Meetings, the keeping of the Minutes and Account Books, preparation of information bulletins for circulation to all Members. His services were also to include making his office available for Executive Meetings, the use of his office address for the receipt and handling of all Association correspondence and other duties as may be mutually arranged by the Executive. The retainer for these services to be \$1,500.00 per annum paid quarterly in advance. Following lengthy questions from the floor the Motion was put and was carried unanimously.

The practical nature of the Association was further demonstrated by the next few Motions which included that the Association should obtain an opinion from Senior Counsel, T. R. Morling Q.C. on the legality of Tamworth City Council's 'Standard General Conditions of Subdivision'. An amendment was proposed but after another lengthy discussion the amendment was put and lost and the original motion was carried.

The next Motion was a basic but important one to all practicing surveyors – fees to be charged for surveys. Mr. John McNaughton moved and Mr. John Stevenson seconded the following Motion:-

***"This Association engages Messrs. P. J. Ireland and Company to prepare a questionnaire to arrive at an hourly rate on which to base a more realistic Scale of Fees."***

The existing Scale of Fees had been prepared by the Institution of Surveyors NSW Division for many years and it was felt that it did not reflect the rising costs being incurred by practicing surveyors. Again there was a lengthy discussion with an amendment being proposed but was lost and the original Motion was then carried.

The Interim Executive Convenor then called for nominations for the Executive of the Association and eight (8) Members were nominated. A written ballot of those at the meeting was carried out and the following Members were elected:-

Mr. Vince K. Exley  
Mr. Bert Hunter  
Mr. Wally Hunt  
Mr. John Monteath  
Mr. John P. O'Keefe

The Chairman then adjourned the meeting for five minutes to allow the newly elected Executive to elect a Chairman for the ensuing year. On resumption it was announced that the Executive had elected Mr. John P. O'Keefe as Chairman and Mr. Wally Hunt as Deputy Chairman.

The meeting was closed at 11.15 pm and thus began the commencement of the Association of Consulting Surveyors NSW.

## CHAPTER 2

### THE GROWTH OF ACS NSW

The following details on the growth of membership of ACS are based on the surviving Membership Lists which were usually published on an annual basis. From 1981 combined two year Membership Booklets were published for the years 1981/1982, 1983/1984 and 1984/1985. The purpose of these lists were twofold, firstly to allow for easy communication between Members and secondly as a means of promoting ACS to the Law Society and its Solicitors, Councils etc. The membership numbers referred to are the number of Offices listed in the Booklets which include Branch Offices. These Branch Offices are, with one exception, country offices and usually have one of the Partners or Directors looking after that Office, in some cases, in smaller country towns only attended on specific days or by appointment.

From 1972 to 1979 the listing of the Membership was divided into seven geographical areas, Sydney was made up of the City, Northern, Eastern Southern and Western Sectors. During that period there were between 6 and 13 Firms listed in the City, the Northern Sector had the largest number of Firms comprising between 19 & 24 Firms and the Eastern Sector was the smallest with between 1 and 3 Firms. The Southern and Western Sectors had between 10 & 19 and 10 & 18 Firms respectively during that period. The lower number of 10 Firms listed for the Western Sector can partly be explained by the amalgamation of three Firms in the Parramatta area. The larger number of Firms with their office in the Northern, Southern & Western Sectors can be explained as those areas where the rapid expansion and development were taking place.

<b><u>SCHEDULE OF LISTED FIRMS 1972 to 1979</u></b>								
<b>YEAR</b>	<b>CITY</b>	<b>EAST</b>	<b>NORTH</b>	<b>SOUTH</b>	<b>WEST</b>	<b>SYDNEY TOTAL</b>	<b>COUNTRY</b>	<b>OUTSIDE NSW</b>
<b>1972</b>	13		22	10	14	<b>59</b>	54	2
<b>1973</b>	9	3	19	15	14	<b>60</b>	68	
<b>1974</b>	6	2	21	13	10	<b>52</b>	79	1
<b>1975</b>	6	2	19	13	11	<b>51</b>	78	
<b>1976</b>	7	3	19	13	11	<b>53</b>	77	2
<b>1977</b>	7	3	21	14	17	<b>62</b>	78	2
<b>1978</b>	10	2	22	19	18	<b>71</b>	90	5
<b>1979</b>	13	1	24	19	18	<b>75</b>	99	8

A perusal of the above Table shows that the total number of Firms for the Sydney Metropolitan Area varied between 51 & 75 in that period. It is of interest to note that the lowest number of listed Firms was between 1974 and 1976 which followed the recession that commenced in 1973 when a large number of Developers, Builders and other property related services collapsed and went into liquidation. Retrenchments amongst surveying firms were common and the problems were raised at the General Meeting as the Minutes voiced surveyors' concerns.

The Country listings between 1972 and 1979 were apparently not greatly affected by the recession as the number of Firms in country areas grew steadily from 54 in 1972 to 99 in 1976. Also listed for this period were interstate firms which varied between 1 and 8. ACS grew from 115 Member Offices in 1972 to 182 Member Offices in 1979

A full detailed breakdown of the spread and growth of Member Firms from 1972 to 2010 is shown in **Appendix B**.

In 1978 a Sustaining Member category was introduced, these consisted of commercial firms with an interest in the surveying profession such as Survey Instrument Firms, Insurance Firms and the like who paid an annual fee. This would give them ready access to our Members at Conferences, Seminars etc. by having displays in the foyers etc and the opportunity of giving brief advertising addresses during the Seminar or Conference. The first year saw 7 firms join the scheme and the next year 9. The number of Sustaining Members steadily rose to a peak of 18 in 1999 & 2000. In 2010 the number of Sustaining Members was 14, such Members provide an additional source of Income for ACS and gives our Surveyor Members assistance for their business and equipment needs..

Unfortunately the ACS Office does not hold any copies of the Member List Booklets for the following years:-

- 1986 to 1989 incl.
- 1991
- 1995 to 1997
- 2005

If any Member has any of the missing copies and is prepared to donate them or make them available to be copied, the ACS Office would be very grateful to receive them.

In the period from 1980 to 2010 the number of Firms practicing in the City has declined from 13 in 1980 to only 5 in 2010. There could be a number of factors which have caused this decline and include a firm ceasing to practice because the Principal retired and the amalgamation of Practices. Also the higher rents within the City and the problems and costs of City parking should be taken into account.

In 1980 the format was changed and the four Sector Listings for Sydney were replaced by a Sydney Suburbs Listing with 68 Member Offices listed. The numbers increased over the years and in 2010 there were 79 Firms listed. However it is in the country areas where there has been a substantial increase in the number of Member Offices listed which rose from 103 in 1980 to a peak of 143 in 1992. The membership then declined to 120 Member Offices in 2010.

The number of Country Members has always exceeded the number of Sydney Members in every year since 1972 to 2010.

## CHAPTER 3

### THE CHAIRMEN 1969 to 1979

The Association of Consulting Surveyors NSW has been fortunate in having so many private Surveyors willing to devote so much time and effort to the role over the years.

Our Chairmen, their Executive Committees and the Executive Officers are listed chronologically in **Annexure C**.

These Surveyors had busy and successful survey practices, in some cases they were from larger Firms with Partners or fellow Directors who could support them and share the additional workload in their practices during their term as Chairman. Those Chairmen from small or sole Principal practices had the extra burden of having to split their time between their Practices and their ACS's obligations. The Country Surveyors whether they were Chairman or Committee Members spent additional time in travelling to and from Sydney. Each of them brought enthusiasm, experience, dedication and their skills to the role. All of them understood the problems confronting surveyors in private practice, the constant effort to keep up to date with the legislative changes to surveying, the new techniques in surveying and the new regulations regarding Occupational Health and Safety.

Monthly meetings of the Executive together with the Minutes of General Meetings and Annual General Meetings reflect a small part of the work involved. Many innovations and practices which are now taken for granted were conceived and executed by the Chairmen and their Executive Committee.

Extracts from the Minutes of those Meetings are detailed in **Annexure D**.

Some of the highlights and details of the events occurring during their terms are set out below and in following Chapters. Unfortunately there are few surviving records of the first years of ACS's activities.

#### **1969-1971: John O'Keefe**

John O'Keefe (38 years old) our first Chairman was the sole Principal of John O' Keefe & Co., Land, Mining & Engineering Surveyor. At this time John was serving on the then Divisional Council of ISNSW and was also ISNSW's nominee on the NSW Conciliation Commission. This three man body was responsible for setting salaries and wages for surveyors and field hands and John was the Employer's Representative for many years. In spite of the many demands on his time John and his Committee set about laying down a strong foundation for ACS's future which is best expressed in his own words written some 40 years latter–

***“The Inaugural Committee's primary task was to devise and install the administrative streams to place the Association on a sound workable footing on which following committees could build and progress. Many hours were dedicated to committee meetings focussing on this task. No earth shattering announcements or grandiose claims emanated from the deliberations at this time. It was all a very basic, some might say boring, but necessary grind to build the platform from which more exciting projects could be launched in the future without having to worry so much about “nuts and bolts” issues. The contribution of the interim executive committee should not be overlooked at this critical stage of the formative years.***

***Personally I am in awe of what has been accomplished since that exciting evening in August 1969. None of us involved at that time could have envisaged the incredibly rapid advancement in equipment, technology and techniques***

***that led surveyors into the highly sophisticated and exciting professional world we inhabit today. The expansion of perimeters of survey practice, the commitment to modern business methods and the inclusion of specialists in associated fields within the survey firm are all features nurtured and encouraged by ACS – features which possibly would not have been adopted had surveyors still been operating in comparative isolation as they were in 1969.***

***So the vision of those early private practitioners has been vindicated by the prestigious position in the business community occupied by our Association today. All committees since 1969 involved in this great achievement should share our appreciation and congratulations for taking the original vision and creating the reality we now enjoy.”***

### **1971-1973: Vince Exley**

Our second Chairman, Vince Exley, (38 years old) was also a sole Principal, his Firm was V. K. Exley, Land, Mining & Engineering Surveyor. Vince Exley recalls at the beginning of his term that the continuing lack of finance and capital were the major hurdles facing ACS, a partial solution was found by making the Membership Fees proportional to a firm's gross fees.

With ACS in a better financial position in April, 1971, a month after the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual General Meeting moves were initiated to replace the Executive Officer, Mr. E. Berger. A special Executive Meeting was called to consider alternative secretarial services. At the following Executive Meeting it was resolved:

***“that the Committee of the N.S.W. Division of the Institution be approached with a request that the Divisional Office handle our secretarial duties on a time-cost basis.”***

This was accepted by ISNSW and in May 1971 Mrs. June Brand, the daughter of Mr. Dick French, Executive Officer of ISNSW was engaged by ISNSW to assist in the office for two full days per week and one night per month on ACS matters. Mrs. Brand's wages and an annual overhead fee being charged to ACS, this arrangement continued for about ten years.

During Mr. Exley's term several activities were initiated and commenced. His comment

***“...at that time (1971 ) it was seen that most survey firms were not run on businesslike lines. They had very little financial control, indeed the typical firm's financial control was to take a paper bag of cheque butts and receipts to an accountant at the end of each financial year.”***

This led to the resolve to proceed with an 'Inter-firm Comparison' by the University of New England at a cost of \$3,000.00 with Members to pay \$20 and ACS the balance. Confidential Questionnaires were sent by the University to participating Members asking many questions on fees, wages and costs etc. Hourly rates used by each Firm and times spent on surveys were also included. In the first year sixty one (61) Firms had taken part, each participant received a general overview with the averages of the various categories with maximum and minimum amounts of all the firms and also a confidential report and analysis of its own financial situation. This was found to be of great benefit to the running of a survey practice as each participating Member could easily compare their practice cost and fees with others in the Inter-firm Comparison.

Paper office systems were being used as the office computer age was still ten years away and ACS had arranged for a Systems Expert, Mr. Tom Lovett to give talks and to set up time costing procedures, filing systems etc. for surveyors that Members could adopt. This eventually would lead to costing and quotations for projects being more realistic and for firms to monitor actual financial progress.

It was a busy time for ACS during Vince Exley's Chairmanship, numerous items had to be considered and dealt with including the concern over the lack of communication between ACS & ISNSW, the forthcoming introduction of metrication of measurements in 1972, the evaluation of EDM (electronic distance measuring) equipment. The Road Design Subcommittee had discussed various methods of education such as a post graduate course by the University of NSW, a 'crash course' by the Department of Main Roads and a correspondence course the Department of Technical Education etc.

It was at this time that the legal liability and responsibility of a surveyor was raised with a query from a Member on whether legal liability could be restricted to the Client only. Legal advice was that professional liability had yet to be tested in the Australian Courts (*note the House of Lords 'Hedley Byrnes' Case*). This led to the wide spread use of Disclaimers and Cautionary Notes by surveyors.

At a General Meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup> August, 1972 Mr. John Monteath put a Motion that the activities of the ACS should be channelled into three strands which was carried unanimously viz:

- (a) Business Administration.
- (b) Professional training, techniques, skill and abilities.
- (c) Professionalism.

The first strand focussed on the smooth and efficient way in which the ACS Office was running. The second strand focussed on the ACS co-operating with ISNSW in its approach to the Land Titles Office regarding requirements to be followed in relation to Strata Plans. The final strand of professionalism was the offer of assistance by ACS to the University of New South Wales with the contents of the Surveying Degree course.

Through Vince Exley's drive, expertise and determination he was able by the end of 1972 to have given ACS a sound financial foundation together with good accounting procedures on which following Chairman & Members could build.

### **1973-1975: Richard Lovegrove**

The third Chairman was Richard Lovegrove and during this time he promoted many issues especially those that promoted the professionalism of surveying practices. Dick Lovegrove initiated having General Meetings out of Sydney, namely at Parramatta, which was a great success. In 1974 the 'Job/Time Costing Manual' which had been developed to assist Surveyors in the financial running of their Practice by introducing Time Sheets for the Field Staff and those persons in the office whose work included drafting, calculations, searching etc. This ensured that there was an accurate costing of the labour components and other items of each job and thus it meant that the fee for a particular survey gave a reasonable return to the Firm. It also meant that when quoting for future surveys the Surveyor had reliable information on which to base the estimate. The Manual was proving to be popular and was selling well in NSW and was also being marketed interstate. It was in the latter part of 1974 that the economic recession started to have a severe impact on the surveying profession. Retrenchments were becoming widespread and ACS had responded by political lobbying and assisting Members on contacting their Local Parliamentary Members. Spending many long nights in the corridors of the NSW Parliament House talking with members of all parties to explain that small business was different, was important and was in need of support. In due course the Small Business Legislation was passed and an office of Small Business was created in Government.

### **1975-1977: Peter Price**

Peter Price (32 years old) the fourth Chairman was a Partner in the Nowra Firm of Allen and Price, as a Country Member it meant travelling to Sydney for various meetings such as an Executive Committee Meeting, AGMs and General Meetings. Peter, who had a busy practice, overcame the problem by becoming a Member of the Royal Automobile Club in

Macquarie Street where he would stay overnight and by travelling First Class had a comfortable guaranteed seat where he was able to work on the journey to and from Nowra. He recalls that his time as Chairman was difficult as the economic recession was biting deeply and affecting all sections of business and like the majority of survey firms Allen and Price was forced to reduce their staff numbers from 40 down to 12 within a year. He was therefore very conscious of the problems facing survey firms and suggested that ACS carry out regular surveys of its Members to ascertain the trend of the number of instructions being received by Members. During his term Peter was a strong supporter of the ACS Information Service as he felt that it was a significant tool to meet the challenges that Surveyors were facing. Details of this Service are described in Chapter 7 'Achievements of ACS'.

Peter had in 1969 worked in America and the company he worked for had a sophisticated system for determining and the charging of fees. On his return to Nowra and the establishment of Allen and Price he introduced the system of time costing of particular operating expenses, productive hours budgeting and Hourly Rate Factors. Peter was a great advocate of such a financial system and brought it to the attention of the Members of ASC as the Minutes of the Meetings show. These included the University of New England's Inter-Firm Comparison, their Workshops, the ACS Job/Time Costing Manual and Mr. Tom Lovett's systems. Mr. Lovett's systems included not only a Time Costing component but also a Filing System which contained specially designed files, easy to maintain paper indexing and magnetic boards to keep track of the progress of each job. Of course this was well before computers being used for ordinary office work and filing which is taken for granted today. Peter has said that by attending the Armidale Workshops on Financial Management it 'saved his practice' from financial problems by the introduction of new systems.

At that time ACS Members were complaining that private surveys were being carried out by Council and Government Authorities and following discussions with the Department of Local Government ACS convinced the Department to send a circular condemning this practice. Peter in conjunction with Mr. Ralph Kidson initiated the formation of the NSW Computer Group which was then guided by Mr. Dennis Hickey. Many progressive Surveyors joined the Group so as to receive guidance and support in the purchase of computers as they introduced them into their offices.

### **1977-1979: Gary Fuller**

Our fifth Chairman, Gary Fuller who, at the AGM at the commencement of his term, gave an in-depth commentary on the ACS and the profession. Among the matters that were dealt with during his first term was the establishment of a new Class of Member, which became known as a 'Sustaining Member'. These were commercial firms or individuals who supplied advice or services etc to Surveyors. Another matter required Special Meetings to be called to discuss the employment and training of Trainee Technicians. There was no Award for this category of employee and the Trade Union wanted them to be covered by the Survey Field Hands Award Rates. Some firms were experiencing problems and were facing prosecution. It was agreed that ISNSW & ACS negotiate some sort of an Award for Trainee Technicians.

Other achievements were the setting up of a "Practice Committee" in conjunction with the ISNSW and also the "ACS Information Service" edited by Mr. Wally Hunt. During Gary's term as Chairman ACS decided that it would pay for the Chairman's membership of the Sydney Club thus entitling ACS to hold all its Executive Meetings, General & AGMs in the Club Rooms.

It was during this period that ACS & ISNSW moved to ISNSW's new office in Pitt Street, Sydney. ACS had a small separate office adjoining ISNSW's larger offices and ACS then took responsibility for employing its own staff.

Gary Fuller was kind enough to provide a commentary of his thoughts and matters he had to deal with during his term as Chairman which is included in **Annexure E**.

During this period Gary and his Partners ran a busy and successful practice in Caringbah yet reading his comments on his time as Chairman one wonders how he managed to fit it all in. As mentioned at the start, ACS has been fortunate in having Chairmen who gave so much of their time to the position.

## **CHAPTER 4**

### **THE CHAIRMEN 1979 to 1990**

#### **1979-1981: Edward (Ted) Hall**

Ted Hall was the sixth Chairman and of the six AGM & General Meetings held during his term two were held out of Sydney, namely Gosford and Wollongong. A popular innovation was the listing of all Members in the Law Society's Diary with the cost built into the annual subscription. Ted was not only busy with ACS matters but also fitted in his work for his Church, local charities and his Lions Club and of course his practice. After having a period of being out five nights a week and with some weekends Ted's wife told him he had to give some time for his family so he could see his children. Ted Hall died in 2005.

#### **1981-1982: Michael Whelan**

Our Seventh Chairman was Michael Whelan who was a Director of Whelans Land Information Consultants later to be a Public Company known as WBCM Pty. Ltd. Michael was 40 years old, but unfortunately due to pressure of work could only serve one year, he was later appointed as A Commissioner of the Land and Environment Court of NSW and was on the list of the Federal Court of Australia National List of Mediators.

Following his address to the AGM of the 16<sup>th</sup> March, 1981 and closure of the meeting, a General Meeting was opened. One of the matters raised was concern over the standard of accuracy and other problems presented by Candidates when presenting for the Board's examinations. In many cases it was found that the experience and guidance of the Candidate's Master Surveyor was a critical factor, this discussion eventually led to the present day practice of both ACS & ISNSW offering assistance to Candidates in the preparation for their final examinations and guidance in the presentation of their work for BOSSI. A very popular General Meeting was held at Pokolbin (a wine producing area in the Hunter) with 39 Members present however some serious discussions regarding the work of the Computer Group did take place.

#### **1982-1984: Ian Marler**

Ian Marler was the eighth Chairman who at that time was a Director and Partner in the Newcastle Firm of Cashmere Marler & Hutchinson Pty. Ltd. He was 42 years old. One of the main matters during his term was Professional Indemnity Insurance in which he had a great interest. A General Meeting was held in Albury together with a PI Workshop and 26 Members attended. The Executive Committee attended the Meeting and Seminar and travelled by train to Albury. It was on the train that the Executive Committee held its monthly meeting which was one way to occupy the long train trip. Mr. Marler & Mr. Blume spoke on the proposed National Scheme and it was announced that a Panel of Experienced Surveyors would be set up to assist Members of the Scheme. This was the commencement of the 'Australian Consulting Surveyors Insurance Scheme' eventually to be known as ACSIS Ltd which is still in existence in 2010.

At a General Meeting in 1983 Mr. Blume spoke on the progress of the new Scheme and announced that the AMP would be participating. It was at this General Meeting that the problems raised by the new 'Taxation at Source' scheme affecting Surveyors and the Construction Industry were raised. The 'Prescribed Payments Scheme' (PPS) which covered all Companies, Tradesmen and other businesses working in the Construction Industry were taxed in the initial phase of any work, had just been introduced by the Government and the Chairman advised that ACS was monitoring the situation. Eventually a ruling was given that Surveyors did not fall within the PPS and therefore were not obliged to send in monthly Returns or pay this new tax.

ACS continued the practice of having its Chairman be a member of the Sydney Club and paying his annual fees. The monthly meetings of the Executive Committee were held in the Club's Conference Rooms and commenced at 9.00am. It was usual to have a Government Minister, a Public Servant or other prominent person from the legal or property fields to be a luncheon guest who could be of assistance to the surveying profession and of course how Surveyors could be of benefit to guests in ways they had not considered.

Ian Marler's practice was in Newcastle and when the monthly Executive Meetings were followed by a General Meeting it meant he had a very busy and long day which included travelling down the Pacific Highway through Wyong. It should be remembered that the F3 Freeway did not exist in those days and travel between Newcastle and Sydney took a lot longer then as it does in 2010/2011.

Ian's other recollections of his time as Chairman were of the differences of opinion between ACS and the Institution. Conflicts of personalities were at times apparent and difference of policies arose over the most unusual matters such as the Yellow Page Listings in the telephone directories and the mathematical checking of Survey Plans by the Land Titles Office. On the other hand there was co-operation on practical matters in that ISNSW gave ACS use of its photo-copier on a do and use charge basis. If ACS required after hours use of the copier it was wheeled out into the common hallway so ISNSW could lock up its own Office. Needless to say the whole floor including the hallway could be made secure by locking the lift and fire stair door.

The ACS Information Service set up in 1978 was popular with Members and Ian recalls that about 10 Local Councils subscribed to the Service. This Service gave information that could only to be found in published papers such as the Government Gazette, Law Reports, Tribunal Decisions, Law Books etc. A full history and details of this Service is set out in Chapter 7 'The Achievements of ACS'.

## **1984-1986: John Mortensen**

The ninth Chairman was John Mortensen. Many important matters were raised during these two years for the first time which are still with us today. The concept of setting up 'Town & Regional Groups' was discussed but the Motion supporting the concept was lost, however the seed was sown and today ACS and ISNSW have many successful Groups. At one of the Executive Committee's luncheons the guest was the Executive Officer, Mr. John Macpherson of the Building Owners & Managers Association (BOMA) who said that BOMA was intending to revise its Guide for the Method of Measurements of Commercial Buildings. This led to Mr. Geoff Little of ISNSW and Kevin Brown of ACS assisting BOMA with the revision of their Guide for the Method of Measurement. The close association between ACS, ISNSW and BOMA (now the Property Council of Australia (PCA)) is still continuing some twenty five years later.

Another matter which was of key importance to ACS Members was the new Occupational Health & Safety Act (OH&S). In 1984 the new Act was introduced and the Executive reviewed it with reference to its impact on the surveying profession. Compliance with the Act is still crucial to Surveyors today. From this beginning ACS has conducted many courses on OH&S matters and has through these courses accredited many Surveyors and their Field Staff to be permitted to work on construction sites. Building companies with large construction sites also insist that before any person can work on such a site a special Site Induction Course must be undertaken which is now conducted by WorkCover.

Another important item of a professional nature was the Australian Survey Office setting up a panel of Consultants. The possibility of surveyors as arbitrators in boundary disputes was raised and discussed at a General Meeting in 1984, held at South West Rocks, this may have given impetus to the Real Property (Boundary Determinations) Amendment 1989 being enacted some five years later allowing the Surveyors of the Land Titles Office to determine boundaries. Following a Government proposal to introduce a Vendor Warranty Scheme in which the Vendor would be compelled to produce certain documentation relating to the property being sold such as a Sewerage Diagram, Section 149 Certificate, Titles etc. A

meeting was arranged with the Land Titles Office. ACS was represented by Messrs. Brown, Fuller & Monteath who proposed that an Identification Report, paid for by the Vendor, should form part of that documentation. Unfortunately the LTO did not accept the proposal and they decided that an Identification Report would not be required. This resulted, in the years to follow, that where an attractive property was for sale and there were many competing Purchasers two or three Identification Reports were obtained and of course the unsuccessful prospective Purchasers were put to an unnecessary expense and wasted their money.

It was during John's term that ACS purchased a second hand PDP11/02 computer for its office. ACS's Computer Group held a meeting with the Water Board regarding surveyors having to provide digital data to the Water Board and other bodies. The formation of the new three tiered Professional Indemnity Insurance Scheme which would come into force on the 1<sup>st</sup> December, 1985 was welcomed by ACS Members as it would reduce or stabilise the cost of Premiums. The first level of cover would be the Insured's excess, the second level would be handled by the cooperative and the third level by the Underwriters.

### **1986-1988: Bernie Moriarty**

Our tenth Chairman, Bernie Moriarty, (43 years old) was a Director of the surveying firm of Moriarty Stapley & Co. and Qasco (NSW) a firm that specialised in photogrammetry and aerial surveys. His first task was to introduce the new Surveyor General, Mr. Don Grant at the AGM. Mr. Grant presented a stimulating and thought provoking address of his visions and aims for the future direction of the surveying profession in New South Wales. It was at this meeting that the contentious issue of surveyors preparing Section 88B instruments was raised. Some Solicitors were in favour and other Solicitors were against the practice so ACS commenced an investigation of the legality of Surveyors drawing up such Instruments. It was finally agreed that Surveyors could only legally draw up **'Draft'** Instruments for Solicitors.

Bernie was a very active Chairman and as Chairman was on the Divisional Committee of ISNSW, the Visiting Committee for the University of New South Wales and through ACS's involvement with The Surveying & Mapping Industry Council of NSW (**SMIC**) became its inaugural Chairman. He was also a strong supporter of ACSA and ACSIS Ltd and it was through his efforts that the membership base of ACS was expanded to include firms that were engaged in other types of activities other than the traditional cadastral work. He recalls that there were long and hard debates on this subject but consequently when it was put to the Members it received wide acceptance. Bernie was also pragmatic and one of his first decisions to cut costs was to terminate the custom of ACS paying the Chairman's membership fee of the Sydney Club. This was introduced in 1977 because such a practice enabled ACS to hold its Executive Meetings, General Meeting and AGMs at the Sydney Club as the office of ACS was small. In his later role as Chairman of ACSA Bernie saw the commencement of the project to print the framed series of Major Mitchell's Map of New South Wales 1834. Bernie was invited by ACS to be present when the Maps were formally presented to the Premier, Mr. Morris Iemma in 2005.

At the AGM in February, 1987 the long standing Executive Officer, Mrs. June Brand retired after sixteen years, the development of ACS was in no small part due to June's efforts during those years and the meeting expressed its appreciation and a presentation was made. The new Executive Officer, Mr. Bert Cawthorne was formally introduced, he was well known to many surveyors as being the face of Wild Instruments and helped many with the purchase and servicing of their Wild theodolites, levels.

### **1988-1990: John Sunter**

John Sunter was the eleventh Chairman one of his innovations was to allow Sustaining Members to address Members at Seminars. It was also announced that construction of the National Headquarters in Canberra had commenced and financial support was required. A Guest Speaker, Mr. John Mant spoke to a meeting on the 'Revision of the Local Government Act' and advised that he had been asked to undertake the re-writing of the Act. His aim was to allow surveyors to easily identify those parts of the Act which applied to their work. At a

later General Meeting the Surveyor General, Mr. Don Grant returned to speak at length on the changes to the Survey Practice Regulations.

## CHAPTER 5

### THE CHAIRMEN 1990 to 2000

#### **1990-1992: John Mortensen**

Serving a third and fourth year term John Mortensen was the twelfth Chairman and he and his Committee were active in finding interesting speakers for the General Meetings and conferences both from our own Members and the Government and their various agencies. Mr. Bob Browne, Commissioner for Strata Titles's talk was keenly received with many questions from the floor. Our Member, Mr. John Brock had prepared an innovative design for the ACS Crest and gave a brief history of the crest, following which the Motion to approve the design was carried by acclamation.

The General Meeting in October, 1990 attracted over 50 Members and the invited Official Guests included the Hon. Garry West, Minister for Tourism, Lands & Forest; Mr. Don Grant, Surveyor General; Mr. Ray Hodgkinson, Director Land Titles Office; Mr. Alan Pendleton, Registrar Board of Surveyors. In his wide ranging Address the Minister spoke on the creation of the State's Land Information System and the development of the digitised cadastral data base.

At the 1991 AGM Mr. John Mant returned to speak on the review of his Local Government Act and the EP&A Act. It was at this meeting that our Executive Officer, Mr. Bert Cawthorne retired and an announcement was made that Mr. Ted Hunter, a long time Member had been appointed as the new Executive Officer.

#### **1992-1994: David Loomes**

The thirteenth Chairman was David Loomes (45 years old) who was a Partner and Director of Michael Bell and Partners Pty. Ltd. When David became Chairman he also became the ACS's representative on the ISNSW Divisional Committee and in this capacity he was involved with the investigation into surveyor's fees etc by the Independent Commission Against Corruption, (ICAC).

An agreement was reached with ICAC which required that ACS remove the membership rule "**.... membership of ISA**" to be replaced by "**... eligible to be a member of ISA**".

This change ensured that all practicing Registered Surveyors were included. It was during David's terms that extensive discussions were held on matters directly affecting surveyors such as the extent and nature of supervision by a Surveyor in respect of subdivisions, identification surveys and road & drainage and the promotion of Surveyors by engaging a Public Relations Firm to train the Executive and try to get articles published. The new NSW Security of Payments and Engineering Designs by Surveyors were other matters which were dealt with and a Special Meeting was held to discuss the log of claims by APESA (Association of Professional Engineers and Scientists of Australia). In 1993 Ms. Jan Cumming was appointed as Executive Officer.

#### **1994-1996: Bob Harrison**

Bob Harrison was the fourteenth Chairman. He had a busy term which covered many items among which were the examination of the Mabo Decision and Native Title Land Claim and its effect on surveyors dealing with Crown Roads etc. One matter on which all Members had an opinion was the University of NSW decision to change the name of the School of Surveying to the School of Geomatic Engineering. The Executive Committee decided to purchase a CBD Strata Office Unit in the 'Trust Building' King Street, Sydney as a long term investment. ACS also invited a Guest Speaker to speak on Sydney's successful bid for the 2000 Olympics.

### **1996-1997: Pat McNamara**

The fifteenth Chairman was Pat McNamara who served as Chairman for one year. A very successful Seminar was arranged on 'Smart Business' and covered industrial relations, remuneration packages, safe working practices, superannuation & taxation and training. The Chairman announced that following the resignation of the former Auditors, Price Waterhouse that Mr. John Conolly had been appointed Auditor. This meant there was a substantial reduction in audit fees of about \$3,000. It was also announced that BOMA's new 1997 Guide for the Method of Measurement was available to Members of ACS & ISNSW at the same \$40 cost as BOMA Members due to the input of the two organisations in the compilation of the Guide. (The cost to non-members being \$80)

### **1997-1998: Phil North**

The sixteenth Chairman Phil North (46 years old) was the sixteenth Chairman and was the Sole Principal and Director of a well known City firm of Colwell Larcombe Rein & Co. Pty. Ltd. Phil had a keen interest in modern survey instruments and techniques and he always kept up with the latest developments. He was also a Director of East Coast Positioning, a partnership of two other survey firms, whose business was the purchase of GPS equipment and the provision of GPS surveys to other surveyors. Phil was only to serve as Chairman for one year due to the circumstances described below. However it was a busy year and much was achieved in that time, he recalls some of the activities that he was involved in and was particularly pleased that he achieved a high level of co-operation between ACS, ISNSW & ISA.

Other matters that were considered while he was chairman included the Review of the Surveyors Act, Copyright and Intellectual Property, Integrated Development Assessment and the Department of Urban Affairs and Planning (DUAP), Professional Surveyors Occupational Association (PSOA) and ACS & ISNSW's collaboration with the University of NSW to attract sufficient student numbers for surveying courses.

It was unfortunate that towards the end of Phil's first term that his Executive Officer, Mr. Colin Duggan who was a competent administrator & Executive Officer suddenly tendered his resignation giving far less notice than he should have done under the terms of his Contract of Employment. The Executive Committee found and appointed a new Executive Officer, Mrs. Diane North, Phil's wife. Phil was very conscious that there might be a perceived conflict of interest by the Members in this arrangement so he stepped down from his position as Chairman at the Annual General Meeting held on the 1<sup>st</sup>. April, 1998. Diane took up her position as the new Executive Officer on the 26<sup>th</sup>. April, 1998

### **1998-2000: Ernie Panucci**

Ernie Panucci was the seventeenth Chairman. He was a Director of the Nowra Firm of Allen, Price & Associates and in his term he had to deal with amendments to our Rules of Association, submissions to the Government on the changes to the EP&A Act and its effect on Identification Reports. Ernie had a busy second year with ACS Search being launched, paying off the loan on the 'Trust Building' office and the decision to sell the Strata Office Unit, continuing negotiations with the Employers Federation and APESMA regarding an Award for 'Professional Surveyors'. ACS had the responsibility of organising the second 'Excellence in Surveying Awards' and he made a particular note of publicly thanking and expressing his appreciation to the Executive Officer, Mrs. Diane North for her efforts in making the 'Excellence in Surveying Awards' a great success. Honorary Membership was bestowed on Mr. John Sunter.

## **CHAPTER 6**

### **THE CHAIRMEN 2000 to 2010**

#### **2000-2002: Greg Oxley**

Our eighteenth Chairman was Greg Oxley. He had a very successful term with ACS Search becoming self funding in its first year and due to the workload on the Executive Officer a full time assistant was employed, the provision of OH&S courses and the 'Work Activity for Surveyors' run by the Executive Officer, Mrs. Diane North were very popular and due to the number of Members and non-members attending the courses were also profitable. On another financial matter it was pleasing to note that the Strata Office Unit in the 'Trust Building' was finally sold. Significant events during the latter part of his term were the introduction of the new Goods & Service Tax (GST) on the 1<sup>st</sup> of July, 2000, the amalgamation of the Office of the Valuer General, Department of the Surveyor General and the Land Titles Office into the Land and Property Information (LPI) which may lead to loss of staff, expertise and which could affect the integrity of the cadastre and finally that the University of New South Wales may be changing the name of its School to include the term 'Surveying'. Unfortunately at the same time the TAFE announced that they will be re-naming some of its courses to 'Spatial Information Systems'.

#### **2002-2003: Ernie Panucci**

Ernie Panucci became the nineteenth Chairman when he served a second term of one year. Ernie was still a Director of Allen, Price & Associates of Nowra which involved him in a great deal of travelling. Some major changes occurred with a move by ACS in June, 2002 into a new office on Level 6, 321 Pitt Street, Sydney which is only one city block from its old office and ISNSW. ACS's adjoining office was let and occupied by the new tenant. Ernie also had to deal with the apparent problem following the formation last year of the Australian Spatial Information Business Association (ASIBA) and its dual role with ACSA. This association of the two bodies was not working as closely as it should with more emphasis being placed on Spatial Information to the determinant of the aims of ACSA.

#### **2003-2005: Jeff Brown**

The twentieth Chairman Jeff Brown was able to announce that the Annual Subscriptions were not to be increased as they are now being subsidised by the rental income from the second office and management fees from ACS Search and PSOA. It was during his term that ACSA was wound up and its assets transferred to ASIBA, the Chairman encouraged Members to transfer to ASIBA and take an active part in its activities. He was also pleased to announce that since March, 2004 seven (7) new Member Firms had joined ACS bringing the total membership to 194 Member Firms which is the largest number of Firms ACS has represented. Three Members were nominated as Honorary Members, Mr. Kevin Brown, Mr. Dick Lovegrove and Mr. Chris Hutchinson in recognition of the long service they have given to ACS.

#### **2005-2006: Tony Thorne**

Our twenty first Chairman was Tony Thorne and at his first AGM a Motion was put and carried that the Financial Year for ACS be changed from July to June to comply with the Australian Taxation Office requirements. The AGM was then moved to fit in with the commencement of the changed Financial Year and in future was held in the latter months of the Calendar Year. This meant that the 37<sup>th</sup> AGM was held on the 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2005 some nine months after he was elected as Chairman in March, 2005. The August Bank Holiday Seminar covered cadastral surveying and business successions issues and progress was made on the Town

Planning and Engineering assessments. Plaques were given to Messrs. Marler & Sampson in recognition of their long and dedicated service to ACS. Mr. Thorne's total term as Chairman was one year and nine months. One of Tony's more pleasant duties as Chairman was to present to the NSW Premier, Mr. Morris Iemma the framed series of Major Mitchell's Map of New South Wales 1834.

## **2006-2008: Ed Garvin**

Ed Garvin became the twenty second Chairman and a number of innovations were made, it was decided that ACS could raise its profile by using a Public Relations Consultant on a contract basis and budgeted for the sum of \$30,000. He acknowledged the efforts that have been put into Public relations over the years by the Executive Officer and Members. A review of the Membership Fee Structure was made due to the merger of small firms with larger firms and our larger organisations merging with interstate firms which increased their turnover. The charges for the listing of Branch Offices were also removed. Two Members were nominated as Honorary Members, Mr. Ernie Panucci and Mr. Pat McNamara in recognition of the long service they have given to ACS. The Chairman also announced that Mrs. Diane North would be resigning late in 2008.

## **2008-2010: Paul Mather**

The twenty third Chairman was Paul Mather (45 years old) who was Partner in the Firm of Duggan Mather Surveyors. Pty. Ltd., he was elected at the AGM of 24<sup>th</sup> October, 2008 at which 38 Members attended. The meeting was held in Tamworth in conjunction with the joint ACS and Country Surveyors (CSA) Conference. Paul, who was the Immediate Past President of the CSA, stated at the AGM that the current Public Relations strategy was proving worth while with a quote in the Sydney Morning Herald, an ABC Radio interview and Prime Television's interviews on the Meeting and Conference in Tamworth. Also discussed was the problem that Councils did not understand the role of Surveyors in New South Wales in respect to infrastructure design work, is still prevalent. The Chairman requested the Members provide details of such Councils with extracts from the relevant Council documents. He also spoke on the global financial crisis and it is worthwhile restating the opening to his address in June, 2009. The Chairman commenced his Report by stating that,

***"There is no doubt that we now face difficult and trying financial times. Operating in an uncertain economy with global and local factors influencing our market place affects every aspect of our daily existence. It is in these circumstances that our profession needs to maintain a high level of expertise and quality of work to ensure our long term survival".***

He went on to say that he had confidence in the future but in order to assist small firms a new lower level of turnover of less than \$200,000.00 had been introduced. A year later in June, 2010 he was able to say that the financial circumstances of ACS had improved.

The new Executive Officer, Dr. Veronica Bondarew quickly settled into her new role and was of great assistance and support to Paul. In the second year of his term, as Chairman, ACS purchased a new office in Bathurst Street Sydney which was immediately opposite Saint Andrews Cathedral and Town Hall Station. Paul stated,

***"The most significant achievement this year was the purchase, fit out and commissioning of the new office at Bathurst Street. When I first joined the executive I was amazed at the foresight of previous Executives in having unencumbered title to the Pitt Street office. The purchase of the new office was building on this history. The new office is double the size of the old office and brings with it an area able to seat up to forty people for training or meeting purposes."***

In writing about his term as Chairman Paul said, regarding the achievements and problems of his term,

***“As well as the purchase of the new office, the redefining of our relationship with the Spatial Industry Business Association (SIBA) was a necessary and critical overhaul of our Governance procedures. ACS’s ability to act as a SIBA regional office created many conflicts of interest with the national organisation. I believe the interests of Surveyors and the Associations member firms interests will be far better served with the promotion of Surveying in NSW.”***

In conclusion he said,

***“The two Excellence in Surveying Awards nights were a delight to be a part of. These showcase events are testimony to the professionalism, variety and expertise of our industry, something to be very proud of. Overall it was an absolute honour and pleasure to be part of the Association for these two years in the role of Chairman”.***

This last sentence sums up the feeling and emotions of all the Past Chairmen and ACS has indeed been very fortunate in having Surveyors who gave of their time and skill to fulfil the role of Chairman.

**Gentlemen we thank you!**

## **CHAPTER 7**

### **THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF ACS**

From its inception the Association of Consulting Surveyors New South Wales Inc. has achieved much to be proud of both in professional matters and in practical matters which were of great benefit to its Members in the running of their practices. Some of the achievements are continuing today whilst others served an immediate need in years gone by. In compiling those achievements some of the Past Chairman and Executive Officers recalled what was achieved during their term.

The following are some of those achievements in a roughly chronological order:-

#### **The germ of an idea from 1967 to 1969**

Mr. John O'Keefe, one of the founders of ACS and our first Chairman when asked to give his opinion on the achievements wrote in reply the following which shows the pride he still feels after all these years.

***"The most significant achievement had to be taking the germ of an idea from general discussion at the Cumberland Group in 1967 and, with the willing help of many like minded surveyors, moving it through all the extensive and sometimes difficult negotiations with various groups to at last convene the inaugural meeting of the Association. That's how all this started and look where we are now!"***

***So the vision of those early private practitioners has been vindicated by the prestigious position in the business community occupied by our Association today. All committees since 1969 involved in this great achievement should share our appreciation and congratulations for taking the original vision and creating the reality we now enjoy."***

#### **Establishing a Strong Foundation for ACS NSW in 1969**

In the early days it was generally acknowledged that Surveyors were not 'proficient businessmen' yet to survive the first wave of enthusiasm ACS needed a strong financial foundation and good financial management to put its ideals into practice. As a starting point Membership Fees had to be sufficient for day to day needs with a little extra to fund some of the ideas of its Members. To lessen the impact of the new Fees on each individual practice a Firm needed better in-house accounting systems so that they could meet the additional fees without drastically affecting their present income. Over the years the Executive Committees closely examined the budgets and the proposed Membership Fees for the ensuing year so that they were spread fairly. One method was to have a base figure and to which was added a fee based on the annual gross fees of the individual Firm.

Over the following years this achievement was expanded with ACS promoting talks on 'Time Costing & Survey Fees' and obtaining the services of a Systems Expert, Mr. Tom Lovett. Even today his filing systems are still being used by some Firms and his costing systems have formed the basis of many software programs.

#### **Inter-firm Comparisons from 1971 to 1975**

In the opinion of many of the past Executive Officers, their Assistants and indeed Surveyors themselves realised that 'Surveyors are not Businessmen'. Surveyor's Secretaries, Office

Managers and the like who have to deal with a surveyor in the day to-day running of a practice can attest to that proposition. Some enlightened members of the profession realised that and made great efforts to keep up with the latest office procedures which included controlling their finances by good accounting methods etc. In those early days the Surveyor mainly relied on what the 'Scale of Fees' booklet issued by the Institution of Surveyors NSW stated in respect of Fees for a particular type of survey. In some cases it gave a good financial return for a survey but for others the return was inadequate and thus the Surveyor was usually not able to know whether his practice was running at a profit or a loss at any particular time.

In 1969 & 1970 discussions were held between ACS and the University of New England regarding this problem. However there was little reliable data on the financial state of a Survey Firm on which the University could make findings. At the second Annual General Meeting held on the 19<sup>th</sup> March, 1971 it was resolved to proceed with an 'Inter-firm Comparison' by University of New England at a cost of \$3,000.00. Participating Members were to pay \$20.00 and ACS the balance. At a General Meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup> September that year it was announced that sixty one (61) Firms had taken part.

The University survey was completely confidential and each firm was asked to supply their financial details for the preceding year such as number & type of surveys, fees charged, fees paid, number of staff and their wages, running costs etc. Also as to the basis of how their fees were calculated either based on the 'ISNSW Scale of Fees' or an hourly charge rate or a combination. A breakdown of the type of staff and the number of chargeable hours they worked and the hours of the Principal or Partners both chargeable and non-chargeable. Following the 'number crunching' by the University two reports were issued, the first giving anonymous details for the various size of practices, the fees generated etc and the second a personal Report on their practice details and how their Firm preformed in relation to similar sized Firms.

By 1974 the number of participating Firms had fallen to 23 but by then ACS had produced a Time/Costing Manual which was selling well and was being marketed interstate. The Manual provided directions on the day to day procedures needed such as having each person filling in a Time Sheet, usually divided into fifteen minute intervals, for each job they were working on, office staff other than draftsmen and persons working on 'productive jobs' were usually excluded. The next day all the results were collated by clerical staff and tabulated and the time and actual costs obtained. The involvement in the Inter-firm Comparison gradually slowed and was terminated, however the University of New England in conjunction with ACS ran very popular three or four day residential business courses for surveyors in Armidale. The data collected in the Inter-firm Comparison was of great importance and was used as a background to the course.

## **ACS Information Service from 1972 To 1997**

This Service was one which all Members found to be very useful and practical for a period of twenty five years. At the time of setting up of the service it must be realised that it was well before the dawn of the electronic computer age where information is available at the touch of a few strokes on a keyboard. Information was only to be found in published papers such as the Government Gazette, Law Reports, Tribunal Decisions, Law Books etc. In order to keep up to-date it was necessary to trawl through all of the above papers to find items of interest and which affected Surveyors. Various Law Stationers had subscription services which listed voluminous items and the subscriptions were very expensive.

In 1972 Mr. Wal Hunt took upon himself the onerous task of going through the mass of information and as Honorary Editor published the monthly Information Service for ACS. All the issues from Issue No. 2 of December, 1972 to Issue No. 183 of April/June 1997 are held in the archives of ACS.

The ACS Information Service was well received by the Members and also Local Councils subscribed to the Service. Each Issue was in a loose leaf format which was divided into four coloured Sections.

**Section 1** was blue and comprised the front page with an Editorial by the Editor or a guest such as a short editorial that perhaps highlighted a case or cases.

**Section 2** coloured pink contained general information of interest to the surveying profession.

**Section 3** coloured yellow listed new LEPs etc.

**Section 4** was coloured green and documented Local Government Act Tribunal decisions and later Environmental Planning Issues etc.

In the initial years the Issues were published monthly but in later years they were published bi-monthly or quarterly. At times a Section would be omitted if there had been little or no activity. The front page listed the names of the Executive Committee, the contents in that Issue, the name of the Executive Secretary/Executive Officer and the Editor of that Issue.

Wal Hunt's last Issue was Issue No. 107 of March, 1984 having served for twelve years as Honorary Editor. At the next Annual General Meeting a presentation was made to Mr. Hunt in recognition of his invaluable service since the inception of the Information Service.

For a period of two years following his retirement Guest Editors took over the production of the ACS Information Service. Issues No. 108 to No. 126 (1984 to 1986) were edited by Messrs. Michael Green, Peter Steele, John Sunter and Col Weatherby.

The next Honorary Editor was Mr. Peter Steele and he produced Issue No. 127 of March, 1986 to Issue No. 159 of February, 1991 and served for five years. Mr. Michael Green followed and was our final Honorary Editor producing Issue No. 160 March, 1991 to Issue No. 126 of April/June, 1997, a period of six years.

Michael Green recalls that the decision was made to end the Service as the main information that we were publishing was freely available electronically, that information being summaries of court cases from the Environmental Law Reporter. The reports would be sent out on a 3.5" floppy disk and then selected cases would be copied into the Information Service. Websites like austlii were becoming valuable sources of data and were more likely to provide a full case report on a variety of matters whereas the Environmental Law Reporter provided summaries of cases.

Our Members owe the Editors a great deal for all the intensive work and research they put in to the position of Honorary Editor which enhanced the professionalism of each Surveyor.

### **BOMA & PCA Method of Measurement from 1984 to the Present Day**

ACS has had a long connection with what was formerly known as the Building Owners & Managers Association (BOMA) now known as the Property Council of Australia (PCA) due to a mutual interest in the measuring of lease areas in commercial buildings. In order to establish a standard of calculating lease areas BOMA had brought out a small leaflet titled "BOMA Method of Measurement of Buildings" in the years prior to 1985. This was a single A4 page printed on both sides defining the different types of areas, inclusions and exclusions and of particular interest to surveyors was the direction that all measurements were to be taken at a height of 1.5 metres above the floor. This was wonderful for surveyors with no ambiguity however it had been found that clever Architects were able to increase the area by setting back the windows and walls at this height which caused friction between the lessors and the lessees. Also some of the definitions did not cover all circumstances. It was the custom at that time for the ACS Executive to hold their meeting in the morning and have a Guest join them for lunch. One of our Guests at lunch was Mr. John Macpherson, Executive Director of BOMA and following a discussion ACS was invited to assist BOMA with the revision of their Guide to combine and update the Australian and International Guides.

ACS in conjunction with ISNSW formed a small group of surveyors who were experienced in this type of survey. This group was led by Mr. Kevin Brown (ACS) & Mr. Geoff Little (ISNSW) and in May, 1985 a new 10 page Guide was published by BOMA. Suitable acknowledgment of the input of the two organisations was contained in the Guide. With the rapid development of multi-storey office buildings and shopping centres BOMA realised that the 1985 version of the Guide did not fully cover all situations so ACS & ISNSW were again asked to participate in the new revision which resulted in the 1989 Revision which consisted of 20 pages. Over the

following years BOMA changed its name to the Property Council of Australia (PCA) and in 1997 revised its Method of Measurement and published a 28 page Guide, again with the input of ACS & ISNSW. The work of ACS was recognised by the PCA in that Members of ACS were entitled to receive the 1997 Guide at PCA Member's rate of \$40.00 per copy whilst non-members were charged \$80.00. Similar discounts still apply at the present time. Over the years ACS has arranged various seminars to keep our Members up to date.

## **General Achievements**

The Past Chairmen were asked to list some of the achievements that they felt were worthy of note and also those which were achieved during their term as Chairman, the following are some chosen at random and are not listed in order of importance.

- NSW Computer Group.
- LTO Liaison Group in conjunction with ISNSW
- The promotion of ACS to fellow Surveyors and Government Departments.
- Significant input into the formation of PSOA, ACS Search, SMIC & ACSA.
- Negotiations on Copyright & Intellectual Property.
- Input into the Integrated Development Assessment and DUAP.
- Continuing joint support with ISNSW into the success of the Excellence in Surveying Awards.
- Negotiating an Agreement with ICAC (in conjunction with ISNSW)
- Continuing communication with the Universities.
- Over the years obtaining larger and better office premises culminating in the purchase of the new Office in Bathurst Street.

## **APPENDICES**

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## ***Appendix A***

### **THE CUMBERLAND GROUP**

Dear Member,

Mr. Ivan Booth, our Institution President, in a letter dated the 11th November, 1968, invited the Chairman of the Cumberland Group to fully inform all members of the reasoning behind the formation of the Association of Consulting Surveyors.

A special meeting of the Cumberland Group was held on the 3rd December and it was voted that a circular compiling the main reasons behind the formation of the Association, be sent to all corporate members of the Institution.

I am, therefore, enclosing herewith a list of a number of basic thoughts about the Association under the following headings.

1. Immediate Aims of the Consulting Surveyors' Association.
2. Reasons for Forming the Consulting Surveyors' Association.
3. Reasons for forming the Association within the Institution.

Yours faithfully,

V.K, EXLEY

Secretary

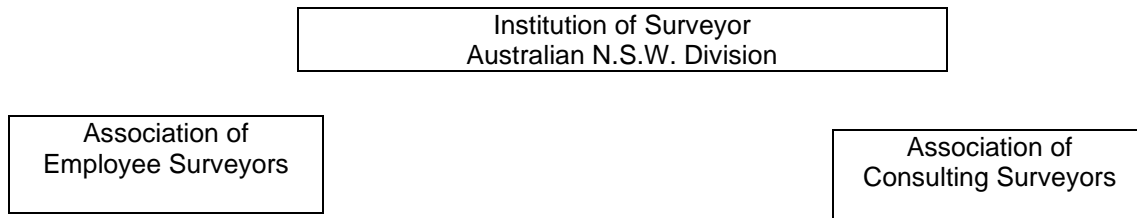
Encl.

## **IMMEDIATE AIMS OF THE CONSULTING SURVEYORS' ASSOCIATION**

1. To thoroughly investigate the financial structure of the consultant's practice and achieve a rational and uniform fee system and improved method of payment by:-
  - (a) Discussion on our financial problems so as to reveal the major faults.
  - (b) Employing an administration consultant to formulate the basic concepts of our financial operation, and to prepare a questionnaire to be completed by all members. Results of the questionnaire to be processed and from the facts derived prepare a new formula for the financial structure of our practices.
  - (c) All propaganda and public relation devices available to be made use of, to ensure uniform adoption of the new formula by all members and acceptance by all Clients.
2. To thoroughly investigate the responsibilities, both legal and ethical of consulting surveyors under existing legislation and new legislation as it arrives, by:
  - (a) Discussion of these aspects within the Association.
  - (b) Engaging barristers or authorities in the various fields, to investigate and report on all areas of our responsibilities.
3. To engage a public relation consultant to assist in the improvement of relation and communication between members of the Association and:—
  - (a) Fellow members of the Association.
  - (b) Fellow members of the Survey Profession.
  - (c) All members of the Real Estate Development Industry.
  - (d) All members of the allied Professions.
  - (e) The general public.
4. To employ a permanent business manager and accompanying staff to:—
  - (a) Carry out all the clerical work of the Association as distinct from that of the Institution.
  - (b) Gather information and liaise with the proposed administration, public relation and legal consultants.
  - (c) Carry out market research and fact finding projects and many other duties.
5. It may be necessary to register a body of Employer Surveyors, as an Industrial Employers' Association, to achieve a just and equitable award for the Survey Technician. The Association of Consulting Surveyors would be an ideal organisation for this registration.

## REASONS FOR FORMING THE CONSULTING SURVEYORS' ASSOCIATION

1. Our immediate aims will cost a great deal of money and we cannot expect the Institution, with a membership majority of Government Employee Surveyors, to bear this cost.
2. The Institution is grossly overburdened with work at present and certainly could not cope directly with the additional work required.
3. We need to recognise the tremendous pace at which changes are taking place and the need to gear our old Institution- and traditions to meet this rapidly changing society.
4. The concept we are trying to build is shown in the following organisation chart:-



Explanation: -

### Institution of Surveyors, Aust., N.S.W. Division

The parent body will handle all matters that affect both sections and act as liaison between and have control over both sections. It will be primarily responsible for the cultural and scientific advancement of the profession as a whole.

### The Association of Employee Surveyors

A number of Associations providing for the needs of Employee Surveyors, are actually in existence already. It is considered that it should be desirable to consolidate these into one Association, but if it is not desired then they can carry on their duties of protecting Employee Surveyors' interests as they have been doing in the past.

### The Association of Consulting Surveyors

The purpose of this Consulting Surveyors' Association will be to achieve the aims and objects as stated in the published Constitution.

5. The concept of having a Consulting Surveyors' Association is not new. Surveyors in South Australia formed a similar Association in 1959 and in Victoria, formed a similar Association in 1966

## **REASONS WHY WE SHOULD FORM THE CONSULTING SURVEYORS'**

### **ASSOCIATION WITHIN THE INSTITUTION OF SURVEYORS**

1. The interest of all members of the Survey profession are inter-woven and what any one group does will affect the remainder, so, therefore, all members of the Institution should have a voice in the major decisions of any particular group.
2. We are very small in numbers already, and it would be basically wrong to further divide our ranks.
3. From a Public Relations point of view we would be putting ourselves at a tremendous disadvantage, if we deprived ourselves of the Institution's support.
4. Rather than being a disadvantage, our having to refer major decisions to the Institution for approval, would sometimes be an advantage, in that we will have access to perhaps less emotional Opinions.
5. The Institution is reorganising itself and if the Association takes over the majority of work required for Consulting Surveyors, there should be no reason for serious delay in obtaining replies to our correspondence with the Institute.
6. Working within the Institution will give us more direct access to information and solutions that have been achieved by other groups within the Institution of Surveyors Australia as well as the N.S.W. Division.
7. If the Association is formed outside the Institution, it is feared that Association members will naturally tend to give preference of participation to the Association and to neglect the Institution. This will be wrong. It is envisaged that the Association will stress provision more for our material needs while the Institution will continue to stress provision for our cultural and scientific needs.

None of us became Surveyors solely for monetary return, we get a much greater fulfilment than this out of our profession. Just as you cannot separate into compartments the various fulfilments we seek, so you cannot separate the Association from the Institution. Most of the reasoning for retaining the Association as an integral part of the Institution is based on this deeper emotional level in preference to the materialistic level, that is why it is harder to express and to state as arguments.~ However, anyone who stops and thinks about the matter would at least recognise he has doubts about forming the Association outside the Institution. It is not believed that these doubts are simply feelings of insecurity about setting out on our own. It is believed we are all proud of the Institution, of what it stands for, of what it has achieved, of the exertion that a great number of members have made to further the Institution's objects, of the "Australian Surveyor", of the monthly bulletin, of the achievements of past and present members, of the annual congresses, all of these things are part of the spirit of Surveying and part of the Institution and nothing should be done to detract from this spirit or the Institution in any way. It is envisaged that the Association will greatly benefit the Institution if for no other reason that it will take on the task of fulfilling the Consulting Surveyors material needs and make the way clear for both his and the Employee Surveyors greater enjoyment of the Institution from a cultural, scientific and social point of view.

***"Good is that which makes for unity; evil is that which makes for separateness"***

***Aldous Huxley***

## Appendix B

## **MINUTES OF AGMs & GENERAL MEETINGS**

## INAUGURAL MEETING

**2<sup>nd</sup> August, 1969**  
**Present**

## 54 Members

Held at the Conference Room, White Hall Hotel.

Meeting opened by the Interim Executive Convenor, Mr. J. P. O’Keefe.

Executive Elected: Chairman: J.P.O'Keefe Messrs. Exley, A.S.J.Hunter  
Hunt and Monteath

- THE FIRST MOTION -- which was carried unanimously was that ACS engage the services of Mr. E. J. Burger as the Associations Secretarial Public Relations Officer and provide general secretarial duties, office services and a meeting venue for the Executive. The retainer for these services etc. to be \$1,500 per annum.
- SCALE OF FEES -- following a lengthy discussion the following Motion was put and carried ***“This Association engages Messrs. P. J. Ireland and Company to prepare a questionnaire to arrive at an hourly rate on which to base a more realistic Scale of Fees.”***

**1<sup>st</sup> AGM**     **March, 1970**  
**Found**

**No Minutes**

**2<sup>nd</sup> AGM    19<sup>th</sup> March, 1971**

## 45 Members Present

Executive Elected: Chairman: V.K. Exley J.P.O'Keefe, A.S.J.Hunter  
W.L.Rein, R.J.Kell

- Resolved to proceed with 'INTERFIRM COMPARISON' by University of New England at cost of \$3,000.00. Members to pay \$20, ACS the balance.
- General criticism on lack of communication between ACS & ISNSW

**'WORKSHOP' GENERAL MEETING**    **17<sup>th</sup> September, 1971**    **36**    **Members Present**

- URBAN DESIGN ADVISORY COMMITTEE' (UDAC) -- Mr. Vince Exley reported that this Committee had been set up.
- INTERFIRM COMPARISON – Mr. Bill Rein reported that 61 Members had taken part.
- INTEGRATION AND METRICATION -- Mr. Don More led discussion and advised it was commencing on 1<sup>st</sup> January, 1972,
- EDM EQUIPMENT EVALUATION -- Mr. Keith Stapley gave an address and prepared a Comparative Chart on the various types of EDM (Electronic Distance Measuring) Members who were using or had experience requested to assist the Committee.
- ROAD DESIGN SUB-COMMITTEE -- Convenor, Mr. Terry Meakin said the Committee had discussed various methods of education such as a post graduate course by the University of NSW, a 'crash course' by the Department of Main Roads and a correspondence course the Department of Technical Education etc.
- CONSTITUTION REVISION -- Mr. Dick Lovegrove led a discussion regarding the proposed revision.

**3<sup>rd</sup> AGM**    **11<sup>th</sup> February, 1972**

**38 Members Present**

Executive Elected:      Chairman: V.K. Exley

R.S. Lovegrove, G. Fuller  
TC Meakin, J.A.H. Fakelar

- INTEGRATION -- Mr. Kell reported that progress had been much slower than anticipated. He also drew attention to equipment available as aids to metric measurements.
- ROAD DESIGN SUB-COMMITTEE -- Mr. Meakin said the Sub-Committee had forwarded its recommendations to ISNSW
- LEGAL RESPONSIBILITY -- Mr. Lovegrove replied to a query on whether legal liability could be restricted to the Client only, he pointed out that professional liability had yet to be tested in the Australian Courts (*note House of Lords 'Hedley Byrnes' Case*).

**General Meeting**    **18<sup>th</sup> August, 1972**

**29 Members Present**

- MOTION – Mr. Monteith proposed a Motion which was subsequently carried unanimously that ACS activities be channelled into three strands viz:
  - (a) Business Administration.
  - (b) Professional training, techniques, skill and abilities.

(c) Professionalism.

- SEARCHING -- in reply to a Motion by Mr. Caddey regarding extending the hours of searching at the LTO, subsequently carried, Mr. Rein said as Convenor of the Search Sub-committee said that despite appeals to surveyors for specific complaints little success had been achieved.
- UNIVERSITY DEGREE COURSE -- Mr. Hunt and Mr. Meakin proposed a Motion that ACS setup a Sub-committee to assist the UNSW to help with the contents of the Degree Course.
- STRATA PLANS -- it was agreed that ACS should co-operate with ISNSW in its approach to the LTO regarding their requirements.

**General Meeting 10<sup>th</sup> November, 1972**

**29 Members Present**

- DISCUSSIONS on Budget for 1973.

**4<sup>th</sup> AGM 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 1973**

**18 Members Present**

Executive Elected: Chairman: R.S. Lovegrove

Messrs. Alderton, Meakin, Price,  
Taylor & Kell

- The Chairman, Mr. V. K. Exley gave his retiring address and then introduced the new Chairman who then gave his address to the meeting.

**General Meeting 25<sup>th</sup> May, 1973**

**33 Members Present**

- GUEST SPEAKER -- an address was given by Mr. John D. Cousins, Barrister on "Aspects Relating to Corporate Practice and the Surveyors' Act"

**General Meeting 10<sup>th</sup> August, 1973**

**37 Members Present**

This meeting was held at Parramatta which was appreciated by local Members.

- GUEST SPEAKER -- an address was given by Mr. John D. Cousins, Barrister on "Aspects Relating to Corporate Practice and the Surveyors' Act"

**General Meeting 9<sup>th</sup> November, 1973**

**44 Members Present**

- GUEST SPEAKER -- an address was given by Professor Don Aitken on "Society & Politics to the Year 2000"

**5<sup>th</sup> AGM 29<sup>th</sup> March, 1974**

**27 Members Present**

Executive Elected: Chairman: R.S. Lovegrove

Messrs. Austin, Cooper, Meakin  
& Price.

- Discussion on Mobile Housing Estates and the possibility of Environmental Impact Studies to accompany all Development Applications and the provision for this to be included in the 'scale of fees'.

**General Meeting 12<sup>th</sup> July, 1974**

**26 Members Present**

This meeting was held at East Maitland.

- EMPLOYERS' FEDERATION -- appreciation was expressed for the preferential rate negotiated by the ACS for Members.
- JOB/TIME COSTING MANUAL -- it was announced that it was selling well and was being marketed inter-state.

**General Meeting 20<sup>th</sup> September, 1974**

**17 Members Present**

- RETRENCHMENTS -- Mr. Flakelar raised the concern being felt by the profession due to the present recession and a suggestion was made to employ the services of a professional political lobbyist. Another suggestion was that ACS assist and organise Members to approach their own Members of Parliament.
- INTEGRATION -- the Chairman advised that the Commissioner investigating this had submitted a favourable report. It was hoped that this would, in the future, generate considerable activity.

**General Meeting 8<sup>th</sup> November, 1974**

**36 Members Present**

- INTERFIRM COMPARISON – it was announced that 23 Members had taken part.
- CALIFORNATION ENGINEERS & SURVEYORS -- ACS is to be hosts for a future tour in February, 1974.
- RETRENCHMENTS -- it was advised by the Executive that they had been engaged in political lobbying regarding the severe effect the economic recession was having on our Members with many retrenchments. A questionnaire to be issued to obtain accurate figures.
- MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS & RETRENCHMENTS -- due to the difficult economic and it was suggested that the subscriptions be reduced or be payable in two equal instalments. *(It appears that no action was taken by the Executive)*

**General Meeting 7<sup>th</sup> March, 1975**

**27 Members Present**

Other than routine business no matters of consequence were discussed.

**6<sup>th</sup> AGM    7<sup>th</sup> March, 1975**

**27 Members Present**

Executive Elected: Chairman: P.M.Price

Messrs. Austin, Cooper, Smith & Stapley.

- JOB/TIME COSTING MANUAL -- it was announced that over 60 Manuals & Kits had been sold leaving a balance 50 Manuals & Kits.
- CONVERSION OF OLD SYSTEM TITLE BY REGISTRAR GENERAL -- a general discussion was held and a Motion was passed supporting in principle the removal of all Old System Title.
- SCALE OF FEES -- the problem of the Trade Practices Legislation was discussed and decided that the Executive should keep a watch on the matter.
- BOARD OF SURVEYORS -- Mr. McNaughton spoke on the following matters concerning the Board:-
  1. control of the profession – by the Board or the Institution.
  2. causes of charges being made by the Board against surveyors, the most common being:-
    - (a) surveys not marked properly, usually due to pressure of work,
    - (b) errors resulting from survey practice to do with radiations which are not self checking and self closing, thus causing anomalies,
  3. requisitions not being answered promptly.

**General Meeting    20<sup>th</sup> June, 1975**

**23 Members Present**

- SURVEY TECHNICIANS & SURVEY DRAFTSMEN -- Mr. Bliss stated that they could possibly qualify for an apprenticeship subsidy. It was agreed that ACS should further investigate.
- RETRENCHMENTS -- Mr. Taylor spoke on the desperate state of the economy as affecting surveying. Mr. Lovegrove advised that the ACS was currently investigating a scheme to hold regular surveys to assess the rate instructions were being received by Members
- INFORMATION SERVICE -- the Chairman advised that this scheme will be promoted by the Executive.
- POLITICAL CONTACTS -- Mr. Fuller reported that a Sub-committee had been formed to promote contact between our Member's Politicians in both the Federal & Local sphere and of either Party.

**General Meeting    19<sup>th</sup> September, 1975**

**23 Members Present**

This meeting was held at Orange.

- GUIDE TO FEES -- Mr. Smith called on Members to examine the proposed amendments to the Guide as ACS would be passing on amendments to ISNSW.
- RAMB CARDS AND THE IFC -- lengthy discussions were held and the Motion by Mr. Everingham was withdrawn.

**General Meeting 14<sup>th</sup> November, 1975**

**18 Members Present**

- CORPORATE PRACTICE -- Mr. McNaughton raised this matter stating that in his opinion that an article in the October Monthly Bulletin was incorrect & harmful.
- STRUCTURE OF DIVISION COMMITTEE -- Mr. McNaughton moved that ACS should advise Members to use due caution in voting in the forthcoming Committee Election. The Motion was put and was carried with some Members dissenting
- INFORMATION SERVICE -- the Chairman advised that this scheme will be promoted by the Executive.
- POLITICAL CONTACTS -- Mr. Fuller reported that a Sub-committee had been formed to promote contact between our Member's Politicians in both the Federal & Local sphere and of either Party.

**7<sup>th</sup> AGM 12<sup>th</sup> March, 1976**

**27 Members Present**

Executive Elected: Chairman: P.M.Price

Messrs. Austin, Cooper, Smith & Stapley.

- CLIENT & SURVEYOR AGREEMENT -- Draft of Model Agreement between a Client and a Surveyor being prepared, stressed it is not a Contract.

**General Meeting 9<sup>th</sup> July, 1976**

**21 Members Present**

This meeting was held at Liverpool.

- INFORMATION SERVICE -- Mr. Everingham stated he disapproved that subscriptions to this Service being sold to non-members. The Chairman responded that the Service was widely circularized and ACS should benefit financially.
- PRIVATE WORK BY PUBLIC OFFICERS -- ACS policy had been sent to ISNSW Division.
- LAW SOCIETY -- Chairman announced an agreement on responsibility for fees had been negotiated with the Law Society.

**General Meeting 24<sup>th</sup> September, 1976**

**18 Members Present**

This meeting was held at Bowral.

- ARMIDALE WORKSHOPS -- had been successfully conducted with 10 Surveyors participating.
- SEARCH FEES INCREASE -- Mr. Naughton advised that the cost of Plans will increase from 50 cents to 75 cents and that the quality of the plans was deplorable, this was agreed by those present.

**8<sup>th</sup> AGM    11<sup>th</sup> March, 1977**

**27 Members Present**

Executive Elected: Chairman: G. Fuller

Messrs. Cooper, Kidson, Stapley & Weatherby.

- INCOMING CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS -- Mr. Fuller presented an in-depth commentary on the ACS and the profession and Mr. Hunter expressed his appreciation of the carefully prepared address.
- LAND COMMISSION & P.E.C -- lengthy discussions were held and a Motion passed that ACS should make a suitable proposal to the Commission to promote the involvement of ACS Members in the Land Commission activities.

**General Meeting    10<sup>th</sup> June, 1977**

**19 Members Present**

- EMPLOYMENT OF TRAINEE TECHNICIANS -- Mr. Hunter addressed the meeting regarding their wages and the problems with the Surveyors Field Hand Award which affected private practitioners only. The Chairman advised that a Member, Mr. John White was facing prosecution in respect of a former employee and the Employers Federation had been approached.
- SUSTAINING MEMBERS -- a new form of Membership had been established.

**Special General Meeting    15<sup>th</sup> July, 1977**

**25 Members Present**

- TRAINEE TECHNICIANS AND AWARD RATES -- Mr. Weatherby & Mr. Hunter addressed the Meeting regarding difficulties that Frank Mason & Co. were having with the Union. Again it was pointed out that there was no Award for Trainee Technicians and should thus be paid the Field Hands Award rate.
- SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING -- on the proposed Surveyors Act, many Members spoke and three Motions were passed as detailed in the Minutes.

**General Meeting    12<sup>th</sup> August, 1977**

**19 Members Present**

- TRAINEE TECHNICIANS AND AWARD RATES -- Mr. Weatherby reported on the matters of Frank Mason & Co. and Mr. John White. It had

been agreed that ISNSW & ACS negotiate some sort of an Award for Trainee Technicians.

**General Meeting**    **11<sup>th</sup> November, 1977**

**14 Members Present**

This meeting was held at Newcastle.

- EXPENSES OF COUNTRY EXECUTIVE MEMBERS -- the Chairman put to the meeting that the ACS should contribute to the expenses of Country Members on the Executive, such a Motion was passed.
- SURVEY INTEGRATION -- the Chairman commented on the slow progress of the legislation and that he felt that ACS could push it along.
- SUBDIVISION APPEALS TRIBUNAL -- the Chairman congratulated the Members who had been elected, those present at the Meeting being Messrs. Kidson, McNaughton and Lovegrove.
- PURCHASE OF OFFICE SPACE -- the views of Members was sought.
- STAGED STRATA TITLES -- Mr. Stapley said that ACS was taking the lead in the preparation of a submission to the Government.

**9<sup>th</sup> AGM**    **8<sup>th</sup> March, 1978**

**21 Members Present**

Executive Elected: Chairman: G. Fuller

Messrs. Blackley, Higgins,  
Kidson and Weatherby.

- CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS -- Mr. Fuller stated that following a strong Membership drive in the last year twenty (20) new Firms had joined ACS. This meant that there was now a total of 130 Member Firms

**General Meeting**    **8<sup>th</sup> March, 1978**

**21 Members Present**

This General Meeting immediately followed the Annual General Meeting.

- SUSTAINING MEMBERS -- the definitions and conditions of membership and various Motions were put and carried.
- INDUSTRIAL TRAINING -- It was reported that the University of New South Wales was considering dropping professional training as it was found that Undergraduates could not find suitable work. The general opinion of the Meeting was that ACS should support such training and should approach the University and enter into discussions.

- PROFESSIONAL INDEMNITY INSURANCE -- Mr. Blume & Mr. Price spoke regarding notifications and the possibility of a Cross Claim if Surveyor's Fees were pursued through the Courts

**General Meeting 21<sup>st</sup> July, 1978**

**19 Members Present**

- ALTERATION OF RULES -- extensive discussions and Motions were held as fully set out in the Minutes.
- POLICY ON BRANCH OFFICES -- the Chairman on the recommendation of the Executive Committee put a Motion that Branch Offices should be properly equipped survey offices and be manned at all times during advertised business office hours. Following discussions the Motion was lost when put.

**General Meeting 15<sup>th</sup> September, 1978**

**27 Members Present**

A fifteen minute meeting in the morning was held at Bathurst.

- FEES FOR 1979 -- A Motion to increase the basic fee for a Firm. Be increased to \$70.00

**10<sup>th</sup> AGM 9<sup>th</sup> March, 1979**

**24 Members Present**

Executive Elected: Chairman: E. Hall

Messrs. Fakelar, Gardner,  
Higgins, Kidson and Whelan.

- TECHNICIAN'S AWARD -- it was stated that ACS & ISNSW were formulating a new Award and lengthy discussions followed.

**General Meeting 17<sup>th</sup> August, 1979**

**19 Members Present**

- GUEST SPEAKER -- Mr. Graham Cowley, ACS's Honorary Solicitor gave a talk on 'The future of the law and effect on the survey profession' .

**General Meeting 15<sup>th</sup> September, 1978**

**39 Members Present**

The meeting was held at North Gosford.

- GUEST SPEAKERS -- Mr. Gill & Mr. Blume gave a talk on 'Surveyors and their Professional Liability' which was well received.
- STRATA TITLES -- the Chairman outlined ACS's current activities and submission on Staged Development,

**11<sup>th</sup> AGM 14<sup>th</sup> March, 1980**

**16 Members Present**

Executive Elected: Chairman: E. Hall

Messrs. Fakelar, Gardner,  
Higgins, Kidson and Whelan.

- GUEST SPEAKER -- the Chairman advised that the proposed talk by Mrs. Sonja Lyneham due to indications of a poor attendance because of the current petrol strike.
- PROFESSIONAL INDEMNITY INSURANCE -- Mr. Blume mentioned possible Claims resulting from damage to electricity cable missing or plotted in error on surveyor's plans. It was suggested that 'Cautionary Notes' could be needed.

**General Meeting 25<sup>th</sup> July 1980**

**16 Members Present**

- LAW SOCIETY DIARY -- the Chairman announced that the full list on Members was to be listed in the Law Society's Diary. The cost would be built into the annual subscription,

**General Meeting 14<sup>th</sup> November, 1980**

**12 Members Present**

The meeting was held at North Wollongong.

- FEES FOR 1981 -- Three Motions were put and following discussions all were carried.

**12<sup>th</sup> AGM 13<sup>th</sup> March, 1981**

**20 Members Present**

Executive Elected: Chairman: M. C. Whelan

Messrs. Dumbrell, Gardner,  
Marler Smith, and Wheatherby.

- INCOMING CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS -- following his address the AGM was closed and the General Meeting opened

**General Meeting 13<sup>th</sup> March, 1981**

**16 Members Present**

- CANDIDATES -- Mr. McNaughton expressed concern on the accuracy of traverses and other problems when presenting for the Board examinations.

**General Meeting 23rd October, 1981**

**39 Members Present**

The meeting was held at Pokolbin.

- COMPUTER GROUP -- Mr. Timbs sought information on the latest position and was advised that the Group was still evaluating hardware & software. The Group was still open for Members to join.

**13<sup>th</sup> AGM 12<sup>th</sup> March, 1982**

**19 Members Present**

Executive Elected: Chairman: I. G. Marler

Messrs. Dumbrell, Lackenby,  
McLeod Mortensen, and Smith.

- ACS AUSTRALIA (ACSA) -- Mrs. Brand advised that following her recent marriage she was unable to carry on with running the ACSA secretariat. ACS Queensland offered to take over the secretariat however the Motion supporting this was lost by 8 for and 9 against.

**General Meeting & PI Workshop 29<sup>th</sup> October, 1982 26 Members Present**

The meeting was held at Albury.

- ACS AUSTRALIA -- the meeting discussed the present status and its aim & objectives.
- PROFESSIONAL INDEMNITY INSURANCE -- Mr. Blume chaired the Workshop and discussed the many points of the proposed National Scheme. He also announced the setting up of the an Advisory Panel of experienced Surveyors to assist Members of the Scheme. He also gave details of claims experienced by the previous scheme

**14<sup>th</sup> AGM 24<sup>th</sup> February, 1983**

**19 Members Present**

Executive Elected: Chairman: I. G. Marler

Messrs. Dumbrell, Lackenby,  
McLeod Mortensen, and Smith.

- INCOMING CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS -- following his address the AGM was closed and the General Meeting opened

**General Meeting 24<sup>th</sup> February, 1983**

**19 Members Present**

- PROFESSIONAL INDEMNITY INSURANCE -- Mr. Blume spoke on the new Scheme and its progress in the last year. He announced that the AMP would be coming into the Scheme.

**General Meeting 18<sup>th</sup> August, 1983**

**22 Members Present**

- TAXATION AT SOURCE -- Mr. Brown raised two queries, was ACS considering holding a Seminar on this matter and would the ACS seek clarification on the relationship between Surveyors and Builders and Contractors. The Chairman advised that it was monitoring the situation but would not be holding a Seminar at this stage.

**General Meeting 4<sup>th</sup> November, 1983**

**21 Members Present**

The meeting was held at Orange following the Seminar.

- Due to the illness of the Chairman, Mr. I. Marler the meeting was chaired by Mr. J. Dumbrell.
- RAILWAY BOUNDARIES -- Mr. Wordsworth raised the problem of the time it took for approvals to these boundaries to be issued.
- COMPUTER GROUP -- Mr. Price advised that the Group was considering winding up its membership soon.

**15<sup>th</sup> AGM 16<sup>th</sup> March, 1984**

**20 Members Present**

Executive Elected: Chairman: J. R. Mortensen

Messrs. Brown, Dumbrell,  
Kidson Marler and Smith.

- TOWN & REGIONAL GROUPS -- the concept of setting up small groups was discussed and a Motion not to support the set up of groups was carried.
- OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY ACT -- it was advised that the Executive would be looking at the Act.

- CONTRIBUTION TO ACSA -- Mr. Rein expressed concern that ACS was spending 10% of its income to support ACSA. He put a Motion that the Executive pursue ways of reducing the levy and report to the Members, the Motion was carried.
- POSTAL VOTING -- Mr. Rein moved a Motion that the Executive take steps to provide for Postal Votes and this was carried.

**General Meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> August, 1984**

**15 Members Present**

- SOCIETY OF LAND ECONOMISTS -- Mr. Rein queried their structure and was informed by the Chairman that our Members would be welcomed to their membership as they were seeking professional people.

**General Meeting 19<sup>th</sup> October, 1984**

**16 Members Present**

The meeting was held at South West Rocks.

- REPORT FROM EXECUTIVE -- the Chairman reported that :-
  - a) The Australian Survey Office has called for a panel of Consultants
  - b) A meeting was held with the Commissioner of Main Roads.
  - c) A meeting was held with the Executive Officer, Mr. John Macpherson of the Building Owners & Managers & Association (BOMA). Kevin Brown to assist BOMA with the revision of their Guide for Measurement.
  - d) A meeting was held with Mr. Peter Barrington of the Society of Land Economists.
  - e) The possibility of surveyors as arbitrators in boundary disputes was being examined.
  - f) Proposals by ACSA regarding the hire of equipment at preferential rates.
  - g) ACS had purchased a second hand computer PDP11/02.
- EXCHANGE OF DIGITAL DATA -- Mr. Price reported that the Computer Group had a meeting with the Water Board regarding surveyors having to provide digital data to the Water Board and other bodies.

**16<sup>th</sup> AGM 8<sup>h</sup> March, 1985**

**16 Members Present**

Executive Elected: Chairman: J. R. Mortensen

Messrs. Brock, Brown, Little,  
McElwee, Moriarty and Swan.

- ACS INFORMATION SERVICE -- a presentation was made to Mr. Hunt in recognition of his invaluable service since the inception of the service .
- ACS DIARY -- Mr. Brock said the quality of the printing of the National Diary had been poor and relevant information about NSW had been omitted. His comments had been noted and would be passed on to ASCA

**General Meeting 16<sup>th</sup> August, 1985**

**16 Members Present**

- COMBINED ACS & CSA WORKSHOP -- notice was given of the forthcoming-symposium to be held in Leura.
- BANKCARD FACILITIES -- the Chairman announced that a special merchant service fee rate had been negotiated with Westpac.
- PROFESSIONAL INDEMNITY INSURANCE -- Mr. Marler spoke on the new three tiered Scheme which would come into force in November. The first level of cover would be the Insured's excess, the second level would be handled by the cooperative and the third level by the Underwriters.
- ACSA CANBERRA HEADQUARTERS -- Mr. Marler mentioned that under a Federal Government policy a subsidised loan was being offered to organisations to set up national headquarters in the ACT and that an attractive proposition had been presented to ACSA. The meeting indicated support for the proposal.

**General Meeting 20<sup>th</sup> September, 1985**

**26 Members Present**

The meeting was held at Leura.

- ACS GROUP INSURANCE SCHEME -- the Chairman reported that the scheme in its new cooperative form would commence on the 1<sup>st</sup> December, 1985
- VENDOR WARRANTY -- the Meeting was advised that Messrs. Brown, Fuller & Monteath had held meetings with Officers from the LTO to press for the inclusions of Identification Reports from Surveyors and should form part of the warranties.

**17<sup>th</sup> AGM 28<sup>th</sup> February, 1986**

**27 Members Present**

Executive Elected: Chairman: B. A. Moriarty

Messrs. Brock, Brown, Fuller,  
Little McElwee, Mortensen and  
Sparkes-Carroll.

- GUEST SPEAKER -- the new Surveyor General for New South Wales, Mr. Don Grant presented a stimulating and thought provoking address of his visions and aims for the future direction of the surveying profession in New South Wales.
- PRESENTATION -- the Chairman made a special presentation to Mr. Kevin Brown for his assistance and support as Vice-Chairman.
- GENERAL DISCUSSIONS -- discussions were held on:-
  - a) Methods to encourage non-members to join ACS
  - b) Investigation on the legality of surveyors drawing up Section 88B Instruments.
  - c) Methods to facilitate the identification of survey marks found not shown on LTO plans.

**General Meeting 14<sup>th</sup> August, 1986**

**14 Members Present**

- ACS GROUP INSURANCE SCHEME -- Mr. Kell queried whether ACS had any current numbers on those surveyors insured by the Scheme and those insured by other schemes. Mr. Marler of the ACSIS Board advised that there was a degree of commercial confidentiality but offered to check on it.
- ACSA CANBERRA HEADQUARTERS -- Mr. Kell commended ACSA's moves and stated that it was also supported by ISA as a joint national headquarters.

**18<sup>th</sup> AGM 27<sup>th</sup> February, 1987**

**26 Members Present**

Executive Elected: Chairman: B. A. Moriarty

Messrs. Brock, Brown, Fuller,  
Little McElwee, Mortensen,  
Sunter and Sparkes-Carroll.

- NEW EXECUTIVE OFFICER -- the Chairman announced that Mr. A. Cawthorne (Bert) had been appointed to that position.
- FORMER EXECUTIVE OFFICER -- the Chairman then expressed ACS's sincere and deep appreciation to Mrs. June Brand for her sixteen years of service and made a presentation. Mrs Brand made a suitable and moving reply.
- ACS GROUP INSURANCE SCHEME -- Mr. Ian Marler stated that in the first eighteen months of the Scheme had been reasonably successful. It was found that the Investigation Panel had saved considerable sums of money for the Members.

**General Meeting 5<sup>th</sup> November, 1987**

**28 Members Present**

- PROPOSED RULE CHANGES -- a lengthy discussion followed with many Members raising various points. See Minutes for full details.

**19<sup>th</sup> AGM 18<sup>th</sup> March, 1988**

**20 Members Present**

Executive Elected: Chairman: A. J. Sunter

Messrs. Brown, Fuller, Little and P. J. Hunter.

- RULE CHANGES -- a Motion for an additional New Rule regarding Aerial, Cartography and Hydraulic Companies. Other amendments were moved and all were carried unanimously.

**General Meeting 4<sup>th</sup> November, 1988**

**18 Members Present**

- NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS CANBERRA --
  - a) Mr. Marler gave a resume on the events leading up to the final decision to build and occupy new premises in Canberra in conjunction with ISA and the Australian Institute of Quantity Surveyors. He explained the floor plans and showed the areas to be occupied by the three associations.
  - b) Methods of funding the new building were discussed.
  - c) Mr. Brown queried if donations, levies or gifts would be tax deductible and was informed that this was to be looked into.
  - d) Mr. Moriarty moved that the annual membership fee be \$60 per principal effective for two years and the Motion was carried unanimously.

**20<sup>th</sup> AGM 17<sup>th</sup> March, 1989**

**27 Members Present**

Executive Elected: Chairman: A. J. Sunter

Messrs. Bolan, Brown, Fuller, Loomes and Moriarty.

- GUEST SPEAKER -- Mr. John Mant spoke on the 'Revision of the Local Government Act' and advised that he had been asked to undertake the re-writing of the Act. The new form will allow Surveyors to easily identify those parts of the Act which refers to them.
- SUSTAINING MEMBERS -- the Chairman announced that a new innovation had been introduced to allow Sustaining Members five minutes to address Members at Seminars.
- NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS CANBERRA -- Mr. Marler advised that the first sod had been turned and had been mentioned in the press. He also stressed that the funding had become critical and encouraged Members to pay any outstanding levies and make a loan or donation.

- AZIMUTH -- Mr. Monteath asked all Members to return the questionnaire circulated in Azimuth which will assist in compiling the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) programme.
- PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE -- Messrs. Brown, Hall, Monteath and Sunter spoke regarding unethical practice by some Surveyors and Government or Authority employees.
- PRESCRIBED PAYMENT SYSTEM -- Mr. Harrison said that scheme will become applicable to surveyors, architects & engineers etc on 1<sup>st</sup> July, 1989.

**General Meeting    20<sup>th</sup> October, 1989**

**31 Members Present**

The Meeting was chaired by the Vice-chairman, Mr. Brown due to the absence of the Chairman, Mr. Sunter

- GUEST SPEAKERS --
  - a) Mr. Don Grant, the Surveyor General spoke on the changes to the Survey Practice Regulations and details of his extensive talk is to be found in the Minutes.
  - b) Mrs. Barbara Button spoke on the National Headquarters and advised that the building was almost completed and would be officially opened at the time of the next Survey Congress. She also gave details of the problems of funding and appealed for financial support from the Members.
- INDUSTRIAL MATTERS -- the Acting Chairman brought up the matter of discussions with the Union ADSTE. He also thought that it may be necessary to approach the Employers Federation and Mr. Jeremy Bingham for advice.

**21<sup>st</sup> AGM    16<sup>th</sup> March, 1990**

**32 Members Present**

Executive Elected: Chairman: J. R. Mortensen      Messrs. Bolan, Fuller, Garvin,  
Harrison, Loomes and Moriarity.

- GUEST SPEAKER -- Mr. Bob Browne, Commissioner for Strata Titles spoke on Strata Titles and its interpretation. He had many questions from the floor some of which he was unable to answer.
- ACS CREST -- Mr. Brock gave a brief history of the crest and was thanked for his innovative design. Lengthy discussions were held and a Motion to approve the design as presented was carried by acclamation.

**General Meeting 31<sup>st</sup> October, 1990**

**52 Members Present**

OFFICIAL GUESTS Hon. Garry West, Minister for Tourism, Lands & Forest; Mr. Don Grant, Surveyor General; Mr. Ray Hodgkinson, Director Land Titles Office; Mr. Alan Pendleton, Registrar Board of Surveyors; Mr. Andrew Strachan, Chairman ACSA; Mr. G. Browne, Adviser to the Minister and Mr. V. K. Exley Honorary Member.

- ADDRESS BY THE MINISTER -- he gave a wide ranging talk some of which are noted hereunder:-
  - a) Creation of the State's Land Information System.
  - b) The development of the digitised cadastral data base by the Departments of Lands' Land Information Centre.
  - c) The Minister announced that \$27 million dollars had been approved for this purpose.
  - d) A Technical Panel formed in 1989 with currently eight private firms on the Panel.
  - e) The Minister expressed appreciation of the excellent co-operation between the Land Information Centre, the private sector, Sydney Water Board, Hunter Water Board and Shoalhaven Council.
  - f) A proposed new Act will be introduced to include all surveyors practising in land surveying, to set standards for survey techniques, to protect the survey database and update and amend existing Acts.
- QUESTIONS TO THE MINISTER -- questions were put to the Minister by Messrs. Bowden, Lockley, Burns regarding the time frame, allocation of funds, preservation of survey marks, problems between the legal definition and survey co-ordination.
- GENERAL BUSINESS -- Messrs. Bowden & Kell raised the question of quality control with reference to survey instruments, road supervision with reference RTA. Mr. Kevin Brown said that following the introduction of the 1989 Guide for the Method of Measurements of Lettable Areas for Commercial Buildings by BOMA in which ACS had a major input he would be pleased to receive details of the ease and improvement for use the new Guide had made or of any problems surveyors had encountered.

**22nd AGM 27<sup>th</sup> March, 1991**

**54 Members Present**

Executive Elected: Chairman: J. Mortensen

Messrs. Bolan, Fuller, Garvin,  
George, Harrison, Loomes,  
Moriarty and Sunter.

- GUEST SPEAKER -- Mr. John Mant spoke on the review of the Local Government Act and the EPA Act. A fuller report is noted in the Minutes
- HONORARY MEMBERSHIP -- was conferred on Mr, Bill Rein and on the retiring Executive Officer, Mr. Bert Cawthorne

- NEW EXECUTIVE OFFICER -- it was announced that Mr. Ted Hunter, a Member of ACS was the new Executive Officer.

**General Meeting 13<sup>th</sup> November, 1991**

**27 Members Present**

- GUEST SPEAKERS --
  - a) Dr. Bob Anderssen of the CSIRO spoke on mathematic and statistics in relation to sedimentation and stormwater control.
  - b) Mr. John Clarke of SIROTECH (commercial arm of CSIRO) regarding programs for surveying . Surveyors can access the software, the computer access fee is \$1,000 plus a usage fee of \$500.
  - c) Mr. Tony Miller of the Department of Planning- Systems Management Branch and the modernising of the Planning Sub-divisions and the NSW Planning System.
- EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE -- Gary Fuller resigned and was suitably thanked. Bruce Forester was appointed to fill the vacancy.

**23<sup>rd</sup> AGM 27<sup>th</sup> March, 1992**

**36 Members Present**

Executive Elected: Chairman: D. Loomes

Messrs. Bruce, P. G. Harrison,  
R.G. Harrison, McNamara &  
Marler.

- GUEST SPEAKER -- Mr. Michael Ockwell, Deputy Director General spoke of the new Department of Conversation and Land Management (CLM). This department comprises the Land Titles Office, Valuer General and part if the Forestry Commission.
- SUPERVISION OF WORK BY A SURVEYOR -- the extent and nature of supervision by a Surveyor in respect of subdivisions, identification surveys and road & drainage were vigorously debated.

**General Meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> August, 1992**

**11 Members Present**

- CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS -- on proposal to engage Rowland Company Pty. Ltd. as Public Relation representatives
- DISCUSSIONS -- Mr. George on Board of Surveyors representation and other Members, Messrs. Marler, Hayward and Garvin.

**General Meeting 27<sup>th</sup> November, 1992**

**15 Members Present**

Meeting held at Braemer

- GUEST SPEAKER -- Mr. Denis Armstrong of the NSW Security of Payments Committee
- COMPUTER SPATIAL REFERENCING SYSTEM -- talk by Mr. McNamara and Forester.

**24<sup>th</sup> AGM 26<sup>th</sup> March, 1993**

**43 Members Present**

Executive Elected: Chairman: D. Loomes

Messrs. Forester, P. G. Harrison,  
R.G. Harrison, McNamara &  
Marler.

- GUEST SPEAKER -- Mr. Barry McLeod, President of ISNSW and a Foundation Member of ACS spoke on his recollections and the concern held by older members of ISA.
- HONARY MEMBERSHIP -- was bestowed on Mr. V. K. Exley for his services to ACS & ACSA being a founding member of both and his work on the Canberra Headquarters.
- NEW EXECUTIVE OFFICER -- the Chairman advised that Ms. Jan Cumming had been appointed and expressed his appreciation of her work.
- GENERAL BUSINESS -- many topics were raised as more fully noted in the Minutes:-
  - a) Engineering Design by Surveyors.
  - b) Kurri Seminars had improved pass rate.
  - c) Registered Surveyors & supervision.

**General Meeting 16<sup>th</sup> July, 1993**

**12 Members Present**

Meeting held at Deakin, ACT

- DISCUSSION ON SPECIAL RESOLUTION TO AMEND RULES -- the Rule Change was necessary due to conflict of the existing rules with the Trade Practices Act. The two Motions were carried

**General Meeting 24<sup>th</sup> September, 1993**

**12 Members Present**

Meeting held at Campbelltown and was chaired by the Acting Chairman, Mr. McNamara due to the absence of the Chairman, Mr. Loomes.

The formal Meeting was very short and was opened at 6.00pm and was closed at 6.05pm and was followed by these talks.

- GUEST SPEAKER -- Mr. Denis Armstrong of the NSW Security of Payments Committee

- COMPUTER SPATIAL REFERENCING SYSTEM -- talk by Mr. McNamara and Forester.

**Special Meeting 8<sup>th</sup> February, 1994**

**19 Members Present**

- DISCUSSION ON LOG OF CLAIMS BY APESA (Association of Professional Engineers and Scientists of Australia) -- following a Log of Claims and a Letter of Demand by APESA this urgent meeting was called and was led by Mr. Greg Cook of the Employers Federation and Mr. Bob Harrison. A long and vigorous discussion followed and a Motion was put and carried as more fully noted in the Minutes.

**25<sup>th</sup> AGM 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 1994**

**34 Members Present**

Executive Elected: Chairman: R. G. Harrison

Messrs. P. G. Harrison,  
McNamara, Marler, Mepstead  
and Moriarty

- GUEST SPEAKER -- Ms. Kate Wenden spoke on the benefits and process of Enterprise Agreements.
- PORTFOLIO REPORTS -- the Chairman called on the Members of the Executive to provide a short summary of activity in their portfolios and the following points were discussed:-
  - (a) The University of NSW decision to change the name of the School of Surveying to the School of Geomatic Engineering. It was agreed by the meeting that more information and discussion was required.
  - (b) The Mabo Decision and Native Title Land Claim should be examined as to the effect on surveyors in dealing with Crown Roads etc.
  - (c) The valuable assistance of the Employers' Federation in the APESA matter.
  - (d) The liaison with the ISNSW's Survey Practice Sub-committee.

**Special General Meeting 11<sup>th</sup> May, 1994**

**Members Present**  
(Not listed in Minutes)

- WHITE PAPER INTO PROPOSED LEGISLATION ON SURVEYING -- Discussion led by Mr. J. O'Keefe and Mr. A. Pendleton of the Department. Very full and detailed Minutes were prepared
- CHANGE OF NAME BY UNIVERSITY OF NSW -- the change of name from the School of Surveying to the School of Geomatic Engineering was an Agenda Item but there is no record in the Minutes that it was ever discussed at the meeting.

**General Meeting 20<sup>th</sup> September, 1994**

**12 Members Present**

Meeting held at Bowral prior to the combined meeting of ISA Cumberland & Southern Groups. The Meeting opened at 6.00 pm and was closed at 6.27 pm.

- PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS BILL -- Mr. Price spoke on the Bill and said that one of its main proposals is to cap professional liability. A short discussion followed.
- PURCHASE OF OFFICE INVESTMENT UNIT -- it was announced by the Chairman that the purchase of a Strata Office Unit in the 'Trust Building', King Street, Sydney would be finalised this week.

**26<sup>th</sup> AGM 5<sup>th</sup> April, 1995**

**49 Members Present**

Executive Elected: Chairman: R. G. Harrison

Messrs. McElwee, Marler,  
Mepstead, Moriarty & North

- GUEST SPEAKER -- Ms. Karla Bell, Environmental Consultant to the successful Sydney 2000 Olympic Bid.
- FUTURE OF THE ACS NSW -- numerous Members gave their views on this subject as detailed in the Minutes.

**General Meeting 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 1995**

**17 Members Present**

Meeting held at the University of Newcastle prior to the combined meeting of ISA Hunter-Manning Group. The Meeting opened at 5.32 pm and was closed at 5.46 pm.

- AUDITORS -- the current Auditors, Price Waterhouse have tendered their resignation
- OFFICE INVESTMENT UNIT -- has been slow to lease but has good long term potential.

**27<sup>th</sup> AGM 27<sup>th</sup> March, 1996**

**38 Members Present**

Executive Elected: Chairman: P. McNamara

Messrs. Hutchison, Marler,  
Mepstead, North & Thorpe.

This AGM followed a two hour Twilight Seminar on 'Smart Business' which covered the

following subjects:-

- a) Industrial Relations.
- b) Remuneration Packages.
- c) Safe Working Practices.

- d) Superannuation.
  - e) Taxation
  - f) Training.
- AUDITORS -- following the resignation of the former Auditors, Price Waterhouse it was announced that Mr. John Conolly has been appointed Auditor. There was a substantial reduction in audit fees of about \$3,000.
  - NEW BOMA GUIDE TO METHOD OF MEASUREMENT -- Mr. Kevin Brown announced that BOMA had issued a new Guide in which they acknowledged the input from ACS and ISNSW. The price set by BOMA was \$40 for BOMA Members and ACS Members (in view of our input) and \$80 for non-members,

**General Meeting 26<sup>th</sup> June, 1996**

**10 Members Present**

Meeting held at Nowra

- PROPOSED CHANGES TO ACS RULES -- Mr. McElwee outlined the proposed changes and the final draft would be discussed in the next meeting in September.
- PUBLIC SECTOR –v- PRIVATE SECTOR -- the Chairman gave a summary and discussed the efforts of the 'Fair Go Alliance' which ACS financially supports.
- OPEN DOOR YOUTH FOUNDATION -- the Chairman announced that ACS NSW would be involved and local survey firms would assist in the surveying and layout of the site.

**General Meeting 18<sup>th</sup> September, 1996**

**11 Members Present**

- DRAFT RULES OF ACS -- it was resolved that the draft Rules be circulated to Members for written comments.
- BOS AND KURRI workshop -- a letter is to be written to the Board of Surveyors offering ACS's support.

**28<sup>th</sup> AGM 19<sup>th</sup> March, 1997**

**16 Members Present**

Executive Elected: Chairman: P. North

Messrs. Hutchison, Marler,  
Panucci, Prudames & Thorpe.

- OPEN DOOR YOUTH FOUNDATION -- Mr. R.G. Harrison spoke on the involvement of ACS and the voluntary assistance given by a number of Members. ACS contributed \$2,000.
- ACS, ISNSW & ISA -- the meeting recognised the high level of co-operation now existing between the organisations.
- AGM ATTENDANCE -- Mr. Cawthorne referred to the small number of Members in attendance and suggested that the Executive Officer raise the matter in the next issue of Observations.

**General Meeting 30<sup>th</sup> September, 1997**

**11 Members Present**

- CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS -- the Chairman informed the meeting of the activities in which ACS has been involved in during the past months viz:-
  - a) Review of Surveyors Act.
  - b) Copyright and Intellectual Property.
  - c) Integrated Development Assessment and DUAP.
  - d) Professional Surveyors Occupational Association (PSOA)
  - e) University of NSW and collaboration with ACS & ISNSW to attract sufficient students for courses.
- COPYRIGHT & INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY -- talk by Mr. McNamara on current situation. A meeting was held with the Director of Land Titles and his staff and subsequently a letter of claim was lodged.

**29<sup>th</sup> AGM 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1998**

**23 Members Present**

Executive Elected: Chairman: E. Panucci

Messrs. Hutchison, McNamara,  
Marler, Prudames & Thorpe.

- PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO RULES OF ASSOCIATION -- were accepted by the Meeting.

**General Meeting 16<sup>th</sup> September, 1998**

**16 Members Present**

- CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS -- the Chairman reported to the meeting that ACS has made submissions to the Government with regard to the changes to the EP & A Act.
- IDENTIFICATION REPORTS AND THE EP & A ACT -- Mr. R. G. Harrison advised that the effect of the EP & A Act to the wording in Identification Report is still being discussed.

Executive Elected: Chairman: E. Panucci

Messrs. Gearin, Hutchison, Jollie,  
Oxley, Prudames & Thorpe.

- CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS -- the Chairman highlighted the following items from his Report:-
  - a) 'Observations' are now available on the Internet.
  - b) Following the changes to the Rules multi-disciplinary firms can now become Members.
  - c) 'ACS SEARCH' will be operating from the 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1999 and the support of Members is requested.
  - d) Membership of the Association remains strong with 187 member firms comprising 281 Principals, 2 Associates and 17 Sustaining Members.
  - e) The loan on ACS's 'Trust Building' King Street office unit had been paid off and the Executive Committee decided to place it on the market and upgrade premises in the CBD.
  - f) Negotiations were continuing with the Employers Federation and APESMA regarding an Award for 'Professional Surveyors'.
  - g) The second year of the 'Excellence in Surveying Awards' is being organised by ACS and made a special note of appreciation to Mrs. Diane North for her efforts.
  - h) The Chairman drew attention to the low numbers of students enrolling in surveying courses and the future problems this will cause.
  - i) Appreciation of the efforts of Messrs. North, Marler and McNamara was made.
  - (a) HONORARY MEMBERSHIP -- was bestowed on Mr. John Sunter.
- COUNTRY SURVEYORS -- Mr. Bob George commented that he was encouraged that the planning of this AGM just prior to the Country Surveyors Meeting in Sydney enabled more country surveyors to attend the AGM.

**General Meeting 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 1999**

**14 Members Present**

- CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS -- no copy of the Chairman's address was found in the Minutes
- MOTIONS -- for Draft Budget 1999/2000, Annual Subscriptions & Amendments to Membership Rules were all carried.

**31<sup>st</sup> AGM 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2000**

**16 Members Present**

Executive Elected: Chairman: G. Oxley

Messrs. Cochrane, Hooi,  
Hutchinson, Jollie, Marler &  
Sampson.

- CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS -- the Chairman highlighted the following items from his Report:-
  - a) In the morning the outgoing Executive and the nominees for the incoming Executive met to discuss plans for the future of ACS.
  - b) 'ACS SEARCH' has been operating for a year and has proved to be a worthwhile venture and is now self funding. Members are encouraged to use this service.
  - c) It was found that due to the new venture ACS Search the workload on the Executive Officer, Mrs. Diane North had increased and it was decided during 1999 that a full time assistant was now required. The new position was offered to our part time Assistant of 13 years, Lita Somogyi but declined to accept, she was suitably farewelled in October, 1999.
  - d) ACS continued to provide OH&S courses which had proved to be very popular with many Members and non-members attending and were thus profitable.
  - e) Again the Excellence in Surveying Awards and Mapping were very successful.
  - f) The office unit owned by ACS has finally been sold.

**General Meeting 7<sup>th</sup> August, 2000**

**18 Members Present**

This Meeting followed the August Bank Holiday Seminar

The new Goods & Services Tax (**GST**) was introduced on the 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2000

- CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS -- the Chairman highlighted the following items from his Report:-
  - (a) ACS expressed concerns over the amalgamation of the Office of the Valuer General, Department of the Surveyor General and the Land Titles Office into the Land and Property Information (**LPI**) which may

lead to loss of staff, expertise and which could affect the integrity of the cadastre.

- (b) Occupational Health & Safety Seminars have been provided the 'Work Activity for Surveyors' component have been run by the Executive Officer, Mrs. Diane North.

**32<sup>nd</sup> AGM 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2001**

**14 Members Present**

Executive Elected: Chairman: G. Oxley

Messrs. Cochrane, Hooi,  
Hutchinson, Jollie, Marler &  
Sampson.

- CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS -- the Chairman highlighted the following items from his Report:-
  - a) It was pleasing to note that although a number of long term Principals of Member Firms retired and sold their Practices the new principals have retained ACS membership.
  - b) Unfortunately many of the well established Firms who have not joined still perceive that the cost of membership is too high.
  - c) The Chairman advised that one of the outcomes of the Spatial Information Industry Action Agenda had been the formation of a new association at a national level. He foreshadowed that ACS would have talks with our federal body.
  - d) It appears that the University of New South Wales may be changing the name of its School to include the term 'Surveying'. However the TAFE will be naming some of its courses to 'Spatial Information Systems'.
- PORTFOLIO REPORTS BY THE EXECUTIVE -- Ten Reports were issued and attached to the Minutes.
- SEMINARS -- Seventeen Seminars, some combined with the LPI were run throughout NSW.

**General Meeting 6<sup>th</sup> August, 2001**

**23 Members Present**

- CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS -- the Chairman highlighted the following items from his Report:-
  - (a) Membership is steady and healthy and thus there is no need to increase fees this year.
  - (b) Appealed to Members to consider the advantages of using 'ACS Search' and stressed that profits assist the Association.
  - (c) The stability of our Membership base is a matter of concern and the newly formed ASIBA's method of membership should be considered.

- (d) ACS has run a number of OH&S Work Activity Courses
- (e) Release of the NCP review of the Surveyors Act is still awaited.
- (f) A matter of concern was the lack of entries in the Excellence in Surveying and Mapping Awards from the private sector.
- (g) Discussions are taking place between ISNSW and ACS regarding accommodation issues

**33<sup>rd</sup> AGM 20<sup>th</sup> March, 2002**

**18 Members Present**

Executive Elected: Chairman: E. Panucci

Messrs. Cochrane, Hooi, Jollie, Marler, Moriarty, Sampson & Thorne.

- CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS -- the Chairman highlighted the following items from his Report:-
  - a) The change towards recognition as part of the "Spatial Information Industry". The formation last year of the Australian Spatial Information Business Association (**ASIBA**) and its dual role with ACSA does not appear to be working as it should.
  - b) ACS Search.
  - c) Reasons for proposed rule change
  - d) Recognition of work by members of the Executive and other Representatives.
  - e) New office location close to existing office and it is hoped ACS will be moving into it in the next few weeks. An adjoining office has been purchased which will be let.

**General Meeting 5<sup>th</sup> August, 2002**

**19 Members Present**

This Meeting followed the August Bank Holiday Seminar.

To date this was the shortest General Meeting on record and took up only 7 minutes.

- CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS -- the following are some of the items mentioned in his Report:-
  - (a) The rule changes removed the restriction on the ownership of companies and now allow for multi-disciplinary firms with Engineers & Planners on staff.
  - (b) At the end of June ACS moved to its new office on Level 6, 321 Pitt Street, Sydney which is only one city block from its old office and ISNSW. The adjoining office has been let and a tenant has moved in.
  - (c) ACS has just released the generic OH&S Management System which has already been taken up by a number of firms.

**34<sup>th</sup> AGM 19<sup>th</sup> March, 2003**

**13 Members Present**

Executive Elected: Chairman: J. Brown

Messrs. Hooi, Hutchinson, Jollie,  
Marler, Moriarty, Oxley,  
Sampson & Thorne.

- CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS -- there was no Address attached to the Minutes

**General Meeting 4<sup>th</sup> August, 2003**

**19 Members Present**

This Meeting followed the August Bank Holiday Seminar.

This Meeting was opened at 5.30pm and was closed at 5.32pm and was the shortest General Meeting on record and took only 2 minutes.

- CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS -- the following are some of the items mentioned in his Report:-
  - (a) The Annual Subscriptions have not been increased which are now being subsidised by the rental income from the second office and management fees from ACS Search, PSOA etc.
  - (b) Compliance with the OH&S Regulations must be met by the 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2003. The ACS is finding it difficult to service country regions and is looking at the possibility providing an on-line induction course.
  - (c) ACS is also preparing a confidential 'Member Survey Questionnaire' which will assist in the statistical analysis of the profession.

**35<sup>th</sup> AGM 25<sup>h</sup> March, 2004**

**12 Members Present**

Executive Elected: Chairman: J. Brown

Messrs. Hooi, Hutchinson, Jollie,  
Marler, Sampson & Thorne.

- HONORARY MEMBERS -- three Members were nominated as Honorary Members, Mr. Kevin Brown, Mr. Dick Lovegrove and Mr. Chris Hutchinson in recognition of the long service they have given to ACS. All three nominations were supported from the floor and were carried.

**General Meeting 18<sup>th</sup> August, 2004**

**9 Members Present**

- CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS -- the following are some of the items mentioned in his Report:-
  - (a) Since March, 2004 seven (7) new Member Firms have joined ACS bringing the total membership to 194 Member Firms. On the 31<sup>st</sup> May,

2004 ACSA was wound up and its assets transferred to ASIBA, the Chairman encouraged Members to transfer to ASIBA and take an active part in its activities.

- (b) A major project which ACS is undertaking with financial and other support from ACS Search, Cumberland Group of Surveyors and ISNSW

**36<sup>th</sup> AGM 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2005**

**11 Members Present**

Executive Elected: Chairman: Tony Thorne

Messrs. Flood, Gardner, Garvin,  
Hook, Hutchinson, Marler,  
Sampson & Wren.

- CHANGE OF FINANCIAL YEAR -- a Motion was put and carried that in order to comply with the Australian Taxation Office requirements the financial year would be changed from July to June.

**General Meeting 15<sup>th</sup> June, 2005**

**10 Members Present**

- DRAFT BUDGET -- the draft Budget was ratified and the Annual Subscriptions for the forthcoming year were set.
- SURVEY PRACTICE CIVIL DESIGN SCHEME -- Mr. Loomes raised concern that the SPCDS was being discontinued. He was assured that ACS would continue to support Members who had problems dealing with Councils.

**37<sup>th</sup> AGM 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2005**

**9 Members Present**

Executive Elected: Chairman: Tony Thorne

Messrs. Flood, Gardner, Garvin,  
Hutchinson, Madsen, Monaghan  
& Wren.

- PRESENTATION OF PLAQUES -- plaques were presented to Messrs. Marler & Sampson for their contributions over the years.

**General Meeting 21<sup>st</sup> June, 2006**

**11 Members Present**

- CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS -- the following are some of the items mentioned in his Report:-
  - (a) Since March, 2006 the Executive Officer, Diane North has worked closely with Mr. John Fryer and Mr. Andrew Campbell on the Town Planning and Engineering assessments
  - (b) The Bank Holiday Seminar is to be held in August covering cadastral surveying and business succession issues

**38<sup>th</sup> AGM 13<sup>th</sup> December, 2006**

**11 Members Present**

Executive Elected: Chairman: Ed Garvin

Messrs. Flood, Gardner,  
Hutchinson, Madsen, Monaghan,  
Pearson & Wren.

- GENERAL BUSINESS -- a plaque was presented to Mr. Jeff Brown who accepted the award with thanks. Both he and the Chairman also expressed their appreciation and gratitude of the work of the Executive Officer, Mrs. Diane North. The Chairman also welcomed Mrs. Laura Honeysett who was appointed as the Administration Officer in August.

**General Meeting 20<sup>th</sup> June, 2007**

**11 Members Present**

- CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS -- the Chairman's Address was not attached to these Minutes.
- BRANCH OFFICES -- in the setting of the Annual Subscriptions 2007/2008 all charges for the listing of a Branch Office were removed.

**39<sup>th</sup> AGM 20<sup>th</sup> October, 2007**

**71 Members Present**

The meeting was held at Terrigal

Executive Elected: Chairman: Ed Garvin

Messrs. Flood, Gardner,  
Hutchinson, Madsen, Monaghan  
& Pearson

- HONORARY MEMBERS -- two Members were nominated as Honorary Members, Mr. Ernie Panucci and Mr. Pat McNamara and in recognition of the long service they have given to ACS. The nominations were supported from the floor and were carried.

**General Meeting 18<sup>th</sup> June, 2008**

**9 Members Present**

- CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS -- the following are some of the items mentioned in his Report:-
  - (a) The Executive has decided that the profile of the ACS could be raised by occasionally using a Consultant on a contract basis. The Budget for the year 2008/2009 includes the sum of \$30,000.00 which is a considerable rise in the provision for Public Relations. The Chairman acknowledged the efforts that have been put into this over the years by the Executive Officer and Members.
  - (b) The Executive Officer, Mrs. Diane North has indicated that she will be resigning later in the year.
  - (c) The Membership Fee Structure is to be revised due to the merger of small firms with larger firms and medium to large organisations merging some with firms from other States with a corresponding increase in turnover.

**40<sup>th</sup> AGM 24<sup>th</sup> October, 2008**

**38 Members Present**

The meeting was held at Tamworth

Executive Elected: Chairman: Paul Mather                      Messrs. Bath, Flood, Gardner,  
Madsen, Monaghan, Parkinson  
& Pearson

- CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS -- briefly mentioned some of the items mentioned in his Report:-
  - (a) The Public Relations strategy is proving worth while with a quote in the Sydney Morning Herald, an ABC Radio interview and Prime Television's interviews on today's Conference in Tamworth.
  - (b) The Chairman announced that the new Executive Officer, Veronica Bondarew had been appointed. Appreciation and thanks were given to the outgoing Executive Officer, Diane North.
- GENERAL BUSINESS -- The problems with Councils not understanding the role of Surveyors in New South Wales in respect of infrastructure design work is still prevalent. The Chairman requested the Members provide details of such Councils with extracts from the relevant Council documents.

**General Meeting 17<sup>th</sup> June, 2009**

**11 Members Present**

- CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS -- the following are some of the items mentioned in his Report:-
  - (a) The Chairman commenced his Report by stating that *"There is no doubt that we now face difficult and trying financial times. Operating in an uncertain economy with global and local factors influencing our market place affects every aspect of our daily existence. It is in these circumstances that our profession needs to maintain high level of expertise and quality to insure our long term survival"*. He went on to say that he had confidence in the future but in order to assist small firms a new lower level of turnover of less than \$200,000.00 had been introduced.
  - (b) The difficulties of training of employees located in regional areas has long been recognised by TAFE and ACS and additional funding has been budgeted to support the development of an interactive educational service for distance training.
  - (c) ACS will continue to develop and expand the provisions of its current Continual Professional Education (CPD) programs.

**41<sup>st</sup> AGM 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2009**

**38 Members Present**

The meeting was held at Wollongong

Executive Elected: Chairman: Paul Mather

Messrs. Bath, Flood, Jollie,  
Learmont, Monaghan,  
Parkinson, Pearson & Thorpe

- GENERAL BUSINESS -- Mr. Goodman congratulated ACS on its recent Debt Recovery Seminar and suggested that more business related seminars should be held.

**General Meeting 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2010**

**7 Members Present**

- CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS -- the following are some of the items mentioned in his Report:-
  - (a) The Chairman spoke on the improved financial circumstances and changes over the last year and expressed the hope that the next year will be just as prosperous.
  - (b) The lower end fee structure has been maintained and with only minimal fee increases in the other brackets should be acceptable in today's economy.

## **APPENDIX C**

### **A Chairman's notes on his term**

In the research for this book each Chairman was approached and his recollections of events that occurred during his term were obtained. These were used as much as possible but it was not possible to include every detail however Gary Fuller's recollections were the most comprehensive as Gary had kept a daily note of his activities and I understand that he still does! The amount of time that a Chairman spends on his role is truly amazing. It is felt that Surveyors, both present and future, can gain some understanding of what is being done by your Chairman by a perusal of this Appendix. The following is an unedited copy of Gary Fuller's activities and thoughts from 1977 to 1979.

#### **GARY REGINALD FULLER F.I.S.NSW**

Chairman ACS NSW 1977 to 1979

Executive Officer	June Brand
Registrar General	Jack Griffith
Surveyor General	Noel Fletcher
President ISNSW	George Bennett
	Richard Lovegrove

1. During my time as Chairman relations between ACS and ISNSW were still a little strained but far far better than they had been before 1977.
2. I do think Executive Officer June Brand had a lot to do with this improvement .
3. There were two organisations, in one room at York Street, problems could not be avoided.
4. When President Dick Lovegrove moved us all to Pitt Street, ACS got one office while ISNSW had two offices all contained in one big area and relationships rapidly improved (I think).
5. Under these conditions, ACS had to ensure that whatever they did, ISNSW had to be included so that they didn't infringe upon any function that ISNSW considered to be their province.
6. This situation was considered and all our actions reflected this goal.
7. While Chairman I joined "The Sydney Club" which had a close relationship with ACS, ISNSW and ISA. This enabled ACS to hold all our Executive Meetings, General Meetings and Seminars at the Club.
9. At the time survey work was scarce and ACS received a lot of complaints from various member firms complaining about the actions of other member firms.
11. One was, firm A from town X complained to ACS that firm B from town Y were accepting work in their town X and they were using mainly un-Registered or Graduates Surveyors and had no proper office in their town X.
12. Another case was member surveyors working in the same area complaining to ACS, about the standard of work of other member surveyors working in the same area.
13. As a result ACS created the "Practice Committee" to handle disputes between

member firms but ACS insured that ISNSW were a part of that committee .

14. Thirty years later that Committee has grown in scope and just as strong.
15. At an ACS Dinner, Registrar General Jack Griffith was the guest speaker and he had three foolscap pages of changes in R.G. policy and many other matters concerning Surveyors, which members had little or no knowledge .
16. That night I drove Jack home to Caringbah and the LTO Liaison Committee was conceived but again ACS ensured that ISNSW was a part of that committee.
17. At the same time the Lands Department Liaison Committee was formed with cooperative Surveyor General Noel Fletcher, again ensuring that ISNSW was a part of that committee.
18. After a couple of years we found that the Lands Department Liaison Committee had dealt with most of the old outstanding matter and as ACS did very little Lands Department contracts (Lands had 83 Surveyors on staff) it was recommended by ACS that the Lands Department Liaison Committee merge with the LTO Liaison Committee and for a short period of time CMA also sent a representative. This was long before the State Government combined these organizations.
19. The LTO Liaison Committee is now even more important to ACS than in 1979.
20. The Chairman of ACS were appointed Councillors of the Employers Federation creating a relationship much needed at the time in the light of growing Union actions being taken, affecting member firms more and more .
21. One time I was summoned to a Arbitration hearing, in the city somewhere and was in the witness box for over four hours, being quizzed on nearly every firm in NSW. At the time, as chairman, I thought I knew all about our member firms, their staff numbers, make up of professional, field and office staff, size of their office, and like a shot gun and without hesitation promptly answered each and every question and not one answer was questioned by the Unions.
22. At the conclusion I felt that I had done a good job, but with the same shot gun June Brand quietly informed me that some 15% of the answers were incorrect.
23. ACS Aust made two separate delegations waiting on Federal Ministers in Canberra. On the second day of the first delegation, at about 4pm, we finally got to see Labor Minister Clyde Cameron and came home with nothing.
24. The second delegation had less luck and by lunch time of the first day we had been palmed off to Surveyor General Bill Kennedy, way out at Belconnen, who after less than an hour had us all in a Commonwealth Car back to the airport.
25. We also had an audience with NSW Lands Minister Crabtree, at Parliaments House, about possible survey contracts. Minister Crabtree was a little man with a very big desk and in order that he could be seen over this desk, he had to sit on two pillows.
26. We again had no luck, because when we arrived Surveyor General Noel Fletcher was seated there, to advise his Minister and Noel had his 83 in house surveyors to keep employed.
27. Still on lack of survey work . Surveyor General Bill Kennedy who I found to be a top bloke. ( In the early 60's I did a 6 month contract ,on behalf of BMR ,for him in North Queensland. This was followed by a 6 year contract marking subdivision and undertaking contour and detail surveys in Canberra, we were the only Contract Survey Firm working in Canberra at the time.) As we knew each other quite well. I invited him to be guest speaker at a Dinner being an opportunity for him to meet

members of ACS NSW.

28. Denny Linker started it with questions about Commonwealth contract work for private surveyors. Here I made a tremendous blunder and did not stop further questions and it went from bad to worse. Every time I saw Bill Kennedy after that he talked about that night when he came to Sydney.. Soon after he became the Canberra Fire Commissioner and a short time later passed away at a very early age.
29. ISNSW and ACS had very little contact with Government Surveyors. The Water Board, DMR, Forestry, Health, Lands, Maritime Services , Australian Survey Office, Public Works, WCIC and a lot of Local Government Councils had large Survey Departments, even CSA only gave token support to ISNSW. They had large numbers and ran their own associations
30. ACS tried to narrow this fragmentation and when possible attended conferences such as DMR at Parkes, where I was asked "Why are you here?" and CSA at Orange where President George Bennet for ISNSW and myself for ACS flew up from Sydney on the Saturday morning, we got a taxi from the airport to town, sat in on the seminar and then got a taxi back to the airport catching the 7pm plane back to Sydney. ACS later had a combined meeting with CSA in Bathurst and that co-operation has continued.
31. I believe that The Groups brought ISNSW members together and while looking at ACS membership I could see that there was a lot of private and government surveyors south of Goulburn who had no contact with ACS or ISNSW.
32. ACS contacted all the surveyors they could locate, both private and government, from Yass, Albury, Wagga, Deniliquin, Griffith ,Tumut, Cooma, Young, Cootamundra and Narrandera inviting them to a meeting at Wagga with the aim of forming a Riverina Group. I flew down to Wagga on the Saturday morning , was picked up by Bruce Leigh-Cooper from the airport. About 40 surveyors turned up, (some government and private surveyors did not know the other surveyor in their own town ) and we had a successful meeting. An active committee was formed that day with the aim of forming a Group. Within six months President Kevin Blume opened the first Murray Group of ISNSW meeting at Wagga.
33. Government Surveyors had a committee named "Control Surveys Committee" to co-ordinate and catalogue large scale detail and control surveys . It was their opinion the Private Firms did not do large surveys and so were not included. By joining this group it was found that private firms could contribute, and this furthered the understanding between the private and government brothers.
34. Town Planners were also short of work and Private Partitioners formed the "Association of Town Planners" to hunt up work and invited Surveyors to join.
35. I joined as ACS Representative and held office for some years. Work got better over the years and the association was later disbanded.
36. This association did bring Surveyor and Planners closer together, resulting in closer understanding between the two professions.
37. This contact lead to ACS, being invited to join, the State Planning Authority Liaison and Consultative Committee, a group privately organised by the then Chairman of the SPA . (before Wran)
38. The UNSW each year held a Careers Day and all Commonwealth, State and Local Government Departments as well as Defence Services, Financial Institutions and other large employers were invited. ACS was not invited.

39. ACS were concerned at the time that Graduates and under-Graduates had no opportunity to gain field or office survey experience as none of the above mentioned organisations were taking on any new young people.
40. Without an invitation I went along representing the Private Survey Profession. Just as well as I was the only employer to turn up.
41. I was invited to speak, to the large audience and my theme was "Get the work experience and forget the low salary".
42. Another "availability of work problem" was I flew up to Taree called upon the District Surveyor concerning the impact of one of his Staff Surveyors undertaking a large amount of local private work impacting upon the viability of the local Private Firms. It resulted in the Staff Surveyor opening a Private Practice.
43. The interesting outcome was ,when I flew back to Sydney that night, I went straight to a ACS meeting at Chatswood RSL. While walking from my car in the dark to the club Noel Fletcher caught up with me and said "I believe you have been to Taree to-day". News travels fast, but more important, contact between the private and government sector was improving, for both good and bad, but there was contact.
44. To encourage members to meetings we held a number of ACS meetings at suburban clubs , I remember one at Liverpool and another at Hurstville RSL.
45. As Chairman of ACS I was called upon to give evidence at the Campbell's Cost of Land Development Enquiry .
46. ACS held a very well attended seminar in regard to a new Land & Environment Act under the Wran Government which killed the Land & Valuation Court and the Subdivision Appeals Tribunal.
47. The ACS Information Service was started under Wally Hunt while I was Chairman.
48. Submissions to amendments to the Surveyors Act were lodged for consideration by Government.
49. While Chairman of ACS NSW I was Vice President of ISNSW at the same time.
50. While Chairman, I asked Keith Stapley to represent ACS NSW on ACS Aust. as I believed that only a few NSW Members had any interest in work outside NSW and ACS NSW had a lot of local members to support.
51. When I retired June Brand presented me with a 15cm high engraved silver cup. It was the only silver cup I have ever received in 80 years.