

Must see videos:[How to use VHF Marine Radio](#)[Sending a distress signal](#)[Digital Selective Calling](#)[Uses of VHF Marine Radio](#)**Web links of Interest:****ACMA**[Radiocommunications \(Maritime Ship Station – 27MHz and VHF\) Class License 2015](#)[VHF Marine Radio](#)**BOM**[Marine and Ocean weather](#)[Communication services](#)**AMSA**[Maritime Mobile Service Identity \(MMSI\)](#)

Please contact the office if you know of other web links that may be of interest.

Promotional Material

OMC Pamphlets – having an event, request some OMC pamphlets. The pamphlet PDF file is also available on our website for printing at: http://www.amc.edu.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0006/895002/OMC-flyer-Mar-2017.pdf

Hi All,

Practical Component

The commencement of the practical component 1 August 2017 has gone reasonably smoothly with only a few minor hiccups. However we would like to remind invigilators to sign and return **all paper work**, as evidence is required for our records, including the Exam Lodgement form.

Please note, the first Exam Lodgement form we sent out was **incorrect**. It stated that the Observation Checklist did not have to be returned. We apologise for this error and request that you throw all old Examination Lodgement forms out! Please use the ones in the examination packages as we are updating the form as we get feedback from you. This also applies to the Observation CheckLists.

If you wish to compile your own Observation Checklist please keep it to one page, as every page adds to the weight (and therefore cost) of the postage. Postage is one of our biggest costs, we like to be efficient as possible in the number of pages in the package. If you use both sides of the paper, as we file electronically (scan documents), it would be appreciated if the important data is on one page and the not so important data ie instructions are on the 2nd page. This way we only have to scan one side, sounds a bit pedantic, but when we are scanning and filing 3 pieces of paper for approx. 6000 candidates and the paperwork from the invigilator it all adds up and is time consuming and costly.

Thank you for taking the time to include the practical in the examination process. Over time, the process hopefully will be refined and improved as we settle into what is required for our qualifications.

Pricing Submission

With the commencement of the new contract with ACMA, 1 August 2017 we have been required to submit

calculations for our expected expenses and revenues for the next year. These forecast figures are the basis for determining the 2018 fees, OMC will charge for Handbooks and Applications. The current prices have been in effect for two years, 2016 and 2017. Unfortunately our statistics show that there is a small but steady decline in the number of applications made and a bigger drop in the number of handbooks purchased (refer OMC Winter Newsletter). Variable costs such as postage and printing of examination booklets have been reduced, but the fewer number of handbooks being purchased increases the printing costs as it is more expensive to print a smaller number of handbooks.

The following are the **proposed** fees (including GST) for 2018. **The fees are subject to approval by ACMA.**

New Applications \$89.00
Unit of Competency Applications \$49.00
Reissue Applications \$35.00
MRO Handbook \$45.00
MV Handbook \$16.50
Handbook postage as quoted (estimated actual).

We anticipate the new fee schedule will be introduced 1 January 2018.

Regards Suzanne, Liz and Sheree.

End of Year – Office closure

Our office will be closing 12:00 noon Friday 22nd December and will reopen Tuesday 2 January 2018.

As this is the last newsletter for 2017 a few reminders to keep in mind as the year end approaches.

- 1. Please pay any fees owing prior to our office closing, to enable the issuing of certificates.**
- 2. Ask around, if anyone requires a certificate for some race coming up (last minute requests may not be possible) .**
- 3. Order enough (not too many) exam papers to get you through until we re-open on the 2nd.**

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We're on the Web!

See us at:

[Office of Maritime
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Have a look at AMC on
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Office Staff

Manager – Martin Crees-Morris

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Elizabeth Reeve
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Opening Hours
Monday to Friday - 9:00am to
5:00pm except for public
holidays and university granted
days.

Invigilator Contact Details

*If changing your contact
details, sponsor
organisation, going overseas
for a while or resigning as an
invigilator, please let the
office know so that our
database can be updated.*

Feedback

*The OMC welcomes any
feedback or comments
regarding the content of this
newsletter, our exams, the
Marine Radio Operators
Handbooks, and any other
aspect of our service*

Suzanne Retiring

By the time you receive this newsletter I will have retired. I have had 16.5 interesting years at AMC, met a lot of wonderful people, here at the College and at boat shows. As our certificates are Australia wide I have had some great conversations with people from all over. I particularly love the conversations (in winter) with the guys in the hot states, telling me they are sitting on their balcony in shorts and t-shirt enjoying the balmy 22 degrees. I respond with, I am sitting at my desk still with my overcoat, gloves and scarf on!

I love the change of the seasons in Tassie. Although as I get older I can see the benefits of spending a Tassie winter in a warmer state.

I am looking forward to retiring but will miss the people I work with and the people I have interacted with over the years. Thank you for your support and the many interesting conversations. I wish you all the very best in the future.

New Manager for OMC

With Suzanne's retirement the opportunity has been taken to appoint a new OMC Manager. The new manager, Martin Crees-Morris will assume the majority of Suzanne's duties. Martin is currently on leave returning 16th October 2017.

Frequently asked Questions (FAQ's)

Q. Can the revision questions be printed and/or save to a word document?
A. Yes. On the web open the revision questions. Then at the top right hand corner click on the **three vertical dots**. Click on **print**. Then when the print screen shows, click on **change** click on **Save as PDF**, **Save** to a destination of your choice. Open the PDF file and highlight what you want, paste to a word document. Edit the word document.

BOM – News

[MetEye video for marine users](#)

The Bureau has published an instructional video on how to use MetEye for marine activities. MetEye provides forecast and observational information in 6km square grids around Australia, extending out to 60 nautical miles offshore. Some key features for boaters include current observations for sea surface temperature, current and forecast wind speed in knots, MSLP, total wave height, and swell height and direction. The video on how to use MetEye can be viewed on the Bureau's Marine Weather Knowledge Centre at:
<http://www.bom.gov.au/marine/knowledge-centre/meteye.shtml>

[Portal for calibrating voluntary marine observations](#)

To celebrate World Maritime Day, the Bureau developed a portal to assist ships collecting marine observations. The Bureau has a network of 70 ships forming the Australian Voluntary Observing Fleet that provide a wide range of observation data, including for air pressure. This data is shared worldwide, and helps the Bureau develop routine forecasts as well as longer-range climate outlooks. Ships can now calibrate their barometers when they are in port, by checking a new webpage that links key ports around Australia to the latest air pressures observed by the closest Automatic Weather Station, see:
<http://www.bom.gov.au/marine/portairpressure.shtml>. To join the voluntary ship observation network please contact:
marine_obs@bom.gov.au.