



Vale - Alan Jenner 1937- 2005

Many members of PIMA, Plastics Pioneers, PLICKS and CADS made the trip to Bowral to attend the funeral of Alan Jenner on the 3rd March. He was an Honorary Life Member of PIMA and had supported PIMA since its inception in 1991. It was said of Alan that “everyone he touched remained a friend for life.”

Ern Molloy gave one of the eulogies and we have reprinted it in full as we feel that it says it all about one of the industries shining lights. The photo shows Alan as he really was, a man that loved to have a good time, always smiling.

“Alan Jenner. One of nature’s gentlemen. Alan was well known and highly respected throughout the plastics industry. He originally served his apprenticeship as a Toolmaker, as so many in the industry did, and first came to notice in plastics in a selling role for Shell Chemicals as they introduced their Polypropylene moulding powders into this market.



Alan was their technical sales face to the industry. That was in the early 60s and Alan’s convivial nature combined with his engineering skill guaranteed his success in that role. In those early days he formed many of his industry friendships that were to last him a lifetime.

In the 60s and 70s the Plastics Industry was booming along, with rapid primary developments in both materials and equipment and opportunities for a skilful toolmaker with good Plastics knowledge abounded. So, late in the 60s, Alan sought to get back into the engineering end of the industry. He left Shell and spent time in a number of companies, some new startups, some established. He worked with Gordon Beaver at Injectomatic. He ran the nightshift at Marrickville Plastics for awhile. And in the 70s with Ian Noad, he established Jenoa Plastics. The Jenoa name comes from the Jenner - Noad combination. And Ian Noad has been telling me that the company name got them a lot of enquiries from the Italian community! Jenoa went on to become a very sizeable operation in NSW until it eventually went under just a few years ago.

However, Alan got out of Jenoa long before that and eventually in the 80s, his trail took him into TAFE and the Plastics Skills Centre. His excellent toolmaking skills and his knowledge of the Plastics industry made him an excellent fit with that body. From there he also ran the secretariat of the Toolmakers Association. As the TAFE scene changed over time, so did Alan’s involvement and he gradually scaled back his activity until he retired.

Whilst all of this was going on, Alan was heavily involved in all of the Plastics industry fellowships. He was a Plastics Pioneer - that is a member of a club of the elders of the industry. But he was also a CAD – (that is, sort of, the plastics industry rogue’s gallery). He was a Gold Pin member of Plicks, another industry fellowship. To be a member of either of these groups requires that you be a plastics industry character; that you be sociable; that you be able to quaff the odd glass; in short you have to be a genial rogue and Alan met the specifications 100%. He was an amiable, gracious, socially adept and well-loved member of all of those fraternities. ‘Matter of fact, I know that there will be a great reunion going on upstairs right now. You can imagine the welcome he’s being given by Claude (*McColough*), Ken (*York*), Roger (*Steele*) and all of his old mates who’ve gone up ahead of him. That they’ve left their CAD’s Cups behind them won’t be any handicap I’m sure.

But back to Alan’s retirement. When Alan retired, he didn’t really retire from his lifelong love of precision engineering. Over time Alan had set himself up with a very fine workshop at his Lugarno residence and was able to continue to exercise his skills in this most rewarding hobby. Foreign orders for his mates were his stock in trade. One of his very nice ventures was his collaboration with his great mate Claude McColough in the construction of a pair of RC sailing boats that had to meet the demanding specifications of the International One Metre Restricted Class Model Yacht Federation. Alan & Claude made quite a team.

Claude relied upon Alan's superb toolmaking skills and equipment and attention to detail; Alan relied on Claude's deep knowledge of Fibreglass Plastics. They were a joy to behold working on this crazy project. Sadly, those models never did get completed to sailing stage; Claude passed away before their finish. In any case, the construction itself was the project – completion would have been a bit of an anti-climax. But talk about Boys with their Toys. They used to light up with their enthusiasm over that project.

Some 2 years ago, when Elaine and Alan moved here to Bowral, provision of a suitable workshop facility was high on the specification for their new home. And of course that was achieved, so that Alan was able to continue his wonderful engineering hobby (as well as bowls, garden, attend CADs Cup luncheons and all those other wonderful things that he was doing in retirement).

When the going gets tough the tough get going Given the news of his threatening disease in mid 2004, Alan followed all of the medical advice to maximise his chances of beating it. And so positive of mind was he, that he acquired an old Humber Vogue (purchased from country Victoria) which he arranged to be delivered to his Bowral estate, there to be lovingly restored. To achieve a perfect restoration, Alan with his trademark attention to detail, found an original English Humber workshop manual at an antique shop in Kogarah!!! (Bargain .. on the day he found it the shop had a 2 for the price of 1 sale going, so he got the Australian version of the workshop manual as well for the all inclusive price of \$30!). Visiting him recently, he was insistent that I go inspect the old Humber, impatient that he was as yet unable to commence the restoration. He was so looking forward to that project.

Sadly, all of the positive thinking in the world couldn't beat the enemy within, so we are denied the spectacle that I imagined that we could all look forward to – seeing Alan drive his lovingly restored Humber in a drag race against Eric Norrie in his Rolls. Truly, that would have reduced the Bong Bong Races to a mere sideshow!!

Alan, we are going to miss you very much. You have been a very good friend whose good cheer and pleasant conversation could always be relied upon to lift the spirits at any of our fellowship meetings. Your friendship was a special one. You will be well remembered by us all.

All of us in the industry express our deepest sympathies to Elaine. Elaine, any time that any of us can help in any way – you know you just have to call. Farewell Alan, old mate.” – Em Molloy.

Just before Alan was piped from the church the minister said “The suffering from the illness of the past few months are behind him - Alan is at peace.”

Many members have said a lot about Alan, but an email PIMA received from Mike Naylon from Arrk Silhouette on hearing of Alan's passing re-iterates what Ern Molloy has said about Alan:-

“What very sad news: I can remember Alan when he ran the moulding shop for Vinylclad and that somewhat dates me, I guess! He was a thorough gentleman of what is now called ‘the old school’ and will be missed by all who new him and who enjoyed his company and friendship.”

PIMA Charity Golf Day & Dinner 2005

Don't forget – it's on again - Friday 13th May at Carnarvon Golf Club, Lidcombe. Remember to block this day out in your diary.

Organise your teams early to avoid disappointment.

This years charity will be the ‘Day of Difference Foundation’. This foundation has been established by Ron Delezio in an effort to help people with handicaps. For more information about the foundation please visit their website www.dayofdifference.com.au. The Burns Unit at Westmead Childrens' Hospital is supported by the foundation & that will be where **ALL** the profits from the day will be directed. We will have a shopping list of badly needed equipment that we will be working toward purchasing for them.

Here is where you can help - WE NEED SPONSORS.

There will be various levels of sponsorship:

Diamond	\$1500.00 + GST	Gold	\$ 750.00 + GST
Silver	\$ 500.00 + GST	Sapphire	\$ 250.00 + GST
Prize	\$ 150.00 + GST	Or send a donation	

As you can see there are sponsorships for every budget. Contact Ralph Cable either by phone (02) 9387 6610 or email pima@pima.asn.au



26-29 September 2005



Ausplas 2005

2005 brings with it Ausplas 2005 to be held in September 26- 29. Again this will be held at "Jeff's Shed," the Melbourne Exhibition Centre. Pioneers should make every effort to attend and catch up with the latest developments and old friends. We will publish more on this event during the year.

Plastics News International (PNI) are publishing a number of past references to Ausplas and we have copied two of these for your interest.

Celebrating 35 Years

Ausplas 2005 will mark the 35th anniversary of Australia's international plastics exhibition, the longest running and most successful plastics show in the South East Asian region.

PNI has decided to honour this milestone by going all nostalgic, so in the lead up to next year's exhibition, we'll be looking back at some of the highlights of previous Ausplas events... events that have certainly reflected the progress and maybe even helped shape the plastics industry in Australia.

Readers are invited to contact PNI with personal observations or anecdotes about previous Ausplas exhibitions.

1969 - A Modest Beginning

The Hordern Pavilion and the British Pavilion at the RAS Sydney Show grounds was where it all began. The timing was appropriate... on the threshold of The Age of Plastics.

With a committee chaired by Mick Moran of Nylex, the exhibition was organised by the PIA, which ran it in conjunction with the sixth Australian plastics convention, a well established event that featured a large number of local and international speakers and regularly attracted over 1000 delegates.

There were 82 exhibitors out at the show grounds and they occupied just 4,600 square meters. But what was really interesting was that over half those exhibitors were processors.

Things have certainly changed since then. In fact, Ausplas is now billed as an exhibition for the plastics processing industry.

Processors at Ausplas 69 included such names as ACI Plastics, Atlas Plastics, Caroma, Casolin Plastics, Gay-Dor, Iplex, Kelvinator, Laminex Industries, Nally, Nylex, Sarlon, Vinlon and Walter Barr... several of which are no longer with us.

1973 - On the Front Foot

This was the year a vintage car was driven around Melbourne streets and a hot air balloon floated overhead to promote the Ausplas exhibition.

The event, again organised by PIA and this time under the chairmanship of Shell Chemicals' Ted Harrison, was held at the Royal Exhibition Building. It was of a similar size to its predecessor and occupied the eastern and western annexes (since demolished) and part of the Great Hall.

The significant thing about this show was the attendance. Members of the general public, 5,100 and school children, 3000, made up more than half the 15,400 visitors.

Those readers of PNI who were around then will recall that it was a critical time for the plastics industry. Litter, waste disposal and energy conservation were big issues, as was the vinyl chloride monomer crisis.

PIA saw Ausplas as an ideal opportunity to help counter the influence of uninformed journalists and teachers by inviting the public to the show and arranging scheduled visits by senior secondary school students. Hence the balloon and vintage car double act.

This article was published in a recent edition of The Plastics Pioneers (Vic) newsletter.

Skilled Staff Shortages in Australia

For those of you who remember the article in the January PIMA Press on this subject may be either confused, amazed, frustrated or just plain amused to hear that the Federal Government has announced that it proposes to increase the intake of skilled migrants to Australia to help cure the problem of shortages of skilled staff.

As pointed out in the January newsletter two of our members are currently arguing with the Department of Immigration to try to stop them deporting two employees, a Moulder and a Die Setter. The Department's decision to try to deport these two people is based on the fact that they are of the misguided opinion that there is an abundance of these skills available in Australia.

PIIMA fought for 9 years to have an apprenticeship established at TAFE, but with the constant eroding of the TAFE budget by the State Government there has been little support from TAFE and a very low uptake by young people.

When was the last time you, as an employer in the industry, received any promotional material from TAFE, the State or the Federal Government extolling the virtues of the apprenticeship scheme? The only promotion of the scheme has been left to PIMA and as a voluntary organization it does not have the resources to launch an industry wide campaign. PIMA has always offered to assist in distributing information to our members but so far, after 3 years, nothing has been forthcoming.

What is the solution?

PIMA has to grow in size and strength to help represent not only the Injection Moulding Industry but also other sectors of the Plastics' Industry. PACIA is poorly represented, especially in NSW, and therefore it is up to PIMA to take the bull by the horns and try to take the lead in the various problems facing the entire Plastics Industry, not only in NSW. This will only happen through increased membership numbers.

Those of you who are members must have contact with other firms who are not members. PIMA needs you to encourage those firms to join PIMA, get involved, support our functions, and then this increased activity will give PIMA the clout to start to push the various governments in Australia to take this industry seriously as a large employer of Australians.

This article was submitted by Ralph Cable of Galvano Plastic). The opinions expressed are his and not necessarily those of PIMA

New Look PIMA PRESS – Email only

Due to the high cost of mail-outs THE PIMA PRESS is now only distributed by email. We have decided to mail this edition as an example of the content. Should you wish to receive the newsletter on a regular basis and you are not receiving it by email, please send your email address to pima@pima.asn.au. Please place the word 'newsletter' in the subject box of your email.

Trade Directory

Have you placed a FREE listing in the PIMA Trade Directory? You will find it attached to the PIMA website. Go to www.pima.asn.au and click on Trade Directory. If you have any problems contact Ralph Cable on (02) 9387 6610. This directory has the potential to assist the industry with fast access to providers of goods and services but we need more listings.

Important Diary Dates for 2005

Dinner Seminar	Tuesday	12/04/05	Dinner Seminar	Tuesday	9/08/05
PIMA Charity Golf Day	Friday	13/05/05	Plastics Pioneers Lunch	Thursday	25/08/05
Plastics Pioneers Lunch	Thursday	26/05/05	Dinner Seminar & AGM	Tuesday	11/10/05
Dinner Seminar	Tuesday	7/06/05	Plastics Pioneers Lunch	Thursday	24/11/05

Chinaplas 2005

21-24 June 2005

Guangzhou International Convention and Exhibition Centre
Guangzhou - China



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