

Christmas in Hong Kong

→ After a prolonged period of inactivity due to local Covid restrictions, the Hong Kong branch took advantage of a more relaxed set of guidelines to host a social get-together in the run up to Christmas.

Members and their wives gathered at Café 8 on the roof of the Maritime Museum and were welcomed by branch chair Hans Langsrud, who then introduced speaker Alan Loynd. Loynd gave a short talk about his involvement with the recovery of a Boeing 747 from the harbour in 1993 – an operation for which there were no instructions because nobody imagined any would ever be needed. He then showed a video of the event made by the government at the time, but lost for many years until its recent rediscovery. Images of the younger and thinner Loynd generated much hilarity among the ill-bred attendees.

Meanwhile members enjoyed a lively evening of good food and drink provided by the branch, and the chance to meet after a long period of enforced isolation.

This was intended to be the first of a series of face-to-face events which were planned at two-month intervals throughout 2022, but the committee had reckoned without the Omicron variant, and are currently holding events remotely. We are hoping the situation will improve in time for our major anniversary celebration later in the year.

Alan Loynd FNI