



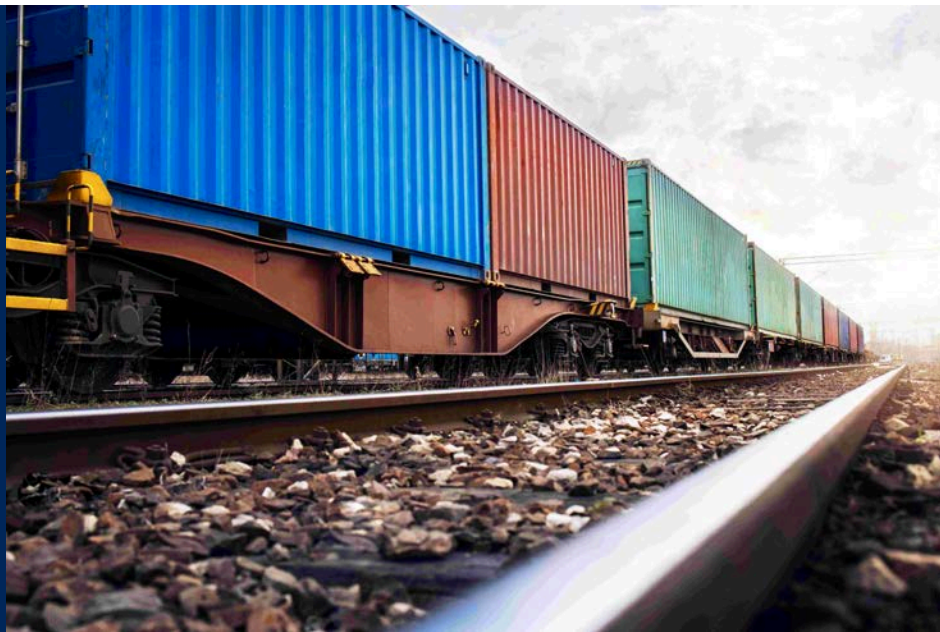
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## ACS AUGUST NEWSLETTER



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## A message from Michael Johnston, ACS General Manager.



**Welcome all,**

I hope that our clients in the Southern States are surviving what has quickly become a cold winter, and that some have been able to travel north or further for some winter sun

### **Can we assist you by Rail?**

Our name does us a bit of a disservice as rail is a dedicated and focused part of our business as we have grown to become a leading and fully independent rail freight forwarder.

At ACS, we can assist on all major interstate services between capital cities and into Darwin and Far North Queensland, as well as the various intrastate services in to key regional areas.

Through our extensive repositioning network we can provide containers for use on most occasions and corridors and transport at origin and destination in all locations. We'd be delighted to quote you on any project you might be working on or to provide you further information on your services.

Coastal services are running smoothly at present, aside from the delays that have almost become the norm due to the difficulties and conflicts affecting shipping services

around the world.

We're excited by some carriers in the trade looking to engage on new opportunities and offerings that we hope to be able to provide more information on soon.

Thanks again for taking the time to read our newsletter, please get in touch with myself or the team and we will be happy to assist you.

Best Regards,

**Michael Johnston, General Manager**

## Container Weight Issues

Container weight issues remain a focus across the industry, with Pondus fees being applied by all Stevedores where variances to declared weights are found. The rail is continuing to audit the accuracy of vehicle weights and the correct trucks and trailers being manifested.

Similarly, by road it remains vital and a legislative requirement that all loaded containers are accompanied by an accurate and compliant container weight declaration.

We encourage all of our clients to take care in determining and declaring correct weights for the safety of all and to avoid unwanted charges. Please get in touch with any member of our team if you require any further assistance.

**ACS SPONSORS LOCAL  
APOLLO FOOTBALL CLUB**

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The team at ACS is excited to support Apollo Football Club.

Established in 1971 by a passionate local Greek community, Apollo has grown into one of the largest soccer clubs in the region, known for their welcoming and supportive environment.

Apollo FC welcome aspiring young athletes as young as 4 years old, right through to seniors who simply want to enjoy the game.

Apollo's commitment to inclusivity, respect, and diversity aligns with our own values at Australian Coastal Shipping, making us proud to be a sponsor.

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## An interview with ACS Director, David James.



**What made you choose a career in Transport & Logistics?**



**How did the formulation of ACS come about?**

Having been a terrible student at university, I left and had a few random jobs to finance my early adventures and then finally a good friend said it was time for me to get a real job.

I started in 1987 in packaging, which led to a move into transport in 1989 where I joined TNT. I sort of fell into the logistics industry and I was lucky to be exposed to a lot in a short time at TNT, then subsequent companies. Having learnt how to package stuff, I then learnt how to move it!

### **How has the logistics industry changed over the years?**

I've noticed a sharp decline in the entrepreneurship within shipping companies – 'system says no' is a common response despite knowing most things are possible.

Annoyingly within many corporates, individual's names seem to be being removed in favour of generic contact points, leading to difficulty in getting good information and no evident responsibility in a lot of cases.

Also, the rampant acceleration of landside charges and the number of parties clipping an ever-growing chunk from the ticket yet adding zero value is infuriating. Regulations have become stricter in many ways – and needed to in many cases.

### **Do you support any local charities/organisations as part of your role?**

Independent to my minimal duties with ACS, I'm a director of a small mental

In 2004 an opportunity to start my own show appeared, with Tom Pinder's late wife, Annie, suggesting we combine our expertise's to start Australian Coastal Shipping. She was a wise lady.

Tom, who I first ran into at TNT, and I have been at it since May 2004. As the business grew, our team has also expanded and I'm incredibly proud of each and every member of our team and what they achieve every day.

### **What are your hobbies/interests outside of ACS?**

The reason for my being a terrible Uni student was the distraction of motorsport. Back then throwing fast cars at trees, or rallying, now racing. I've been very fortunate to have competed in rallying at some pretty good levels, won some titles, had more fun than I deserved!

Now I'm loving racing my little Lola sports racing car in the historic classes with a bunch of old farts, just like me! Other than that, I throw a leg over a bike every now and then and reminisce about racing them on track and road. And my whippet, Max.

### **What's one piece of advice that's stuck with you?**

Tom Pinder once advised me to never fry bacon naked. I'm not sure if that was experience or wisdom on his part.

health charity, Drive Against Depression (driveagainstdepression.com.au).

Our goal is to encourage individuals to discuss theirs or friend's/family's mental health in a safe, nonjudgmental environment.

We hold regular driving and other events around Australia. My principal role with DAD is to run events in states other than Victoria.

## Happy 40th Birthday, Bianca 🎈



**Wishing 'Bianca' a Happy 40th Birthday!**

**We hope you had a fantastic day and enjoyed a special dinner with your family at The Barn Steakhouse.**

**Best wishes, from the ACS Team.**

## Rail History....

The first railway was privately owned and operated and commissioned by the Australian Agricultural Company in Newcastle in **1831**, a cast-iron fishbelly rail on an inclined plane as a gravitational railway servicing a pit coal mine. The first steam-powered line opened in Victoria in 1854.

## Get to know our Region

Discover Treasures from the Coonawarra Cellars

Experience for yourself the superior ageing ability of Coonawarra wines, as our wineries dust off rare cellar treasures that are otherwise not available for day to day tasting

Choose from over 40 events and activities, including exclusive wine tastings, divine dinners, long lunches, chocolate & wine pairing, and cooking classes. All aim to

showcase the breadth of beautiful wines, our emerging food credentials, and the warmth and hospitality that is so ... Coonawarra.

Experience Winter, Our Way.

[Find out more](#)

## SHIPPING FUN FACT...

In a year, an average container ship travels the equal of 75% of its voyage to and from the moon during it's normal voyage across the ocean.



[Shipping Schedule](#)

## From the ACS Team

If you require any further information on our services visit our website

[www.austcoastal.com.au](http://www.austcoastal.com.au) or phone us on [1300 899 326](tel:1300899326)

[REQUEST A QUOTE](#)

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**Australian Coastal Shipping**

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