



# AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION OF LIVE STEAMERS

AALS Web Site

[www.aals.asn.au](http://www.aals.asn.au)

Limited

ACN 107 882 404 - ABN 81 107 882 404

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## 56<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CONVENTION

### AGM MINUTES

**Saturday, 07<sup>th</sup> April, 2012 at 7.30 pm**

**at the grounds of the Penfield Model Engineers Society Inc, Edinburgh, SA.**

**1. The President of the Penfield Model Engineers Society, Mr Ray Hall, handed over to the President of AALS, Mr Roger Kershaw.**

The meeting opened at 1930

**2. APOLOGIES.**

Alf Grigg, ALSSC Secretary;  
Dennis Hamilton, National Insurance Officer;  
Laurie Fielder, North Qld State Representative;  
Ed and Toni Millington, Sunshine Coast RMS;  
Wayne Roberts, Tullamarine Live Steam Society;  
Don Hutchison, South Qld State Representative;

Tony and Julie Stock, Katanning Miniature Railway Society Inc;  
Peter Christian, Bathurst Miniature Railway Society Inc;  
Len Stampton, BlueScope Steel Western Port Railway Society Inc.

The following Societies were represented or in attendance at the Convention:

Adelaide Miniature Steam Railway Inc  
Altona Miniature Railway Inc.  
Bathurst Miniature Railway Society Inc  
Ballarat Society of Model Engineers Inc  
Berry Railway Inc  
Blue Mountains Railway Society Co-op Ltd  
BlueScope Western Port Railway Society  
Box Hill Miniature Steam Railway Society Inc  
Campaspe Valley Miniature Railway Inc  
Canberra Society of Model and Experimental Engineers  
Castledare Miniature Railways WA Inc

Central Coast Steam Model Co-op Ltd  
Clare Valley Model Engineers Inc  
Copper Coast Region Old Machinery and Engineering Club Inc  
Diamond Valley Railway Inc  
Euroa Steam Locomotive & ME Society Inc  
Evandale Light Railway & Steam Society Inc  
Gippsland Model Engineering Society Inc  
Hamilton Model Railway Group Inc  
Highlands Miniature Railway Inc  
Hobart Miniature Steam Locomotive Society Inc

Hornsby Model Engineers Co-operative Ltd  
Illawarra Live Steamers Co-op Ltd  
Katanning Miniature Railway Society (Inc)  
Lake Hume Model Engineers Inc  
Lake Macquarie Live Steam Locomotive Co-op  
Society Ltd  
Logan Model Engineering Society Inc  
Mackay Society of Model Engineers Inc  
Model Engineers & Live Steamers' Assoc'n,  
Bribie Inc  
Model Engineers & Live Steamers' Assoc'n  
Maryborough Inc  
Model Engineers & Live Steamers' Assoc'n  
Gladstone Inc  
Mooroolbark & District Miniature Railway &  
Steam Club Inc  
Morphett Vale Railway Inc  
Northern Districts Model Engineering Society  
(Perth) Inc  
North West Model Engineering Society  
Orange Society of Model Engineers Co-op Ltd

Penfield Model Engineers Society Inc  
Penwood Railroad Inc  
Port Augusta Model Engineers Inc  
Queensland Society of Model and  
Experimental Engineers Inc  
Roseworthy Railway Club Inc  
South Australian Society of Model and  
Experimental Engineers Inc  
South Western Model Engineers Inc  
Steam Locomotive Society of Victoria Inc  
Sunshine Coast Railway Modellers Society Inc  
Sydney Live Steam Locomotive Society Co-op  
Ltd  
Toowoomba Live Steamers Inc  
Tullamarine Live Steam Society  
Wagga Wagga Society of Model Engineers Inc  
Wandong Live Steamers Inc  
Western District Live Steamers Co-op Society  
Ltd  
Wimmera Live Steam Model Engineering  
Society Inc

An attendance list circulated; overseas NZ visitors attending the Convention were Dave and Lynn Giles from Manukau Live Steamers, Win and Lyn Holdaway from Blenheim and Roger Reynolds from Whangarei.

### **3. DEPARTED FRIENDS.**

The following friends have departed this life since we were last together:

John Cummings, Blue Mountains Railway Society Co-op Ltd  
James (Bert) Pollitt, Altona Miniature Railway Inc;  
Henry Spencer, Sydney Live Steam Locomotive Society Co-op Ltd;  
Allan Cottrell, Sydney Live Steam Locomotive Society Co-op Ltd;  
Bill Goold, Tullamarine Live Steam Society;  
Paul Sturmey, Queensland Society of Model and Experimental Engineers Inc;  
George Hadley, Queensland Society of Model and Experimental Engineers Inc;  
Robyn Webster, Hornsby Model Engineers Co-op Ltd;  
Arthur Jones, Hornsby Model Engineers Co-op Ltd;  
Des Pedley, Model Engineers and Live Steamers' Association Maryborough Inc;  
Bob Lisle, Model Engineers and Live Steamers' Association Maryborough Inc;  
Jim Stevenson, Model Engineers and Live Steamers' Association Maryborough Inc;  
Corinne Bunker, Illawarra Live Steamers Co-op Ltd;  
Gerry Cripps, Model Engineers and Live Steamers' Association Maryborough Inc;  
Chris Hyde, Box Hill Miniature Steam Railway Society Inc;  
Maurie Turner, Adelaide Miniature Steam Railway Society;  
George Birdsall, Geelong Society of Model and Experimental Engineers;  
James C Kelty, North West Model Engineering Society;  
John Ousey, Steam Locomotive Society of Victoria Inc;

Ashhley Teague, Steam Locomotive Society of Victoria Inc;  
Brian Formby, BlueScope Steel Western Port Railway Society Inc;  
Brett McKinnon, Euroa Steam Locomotive & ME Society Inc;  
Jim Cooke, Euroa Steam Locomotive & ME Society Inc.

The Chairman, Roger Kershaw, called for a minute's silence to remember them.

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**4. MINUTES of 2011 AGM (circulated).**

**Moved Barry Glover, Illawarra, and seconded, Jeff Wakeham, Lake Macquarie, that the Minutes be accepted. All in favour: CARRIED.**

There was no discussion.

**5. CORRESPONDENCE.**

**Moved Jeff Wakeham, Lake Macquarie, and seconded, Harvey Dart, Penwood, that the Correspondence be accepted. All in favour: CARRIED.**

There was no discussion.

**6. PRESIDENT'S REPORT (circulated).**

**The President, Mr Roger Kershaw, delivered a verbal update. As only the second AALS president, he welcomed David Proctor to his forthcoming role and wished him well. He reminded the meeting that the role of each club committee was important in how the hobby grows. Following previous ructions, 'peace has broken out,' and the hobby was enjoying it. Whilst the duplex approval saga had brought needless grief, most were going on enjoying the hobby.**

**He thanked the Secretary, Hugh Elsol, the Treasurer, Ross Walker (who was now stepping down after the Sunday Board meeting) and in advance the incoming Treasurer, Ben De Gabriel, and all the Board for their efforts. Further, he noted the guidance through Duplex by Barry Potter and Les Irwin with the afore-mentioned unnecessary grief and their making sure that AMBSC was always accessible; he paid tribute, too, to the work of Warwick Allison and Alf Grigg in the area of safety and in the revamping of the Code of Practice.**

**Finally, he thanked all the members for going about and enjoying the hobby.**

**There was generous acclamation for his work as AALS President.**

**Moved Barry Glover, Illawarra, and seconded, Ian Bowering, Box Hill, that the President's Report be accepted. All in favour: CARRIED.**

**7. SECRETARY'S REPORT (circulated).**

Hugh Elsol, the Secretary, corrected the number of clubs' statement: it is really 86.

**Moved Harvey Dart, Penwood, and seconded, David Proctor, Orange, that the Secretary's Report be accepted. All in favour: CARRIED.**

There was no discussion.

**8. ADOPTION of FINANCIAL STATEMENTS and receipt of AUDITOR'S REVIEW REPORT (circulated).**

Ross Walker reiterated that these were circulated to all Societies and were self-explanatory.

**Moved Jeff Wakeham, Lake Macquarie, and seconded, Jim Lawton, Euroa, that the Financial Statements and Auditor's Review Report be accepted. All in favour: CARRIED**

**9. INSURANCE OFFICER'S REPORT (circulated).**

**Moved Harvey Dart, Penwood, and seconded, Peter Lawson, Evandale, that the Insurance Officer's Report be accepted. All in favour: CARRIED.**

**10. AMBSC CHAIRMAN'S REPORT (circulated).**

**Moved John Wakefield, Morphett Vale, and seconded, Fred Pryde, Central Coast, that the AMBSC Chairman's Report be accepted. All in favour: CARRIED.**

There was no discussion.

**11. ALSSC CHAIRMAN'S REPORT and CONSULTATION REPORT (circulated).**

**Moved Peter Glover, Highlands, and seconded, Reg Murton, Mooroolbark, that the ALSSC Chairman's Report be accepted. All in favour: CARRIED.**

There was no discussion.

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**The Proxy Voting Form served the dual purpose of identifying your selected Proxy voter at the meeting and included an abbreviated list of the motions and tick boxes which may have been completed with your (society's) instruction concerning your vote for each of the motions. Voting may have been conducted on the Proxy Voting Form enclosed or by your Proxy at the meeting.**

**Therefore, those who could speak and vote from the floor on a motion were provided with a blue coloured card and those who could speak only regarding a motion had a green coloured card.**

**12. GENERAL BUSINESS.**

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

**12(a) National President of the AALS Ltd.**

One nomination was received for the position of National President of the AALS. The Orange Society of Model Engineers Co-op Limited nominated David Proctor. David Proctor's CV was attached.

*Only one nomination was received, therefore David Proctor was declared elected at the meeting.*

**The new President of AALS, Mr David Proctor, took the Chair to the accompaniment of acclamation. He thanked the out-going President, Roger Kershaw, for his contribution to the hobby where he had ushered in an era of calm by pouring oil onto troubled waters; this, too, was followed by acclamation.**

**12(b) National Insurance Officer of AALS Ltd.**

One nomination was received for the position of National Insurance Officer of the AALS. The Illawarra Live Steamers Co-op Ltd nominated Dennis Hamilton. Dennis Hamilton's CV was attached.

*Only one nomination was received, therefore Dennis Hamilton was declared elected at the meeting.*

This was followed by acclamation.

**The chairman, David Proctor, added that whilst Dennis Hamilton was unable to attend, his good work was recognized, he was happy he was continuing and he believed the hobby would be well served.**

**12(c) National Chairman of AMBSC:**

One nomination was received for the position of National Chairman of AMBSC. The Orange Society of Model Engineers Co-op Limited nominated Barry Potter. Barry Potter's CV was attached.

*Only one nomination was received, therefore Barry Potter was declared elected at the meeting.*

This was followed by acclamation.

**The Chairman, David Proctor, expressed appreciation that Barry was continuing as well in his Board role and believed his good work would continue.**

**12(d) State Representative of AALS Ltd for North Queensland**

One nomination was received for the position of State Representative for North Queensland. The Townsville and District Society of Model Engineers Inc nominated Laurie Fielder. Laurie Fielder's CV was attached.

*Only one nomination was received, therefore Laurie Fielder was declared elected at the meeting.*

This was followed by acclamation.

**12(e) State Representative of AALS Ltd for South Queensland**

One nomination was received for the position of State Representative for Southern Queensland. The Queensland Society of Model and Experimental Engineers Inc nominated Don Hutchison. Don Hutchison's CV was attached.

*Only one nomination was received, therefore Don Hutchison was declared elected at the meeting.*

This was followed by acclamation.

**12(f) State Representative of AALS Ltd for NSW**

One nomination was received for the position of State Representative for New South Wales. The Lake Macquarie Live Steam Locomotive Co-op Society Ltd nominated Jeff Wakeham. Jeff Wakeham's CV was attached.

*Only one nomination was received, therefore Jeff Wakeham was declared elected at the meeting.*

This was followed by acclamation.

**12(g) State Representative of AALS Ltd for Victoria**

No nominations were received for the position of State Representative for Victoria. Therefore this position was vacant.

**The Chairman, David Proctor informed the AGM that the Board would discuss this matter at its meeting on Sunday.**

**12(h) State Representative of AALS Ltd for Tasmania**

One nomination was received for the position of State Representative for Tasmania. The Evandale Light Railway & Steam Society Inc nominated Peter Lawson. Peter Lawson's CV was attached.

*Only one nomination was received, therefore Peter Lawson was declared elected at the meeting.*

This was followed by acclamation.

**12(i) State Representative of AALS Ltd for South Australia**

One nomination was received for the position of State Representative for South Australia. The Adelaide Miniature Steam Railway Society nominated Peter Manning. Peter Manning's CV was attached.

*Only one nomination was received, therefore Peter Manning was declared elected at the meeting.*  
This was followed by acclamation.

**12(j) State Representative of AALS Ltd for Western Australia**

One nomination was received for the position of State Representative for Western Australia. The Castledare Miniature Railways Society of WA Inc nominated Richard Stuart. Richard Stuart's CV was attached.

*Only one nomination was received, therefore Richard Stuart was declared elected at the meeting.*  
This was followed by acclamation.

**The Chairman, David Proctor thanked the State representatives for their continued support of the AALS Board and he looked forward to working with them.**

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**13. SPECIAL BUSINESS**

**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS PROPOSED THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS**

**13(a)**

**That the following changes be made to the Standing Orders:**

**Reasons for the resolution, 13(a):**

With the introduction of the duplex code in the last year the qualifications of an AMBSC boiler inspector were updated. This caused a conflict with the standing orders. This proposed amendment was to bring the standing orders into line with the latest boiler code.

The standing orders also did not take account of all the boiler codes now on issue. A small amendment was required to recognise all the codes.

**Standing Orders 5.7(d) :**

5.7(d) Delete clause 5.7(d) in its entirety and substitute the following:

(d)All the committee members shall subscribe to the provisions of the Australian Miniature Boiler Safety Committee Boiler Codes Part 1 (Copper Boilers) Part 2 (Steel Boilers), Part 3 (Sub Miniature Boilers) and Part 4 (Duplex Steel Boilers) – as amended from time to time.

***Comment: The Board supported these changes.***

There was no discussion.

**Ballot: For: 45    Against: 0    RESULT: CARRIED.**

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**13(b)**

**That the following changes be made to the Standing Orders:**

**Reasons for the resolution, 13(b):**

This proposed amendment was to bring the standing orders into line with the latest boiler code.

**Standing Orders 5.7(h)**

5.7(h) Delete clause 5.7(h) in its entirety and substitute the following:

- (h) Qualifications for a boiler inspector are:-
- (i) A person holding a tertiary qualification issued by an accredited university, college, or government agency, such qualification being in a field related to the design, testing, and operation of pressure vessels, or;
  - (ii) A competent model boiler constructor who shall possess the following criteria to be eligible;
    - a) A minimum educational qualification of a NSW Higher School Certificate, or equivalent, or a trade certificate, or higher qualification, and
    - b) A minimum of three years membership of an AMBSC registered society, and
    - c) The successful construction of at least one miniature boiler, and
    - d) A minimum of two years experience in the practical operation of miniature boilers, and
    - e) Two current boiler inspectors to act as referees to attest to the satisfactory quality of workmanship of the nominee inspector.

*Comment: The Board supported this revision.*

**Discussion:**

Barry Glover, Illawarra: Existing boiler inspectors continue because they were already qualified.

Fred Pryde, Central Coast: Where there are three boiler inspectors, does the first boiler inspector's decision stand – answer, yes.

Murray Hill, Ballarat: Murray's question about boiler inspector's qualifications was outside the scope of the AGM – it was an AMBSC matter.

**Ballot: For: 43    Against: 2    RESULT: CARRIED.**

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**13(c)**

**That the following changes be made to the Standing Orders:**

**Reasons for the resolution, 13(c):**

At the last Directors meeting a paper was presented where a recommendation consequent on the introduction of the new Workplace Health and Safety Regulations was to embody within any AMBSC

code changes the process to have any technical change independently verified for safety (as was done for Duplex). We will not have any direct acceptance from government bodies anymore and thus would maintain the current level of safety process.

5.6 (f) Add the following to the end of the current clause: “Any technical changes to the Codes shall have an assurance of safety through an independent verification by a suitably qualified person before incorporation into the Codes.”

***Comment: The Board supported this revision.***

**Discussion:**

Barry Glover, Illawarra: Would this “qualified person” be within the hobby or independent? Answer: Either because it requires someone with professional indemnity.

**Ballot: For: 45    Against: 0    RESULT: CARRIED.**

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**13(d)**

**That the following changes be made to the Standing Orders:**

**Reasons for the resolution, 13(d):**

The proposed amendment was to clarify who approves AMBSC Boiler Inspectors. This amendment was recommended by our legal advisors.

5.7(i) Delete clause 5.7(i) in its entirety and substitute the following:

(i) Boiler inspectors shall be appointed by the Chairman and Secretary of the AMBSC.

***Comment: The Board supported this revision.***

**Discussion:**

Barry Glover, Illawarra: this means there is no real change.

David Proctor, President, and Ross Walker, Treasurer: This is “housekeeping” to make it clear who is in or out.

**Ballot: For: 42    Against: 3    RESULT: CARRIED.**

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**13(e)**

**That the following changes be made to the Constitution.**

**Reasons for the resolution, 13(e):**

The addition of Clause 7.10 clarified eligibility for AALS Life Membership. There was nothing to say what makes a person eligible for honorary life membership. This was clarified by the insertion of the following clause:

7.10.6: An honorary life membership may only be bestowed on a person who has made an outstanding contribution to the Association on a national level as well as to the live steam hobby at a member level.



*Comment: The Board supported this revision.*

**Discussion:**

Murray Hill, Ballarat: Since clubs not individuals are members of AALS, how can an individual be granted Life Membership of AALS?

Ross Walker, Treasurer: Life Membership had previously been inserted into the Constitution in 2009 so it could be conferred on an individual; it incurs no fees and gives no voting rights.

**Ballot: For: 42 Against: 1 RESULT: CARRIED.**

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13(f)

**That the following changes be made to the Code of Practice Standards for Interoperability and Safety of Miniature Railways, Road Vehicles and Plant.**

**Reasons for the resolution, 13(f):**

**Carriages**

The essence of the change was to expand Clause 6.5.1.1 about 7¼” carriage length and to remove a typographical wording error. ” Note the first two words of 6.5.1.1 ‘Have enclosed’ were a typographical error and would be removed.

6.5.1.1 Delete clause 6.5.1.1 in its entirety and substitute the following:  
Length 1830mm-2500mm (6’-8’) long bogie type to seat 4 to 7 Adults.

Insert the following clause:

6.5.1.1.1 “Notwithstanding the provisions of clause 6.5.1.1 the length of 7¼” gauge carriages may be extended beyond 2.5m to 4.5m when the design provides adequately for such length and additional loading and includes design features which ensure a low centre of gravity. Such features may include but not be limited to drop centres, underfloor location of air tanks and suitably weighted and strengthened bogies

*Comment: The Board supported these changes.*

**Discussion:**

Eric Heely, Gippsland: This suggests there is a minimum length.

David Proctor, President and Ross Walker, Treasurer: No, this is advisory and the wording is “should” not “shall”.

**Ballot: For: 44 Against: 2 RESULT: CARRIED.**

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13(g)

**That the following changes be made to the Code of Practice.**

**Reasons for the resolution, 13(g):**

The Board proposed the following motion:

That the Code of Practice Gas Firing of AMBSC Boilers, as published on the AALS website from time to time is hereby incorporated by reference into this Code of Practice, and is hereby adopted.

*Comment: The Board supported these changes.*

There was no discussion.

**Ballot: For: 41 Against: 0 RESULT: CARRIED.**

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#### **14 APPLICATIONS FOR AFFILIATION**

After four applications in the previous AGM, there were no applications this year.

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#### **15. AFFILIATION FEE 2012 – 2013**

**The Board recommended that the Affiliation Fee remained at \$1.50 (which includes the GST).**

*Comment: The reasons were that the Association's expenses were stable and this figure would maintain a satisfactory level of funds.*

There was no discussion.

**Ballot: For: 44 Against: 0 RESULT: CARRIED.**

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#### **16. WHEN AND WHERE: 2013 AND BEYOND**

##### **2013: The Queensland Society of Model Engineers**

The club was continuing its infrastructure maintenance programme in preparation to host the 2013 Convention. It was explained that those bookings for the marquee and other necessary equipment were set in place; additionally, the caterers' deposit was due in September. An envelope with registration forms, a flyer and information was provided for distribution to club representatives. Those not collected would be posted. It was made clear that no camping, camper trailer or motorhome site would be accepted without a registration accompanying it this time. Limited sites are available so registrants should be clear about what was asked for and especially about the size requirement. Registrants were requested to bring only one passenger carriage because of track congestion. Scale wagons were welcomed.

Discussion questions clarified that there are limited sites with power, motorhomes may have a quiet generator, no locomotive with ride-in cabs are acceptable, locomotive size limits do apply (enquire first to avoid disappointment) and information and the registration forms are on the QSMEE website.

Wayne Sue Tin reminded registrants to identify their name on the banking transfer information.

##### **2014: Tullamarine Live Steam Society**

TLSS is constructing extra track facilities in readiness to host the 2014 event. The AALS Board was approached by the Society for financial assistance and it was determined that the society be granted \$5,000 towards the costs of materials. Note, those facilities are in excess of those required by the club for its normal operations.

TLSS gave some details of the work preparations where progress is currently underway on the 5" G steam up bay extension. Brian Carter, AME has seen the work underway.

Other works in the pipeline that are expected to be completed by the 2014 Convention are:  
extension to the 7¼" steaming bays (AALS funded);  
5" G storage lines;  
7 ¼" G storage lines;  
3 ½" – 5" G station by-pass loop;  
and 5" – 7 ¼" G station loop by-pass.

**Barry Glover, Illawarra, congratulated the Board on its decision to assist Tullamarine and believed it was a desirable thing.**

**2015: Penfield has offered to host.**

Ray Hall commented that this offer was in line with the thinking that the idea is to keep Conventions moving....

**2016: ???**

PLEASE NOTE THAT SUBMISSIONS FROM YOUR SOCIETY TO HOST FOR 2015, AND 2016 AND SUBSEQUENTLY, OF COURSE, ARE STILL WELCOMED BY THE BOARD.

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### **17. VOTE OF THANKS**

Warwick Allison, ALSSC Chairman, thanked Penfield for good organization and track preparation. He praised the ladies who manned the canteen and the club for its selection of caterers. He noted it had not rained and there was a good turnout of clubs; Conventions should continue. Additionally, he welcomed the wide range of model engineering interests on display and offered.

Acclamation followed.

Ray Hall responded that the aim was for all to have a good time and good fellowship. During Sunday, there would be (and there were) sprint cars at 1400 and speed boats would be sailing on the pond. He thanked the Penfield Track Manager, Karl, for his work.

The President, David Proctor reminded all we were happy to see the NZ visitors at the Convention. Dave Giles from Manukau Live Steamers in Auckland responded by inviting all to the next NZ Convention which will be in Christchurch in January, 2014. Whilst Christchurch was currently recovering from the series of earthquakes that began in 2010, the track was undamaged and the club would be ready.

**Meeting closed at 2035.**

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The presentation of annual awards was at 7.30 pm (1930) on Sunday 08<sup>th</sup> April. Results were placed on the AALS website.