



AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION OF **LIVE STEAMERS**

AALS Web Site

www.aals.asn.au

Limited

ACN 107 882 404 - ABN 81 107 882 404

PRESIDENT'S REPORT, 2011-2012.

The year has been one where the Association has made advances on a number of fronts. We welcomed to our ranks new clubs and we have others applying to join next year. Obviously our hobby is expanding and we welcome the newcomers and wish them well. A number of clubs were affected by very adverse weather events a year ago and for them it has been a year of consolidation and repairs.

At the start of my term I stated that my aim was to lower the profile of the AALS Board and to emphasize the central role of club committees in relation to the activities which most of our hobbyists engage in. With the exception of one manufactured drama early in 2011, there has not been a national controversy over something or other, surely a record!

The Duplex boiler code had created some controversy, but has now been successfully introduced with quite a number of boilers abuilding. Many may ask, "What was all that about?"

We have had few claims on the insurance front and this is always a reliable indicator that clubs have safe operation uppermost and are following the Code of Practice. Well done all. Safe Operating procedures can seem like a tedious routine to follow when really everyone wants to get on with the bit of the hobby they like, but they are the key to our long term survival.

The Australian Model Engineering magazine has been a major factor in the hobby's expansion and wellbeing and long term editor David Proctor is standing down from that role. On behalf of the Association I would like to thank him for his services to the hobby. He will be looking to serve the hobby in another role soon.

The members of the Board have worked diligently in the service of the hobby and I thank them for their efforts this year. A number of them have put in many, many, years of service in their various roles and I feel sure they would not be too aggrieved if a stream of people put their hands up to replace them at the next election!

To all members of the hobby, no matter where your interest may lie, I wish you enjoyment and satisfaction.

Happy hobbying,

Roger Kershaw (President AALS).