



# AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION OF LIVE STEAMERS

AALS Web Site

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

Limited

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

### AGM AGENDA

**Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> March, 2013 at 7.30 pm**

**at the grounds of the Queensland Society of Model and Experimental Engineers Inc, Warner, Queensland.**

**1. The President of the Queensland Society of Model and Experimental Engineers Inc, Mr Jess Balcombe-Jestico, will hand over to the President of AALS, Mr David Proctor.**

The meeting will open at 1930

**2. APOLOGIES.**

Barry Potter, AMBSC Chairman;

Dennis Hamilton, National Insurance Officer;

(an attendance list will circulate.)

**3. DEPARTED FRIENDS.**

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

David Hemphill, Queensland Society of Model and Experimental Engineers Inc and Steam Locomotive Society of Victoria Inc;

Ken Green, Lake Macquarie Live Steam Locomotive Co-operative Society;

Jack Kneller, Illawarra Live Steamers Co-op Ltd;

Bob Harper, Hobart Miniature Steam Locomotive Society Inc;

Lloyd Ridgers, Hobart Miniature Steam Locomotive Society Inc;

Barry Mew, Hastings Valley Miniature Railway Society Inc;

John Mann, Sydney Live Steam Locomotive Society Co-op Ltd;

Geoffrey Raph, Sunshine Coast Railway Modellers Society Inc;

Arthur Sweatman, Geelong Society of Model and Experimental Engineers Inc;

Laurie Bellchambers, Penfield Model Engineers Society;

Harry Thompson, Lake Macquarie Live Steam Locomotive Co-operative Society;

The Chairman, David Proctor, will call for a minute's silence to remember them.

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**4. MINUTES of 2012 AGM (circulated).**

**5. CORRESPONDENCE.**

**6. PRESIDENT'S REPORT (circulated). The President will make a verbal update.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

**12. GENERAL BUSINESS.**

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

**12(a) National Vice-President of AALS Ltd.**

One nomination was received for the position of Vice-President of AALS Limited. Penfield Model Engineers Society Inc nominated Ray Hall. Ray Hall's CV is attached.

**12(b) National Treasurer of AALS Ltd. One year only.**

One nomination was received for the position of National Treasurer of AALS Ltd. The Wagga Wagga Society of Model Engineers Inc Ltd nominated Ben De Gabriel. Ben De Gabriel's CV is attached.

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

One nomination was received for the position of National Chairman of ALSSC. The Sydney Live Steam Locomotive Society Co-Operative Limited nominated Warwick Allison. Warwick Allison's CV is attached.

**12(d) National Secretary of ALSSC:**

One nomination was received for the position of National Secretary of ALSSC. The Campaspe Valley Miniature Railway Inc nominated Alf Grigg. Alf Grigg's CV is attached.

**12(e) State Representative of AALS Ltd for Victoria: Two years only.**

One nomination was received for the position of State Representative of AALS Ltd for Victoria. The Tullamarine Live Steam Society nominated Wayne Roberts. Wayne Roberts's CV is attached.

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### **13. SPECIAL BUSINESS**

#### **THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS PROPOSES THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS**

##### **13(a)**

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

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

##### **Reasons for the following two resolutions resolution:**

At the 2011 Director's 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). There will not be any direct acceptance from government bodies anymore and thus this would maintain the current level of safety process.

Unfortunately, an error was made in the clause numbering of resolution 13(c) that was passed at 2012's AGM. The amendment shown as 5.6 (f) should have been 5.5 (f).

##### **These proposed amendments correct that error:**

##### **Item 5.6 (f). That the following changes be made to the Standing Orders:**

5.6 (f) Delete the following from 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."

##### **Item 5.5 (f). That the following changes be made to the Standing Orders:**

5.5 (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 supports these changes.*

*Please cast your vote on the Proxy Form enclosed, or cast your vote by your Proxy at the meeting.*

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##### **13(b)**

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

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

##### **Reasons for the following resolutions resolution:**

Currently, the Australian Miniature Boiler Safety Committee is as follows:

5.5 (b) The members of the Company shall, at an annual meeting, elect the following officers from among the members of the Australian Miniature Boiler Safety Committee:

- (i) Chairman;
- (ii) Secretary; and
- (iii) Technical Adviser.

5.5 (c) The Technical Adviser may continue in office until retirement, or removal or replacement by the members.

Since technical changes to boiler codes shall be verified by independent technical advice, the position of Technical Adviser is now redundant and should be removed.

Similarly, the Australian Live Steamers Safety Committee is as follows:

5.6 (b) The members of the Company shall, at an annual meeting, elect officers of the Australian Live Steamers Safety Committee, consisting of: (Amend 4 2009)

- (i) Chairman;
- (ii) Secretary; and
- (iii) Technical Adviser.

5.6 (c) The Technical Adviser of the Australian Live Steamers Safety Committee may continue in office until retirement, or removal or replacement by the members.

Here, too, the Technical Adviser position should be removed.

**These amendments remove the positions of Technical Adviser from both Sub-Committees of AALS.**

**Items 5.5 (b), (c), (d), (e), (f) and (g). That the following changes be made to the Standing Orders.**

5.5 (b) (iii) Delete in its entirety.

5.5 (c) Delete in its entirety.

5.5 (d) Alter the letter of this clause to 5.5 (c).

5.5 (e) Alter the letter of this clause to 5.5 (d).

5.5 (f) Alter the letter of this clause to 5.5 (e).

5.5 (g) Alter the letter of this clause to 5.5 (f).

**Items 5.6 (b), (c), (d), (e), (f) and (g). That the following changes be made to the Standing Orders.**

5.6 (b) (iii) Delete in its entirety.

5.6 (c) Delete in its entirety.

5.6 (d) Alter the letter of this clause to 5.6 (c).

5.6 (e) Alter the letter of this clause to 5.6 (d).

5.6 (f) Alter the letter of this clause to 5.6 (e).

5.6 (g) Alter the letter of this clause to 5.6 (f).

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

*Please cast your vote on the Proxy Form enclosed, or cast your vote by your Proxy at the meeting.*

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### 13(c)

**That the following amendment be made to the Code of Practice, Operation of Miniature Railways, Road Vehicles and Plant:**

**Reason for the resolution 13(c):**

This amendment is to include speed as a hazard and the fitment of speedometers as a potential control for this hazard.

**Non -Exhaustive List of Hazardous Situations:**

Re-number existing 4.8.2.7 to 4.8.2.8

Add new section 4.8.2.7

4.8.2.7 Train Operation: Excessive speed in certain locations can result in derailment or overturning or excessive braking distances to avoid collision. Hazards may exist with overspeeds on curves, turnouts, gradients, bridges, and the condition of the infrastructure and the weight, height, design and condition of vehicles.

**5.3 Operating Speed:**

Add new section 5.3.2

5.3.2 Societies should determine if the track layout, safe working systems, and operating conditions present hazards that justify the need for a speedometer to be fitted to each locomotive engaged in public running operation. If a speedometer is fitted, it shall be clearly visible to the driver. Where speedometers are used, societies shall also determine suitable speed restrictions for curves, turnouts and other hazardous locations and whether line side speed boards are required to relate the hazards to the appropriate safe speed. These speeds would need to be determined based on track condition, curvature, equilibrium speed, and overturning speed.

*Comment: The Board supports this change.*

*Please cast your vote on the Proxy Form enclosed, or cast your vote by your Proxy at the meeting.*

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### 13(d):

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

Section 8.4.1 of the Code of Practice for Interoperability and Safety of Miniature Railways, Road Vehicles and Plant

**That the reference to '.....Ryco style 200/900 1/4 inch series....  
be replaced so as to read ....Ryco style 200 / Jamec style 900 1/4inch series ...'**

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

The Code for Interoperability and Safety for Miniature Railways has the following statement:

8.4.1 Fittings for compressed air to provide assisted draft for steaming up should be Ryco style 200/900 1/4 inch series with the female coupling provided as part of the fixtures.

The 200/900 reference is vague because it is the Ryco fittings that are 200 series; however, interchangeable Jamec 900 series are also satisfactory. This clarifies what are current suitable fittings.

***Comment: The Board supports this change.***

*Please cast your vote on the Proxy Form enclosed, or cast your vote by your Proxy at the meeting.*

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## **THE SYDNEY LIVE STEAM LOCOMOTIVE SOCIETY CO-OP LTD PROPOSES THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION**

### **13(e):**

That the AALS Treasurer provides a report by June 30, 2013 on the impact on AALS finances of no longer receiving income from the sale of boiler codes and if the impact is significant provide suitable strategies to address this shortfall. For example, such strategies could involve an increase in the member's levy.

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

The AALS, and its sub-committees exist to assist Societies improve the safety of their operations through the production of various Operating Codes. Through the AALS website a number of Codes of Practice for Operations, Training and Interoperability and Standards and many other documents are freely available to anyone who accesses it. The only AALS documents not freely published are the four Boiler Codes.

The Boiler Codes have been developed over many years since 1966 through the efforts of many past and current model engineers. They were based upon the published designs available in the model engineering press of the day. It is believed Australia is unique in having developed these Codes.

World-wide there is no established design standard for model boilers. With the increase of imported boilers occurring due to purchase via the internet, it would be useful if a universal design standard was available so that designs can be based upon a common understanding of good practice. Publishing the AMBSC Codes on the internet would achieve this.

The AMBSC Codes are already established and known world-wide. If they were more freely available it is likely that more constructors would use the Codes for their construction. This potentially will increase the commonality of standards for miniature boilers.

As many Australian builders build to English designs, it would assist in having these designs compliant. Thus simpler acceptance of design would evolve over time. Easier accessibility would also assist constructors with rapid access to updated codes, and promote a much greater compliance amongst builders with whatever the latest standard is.

The AALS receives income from the sale of Boiler Codes. Publishing the Boiler Codes on the website may significantly reduce the AALS income. Before any decision is made it is necessary to understand the financial impact and consequent adjustments that may be needed.

***Comment: The Board believes that careful thought should be given to the implications of this by each society and whether it would bring any benefits.***

Boiler Codes, unlike the Code of Practice, do not require an update very often. The current Copper Code is Issue 8 – Issue 7 was in use from 2001 till 2012, a span of eleven years. It is not anticipated it will be revised again till 2020. Therefore, when one is printed it remains current for a considerable

time. The Code of Practice (CoP) is lengthier than a boiler code and has frequent updates – there usually has been an update or updates at recent AGMs – so placing the CoP on the web was a sensible decision for a club’s Competent Person. In the past the CoP was sold but it was found it had no commercial interest or value.

There seems to be little or no gain in putting the only AALS asset of commercial value on the website. Many years of dedicated work by volunteers achieved what are the four codes and surrendering the current position would have to be for greater benefits. Currently all clubs receive one copy of the current boiler codes free of charge.

The nature of boiler code sales is not really something that can be examined easily in the way that this motion indicates. After several years of selling the three pre-existing codes on a routine basis, then suddenly having a new Code appearing a couple of years ago, followed by the release of revised versions of the copper and carbon steel codes in 2012 with no more proposals anticipated for years, the trend of sales is a long term consideration.

Since the pattern of sales of boiler codes is quite irregular and given the long time frame now until the next revisions, perhaps the forward sales pattern would be unlike that of the last couple of years, given that we have just supplied most inspectors and others with the current versions. Collection of historical data is straightforward; however the interpretation of that data is not.

The ongoing control over the integrity of the codes and the way in which they are used is of concern. An individual could download a boiler code from the web and quite easily alter it or delete something that he did not want to be bothered with and then print it out. Anyone who did not know the code intimately would never know; it is unlikely that many boiler inspectors would detect easily if there were alterations.

Standing Orders now require independent verification of changes to boiler codes. That costs. (\$4,000 in the last two years.) Sales recover this.

*Please cast your vote on the Proxy Form enclosed, or cast your vote by your Proxy at the meeting.*

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

**Gisborne Vintage Machinery Society, Victoria:** After its affiliation lapsed in 2012, this Society has applied for re-affiliation.

***The Directors recommend that this Society be re-admitted to the Association.***

*Please cast your vote on the Proxy Form enclosed, or cast your vote by your Proxy at the meeting.*

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#### **15. AFFILIATION FEE 2013 – 2014**

**The Board recommends that the Affiliation Fee increases to \$3.30 (which includes the GST).**

***Comment: The reasons are that the Association’s expenses have risen and this figure should return reserves to a satisfactory level of funds.***

*Please cast your votes on the Proxy Form enclosed, or cast your vote by your Proxy at the meeting.*

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

2014 Convention: Tullamarine Live Steam Society continues construction of extra track facilities in readiness to host the 2014 event. As recorded at the last AGM, the AALS Board was approached by the Society for financial assistance and it was determined that it be granted \$5,000 towards the costs of materials. Remember, these facilities are in excess of those required by the club for its normal operations.

These include:

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.

2015: Penfield has offered to host.

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

**2016: ???**

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## **17. VOTE OF THANKS**

**Close of Meeting.**

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The presentation of annual awards will be at 7.30 pm (1930) tomorrow, Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March.