



AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION OF LIVE STEAMERS

AALS Web Site

www.aals.asn.au

Limited

ACN 107 882 404 - ABN 81 107 882 404

President:

David Proctor 262 Southern Cross Drive LATHAM ACT 2615

Tel: 02 6254 1641

E-mail: president@aals.asn.au

Secretary:

Hugh Elsol 70 Mascar Street UPPER MT GRAVATT QLD 4122

Tel: 07 3849 5573 **Fax:** 07 3849 5573

E-mail: secretary@aals.asn.au

Treasurer:

Ben De Gabriel 33 Cherry Lane ROBIN HILL NSW 2795

Tel: 02 6331 5738

E-mail: treasurer@aals.asn.au

Insurance Officer:

Dennis Hamilton 63 Pioneer Rd BELLAMBI NSW 2518

Tel: 02 4284 1942, **Fax:** 02 4284 0337

E-mail: insurance@aals.asn.au

58th ANNUAL CONVENTION

AGM MINUTES

Saturday, 19th April, 2014 at 7.30 pm

at the grounds of the Tullamarine Live Steam Society, Bulla, Victoria.

1. The President of the Tullamarine Live Steam Locomotive Society, Mr Mark Agar, handed over to the President of AALS, Mr David Proctor who congratulated TLSS for their efforts in hosting in the face of considerable difficulties.

The meeting opened at 8.09 pm.

2. APOLOGIES.

Ray Hall, National Vice-President;

Dennis Hamilton, National Insurance Officer;

Laurie Fielder, North Queensland State Representative;

Peter Manning, South Australian Representative;

Lynn Venning, Penfield Model Engineers (2015 Convention Secretary);

Ed Millington, Sunshine Coast Railway Modellers Club;

Tony and Julie Stock, Katanning Miniature Railway Society Inc;

Alf Grigg, Australian Live Steamers Safety Committee Secretary.

An attendance list was circulated.

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

BlueScope Steel Western Port Railway Society
Inc

Box Hill Miniature Steam Railway Society Inc

Campaspe Valley Miniature Railway Inc

Castledare Miniature Railways WA Inc

Diamond Valley Railway Inc

Euroa Steam Locomotive & ME Society Inc

Evandale Light Railway & Steam Society Inc

Gippsland Model Engineering Society Inc

Gisborne Vintage Machinery Society

Hamilton Model Railway Group Inc

Highlands Miniature Railway Inc

Hornsby Model Engineers Co-operative Ltd

Illawarra Live Steamers Co-op Ltd

Katanning Miniature Railway Society (Inc)

Lake Macquarie Live Steam Locomotive Co-op Society Ltd
Logan Model Engineering Society 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
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

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
Tamworth and District Model Engineers Inc
Tullamarine Live Steam Society
Tweed Valley Miniature Steam Railway Inc
Wagga Wagga Society of Model Engineers Inc
Wandong Live Steamers Inc
Western District Live Steamers Co-op Society Ltd
Wimmera Live Steam and Model Engineering Society

Overseas NZ visitors attending the Convention: Win and Lyn Holdaway from Blenheim, Roger Reynolds and Wendy Kerr from Whangarei, John and Robyn Harmon from Havelock North and Alan Ure from Hamilton.

3. DEPARTED FRIENDS.

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

Bob Kimber, Maryborough Model Engineers and Live Steamers' Association Inc;
Peter Lukey, Maryborough Model Engineers and Live Steamers' Association Inc;
Bernie Childs, Tweed Valley Miniature steam Railway Inc;
Ian Fulton, Sunshine Coast Railway Modellers Society Inc;
Robin Scott, Orange Society of Model Engineers;
Reg Harris, Orange Society of Model Engineers;
Barry Tulloch, Sydney Live Steam Locomotive Society Co-op Ltd;
Bill Richards, Sydney Live Steam Locomotive Society Co-op Ltd;
Hart Brammer, Sydney Live Steam Locomotive Society Co-op Ltd;
Colin Booth, Maryborough Model Engineers and Live Steamers' Association Inc;
Tom Miller, Euroa Steam locomotive & Model Engineering Society Inc;
John Thorpe, Euroa Steam locomotive & Model Engineering Society Inc;
Bill Ferris, Queensland Society of Model and Experimental Engineers Inc;
Joan McQuinn, South Western Model Engineers Inc;
Keith Mears, Highlands Miniature Railway Inc;
Dallas King, Lake Macquarie Live Steam Locomotive Co-op Society Ltd;
Bill Jerome, Maryborough Model Engineers and Live Steamers' Association Inc;
Les Wells, Maryborough Model Engineers and Live Steamers' Association Inc;
Bill Gillespie, Wagga Wagga Society of Model Engineers Inc;
Ted O'Brien, Port Augusta Model Engineers Inc;
Brian Hurst, Sydney Live Steam Locomotive Society Co-op Ltd;
Monty Pittard, Maryborough Model Engineers and Live Steamers' Association Inc;
Geoff Murray, Hornsby Model Engineers Co-op Ltd;
Angus Paton, Hornsby Model Engineers Co-op Ltd;
Murray Hill, Altona Miniature Railway Inc;
Bruce Bonham, Bathurst Miniature Railway Society Incorporated;
Eric Hagan, Bathurst Miniature Railway Society Incorporated;
Mary Millman, Castledare Miniature Railway;

Ron Davey, Castledare Miniature Railway;
Bill Abbott, Box Hill Miniature Steam Railway;
George Bambery, Diamond Valley Railway Inc;
Peter Bradley, Sydney Live Steam Locomotive Society Co-op Ltd.

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

4. MINUTES of 2013 AGM (circulated).

Moved Wayne Roberts, TLSS, and seconded, Barry Glover, ILS, that the Minutes be accepted. All in favour: CARRIED.

5. CORRESPONDENCE.

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

6. PRESIDENT'S REPORT (circulated). The President gave a verbal update: The situation of AMBSC boiler exemptions in Victoria was resolved before the Convention with the conditions that boilers could be a maximum of fifty litres and that there be no operators aged under eighteen with the public.

Moved David Proctor, AALS President, and seconded, John A'Beckett, Hornsby, that the President's Report be accepted. All in favour: CARRIED.

7. SECRETARY'S REPORT (circulated).

Moved Gerry Dowling, Penfield, and seconded, Jeff Wakeham, LMLSLS, that the Secretary's Report be accepted. All in favour: CARRIED.

8. ADOPTION of FINANCIAL STATEMENTS and receipt of AUDITOR'S REVIEW REPORT (circulated). The Treasurer, Ben De Gabriel made two points: Firstly, a small loss in the financial year was caused by the Victorian boiler exemption difficulties; and, secondly, there are severe difficulties if clubs are late in paying insurance premiums and to a lesser extent with affiliation fees.

Moved Tony Kociuba, DVR, and seconded, Jeff Wakeham, LMLSLS, that the Financial Statements and Auditor's Review Report be accepted. All in favour: CARRIED.

9. INSURANCE OFFICER'S REPORT (circulated).

Moved Jeff Wakeham, LMLSLS, and seconded, Harvey Dart, Penwood, that the Insurance Officer's Report be accepted. All in favour: CARRIED.

10. AMBSC CHAIRMAN'S REPORT (circulated).

Moved Gerry Dowling, Penfield, and seconded, Peter Glover, Highlands, that the AMBSC Chairman's Report be accepted. All in favour: CARRIED.

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

Moved Wayne Roberts, TLSS, and seconded, Roger Kershaw, Orange, that the ALSSC Chairman's Report and Consultation Report be accepted. All in favour: CARRIED.

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 pink coloured card and those who could speak only regarding a motion had a blue coloured card.

Bill Belton of TLSS was the Returning Officer.

12. GENERAL BUSINESS.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

12(a) National Secretary of AALS Ltd.

One nomination was received for the position of National Secretary of AALS Limited. The Queensland Society of Model and Experimental Engineers Inc nominated Hugh Elsol. Hugh Elsol's CV was attached.

Only one nomination was received, therefore Hugh Elsol was declared elected at the meeting. This was greeted with acclamation.

12(b) National Treasurer of AALS Ltd.

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

Only one nomination was received, therefore Ben De Gabriel was declared elected at the meeting. This was greeted with acclamation.

12(c) National Secretary of AMBSC:

One nomination was received for the position of National Secretary of AMBSC. The Penwood Railroad Inc nominated Les Irwin. Les Irwin's CV was attached.

Only one nomination was received, therefore Les Irwin was declared elected at the meeting. This was greeted with acclamation.

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):

Reasons for the following two resolutions resolution:

The Association no longer has Technical Officers for its two sub-committees. The Standing Orders were altered at the 2013 AGM in special Business 13 (b) to remove those appointed positions, but, inadvertently, the removal of clauses referring to those positions was incomplete with 5.7 (r) and 5.8 (h) still in place and these should have been removed. In order to simplify the process, the clauses which follow will retain the same letter because those two clause numbers will have "DELETED" placed next to them.

These proposed amendments corrected that error:

Item 5.7. That the following changes be made to the Standing Orders:

5.7 Delete the following clause: (r) The Technical Adviser of the Australian Miniature Boiler Safety Committee shall advise the standing committee on design and safety matters as required. He need not be a member of an Australian Miniature Boiler Safety Committee Member.

Item 5.8. That the following changes be made to the Standing Orders:

5.8 Delete the following clause: (h) The Technical Officer of the Australian Live Steamers Safety Committee shall advise the committee officers on design and safety matters, and should have appropriate qualifications and experience relevant to design and safety matters, and need not necessarily be a financial member of a Member.

Comment: The Board supported these changes.

Wayne Roberts, TLSS: “There is no discussion, Mr Chairman, so call a vote.”

Ballot: For: 37 Against: 0 RESULT: CARRIED.

13(b)

That the following changes be made to the Constitution:

Reasons for the resolution, 13(b):

The Association’s Constitution covered only non-payment of fees and breaches of safety standards as grounds for suspension of membership. The extra clause proposed below covers other acts which are detrimental to the Company’s standing and which are not dealt with in the parts 10.1 (a) and (b). It fills out a gap in the protection of the Association and its members from any malicious action by an affiliated society or member of a society.

10.1 Suspension of Membership

1) Membership of the Company and all privileges attaching thereto may be suspended by resolution of the Board in the following circumstances:

The additional clause is:

(c) If a member, by any means whether verbal, written, by action or otherwise, takes any action which undermines the reputation or integrity of the Operating Codes of the AALS, the AMBSC Boiler Codes or any other safety standards administered by the Company. If such action is undertaken by a member of a Company member (to wit a member of an affiliated club) the member of the Company will be deemed responsible for that action.

Comment: The Board supported these changes.

Discussion:

David Proctor, the Chairman, emphasized that the legal advisors believed it closed a loophole in the Constitution.

Barry Glover, ILS, requested that the motion be read. David Proctor read the full constitutional clause and read again the proposed additional clause.

Tony Kociuba, DVR, said that a club's member could make criticism without a club's permission which would mean the club was liable and that therefore DVR was not happy with the proposal. David Proctor stated that AALS could only act with the constitutional powers it possessed. There was no further discussion.

Ballot: For: 31 Against: 6 RESULT: With more than 75% in favour, it was CARRIED.

14 APPLICATIONS FOR AFFILIATION

There were no applications this year.

15. AFFILIATION FEE 2014 – 2015

The Board recommended that the Affiliation Fee remained at \$3.00 (which includes the GST).

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

Ben De Gabriel, the Treasurer, commented that increases were likely in the future.

There was no discussion.

Ballot: For: 37 Against: 0 RESULT: CARRIED.

16. WHEN AND WHERE: 2015 AND BEYOND

2015: Penfield is hosting. Gerry Dowling explained that the SMEX website accepts payments and that tour options were under investigation. General information and accommodation listings for 2015 were distributed to club representatives at the close of the meeting. Those not collected were mailed.

2016: Lake Macquarie Live Steam Locomotive Co-op Society Ltd has offered to host in 2016. Jeff Wakeham gave preliminary information about registration, lunch orders and evening meals. He encouraged potential day trippers to pre-register, since there will be a fee for late registration. Lunch orders will be required by 10 am. Evening meals will be available in the nearby Bowling Club.

PLEASE NOTE THAT SUBMISSIONS FROM YOUR SOCIETY TO HOST ARE WELCOMED BY THE BOARD FOR 2017 AND 2018.

17. VOTE OF THANKS

Close of Meeting.

Warwick Allison thanked Tullamarine for a terrific job that was carried out under very trying circumstances. He noted that problems with boiler exemption were resolved. Given that it was Melbourne, the weather was good. Locomotives and rolling stock just seemed to vanish, since the

layout was very extensive. The catering was impressive: the hot food was most welcome at all meals. Morning and afternoon teas were most substantial. He noted that the work done in preparation was a credit to the members: overall, it was a fantastic job.

Wayne Roberts responded that working bees were well attended and it required 13, 000 hours of work and \$14,000 to host the event.

The meeting closed at 08.47 pm.

The presentation of annual awards was from 8.00 pm on Sunday 20th April.