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# AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION OF LIVE STEAMERS

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

Limited

ACN 107 882 404 - ABN 81 107 882 404

## AUSTRALIAN MINIATURE BOILER SAFETY COMMITTEE

### Chairman

Barry Glover  
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### Hon. Secretary

Position currently vacant

## A.M.B.S.C. Chairman's Report – 2015-2016

Greetings to all.

Generally things have been fairly quiet on the boiler scene. There is a new Code of Practice re Gas Firing for small locomotives (ie. steam mice). This will be dealt with at the Safety Meeting (ALSSC) immediately prior to the AMBSC meeting at the upcoming Convention. I have not seen anything on gas firing for the larger gauges. A short entry in the Codes regarding this type of operation basically stated that any gas firing system had to be installed by or under supervision and testing of a Licensed Gas Fitter or similar. I cannot locate any reference to it in our current publications. I suppose it disappeared without consulting a suitable meeting.

A review of our codes indicates that has happened on more than one occasion. The Boiler Inspectors are the Committee and ALL amendments, etc. should go before them before changes are made. I have been somewhat concerned by some changes that go back to Issue 7 – 2001 of the Copper Code. These have appeared in Issue 8 – 2012, with other changes to a supplementary print run of Issue 8. The result of all this is the time and effort to be spent determining how many changes have been made without the authorisation of a discussion and meeting of Boiler Inspectors.

One particular item refers to **Fusible Plugs**. The change has been to make this item a compulsory fitting. This has NEVER been mandatory in copper boilers. In steel boilers, yes. This requirement was a stipulation by government during the drafting, etc. of the steel Briggs type code. Whilst looking at the code content it was noted that the fusible material was stated as pure tin. This is also incorrect and should be pure lead. This has been there since day one and has just been picked up. Amendment sheets will be issued in due course.

I am slowly putting together a written examination for Boiler Inspectors and trainees. This will be a training exercise, not the way I would like to do it, but travel costs are a high cost these days. Whatever the result it would be part of our obligation to carry out Training of all our operators

I have received a request regarding the use of **water treatment** in copper and steel boilers. This request is that clubs who use any treatment to bring your information and methods to the AMBSC meeting at Cobden. Those who can't make it please send your comments in writing to my address as shown above or to the AALS Secretary in the continued absence of an AMBSC Secretary.

Good steaming to all,

Chairman