



AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION OF LIVE STEAMERS

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PRESIDENTS REPORT To the 2016 Annual General Meeting of the AALS

The last 12 months have been a relatively quiet period for the Association. The first part of my year was spent more on AMBSC business with the resignation of Les Irwin as AMBSC Secretary in May and AMBSC Chairman Barry Glover being overseas for a few months at the same time.

The steam fuel problem has not changed. Some people are achieving good results with Bacchus Marsh char whilst others are not. It seems to be the same with Welsh steam coal. I did note while I was in New Zealand in January quite a number of engines were running successfully on the Welsh coal. From my observations it comes down to making sure your grate is suitable for the fuel you are burning — these fuels all have different air requirements. Firing techniques also need to be refined to suit the fuel.

We have seen a big improvement in on-time payment of affiliation fees which makes it a lot easier to run the Association. For that I thank you all. Just a reminder, the affiliation fees are always due by June 30 and if payment is not received within 90 days, i.e. by October 1st, legally your affiliation lapses. The good news is that the fees will not increase this year.

On the insurance front this year our Insurance Officer obtained quotes from several different companies and the result is that when you received your latest insurance bill you would have noticed a welcome reduction in the premium. I remind all clubs again of the importance of paying your insurance premium on time. If circumstances dictate that you need to make some arrangement with the Insurance Officer, stick to that arrangement or your insurance cover will be withdrawn.

My sincere thank you to all the folk on the Board and to the State Representatives for a job well done and for making my job easier. I particularly wish to thank Warwick Allison who has done an outstanding job as ALSSC Chairman over the last 7 years. Warwick is not seeking re-election this time so we are looking for someone to fill this role. Also a big thank you to all you people who make up our clubs as you are the ones who make this a wonderful and enjoyable hobby.

Cheers

David Proctor
National President