



**Gas Appliance  
Manufacturers  
Association of  
Australia**

**GAS  
Connections**

### **Vale Phillip Hubbard**

We are saddened to advise members of the passing of Phillip Hubbard. Phil past away last Friday 30 August after a long battle with Cancer.

Phil was a much loved and long standing member of GAMAA and represented us on a number of Standards Committees. Phil's technical knowledge and fabulous sense of humour will be sadly missed.

Our condolences to his family and colleagues.

### **GAMAA 55<sup>th</sup> AGM – Election Results**

The 55<sup>th</sup> GAMAA AGM was held Tuesday 3 September 2019.

The Elected Executive Council structure is:

#### **President**

Ross Jamieson Sit Gas Controls

#### **Vice Presidents**

Gareth Jennings, Rheem Australia

Leon Bogers, Rinnai Australia

#### **Executive Council**

Ian Forte, Electrolux Home Products

Paul Allwood, Seeley International

Peter Faase, DUX Hot Water

Anthony Edwards, Robert Bosch

Paul Bains, Comcater

**Treasurer** - Anthony Edwards

**Secretary** - Peter Faase

#### **President's Report**

GAMAA Annual General Meeting

Members of GAMAA, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am pleased to provide you with an overview of the activities of GAMAA over the last 12-months and the first one as your President. This year is our 61st of representing gas appliance and component manufacturers and suppliers.

We continue to represent the interests of our members and our industry generally and ensure the viability and safety of all consumers utilizing gas appliances, equipment and services.

Your Executive Committee comprising; Gareth Jennings [Rheem], Leon Bogers [Rinnai], Paul Allwood [Seeley International], Anthony Edwards [Robert Bosch], Ian Forte [Electrolux Home Products], Peter Faase [Dux Hot Water], and Paul Bains [Comcater], are continuing to provide wide and effective coverage of all aspects and challenges that affect our industry. The enthusiasm and skill provided by each will ensure that we remain strongly and well represented.

Your elected Councillors have all continued to work positively in the wide and various sectors of the domestic and commercial gas industry. The continuity of their tenure over the past 12 months has enabled them to execute their portfolio responsibilities to good effect.

We have all seen the sentiment and intense pressure from various sectors which is challenging the continuing viability of gas as a viable fuel of choice for Australian consumers and as a part of the solution to address the challenge of climate change whilst maintaining energy security. You can be assured we are engaging with every level of Government to ensure our pro-active gas voice is being heard.

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We have increased our ongoing work in conjunction with other gas focused associations and organisations to maintain our important position as a fuel of choice. These include:

- Australian Gas Networks (AGN)
- Energy Networks Australia (ENA)
- Australian Gas Industry Trust (AGIT)
- Gas Energy Australia (GEA)
- Australian Industry Group
- Standards Australia
- Gas Technical Regulators Committee (GTRC)
- Energy Safe Victoria (ESV)
- Australia Building Codes Board (ABCB)
- Plumbing Industry Climate Action Centre (PICAC)
- Future Fuels CRC, and:
- numerous Federal and State Government departments

As you would be aware through our updates in our weekly industry newsletter Gas Connections, GAMAA has made a major commitment to participate as a key partner in the Future Fuels Co-operative Research Centre (CRC).

The Future Fuels CRC will undertake research and development to transition Australia's energy infrastructure to a low-carbon economy using fuels such as hydrogen and biogas. Collaborating with over 60 companies, 6 universities, the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) and 2 Regulating Authorities, the CRC will develop solutions for current infrastructure and equipment to use these new fuels today and well into the future. Future low-carbon fuels offer the potential to store and deliver reliable, clean, and affordable energy through both new and repurposed distribution networks and equipment.

Through the support of our members, the Future Fuels CRC is conducting testing of 17 different Type A appliances to see what effect an increase in hydrogen may have on their operation. GAMAA is expecting to be able to communicate the findings of this work to our members later this year. This is only the beginning of the investigation into the potential to decarbonize our gas network, with significant more work to be done.

GAMAA continues to support Gas Speak, the activity funded by the Australian Gas Industry Trust (AGIT). Gas Speak 2019 is currently being held this year 2nd to 4th September at Manuka Oval. The objective of Gas Speak is to encourage an awareness and knowledge of the gas industry in Australia by providing a forum for young people to present papers, chair sessions, conduct syndicate discussions and develop the art of self-expression and communication. Gas Speak has been a successful and highly regarded gas industry event since 1982. It provides an opportunity for organisations to develop their younger staff and their communication skills, industry awareness and industry networks. I would encourage all member organisations to look within their teams and nominate young up-and-coming staff to apply for next year's event.

Without the support of our GAMAA representatives who represent our industry in numerous Standards Committees, the Standards that are developed would not actually reflect reality and currency within the markets we all serve. In achieving this outcome, we must thank the support and generosity of the employers of these individuals which allows this important work to continue.

All GAMAA Councillors and members recognise and appreciate the exceptional guidance and assistance provided by Ai Group's Membership Manager and our Executive Officer Jon Onley. Jon's attention to detail and the engagement with other Association executives provides us all with additional reach across government and industry. Our grateful thanks are extended to Jon and his staff.

I personally thank all who have contributed to GAMAA's success again this year in being recognised as the foremost gas appliance association in Australia. I would also like to thank all members, the executive and Vice Presidents Leon Bogers and Gareth Jennings for their support and guidance to me personally. I especially want to thank our members for their contributions and active promotion of our ideals and for supporting your industry.

Ross Jamieson  
GAMAA President

### **Leading the Australian Performance Indices**

Each month Ai Group releases real-time performance indices for the manufacturing, services and construction sectors. These national indices are constructed from survey data collected from businesses Australia-wide, on a representative sample basis. View the August performance data [here](#)