

GAMAA 56th AGM – Election Results

The 56th GAMAA AGM was held Wednesday 26 August 2020.

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, A.G & M.J Edwards

Paul Bains, Comcater

Mitchell Koureas, Barbeques Galore (newly elected)

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, with this year being our 62nd of representing gas appliance and component manufacturers and suppliers.

Over the last 12 months we have seen our membership grow as we continue to represent the interests of our members, our industry generally and consumers utilizing gas appliances, equipment and services.

Your Executive Committee comprising; Gareth Jennings [Rheem], Leon Bogers [Rinnai], Paul Allwood [Seeley International], Anthony Edwards [A.G Edwards & M. J Edwards], 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.

2020 has certainly created some additional challenges as all member organisations have met the needs of the market whilst adapting to the new social norms in response to the COVID-19 situation, it has certainly changed the way we interact with both our members and the wider industry as we have moved from the real world to the virtual world.

The last 12 months have seen increased activity as gas is challenged as being 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 reliability and security and economic competitiveness. 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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**Gas Appliance
Manufacturers
Association of
Australia**

**GAS
Connections**

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)
- Housing Industry Association (HIA)
- Consumer Electronics Suppliers Association (CESA)
- Plumbing Products Industry Group (PPIG)
- Australian Water Heating Forum (AWHF)
- Lighting Council of Australia
- 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 is undertaking 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 (with more on the way we are told), 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.

This time last year we were expecting the results of the Future Fuels CRC testing of 17 different Type A appliances to see what effect an increase in hydrogen may have on their operation. This work has been more significant than expected for the direction of Future Fuels CRC with the final results only communicated yesterday.

COVID-19 has had an impact on a number of industry events that have either been cancelled or postponed, GAMAA would normally encourage members to send participants to Gas Speak funded by Australian Gas Industry Trust (AGIT). Other industry events such as Gas Energy Australia's (GEA) National Forum and the Energy Networks Australia (ENA) Conference and Exhibition have all been postponed to 2021.

Without the support of our GAMAA representatives who represent our industry on numerous Standards Australia 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. I would like to take the opportunity to thank both Chris Blogg and Dr Alan Law for their outstanding support of the Standards process and wish them both well as they transition into retirement, noting that both are continuing to represent GAMAA on key committees.

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