

President Phillip writes:

Hi to you all once again. Firstly I would like to, on behalf of the N.H.M.A. Committee, send best wishes to all fellow enthusiasts who have been affected by the disastrous events of late. 2011 has not been a good year so far, hopefully it is all over now and everyone can get on with their lives without any more loss of life or destruction of property.

On a happier note the 13th N.H.M.A. rally at Pinjarra W.A. is drawing closer, the organising committee have everything well in hand and are ready to host the rally and I am sure that it will be a great display of machinery and a great social event.

I would like to take this opportunity to encourage anyone who can to make the journey across to W.A. as I am sure it will be a rally to remember.

Happy restoring. See you in W.A.

Phillip Morrison, President, N.H.M.A.

Secretary's Notes:

It is a pity that all club secretaries/ treasurers didn't see the advice stating that as of the 30th April there would be no further affiliation and insurance transactions or new club applications processed until July 2011. Unfortunately, I have had to return a few requests, which means that a few nominated members will now have to wait until the end of July before they can be covered by NHMA insurance.

Included with this Newsletter is notification of the coming AGM [2nd September 2011 at Pinjarra]; nomination forms for the NHMA Executive Officers, and the NHMA Committee of Management. Please note: All nominations must be in writing and in my hands at least 14 days before the AGM. **This is the 19th of August 2011.**

Also included is your club's 'Delegate Appointment Authority'. Please fill this in and have your club's delegate bring it along to the meeting.

If your club cannot be in attendance, and would like to have a say on an issue, please fill out the 'Form of Appointment of Proxy' and hand in at the start of the meeting.

NHMA Handbook:

I now have put together a 38 page booklet on NHMA procedures. The Executive have read through the contents and I have received favourable criticism. The next step is for the Committee to receive a copy, with further comment/discussion. It is intended that the handbook will be a living document. Content will be updated from time to time, the loose leaf design of the book will enable club secretaries to remove 'old' information and replace it with the new quite readily.

It is intended that the Handbook will be held by the President or Secretary of each club so that it can be referred to by the club committee, should the need arise.

As my time will be taken up over the next three or four months, [with the annual affiliation and insurance renewals] please don't expect this booklet to be posted out until about the end of October, at the earliest.

Insurance Matters:

I have received many requests from member clubs regarding insurance issues. These mainly relate to fencing of exhibits and insurance on vehicles while travelling on roads in a tractor trek.

Although many of these issues are covered in the NHMA Safety Guidelines and the NHMA Insurance Guidelines, may I say that all clubs holding rallies are expected to closely follow our safety guidelines.

The NHMA Committee has a responsibility to other participants and the public, to make rallies as safe as they can be. The committee feels that it would be failing in its OH&S responsibilities should the NHMA Safety Guidelines be neglected by member clubs.

On the issue of vehicles on public places;

Firstly, the vehicle must be registered or on permit.

Secondly, the driver must be licensed to drive the vehicle. [Don't laugh; this is happening at rallies.]

Thirdly, although it is not compulsory to hold comprehensive or third party property insurance, vehicle owners are advised to have some form of cover arranged through their usual motor insurance provider.

Club Secretaries are urged to advise their members that the public liability insurance offered by the NHMA does not apply to vehicles on public places in any way, and was never intended to.

Club members who are relying on their farm or business public liability policies for 'hobby' cover should have their policies endorsed accordingly, so that rally organisers can have written proof that these exhibitors are covered at rallies.

NHMA Steam Management Committee Update 1: 2011

Introduction

Your committee is still hard at work and we are now hopefully in sight of finalization with a Code of Practice and Manual for the operation of heritage steam plant. In this update we cover a range of topics and issues to not only explain the procedures we are as a group of steam operators have to comply with but also just as importantly what we have to be aware of. Please note that the website of The Old Machinery Magazine (www.tomm.com.au) has a section where previous updates can be found.

Meeting in South Australia

In October last year, SafeWork Australia (Federal Government Agency) funded a two day meeting enabling the four members of the NHMA Steam Management Committee to discuss the Heritage Steam Code of Practice with Work, Health and Safety (WHS) senior plant staff from the Federal Government and South Australian Government. South Australia is currently the State that provides policy input on steam matters to jurisdictions in the other states and territories. Also in attendance was a representative from the Association of Tourist and Heritage Railways (ATHRA).

A wide range of topics were discussed, including the drafting of the Federal Government's model Work, Health and Safety legislation planned for enactment in January 2012. One of the purposes of this legislation is to standardize WHS (previously known as OHS) legislation throughout the nation. The drafting is being carried out by SafeWork Australia in consultation with the states and territories and will result in an Act and Regulations to the Act. One of the effects of this is that the High Risk Licensing Standard of 2005, which led to Government accepting the justification for a Heritage Steam Code of Practice, is now incorporated in the model WHS regulations. The impact of this is discussed later.

One of the decisions made at the meeting was for SafeWork Australia (SWA) to produce a Code of Practice titled *How to Manage Risks Associated with Heritage Plant*. One of the reasons for this is that there is a wide range of heritage plant and not just steam. Examples include Stationary Oil Engines, Tractors (wheeled and tracked), watercraft, load shifting and earthmoving equipment, and belt drive equipment.

Heritage Plant Code

Government, as part of the model WHS procedures, has a recently developed standard layout for Codes of Practice and covers Risk Management, Duties and Responsibilities. The rationale is that a representative group or association will need to demonstrate how they will comply with the Heritage Plant Code in areas such as risk management, training, assessment, operator authorisations, plant registration and so on.

Initially, the Heritage Steam Code of Practice was written to be a Steam Plant Code of Practice but as other interest groups made contact with us, including non-steam people, it became apparent that one group through one document could not manage all the different types of equipment in one Code. Therefore the decision by SWA to produce an overall Heritage Plant Code where each association has to produce its own Compliance Manual means that the risks can be better managed and the administrative work load is spread over a number of associations and not just the NHMA Steam Management Committee. Each Compliance Manual will need to have the approval of Government.

In January this year a member of the NHMA Steam Management Committee assisted a senior member of SWA's Work, Health and Safety Branch to draft a Heritage Plant Code. This is one of around twenty Codes of Practice awaiting ratification which will hopefully occur this year, noting that they also have to be available for public comment. The key point is that the Heritage Plant Code has been drafted.

Compliance Manual Drafting

Following the drafting of the SWA Heritage Plant Code the previously titled National Code of Practice for The Management, Training, Operation, Maintenance, Repair and Construction of Heritage Steam Plant was redrafted. It is now titled, *NHMA Steam Management Committee, COMPLIANCE MANUAL, Heritage Steam Plant 2011*.

The chapter headings are as before and cover:

- Introduction
- Management and DutyHolder Responsibilities
- Risk Management
- Training, Assessment and Operator Authorisation
- Operation, Maintenance and Documentation
- Driving and Conduct
- Inspections
- Repairs and Construction
- Boiler and Plant Registration
- Records and Reports
- Appeals and Arbitration

A draft was sent to SWA and feedback has been received suggesting minor changes mainly in regard to terminology, which is appreciated.

Issues

It is important to understand that we as a group are part of a process that we do not control. The model WHS legislation has to be enacted and it affects all industry bodies throughout the nation. However, your committee is well aware that National Certificates of Competency issued in 2007, to replace the former 'paper tickets', are due to expire next year.

Although we have completed all the documentation required by Government, including our training package, we are concerned that it may not be accepted by January next year due to the significant workload involved with the WHS legislation. Accordingly, we wrote to SWA in March and raised a number of issues including certificate renewal. A copy of our letter, dated 12 March 2011, is attached.

We received a positive reply from SWA on 19 April and a copy of their letter is attached. The letter refers to a meeting of SIG-OHS (Steering Committee Overseeing Model Legislation Development) scheduled for 4-6 May but this has been deferred to later in May. We will let you know the outcomes of the meeting and we will continue to monitor the situation with Certification renewal. *(Please note that both letters have been slightly edited - the names of government officers have been removed to comply with privacy provisions).*

You can assist by advising us if you are contacted by your OHS jurisdiction about certificate renewal and any conditions required such as refresher training. We can then pass this information onto other members by another Update and also take it up with Government if required.

Also note that the responsibility for Certificate of Competency renewal rests with the individual and it is possible that you may not be contacted by Government before your certificate expires. Although our Compliance Manual has procedures for Operator Authorisation, where you will not be required to hold a government issued Certificate of Competency (eg BB) to operate heritage steam plant, current holders should consider Certificate renewal. Remember, it is possible that our procedures may not be approved by January next year and as stated in our letter of 12 March the delay is outside our control.

Register

Ron Jackson still maintains the register of people who support the Heritage Steam Code of Practice. Email is the best way for contact but we do understand that not everybody is comfortable with this method but encourage its use where possible. We encourage everybody with an interest in steam to register and further information can be obtained from Ron; his email address is: ron.jackson@activ8.net.au. People who do not have access to email will be contacted by post once they have registered. If you are in this situation, please contact Gary Barker on 0409 446 475.

Publicity

Please continue to publicise the work that is occurring by forwarding this Newsletter on and if you are responsible for your Club's News Sheet a few lines stating that the newsletter has been issued would be appreciated.

One Request

Please continue to be patient and if you would like further information you are welcome to contact Gary Barker.

Steam Management Committee.
May 2011

12 March 2011

Branch Manager
Work, Health and Safety Branch
Safe Work Australia
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear ,

As you are aware, I worked with your staff in January to prepare a draft for a model Code of Practice on Heritage Plant (the Code), on the understanding it was to be endorsed and issued by governments as part of the model Work Health and Safety (WHS) legislation harmonisation activity. This followed from the meeting in Adelaide in October last year, where members of your staff and Safe Work SA met with the NHMA Steam Management Committee. One recommendation from that meeting was to prepare an overarching model Code of Practice for Heritage Plant and not just for steam machinery.

The concept was that each association or representative group for people using heritage plant could then prepare a Compliance Manual that identified how to achieve compliance with the model WHS Regulations and the Code. Accordingly, the originally proposed NHMA Heritage Steam Code of Practice has now been redrafted as an NHMA Compliance Manual.

Part of the discussion in January involved examination of the draft WHS Act and Regulations in regard to public safety and identifying the regulations to which the Code would apply. Once a draft Code is completed our understanding is that it will need to be reviewed by Safe Work Australia legal staff prior to presentation to Safe Work Australia members for approval. To avoid any uncertainty for our members that might arise if the Code is not in place at the time the model WHS legislation is enacted in each state and territory, it is requested that the draft Code be given a high degree of priority similar to other industry Codes of Practice.

It is also understood that the National Standard for Licensing Persons Performing High Risk Work issued in 2005, which was the impetus for developing the proposed NHMA Heritage Steam Code of Practice, is now incorporated in the model WHS Regulations. We understand the deadline for enacting the model WHS Regulations is 1 January 2012 which was the same timeframe for implementation of the National Standard for Licensing Persons Performing High Risk Work.

However, the WHS legislation has to be enacted by each State and Territory Government and there is a possibility that it could extend past 2012.

Our concern with any delay relates to the licensing of heritage plant operators. Following the issue of the High Risk Licensing Standard all governments required people with 'paper' tickets to convert their certificate of competency to a High Risk Work licence with the need for renewal every five years, and in many cases this will be 2012. Some governments advised that future renewal would require a demonstration of continuing competency and could involve completion of refresher training.

However, once the model WHS Regulations and the Code is endorsed by Safe Work Australia, our understanding was that there would no longer be a requirement for an operator of heritage plant to obtain a high risk work licence. That is, if a member of an association met the requirements of the association's 'compliance manual', that is to be 'certified' by the association as having achieved an appropriate level of operator competency, then this would replace the need for a high risk work licence.

Until recently, heritage steam plant operators have tended to be forgotten by government and there is a likelihood that this could occur again. The possible requirement to comply with standards for current training courses for renewal of a high risk work licence means that heritage operators could find themselves unable to satisfy this, even though they are competent on the plant they operate. Essentially, our plant is fixed in time and current training has little relevance to its use. This was one of the original reasons for developing the NHMA Heritage Steam Code of Practice and has never been contra argued by government.

The NHMA Steam Management Committee has done everything within its resources and has written procedures in place for the original 2012 deadline. Given that any delays are outside our control we request that governments consider extending the life of existing high risk work licences for operators of heritage plant past 2012 until the model WHS legislation is enacted across the nation.

If this cannot be done we request exemption of heritage plant operators from undergoing training in order to renew their high risk work licences should this become a requirement. The classes applicable to heritage plant operators are BB or BA, ES and occasionally TO. My committee requests that Safe Work Australia supports this and actions it through the Heads of Workplace Safety Authorities.

Yours faithfully,

G. Barker
Technical Director
Steam Management Committee

Mr Gary Barker
Technical Director
Steam Management Committee
National Historical Machinery Association

Dear Gary,

Thank you for your letter of 18 March 2011 where you outline your concerns about operators of heritage plant and requirements under the model Work Health and Safety (WHS) Regulations. Given the prior interaction with the National Historical Machinery Association (NHMA) on heritage plant matters, I can assure you that we understand your concerns that the new model WHS legislation does not prevent heritage plant enthusiasts from safely maintaining and operating their plant for the public benefit.

I would also like to thank you and the NHMA for developing an initial draft of a Heritage Plant Code of Practice for consideration by Safe Work Australia. Your efforts have resulted in a better understanding of the issues faced by NHMA members and members of other heritage plant associations. As was recently agreed at a NHMA safety committee meeting in Adelaide, Safe Work Australia is now seeking to progress the development of a model code of practice for heritage plant that can be supported by more detailed member association material, such as the proposed NHMA Compliance Manual.

I also note your concern that, if the implementation of the model WHS Regulations was to be delayed beyond 1 January 2012, there may be a need for heritage plant operators to undergo additional training in order to renew their current High Risk Work licences (which are generally due to expire in 2012). At this stage the agreed implementation date for the model WHS legislation of 1 January 2012 for all jurisdictions is expected to be met. Transitional arrangements will be required for some matters, including for high risk work licensing, so as to allow a smooth change over to the new legislation. These arrangements could allow heritage plant operators to continue to work under the current licensing arrangements without having to undergo additional training, including prior to the model legislation being implemented.

I can advise that staff in my Branch have been working to progress content for a draft heritage plant code but, given the significant workload of the steering committee that is overseeing model legislation development (SIG-OHS), there is yet to be final agreement on code content. Given the proposal for the code to provide heritage plant owners/operators with alternative regulatory compliance paths in terms of plant registration and licensing, a final scoping paper is to go to the scheduled 4-6 May 2011 SIG-OHS meeting to settle code content.

As a result, I will write to let you know of the outcome of the SIG-OHS meeting in early May 2010. In the meantime, my staff will continue to develop proposed

code content and you are welcome to continue to liaise with them.

I would like to take this opportunity to, once again, thank you for the considerable amount of work you and your committee have done to progress this matter.

Yours sincerely

Branch Manager
Work Health and Safety Branch
Safe Work Australia

**The NHMA Committee of Management acknowledges the huge contribution of the NHMA Steam Management Committee.
Thank you!**

Next Committee Meeting

Our next committee meeting is scheduled for the 8th of August 2011. This will be a teleconference, so if your club has issues, please contact your State Representative so that they can be aired.

State representatives are reminded that there will also be a short meeting at Pinjarra, on the 2nd September 2011, to attend to urgent rally issues.

Important contact changes for the Secretary:

Please note: as from the **1st January 2011**, contact numbers for the NHMA Secretary are:

Phone: **03 5444 1113**

Fax: **03 5441 3668.**

From the **1st March 2011** the postal address for the NHMA is:

PO Box 304 STRATHDALE VIC. 3550.

My email address remains the same:

bock-1@bigpond.com

**The old phone numbers no longer respond!
The old address will no longer respond!**

Affiliation / Insurance Renewals

So far everything is running smoothly with this process. It is understood that many clubs wish to get their cards back ASAP as some nominated members from the Eastern States are anxious to commence their trip to the National Rally.

All clubs are urged to have their financial members lists completed [this should be finalised in most instances]. The renewal form is enclosed with this newsletter, so all that has to be done is fill out the form, attach the cheque and financial members list and post!!

This year, there is an information update being requested on the renewal form. Some of the addresses and phone numbers on my data base may be of former contacts; the NHMA would also like to be able to make contact with member clubs via email; a medium that is much quicker when urgent replies are required.

NHMA National Rally

As President Phillip has indicated earlier, the Pinjarra National Rally will soon be with us. The first National Rally that I attended was at Busselton in 1997. The fond memories of that rally remain with me, the earth moving display was something to be seen; there was also a great display of drag-saws cutting through those huge logs of the south-west!

Since then every National Rally has had a display of great interest to me that makes each rally special.

Can I ask member clubs to urge their members to 'come on over' and participate. Just by moving around and talking to the exhibitors you will be surprised how many wonderful people there are displaying their machines of yesteryear to the public of today.

Please pop in and say g'day. We would love to meet you!