

Gas Lines Newsletter

Autumn Edition 2015

Editors Note



Hi Everyone,

Welcome to the Autumn Edition of Gaslines.

We hope you all had a good Easter and long weekend with family and friends.

SOMETHING NEW** in the coming editions of Gas Lines Tony Ussia will be covering all areas in his blog.

To stay in tune with what's happening like our face book Page.

Natasha



★MARCH

Daniel Collins
Peter Fenech
Michael Robertson
Fellice Pollicina

★APRIL

Sarah Jeffes
Katrina Overton
Matthew Wheatland
Mick Naylor

★MAY

Nicholas Bergholcs
Mark Dawson
Stephen Kearnes
Mark Ogilvie
Lachlan Van De Donk
Amy Wheatland
Kristina Zimroz

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Toolbox Talks

IMPORTANT: If you haven't read any of these toolbox talks please speak to your Supervisor or contact HR to obtain a copy.

TBT# 61 - Sick Leave Policy & Employee Responsibilities

TBT# 62 - Discuss & resolve observations.
Jemena Field Audit 4/11/14

TBT # 63 - Locate & Excavate Inlet Services

TBT # 64 - APA Direct Purging Procedure

TBT # 65 - APA Incident Reporting Process

TBT # 66 - APA HSE Lesson Learnt - Gas fire during purging and gas meter commissioning & APA Direct Purging Procedure

TBT # 67 - APA Authority to Work Permit Procedure & APA Permits Procedure

TBT # 68 - APA Plant & Equipment Toolbox Talk

Directors Note



So the weather has taken a nasty turn over the Easter Break, shorter, colder and wet days about to be the norm for the next few months, add to the mix any more of the storms we've experienced during the last couple of weeks and it could be a long miserable winter ahead.

Please consider all these conditions and how that will affect your job sites. This is the time of year when so many things come together, the weather as mentioned, but also the shorter days and increased workloads put us under additional pressure throughout the day and that's when things can easily go wrong, so stay vigilant of the risks to yourself and your workmates.

There has been a higher concern for the various strains of flue this year, and as such your friends in Human Resources have organised a free flu vaccine for anyone interested in protecting themselves, a good initiative from the team, and typical of Natasha's interest in all our wellbeing (I'm expecting a blood donor day will come sometime).

Our Quality Management System (QMS) is starting to become more integrated into our day-to-day operations as it moves from an implementation stage into a business-working model. Our focus is on continual improvement across all areas of the business, not solely Quality, but also covering all business components and now being an Integrated Management System (IMS).

In the last Newsletter I talked about the approach we were taking with investigations of incidents including near miss, and I thank you for your involvement and acceptance of this. Already we are seeing opportunities to improve our safety performance, and that can only be a good thing!

Remember you can now individually benefit financially from our Customer Satisfaction Reward Program through any positive feedback from customers, Clients and even the general public.

I thank each of you who participate in being part of a sustainable and enjoyable workplace.

Work and Play safe.

Chris O'Keefe

Safety Integrity Teamwork Enjoyment

A Message from Senior Manager Tony Ussia



In recent times Macarthur Gas has been full of surprises. The need to change is starting to be accepted by most of our employees/contractors as smart people do realise that without change you will not survive.

Our commitment to continuous improvement has been difficult and at times may upset people by taking them out of their comfort zones but there will be times that we will have to make hard decisions that will give us greater opportunities in the long term.

The Gas Networks area managed by Neil Lamb is by far the most difficult area to manage and is also an area that has had to adapt to change the most. Neil and his team focus and work hard on giving the client "no grief" which at times can be seen to be very difficult. All the crews in this area are working extra hard to meet the industry expectations when it comes to compliance.

Our Plumbing area have been focusing on company image and I can say the improvements that this area have made are being noticed by our clients. Image is a big word in our culture statement and I do know that the money we have spent on image has definitely helped us get to where we are now. I have an understanding and saying with Murray Overton and his team "if it's working and not broken, let's not touch it."

The Civil & Engineering team has seen a massive change with the resignation of Sal Khachan. Sal was a very popular figure at Mac Gas and he is being missed. Sal left Mac Gas on good terms and we would welcome him back if things did not work out with his new venture. We all wish Sal and his young family all the best in the future and with a bit of luck and communication we may be able to do business together.

Moving forward we welcome Marco Di Michele to the team. Marco has a wealth of knowledge in engineering and Project Management, and I really look forward to working with him to build the Civil & Engineering team from where Sal left it. This is the area that I personally see having the greatest potential to doing work out of the Gas Industry and out of the ordinary E.G they could be building a bridge next week, but I must say I don't think that we are ready for something like Sydney Harbour Bridge yet.

The Riverina area has had to "adjust with the times." The Natural Gas networks were previously owned by Envestra, recently this network has been purchased by a Hong Kong bank and it's not hard to work out that the new buyers will be looking for a decent return on their investment, one thing I do know is that they will not spend money on the network unless they have too.

Peter Magnone has been very vigilant in this area by looking for alternate work. He has won a major sewer job in the main street of Gundagai and I have all the confidence that he has the right mentality to move forward.

All I can say is hold onto your hats as we are going for the ride of our life when it comes to Operations at Mac Gas.

Before I finish off I would like to let you in on something that I did not know. Chris O'Keefe asked me if I knew what Integrity meant (well I thought I knew what it meant) which you will find under the logo below and in the word SITE.

S= Safety Self explanatory

I= Integrity NOT Self-explanatory (it means "DOING THE RIGHT THING EVEN WHEN NO ONE IS WATCHING")

T= Teamwork Self explanatory

E= Enjoyment Self Explanatory

I'm 100% sure that if you always do the right thing even when no one is watching you will feel better within yourself and your clients theoretically should give you the respect you deserve.

STAY SAFE, WORK AS A TEAM AND HAVE FUN OUT THERE.

Tony Ussia



DRIVING SAFELY IN THE WET



The streets are busier as more people drive to avoid the rain and the roads become slippery. There's the water itself, but the rain also brings oil and other slippery muck to the surface. It's harder to see the road ahead, your windscreen becomes foggy and your brakes are less effective. It's no surprise that in the wet weather there are more prangs, but there are some simple things you can do to avoid getting into trouble.

★ Slow down

It seems obvious, but it's always a good idea in wet weather to ease up on the gas.

You should also increase the distance between you and the cars ahead. In normal conditions, it's recommended that you leave a three second gap – in the wet, try to double this.

★ Take it easy

You need to take extra care in all aspects of your driving. Accelerate and steer smoothly. Avoid slamming on the brakes – apply steady pressure.

★ Look out

Make sure you can see and be seen. Turn on your lights and use your air conditioner and/or demister to keep your windows from fogging up. In heavy rain, you'll wish you had replaced those worn old windscreen wipers. Before that happens, check out whether you need new ones – they're cheap to buy and easy to install.

★ Watch out

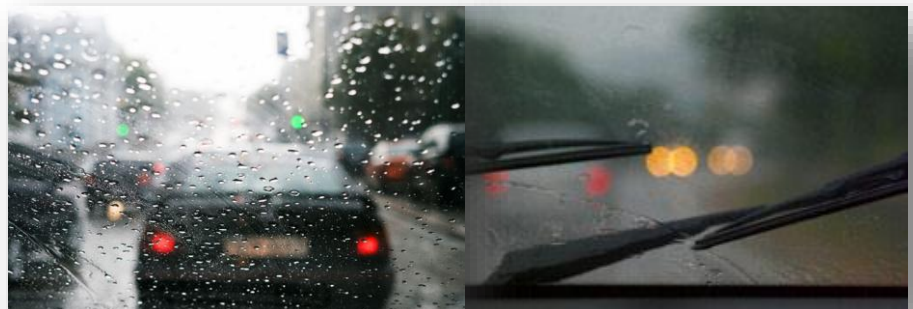
Keep an eye out for water on the road. Sometimes water can gather in dips or unseen potholes, creating deceptively deep pools. Cars have been known to 'aquaplane' after hitting water like this (that is, 'glide' out of control across the road). If you do come across water across the road, then cut your speed right back to 30 or 40km/h. After you've driven through, touch your brakes lightly to dry out the brake pads.

Obviously, if there's water flowing across a road in a low-lying country area, for example, you should stop and check the depth before continuing (it shouldn't be higher than the lowest point on the wheel rim).

★ Patience

The most important thing is to be patient. When it's raining and chaotic, everyone's in the same boat...

When the rain comes down, the roads can get crazy.



Don't know what to do on the weekend...

Don't worry we have it covered...!

i ♥ weekends!

SYDNEY

NSW vs QLD State of Origin

Wednesday 27th May 2015
ANZ Stadium Sydney Olympic Park

Markets @ Panthers

EVERY Sunday until November 2015
From 9am to 2pm
Mulgoa Road Penrith South

11th Annual Sydney Comedy Festival

20th April to 17th May 2015
Various locations

WAGGA WAGGA

2015 AAMI Country vs City Origin

Sunday 3rd May 2015
McDonald's Park, Wagga Wagga Exhibition Centre (EQUEx), cnr Copland
Street and Koorringal Road, Wagga Wagga

Disney's High School Musical Kildare Catholic College

Thursday 7th May 2015
Wagga Wagga Civic Theatre, Burns Way off Tarcutta Street, Wagga Wagga

Farmers' Market

Saturday 9th May 2015
Civic Centre Precinct, Burns Way, off Tarcutta Street, Wagga Wagga

Though of The Month

Medical professionals warn a nightmarish flu season may be imminent this winter...

All numbers released for this time of year are the highest ever.

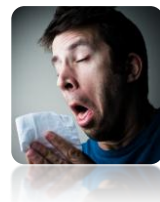
The average number of infections for this time of year are usually a couple of hundred. The concern lays with already well over 4000 cases officially reported and it's only mid-April.

It's not helping the possible shocker flu season with the flu vaccine being delayed by a whole month however, the delay was needed to include two new nasty flu strains wreaking havoc in Europe.

The cost to Australia each year from the flu is close to bumping \$900m annually. This includes days off work, cost of vaccinations, hospitalisations, trips to the Doc etc.

As we approach the countdown to get the vaccine there are some tips to avoid catching and spreading the flu:

- Become mildly OCD with washing your hands include anti-bacterial hand gel where possible.
- Avoid close contact with people who may have the flu (obvious but necessary).
- Stay hydrated, body needs it to run at its flu-fighting best.
- Avoid grog, it also gives your immune system a headache
- Good health in general can help you from getting sick. Eat and sleep well and try to exercise.
- Don't be that person, cover your nose and mouth when you cough or sneeze and get rid of tissues properly rather than having them lay around (don't be that person either).
- If you have the flu, just lock yourself away from the time the fever starts till a day after it's stopped.



Mac Gas will be providing free flu vaccinations to all employees over a two day period in the month of May which will take place at our premises.

For those who are interested please feel free to contact Natasha on 8786 3800 or email hr@macgas.com.au



Employee of the Quarter



Congratulations to Chris Daly from the Riverina who received employee of the quarter.

Chris's work ethic has been outstanding over the last few months and he has been commended by our clients for the effort and commitment he has shown on a daily basis.



The Management Team had a very hard decision to make this quarter and couldn't choose just one winner as both Chris and Stephen equally showed commitment with their roles.

Congratulations to Stephen Micallef from the Gas Networks Department for also receiving employee of the quarter.

Stephen has been actively involved with training new employees, assisting planners and supervisors to meet our objectives and going above and beyond his expectations.



NEW CUSTOMER SATISFACTION REWARD PROGRAM

Macarthur Gas has recently introduced a new customer satisfaction reward program for personnel who receive a customer compliment.

The initial proposal is a reward value of \$20.00 per compliment, payment to be made monthly by voucher. The Directors will review this each month, and the reward value may be changed depending on the results and value being achieved.

Qualification of a compliment will be accepted by email, web page or Facebook message, letter, or phone call and must be auditable.

Interview with Stephen Micallef



Stephen has been working at Mac Gas since 2009 starting of as a Planners Assistant, moving into Planner and now as Managers Assistant in the Gas Networks department.

He is known as the Mac Gas clown and the first one to pull a prank on someone, but also the first person to help anyone in need. He brings laughter to any stressful situation and his kind, generous nature is recognised and appreciated by everyone he works with.

Here are some facts about Stephen that you may not know about:

Name: Stephen Micallef

Age: 31

Interests and Hobbies: Sports, movies, going out

Favourite Food: Pizza

Favourite Drink: Jack Daniels & Coke. But I'm not really picky, ill drink anything.

Favourite Football Team: The mighty bulldogs & Manchester united

Favourite Travel Destination: Vegas



Favourite Movie: Way too many to list

Pick one word that best describes you: Lazy

Where did you grow up: Bossley Park AKA Gods Country

What is your 5 year plan: To continue to work hard at Mac Gas and maybe settle down

What celebrity would you choose to have dinner with and why: Ricky Gervais

What do you like the most about working at Mac Gas: The people are good, makes it easy to come to work.

Recent Complimentary Letter



Hi there,

I'm stuck in a traffic jam on the M5 and someone's beautiful classic car just broke down.

Without a second thought, three of your guys jumped out of the van and helped him push his car to the shoulder.

Just wanted to say you've got three great, helpful blokes working for you there! Buy em a beer or two :)

*Cheers,
Belinda*

Keven has been instrumental in supporting the customer throughout the process and should be awarded for his persistence with gas networks state rail for his efforts.

Up coming events

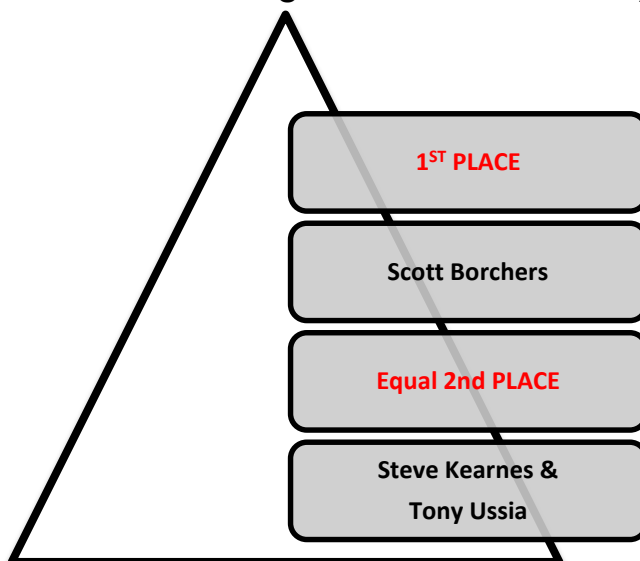


Sunday 10th May 2015



Footy Tipping

Current standings for the MacGas Footy Competition as at the end of Round 8



Recent Events

During the month of March we farewelled two employees.
Paul Bennett who has retired and Salim Khachan who has ventured to
another organisation.



We would like to thank them for their valuable contribution to the
company over the years and wish them all the very best with their future
endeavours!



Good luck.

PEOPLE WHO FOUND
SUCCESS

— DESPITE —
FAILURES



❖ **12 TIMES** ❖

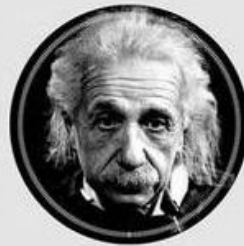
J.K. Rowling was famously rejected by a mighty 12 publishers before Harry Potter and The Philosopher's Stone was accepted.



❖ **302 TIMES** ❖

Legend has it Walt Disney was turned down 302 times before he got financing for creating Disneyland.

*Never
Give Up!*



❖ **104 TIMES** ❖

Albert Einstein didn't speak until he was four and didn't read till seven. He went on to win a Nobel Prize and became the face of modern physics.



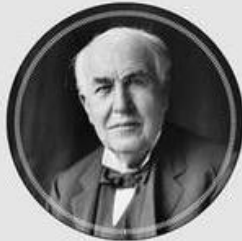
❖ **SOLD 1 PAINTING** ❖

Vincent Van Gogh only sold one painting in his lifetime--to a friend. Despite that, he kept painting and finished over 800 pieces. His most expensive painting today is valued at \$142.7 million.



❖ **27 TIMES** ❖

Dr. Seuss's first book To Think That I Saw It on Mulberry Street was rejected by 27 different publishers.



❖ **10000 WAYS** ❖

Thomas Edison: "If I find 10,000 ways something won't work, I haven't failed. I am not discouraged, because every wrong attempt discarded is another step forward."

**THE HARDER THE
STRUGGLE, THE
MORE GLORIOUS
THE TRIUMPH.**



Winter Service Special

For ALL Employees

Beat the cold snap and have your room
heater serviced

For ONLY \$60.00



Quote of the Month

Don't Quit

When things go wrong as they sometimes will,
When the road you're trudging seems all uphill
When the funds are low and the debts are high,
And you want to smile, but you have to sigh,
When care is pressing you down a bit—
Rest if you must, but don't quit.

Life is strange with its twists and turns,
As every one of us sometimes learns,
And many a fellow turns about
When he might have won had he stuck it out.
Don't give up though the pace seems slow—
You may succeed with another blow.

Often the goal is nearer than
It seems to a fair and faltering man,
Often the struggler has given up
When he might have captured the victor's cup,
And he learned too late when night came down,
How close he was to the golden crown.

Success is failure turned inside out—
The silver tint of the clouds of doubt,
And you never can tell how close you are,
It may be near when it seems afar,
So stick to the fight when you're hardest hit,—
It's when things seem worst that you mustn't quit.

AUTHOR UNKNOWN

Macarthur Gas Pty Ltd
Gas Lines Newsletter

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