

DAMA AUSTRALIA AGM 2011

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

This has been a year of significant change for DAMA Australia. We have reorganised our legal structure to a simpler & less expensive Incorporated Association, registered under Victorian State Law, rather than the Company Limited by Guarantee that we were before. We were able to do this because of changes in the laws governing Incorporated Associations, allowing them to operate across State boundaries.

While being transparent to the membership as a whole, this change has made a difference to the committees that run the organisation. It has also been accompanied by changes in our operating procedures. The old organisation had become a bit lax in administration, with each branch operating as a separate entity. This has now been improved with regular meetings of the national committee to oversee the whole organisation and share ideas on guest speakers, how to organise meetings and general administration.

This has been greatly aided by the work of Glen Bell & Andy Peyton in particular, with Daniel Moody, Terry Smith and Mark Atkins from NSW branch, all giving a great deal of time & inspiration to improving our public web site, creating a committee web site and developing semi automated event organisation and mailing list procedures.

Daniel & Glen have also been instrumental in improving our image by arranging for high profile speakers such as John Zachman to speak to us. They have also instituted training courses on Data Management and related topics.

There is still much to be done behind the scenes to rebuild the administration procedures so that they are much smoother and operate fairly automatically. We have still found this end of year has created a great flurry of emails on how to run AGMs and inconsistencies with financial records. More work is required to ensure that committee activities are up to date thruout the year and documented as procedures.

I must give credit and thanks to the NSW branch in particular, who have done so much to raise the public profile of DAMA as the senior organisation for the I part of IT. We now have a better base for moving forward to projects that really require cooperation between branches. We can also work much better with other associations at the same level, such as Data Warehousing & Business Intelligence groups, and further afield to Enterprise Architecture.