

The Whistle Blower -

News of the Canberra Society of Model and Experimental Engineers2
January 2009

Wednesday work activities

The regular Wednesday working bee has carried out further work on the track between Wilmot Wood and the steaming bay points, correcting the elevation and straightening several undulations. The whole of the area has been sprayed with weed killer. Grass was mowed and the site tidied up in preparation for a private run on 10/01/09.

Thanks to Mick Richardson for doing some further mowing on the running day morning. On the last Saturday of the month the Wednesday crew went down to the track at 7am and lopped a tree that was in danger of fowling the power lines, this we estimate saved the club around \$1000.00 in costs for a professional tree surgeon.

Boilers

Ian Smith has sighted and approved boiler plates for Col Fullers portable engine.

John Oliver has approved plans submitted by Grahame Coronel for a stationary engine boiler and passed boiler plates for (3) stationary engine boilers by Dick Whitfield Les Mouat at the last monthly meeting brought along some completed boiler plates and formers for his Blowfly loco he is building.

Monthly meeting

Some twenty members attended with a progress report being given by the President on the new site. John Oliver, Lindsay Drabsch and Dick Whitfield showed the meeting bits and pieces with Dick giving a talk and practical demonstration on using a sticky pin for finding center marks on material.

Club running day

Attendance was low this month with most of the regulars being away on holidays however there were several locos running including John and Wally Cameron's NSW 422 diesel loco. A small number of public arrived after lunch with approx \$40 dollars being taken in rides.

Monthly running day

Again with most of Canberra away on Christmas holidays and only three parties

being booked for the day, things were a little on the quiet side. However the weather was quite mild and all had a good day.

Coming Events

February 8th Club running day, also biannual inspection of public carrying rolling stock

February 19th Club meeting at ARHS club rooms commencing 8pm. Main topic Setting a lathe tailstock and some very interesting videos presentations on live steam railway sites. **Don't miss this one!**

February 29th public running day - please if you are on the roster it is important that you attend, as several members will be away at other venues.

March 8th Club running day

March 18th the Committee has decided the Club will participate in Senior's Week, we will be putting on a display of locos and giving free rides and a free sausage sizzle to all senior citizens from 10am to 3pm.

March 29th Public running day

April 4th and 5th The Canberra Model Railway Expo at the Hockey Center Lyneham we will be participating so we need model engineering projects to display and people to man the stand over the weekend.

Every Wednesday, rain, hail or shine you are welcome to join the working bee at the KMR site remembering that it is your club and many hands make light work.

Membership matters

Unfortunately we are losing a member to sunny Queensland – Errol Walker has begun his move and will be unable to participate in any more activities at the club, however he will be dropping in to check up on us no doubt.

On the bright side we have two applications for membership from Mr. Allan Forster and the other from Mr. Luke Roberts – when accepted it will bring our membership up to 94 financial members.

Money matters

The Treasurer reports that we are slightly behind on the projected budget for 2008-2009 mainly due to Decembers and Januarys

running days being quieter than usual, however on a brighter note we have now gone to a form of internet banking changing the monthly interest on our account from approximately **\$10.00** a month to **\$100.00** a month. The No1 working account contains \$10,636.00's. The No2 account contains \$28,725.00. Included in the No2 account is a sum of \$16,080 set aside for the relocation of the Club to Symonston.

The new site

Progress at the moment is slow, waiting on the Chief Ministers office staff to get their act together, our submission to the ACT Cabinet forwarded in November has yet to reach the Cabinet for their approval and until this happens we are being left in limbo. However the Sub Committee are still meeting monthly and planning is going ahead on paper at least. Watch this space for further developments, but don't hold your breath.

Club tools & materials

Don't forget that Lloyd Sawyer has a large range of milling cutters and brass material for sale at a discounted price on behalf of the club you can contact Lloyd at 6254 7958 or mobile No 0408 628 959

Donations

Thanks to Mike Cammell's scrounging abilities we now have an electronic white board and five pallets of pavers all for use at the new site, thanks Mike.

John Jervis has come up with 50mtrs of thick walled pipe suitable for the new raised track, all we have to do is pick it up on the club trailer somewhere north of Goulburn so again, thanks to John. Whilst we don't want to fill the KMR site with cast off junk if you have or know of any material that the club can use please let one of the Committee know and we may be able to put it to good use.

Wanted

A small petrol engine for a 5inch loco about 2 to 3 hp contact Dick Whitfield 6281 6133 if you can help.

Mowing roster

February 21st roster

John CAMERON 6297 5062
Mike CAMMELL 6249 7605
Phil COBDEN 62539557
Brian DUNN

March 28th roster

Dave DUNNETT 6286 3704
Les FEARNLEY 6297 9378
David FOOTE 6292 3778
Colin FULLER 6251 1779



Len Tate and Dick Whitfield hard at work.