

The Whistle Blower -

News of the Canberra Society of Model and Experimental Engineers March 2010

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What's been Going On

Work Activities

February saw the completion of the lifting of the remainder of 3 1/2 gauge track.

The crossing gate has had modifications carried out to stop the gate before it fully opens. This modification stops the gas rams from fully extending and causing problems when the gate tries to close.

The self propelled walk behind slasher has been dismantled, degreased and assessed for repairs. The following week the slasher was reassembled with both drive belts and safety brake chain being replaced. The slasher was tested and certified fit for duty.

The fly screen to serving hatch at the rear of the canteen has been fitted.

A welding bench suitable for fabricating points and other pieces of kit has been assembled and is ready for use.

Prepared 500 pegs which will be used at C.M.R. for marking out the level of the track beds.

Prepared all three locos for the end of month run, fuel, water and oil plus test drive each train.

Monthly Meeting

The February Members meeting was well attended with 23 members turning out for the night. There were 5 apologies received and no visitors attended.

The main topic was presented by Dick Whitfield.

The subject of the presentation was Building a Model from Scratch.

The presentation included information on how to make a model from the ground up where there are no plans and only using photos and measurements of the full size prototype

Thanks goes to Dick for the presentation and his efforts in keeping the members entertained.

Bits and Pieces is picking up with the following Bits and Pieces being exhibited.

Les Mouat brought along his blowfly chassis complete with modification to make it easier to lubricate the valve gear;

Lindsay Drabsch showed us parts for his crawler tractor which he is making.

John Oliver showed us his part completed cab for a 5 inch gauge NSW 36 class loco.

Although Bits and Pieces has picked up more is still required for the meetings so bring along any items of interest you may have. It also provides

members a forum to display their projects in their various phases of construction.

The door prize was finally won by Graeme Coronel which was a \$20.00 voucher from Fisher Discounts.

Monthly Running Days

The mid month running day which was to be held on Sunday 14th February was unfortunately washed out due to rain all weekend.

The end of month running day started with a couple of brief showers early in the morning. The day looked like it would turn around the jinx of previous running days with 11 parties booked and the sun out and shining. The morning started slow but soon picked up.

All three diesels were in service as well as Dick's new 5" locomotive pulling a 7 1/4 two car set. The loco performed faultlessly all day and it was great to see it in action; well done Dick.

All ended abruptly at 13:45 when the heavens once again opened up and drenched all who remained. The downpour lasted about half an hour but was enough to call a halt to the rest of the day.



The sign says 5" Dick's 5" Loco pulling two 7 1/4" riding cars.

COMING EVENTS

Monthly meeting 18th March 2010

The topic for the next meeting will be
**Development of the new site and who
will volunteer for what?**

BOILERS

There were no boiler inspections carried out during the month.

MARCH

Tue 2 nd	CSMEE Committee Meeting
Wed 3 rd	Working Bee at the KMR/CMR
Tue 9 th	CSMEE Sub Committee Meeting
Wed 10 th	Working Bee at the KMR/CMR
Sun 14 th	Club Running Day and afternoon public run
Wed 17 th	Working Bee at the KMR/CMR
Thur 18 th	CSMEE Monthly Meeting
Wed 24 th	Working Bee at the KMR/CMR
Sat 27 th	Mowing and cleanup prior to running day
Sun 28 th	Public Running Day at the KMR
Wed 31 st	Working Bee at the KMR/CMR

Sat 27 th	Canberra Model Railway Expo
Sun 28 th	Canberra Model Railway Expo

APRIL

Tue 6 th	CSMEE Committee Meeting
Wed 7 th	Working Bee at the KMR/CMR
Sun 11 th	Club Running Day and afternoon public run
Tue 13 th	CSMEE Sub Committee Meeting
Wed 14 th	Working Bee at the KMR/CMR
Thur 15 th	CSMEE Monthly Meeting
Wed 21 st	Working Bee at the KMR/CMR
Sat 24 th	Mowing and cleanup prior to running day
Sun 25 th	Public Running Day at the KMR
Wed 28 th	Working Bee at the KMR/CMR

KMR CLEAN UP ROSTER

March Saturday 27th 2010

Dennis McALISTER	6241 8190
Peter MOTTRAM	6288 2988
Les MOUAT	6241 5388
Kevin OLDS	6254 7129 (Team Leader)

April Saturday 24th 2010

Bob Hesse	6288 2025
Mick Richardson	6254 1996
Geoff Ross	6281 1785
Lloyd Sawyer	6254 7958 (Team Leader)

Please contact the Team Leader if you are unable to attend.

New Site

At the time of writing the Club has received verbal advice from ACTPLA that the Development Application (DA) has been conditionally approved. The conditions of the DA are mainly concerned with the landscaping and in particular screening from the highway. An amended landscape plan is to be submitted.

The amended offer of a lease can now be approved and submitted for the Committee's consideration. The offer of a lease will be without the requirement of a sealed car park. ACTPLA are presently considering whether the sponsor of the submission which was lodged in response to the DA has a right to appeal. If it is found that there is a right of appeal then this will put the approval of the DA back one month. Work on the new block continues on those items which can be performed now. In particular is the finalizing of the construction plans so the plans can be submitted once the Club receives a lease.

Promotions Manager

A special meeting of the Committee was held on 22nd February. The aim of the meeting was to set a direction for Malcolm to allow him to start to formulate promotional activities. Any suggestions should be sent to Malcolm via email at malcolmsouthwell@gmail.com or alternatively you can call Malcolm on 0409 170 858.

MONEY MATTERS

February ticket sales were again down due to the inclement weather. The mid month run was completely washed out and the end of month run producing \$1,365.50.

Final results for February are still not good but overall the Club is still ahead. Low level of ticket sales continues to be a concern. By keeping the expenses at the KMR under control we should still have a favourable outcome at the end of the year.

COMMITTEE REPORT

March's Committee meeting was a low key affair with two members being absent. The main topic for discussion was the agenda for the upcoming Convention at Easter. Paperwork will be scanned and sent to Committee members for consideration. The Committee approved the purchase of an inverter welder and a battery charger.

WANTED

The Club has a need for a cement mixer for use on the new site. If any members have a cement mixer they would like to lend the Club for a period of time they can contact John Oliver or Dick Whitfield.

Don't forget Club and Mid month running days on the second Sunday of each month. All welcome. Please come along and join in.

PHILLIPS SCREWDRIVER:

Normally used to stab the vacuum seals under lids or for opening old-style paper-and-tin oil cans and splashing oil on your shirt; but can also be used, as the name implies, to strip out Phillips screw heads.