

# The Whistle Blower -

News of the Canberra Society of Model and Experimental Engineers May 2011

President Peter Hateley 62547229 Secretary Greg Peters 0412 179899 [www.canberramodelengineers.org.au](http://www.canberramodelengineers.org.au)

## What's been Going On

### WORK ACTIVITIES

Work is progressing at CMR. Since the last report there has been a lot of progress made. The power supply problem has been solved with ACTEW providing us an indicative quote for the power at \$60,000 plus GST. This has been accepted and hopefully the work will be completed in about three months.

With ACTEW supplying power to the boundary fence there has been some modification to the cabling and trenches for power. This work may be completed within the next month.

The cladding at the back of the toilet block has been completed. There is still some minor work to be done before it can be painted. The pump has been connected to the water reticulation system and has been tested.

During the month quotes were received for all the concreting work, approximately 182sq m. It was decided that all work including the leveling and formwork would be included in the quotes sought. The quotes were assessed and BM Concreting Services were contracted to concrete the station floor and the workshop floor.

Work started after Easter with the station being first. Once the contractors completed the leveling and formwork it was up to the Club to install the 5 and 7 ½ inch tracks through the station. This was done by Ian Smith, Geoff Ross and Greg Peters.



Photo showing 7½ and 5 inch tracks



Setting up the 7½ inch track

The floor of the station was poured on 3/05/2011 and the workshop floor will be completed within the next week



Station floor being poured



Completed station floor

As April will be a very busy month the working bee to clear the block of stones and rocks will be scheduled for one weekend in May. The date for the working bee will be published as soon as it is decided. If you can, please come along and make the day a worthwhile one.

The vibrating roller on loan from the Wagga Wagga club has been repaired, thanks to the efforts of Ian Smith and Geoff Ross.

Work on the reticulation of power and the signal and point control will be progressed during May. We are waiting on the trenches to be dug before proceeding. The conduit and cabling for both systems has been purchased.

With the onset of winter the grass will hopefully slow down but will still need mowing at regular intervals probably weekly. These weekly mowing can be performed with the ride on mower. If you have some time and can come and sit on a ride-on mower, please contact John Oliver on 0406 206113 or the Secretary by email if you would like to help out.

While the main thrust of the Wednesday work party is at CMR there is still work to be performed at the KMR site. The grass still needs mowing and there are always small jobs to be done at the KMR site.

Please remember, if you have time to spare on a Wednesday or on weekends, you are more than welcome to come along and join the working group. There will always be something that you can do.

## **MONTHLY MEETING**

The April Member's meeting saw a good turnout of members with 21 members turning up. This was exceptionally good as it was the Thursday night before Easter. There were no visitors on the night and 4 apologies were received for the night.

The meeting started with the President giving an account of the progress at CMR. This was followed by a general account of how the club is doing. Kevin Olds gave a brief account of the club's finances. This was then followed by Bits and Pieces.

Bits and Pieces this month were provided by the following members.

- Graeme Coronel bought along a scratch built single cylinder steam boat engine.
- Ian Smith showed the flycutters he ground for cutting the teeth on the pinion gear for the roller. He also had a jig which he has for constructing the catwalks on the G gauge tankers he is building.
- Peter Hateley bought along a display case he had made by ACT Plastics.
- Lindsay Drabsch bought along more of the caterpillar he is building. Lindsay also gave a demonstration on a method of forming dummy riveting. You can follow Lindsay's progress with his caterpillar at the following website. [www.scalecaterpillar.blogspot.com](http://www.scalecaterpillar.blogspot.com)

Thanks to all those who bought along bits and pieces and made the night enjoyable.

There was no entertainment segment for the night. If you have something you can contribute for the entertainment at club meetings. Please let the Secretary know so it can be scheduled for future meetings.

The door prize draw was won by Dennis Maurer. As Dennis was not present the door prize has jackpotted to \$100.00.

## **COMING EVENTS**

**Monthly meeting 21<sup>st</sup> May 2011**

David Foote will give a photo presentation on his visit to the Brussels Railway Museum.

## MONTHLY RUNNING DAYS

The running days were reversed due to Easter and Anzac day. This put the main running day for April on the 10<sup>th</sup> and the members running day/mid month run on the 24<sup>th</sup>.

The end of month running day turned out to be another typical wet autumn day. The rain started early in the morning and it was hoped that it would ease but this was not the case. The rain persisted and a decision was made at 10:00 to call off the day. The parties were contacted and given the option to attend on the 24<sup>th</sup>.

The mid month run on the 24<sup>th</sup> saw 2 parties booked in however neither party attended. The day turned out to be sunny and the afternoon was very well attended by the public. Approximately \$700.00 was taken on the day.

## **Events Calendar 2011**

Attached to the Whistleblower is a printable calendar for those of you, like me who cannot remember what is going on from one week to the next.

I will be putting the new calendar of events on the website in the near future.

## **KMR CLEAN UP ROSTER**

### **May Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> 2011**

Greg Peters	0412 179899 (Team Leader)
Mark Hogan	6231 3249
Dennis Maurer	02 4464 2395
Jason Maurer	02 4464 2395

### **June Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> 2011**

Dennis McAlister	6241 8190
Les Mouat	6241 5388
Kevin Olds	6254 7129 (Team Leader)
Mick Richardson	6254 1996

**If you cannot attend your designated place in the clean up roster, please find another member to take your place. Do not leave it up to your committee.**

## BOILER MATTERS

There were no boiler matters for the last month.

## **ARHS Easter Steam Spectacular**

CSMEE were invited to provide a display at The Steam Spectacular held on Easter Saturday at the Canberra Railway Station by ARHS. The day was a huge success and was well attended by the Club. The displays were provided by Bob Hesse with his 422 class locomotive, Ian Smith with his small engines, Len Tate with his Hot Air Engine. Other contributors were Eric Hines with his 3½ inch locomotive, Paul Gugger with his Sterling single and John Cameron with his Steam Tram. Thanks to all who helped out on the day, especially the contributors as well as Geoff Ross and Col Fuller.



Photos of the exhibition at Canberra Station



## **MONEY MATTERS**

After a very good income result in March, April saw the return of wet weather and cancellation of our planned big run in early April to compensate for Easter. Fortunately, Easter Sunday wasn't a dead loss despite the holidays with a good number of casual riders, but no parties showed. That, plus a private

run earlier in the month, saw our income reach just over \$1,000. We just broke even for the month, but are still ahead of our budget for the year to date.

**COMMITTEE REPORT**

The April meeting was another quiet affair. Discussions again were centred on the progress at CMR. There were no new members to the Club. General business consisted of a discussion to rescind the motion to reverse the running days in October. Also a motion to purchase a Video Inspection camera/Borescope/Endoscope for use within the Club by the boiler inspectors was passed.

**NOTICES**

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

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**The next members meeting will be held on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> May.. Hope to see you all there.**

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**Club badges are now available from the Canteen on running days or by requesting then through the secretary by email or letter. Cost is \$5.00 each**

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**Wanted**

**A small pressure steam cleaner is required by the club to clean the BBQ's. If anyone have one and would like to lend it to the Club please let the Secretary know.**

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**Please Note Membership fees are due by the Annual General Meeting in August. Remember you must be financial to be able to vote. Avoid the rush and get in early. Fees remain at \$70.00 for an Individual, \$90.00 for Family (2 Members) + \$20.00 each additional member after that.**

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Photos of the Tchou-Tchou train – tourist travel in Port Vila, Vanuatu “Could this be the answer to Canberra Light Rail?”



Floor of Workshop being prepared for concreting.