

The Whistle Blower

News of the Canberra Society of Model and Experimental Engineers August 2009

President John Oliver 62921938 Secretary Greg Peters 0412 179899 www.canberramodelengineers.org.au

PRESIDENTS REPORT 2008/2009

During the past twelve months the Society's activities have been in a "steady as you go" mode whilst awaiting the outcome of the ACT Governments decision on the Clubs new site at Symonston. I am happy to say that, thanks to the sterling work and untiring efforts of your Vice President - Dick Whitfield those negotiations should, within the near future come to fruition.

The coming years ahead once the lease on the new block is signed, are going to be a busy time and it is hoped that all members will come to the fore and put in a concerted effort in the relocation and building of the CSMEE. new home where it is hoped that next years Annual General Meeting will be held for the first time in the Society's own club rooms. It will all be up to you as members of the CSMEE. to see this happen.

As will be shown by the Club's Treasurer Kevin Olds, the Society has over the past year operated within its projected budget despite the downturn in the economy and a couple of running days being rained out and party numbers being down in the winter months. Having the mid month running days has helped the bank balance. The ladies in the canteen have again been busy throughout the year having sold a total of \$4257.00 worth of goodies and returning a profit to the club of \$1819.00 and not to forget the two ladies in the ticket office Joyce and Marina they deserve a big thank you for their work selling tickets in their small lonely ticket box

The Wednesday working bees have continued throughout the past year doing valuable work around the K.M.R. site, however it is the same few that turn up without fail every time and it is disappointing not to see more support from those club members now enjoying a life of retirement. My thanks to the members of your Executive and Committee for their efforts and support over the past twelve months and a big thanks to all those members who have contributed in any way to the smooth running of the Club in the past year.

OFFICE BEARERS FOR 2009/2010

John Oliver	President
Dick Whitfield	Vice President
Greg Peters	Secretary
Kevin Olds	Treasurer
Peter Cole	Committee
Lloyd Sawyer	Committee
David Foote	Committee
Malcolm Southwell	Committee
Ward Gainey	Committee

WEDNESDAY WORKING BEE ACTIVITIES

Most of the 3.5 inch gauge rail has now been lifted from the two long straights and the top loop ready for cleaning

up and straightening; this rail will be used at the new site for 5 inch gauge sidings etc.

A couple of weeks ago the work crew arrived at the KMR to find that a large branch from the tree next to the canteen had been blown down overnight. Whilst it was a large part of the tree it fell in such a way that minimal damage was caused to the seating in the area.

MONTHLY RUNNING DAY

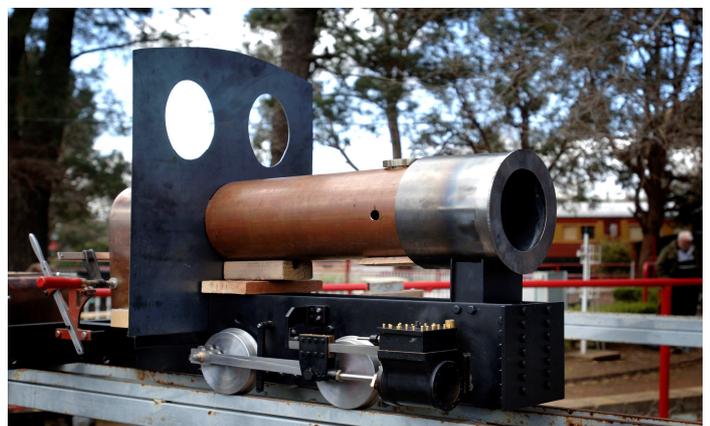
Both the mid month and the main public running days were marred by cold and windy weather and as a result takings for the month were down; so much for the weather bureau saying that Canberra has just had its warmest winter on record.

CLUB MUSTER DAY

A good turn up of members was seen for the clubs first muster day where all members were asked to bring along their model engineering project whether finished or part built. Several locos ran on the day including a refurbished 5 inch gauge electric loco owned by Malcolm Southwell and only finished being assembled that morning.



Malcolm Southwell's refurbished 5inch Electric Loco



5 inch Krause Locomotive under construction by Chris Gralleis

COMING EVENTS

September

Tuesday 1st Committee meeting
Wednesday 2nd Working Bee at KMR.
Tuesday 8th CMR Sub Committee meeting
Wednesday 9th Working Bee at KMR
Saturday 12th Invitation Run Clean up day at KMR
All members requested to attend
Sunday 13th Club and mid month running day at KMR.
Wednesday 16th Working Bee at KMR
Thursday 17th CSMEE club meeting at ARHS
Friday 18th to Sunday 20th Invitation Run
Sunday 27th Public running day at KMR.
Wednesday 30th Working Bee at KMR.

October

Tuesday 6th CSMEE committee meeting
Wednesday 7th Working Bee at KMR.
Sunday 11th Club and mid month running day at KMR.
Tuesday 13th CMR Sub Committee meeting
Wednesday 14th Working Bee at KMR.
Thursday 15th CSMEE Club meeting at ARHS
Wednesday 21st Working Bee at KMR.
Sunday 25th Public running day at the KMR.
Wednesday 29th Working Bee at KMR.

MOWING ROSTER

Saturday October 24th

Malcolm Southwell (T/L)	6295 8992
Len Tate	6231 2210
Ivan Treloggen	6238 2356
John Wood	6288 7209

MONEY MATTERS

Once again our auditors have given our financial statements an unqualified tick. For the 2008/09 year we made a small profit of \$1,954, down from the previous year but a little better than the Committee's budget. This was achieved despite a fall in KMR takings towards the end of the year due to the generally poor weather on running days. By keeping our costs under control, helped by a lower insurance cost, we have managed to end the year in a good position. Our provision for relocation to the new site now stands at just over \$19,500, a sterling effort in just a couple of years. These funds will be needed to provide those facilities not funded by the grant from the ACT Government. During June we received the first payment of that grant, which while it boosts the bank account, we have to remember that should the agreement have to be terminated for any reason, unspent money has to be returned to the Government. As part of the procedures required to receive the grant, our auditors, as part of the annual audit, are also checking that money which we have expended against the grant has been in keeping with the requirements of the grant.

This year has started well on the financial front, helped by a good result from the Malkara Exhibition. A new budget has been drawn up for the year which if achieved, will see us with a small surplus again at the end of the year. Unfortunately the weather gods have not smiled on our running days and tickets sales are down on where we would prefer them to be. Hopefully things will improve.

REPORT ON COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The August committee meeting was a quiet affair with three members being away. There was no new general business for the month however the committee accepted the quote for the flyers for the Tourist Bureau. Discussions were also held on the preparation of the Invitation Run. Discussions have been held in regards to the Canteen and the accountability of funds generated from the Canteen.

Bills for payment totalled \$303.45 with the major item being:

\$198.00 ACTEWAGL Electricity

NEW SITE REPORT

On Saturday the NCA will publish a draft Development Control Plan for the Symonston block, which will be open for public comment for 20 working days.

As soon as the final site plans are received from our draftsman a pre Development Application meeting will be booked.

At this stage it looks like we should receive an offer of a lease by sometime in November. In the meantime an approach is being made to obtain access to the block to begin preparatory work, including transfer of the toilet block and tree planting.

Membership Matters

The committee would like to take this opportunity to welcome Rodney Mackintosh to the club in August. His interests are listed as Railways and he has indicated he is interested in helping the Club and KMR.

In Sympathy.

At 12.45 p.m. today (31/08/2009) fellow club Member, Bert Bruce, finally lost his battle with cancer.

This was first diagnosed about 2 years ago as a skin cancer and has developed since then with the last 13 weeks spent in palliative care at Port Kembla Hospital. Funeral arrangements will be posted when they come to hand.

Ross Edmondson
Hon. Secretary ILS