

# The Whistle Blower

News of the Canberra Society of Model and Experimental Engineers February 2009  
President John Oliver 62921938 Secretary Greg Peters 0412 179899 [www.canberramodelengineers.org.au](http://www.canberramodelengineers.org.au)

## Wednesday working bee activities

The extreme temperatures curtailed work during the month.

Modifications were effected to Mike's loco AN1 so that it would not derail when being returned to the container.

Work is being carried out to fit brakes to all CSMEE owned passenger trucks.

Re-wiring for two new point motors.

## Boilers

A certificate was issued for John Oliver's new boiler for his NSW 12 Class.

A new boiler being built by LenTate passed a hydraulic test.

A small upright boiler being built by Graeme Coronel was inspected prior to final assembly and is now ready for hydraulic test.

## February Committee Meeting

A decision was taken to rename position of Safety Officer to that of Equipment Inspection Officer with duties as defined in the AALS Code of Practice.

Payments to the value of \$6410 were approved, covering land rent, 1300 number, water, sewerage, toilet pump out, Christmas party, fuel and insurance(\$5419)

The format of the Whistle Blower was discussed with a decision by the committee to change to a simpler format containing only information which is related to CSMEE activities and which is readily available. The format will be limited to two A4 pages, prepared by Committee members in turn, published monthly, emailed or mailed to members only and be available on the web site for non-members and other societies to download.

A decision was taken to adopt a revised membership application form prepared by the Secretary. The new form is available from the Secretary and on the web site.

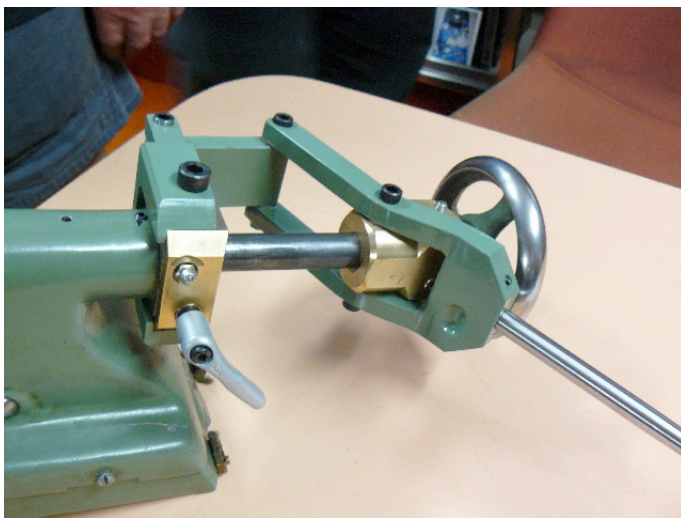
The Committee received membership applications from Mr Allan Forster and Mr Luke Roberts, each being approved.

Arrangements for a special run for seniors during Seniors Week were confirmed.

## Monthly meetings

24 members attended the February monthly meeting.

Peter Armstrong described and displayed a Hercus tailstock which he had modified to work with either lever or normal screw action.



There was a short presentation re setting up the lathe tailstock, with input from quite a few members and a demonstration on the Emcomat 8 lathe.

The main presentation utilised the CSMEE's recently acquired data projector to show two very interesting videos of the track operated by the Rydale Society of Model Engineers in England. This track has been developed specifically to facilitate 'playing scale railways', mainly in 5" gauge, with goods yards designed to hold up to 800 scale trucks.

For those who were not at the meeting the videos can be found at <http://www.revver.com/u/railwaychannel/> (the Gilling videos) and the Rydale web site is at <http://www.rsme.org.uk/>

All going well the March meeting will include a discussion re safety valves and a demonstration of winding safety valve springs.

## Club running day

The February Club day was more or less abandoned due to excessive heat.

As the 1st of March falls on a Sunday note that the second Sunday is only one week into the month.

Come along any time in the morning (some get there before 9.00 am) to see members' locos running , to share in a cup of tea and to share experiences.

### **Monthly running day**

With several regular helpers representing the CSMEE at the invitation weekend at the Newcastle track and a couple overseas, there was only just enough members present to keep things going on what turned out to be a very busy day. A couple of special parties which started after lunch meant that there were passengers being hauled right up to 3.30pm.

Some 1300 passengers were carried with takings totalling \$2666.

For the third month in a row families were interviewed as they left the site to gather information which could be used in formulating our promotional activities.

The overwhelming item of information to come out of these interviews is that families invited to birthday parties are very often visiting the railway for the first time and represent one of our best opportunities to contact new patrons. These newcomers are being issued with a CSMEE card (fridge magnet from March on) to serve as something to remind them that running days are coming up.

### **Money Matters**

The Treasurer reported that we are tracking well for the year however the budget is based on KMR expenses and not on a new site.

### **The new site**

The following hurdles have to be cleared before we could obtain a lease of the block at Symonston

- Cabinet approval for a direct sale of a lease (as opposed to an auction sale)
- Development Application approval
- NCA approval (block is adjacent to the Monaro Highway)
- Agreement with LDA on terms of a lease
- An affordable rent or purchase price (based on market value of the lease and therefore not available until the lease terms are finalised)

We do not anticipate that we will have a lease until early in the next financial year.

ACTEW has agreed that parking of car height vehicles is ok within the power line easement but we

have had to pull back the track encroachment of the easement somewhat.

### **Club tools & materials**

Lloyd reports sales in excess of \$1500 since June 08 which represents considerable assistance being provided to members.

### **Donations**

We have to thank Les Mouatt for supplying and installing a screen door on the canteen.

A data projector has also been donated.

### **Coming Events**

March

Sunday 8th club running day

Wednesday 11th working bee at the track

**Wednesday 18th Senior citizen day rides and free sausage sizzle for pensioners 10am to 3pm. If you have time come along with any model exhibits you may have.**

Thursday 19th CSMEE meeting at ARHS club rooms 8.00pm

Wednesday 25th working bee at the track

Sunday 29th public running day

April

Wednesday 1st working bee at the track

Saturday 4th and Sunday the 5th April model railway exhibition Lyneham

Tuesday 7th committee meeting

Wednesday 8th working bee at the track

### **Mowing roster for March and April**

Saturday the 28th of March David Foote 6292 3778 (team leader)

•David Dunnett 6286 3704

•Les Fearnley 6297 9378

•Col Fuller 6251 1779

Saturday the 25th of April Ward Gainey 8241 2334(team leader)

•Chris Grallelis 6231 5981

•Ryan Grallelis 6231 5981

•Paul Gugger 6281 1849

*Team leaders should remind team members prior to the day*

*If you have received this document by mail and you have an email address please send a message to that effect to [csmee@grapevine.com.au](mailto:csmee@grapevine.com.au)*