

The Whistle Blower

News of the Canberra Society of Model and Experimental Engineers May 2009
President John Oliver 62921938 Secretary Greg Peters 0412 179899 www.canberramodelengineers.org.au

Wednesday working bee activities

The following work was carried out during the month of May

- spray weeds
- prepare raised level riding cars for painting
- realign 6 meters of track leading into diamond crossing
- realign and re-sleeper track from diamond crossing through gate
- paint undercoat on raised track riding cars
- re-ballast track from diamond crossing through gate
- remove starter motor from loco 81 repair and refit
- fit new battery to santa-fe



The track crew at work

Boilers

Checked revised boiler drawings for Chris Grallellis
Luke Roberts presented his Blowfy boiler for inspection of brazed firebox and tubes.

Monthly Meeting

21 members attended the May monthly meeting and were entertained with a series of videos on various forms of metal cutting (oxy, plasma, laser and edm) which was a follow up from the discussion started at the April meeting.

A presentation/discussion centered on different types of lubricators for steam engines is planned for the June meeting.

A new badge draw feature is to be introduced at the June meeting - starting with a \$20 order on Fisher Discounts and jack potting by \$10 per month until won.

Membership

Annual membership fees (unchanged from this year) will be due from 1 July.

Club Running Day

Five members locos appeared on the running day, including a 5" gauge model of the first diesel loco to be used in the sugar cane fields - a chain driven Jembach build under license by Bundaberg Foundry Company. This loco pulled two 7 1/4 trucks hauling passengers after lunch.



The Jembach diesel - not yet complete

Monthly Running Day

The weather was kinder this month and 6 parties were booked and attended.

Committee meeting held 5/5/09

The treasurer reported that, assuming reasonable running days over the next two months, the Society should realise the budget for the year.

Expenditure of \$3080 was approved, the major items being

- Land rent \$330 (3 months)
- ARHS rent \$500 (6 months)
- Lease Application \$1031
- Fridge magnets \$220

It was decided

- that the monthly meeting on 16 July is to be a general meeting at which members will be asked to consider a final design for the new site, and a proposal that an offer of a lease be accepted subject to conditions.

- that the Society register 'Canberra Miniature Railway' as a business name.
- to spend \$140 on steel to test some alternative approaches to construction of the new elevated track.
- to refurbish and paint the portable track passenger cars and approval was given to spend \$60 on paint.
- Lloyd Sawyer, Dick Whitfield and Kevin Olds meet to review the chart of accounts to ensure that the necessary information can be obtained from the accounting system.

The letter to be sent advising of the general meeting details the various types of work which will have to be carried out by members - if insufficient members indicate a willingness to help then we don't proceed.

Donations

\$276 was received from the organizers of the Lyneham model exhibition .

Inventory of Members' Projects

Peter Cole and John Oliver have put together an inventory of completed and in progress projects within the Society. No doubt there have been some missed and the focus on this item will bring them to the surface.

There is a total of 43 locos, traction engines and steam launches which are complete or were complete at some stage in the past - the breakup is

3.5 inch gauge 4 steam 1 electric
 5 inch gauge 14 steam 6 electric 2 petrol
 7.25 inch gauge 4 steam 5 petrol
 traction engines 4 steam
 full size launches 4 steam

Small steam engines, boilers and garden gauge railway items have not been identified at this time.

In addition there are at least 44 project projects under way, including quite a few items of 5 inch rolling stock, 2 traction engines and both 5 and 7 ¼ inch locomotives, stationary engines etc

In light of this quite long list, the Committee has decided to hold a 'Members only Muster' on Sunday 22 August when members will be encouraged to bring along completed and incomplete projects.

Members who have boilers which are out of ticket are encouraged to contact one of the Boiler Inspectors for a re-test - a sympathetic hearing is guaranteed.

Mowing Roster

Saturday 27th June

Peter Mottram	6288 2988 (Team leader)
Trevor Knight	6258 6288
Ian Kummerow	6236 8600
Denis McAllister	6241 8190

Saturday July the 25th

Les MOUAT	6231 5388 (Team Leader)
Tim O'CONNER	6259 5767
Kevin OLDS	6254 7129
Ray PERRING	6297 7062

Coming Events

Dates for July

Wednesday 1st working bee at track

Tuesday 7th committee meeting

Wednesday 8th working bee at track

Sunday 12th club running day and mid month running day

Tuesday 14th sub committee meeting

Wednesday 15th working bee at track

Thursday 16th monthly club meeting

Wednesday 22nd working bee at track

Sunday 26th public running day

Wednesday 29th working bee at track

Malkara exhibition is on August 1 & 2

Don't forget the muster day

Money Matters

Takings for the May mid month running day was \$319.00 and for the end of month running day \$2367

New Site

With the tightening of finances we thought that we might lose our grant, especially given that we have not been able to start work. Our contact at Tourism (they are holding the funds) has assured us that all is ok. An agreement with Tourism is to be signed on 3 June and then we will receive a payment for this financial year of \$65k. When that amount is expended and satisfactorily acquitted we will receive \$95k for 09/10 and then \$90k for 10/11.

LDA is now more than a month behind their original schedule due to delays in completing the Site Inspection Report, which is used to formulate conditions to be included in the lease and to assess the viability of the lease. If LDA are satisfied with the inspection report we will then be able to start the Development Application process. If all goes well the earliest that an offer of a lease could be made would be mid August.