

# The Whistle Blower -

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

President John Oliver 62921938 Secretary Greg Peters 0412 179899 [www.canberramodelengineers.org.au](http://www.canberramodelengineers.org.au)

## What's been Going On

### Work Activities

A small number of members have been industrious during the month of November. However there is a need for more volunteers from the membership to help with the maintenance and general running of the Kingston site. So please do not leave it up to a few members to do all the work, if you have time and can attend on Wednesday mornings, come and lend a hand. The work is not too strenuous and every pair of hands helps.

Work carried out over the past month includes  
Cleaning of the canteen gutters.

Repainting of all the BBQ tables.

Pruning of the trees and bushes along the track.

Washing down the toilets, seats, ticket office and other buildings around the public areas, pressure spray unit kindly loaned by Len Tate.  
Grinding and cleaning of the 3 ½ gauge rail previously removed from around the track.  
Unloading of the portable track from the trailer prior to its use to pick up steel pipe donated by John Jervis.

Repairs completed on the wiring and electrical system on Santa Fe.

Mowing and other gardening duties around the area.

A recent email to members asking for help on the Wednesday was largely ignored with the only response being an apology from one member who could not attend due to a prior engagement.

Due to the lack of interest in the Wednesday mornings, the only alternative may be to abandon the Wednesday mornings and revert to the all day Saturday working Bee where all active club members would be expected to attend.

**Remember it is your club and the operation of the Kingston Miniature Railway is what keeps the club going so that you can enjoy the hobby so please give it your**

**consideration and come along and lend a hand.**

### Monthly Meeting

Members attending the monthly meeting were entertained by John Oliver with a slide show and a short video of the recent traction engine rally held at Jondaryan in Queensland.



There were 25 members present at the meeting with 2 apologies received. There were no visitors at the meeting.

### Mid Month Running Day

The mid month running day was poorly attended both by members and the public. Approximately \$54.00 was taken in the afternoon.

### End of Month Running Day

The weather for the regular running day at the end of November started off well and it looked like we may have a good day for once. There were 8 parties booked for the day however 1 party cancelled leaving 7 parties to contend with. All was going well until a sudden heavy shower came over about 11:30 – 12:00. The shower lasted about 20 minutes and it looked like this would put an end to the day. Some of the parties packed up and left but a couple of the parties held on and stuck it out. Running resumed around 12:15 and three trains remained running until about 14:00 when AN1 was taken out of service. This left Bunyip and

81 running until Bunyip was take off around 15:00 and 81 ran to completion.

## COMING EVENTS

Monthly Meeting 17<sup>th</sup> December

Featuring a video on Marine steam engines.

## DECEMBER

Tues 1<sup>st</sup> CSMEE Committee Meeting  
Wed 2<sup>nd</sup> Working bee at KMR  
Tues 8<sup>th</sup> CMR Sub Committee Meeting  
Wed 9<sup>th</sup> Working bee at KMR  
Sun 13<sup>th</sup> Public running day at the KMR  
Followed by **CSMEE Christmas party at the KMR**  
Wed 16<sup>th</sup> Working Bee at KMR  
Thur 17<sup>th</sup> C.S.M.E.E. Monthly Meeting  
Wed 30<sup>th</sup> Working Bee at KMR

## JANURARY

Tue 5<sup>th</sup> CSMEE Committee Meeting  
Wed 6<sup>th</sup> Working bee at the KMR  
Sun 10<sup>th</sup> Club running day and afternoon public run  
Tue 12<sup>th</sup> CSME Sub Committee Meeting  
Wed 13<sup>th</sup> Working Bee at the KMR  
Wed 20<sup>th</sup> Working Bee at the KMR  
Thur 21<sup>st</sup> C.S.M.E.E. Monthly Meeting  
**Sun 24<sup>th</sup> Club Muster Day**  
Wed 27<sup>th</sup> Working Bee at the KMR  
Sun 31<sup>st</sup> Public Running Day at the KMR

## KMR CLEAN UP ROSTER

### December Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> 2009

David Foote	6292 3778	Team leader
Les Fearnley	6297 9376	
Col Fuller	6251 1779	
Mark Farquhar	6292 4458	

### January Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> 2010

Ward Gainey	6241 2334	Team leader
Paul Gugger	6281 1849	
Ian Hahn	6288 8126	
Peter Hateley	6254 7229	

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

## BOILERS

Only one boiler to check this month which was Les Mouat's blowfly boiler with the inspection of the plate work being carried out.

## Canteen Matters

The vacant position has been filled in the canteen by Chris Peters. Thanks to Chris for stepping up and volunteering

Rosemary still needs help in the Canteen with the cooking on the end of month running days. Anybody who would like to volunteer, please see Rosemary or John Oliver.

A special thanks goes to Phyllis Oliver who has supplied cakes for the morning tea prior to running and also thanks to John Clare and Rex McDonald for their contribution on running days with cakes, scones etc from the Nimmitabel bakery.

## New Site

Things move forward very slowly. NCA finally approved the Development Control Plan 30 November, TAMS finally provided endorsement of our proposals last week so now the Development Application is completed, on CD and ready to be lodged.

Land Development Agency is drawing up an offer of a lease at a rental figure we can afford if we lift our income somewhat.

On the down side, our toilet block has been vandalised (covered by insurance - less \$200) and a couple of other happenings indicate a lively time ahead in confrontation with the boys from the long stay caravan park.

It is intended that, as soon as we can get the tracks and buildings marked out on the ground, an evening barbecue will be organised for members to see the site and the layout.

## Insurance

Some members will have noticed or been involved in a tightening up on application of the AALS Code of Practice (brakes, drawbars etc).

The reason for this is that we have at last obtained a copy of the Public Risk Insurance

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Policy and have been able to study the provisions therein.

formulating a promotions plan to promote all aspects of club activities.

Compliance with the Code Of practice is required by the policy, as is compliance with any applicable ACT legislation. It is obvious that it is more than likely that we have often been operating without effective insurance cover in that we have not met our compliance obligations.

We are seeking legal help with this issue, but it is inevitable that there will be more necessary tightening up to ensure that our insurance is effective. We know that some other clubs are a bit slack in this regard and members may find our approach quite strict, but Insurance Companies are notorious for trying to find a way out of their obligations.

It is interesting to note that the AALS Insurance Officer did not have a copy of the policy and it seems that no other club had asked for one.

## MONEY MATTERS

Despite the weather, we managed to take \$1,586.00 at the end of month running day. This makes two fair running days in a row, maybe the run of bad days has finished. By keeping a close eye on our expenditure, we have managed to keep our budget bottom line on track

## COMMITTEE REPORT

The committee met on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December. The meeting was well attended with two members away. Reports were received on the new block with the main topic being the lease and when we will receive it. The development application has been completed and is ready for submission. Concerns were raised at the meeting about the lack of commitment by members and how it will affect the new site. A decision whether to accept the lease on the new site was deferred until we have the lease and can study it. Other concerns raised were the lack of direction within the club towards promotion of the club as a whole. To this end it was decided that the club seek advice on

**Don't forget Club and Mid month running day on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December.**

## **STOP PRESS**

### CSMEE Xmas Party

The CSMEE Xmas party will now be held at the Kingston Miniature Railway on **Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December starting at 4.00 pm.**

The CSMEE Xmas party was originally slated to be held on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> December.

Drinks and a BBQ will be provided.

Please notify John Oliver on 62921938 if you are attending.

RSVP by 10<sup>th</sup> December.

## **STOP PRESS**

### **Photos from Jondaryan Traction Engine Rally**

