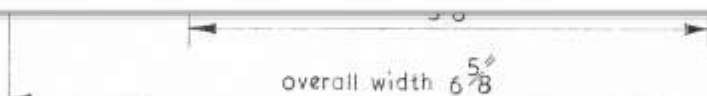


Wheels & Floats

December 2024



Tauranga Model Marine and Engineering Club Inc.

TAURANGA MODEL MARINE AND ENGINEERING CLUB INC.

The Secretary
PO Box 15589
Tauranga 3112

Miniature Railway Memorial Park
Open to Public, weather permitting
Sundays : 10am to 3pm approximately

Palmerville Station Phone 578 7293

Website: www.tmmec.org.nz
Facebook: Memorial Park Railway Tauranga

MEETINGS

General Members Meeting every first Tuesday
7pm.
Committee Meeting every second Thursday at
7pm.
Maintenance Tuesday mornings from 9am.
Engineering discussions Tuesday evenings
7.00pm.

COMMITTEE

President: Bruce McKarres 022 0455154
Vice President:
Club Captain Joanne Knights 020 41909567
Secretary: Warren Karlsson 027 5422863
Treasurer: Jason Flannery 021 629048
Committee: Russell Prout, Bruce Bocock,
Warren Belk, Bruce Harvey,
Owen Bennett, Stewart Walker

t

CONVENERS

Boiler Committee: Owen Bennett, Bruce
McKerras, Ash Thomas, Ross Campbell.

Safety Committee:

Warren Karlsson, Bruce Harvey,
Bruce McKerras, Russell Prout

Workshop: Owen Bennett, Brian Marriner

Drivers Licencing : Bruce McKerras

Track: Bruce Harvey, John Stent,
Russell Prout

Librarian: Chris Pattison

Rolling Stock: Bruce Harvey

Trach Managers : Bruce Harvey, John Stent,
Russell Prout

Website: Chris Pattison, Peter Davies

MEANZ rep Russell Prout

Editor: Roy Robinson 07 5491182
royrobkk@gmail.com

Cover photo : The Display Table at our Open Weekend early November

Presidents Report December 2024

Well, here we are in December and almost Christmas. There is something really neat about having events to look forward to, I am especially looking forward to our Club's Xmas Do which is going to be held out at Shane's private track. I was privileged to receive an invite to the opening, and it is an amazing facility. It is our intention to take out some club locos and ride cars so that we can all have a play. Roy will be on the BBQ and we will take out the club tent, chairs, etc, and we might even find some Corona and some bottles of ??



I have a daughter coming over from Australia for Xmas and that will be a huge adventure for me, she always organises me into something (last year it was the Tongariro Crossing), gawd only knows what she has in store for me this year....

Of course, in January we have the convention coming up, this time being held at the Hamilton track. In particular, I am looking forward to the interclub competition – this year it is a trebuchet. This has been fun to build, but tricky to get the distance and accuracy – the wind is going to play a huge part, so possibly a lottery, who knows?

I would really like to welcome a new member, Graham Park to our club. In his day he was a die and tool maker, and he has aspirations of building a traction engine. We look forward to seeing his project and its progress turning up on the table on a Tuesday night. Great to see a new member.

There has been a lot of special runs this month and I would like to thank all that have turned out to help out for these, on top of our normal club running. Thank you again.

Speaking of running, we will not be running on Sunday 29th December.

I wish you all a great and happy festive season and success in all your shed projects.

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From the Committee Meeting

First off, thank you to Tracy for the cake which proved to be very popular. Secondly, it was an interesting meeting this month, held by the light of a torch as there was no power..

Points Discussed:

5" ride cars. A budget has been approved to tidy these up. (a thank you here to Ash T and Peter L for taking on this project).

New bodywork for the electric locos has been approved.

Jason's proposal for batteries to be fitted to one of the clubs 5' ride cars so that various electric locos can be used on our newly restored track. Power for charging at this point will be in the workshop, but 230 volt power to the tunnels was discussed. This concept of having battery powered ride cars will hopefully encourage new builds without each person funding batteries (the kids love these engines).

New engines for the main track were discussed again, where to store these is a big problem.

Owen presented a paper that basically introduced us to the fact that we should fund out major works rather than relying on the ever-shrinking number of volunteers in the club who actually do the work.

Russell put forward a thought of yet another safety device to stop an engine if it should break a coupling. This is easy enough on the electric locos but would be more of a challenge with steam.

We need another light above the computer desk – this has been sorted.

A new club welder was discussed as the old one fizzed. Bruce H has basically bequeathed us his one for trial.

Rundown of this months' happenings

Saturday 16th November

Russell and I went and saw John B over in Hamilton, now that boy has a proper workshop full of projects, and as a sideline, is completely rebuilding his house – commendable. His good wife also makes lovely scones.

Sunday 17th November

Slowish day, Warren K Duty Operator (filling in for Bruce B). Everyone must have been watching the All Blacks game today.

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Friday 6th December

Nice night, getting hot. Another special run, this time for a Kindy group. Thank you to those who turned up to help.

Saturday 7th December

Play Day today, a really nice morning but nothing was going right for the steamers that turned up. KiwiRail was having some surgery and the club's welder smoked up. Nothing was going right today ☐. Thank you to Ash T and Peter L for taking on the tidy up of a couple of the 5" ride cars.

Sunday 8th December

Bruce B Duty Operator today, a nice day. I snuck home to work on my Phantom. Russell's new LED signal lights were trialled, these work with the points that select line 1 or 2.

Tuesday 10th December.

Engines refueled, etc. There was a good turn out on the evening, my Phantom was discussed with another way forward. Expenses were presented tonight so that Jason had everything ready to present at the Committee meeting on Thursday.

Bruce

Don't forget Steam N' Steel Hamilton 9th—13th January 2025



Captain's Report – December 2024



Left : After how many years? Ben now has his drivers license !!!!! Great effort Ben.

Right : Blond Joke : How many males does it take to load the hand towel dispenser???????

Well, here we are, almost at the end of another year. Time certainly does seem to fly.

I would like to start this month's report by say a big THANK YOU to everyone who keeps our club running, helping out with events both public and private, providing catering, putting all the behind-the-scenes effort in – without which the club would not function. Our events this year have been popular and without everyone pitching in, they would not have been possible.

We have had some well attended events this year, from the two night runs, to play days and a great social evening at the ten pin bowling lanes to say a goodbye to Regan and Sandra who have moved down to Fielding.

The next event we have coming up is the Hamilton Convention in January. Details can be found on the Hamilton Model Engineers Club page, with links to registration available there. There will also be Day Passes available for those who want to check things out but are not wanting to stay over or attend multiple days. If nothing else, it will be well worth heading over to watch the Les Moore Trebuchet Challenge . We will be having our post-convention run on Tuesday 14th January too.

POST CONVENTION RUN – TUESDAY 14TH JANUARY 2025

The Tauranga Club will be hosting a post-convention run/playday on Tuesday 14th January, immediately following the convention.

We welcome all visitors, all gauges, traction engines and road locos. Come and join us, catering will be provided too.

Joanne



Humour :



Does anybody know anything about drones? I bought this off a lad outside the pub last night and I can't get it to take off.



"You're lucky, you learnt a trade, at least you know what kind of a job you're out of."

first
credit union

3D Printed Toyota Hilux

by David Ingley

One of my ongoing projects is a radio control jetboat, measuring 1m long by 0.4m wide. As cool as a model jet boat is, what would be even cooler is a radio control trailer and tow vehicle.

The first job was to decide on what prototype I wanted. This was really a “no brainer”, it had to be a Toyota Hilux double cab ute. A quick search on Google and I had found an excellent plastic model kitset from which I could take measurements to create my large-scale version from. A quick trip to the local hobby shop and it was in my possession.

I figured the appropriate scale for the tow vehicle would be 1:4 or 1:5 to be in proportion with the jet boat. I set about looking for running gear, this is where things got a bit trickier. Apparently radio-controlled rock crawling vehicles is a big thing. There are heaps of wheels, differentials, gearboxes etc available, but sadly mostly in 1:10 scale, too small for my needs.

Another more extensive research on Google and Youtube, I found what could be a suitable candidate. Several manufacturers produce rock crawlers in “1:8” scale with big tyres and comically small bodies. Interestingly, the wheel bases for a lot of these models would be perfect for a Toyota Hilux with a “lift kit” at 1:5 scale.



As luck would have it, a suitable model was listed on Trademe.

The next issue was how to produce a 1:5 scale body from a 1:24 scale plastic kit. Several options were explored including creating profiles and carving from foam, modelling in Fusion from 3 view drawings, or 3D scanning.

Just as high-quality 3D printers have come within the price range of the average modeler, so have 3D scanners. Unfortunately, this is not an option for me at this stage.

Using my favorite research method Youtube, I set about exploring different options for 3D scanning. The method that caught my eye was a process called Photogrammetry.

This involves taking a sequence of photographs from various angles and inputting them into photogrammetry software. The software then works it's magic to create a pointcloud from the images. Somehow, it manages to figure out where the photos were taken from in space and extract measurements to create a 3D model. The challenging part of the process was to find suitable photogrammetry software.

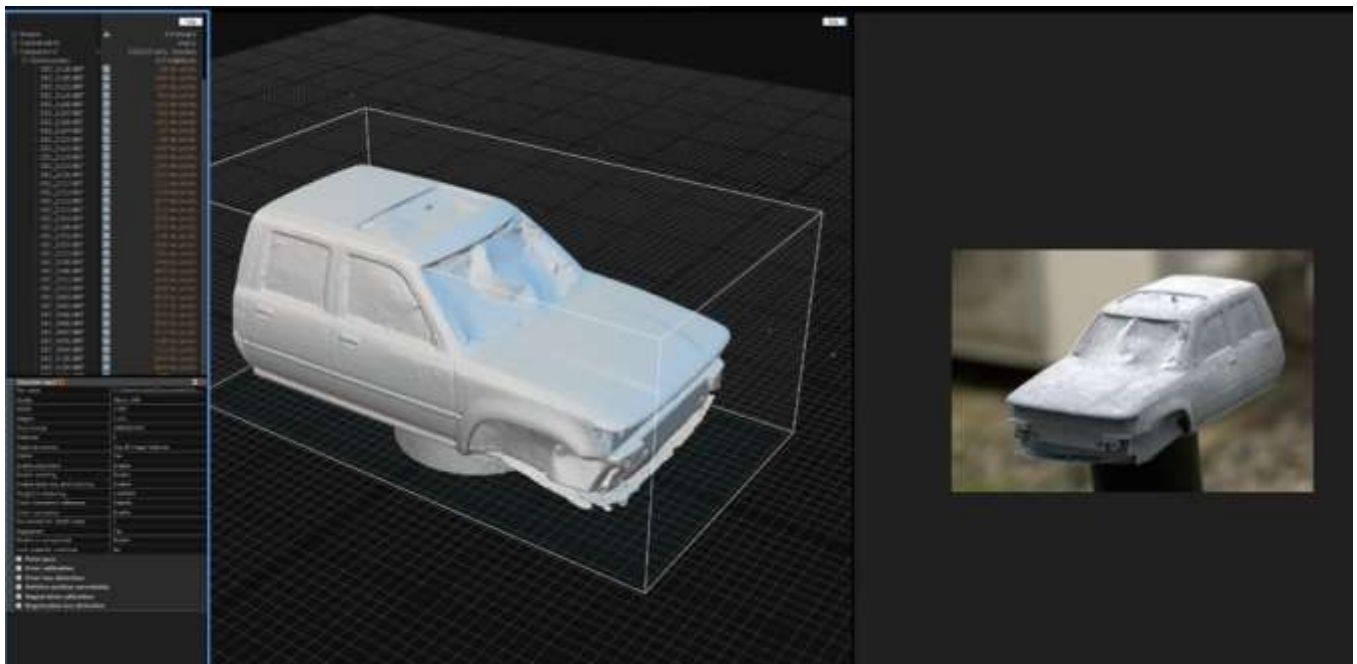


The software then works its magic to create a pointcloud from the images. Somehow, it manages to figure out where the photos were taken from in space and extract measurements to create a 3D model. The challenging part of the process was to find suitable photogrammetry software. There are a few “free” ones out there that I tried, without much success.

Again, Youtube to the rescue. I stumbled upon a video where the guy was reviewing software called “Reality Capture” that was just purchased by a major gaming company. As part of this acquisition, they made the software free to use. I downloaded a copy and set about experimenting. After a few tries, I finally managed to get consistent, useable results.

The better the dataset, the better the outcome. The photographs I used for this model were taken on my Nikon D80 DSLR using the 200mm zoom to get crisp, close-up images. The D80 has about 10 megapixels, a more modern DSLR with 26 megapixels or more would yield better results. My dataset was good enough to create a usable 3D model, although it does have a fair amount of surface “noise”, nothing that sandpaper won’t remove, a process one would need to do anyway to get a good finish for paint.

The image below is a screenshot from Reality Capture showing the model constructed from the point cloud, with one of the source images to the right.

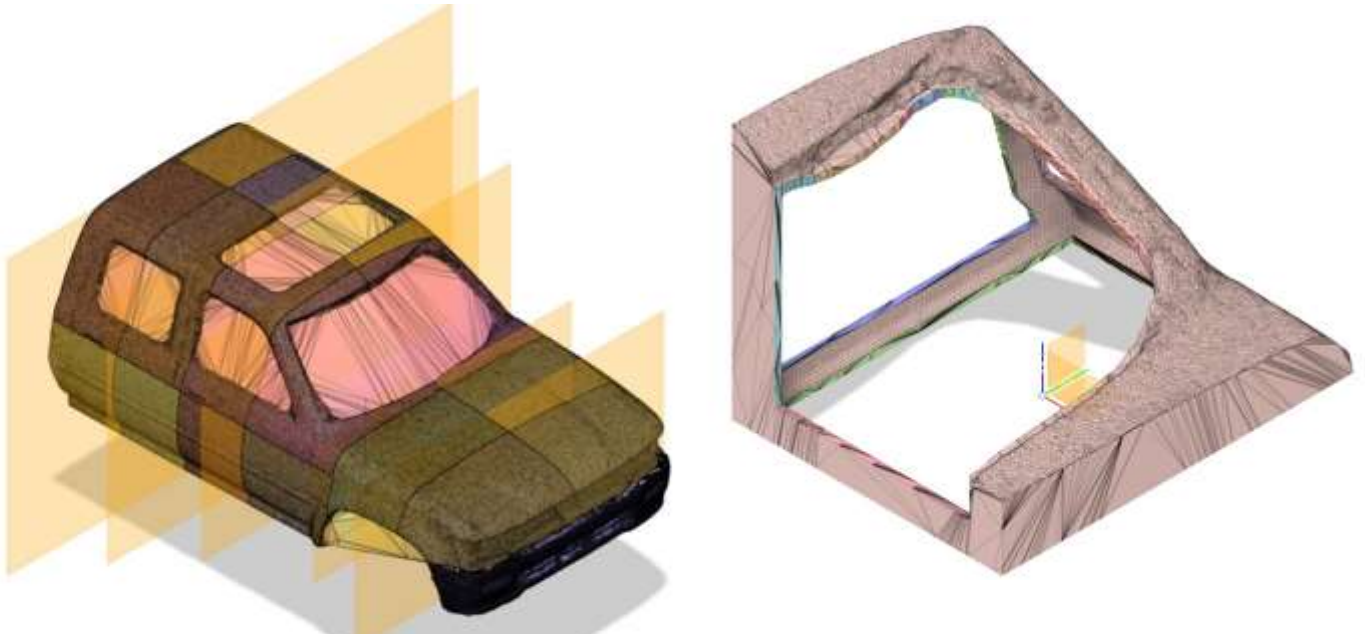


The next step was to prepare the model for printing, this is where Fusion comes in. The mesh model was imported and sliced into pieces suitable for my printer. A bit of additional work to hollow the pieces out and I was ready to print.

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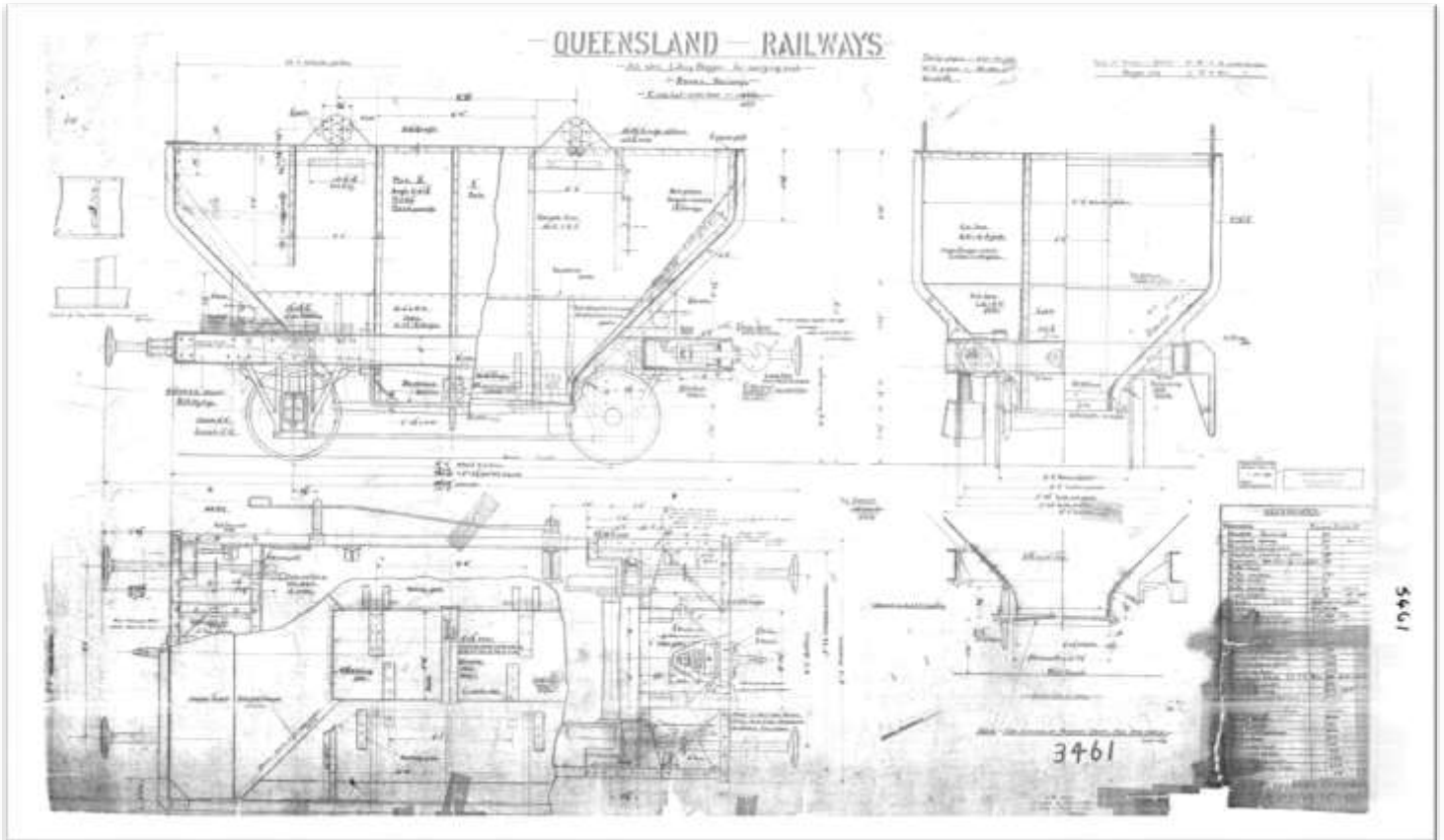


The cab part of the model is made up of 20 individual prints, I think the longest print was 12 hours. The next job is to scan and print the load bed and figure out how to mount it to the chassis, to be followed by hours of filling and sanding!



Ed's Queensland's Rail Coal Waggon by Ed Mol

Long time Family friend Geradus Mol (Ed) has picked up a project he started 8 years ago. H & S and Insurance is making a huge impact on Model Engineering Clubs in Australia to the point that several are just becoming member only tracks with no public running. Others have closed altogether and individuals are setting up tracks on private properties operated on an invite only basis. To provide some feeling of towing a complete consist modellers have built up freight and passenger stock. Under Ed's bench was all but forgotten 6 half built Queensland Coal wagons so he decided it was "action time" to complete this project.



Original drawings of the Wagons.

Trial fitting of braces to check length.





Top : Machined for the axle boxes.

Middle : Brake hangers ready for painting.

Top : Jig to hold everything in place for silver soldering.

Middle : Trial fitting to frames.

Below : All 12 silver soldered.

Thanks to Ed for the article.



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Club “CHRISTMAS” Party.

The TMMEC Annual Christmas Party will be held on Saturday 1st February, with a generous invite from Shane and his wife Dawn to hold it at their newly completed Turntable Hill Railway.

Thus this will not only a different venue, after many years of Bruce Harvey’s generosity, but also a chance for both club and member’s locomotives to run on an extensive new layout.

Roy and Barbra are again stepping in to do the catering, and ask that each person coming to enjoy the day and bring their own eating utensils, drinking glasses and plates, along with a chair and small table/rug or umbrella to give it a true picnic atmosphere.

Bring a bowl of salad or a desert or a plate of nibbles, to share, would ensure there is ample to go around as it may be an extended day as the venue and trains will be adding to the distraction.

The club will be providing the BBQ and drinks as usual.

There will be no kitchen facilities as such, and all waste will need to be binned, along with all sundry taken away to ensure the venue is left as found.

There is a single flush toilet on site, albeit a short stroll.

We expect we will run from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m., weather permitting, with a BBQ at midday

Numbers attending will be restricted to club members and their immediate family only.

More finite details and directions to the venue will be emailed out mid-January.



Show and Tell



John B had to carry out some surgery on his ute's water works requiring some design engineering as parts are no longer available



Phil Adnit copied a hold down kit for his boat building, a place for everything and everything in its place.



Jason F has been carrying out major recovery of a Britannia loco. This is a very old build and Jason in conjunction with the boiler committee has struggled to restore this neglected model



Don Jones not only made the sheath for his knife, he made the tools to sew the job together.

Peter L is making progress with his Beam Engine

There were a couple of other items on the table however the Camera had a Roy problem so appols if your project is not included.



THANK YOU  TECT

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From the Cave at Katikati

Well another calendar year all but passed and one again asks where did it go!!!! Please note there is no mag produced in January. Feb mag will have pics from the Steam & Steel Convention being held in Hamilton Jan 9—13. I strongly recommend you attend at least one of the days. A Convention draws many enthusiasts from not only NZ but usually several from Australia and further afield. It's close enough to do a day run from Tauranga even closer if you are in Matamata!!
Ed



It is again that time when the Club gets requests to run “Xmas Specials”. I happened to be at the club one Tuesday when a Team arrived for one of the “Xmas Specials”. Kids get a real buzz out of these runs, just go and watch sometime. Ed



Obituary : John Nicol (Little John)

A stalwart member of the Club will always be remembered for his efforts to bring some organization to the Club workshop, a continuous battle!! My knowledge of John is somewhat limited but he spent some of his working life on the construction sites of Waitaki Power Projects and Kaimai Tunnel as a boiler maker. Our condolences go to John's wife and family.



Disclaimer :

The views and opinions expressed in articles contained in this magazine are those of the author (s) and do not necessarily reflect the policy, position or opinion of the TMMEC or its officials.



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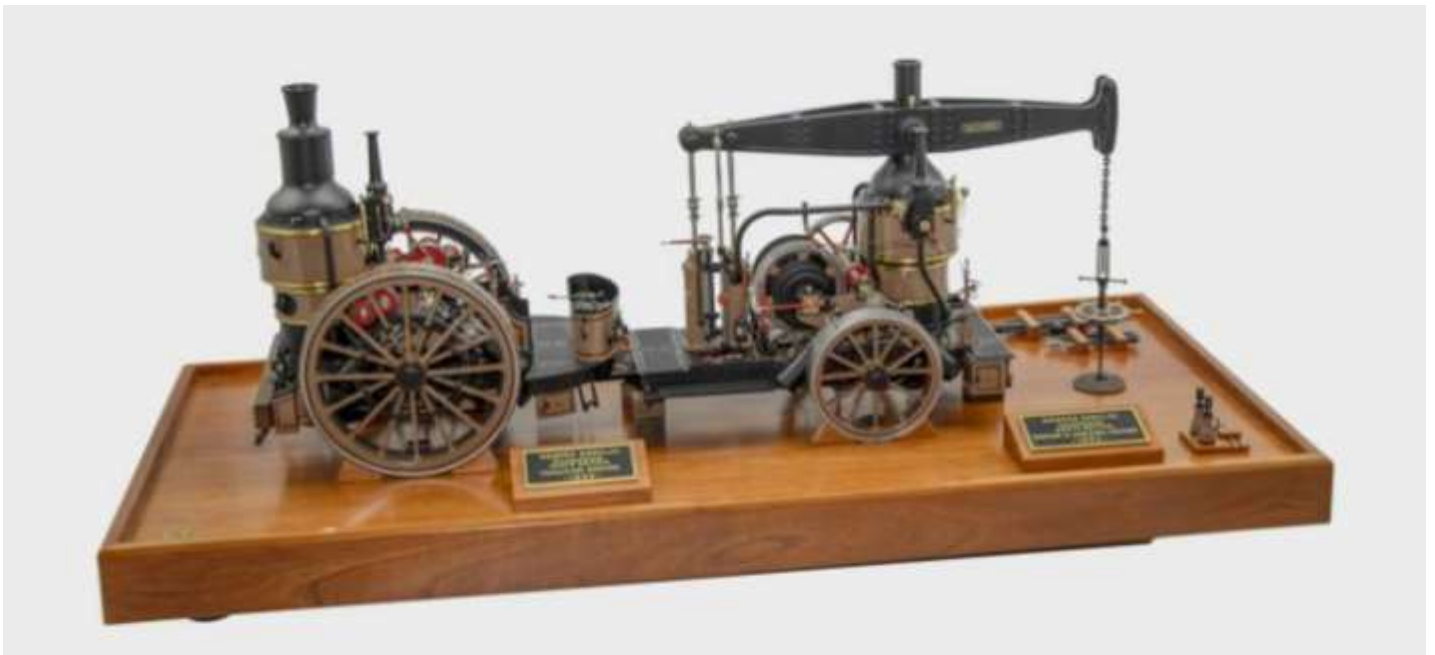
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Visiting the UK?????

Cherry Hill the prolific miniature engineer model maker passed away early this week, aged 93, and most of her models were donated to the Institute of Mechanical Engineers, and are on display at their headquarters in Birdcage Walk in London.

If you are in London and interested, just show up and ask at the reception desk to see them.

You may not be able to see them all, depending on what's happening in the building at the time, but even if you can't it's worth having a quick look around the bits of the building that are open to the public - the library is usually open, and well worth a visit.



Model of a 1/16th scale Traction Engine and Boring and Winding Engine Built by Cherry Hill 1998

R & M ???

Presi Bruce has been having problems with a lack of steam / loosing steam so investigated and found a broken manifold. In true Bruce fashion a a new one was soon produced.



TMMEC CLUB CALENDAR 2025

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	v 1
Mon									1			1	Mon
Tue				1			1		2			2	Tue
Wed	1			2			2		3	1		3	Wed
Thur	2			3	1		3		4	2		4	Thur
Fri	3			4	2		4	1	5	3		5	Fri
Sat	4	1	1	5	3		5	2	6	4	1	6	Sat
SUN	5	2	2	6	4	1	6	3	7	5	2	7	SUN
Mon	6	3	3	7	5	2	7	4	8	6	3	8	Mon
Tue	7	4	4	8	6	3	8	5	9	7	4	9	Tue
Wed	8	5	5	9	7	4	9	6	10	8	5	10	Wed
Thur	9	6	6	10	8	5	10	7	11	9	6	11	Thur
Fri	10	7	7	11	9	6	11	8	12	10	7	12	Fri
Sat	11	8	8	12	0	7	12	9	13	11	8	13	Sat
SUN	12	9	9	13	11	8	13	10	14	12	9	14	SUN
Mon	13	10	10	14	12	9	14	11	15	13	10	15	Mon
Tue	14	11	11	15	13	10	15	12	16	14	11	16	Tue
Wed	15	12	12	16	14	11	16	13	17	15	12	17	Wed
Thur	16	13	13	17	15	12	17	14	18	16	13	18	Thur
Fri	17	14	14	18	16	13	18	15	19	17	14	19	Fri
Sat	18	15	15	19	17	14	19	16	20	18	15	20	Sat
SUN	19	16	16	20	18	1	20	17	21	19	16	21	SUN
Mon	20	17	17	21	19	16	21	18	22	20	17	22	Mon
Tue	21	18	18	22	20	17	22	19	23	21	18	23	Tue
Wed	22	19	19	23	21	18	23	20	24	22	19	24	Wed
Thur	23	20	20	24	22	19	24	21	25	23	20	25	Thur
Fri	24	21	21	25	23	20	25	22	26	24	21	26	Fri
Sat	2	22	22	26	24	21	26	23	27	25	22	27	Sat
SUN	26	23	23	27	25	22	27	24	28	26	23	28	SUN
Mon	27	24	24	28	26	23	28	25	29	27	24	29	Mon
Tue	28	25	25	29	27	24	29	26	30	28	25	30	Tue
Wed	29	26	26	30	28	25	30	27		29	26	31	Wed
Thur	30	27	27		29	26	31	28		30	27		Thur
Fri	31	28	28		30	27		29		31	28		Fri
Sat			29		31	28		30			29		Sat
SUN			30			29		31			30		SUN
Mon			31			30							Mon

	Sunday Running 10 - 3pm		Open Weekend		Anniversary Day
	General Meeting		CAD, 3D Printing		Waitangi Day
	Committee Meeting		Matariki Night Run		Easter Weekend
	Annual General Meeting		Halloween Night Run		Anzac Day
	Engineering Discussion		Hamilton Convention		Labour Day
	Club Play Day, Training		Christmas Party		CLOSED

Note : You will need to refer to a previous months mag to get the balance of 2024 calendar. Ed

Duty Operator List January — October 2025

Note : Balance of the 2025 will be displayed later, just couldn't fit it all in one page. Ed

	Date	Operator	
	5th January 2025	Bruce Bocock	First run for the New Year.
Tuesday	12th January 2025	Bryan Fitzpatrick	Hamilton Convention 10-13th Jan 2025
	14th January 2025	tba	Post Convention Run
	19th January 2025	Jason Flannery	
	26th January 2025	Warren Karlsson	Auckland Anniversay Monday 27th Jan
	2nd February 2025	Joanne Knights	Club Christmas Party Saturday 1st Feb.
	9th February 2025	Bruce McKerras	Waitangi Day Tuesday 6th Feb
	16th February 2025	Russell Prout	
	23rd February 2025	Stewart Walker	
	2nd March 2025	Bruce Bocock	
	9th March 2025	Bryan Fitzpatrick	
	16th March 2025	Jason Flannery	
	23rd March 2025	Warren Karlsson	
	30th March 2025	Joanne Knights	
	6th April 2025	Bruce McKerras	
	13th April 2025	Russell Prout	
	20th April 2025	Stewart Walker	Easter Weekend
	27th April 2025	Bruce Bocock	ANZAC Day Thursday 25th April
	4th May 2025	Bryan Fitzpatrick	AGM Saturday 3rd May 2025
	11th May 2025	Jason Flannery	Mother's Day
	18th May 2025	Warren Karlsson	
	25th May 2025	Joanne Knights	
	1st June 2025	Bruce McKerras	
	8th June 2025	Russell Prout	King's Birthday 9th June
	15th June 2025	Stewart Walker	
Friday	20th June 2025	tba	Matariki Friday Night Run
	22nd June 2025	Bruce Bocock	
	29th June 2025	Bryan Fitzpatrick	
	6th July 2025	Jason Flannery	
	13th July 2025	Warren Karlsson	
	20th July 2025	Joanne Knights	
	27th July 2025	Bruce McKerras	
	3rd August 2025	Russell Prout	
	10th August 2025	Stewart Walker	
	17th August 2025	Bruce Bocock	
	24th August 2025	Bryan Fitzpatrick	
	31st August 2025	Jason Flannery	
	7th September 2025	Warren Karlsson	Father's Day
	14th September 2025	Joanne Knights	
	21st September 2025	Bruce McKerras	
	28th September 2025	Russell Prout	
	5th October 2025	Stewart Walker	
	12th October 2025	Bruce Bocock	
	19th October 2025	Bryan Fitzpatrick	
	26th October 2025	Jason Flannery	Labour Day Monday 27th October
Friday	31st October 2025	tba	Halloween Friday Night Run.

Nostalgia :



**Katikati Rail Station 1960's. Looking North ie Katikati township on the right.
Mokai to Putaruru with sawn timber from the Mokai Mill.**

