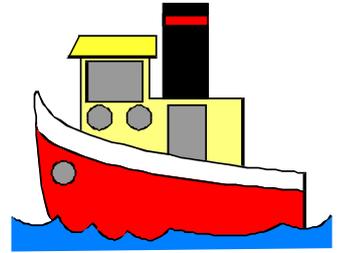


Wheels and Floats



Newsletter February 2017

TAURANGA MODEL MARINE AND ENGINEERING CLUB INC.

The Secretary
PO Box 15589
Tauranga 3112

Palmerville Station Phone 578 7293

Miniature Railway Memorial Park
Open to Public, weather permitting
Sundays in Summer: 10am to 4pm approximately
Winter: 10am to 3pm approximately
Website: www.tmmecc.org.nz

MEETINGS

General Members Meeting every first Tuesday 7pm.
Committee Meeting every second Thursday at 7pm.
Maintenance Tuesday mornings from 9am.
Engineering discussions Tuesday evenings 7.30pm.

COMMITTEE

President: Peter Jones 543 2528
Vice President: Bruce Harvey 548 0804
Club Captain: Bruce McKerras 5770134
Secretary: Murray de Lues 027 3020930
Treasurer: Owen Bennett 544 9807
Committee: Warren Belk, Shane Marshall,
John Stent, Russell Prout, Clive Goodley.
Boiler Committee: Peter Jones, Bruce McKerras,
John Heald, Paul Newton.
Safety Committee: Warren Karlsson, Bruce Harvey,
Peter Jones, Malcolm George,
Marty Rickard.
EDITOR: Roy Robinson 07 5491182
royrobkk@gmail.com
NOTE new email address

CONVENERS

Workshop: John Nicol
Track : Bruce Harvey, John Stent,
Russell Prout
Marine: Warren Belk
Librarian: John Nicol
Rolling Stock: Clive Goodley
Website: Murray de Lues
Driver Training: Clive Goodley
Club Captain: Bruce McKerras

OPERATORS 2016

5 February M Duncan
12 February B Fitzpatrick
19 February B Harvey
26 February P Jones
5 March W Carlson
12 March B McKerras
19 March R Salisbury
26 March G Barnes
2 April N Bush
9 April M Duncan
16 April B Fitzpatrick

President's Points

Greetings Members.

"Happy New Year"

Our 2016 Christmas get together was postponed due the weather as you know, hopefully you will have received notification that this social event will take place at Bruce Harvey's residence 18 Youngson Road Omokoroa from 2.00pm onward Saturday the 11th Feb, better late than never I guess, hope you can make it. There will be a couple of attractions I have been told, just have to wait and see.

There has been some talk over the last couple of months about our club setting up a project for our junior members, to give them some idea of what skills are required to build a steam locomotive. Ron Salisbury has generously offered the parts for a 3.5" gauge Rob Roy which has been in his possession for a number of years. Our Club Captain Bruce McKerras has shown an interest in leading the project and will be looking to some of our experienced members to assist. Those that attended our convention will remember the Rob Roy steaming around our raised track, if you can manage a small 3.5" Gauge locomotive you can manage any of them. This is a worthwhile project; please give your assistance to Bruce, and thank you Ron for getting the project started.

Some considerable time ago there was a request for those interested in either renewing their First Aid Certification or being trained from scratch to put their names forward. The first course has been organised for 7 of our members on the 20th of this month at St Johns Tauranga. A further two members will be trained in March out of the Tauranga area, the date is yet to be finalised. It is a requirement of our ADR that we have first aid trained members listed in our Health and Safety documentation. I consider the greatest risk to members is during working B's on Tuesday mornings and Saturdays when the park is quite. During our normal operating days there is always public about and you can be sure there will be someone around who will have knowledge in First Aid should it be needed, our close proximity to the Public Hospital and A&E 2nd Ave is to our advantage as is the cardiac defibrillator located in QE2 reception, however knowing what to do in those first few minutes is vital to the health and safety of all. Thank you to those members who have given their time to attend the course.

The family of late club member Eddie Evans has gifted gear from Eddie's workshop to our club. The method of distribution of the bits and pieces has to be decided, what does the club need for its workshop and how the rest is allocated is up to our club members to decide. Hopefully this will be resolved at our next club night meeting, what the committee have suggested is that that the model Heisler locomotive that Eddie was hoping to complete should be displayed in a case, remaining in the care of our club. Maybe some day it will be completed.

Best Wishes

Peter Jones.

LIFE AND TIMES OF MODEL ENGINEERING IN THE BAY OF PLENTY

(PART 1)

By John Heald

This is the story, from memory, and supportive documents, appertains to the expansion of model engineering in the Bay of Plenty region since 1972.

In the early 1970's, to my knowledge, only the Hamilton and Auckland Society of model engineers existed, both still strongly supported.

Here in Rotorua a model boat club was formed in 1974 with sailing taking place at the old former Mourea camp ground at Lake Rotoiti (now an up market hotel complex). This then changed when the land was sold for a new hotel to be built on the site. A new venue was found using a small pond in the grounds of Te Amorangi Museum. This pond was actually part of the Waipa Christian Diocese; this land was part of the museum complex, being donated by the owner of the museum, Arthur Sheward. In 1976 a gentleman by the name of Les Fit retired from Auckland to Rotorua, an avid model locomotive builder in 3.5" and 5" gauge engines (He actually built a 5" WAB in 6months!). His wife thought that was the end of model engineering in the household! He was invited to judge a scale model boat display here in Rotorua and on being shown our sailing venue had thought what a good site for miniature railway. Discussions with Arthur Sheward came to fruition in early 1976 with the formation of the Rotorua Society of Model Engineers was formed. The first newsletter appeared in October. The formation of the track bed was started with help of the Auckland Society of Model engineers donating about 100metres of old track in the first instance. Les duly ran his 3.5" KA engine on this track for starters. The club desperately needed funding to further track building and Les then working for the then FRI managed to wrangle a contract to demolish and remove two world war 2 Nissan huts. From memory I think we collected about \$6000 from this contract. The materials and money enabled the club to build the track in 3.5" and 5" gauges. The length was about 400metres with a design feature of about 100metres of elevated track along a picturesque stream bank. This a massive task to build. I remember vividly Paul Newton starting this project in December 1976 and 6 weeks later it was finished! The track was completed by February 1977, although the official opening was set for January 1979 as station and security buildings were in the planning stage after the track was completed. Lockwood Homes Ltd donated the interlocking home building timber to build both the station and security shed (both still standing today).

LIFE AND TIMES OF MODEL ENGINEERING IN THE BAY OF PLENTY

(PART 2)

By John Heald

After the security and station buildings were completed at Te Amorangi museum it was thought a tunnel was a must prior to entering the wonderful spectre of the run up the stream bank. How to build was the frustrating question. The idea came to hand why not use old disused fuel storage tanks (20,000 litres each). 3 were needed and were delivered onto the site care of a well known fuel outlet, not knowing whether they had been used for petrol or diesel. Who was going to gas axe the ends out! Our working bee gang met on a sunny morning to establish who was going to do this by each of us drawing cut straws, the shortest got the job. John Shelton is still with us to this day! Health and Safety would have a birthday if this was done now. The tunnel portals' were built, and on to the next project. The tunnel still stands to this day and will take some interesting skills to remove it!

In the early days very few steel boilers were around so a good supply of rain water was required for copper boilers and this was achieved by burying a 10,000 litre specially sealed old fuel storage tank adjacent the station area and was supplied from the station guttering system via a filtration system.

At last we had a reasonable set up with sidings and by pass loop. Signals were installed at one stage but were withdrawn except for the first stage (from tunnel entrance to 30 odd metres past the exit entrance (the tunnel was on a curve with no view of the exit). The late 1970's brought on board as members Eddie Evans, Les Moore (Tauranga residents) and a young Brett Lilly (Ngongotaha), plus his father. There were others from Tauranga but the names do not come to hand. During this period Les Fit passed away however his legacy continued.

Time passed until Rotorua offered to put on the two yearly International Convention in 1984. This was a great success with about 45 engines present (at this point in time only 3.5" and 5" gauges existed). It was organised in conjunction with the then Rotorua Tourist Department.

Australian Trip 2016 (part 3)

We arrived at Rowville, Melbourne and located our Motel accommodation however something wasn't right. There was no one around and the complex (quite large) was all locked up. Rattling on doors failed to arouse a single soul and we decided that the place was "non operational". With help of our Navgirl we soon located another Motel quite handy and were soon in the general area however despite several trips around the block we were unable to find the complex. As a last resort we spoke to a woman exercising her dog to find the complex we were looking for was now a retirement home!! The dog walker was able to direct us to an "operational" motel and we were soon settled in albeit somewhat lighter in the pocket.

Next morning we found the Rowville College and the Hall where the Model Engineering Display was. There wasn't a huge collection of models, evidentially some exhibitors had only stayed for the Saturday. Meccano had an excellent display and the one which caught my eye was a machine for doing French Knitting, my granddaughter would have loved it!! Another model was a Wims-hurst electrostatic generator used for demonstrating the principals of electricity produced very generous sparks when one turned the handle, bigger sparks with an increase in speed. When the wires were connected to a bowl (about 10" dia) with a ball (material unknown) about the same size as a table tennis ball and the handle turned the ball raced around the bowl gaining speed with increased revolutions of the handle. Suffice to say I have no idea what caused the ball to rotate inside the bowl!! There was a series of excellent beam engine models built from drawings which were in the Model Engineer in about 1923 if I remember correctly. The usual example of a Quorn Tool and Cutter Grinder evidentially changed hands for \$800. There were only 2 or 3 steam engines and a couple of traction engines although there were some other steam projects under construction.

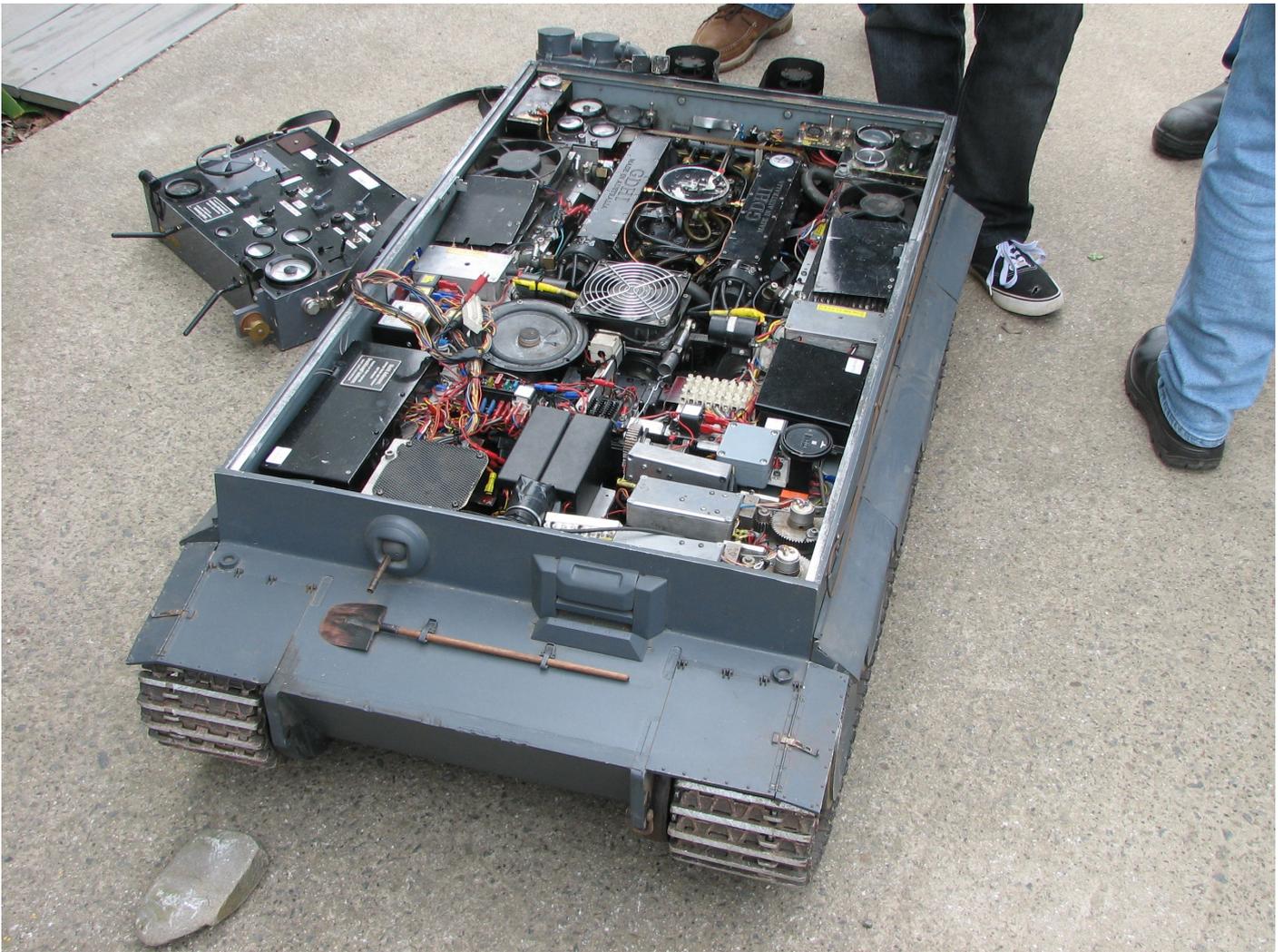
There were several commercial stands flogging all sorts of model engineering goodies most of which were sourced from China.

One model which drew the visitors was a radio controlled model of a Tiger Tank. Whilst off the shelf items had been used (ie computer fans for radiator cooling) the whole model had been free-lanced including the radio control unit. The owner had built a V8 engine for the tank but when someone told him that the Tiger had a V12 so he set to and built a V12!!! The tank was really impressive, approx 6' long, it had an 8 speed gearbox both in forward and reverse. When the gun fired a puff of smoke came out the barrel and the barrel recoiled. The complete top of the tank just lifted off for access and the tank was still operational (but obviously not the gun) one could not help but be impressed with the whole project. The same guy had several stationary engines all of which ran with most having a generator or similar to drive.

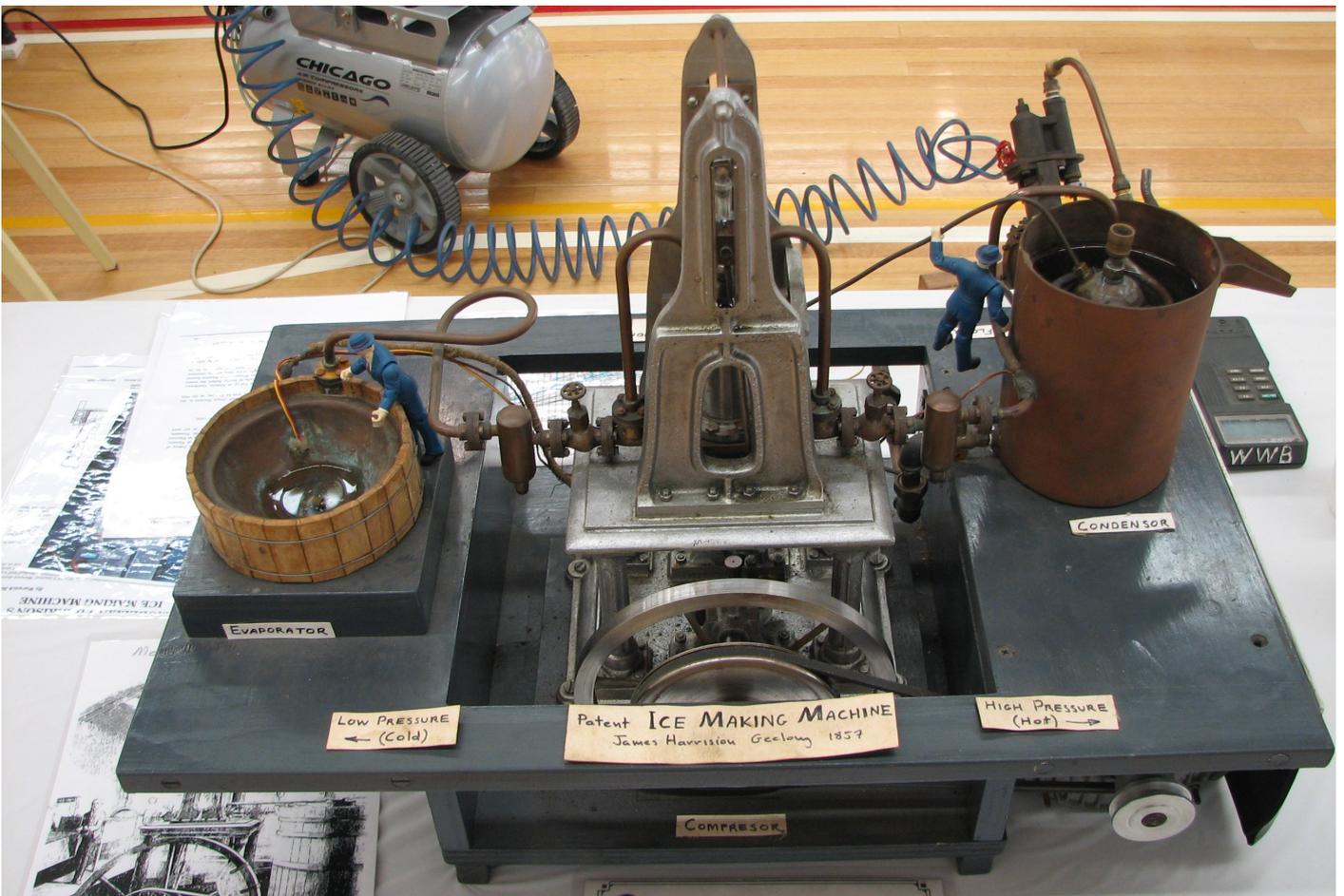
Model boats were well represented with examples of tugs, sailing boat, navel ships and small steam launches.

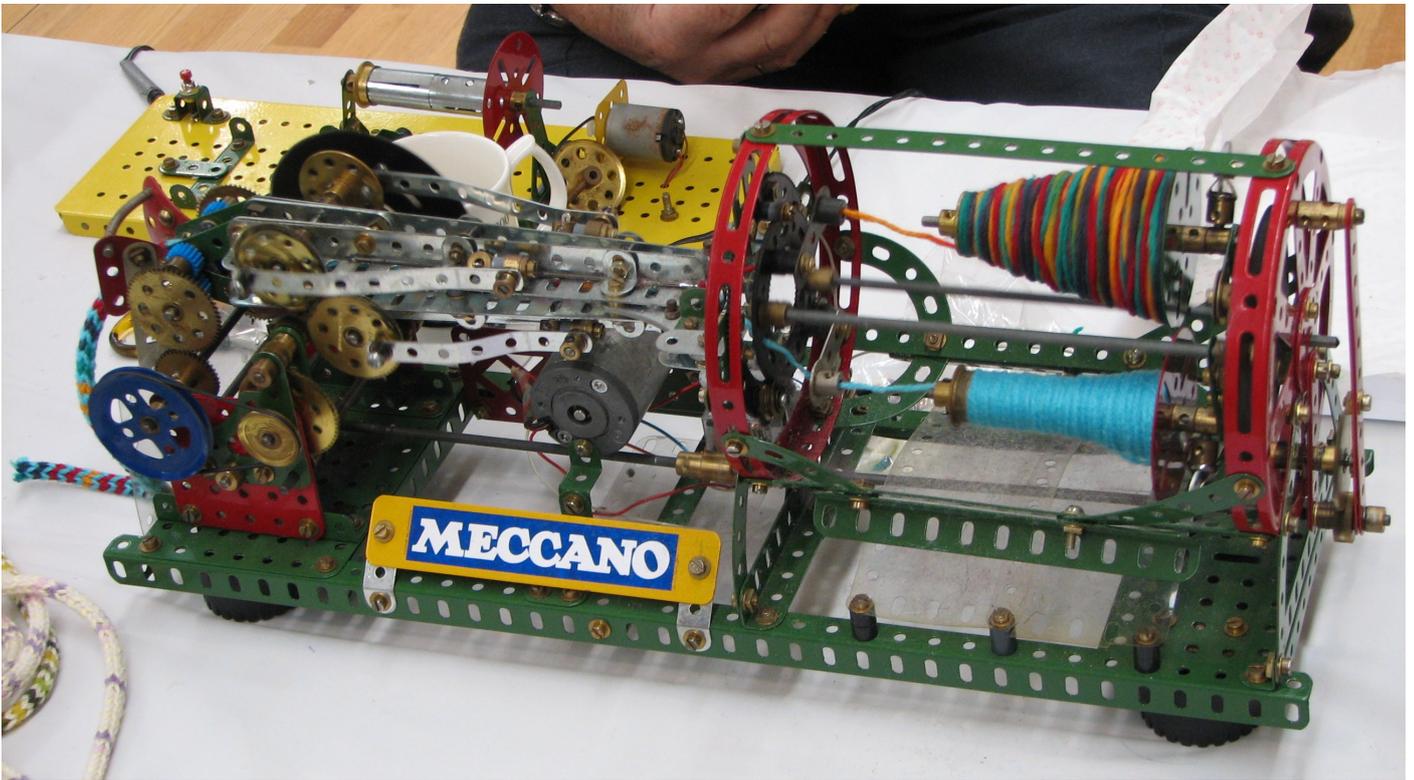
All in all a great display of excellent models. Would I go again? Yes, will try and plan a trip that way for the next one in 2 years time and I can keep Barb involved / entertained by taking photos of the displays!

Roy Robinson



Above :Tiger Tank Below : Patent Ice Making Machine (based on one built in Geelong, Melbourne cir 1859)



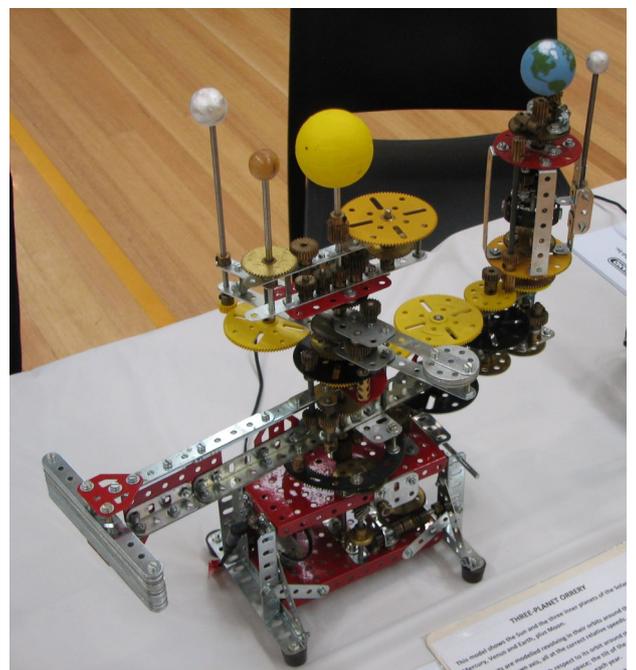
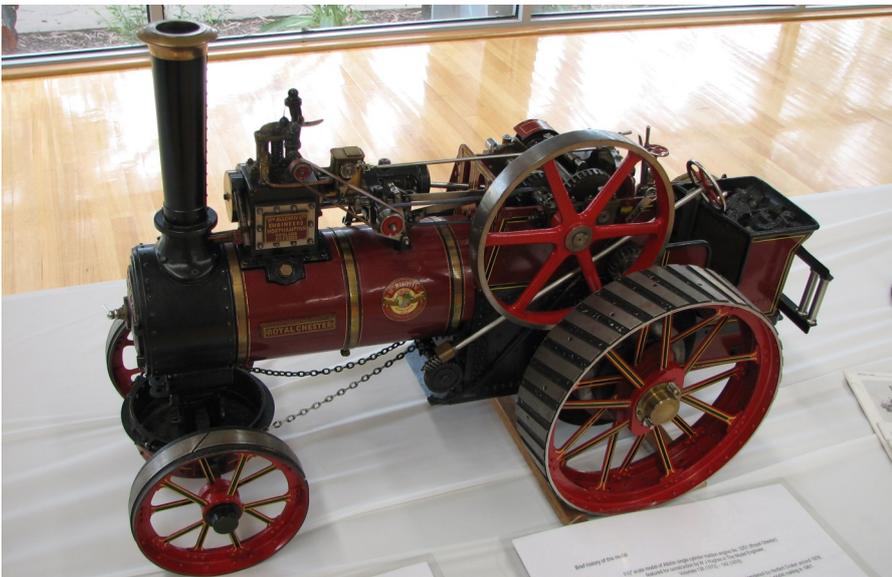


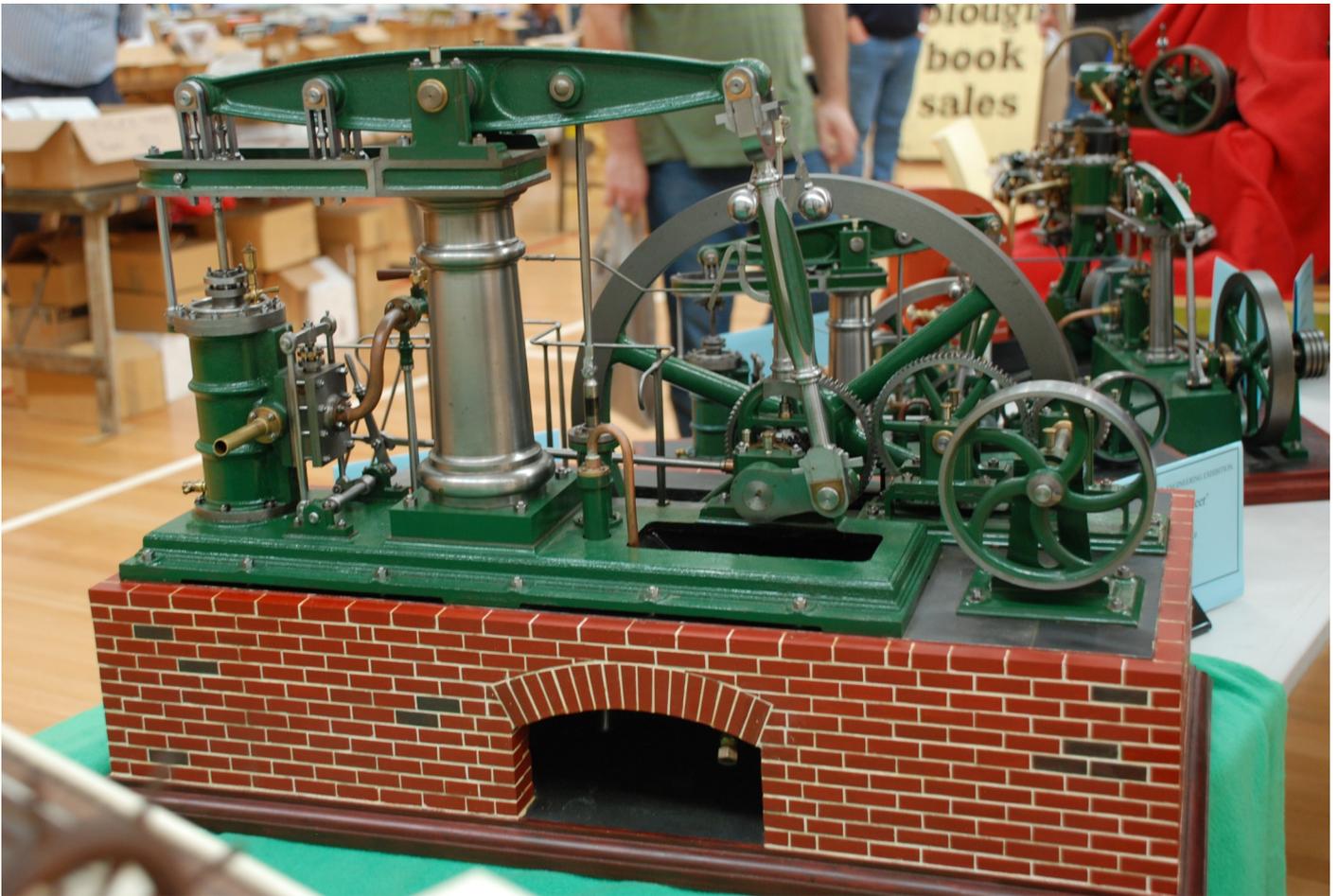
Above : Meccano French Knitting machine.

Left : Alchin, powered by compressed air.

Below left : Wimshurst Generator.

Below right : Three Planet Orrery.

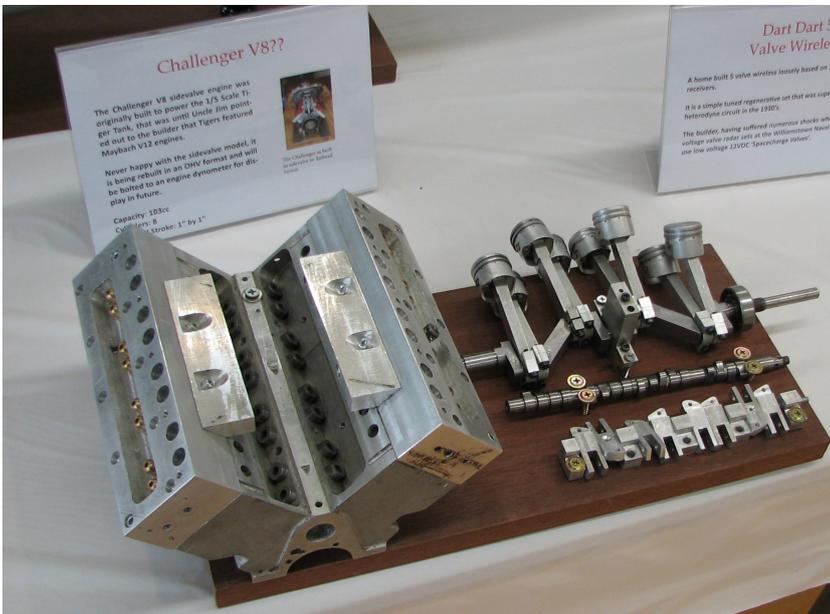




Above : "The Gentry Engine" first published in the Model Engineer and Electrician 1914 and was then known as The Model Engineer Beam Engine.

Below : Skeleton Clock (the only clock example on display).

Below : Challenger V8.



Challenger V8??

The Challenger V8 sidevalve engine was originally built to power the 1/5 Scale Tiger Tank, that was until Uncle Jim pointed out to the builder that Tigers featured Maybach V12 engines.

Never happy with the sidevalve model, it is being rebuilt in an OHV format and will be bolted to an engine dynamometer for display in future.

Capacity: 103cc
Cylinders: 8
Stroke: 1" by 1"



The Challenger as built and bolted to dynamometer.

Dart Dart 5 Valve Wireless

A home built 5 valve wireless loosely based on 32 receivers.

It is a simple tuned regenerative set that was superior heterodyne circuit in the 1930s.

The builder, having suffered collector shocks when voltage wire solder sets in the Williamson Naval School use low voltage 12VDC "Spacecharge valves".

Such innovation !!!!!

Shortly it will become compulsory for USA senior citizens to carry not only their ID, but also their insurance documents, their prescription list, a compact version of their medical file, the statement declaring if they want to be resuscitated after a heart attack, stroke, etc. etc. Consequently, a lot of paperwork will have to be carried when a senior citizen goes out the front door OR When they Travel!

Specifically for this purpose, a special "Seniors USB Stick" has been developed.

Take a look below.....



Wow! Two Bites of information. Blue Tooth technology to fit your lifestyle. Expanded Memory can be arranged. Something to chew on.