

# Wheels & Floats

October 2024



overall width  $6\frac{5}{8}$

**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](http://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  
7.30pm.

### COMMITTEE

President: Bruce McKarres 022 0455154  
Vice President: Regan Olivecrona 02102325554  
Club Captain Joanne Knights 020 41909567  
Secretary: Warren Karlsson 025 5422863  
Treasurer: Jason Flannery 021 629048  
Committee: Russell Prout, Bruce Bocock,  
Warren Belk, Bruce Harvey,  
Owen Bennett

**Club subs are now due.**

**Full member \$30.00**

**Country \$18.00**

**Junior \$6.00**

Westpac 03-0435-0461711-00

Please ensure your name is in the refer-  
ence line and the word subs(cription).

### CONVENERS

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

Safety Committee:

Warren Karlsson, Bruce Harvey,  
Bruce McKerras, Russell Prout

Workshop: Regan Olivecrona, Owen  
Bennett, Brian Marriner

Drivers Licencing : Bruce McKerras

Track: Bruce Harvey, John Stent,  
Russell Prout

Librarian: Chris Pattison

Rolling Stock: Bruce Harvey

Track Managers : Bruce Harvey, John Stent,  
Russell Prout

Website: Chris Pattison, Peter Davies

MEANZ rep Russell Prout

Editor: Roy Robinson 07 5491182  
[royrobkk@gmail.com](mailto:royrobkk@gmail.com)

**Cover photo :** Browell Lindley steam engine 180 HP 580 RPM Tokomaru Steam Museum.

## Presidents Report October 2024

This month has been interesting, we've had 5 new people come forward and want to be volunteers at our club. This is a first. Please, please make all new faces down at our club welcome.

This month I went to Perth to catch up with my kids over there. My grandkids have grown. WOW.

My clear observation from WA is that I'm afraid little old New Zealand has slipped behind, new multilane highways, new fast looking trains and heaps of them and the vehicle fleet all modern.

I tried to time my holiday in between club events but I had to miss out our whole club meeting and I forgot to do a handover. My gratitude to Russell for stepping up and winging the evening. I gather it went ok, thank you Russell.

We are building up to our busy time of year, Halloween night run is always really full on and please note it is on Friday 1st November. The next is our open weekend, 9th and 10th of November, again, please make yourself available and bring down your toys, finished or unfinished.

Over the past month..

### Sunday 15 September

Stewart D.O – A nice day, 700 rides. Lance's 85th Birthday and Joanne found a cake. I think Lance was really chuffed. Heather and Dave back, lots of helpers today. Nice.

Warren B and Tamar testing team safety valves, the spare safety valves have surfaced, and we are running with one of those.

A new member has come forward, Paul Fuller from Rotorua, Welcome.

### Tuesday morning

Weather crap this morning however Brian M did his best to continue boxing in readiness for our next concrete session.

Engines refueled etc.

I tried to get my Phantom pressure tested (silly really, looking for water leaks in the rain).

The constitution team discussing flat out. Commendable.

Tamar again getting safety valves played with.



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## **Saturday 21 September**

Phone call from Regan, he has found a really good train builder in Palmerston North. I have asked him to establish contact and see if he will build us an engine (or two).

## **Sunday 22 September**

Bruce B, D.O - Supposed to rain midday but it was actually fine all day. 914 rides. A good turnout of troops today. Another new member came forward, Ian and Dianne Bain – Welcome.

## **Tuesday Morning**

Busy morning, Bruce H doing ride car Warrant of Fitness testing. Thank you Bruce.

My goodself investigating a troublesome bogie in the workshop, interestingly the main suspension spring was jammed up in it's socket, we have never experienced this before.

Warren B repairing spring gate and concreting.

Brian M and team concreting curbing.

Well done team. I wasn't expecting this today.

Owen has shrink wrapped the metric allen keys (red) and painted the metric drills (red) and has sorted the drills into the drill stands. Please try hard to replace these in the respective stands and boxes when you have used them.

PERTH FOR ME.

## **Club Night**

Russell stepped up in my absence. Russell produced Trent's 3D printed jet unit and I gather there were parts for Ross's traction engine on the table. Thank you again to Russell for stepping in here.

## **Sunday 29 September**

Bryan F, D.O. - 864 rides. The day went smooth I gather.

## **Sunday 6 October**

Jason D.O. - A few derails today, the offending ride car in the workshop for the Tuesday crew to investigate.

The new member, Steve Mannington turned up and we have discovered that he is a qualified steam boiler operator. Welcome Steve. Our club is a tad short on steam savvy folk.

A shower just after lunch cleared the park but it was only temporary.



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**OPEN!**  
Saturday 9am - 3pm  
Monday to Friday  
6am - 3pm

## Tuesday Morning

Engines refuelled etc. I played with the new points under the viaduct. Ride car team discovered the offending ride car was twisted. How does this happen?

Jason marking out the new proposed siding.

Warren K trying to nut out the fault codes on the dishwasher.

## Working Bee 12 October (pics elsewhere in this mag)

I was feeling lousy however I managed to get my phantom through the first part of it's boiler test with Peter W turning up from Hamilton as I can't do my own boiler test. Thank you Peter. He has offered his services in this area, if required in the future.

A great team down there, the raised track significantly different and the new turntable looking great. I just hope those little engines will pull up the new raised bit.

Ash T playing with the points under the viaduct. Thank you Ash.

## From the Committee Meeting

Firstly, I would like to announce that I will not be standing for president next year, so I invite you all to get thinking.

This month's meeting seemed to focus on costs and getting major expenses approved by the committee first and a reminder to get back to the system of getting three quotes. Jason wants the expense claims into the box at club the Tuesday prior to the committee meeting so that he can sort them out before the meeting rather than on the night.

Tamar's future was discussed, team Tamar comes with so much politics, I would like to see it sold and the money put towards a more club user friendly, steam engine – please all give this some thought.

To other clubs, we have a surplus of coal. If any club is short, please get hold of us here. Welsh Beans especially (and no we don't have char).

Lastly, I'd like to thank Jason and Russell for driving forward the track improvements. Without their enthusiasm and time, the club wouldn't get there.

Thank you team.

## Bruce.

A recent visit to Mainline Steam



## Club Captains Report for October

With the temperatures improving we are entering the club's busiest period the year before we wind down to the Christmas break.

The weather has been kind to us most Sundays, allowing us to run and continue attracting the public from all corners of the world.

Halloween has been well advertised and hopefully, the weather will again allow us to run as planned on Friday night the 1<sup>st</sup> of November.

The weekend following is our Annual Open Weekend which also attracts a good following

The November Play Day will form part of the Open weekend on the Saturday – with the modified raised track being planned to be back in use.

As both Halloween and the Open Weekend are major club events, this year we require more assistance from Club Members to help with the catering as circumstances prevent Barbra and Roy from being able to assist. Their input into catering over the years is legendary and cannot be taken for granted hence the call is out.

With Christmas fast approaching the last play day for the year will be in December and expect the 2025 Club Calendar and Operators Duty Roster for next year to be published shortly.

Where does the time go!

On behalf of Joanne, whom is in sunny Queensland.



## Duty Operators Roster balance 2024

Date	Operator	
6th October 2024	Jason Flannery	
13th October 2024	Bruce Harvey	
20th October 2024	Warren Karlsson	
27th October 2024	Joanne Knights	
1st November 2024	Halloween Night Run	
3rd November 2024	Bruce McKerras	
9th November 2024	Russell Prout	Annual Open Weekend
9 - 10th Nov		
10th November 2024	Stewart Walker	Annual Open Weekend
9-10th Nov		
17th November 2024	Bruce Bocock	
24th November 2024	Bryan Fitzpatrick	
1st December 2024	Jason Flannery	
8th December 2024	Warren Karlsson	
15th December 2024	Joanne Knights	
22nd December 2024	Bruce McKerras	
29th December 2024	not open	

### Note

1st November Club Halloween Night Run. Get dressed up in your spooky outfits. **All hands on deck please.**

9-10 November Club Open Weekend. This is when we invite and entertain visitors from our other Club families. Bring along those projects to display not only for the Club guests but for the Public to see and appreciate just what our Club is about. **Again all hands on deck.**

## Humour :

A cannibal suffered from indigestion and went to see his Witch Doctor.

After explaining the problem, the Witch Doctor asked him, "What have you been eating?" The cannibal replied, "The usual, Catholic Missionaries."

"And what do these Catholic Missionaries look like?" the Witch Doctor asked.

"Brown robes with rope belts and a bald spot at the back of their heads," was the reply.

"I see, and how are you cooking them?" asked the Witch Doctor.

"You know, the usual. Put them in a big pot, fill it with water, light a fire and cook 'em up."

"That's your problem," the Witch Doctor advised, "Those are Friars not Boilers!!!!!!!"

A woman walked into the kitchen to find her husband stalking around with a fly swatter.

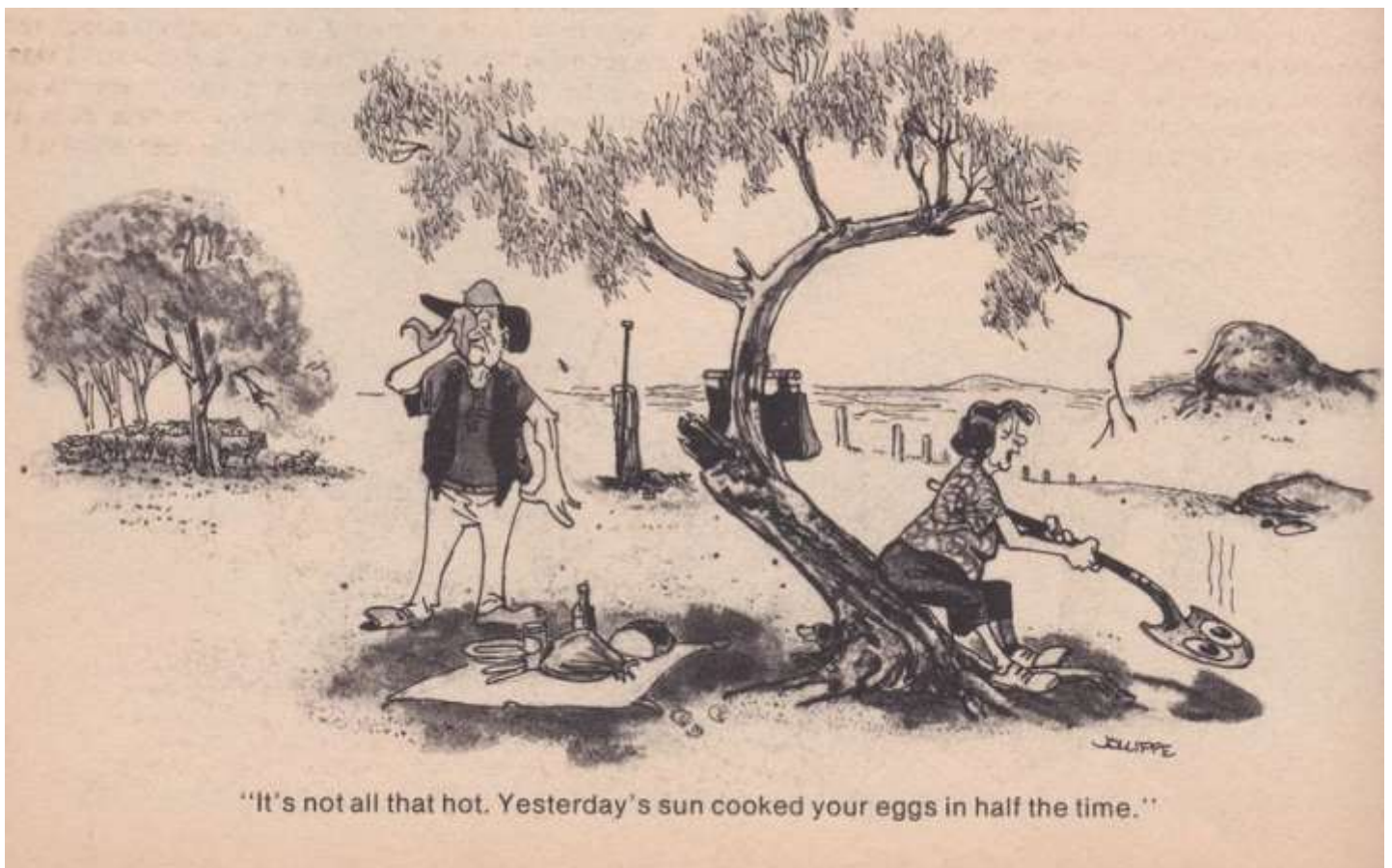
"What are you doing?" she asked.

"Hunting flies," he replied. "Oh, Killed any?" she asked.

"Yep, 3 males and 2 females," came the answer.

Intrigued, the wife asked, "How do you tell them apart?"

"Well, 3 were on a beer can, and 2 were on the phone." replied the husband.





A long-standing attraction in Thames is under threat as the proposal to build a seawall to protect the town from flooding and rising sea level moves forward.

The Thames Small Gauge Railway Society was established in 1993 and features a 1km loop track that runs along the Brown St foreshore, with a station, steaming bays, turntable, bridge, tunnel and associated structures.

Thousands of volunteer hours and more than \$100,000 was poured into the attraction when it was granted a lease to use the land by the Thames-Coromandel District Council in 1995.

It is situated at Victoria Park and operated by a group of about 30 volunteers.

It sits near the starting point of a proposed seawall as authorities weigh up the options for protecting the town from long-term climate impact.

Part of an article in Sunlive



Club stalwart Lance Chandler was presented with a cake for his 85th Birthday late September

# From the Working Bee 12 Oct 2024



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## Tokomaru Steam Museum

This was my second fairly recent visit to the Tokomaru Steam Museum, a most intriguing, interesting and informative collection of steam equipment of all sizes, shapes, designs and uses that one could visit in New Zealand.

Hosts, Damian Groves and Roxanne Eastham are very welcoming however one does have to book in a visit (contact details at the end of this article).

This Museum has had somewhat of a rough childhood but Damian and Roxanne are committed to its continued growth and development.

On entry to the Museum one is "hit" with the expanse and size of the building and the considerable collection within.

The first exhibit that catches one's eye mainly because of its size is the Filer & Stowell Tandem Compound Corliss Valve Steam Engine which drove a Ball Ammonia Compressor at the Imlay Freezing Works at Whanganui. Total weight of the complete unit is 70 tons and required some 40 odd truck movements to shift it from Whanganui to Tokomaru



What is impressive is the massive 16-foot flywheel which weighs in at 13.3 tons.. Now this flywheel was cast in 2 halves. The hub which mounts upon the crank has, as one would expect, a key and the usual 4 through holding bolts. The rim has the most unusual but effective "dog bone" with the 2 big ends locating into a mating tapered socket. There are 2 of these "dog bones" at each end of the halves, one either side. Four through bolts pulls the "dog bones" together pulling both halves tightly and in line to complete the attachment.



The necessary gauges for the Ball Ammonia Compressor, wouldn't you love that in your Man Cave!!!!

This equipment was installed at Imlay in 1916 at a cost of US \$ 13 025.00.



The centrifugal ball governor on the Filer and Stowell engine.



An excellent selection of commercial and scratch built models on display with most running on air.



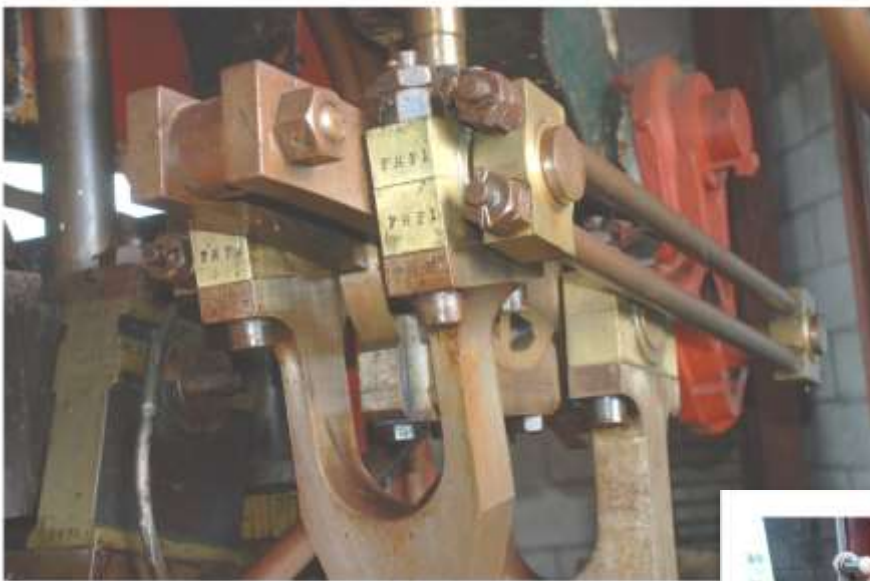
# **MORGANSTEEL**

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Next item that caught my eye was a Triple Expansion Engine. This engine was built in 1904 by William Simon and Co London, with cylinder diameters of 11" x 17" x 28" with a stroke of 21" giving a 70 NHP. This engine was purchased for the dredge Murihiku and was used by the Southland Harbour Board for dredging river mouths and shipping channels finally being scrapped in May 1978. Just great to see this type of ma-

chinery saved so that nonbelievers like me can appreciate what was the standard in the passed



Last but not least and I couldn't leave it out of this very small sample of a much larger extraordinary collection, is this 8 cylinder 396 hp, producing 300kva, 2TL8 Mirrilees Diesel Generator set. This engine was one of two standby generators at the Himatangi Radio Station. Unfortunately Damian is not conversant with the starting procedure (air start) and it has not been run for some 10 years now.



A photo of the Mirrilees Diesel when it was installed in the Himatangi Radio Station.



Left is the switch board at Tokomaru and above it can be seen in its original installation at Himatangi.

This Museum is a must stop and spend real time just mooching around. This is only a small fraction which extends to locomotives, carriages, busses even a Euclid scraper unit which has been converted into a shop crane. Give Damian or Roxanne a call on 021 2090060 or 021 02225385 for an appointment, you won't be disappointed!!!!

**Roy**



A general view looking across the Tokomaru Domain where the traction engine events were held, with the Fowler and coach at the end of the track.

## Tokomaru Opening

THE short steam-worked line at the Tokomaru Steam Museum south of Palmerston North was officially opened by the Prime Minister Mr. Kirk on Sunday March 4.

The opening of the line, which is just a few hundred yards long at present was the highlight of a two day steam festival at the museum.

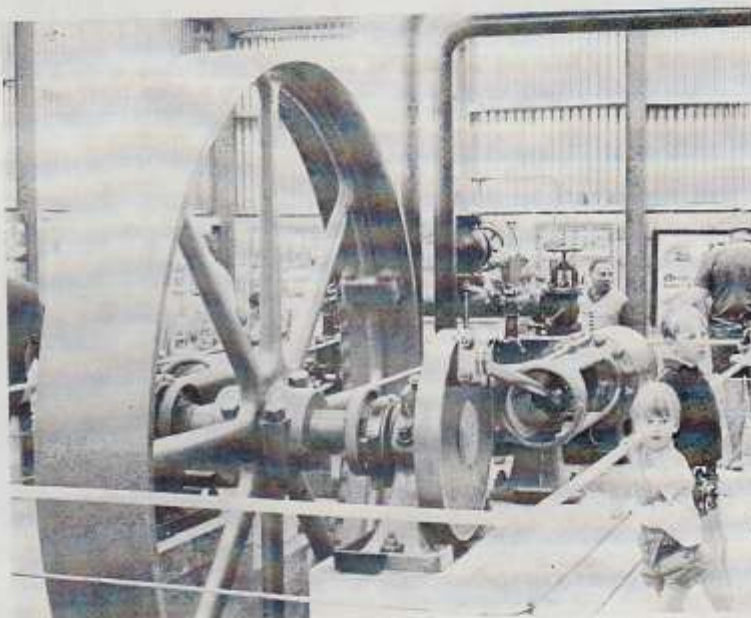
Founded by Tokomaru engineer Colin Stevenson, the museum features a wide range of steam machinery. The museum building houses more than a dozen stationary engines, including generating sets, a Tangye two cylinder engine with a five ton fly-wheel which was used by a sawmill in Hawke's Bay and a variety of other engines. A small boiler supplies steam for the engines which are in operation on the second and fourth Sundays in each month.

Other exhibits include two traction engines, a steam fire engine and a steam roller, plus threshing mills and other equipment. An NZR locomotive whistle has been installed to provide yet another sound of the steam age.

For the steam festival in March more than a dozen traction engines, rollers and portable engines, plus Stanley, Doble and Locomobile steam cars were on display, provided by vintage car enthusiasts clubs and members of the Steam Traction Society.



FORMER Napier Harbour Board Fowler No. 6 standing at the old Tokomaru railway station which has been bought from the NZR and reassembled on the site. The central portion of the station was built by the Wellington and Manawatu Railway Company.



THE most spectacular of the many operating steam engines in the museum is this two-cylinder Tangye engine, which drove Yeoman and Gardner's sawmill at Whakarara at the foot of the Ruchine ranges in Hawke's Bay.

**Tokomaru Steam Museum Opening March 4th 1973** I found this article whilst looking at some Rails magazines I had come across. Hope you can read the script. Note it was opened by the then Prime Minister Mr Kirk.

# Show and Tell

Whilst there didn't seem to be a lot on the table there was a lot of discussion.

Bernie and David are "playing" ("playing" being the appropriate word) with an experimental furnace and melting copper. Their current project is to make copper heads for dead blow hammers for which I'm sure they will have a ready market, mine's looking like a flattened egg!!!



Ash has a challenge to make 16 axles same as, he also got several orders!!!

Ross had some parts laser cut for the forward/reverse mechanism on his traction engine.



Trent downloaded this jet unit then printed it at the Club

Yes, it's back to school playing with wooden blocks, wrong!, piles for the raising of the high level track to be done on a section by section basis raising the current track by 150mm with the steaming bay to be an additional 140mm higher again. This is an ongoing project and Janson would appreciate assistance with the working bees.



## For Sale :

Ross has 2 spare taper shank valves excess to his requirements Ph 021 141 9547 to get the full detail.

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## From the Cave at Katikati

On Friday the 4th October I attended the funeral of Ted Sisley a member of our Club for at least 28 years. Ted was a very quiet unassuming person but had a huge knowledge of heavy machinery working all over the world on some massive projects. Club wise he had a 3 1/2" Simplex loco which he ran and enjoyed on the high level track. The engine was originally built by John Heald. Ted recently gave this loco to Peter Lawn who after overhauling the running gear has had it on the Club track. Ted not only enjoyed his time with the Model Engineering he also in earlier years had yachts and whilst not really into racing enjoyed cruising with many trip especially to The Barrier. Also more recently Ted was involved with the Tauranga Vintage Machinery Club having a Massy Harris Colt tractor and a Bradford pickup truck. Ted also was one of our Volunteers at the Waiouru Army Museum for over 6 years. RIP Ted.



## Thanks

Many thanks to those of you who provided articles and/or pics for this mag. If you have been somewhere or seen something or made a thingy, write a story about it and send it in. Don't worry if your article looks not right or has spelling mistakes, I'll do my best to sanitise your effort and make it look great.

Just remember articles/pics to be in to me by 10th of the month. I try to make the mag available by the 20th of the month.

Thanks and regards **Roy**



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## TMMEC CLUB CALENDAR 2024

v2

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

- Sunday Running 10 - 3pm
- Club Play Day, Training
- General Meeting 7pm
- Engineering Discussion 7pm
- Committee Meeting 7pm
- Annual General Meeting

- Open Weekend
- CAD, 3D Printing, 7pm
- Matariki Night Run
- Christmas Party
- Halloween Night Run
- Closed / Cancelled

- Hamilton Open 16 March
- Manakau Open 1 June
- Keirunga Park Open 25 Oct
- EBOP (Whk) TBC
- Mana Ariki TBC
- Cambridge Night Run TBC