

TMMEC NEWSLETTER

December 2022



Located at the Memorial Park, Tauranga
Open to the public Sundays 10:00 to 15:00 with
half-hour lunch break at about 12:30.
(weather and Covid Level permitting)

CONTACT:

The Secretary, PO Box 15589., Tauranga, 3112
Palmerville Station: Phone: 07 578 7293

WEBSITE: www.tmmec.org.nz

FACEBOOK:

<https://www.facebook.com/memorialparkrailway/>

COMMITTEE:

President: Bruce McKerras 022 045 5154
Vice: Bruce Harvey 021 920 189
Secretary: Jason Flannery 021629 048
Treasurer: Sandra
Club Captains: Max Donelly 07 571 6778
Joanne Knights 020 4190 9567
Committee: Warren Belk Warren Karlsson
Regan Olivecrona Russell Prout
Ash Thomas

Boiler Committee: Peter Jones
Bruce McKerras

Safety Committee: Warren Karlsson ; Peter
Jones ; Bruce Harvey ; Bruce McKerras ;
Russell Prout.

Editor: Chris Pattison 021 231 6612
Ytrose2@gmail.com

Club Calendar Max Donelly

Website creator: Red Eye Designs

Editor: Joanne Knights

CONVENORS:

Workshop: John Nicol Brian Marriner

Track: Bruce Harvey Russell Prout

Librarian: Chris Pattison

Rolling Stock: Bruce Harvey

MEANZ Rep.: Peter Jones

Up and Coming Events.

January 5th – 11th CANMOD, Canterbury
CSMEE, Christchurch.

February 4th Xmas function at Bruce Harvey.



President's Report – November/ December

This month is a special bonus issue – two reports for the price of one! November's report got stuck in Joanne's laptop so below is a shortened version as some thoughts relayed were out of date.

November

Well, I think that we were really lucky with the weather for our Halloween night run, we had a great night! We managed to get set up between showers and the tunnel lights and track decorations looked great. A big thank you to all who dressed up for the occasion, especially Juan and Isoabel and also Bruce Hodgkinson who patiently waited just outside the exit of tunnel 2 with a great mask and scary hand – great stuff. I suspect the success of the evening was helped by a front page write-up by the Bay Sun, again another thank you, this time to Joanne and Imogen for dressing up as our resident witches. I must also mention the superb cake that was provided by Tracy for the evening, you had to get in quick to get a piece it was gone in no time. Photos from the night are in the Club Captains report.

Our web site is now up and running. Check it out at www.tmmec.org.nz. Joanne is feeding it with current pictures and it will also have our newsletters on there, along with future events, etc.

Tamar has a new boiler certificate which was issued on Friday by Chris Erasmus (A.T.C). Much laughter was had when someone (me) got drenched by the pooled water that had formed on the sagging tent top deciding to unexpectedly dump an impromptu waterfall – needless to say the lesson of standing more toward the middle of the tent was quickly learned.

My Phantom is back up and running, the blower is back to its former state. My clever superheated blower system did not work, though it would have if I had a regulator that shut off better. The positive side to all the alterations is that it is steaming better with radiant superheaters – I now need to learn how to fire and run the engine again, I really am rusty.

Open weekend – Wow! What was forecast to be a snotty day on Saturday turned out to be really nice. The poor weather forecast kept away our normal visitors and most of the public too. We had what turned into a club day and it was really good, everyone was playing with engines or having a yarn in a most relaxed atmosphere – perfect. The day was topped off with a BBQ tea – thank you to our chefs extraordinaire Barb and Roy (ably assisted by apprentices Imogen and Simone). Owen Bennett won the Norm Decke trophy for his outstanding 85% scale phantom. One of our newest members young Archie Cooper won the Ron Salisbury junior prize with his port and engine shed model and Allan Bailey of ASME won our who travelled the furthest award. You all have a year's notice for next

year's awards (hint, hint Regan!). Photos from the weekend in the Club Captains report.

Finally, Ash Thomas let slip to me a little gem about identifying brass or bronze this is a problem that I have had over the years and I have had the odd premature failure of brass bushes, brass is useless for bushes. Brass is only good for shiny stuff! So, here we go... BRASS SQUEAKS WHEN YOU RUN A TAP IN IT. Amazing, so simple.

That is all from me this this month. Thank you again to everyone who made our open weekend a success (in spite of a rubbish forecast), a lovely time was had by all.

News from the Committee Meeting November

Our duty operator morning briefing has now got a checklist to work through. The main points raised were speed and around the track, especially on the viaduct, and also following distances. Both really important safety items especially when we are running for the public in a public space. Drivers – we really need to make sure we are focussing on what is in front of us.

Our club lathe is to be sold. Yet again there has been ongoing debate on this subject but it was unanimously agreed by the committee that the sale go ahead.

Russell is going to look into changing the valve system on Black Magic to simplify its operation.

Ridecars – Bogies are getting swapped out when problems show (usually worn brake blocks). This is great as we now have spare units. Another ridecar point is that we need to ensure that they kept are within their allocated consists so that we can keep our WOF system in some kind of order. Finally, please do not remove safety chains from ridecars, these are a very important piece of safety equipment and all ridecars must be attached to each other with 2 chains.

Station Operators – Please remember to load ridecars sensibly with an even distribution of weight along the car. Loading ridecars is key to preventing random derailments. To put it tactfully we need the heavier passengers towards the middle of the cars not right at the front or right at the back, this keeps a more even spread of weight across the car and stops the bogies jumping off.

Cheers,

December 2022

December is upon us and our Tuesday morning maintenance meetings have the add-ons of Kindy Runs, these 'special runs' are adding to our coffers which is good as it has been an expensive month.

Peter Wisely has loaned us (long term) a small jeweller's lathe which I have cleaned up and got

operational. I have made a flash box to house it all and Peter Lawn is going to be it's minder.

Our recent social day up at Bruce Harvey's was a great success I think. It was a really nice day, the boys played with Sweet Pea and other 5" locos but the most popular toys out there were Bruce H's ride on and Ash T's bar stool – both didn't stop all day – A great day.

Bruce Bocoock is buying the Club lathe. The little mill is to stay and we will upgrade it's safety guards etc.

Black Magic has a new alternator, battery and drive belts. Russell is looking at re-doing the hydraulic controls to make it easier to operate – He now has a plan!

We have chains, hooks, etc on all the ridecars. Ridecars are now all the same. Team – If you need a link or a chain PLEASE DO NOT PINCH THESE FROM ANOTHER RIDECAR – We have chains, hooks and all the other bits and bobs you could need in the top drawer in the workshop, please get them from here. ☺

Kiwi Rail's new controller is far better – Thank you Warren K. On the topic of things electrical Warren K has also done some work improving the signals on the viaduct. Signals now have brighter LEDs and there is also a new red signal. All this extra lighting should be a help to drivers, but please look where you are going. It is always a good idea to your right as you come onto the viaduct to see if there is already someone on there.

All nuts and bolts etc in the workshop have been sorted, labelled and tidied – Thank you to Phil Adnitt for a job well done.

XMAS DO – Pencil in Saturday 4th February for the Xmas do up at Bruce Harvey's place (by then he may know of this plan). Usual BBQ and bring your toys along.

My lever device for operating the points only just goes over centre (especially the lever under the viaduct). Soooo.... When changing the points push the lever right down, don't just jump on it with your foot as this may not push it fully over.

We are going to trial a letter box in the club room, it will be next to the signing in book and can be used for any bills, reimbursement forms or suggestions, etc. Please do not leave forms on the ticket desk or smoko table as they can have a tendency to go walkabout.

A number of our new drivers were signed off the class 3 on their driver's licence at our last committee meeting – well done crew, you have survived. To our regular drivers and helpers – please turn up on Sundays if you can, it makes it a lot easier for everybody if we a few people around to be able to swap around all the roles.

and of course give everyone a chance for a cuppa and a yarn. ☺

With the Xmas season upon us we will not be open on December 25th or January 1st. We will reopen on January 8th – A small favour here team, a number of us will be down in Christchurch for the convention so if you are available to help the Sunday running that day please head down if you can.

To all our member – Have a great time over Christmas, for once I have family gathering here – Woohoo! Thank you all for all your help through the year, behave yourselves over the holiday period.

Cheers
Bruce

Club Captain's report

The Club Captains would like to thank all those who participated helping out with the Halloween and Open Day events.

CANMOD 2023: 5TH JANUARY 2023

Just over 200 people are registered at the moment with 60 steam locos, 12 I/C or electric locos, 5 traction/road vehicles and 17 boats. Registration (free) is still open for anyone who is interested but not made any arrangements yet.

Details and registration forms are on Facebook under CANMOD 2022 or you can contact Christchurch club directly via email – csmeccanmod@gmail.com

NEW WEBSITE

Our new website is now live, admittedly I am still getting to grips with it as I have been out of action for a while. I am going to start uploading to it regularly and if you have any contributions, photos, etc to make please poke them under my nose. My email is joanne_knights@outlook.com

The address for the new site is the same:-
tmmec.org.nz

Joanne

Editorial

Dear Ferroequinologists,

The convenience of modern technology can be guilty of making all of us a bit complacent and lazy. Years ago we wrote letters to friends and family. We would send these off and fully expect that the world-wide postal system would do its job and get those letters to their destination quickly and efficiently. These letters sometimes extended to many pages of news and

information. Nowadays we communicate by text and FaceBook. And what do we say? Essentially nothing, just quick scraps of information. Nothing really meaningful.

When I was a child, my mother used to put up a string in the lounge where she would hang all the Christmas cards we received from friends and family all over the world. Often these cards also contained updates on news from those who sent them. The display was usually impressive.

This year we received three cards. Two from overseas and one local. I hang my head to say that we sent none. Why? Because it was so much easier to email or text somebody instead of bothering to find an appropriate card, write a short (or long) message in it, put it into an envelope, address and stamp it and post it next time we went to the shops.

Communication has now been relegated to the “too easy” basket and as a result our interaction as people has deteriorated.

Our November edition suffered from this. Somehow, the message did not get down the line. I have been guilty in the past of composing an email and not sending it. Then, assuming that the other party has received it, wondering why there has been no response. A bit like picking up the phone, dialling a number, and talking over it before the call was picked up the other side.

I once said to my son, what is the difference between hearing and listening. My question puzzled him until I explained it to him – listening transfers information, hearing, not.

Anyway, lesson learned, enough of that. We are back on track now.

The last two Tuesday meetings were well attended, but the display items were a bit thin on the ground. Of note was the progress by the school pupils on their loco project, under the tutelage of Russell.

It remains for me to wish all of our members a safe and happy festive period. Take care out there and enjoy every minute of it.

Cotter Pin

LIBRARY CORNER

I have about four editions of ME still to be read, after which I will be bringing them down to the club. Many thanks for all those who have supported and donated to the club over the past year.

SMALLS – FOR SALE/ WANTED:



SUGGESTIONS AND IDEAS:

Any clever workarounds that you have come up with? Please share.

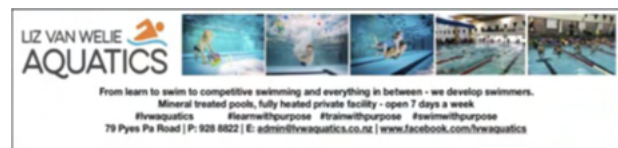
MEMBER ACTIVITIES



Budding engineer Archie.



Archie's build.





The bewitching Joanne!



Owen's new loco.



Popular Halloween Night Run

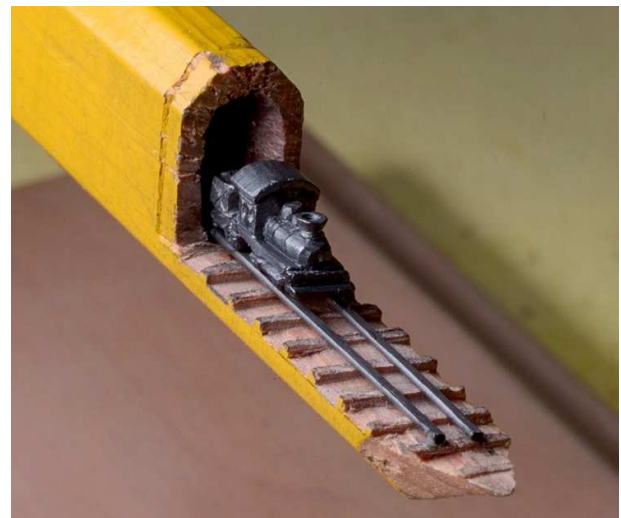


A rail station in Mooka, Japan.



FAVOURIED SUPPLIERS & RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations are welcome.



A carved carpenter's pencil. The level of work in this is astounding

Tuesday Evening Meetings

Most of what was discussed in our Tuesday evenings meetings has been covered by our president. However, there were a few items of interest on the "show and tell" table, one of which was the work done by the students under Russel's guidance, as you can see here.



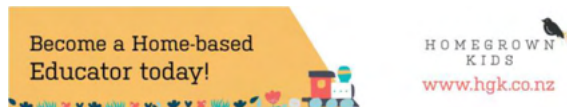
Student work under Russel's supervision.

OPERATORS ROSTER 2023

08/01/2023	B.FITZPATRICK
15/01/2023	J.FLANNERY
22/01/2023	B.HARVEY.
29/01/2023	P.JONES
05/ 02/2023	W.KARLSSON
12/02/2023	B.McKERRAS
19/02/2023	R.PROUT
26 /02/2023	B.FITZPATRICK
05/03/2023	J.FLANNERY.
12/03/2023	B.HARVEY
19/03/2023	P.JONES
26/03/2023	W.KARLSSON
02/04/2023	B.McKERRAS
09/04/2023	R.PROUT
16/04/2023	B.FITZPATRICK
23/04/2023	J.FLANNERY
30/04/2023	B.HARVEY

SPONSORS:

Our thanks to those companies who sponsor us –



LINKS TO OTHER CLUBS:

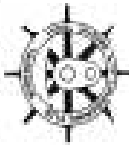
MEANZ has a listing of affiliated clubs on its website. It is in the form of a map showing the various locations of each club. If you click on a

location, it will give you details of that club. See: <http://www.pnmec.org.nz/meanzmap.htm>

- Auckland Society of Model Engineers -**
www.asme.org.nz
- Cambridge Model Engineering Society Inc.**
www.cmes.org.nz/
- Christchurch Live Steamers -**
www.clstrains.co.nz
- Canterbury Society of Model Engineers -**
www.csme.org.nz
- Hamilton Model Engineers**
- www.hme.co.nz
- Hutt Valley Model Engineering Society -**
www.hvmes.com
- Kapiti Miniature Railway Association -**
www.kapitirail.org
- Havelock North Live Steamers -**
www.keirungaparkrailway.org.nz
- Manakau Live Steamers -**
www.manakaulivesteamers.co.nz
- Marlborough Associated Modellers Society -**
www.mams.org.nz
- Nelson Modellers -** www.nelsonmodellers.org.nz
- Otago Miniature Road and Rail Society -**
www.omrr.org.nz
- Otago Model Engineers Society -**
www.omes.org.nz
- Palmerston North Model Engineering Club -**
www.pnmec.org.nz
- EBOP Society of Model Engineers, Whakatane**
- www.riveredgerailway.org.nz
- South Canterbury Model Engineers Society -**
www.south-canterbury-model-engineers.org
- Whangarei Model Engineering Club -**
www.wmec.org.nz
- MEANZ:** - www.meanz.org/ meanz.org/

If I have missed any out, kindly advise me of whom and their details.





TMMEC 2023 CALENDAR

as of 18/12/2022

M T W T F S S M T W T F S S M T W T F S S M T W T F S S M T W T F S S M T W T F S S M T W T F S S M T

Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31					
JAN																																				
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APR					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30		
MAY	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31					
JUNE			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31			
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DEC					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	

- SUNDAY RUNNING DAY - 10am to 3pm
- OFFICIAL CLUB PLAYDAY
- COMMITTEE MEETING - 7pm START
- GENERAL MEETING - 7pm START
- ENGINEERING TUESDAY - 7:30pm START
- OPEN WEEKEND
- CANCELLED
- AGM

- 5-9 JAN CANMOD CONVENTION - CHRISTCHURCH
- CHR CHRISTMAS PARTY - 4 FEB
- TBC HAMILTON OPEN WEEKEND
- 3-5 JUNE MANUKAU OPEN WEEKEND
- TBC EBOP OPEN WEEKEND
- 28 OCT HALLOWEEN NIGHT FILM