

TMMEC NEWSLETTER

February 2022



Located at the Memorial Park, Tauranga

Open to the public Sundays 10:00 to 15:00
(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: Jason Flannery 07 572 1165

Vice: Bruce McKerras 07 577 0134

Secretary: Warren Belk

Treasurer: Joanne Knights

Club Captain: Max Donnelly 07 571 6778

Committee: Ash Thomas Warren Karlsson
Russell Prout Regan Olivecrona
Bruce Harvey

Boiler Committee: Peter Jones

Bruce McKerras

Safety Committee: Warren Karlsson

Peter Jones Jason Flannery

Editor: Chris Pattison 021 231 6612

Ytrose2@gmail.com

CONVENORS:

Workshop: John Nicol Brian Marriner

Track: Bruce Harvey John Stent

Russell Prout

Librarian: Chris Pattison

Rolling Stock: Bruce Harvey

Website: Max Donnelly Murray de Lues

MEANZ Rep.: Peter Jones

President's Report – February

Hi TMMEC

I trust you are all keeping well in these strange times.

Well February sees the number of Covid cases in NZ rising, hopefully in the next month or two there will be some sign that things will start returning to normal, or at least more certainty of how NZ will fare this. (What the new normal will be, who knows)

It was decided to cancel the Tuesday monthly meeting and club Christmas party due to the rising case numbers in NZ, I expect the monthly meeting will more than likely also be cancelled for March too, only time will tell.

So, several members are still meeting down at the clubrooms on a Tuesday morning, if you are comfortable with how things are set up then please do come along. Members will really have to keep an eye on the news and assess for themselves how they may be affected, as the situation changes daily. The committee will not be able to provide a day-to-day update of club activities.

We are still having working bees, please see email updates. Again, please only attend if you are comfortable with how a working bee may or may not affect things for you.

We have not held any playdates lately, being an open park, we would be inundated with requests for rides. The amount of signage and flagging required is quite an involved task for several hours of play with only club locos.

In saying that, the Bay of Plenty is back to fire by permit, so steamers could be up and running again if wanted. If you have enough members and want to open with all the additional signage, then please let me know and we can obtain a permit if required.

By now you should have all received the MEANZ newsletter. There are a new MEANZ president, and north and South Island rep. I would like to wish them well in their new roles and offer them the best support we can from the TMMEC.

The Worksafe letter to the Otago Model Engineering Society has highlighted several significant items which will need to be implemented in our future operations. The TMMEC exec will meet and discuss these but for now Warren Karlsson is already adding them to the Duty Operator check list.

The main ones are our obligations under the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015. Although we are exempt from this act, our operations should really be using the

Act for how all things are done. Another important one was reporting accidents to Worksafe within 48 hrs. If a serious accident were to occur, the exec would need to meet straight away to get the report for Worksafe compiled.

Club hi-vis vests, there are several samples in the clubroom for trying on. If you do not know your size yet, please check the samples out and let me know so Warren Karlsson can get these ordered.

We have a couple of club trips planned, all in a holding pattern for now. When we have some certainty on them being able to go ahead, we will lock some dates in.

If you have any suggestions for other club outings then please let us know.

Plenty of shed time, please send any photos and updates to Chris Pattison for the club magazine. Hopefully soon we will be able to regroup and have a show and tell session again.

Thanks

Jason

Editorial

Dear Ferroequinologists,

Firstly, apologies for this being later than usual, but circumstances and Covid disruptions have not been kind. Hopefully, things will get back to normal soon. I also expect that the April issue will be late as my wife and I are going on holiday Southland over Easter, despite Warbirds over Wanaka being cancelled.

I don't know about you, but I have been facing a bout of lethargy. It started a couple of weeks before Christmas, when our attention is diverted to family and Christmas celebrations.

Summer heat has had a lot to do with it as well, as the heart we have been having can be quite draining, even when working only in shorts with the fan on. It is a lot easier to heat a workshop as against cooling it.

I am not sure if the Covid injections have anything to do with it? Maybe. Time will tell.

Temperatures have been dropping recently, especially with the recent rains, so the level of enthusiasm is starting to increase.

Please tell us what progress (if any) you have been making on your current projects. On my side I have just about completed my Atkinson front axle assembly (minus hubcaps).

As an aside, I seem to recall that one of our members was building a rail crane. This person may be interested in a new project being published in Model Engineer (V228, #4683). As I have this edition by subscription, it will not appear in local PaperPlus for a few months yet. Please contact the Editor if you wish to learn more.

Cotter Pin.

FAVOURED SUPPLIERS & RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations are welcome.

LIBRARY CORNER

I am still on the lookout for missing issues of Model Engineer.

I happen to subscribe to Model Engineer Magazine, and once I have read through the current edition, it is donated to the club library. Whilst this benefits the rest of the club members, it also relieves me of the need to find space to store these. Any articles of interest I scan and store electronically on my computer for future reference.

Now, I have been getting my magazine from the local stationers at a cost of \$10.50, which I was prepared to live with. But recently, the price suddenly went up to \$13.50. This jump in price has really annoyed me. So, I have now subscribed directly from the UK and am pleased to see that, instead of a four month delay between publishing and my receiving the magazine, there is only a two week difference between publishing and the magazine arriving in my postbox. What is more, the subscription cost is now roughly \$8 each, a saving of \$5.50 each!

All I have now to do is wait for the next four month's issues to arrive locally to meet up with my January edition subscription. Then the library will be very up to date moving forwards.

SMALLS – FOR SALE/ WANTED:

Any members wanting to sell, or purchase workshop items?

The Editor has an old Oxygen regulator for sale.



SUGGESTIONS AND IDEAS:

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

CLUB NEWS:

WORKING BEE:

There was another working on Saturday the 5th, and outstanding issues were tackled.

CANMOD 2022

Kindly note that, due to uncertainties with regard to Covid restrictions, CANMOD has been postponed until 2023.

HI-VIS VESTS

Club members who will be operating trains or helping with maintenance are asked to see Warren to order Hi-vis vests. Warren has samples to try on to get the right size. Don't forget to allow for extra winter clothing – possibly find your summer size and go up a size.

MEMBER ACTIVITIES

Meantime, some members have been putting in the hard yards, whilst others, like myself have found the heat, Covid and post-Christmas blues a bit overwhelming.

Firstly, Russell Prout enjoyed his first run around the track at Whangerei. He would like to thank their president and members who stayed beyond the closing time to show him around and give him a run on their track. The environment certainly looks nice.



Despite taking time off to visit Southland, Regan has otherwise been busy, as can be seen from the following photos.



ITEMS OF INTEREST:

The US standard railroad gauge (distance between the rails) is 4 feet, 8.5 inches. That's an exceedingly odd number.

Why was that gauge used?

Well, because that's the way they built them in England, and English engineers designed the first US railroads.

Why did the English build them like that?

Because the first rail lines were built by the same people who built the wagon tramways, and that's the gauge they used.

So, why did 'they' use that gauge then?

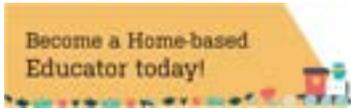
Because the people who built the tramways used the same jigs and tools that they had used for building wagons, which used that same wheel spacing.

Why did the wagons have that particular odd wheel spacing?

Well, if they tried to use any other spacing, the wagon wheels would break more often on some of the old,

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.pnmeec.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.csmee.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.pnmeec.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.

**Tauranga Model Marine & Engineering Club
2021-2022**

Committee Members

President: Jason Flannery
Vice President: Bruce McKerras
Treasurer: Joanne Knights
Club Captain: Max Donnelly
Secretary: Warren Belk

Bruce Harvey
Warren Karlsson
Regan Olivecrona
Russell Prout
Ash Thomas

ADR Paperwork – every two years

Warren Karlsson – paperwork and audit
Exp 22 Sep 2022, Audit date 14/21 June 2022

Advertising

Jason Flannery
Joanne Knights

Boiler Inspectors

Peter Jones
Bruce McKerras

Club Calendar:

Max Donnelly

Driver License Database:

Warren Karlsson

Driver License issuing

Jason Flannery, Expiry 31/8/21

Duty Operators:

Peter Jones

Front door entry codes:

Warren Karlsson

Librarian:

Chris Pattison

Locomotive WOF register – club locos

Bruce Harvey

Locomotive WOF – members locomotives

Bruce Harvey

WOF require two members to sign off, Bruce Harvey will arrange for an extra person when required.

MEANZ Rep:

Peter Jones

Member Register

Jason Flannery

Newsletter Editor:

Chris Pattison
Subs notice May edition

PO Box:

Jason Flannery

Ride car WOF register – club and members

Bruce Harvey

Safety Committee

- First aid and Fire extinguishers

Jason Flannery
Peter Jones
Warren Karlsson

- Ext test dates

Tauranga City Council Park Managers

Phill Everett 027 836 2707

Test Master Gauges – yearly, Exp 31/07/2021

Peter Jones

Track Managers:

Bruce Harvey
John Stent
Russell Prout
Max Donnelly – Raised track

Ticket Seller Roster: Jason Flannery

Website Editor:

Max Donnelly

Workshop:

John Nicol
Brian Marriner

