

TMMEC NEWSLETTER

August 2023



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 permitting)

CONTACT:

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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: Regan Olivecrona
Secretary: Warren Karlsson
Treasurer: Sandra
Club Captain: Joanne Knights 020 4190 9567
Committee: Warren Belk Owen Bennett
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 Donnelly

Website creator: Red Eye Designs

Editor: Joanne Knights

CONVENORS:

Workshop: Regan Olivecrona

Track: Bruce Harvey John Stent

Librarian: Chris Pattison

Rolling Stock: Bruce Harvey

MEANZ Rep.: Peter Jones

Up and Coming Events.

August 19th: Working Bee. Shift the actuator of
clubhouse points, ventilate the container, dig a trench
for new signals, tidy up the steaming bay scissor lift.

August 31st – Membership cut-off date. If subs are
not paid by then, you will be deemed to be no
longer club members, and removed from the
register.

23rd September: Cambridge night run.

1st October: Tauranga STEM event. (Science,
Technology, Engineering & Maths)

7th October: Playday

21-22 October: Nelson Club, celebrating their new
weather roofing addition

October 21 – 23rd (Labour Weekend)
- Nelson Society of Modellers Official opening of
their new Station, 3 days of public running.
January 20th – Model Train Club exhibition.

January 2024: We have historically supported the
Tauranga Model Railway's annual exhibition,
which is planned to be held again next January.

To promote a better display from our club, Jason would like to invite interest in helping with, and bringing more items to the table.

If you are interested please contact Jason in the first instance.

2025 – Next Convention in Hamilton.

Presidents Report – July 2023

Sunday 30th July, very cold morning, lots of helpers today. Welcome to Sharon Parry, a new volunteer ticket seller, thank you Sharon.

Max Donnelly ran my Phantom, but with a mixture of coals, producing a lot of smoke, causing some concern. Hopefully in the future we may have access to Char again, which always burned clean and smokeless.

The latest MEANZ newsletter surfaced, some scary reading regarding boiler design requirements. Watch this space.

Ross Campbell turned up with family from the Netherlands. He has been unwell lately, but assures me he will be back on deck.

There were 808 rides for the day.

Bruce Harvey is back from his overseas trip, catching up with WoF's on our club locomotives.

Warren Belk and I attempted to improve the ground level 5inch points underneath the overhead viaduct, respacing the check rail, to find the problem with the ridecar was wear on one wheel, so the ridecar is in for repair.

We have received a call from TCC. A member of the public has complained about excessive smoke from my Phantom on Sunday. This could become a serious issue for our club, so better methods of firing will need to be found, maybe getting a good hot fire going before loading up coal too soon. Better coal is probably one answer to the problem. We have ordered a pallet of Welsh Nuggets from Christchurch at great expense. Keep the fire HOT and add coal little and often, to mitigate the problem. The Secretary has written to TCC to assure them we are working towards overcoming the problem.

Saturday 5 August, the Club had a bus trip adventure to the Glen Afton Bush Railway at Pukemiro Junction. Peter Jones organised a comfortable bus for the trip, thanks Peter for your safe driving for the many hours of the trip, much appreciated. We arrived about 10.30am, leaving after lunch at about 1.30pm. I was impressed with what a few volunteers have managed to

achieve at their track and environment. They put on a special steam train for us and we were made to feel very welcome. A portion of their track was out of action due to an earthquake, so it would be good to go back there when repairs are completed. That little steam engine would sound great working hard up that rise.

Roy and Barb cooked up a heap of sausages on the barbie, and with bread and sauce, fed the masses – thanks guys. Tea and coffee was supplied by the Bush Railway members. The Club paid for the bus, so for \$15 a head to the Bush Railway, we had a memorable day.



On the way home we diverted to Cambridge to visit an amazing transport museum that I didn't know existed. Called Ross Brothers, it was a large building with many classic cars, race cars, massive earthmoving machinery, motorbikes, tractors, plus lots of other stuff. Millions of dollars' worth of gear there, very impressive. We arrived back at our club about 6pm.

Sunday 6 August, a very cold start to the day, clear skies. 1000 rides for the day with no dramas, just the way I like it.

Tuesday club general meeting night, a visitor Maddie displayed some older small railway items, made by a now deceased grandfather, including a small steam locomotive, probably meths fired. She was intending to tidy up the items for display for her family.

Thursday 10 August committee meeting - some discussion on the impending visit from TCC Commissioners on Tuesday 15 August. A bound brochure handout has been prepared for them as a takeaway, outlining our concerns and requirements going forward. A list of questions will be prepared to present to the Commissioners during the meeting, which will be attended by a small number of club executive delegates. Hopefully to get meaningful answers regarding possible alterations to the complex which will affect our leased area.

The Secretary advises that the club currently has 51 paid-up members, our smallest number of members ever. A few still to be confirmed if they wish to continue as members. Any resigning members will be taken off the email list at the end of August.

Discussion noting that the club has no formal procedure for a member to resign.

The intention to purchase a desktop computer and sizeable monitor has been ratified. Regan has been advised by a computer builder of a suitably spec'd unit. The realisation that model engineering clubs are losing membership numbers indicates that unless the club keeps up to date with modern technology further decline is probable.

To this end Owen is advocating the new computer have CAD software installed, the favoured being Fusion 360. The teaching of CAD skills for all our members, is an interesting addition to our model engineering skillset. Most magazines now include CAD drawn plans. Saving CAD drawn *stl files for 3D items such as casting patterns, 3D printouts, or working parts of members' models would inject exciting possibilities for alternatives to engineering projects which need a lot of time to create, to say nothing of the expense involved.

Warren K is keen to put club records on the computer, photos for display, etc.

Russell would like to see club photos being displayed outside for the general public to consume.

It is getting harder to find businesses willing to advertise on our ridecars. One proposal put forward was to put our own club advertising on the sides, and possibly back panels, on our otherwise vacant ridecars. Some discussion on possibly lowering the cost for our sponsors might be appreciated in these difficult financial times.

A speedometer is being fitted to Black Magic and the new bogie sideplates have arrived. Russell and I will complete the assembly and trial the new hydraulic drive system.

Food catering costs for club members is now an expensive issue, with cake, chocolate bikkies and premium pizzas for lunch being a matter of concern. We need to curb our expensive tastes.

Regan is investigating the purchase of a new club loco. Russell has found a good Colchester lathe available at a great price if the club decide we should go down that track. Members please give some thought to that possibility

Discussion on name badges for members. Owen reports that introducing badges to another club he belonged to instantly allowed friendlier communication among members who would otherwise hesitate to initiate conversation. Owen will get a quote from Barclay Engravers on the cost for badges. First name only followed by "Tauranga" preferred.

Members please reset the electronic door lock when locking up. Often this is not being done.

The Editor urgently needs interesting articles for the club newsletter. Please email in Word format to Chris Pattison at ytrose2@gmail.com. Photos and a few words would be appreciated. I have just joined the Vintage Car Club, wow their newsletter is very thick and full of interest.

Regan wishes to attend to the raised track. This is a club asset that could gain more interest if repairs and better access with turnouts are added.

A real big "thank you" from the committee to Warren Karlsson, our Secretary, for the dedication he displays in fact finding and investigative journalism he brings to light. Thank you Warren.

Bruce

LIBRARY CORNER

Note that there is now a bound ME volume 230 (first half 2023) and also a completed volume 222 on the shelves. I have also obtained the latest 2023 Machinery House catalogue for your perusal.

If anybody wants the library spreadsheet of our collection, please contact me and I will forward you one. Bookworm.

Index to Model Engineering Workshop until issue 240: <https://www.homews-mew-index.co.uk/index.html>

STOP PRESS – 15th August

Club members met with the Tauranga City Commissioners today in what can best be described as a very amicable and positive meeting, lasting just over 30 minutes.

This is the first stage of many meetings with the Council Contracted Consultants, to ensure the needs and aspirations of our club are effectively met and included in the Memorial Park recreational upgrade, as promised at today's meeting.

We will be fully appraised of the impact upon our club well before final council sign-off this coming December. So allowing us time to make any changes and adjustments prior to the expected start of the main construction works in early 2025. We are to start the first series of meetings with "Consultants" within two weeks and be able to bring specific details to the club members as they emerge. Commissioners were adamant that we are not to lose our location in the Memorial Park.

With this security we can move forward, having been here for 44 years and carrying well over one million passengers in that time.



Commissioners enjoying a ride

NEW WEBSITE

Our new website is now live. I am going to start uploading to it regularly. If you have any contributions, photos, etc to make please poke them under my nose. (The newsletter is also uploaded to it – ED.) My email is joanne_knights@outlook.com

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

Joanne

Editorial

Dear Ferroequinologists,

Well, as far as I am concerned, midwinter in terms of temperature hits us about six weeks after the winter solstice on 21st June, which is about now. Certainly, this winter has not seemed as cold as previous ones. Maybe it is just me. At least the days are getting longer now (slowly).

At least our winters are not as cold as the ones in Canada. Here is a YouTube video of Canadian locos clearing snow off their track system.

<https://www.facebook.com/watch?v=1108861522899350>

With the cold weather outside I have found it warmer to be inside watching TV.

As a child I recall getting toys at Christmas time which had mechanisms in them to enable internal motors to make them work, provided you had a steady supply of batteries. These were often tin-plate and made in Japan. It must have been somewhat frustrating for them to see me carefully open the tabs up and disassemble them to extract the motors.

I have always had a fascination to see how things are made, and it was perfect that I worked where I could

go on site inspections to sugar mills, power stations and chemical works.

So, whilst keeping warm in the lounge I have been watching YouTube videos of various factories in China and the East. I can see why machinery from these places is so cheap. For example, foundries and metalwork, in presumably Pakistan, with people working in sandals whilst cutting gears. And yet, they produce stuff that works!

In China rudimentary arc welding eye protection being a dark lens gaffer taped into a hole in a piece of cardboard.

But still, the processes are fascinating, following a product from start to finish.

Of course, the Bentley car factory was the total opposite. You could eat your lunch off the floor.

Try seeing a couple of these. Warren, you will have a fit seeing some of them.

Cotter Pin

Article by Roy on the Cambridge museum visit.

Jump on the Bus!

With Sergeant Warren hustling the troops to board the bus, and rations loaded, Captain Peter whisked us on our way to the Bush Tramway. The last time I travelled on a bus was when the Club went to the Glenbrook Railway nearly 10 years ago!!

A pit stop at Wharoa for those in need, and a stretch the legs for others, others continued to catch up on sleep after an early start!! Peter gave us a rundown of the history of the Bush Tramway with which he has been involved since the 1960's, and what we may expect to see and do.

A cuppa on arrival then into the two carriages drawn by a Peckett (Build No1630) loco. The Bush Tramway is dedicated to the days of Logging Bush Railways and the equipment and machinery involved. The geology of the ground in the area is very unstable and the rocking and rolling as we travelled illustrated just how hard it is to maintain rail alignment. It is a constant drain on the society in both money and effort.

The Peckett loco was built in Bristol England in 1923, yeah, it's 100 years old!!!!





It was built for the Pukemiro Colliery, so it is unique that it is still running on the same line as it did 100 years ago. A parallel track at the northern end of the line allows the loco to relocate to the other end of the consist, albeit the wrong way around for our return to the Station. Another trip was done for those wanting more photos or just another ride. Barb and I with assistance from Francine and others cooked some snags, buttered bread, and laid it out ready for the troops to demolish. A ride was also available on the bush jigger.



There are two of these bush busses on site. The one for use today was built in Mamaku in 1948 to provide transport for the bush workers to get to work in the bush, often many miles from the mill. Based on a White (American) chassis which has had a bogie in place of the front axle and rail wheels attached to the rear axle, these vehicles had the ability to being “turned” on the line such that it was running forward at all times.

The Bush Tramway has several steam, diesel and petrol powered locos. These include Climax, Heisler, A & G Price CB117 also E111, Dubs and Co F185, Battery loco, and various other items, carriage’s, work wagons, etc. .



The whole facility is a credit to those who have committed their time and knowledge to preserve this

era, to remind us of a bygone time when the logging industry was so totally different to what it is today.

Later, it was “Jump on the Bus” again after the Family Photo and onto Cambridge where after a few navigation problems we arrived at C & R, more usually known as Ross Brothers. Sons of the late Jim Ross they have spent a lifetime collecting mainly heavy machinery but also a collection of somewhat odd-ball cars. The cars displayed are a very interesting selection all in immaculate condition. What really spun my wheels was the array of HUGE heavy earthmoving machinery.



I served my time on equipment of that era the largest was a Caterpillar D8. Now if I remember correctly there was only one D8 displayed. The rest being substantially larger, D9 Cat, Komatsu 575A, Payhaulers, Euclids, etc. Most of this gear would have come from projects such as the Tekapo Power Scheme, the Waitaki Scheme and others.



The Ross family had agencies for International Harvester, a company who supplied heavy machinery to industry so it was logical that much of the equipment displayed was from them. I could have spent a lot more time there, but Peter hurried us back on the bus to go home.



Great day, great people, great sites to visit.

Many thanks to Peter J who gave up his day to work and as our driver deliver us to the various destinations,

also do most of the leg work in arranging our day out. Thanks also to the members of the Bush Tramway and C & R who gave up their time to make our day so special.

Roy



Consider all the models, engines and locomotives that have been built by model engineers world-wide, I have always wondered what has happened to all these? Have they been scrapped, or have they been lovingly stored away like these items, to be rediscovered by relatives years later?

In this case we had a couple of engines in a grubby, but thankfully not rusty state. One was a Stuart #9, the other a compound engine of unknown parentage.

The coup de gras was a lovely steam loco and carriage in possibly Gauge 1, made by German company Bing. This company folded in 1932, so the model will be close to or at least a century old by now.

The family intends to put these on display for their family, so the lady was advised to clean these up sympathetically not to ruin the aging process.

SMALLS – FOR SALE/ WANTED:

A member of the public has a partly built NZ AB loco for sale. The components are free to view in the clubhouse. The owner is open to offers.

SUGGESTIONS AND IDEAS:

Ten-Pin

It has been suggested the club could/should make a social event to play Ten Pin Bowls, at the local venue. This will would allow members to bring family members to enjoy a different form of social interaction. How do you feel? I (Ed) am game. It is quite a while since I played tenpin. Contact Warren if you are interested.



Interesting Stuff

Flying Scot over the Ribbleshead viaduct:

<https://www.facebook.com/VisitingNorthYorkshire/videos/3599035106994240/>

Tuesday Evening Meetings – August

Our last meeting was generally the usual stuff. The difference was that no members brought anything to show and tell. BUT, a local lady brought along some interesting stuff for us to see and discuss.

OPERATORS ROSTER 2023

20th August 2023	Stewart Walker
27th August 2023	Bruce Bocock
3rd September 2023	Bryan Fitzpatrick
10th September 2023	Jason Flannery
17th September 2023	Bruce Harvey
24th September 2023	Peter Jones
1st October 2023	Warren Karlsson
8th October 2023	Joanne Knights
15th October 2023	Bruce McKerras
22nd October 2023	Russell Prout
29th October 2023	Stewart Walker

Ticket Sellers

We are looking for volunteer Ticket Sellers. Share the fun in liaising with the public. Even if only once every second month, or to jump in on a non-rostered Sunday as relief. Contact warren.karlsson@xtra.co.nz.

SPONSORS:

Our thanks to those companies who sponsor us –



CALL FOR HELP

We have had contact from Madeline Parker who is keen to “restore” her great grandfathers steamboat and asks for assistance. It’s been in storage for a long time. She wishes put it on display at home, meaning at least the exterior be restored. It was once a working steam paddle needing considerable restoration. See below. It would be of interest to those who have an interest in both steam engines and boats.

Once extracted from the depths of her father’s shed, a display cabinet will be made for it.

If anybody can help please email Warren.



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A Hungarian MÁV 242 series loco (known as Ghost and Coffin)



Sir Nigel Gresley at Churston station

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.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.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.

See also the newsletters from other clubs as posted by Warren, and printed copies in the clubhouse.



TMMEC 2023 CALENDAR - v1.1

as of 27/05/2023

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

JAN					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
FEB		1	2	3	CHR	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28						
MAR		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			
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			
JULY					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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NOV		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				
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

5-9 JAN

CANMOD CONVENTION - CHRISTCHURCH

OFFICIAL CLUB PLAYDAY

CHR

CHRISTMAS PARTY - 4 FEB

COMMITTEE MEETING – 7pm START

18-19 MARCH

HAMILTON OPEN WEEKEND

GENERAL MEETING -- 7pm START

3-5 JUNE

MANUKAU OPEN WEEKEND

ENGINEERING TUESDAY -- 7:30pm START

TBC

EBOP OPEN WEEKEND

OPEN WEEKEND

28 C

HALLOWEEN NIGHT RUN

CANCELLED

14 JULY

MATARIKI NIGHT RUN

AGM