

# TMMEC NEWSLETTER

## March 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 and Covid Level permitting)

### CONTACT:

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

**WEBSITE:** [www.tmmec.org.nz](http://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 Donnelly 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](mailto:Ytrose2@gmail.com)

**Club Calendar** Max Donnelly

**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.

May 6<sup>th</sup>, 13:00 at clubhouse - AGM

May 24 & 25 – SouthMach, Christchurch

August 31<sup>st</sup> – Membership cut-off date.

## President's Report – March

Thank you to all who helped out on the Cyclone Gabrielle runs. Two running days for this cause has raised \$4000 plus some extra donations handed over by the public. I must confess I was panicking a bit as I knew a good number of the usual team that turn up on a Sunday were off playing in other hobbies and interests – myself included, I was off on a Velocette Rally in New Plymouth. A ring-a-round helped here and the two Sundays went off just fine. I am sure it did our club no harm at all PR-wise.

Russell and I have been beavering away on Black Magic to reconfigure its hydraulic drive system. It is over at a hydraulic hose specialist getting new hoses, etc. We are pretty sure this will become a really smooth to operate system (and reliable) - we have fitted a variable displacement pump. At the last club meeting I asked if anyone could help out and tidy up the bogies as the axle pins are worn, and we may as well sort these up now. Owen B has stepped forward and offered – Thank you Owen 😊.

In the Steaming Bay there is a new device, this is for lifting ridecars and was a request from Bruce H to save his back when doing WOFs or changing brake blocks, etc.

As the weather seems to be warm of late I am going to try and keep the fridge stocked up with bottled water – Please feel free to help yourself, we will all live longer..

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> we combined our Play Day with a run for kids in the foster and care system. To be honest I think a fair few local kids got freebie rides here as we didn't know who was legit and who was trying their luck.

Russell, with a bit of a prod from Bruce H, is presently tidying up the points mimic panel, and making LED indicators to show the team in the station where the points are set to.

Completely separate, and stand-alone Warren K is making lights for the viaduct points, so in future we should have no excuse for running against the points.

Our AGM is on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May and this year it will be held in the Club Rooms. As usual the Operators Meeting will start at 11:00am, the General Meeting will start at 1:00pm. All positions within the club are up for grabs. We will have some really big boots to fill this year in the form of Jason's – Team, we really need someone to step into the Secretary role. Jason has said that he is happy to work with the new secretary to help ease them into the role.

At our last committee meeting Regan expressed a real desire to have published here in our newsletter the up-and-coming events for other clubs. I must confess I knew nothing about Hamilton Club Open Day until Ethan wanted to know if I was taking my Phantom over. I have asked Joanne to email the other clubs for their up-and-coming events and open weekends so we can note them in our newsletter.

Lastly, I must (again) thank Warren K. He has taken on the task of tidying up our Driver Licensing System and getting the expiry dates to coincide with our club year. This should now work better and be less confusing.

Thank you to everyone for stepping up while I have been playing elsewhere. I have just bought a Bristol car in a million parts, so maybe I have gone over to the dark side??

Thanks,  
Bruce

## Club Secretary

After several years of doing the club secretary I have decided to step down at the 2023 AGM. My kids are now at an age where my free time is taken up spending with them. Most of you have been there and will know what I am talking about.

I will be happy to do the club secretary again sometime in the future, but for now, it is time to pass on the reins. Anybody interested in the job please let me or Bruce McKerras know.

I will still be on the committee (if nominated) so will be happy to pass on the files and answer questions, if needed. You will not be left to figure it all out for yourself alone, I will assist you in the early stages if needed.

AGM This will be held on the 6<sup>th</sup> of May at 1pm at the TMMEC clubhouse. I will prepare the official notification and agenda in due course and distribute this to the membership.

Club subscriptions and subs - Over the course of 2022 it was asked if all members could receive a club membership card, currently it is only those with drivers licenses.

There is no issue with doing this. But currently it is a manual task for somebody to hand write each out, so for 2023 we will print them directly off the excel database. Which means that the database of members needs to be correct and up to date by the 1<sup>st</sup> of June.

Subs are set at the AGM (highly unlikely to change), the subscription year starting the 1<sup>st</sup> of June. Anybody who has paid their subs by this date will automatically

receive their new membership card by the 6<sup>th</sup> of June meeting. Remember we no longer send out invoices. A hand written version will be issued if requested, as and when time permits.

There is also a 60 day cut-off period for subs in arrears, being 31<sup>st</sup> of August. If you have not paid your subs by this date your membership will be cancelled. It has taken many hours chasing people up in the past if they wish to remain, this will no longer be done.

If you have a problem paying your subs please let the committee know, they will be more than happy to help.

Thanks Jason Flannery

### Club Captain's report - March

First off a big thank you to everyone who helped out with the Flood Relief running days and also to those who came down on 11th March to help out with the event we did for the kids in the care system.

Secondly, apologies for the radio silence of late. I lost my Dad in the middle of January and it has taken me a while to get back up and running again. I am hoping to be around more

Joanne

### 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](mailto:joanne_knights@outlook.com)

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

Joanne

Please note that the Newsletter will now also be posted on our website – Ed.

### Editorial

Dear Ferroequinologists,

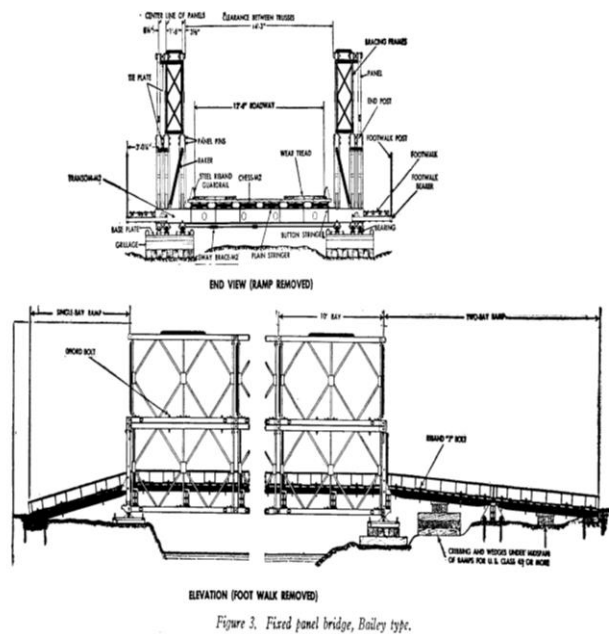
With the destruction wrought to our infrastructure by Cyclone Gabrielle, many bridges have been damaged or destroyed. Normally, these would take months, if not years to rebuild and replace.

Enter one of the engineering marvels of WW2. Without the Bailey bridge, the advance by the Allies through Europe would have been considerably slower than it was.

In reality, the Bailey Bridge is a big boy's Meccano set. In order for it to work properly, each discrete

component had to be man/men portable. Furthermore, it needed to be configured a number of ways depending on the size and weight of load it was going to carry.

Manufacturing the components introduced the concept of precision mass production, as every component had to fit with every other without problem.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KmtpkvWjA3o>

Cotter Pin

### LIBRARY CORNER

We still have a bunch of VHS tapes on the rail theme surplus to requirement. These are free to anybody who wants them.

The magazines on the table marked with a big "F" are free to be taken. If they are not taken up, they will end up in the tip.

Bookworm.

### SMALLS – FOR SALE/ WANTED:

I note that there is a small Oxygen cylinder with regulator for sale on Neighbourly. Price \$300.

### SUGGESTIONS AND IDEAS:

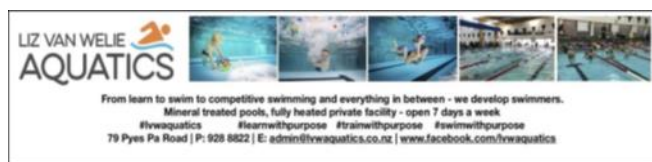
I used to work in the exhaust manufacturing game, so bending of pipes was a matter of fact. But, our bending process distorted the tubing, which was not a problem when dealing with exhaust gases.

Bending of tubes in model engineering is a different matter, as it is far too easy to kink a tube when bending it, especially when trying to get tight radii.

I prefer to thoroughly research a subject before getting down to actually doing it, and the subject of supporting tubing whilst bending it came up with a myriad of solutions. One was to fill with water, which posed problems of sealing. Another was to freeze the water, a messy solution. Some filled the tube with a low melting point metal. Another was to fill the tube with sand.

The solution that has finally worked for me was to go to the local metal blasting company and get some of the grit after the blasting process. This is very fine. I then sieved the grit through a tea strainer to remove any problem particles.

The dry grit is then poured into the pipe, sealed off at the one end until full, then crimped. A big advantage here is that you can happily anneal the pipe whilst the grit is inside, not something able to be done with most other methods.



## Interesting Stuff

Here we have a steam monorail. It is interesting to see how the boiler issue is handled:

<https://www.facebook.com/watch?v=593827788957245>

## MEMBER ACTIVITIES

Ross has been busy, steaming away (pun intended) at getting his traction engine boiler buttoned up and steam tight. His last visit on Tuesday morning may have closed all his leaks and enable him to hold pressure on his boiler.



## FAVOURABLE SUPPLIERS & RECOMMENDATIONS

### Tuesday Evening Meetings – 7<sup>th</sup> March

Russell has offered to club members some Duplex flat bars 100 x 8, not sure of the length. If you are interested, give him a shout.

Another gem from the meeting was that, if you are ever down south, a visit to the Omaka museum in Blenheim is well worth it.

### OPERATORS ROSTER 2023

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.pnmecc.org.nz/meanzmap.htm>

**Auckland Society of Model Engineers -**  
[www.asme.org.nz](http://www.asme.org.nz)

**Cambridge Model Engineering Society Inc.**  
[www.cmes.org.nz/](http://www.cmes.org.nz/)

**Christchurch Live Steamers -**  
[www.clstrains.co.nz](http://www.clstrains.co.nz)

**Canterbury Society of Model Engineers -**  
[www.csme.org.nz](http://www.csme.org.nz)

**Hamilton Model Engineers**  
- [www.hme.co.nz](http://www.hme.co.nz)

**Hutt Valley Model Engineering Society -**  
[www.hvmes.com](http://www.hvmes.com)

**Kapiti Miniature Railway Association -**  
[www.kapitirail.org](http://www.kapitirail.org)

**Havelock North Live Steamers -**

[www.keirungaparkrailway.org.nz](http://www.keirungaparkrailway.org.nz)

**Manakau Live Steamers -**

[www.manakaulivesteamers.co.nz](http://www.manakaulivesteamers.co.nz)

**Marlborough Associated Modellers Society -**

[www.mams.org.nz](http://www.mams.org.nz)

**Nelson Modellers -** [www.nelsonmodellers.org.nz](http://www.nelsonmodellers.org.nz)

**Otago Miniature Road and Rail Society -**

[www.omrr.org.nz](http://www.omrr.org.nz)

**Otago Model Engineers Society -**

[www.omes.org.nz](http://www.omes.org.nz)

**Palmerston North Model Engineering Club -**

[www.pnmec.org.nz](http://www.pnmec.org.nz)

**EBOP Society of Model Engineers, Whakatane**

- [www.riveredgerailway.org.nz](http://www.riveredgerailway.org.nz)

**South Canterbury Model Engineers Society -**

[www.south-canterbury-model-engineers.org](http://www.south-canterbury-model-engineers.org)

**Whangarei Model Engineering Club -**

[www.wmec.org.nz](http://www.wmec.org.nz)

**MEANZ:** - [www.meanz.org/](http://www.meanz.org/) [meanz.org/](http://meanz.org/)

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

Club members having fun at the National meet.



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NING DAY - 10am to 3pm **5-9 JAN** CANMID CONVENTION - CHRISTCHURCH

IB PLAYDAY **CHR** CHRISTMAS PARTY - 4 FEB

EETING - 7pm START **TBC** HAMILTON OPEN WEEKEND

EETING - 7pm START **3-6 JUNE** MANUKAU OPEN WEEKEND

3 TUESDAY - 7:30pm START **TBC** EBOP OPEN WEEKEND

IND **28 OCT** HALLOWEEN NIGHT RUN