

TMMEC NEWSLETTER

October 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:

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: Regan Olivecrona

Secretary: Warren Karlsson

Treasurer: Sandra

Club Captain: Joanne Knights 020 4190 9567

Committee: Warren Belk Owen Bennett

Russell Prout Ash Thomas

Bruce Harvey

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.

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.

**October 28th – Halloween night run, 5:30pm to
9pm. Please turn up early to prepare and get a
bite to eat.**

January 20th – Model Train Club exhibition. We
have historically supported the Tauranga Model
Railway's annual exhibition.

To promote a better display from our club, Jason
invites interest in helping with it, and to contribute
items for view at the table. Please contact Jason.

2025 – Next Convention in Hamilton.

President's Report – October 2023

This month was again pretty busy those Sundays we were running. There was a slight hiccup on Sunday 24th as only 3 turned up to run the show. I think the previous night's Warriors game, the start of daylight saving and the dodgy weather forecast scared everyone off. There were very few people in the park, so we had a cuppa and went home.

Tuesday night: Peter Wisely turned up with an interesting device I had never seen before. A boiler tube expander

Owen had more keys and pipes for the calliope project

Trent finished off the 5" ride car.

Sunday 1st: Good turnout of troops, Black Magic tested for the first time. Approval so far. A plastic barrier arm was bent, first time in ages. Stewart cleverly fixed it with an insert.

Thank you to Regan for mowing the grass in the marshalling area, it looks so much better. I've made changes to my Phantom to try and burn our new coal better, more blower and deeper fire, smaller blast nozzle, Russell got it to work better. The deeper fire seemed to be the key.

Two new volunteers turned up. Welcome to Lance and Daniel.

Tuesday morning (Maintenance day)

Big Yellow (No 4) had a speedo fitting, Regan adjusted the brakes, the passenger loading gate has had the latch removed so kids don't bang their heads on the latch and a point blade was repaired. Phantom fired up again, Joanne, Trent and Ethan had a play. The mods seem to be working, but a lot of fines resulted in the smokebox for the short run.

Club night Guest speaker Russell H talked to us about the Defibrillator device, CPR and First Aid. All good stuff and great to have a speaker as it takes the heat off me. Tracy made a wonderful cake which disappeared very quickly. Roy Rob turned up with a pattern for a safe makers plate for a dual door safe he is restoring and talked about the hassles reproducing it.

A discussions took place about purchasing a new computer with CAD software. This is an Owen B initiative to promote new technology for our members. Another string to our bow, something more than just trains. Russell discussed taking this a step further with a 3D printer.

I just hope it revives our Tuesday night sessions which have been getting really lonely.

Play day

A bit of a cock up on my part. After grovelling to everyone to attend, I went on a classic bike rally in the Waikato. (It rained 😞)

A rash of things went wrong, - rail broken at the crossover (repaired by Ash T, thanks Ash) The traverser misbehaved, and the Black Magic hydraulic pump slipped of its selector shaft (internally). Successes were, Peter L ran his wee loco on the raised track and Ross C had some seat time on the Tamar.

Thank you again to Roy and Barb for the meal.

Oct 8th: Busy morning I looked into the traverser problems. I've now fitted a new battery and am pretty sure I have found the problem (at last). The plug or it's wiring is crook, as a wriggle brought the voltage up to where it should be. After the grief it has caused, I'm replacing both plug and wire back to the charging unit.

At this point I would like to provide an update on Black Magic – Team, please let us get on with the tidy up. This is an evolving project. There have been many comments and suggestions on changes and modifications. We really haven't got this going properly yet. Unfortunately, just at the wrong time, the pump failed. It is now back in the hydraulic shop.

To give some background to Black Magic's upgrade, right from the word go, a very clever variable displacement hydraulic pump was fitted. The idea was to have one lever forward and reverse and the throttle cleverly fitted to it. Unfortunately, the pump didn't have the right internals to do that, which threw Russell into an absolute frazzle. We had already spent money on that unit, so from there we just had to adapt what we had, so the old forward and reverse was plumbed back in. We now have a mix of systems. Hydraulic lever controlling the drive and speed, and a separate (the old) lever controlling forward and reverse. Now it would appear we have lost hydraulic braking in reverse, so we will just have to get used to using the train brakes. I am sure it will be a good drive unit again once we get used to it. Again, please give us time to nut it out. We are only using a fraction of this drive unit's capacity, and it will go really fast unleashed. It is over designed and should last us well in the long run.

Committee meeting

Firstly, thank you to Sandra for adding up my expense claim correctly (in my favour) and welcome back to NZ.

No further consultation has occurred with the Council.

Name badges deemed a good idea especially as we seem to be getting a few new faces around. Warren K is sorting this with Barkley Engravers.

Ridecar advertising – Russell wants to follow up some contacts. Costs agreed now down to \$300.

New locos, lathes. Big expense items – We will hold off until we know what effect the Council development proposals have on our facilities.

We (as yet) don't have a system to vet any new members. We may have to fit this into our new constitution.

Incorporated Societies and constitution stuff. A team formed to assist Chris P (Owen, Joanne and Warren K) to help in this process.

3D printer discussed, Russell to get prices and type suitable for us.

New members Lance and Daniel accepted.

MEANZ – nothing.

Track rolling stock. Bruce H reported that all ridecars and locos are now warranted.

Playdays - Owen wants more

Tamar recertified before our Halloween Night Run

An extension to the small turnout line has been discussed, so it can take a full consist and loco. Suggested by Trent. Russell has an idea to further extend this line through a cutting, run around parallel to the line going up the viaduct at a lower level and then join in back into the track by the “give way” area. More options for running, especially if you just want to trial your engine.

Advertise our Open Weekend – extend invite to other clubs

Ross C approved as Tamar minder. [He doesn't know this yet.] Warren B is sailing most Sundays over summer.

Ticket seller roster We need more volunteers please.

Additional items

Halloween: Our next big event. Saturday Oct 28 5:30 to 9:00 Please turn up early and help set up. A light meal will be supplied before we open.

Keirunga Park Oct 21st. A team from our club are going down for the Saturday and Sunday, so can everyone who is available, please turn up for Sunday running as there is a pretty good chance we will be short handed.

Graham H has turned up with some really nice professionally done signs. Very nice, thank you.

Open Weekend 11 -12 November : Can any finished projects get polished up for our weekend.

Has anyone got a spare 3/8” socket set for the club. There are gaps in our tools in the workshop. Most frustrating to work with.

Club library Chris P needs more space for current magazines, there are some pretty old books, hopelessly outdated. A cull is coming. [News to me – Ed. Sometimes, the older books are the valuable ones!]

Whew!! That's about my thoughts

Bruce

PS : Today (Sat) I beavered on the traverser wiring, so. A new plug and wiring back to the charger (no fuse). I will let Warren K decide if we need one. There is nothing protecting our rather expensive charger so PLEASE remove the charger line BEFORE attempting to move the traverser. There is still finishing work to be done on the conduit.

Interestingly I could find nothing wrong with the plug or wire except perhaps that the wire was very black like you would find in Rotorua. There is water in the conduit. I cannot think of anything more to do with the traverser. It works so well when it wants to and am reluctant to change it all just for that sake of it. I will make a loom with a plug to go on to a slave battery and an extension lead so the traverser battery can be topped up out in the steaming bay.

Cheers, Bruce

LIBRARY CORNER

Recent additions:

- Exploring NZ's Ghost Railways.
- A Pictorial Album of Narrow Gauge Locomotives.
- Still in Steam, Britain's Preserved Railways.

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>

NEW WEBSITE

Our new website is live. Joanne will upload stuff to it regularly. If you have any contributions, photos, etc to

include, please send them to her. (The newsletter is also uploaded to it – ED.) My email is joanne_knights@outlook.com

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

Joanne

Editorial

Dear Ferroequinologists,

We are in times of change, and our club is no exception.

From the outside, we are told by the Council, that due to changes to the QE2 Centre, we may have to make modifications to our club layout. Either or both the clubhouse and track.

Of course, the recent political changes to our government may result in changes to the Council and Commissioners. And once again we will enter into a period of uncertainty once these changes (whatever they may be) come about, and then to the Council plans. In the mean time, we can only try anticipate what may happen. Expect the worst and hope for the best is maybe the best motto.

Within the club we are also seeing changes. It looks like we will be getting an updated computer and a 3D printer to go with it. The old loco in the corner has disappeared, leaving a hole where I am advised the computer and 3D printer will be located. Wearing my librarian hat, I am hoping that any empty space above this setup could be reserved for some additional library storage. Time will tell.

Personally, I am quite keen to learn more about CAD and its application to 3D printing. May I suggest that the club set aside one of the Tuesday evenings for members to learn more about this side of engineering and learning CAD systems. Of course, this would have to be other than our normal Club Tuesday.

Furthermore, the CAD system decided upon will need to be one that will be economical to purchase, so we can use it at home to practice upon and do designs at our leisure.

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I grew up with Imperial measurement, but halfway through Uni, South Africa changed over to Metric. With the usual heavy-handed approach, Imperial measuring tools were banned from being sold, so that conversion was quite quick. Newspapers were allowed to print both for a while, and there were some crazy conversions, like a military rocket having a range of 40 kilometers (24.855 miles), which gave me a vision of

the rocket hitting a wall placed at 24.855 miles distant. Anyway, I am now reasonably conversant with both units of measure and this has its conveniences.

Of course, the USA has steadfastly stuck to (their version) of Imperial measure. US gallons even being different to “normal” gallons, etc. They also have other standard units of measure, such as the length of a football field, a swimming pool, etc.

Here are some spoof units of measure to enjoy:

- Ratio of an igloo circumference to its diameter = Eskimo Pi.
- Time it takes to sail 220 yards at 1 nautical mile per hour = 1 Knotfurlong.
- 1 million microphones = 1 megaphone.
- 52 cards = 1 decacard
- 1 millionth of a fish = 1 microfiche.
- 100 Politicians = Not 1 decision.
- 1000 kilograms of Chinese soup = Won tonne.
- Half a large intestine = 1 semicolon.
- 1,000,000 aches = 1 megahurtz.

At the same time, we have some anomalies. Consider that 1000 kg = 1 tonne. Why not simply call it a Megagram?

Cotter Pin



I'm a choo choo

**PROUDLY SUPPORTING
OUR COMMUNITY**

CLASSICBUILDERS.CO.NZ

classic
builders



Czech rail snow blower

Club Apparel individual purchase.

TMMEC Club Nitro Polos are \$39.95 each, the Logo is \$16.50 and individual Names are \$4. The polos are available for Men - Small to 5XL - Women sizes 8 to 24. Bucket hats are \$10.50 with the Logo a further \$10. All prices are GST included.

See club member John Stent for assistance if needed

ACE Embroidery & Patches



aceembroidery.co.nz

56b Fifteenth Avenue, Tauranga

Phone 027 55 55 573

Open from 8:00am to 3:30 Monday to Thursday.

New Members

Please provide a warm welcome to our following new members:

Jerry Payne (Katikati)
Lance Chandler (Tauranga)
Daniel Compton (Tauranga)

Club Captains Report

Joanne has been away on holiday.

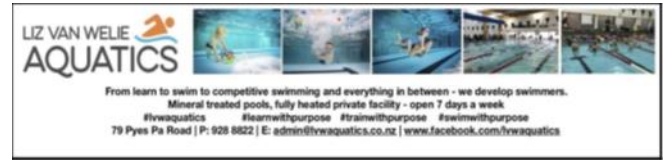
SMALLS – FOR SALE/ WANTED:

SUGGESTIONS AND IDEAS:

Penetrating Oil: I recently read an article regarding the merits of various penetrating oils. Various commercial products were tried, but apparently the one formula that worked the best was this:

- 50/50 mixture of Acetone and ATF.

Next time I need to free a frozen bolt, this will be my first option.



Interesting Stuff

Steam shovel operation:

<https://www.facebook.com/OhioValleyAntiqueMachineryShow/videos/142173752265101>

Sir Nigel Gresley arriving at Settle:

<https://www.facebook.com/watch?v=1365814781027328>

The first loco:

<https://www.facebook.com/watch?v=139061462619246>

Copy of the original steam driven vehicle:

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=845847420495948>

Model snowplough:

<https://www.facebook.com/watch?v=120553664482925>

Your basic motor vehicle:

<https://www.facebook.com/watch?v=1070442304317501>

Tuesday Evening Meetings – October

There was a presentation on First Aid and the use of a defibrillator.

OPERATORS ROSTER 2023

22nd October 2023	Russell Prout
28 th October 2023 (Halloween)	Jason Flannery
29th October 2023	Stewart Walker
5th November 2023	Bruce Bocock
11th November 2023	Bryan Fitzpatrick
12th November 2023	Jason Flannery
19th November 2023	Bruce Harvey
26th November 2023	Peter Jones
3rd December 2023	Warren Karlsson
10th December 2023	Joanne Knights
17th December 2023	Bruce McKerras
24th December 2023	Russell Prout

Ticket Sellers

We are still looking for volunteer Ticket Sellers. Enjoy meeting the public and their family. Even if only every second month, or jump in as casual relief.

Contact warren.karlsson@xtra.co.nz.

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.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 -

PNMEC@trains.net.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

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																																	
FEB	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					
MAR																																	
APR																																	
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			
JUNE																																	
JULY																																	
AUG	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			
SEP																																	
OCT																																	
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																																	

- 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
 - 18-19 MARCH HAMILTON OPEN WEEKEND
 - 3-5 JUNE MANUKAU OPEN WEEKEND
 - TBC EBOP OPEN WEEKEND
 - 28 OCT HALLOWEEN NIGHT RUN
 - 14 JULY MATARIKI NIGHT RUN