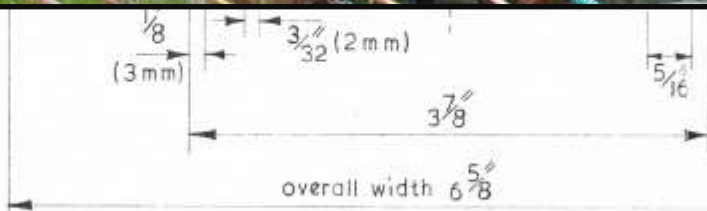


# Wheels & Floats

May 2024



**Tauranga Model Marine and Engineering Club Inc.**

## TAURANGA MODEL MARINE AND ENGINEERING CLUB INC.

The Secretary  
PO Box 15589  
Tauranga 3112

Miniature Railway Memorial Park  
Open to Public, weather permitting  
Sundays : 10am to 3pm approximately

Palmerville Station Phone 578 7293

Website: [www.tmmec.org.nz](http://www.tmmec.org.nz)  
Facebook: Memorial Park Railway Tauranga

### MEETINGS

General Members Meeting every first Tuesday  
7pm.  
Committee Meeting every second Thursday at  
7pm.  
Maintenance Tuesday mornings from 9am.  
Engineering discussions Tuesday evenings  
7.30pm.

### COMMITTEE

President: Bruce McKarres 022 0455154  
Vice President: Regan Olivecrona 02102325554  
Club Captain Joanne Knights 020 41909567  
Secretary: Warren Karlsson 025 5422863  
Treasurer: Jason Flannery 021 629038  
Committee: Russell Prout, Bruce Bocock,  
Warren Belk, Bruce Harvey,  
Owen Bennett

**Club subs are now due.**

**Full member \$30.00**

**Country \$18.00**

**Junior \$6.00**

Westpac 03-0435-0461711-00

Please ensure your name is in the refer-  
ence line and the word subs(cription).

### CONVENERS

Boiler Committee: Owen Bennett, Bruce  
McKerras, Ash Thomas, Regan Olivecrona,  
Ross Campbell.

Safety Committee:

Warren Karlsson, Bruce Harvey,  
Bruce McKerras, Russell Prout

Workshop: Regan Olivecrona, Owen  
Bennett, Brian Marriner

Drivers Licencing : Bruce McKerras

Track: Bruce Harvey, John Stent,  
Russell Prout

Librarian: Chris Pattison

Rolling Stock: Bruce Harvey

Track Managers : Bruce Harvey, John Stent,  
Russell Prout

Website: Chris Pattison, Peter Davies

MEANZ rep Russell Prout

Editor: Roy Robinson 07 5491182  
[royrobkk@gmail.com](mailto:royrobkk@gmail.com)

**Cover photo :** The stationary steam engine which drives the Flax Mill at Kaihere.

## Presidents Report May 2024

Looking back, it has been a big month! Our MEANZ audit has been completed, we have held our AGM, I had a family funeral to attend, and Russell had his fall into the steaming bay turntable pit resulting breaks to both his upper and lower leg. To top it all off I then got really crook with a nasty bug that got into my head and made me feel really low. I must give a huge thank you here to Warren K for all the work behind the scenes preparing everything for the AGM and the audit, as well as sorting out all the other stuff that just keeps the club going. Thank you, Warren.



My notes from this month's club activity:

### Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April

- 1000 rides today, Graham H on tickets, a fine day and Warren K on duty.
- Ethan ran my Phantom, which went well.
- Lance found his name tag! ☐
- Burns Clark came for a for a visit and Russell took the time to take him for a lap of the track (Burns is 97).

### Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April

- A run for a small special group this morning.
- Bum car axle bearing retainer strap refitted (we had to drill and tap out the broken bolts).
- My Phantom received new O rings in its injector clack valve, injector was removed to be cleaned at home.
- Engines refuelled, etc.

### Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April

- 979 rides today, Joanne on duty, weather was fine early on in the day.
- Russell and I loaded our engines in preparation for the trip to the Cambridge night run.
- Russell trialled his totally rejigged drive system in what was the old 'Nigel' engine.
- Black Magic further trialled and tweaked.
- Bruce H straightened out a mower damaged point blade by the exit of tunnel 1.



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## Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April

Lots going on for the Tuesday morning crew, Bruce H and helpers doing ride car WOFs, Warren doing some maintenance on the electrics. Another look at the control/signal battery system, and Brian M building a rack for the moveable bollards.

Tuesday evening was a bit lonely, only Trent and myself at the club rooms.

## Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April

Cambridge Night Run – Russell, Joanne and Ben in Russell's van. Stewart, Ash T, Trent and myself in my van with two locos and two ride cars in tow and an amazing (as always) cake from Tracey – Thank you Tracey.

WOW!! What a night – Busy, busy, busy. It was a good thing that we went across as our locos and ride cars were well used. Half of Cambridge turned out, the queue was huge and the stalls that were there were doing a great trade.

A great night, a great bunch of people over there who always make us welcome.

My Phantom behaved!

## Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April

Russell Duty Operator, 960 rides.

A beautiful day with a good turnout of volunteers – thank you Team.

Bruce B on the ticket window, doing a great job.

Trent cleaned up my Phantom after the Cambridge night run – Thank you Trent.

## Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April

No 4 (Big Yellow) had a brake valve removed.

Our scissor traverser removed and loaded onto Russell's trailer for repair, the base plate is broken due to a seized bearing.

Regan cleared the track with the leaf blower and topped up the oil in No 4.

And most importantly, new biscuits were brought in.

## Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> May – AGM

I think the AGM went fairly well. As usual, I was kept on track by Warren K and Owen B gave pointers on the finer points of meeting etiquette. We had two committee members standing down, Ash T and Sandra. Thank you to Bruce B and Jason who are our new committee appointees and congratulations to Roy R who is our new newsletter editor. The minutes of the AGM have been emailed out to members, thank you Warren K, and are available for all to read.

## Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May

991 rides today.

Only just enough members to turned up to run this morning.

The overshadowing event of the day was Russell's accident which resulted in the ambulance being called.



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**OPEN!**  
Saturday 9am-3pm  
Monday to Friday  
6am-3pm

## **Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May**

We held a serious harm meeting this morning. I was pleased to see quite a few committee members in attendance. We have filled in the paperwork and notified the correct people. We also had much discussion about how to prevent such an incident from happening again. At this point the fuses have been pulled to the turntable and the steaming bay is closed while we determine a future plan.

Regan and I went up and visited Russell, to my surprise he is not in a cast, he has a frame. He seemed in good spirits but was not looking forward to six weeks of not putting any pressure into his leg – Good crutches, Zimmer frame, perhaps...? He is currently looking for CAD projects to keep himself occupied.

## **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May**

No 4 had a new brake valve fitted and plumbed up.

Bolts were inserted into the levers on the container doors so that padlocks cannot be put in the wrong place.

Bruce H replaced brake hoses on the ride cars.

Warren K was doing the prep work for the fitting of speedos to the electric locos.

General fuelling of locos.

Tuesday evening was Club Night. I was not feeling too grand and so read out an abbreviated version of my notes and retreated home. Chris P brought along him steam truck wheels and tyres, very nice. Jerry had a beautiful, handcrafted launch and a really nice back story to go with it. I hope everyone enjoyed their cups of tea after I shot through.

## **Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May – Committee Meeting**

I was still not feeling great, so did not attend. Thank you to those that did. Warren K has posted the minutes from the meeting – have a read.

## **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May – Audit Day**

Rex Thoms came and did our audit. Another thank you to Warren K for sorting this out, I could not attend as I was still unwell. We achieved our audit – Hooray.

## **Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May**

Mother's Day today – a surprisingly quiet day with only 564 rides, however, mums rode free. It is interesting who classes themselves as a mum, including one bloke, which amused us.

Graham H did a great job on tickets.

Stewart was on duty – it didn't rain!

I fitted another vacuum relay to Black Magic, which then ran all day.

No 4's new brake valve and mount ran well.

There was much discussion about what to do with the turntable.

And, no one eats veggie pizza!

In other news, there is a Safety Committee Meeting coming up where we will discuss the turntable. Also, the EMEX show is coming up in Auckland 28<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> May, still spaces available in my van if anyone wants to come along.

And that, is that for this month. I am just pleased that I am finally feeling better(ish).. That bug was a really nasty one!

**Cheers, Bruce**

## Captain's Report – May 2024

Hi Team,

We now have a new editor for our website in the form of Chris P. He is going to have Peter D assisting him on the photography side of things, taking photos at club days, events, outings, etc. If anyone has any photos or content for the website please pass this on to Chris.

Events wise, Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June is our next Club Play Day – a chance to bring any projects down for trial runs, make use of the track at your leisure, and all being well, Tamar will be out so anyone who is interested in learning, please let Warren B or myself know.

The next big event for the club is Matariki Night Run on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June. I am on the scrounge as



usual for volunteers to help out with set up and running. It is massively popular with the public and gets really busy. Thank you in advance.. □

As Bruce mentioned in his report we went over to Cambridge for their night run, Bruce M even drove his own Phantom (when he remembered how □). Thank you to those who went over. It was a great night, and the Cambridge crew are a great group of people.

**Joanne**

Below : Trent takes a break whilst his water boy fills up the tender.

Above : Bruce drives his Phantom.

Below : Cody at the helm of the Oakford Express



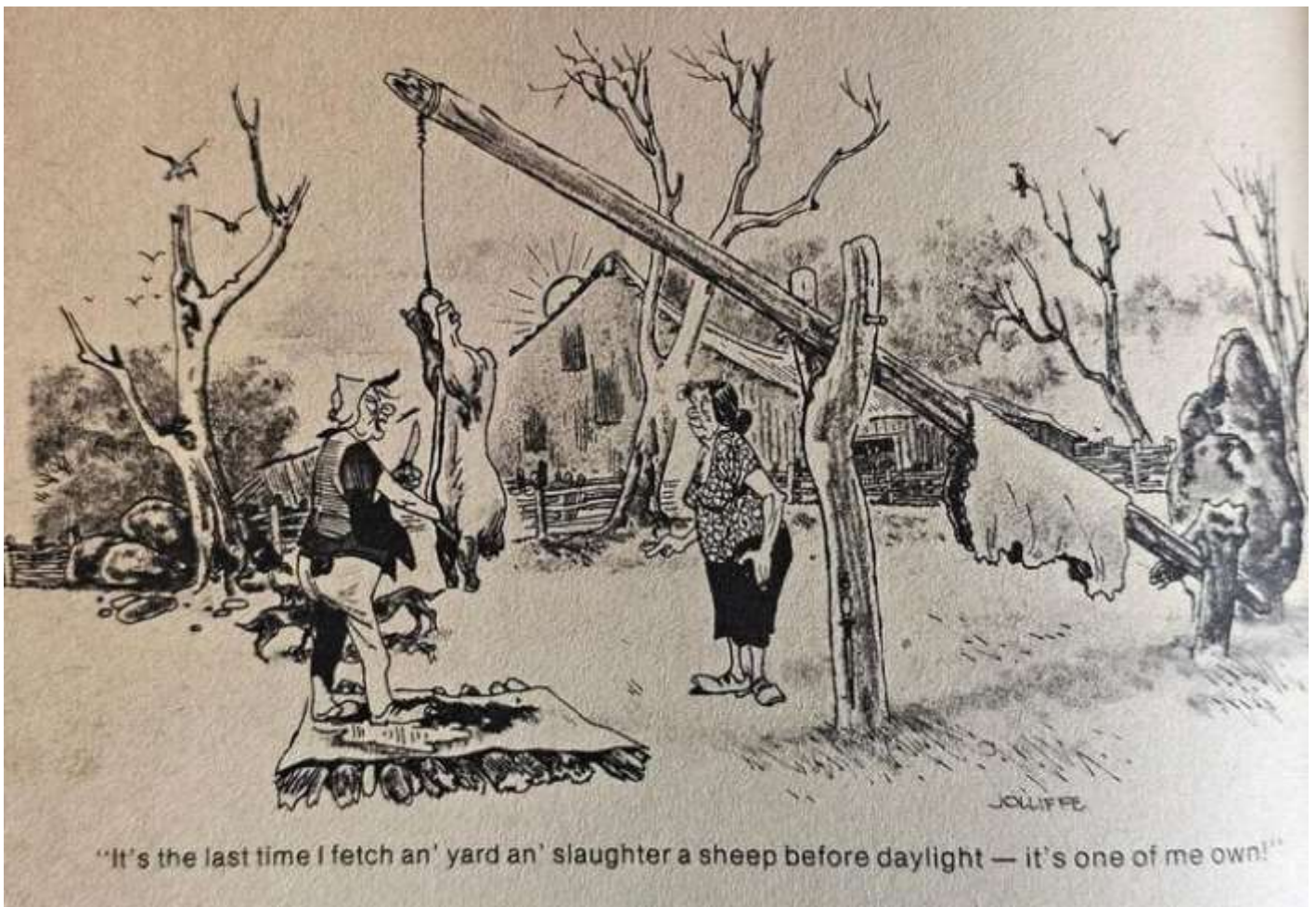
## Humour :

A blond walks into a drug store and asks the Pharmacist for some bottom deodorant. The pharmacist a little bemused explains that they do not sell anything called bottom deodorant and never have. Unfazed the blond assures him that she has been buying the stuff from him from this very store on a regular basis and would like some more.

"I'm sorry but we don't have any bottom deodorant" . "But I always get it here," says the blond. "Do you have the container it comes in?" "Yes", says the blond, "I will get it from the car". She returns with the container and hands it to the pharmacist who studies it and advises the blond "This is just a normal stick of underarm deodorant". The annoyed blond snatches the container back and reads out loud from the container ;

**"PUSH UP BOTTOM"**.

**I have always enjoyed Australian cartoonist, Joliffe's drawings and would like to bring some of them to you. They are topical with more than a hint of truth even in today's environment. Ed**



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# TMMEC CAD DRAWING

## SEEKING EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Owen Bennett

Towards the end of last year, at a General Meeting of members, a large majority of those attending ratified the proposal for the Club to invest in a good computer, to have CAD Drawing Software installed, (Computer Aided Design) so that members would have the opportunity to learn CAD Drawing, allowing members to produce DXF files for Laser Cutting objects, and to produce STL files for producing 3D objects either as working models, or parts for other projects. Dimensioned drawings can also be produced for publication through the Newsletter, or emailed to members or the world. It is envisioned that introducing a new skill into our model engineering hobby will inject new life and challenges for our current members, but also attract new and younger members to the wider hobby.

So now we have a suitable Computer, and some CAD software installed so far. Fusion 360 was mooted as a suitable software, being free (with restrictions) but is still to be organised.

The club has also approved the purchase of a 3D Printer, a suitable model still to be selected by the club executive in the near future.

Already installed on the computer is SolidWorks, a legitimate copy supplied by a club member. Owen completed a Level 3 SolidWorks Polytech course 10 years ago but memory has dimmed somewhat. I do still have the Course material available. A small number of club members are very proficient with SolidWorks.

Learning 3D CAD requires time and effort, but the journey satisfies the pleasure of learning the skills required to create solid models of your ideas or mechanical projects. In a similar way to learning other computer programmes, like word processing, databases, spreadsheets, desktop publishing, etc, CAD programmes modify 2D drawn objects into 3D solid models. This process applies several "Features" to each part of your drawing to achieve the 3D result. Anything you can see or imagine can therefore be laser-cut or 3D printed. All CAD programmes work similarly, so once you understand the "Features" of each programme you are well on the way to producing CAD Drawing.

Both Fusion 360 and SolidWorks are available for hobbyists to download to your own computer but the downloaded version of SolidWorks is unlikely to be compatible with the club's installed version.

Also installed is FreeCAD an Open Source programme, similar in capability to SolidWorks, still under development for the last 20 years or so, but already very good. Owen has been using this CAD programme for some years. FreeCAD is freely available to download, current stable version is 0.21. Available for Apple, Windows, and other Open Source platforms. The first complete version is soon to be released.

Microsoft Publisher is also installed as part of Office, and offers 2D drawing for less complex projects, and a quicker means of achieving accurate drawings. Owen has also used Publisher's capabilities extensively for his Phantom and Little Phanny projects, also other projects, preferring to produce drawings to actual size for direct ruler measurements.

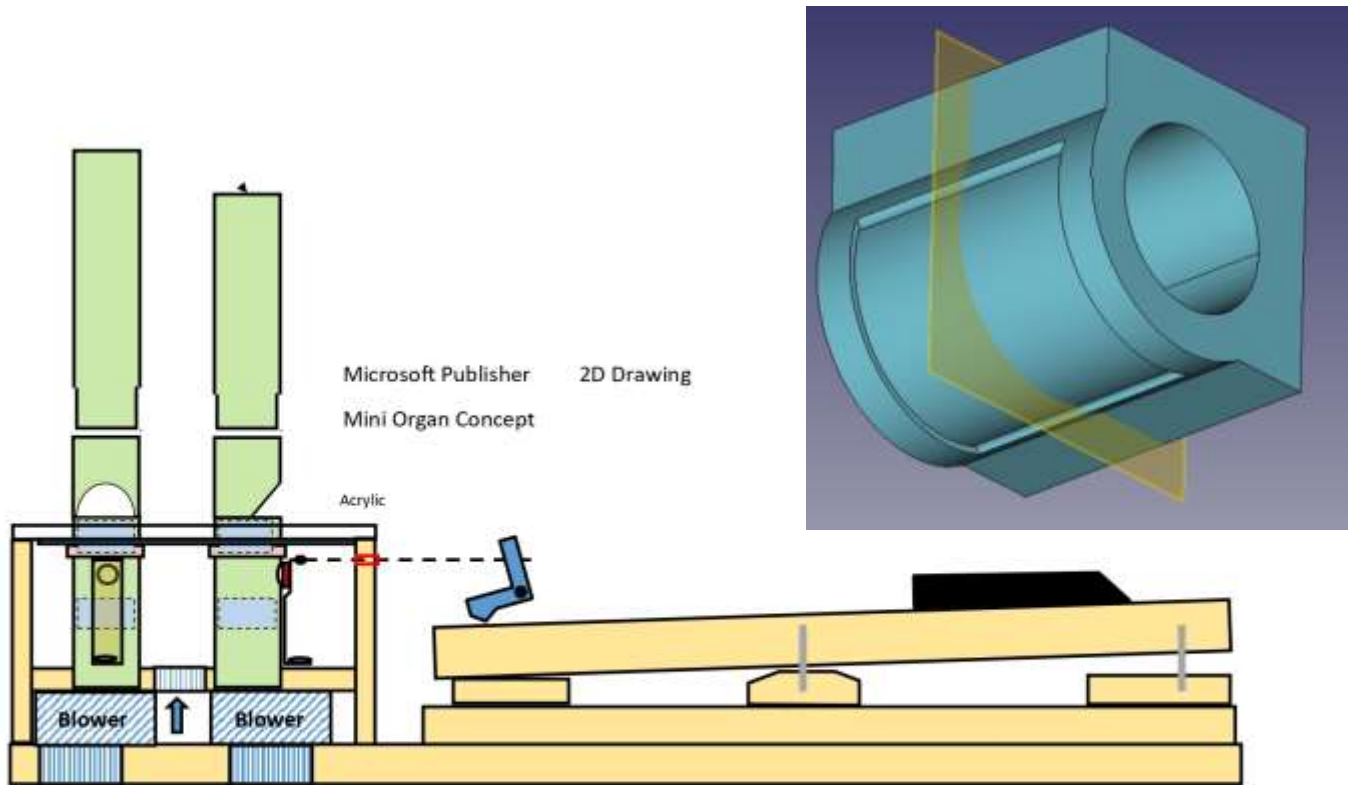
A well-equipped Makerspace is available in Tauranga City with a sizeable Laser Cutting machine for cutting a large range of media, 3mm plywood, plastic, MDF, etc. to produce your creations very cheaply. The Makerspace also caters for Makers of a number of disciplines. Details

supplied on request.

I have a project in mind. A 3.5inch laser-cut and 3D printed battery operated locomotive for use on the raised track. Exciting!

It is envisioned that Tuesday evenings would be an appropriate time to pursue hands-on lessons on CAD, but other days and times could be organised by arrangement.

Owen is happy to talk with you in person, or by email: [owenb41@outlook.com](mailto:owenb41@outlook.com)




Examples of CAD drawing. If you have any queries or are interested contact Owen.

The Phantom cylinder was done with FreeCad and the Pipes elevation was done in MS Publisher



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# Kaihere Flax Mill

**Most** of you will know of another of my interests Vintage Tractors and Machinery.

It was under this hat that I went to an Open Day at the Kaihere Flax Mill. This Mill was developed in about 1942 probably using machinery from other redundant Mill(s). It closed in 1973 when the development of the surrounding land into farm land particularly dairy farming and the availability of the raw material flax, became hard to get. Of the complete range of machinery used in the processing of flax only the stripping equipment is now left in running condition. Some of the other processing equipment is in an adjacent part of the building.

The real interesting part of this processing is that it is driven by a steam engine which is in turn fed steam from a small vertical boiler. Both the vertical boiler and the steam engine are on separate wheeled trailers. Pic on the front cover is the engine which actually drives the stripping mill. On the trailer which the vertical boiler is mounted the is another slightly smaller engine driving 2 generators, a water lift pump and another pump. This configuration runs continuously with the other engine driving the stripping mill only operating as required as there is no clutch on the stripping mill.

On the stripping mill engine I noted the engine cylinder casting had 5 X 8 cast into the housing so I suggest that it is 5" dia bore with a 8" stroke. The stripping mill did require quite a bit of grunt and there was a real "bark" when flax was fed into the stripper. If too much flax was fed into the stripper the long flat belt flicked off the stripper pulley telling me that the engine had plenty of horses under its bonnet. This flax processor would not have had a huge output as if you can visualize a flax leaf it has a rib down the centre. The leaf was split (down the centre) and fed into the stripper as one half at a time. If the whole leaf was fed in the stripper just clogged up saying "too hard", the belt flew off the pulley and the stripper had to be opened, cleared and whole process had to be restarted.

The boiler seemed to operate at 120psi and seemed to hold that pressure comfortably. It was fired with wood and only seemed to require the odd log to keep steam pressure up. The 2 units, boiler + engine and stripping engine are very well organized and could be moved around by a car i.e. not too large.

Here were other displays of stationery engines plus a hand tie bailer. It must have been a huge step forward when self knotting bailers became available with a saving of 2 persons immediately. Another person had a range of Villiers engines including one which was fitted to a washing machine (yes, they were factory fitted). It was a real challenge to get started so I could well imagine some grumpy housewife trying to complete what is a tedious job!!!! She could have hand washed the days clothes in the time it took to get this engine going!!!!

Great day out. They hold at least one of these days a year and it's only a gold coin donation, all welcome.

Editor



The boiler (right) and the continuous running engine with generators, water pump, holding tank all on a trailer.

The Stripping Mill engine. Note the long flat belt drive .





The small Villers engine fitted to and used to drive a washing machine.



Hand tie bailer, some running repairs, no wonder making hay took days!!!!





Operator feeding the stripping mill, note only single leaf.

Flax that has been thru the stripping mill. This would then be hung over a rail for the elements to brake down and just leave the flax fibre which would then move onto the next process e.g. bailing twine.





## Show and Tell



### THE 'COMMODORE'S BARGE'

Jerry Payne brought along one of his model boats for discussion. It is the model of the 45 foot launch owned by the Royal New Zealand Navy. When the navy's operational control was based in Auckland, there was a need to be able to transport dignitaries on the harbour. In 1980 this launch was built at the Naval Dockyard in Devonport, Auckland. Known by the Navy as the 'Commodore's Barge', it is the show piece of the Navy. Over the years she has had many notable passengers, including the Queen and Prince Philip, and Prince Charles. She has day accommodation for dignitaries in the forward compartment, wheelhouse amidships and overnight accommodation for three crew in the after cabin. She was originally powered by twin Perkins 6 cylinder engines which have since been replaced with Volvos which give her a top speed of around 12 knots.

During his time in the Navy, Jerry, as Boats Officer was in charge of all small boats, which included the Commodore's Barge.

Jerry said he will bring the model into the Club again to describe the how it was built.

## More ..... Show and Tell



The wheel off Chris Pattson's steam truck. To make the tyre he made a mould and cast a 2 pot resin into it , rotated the mould and let centrifugal forces and the mould shape the tyre.

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### TAURANGA MODEL MARINE ENGINEERING CLUB



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## TMMEC CLUB CALENDAR 2024

	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	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						
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			
APRIL	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						
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	31				
SEP							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	
OCT	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						
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 10am - 3pm
- Club Play Day
- General Meeting 7pm
- Engineering Tuesday 7:30pm
- Open Weekend
- AGM
- Committee Meeting 7pm

- Christmas Party
- Matariki Night Run 28th June
- Halloween Night Run 2 November
- CLOSED/CANCELLED

- Hamilton Open Weekend 16-17 March
- Manukau Open Weekend 1-3 June
- Keirunga Park Open Weekend 25-28 October
- EBOP (Whakatane) TBC
- Mana Ariki TBC