

The Generator

Issue 469
July 2020



Palmerston Model Engineering Club
www.pnmec.org.nz - pnmec@trains.net.nz

Managers of the Marriner Reserve Railway - Marriner Street - Palmerston North
PO Box 4132 - Manawatu Mail Centre - Palmerston North 4442

The Palmerston North Model Engineering Club

Upcoming Club Nights

23 July 2020

Richard's Tour Aotearoa

Place's visited and items of interest to those with a mechanical curiosity

27 August 2020

Robert Edwards will give an introduction to the Computer Aided Design (CAD) software Fusion 360 and why we should all be using it

Marriner Reserve Railway

2 August 16 August

Railway operations at the Mariner Reserve
Trains in operation from 1pm to 3pm
Weather permitting (Kerry Puklowski 06 353 6189)

Any Thursday

Railway operations for club members
Subject to ongoing track maintenance and weather
Contact track manager Richard Lockett 06 323 0948

PRESIDENTS REPORT

The first club meeting of this Post Covid Era is now behind us. The AGM was held on Thursday the 25 June, and this was a relatively well attended event. This was a very pleasing turnout for a club that has its membership scattered over such a large catchment.

The AGM was the first occasion the membership has had to meet since the Lock Down and socialising was the order of the night. This was evident by the significant number of members still sharing their stories long after the furniture had been put away and the hall cleared. As President I would like to thank the ladies who supplied the cake and biscuits for the supper afterwards, and to the other members who made this night a success. Your efforts are appreciated.

For readers not familiar with the traditions of our club. At each AGM the members are asked to vote for the club member who has made a significant contribution to the running of the club. The "Clubman of the Year" is determined by the votes cast, and that member is awarded the Compton Shield. This year's recipient is Murray Bold who was nominated by a significant majority. Murray: Congratulations, you are a deserving recipient.

Aside from being voted "Clubman of the Year", Murray has recently undergone surgery and is now at home recovering. Members who have visited Murray report he is back to his usual happy smiling self just a little slower moving around. On behalf of the club I would like to extend our support to Janice and Murray.

At this time, I would like to remind members that subscriptions are now due. Subs have again been set at \$30.00. Please contact Kerry Puklowski (Treasurer) for payment.

Normal running at the Marriner Reserve Railway has resumed. The first public running day saw a good turnout of members and a reasonable attendance from the public. This was an encouraging start and I would like to thank the members whose efforts made this possible.

For general interest. The photograph I have included in this report are of a narrow gauge industrial locomotive I photographed in the small town of Hamar in Norway. Originally built in 1895 this locomotive is now owned and operated by a steam conservation society. It runs weekends during their short summer. Note the valve gear.

Keep Healthy
Keep Building
David Bell



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Report on the June Club Night

With our first meeting since after covid 19 restrictions easing the club took the opportunity to proceed with the delayed/postponed Annual General Meeting. Acting President David Bell welcomed the 17 members present to get proceedings underway, with the Presidents Report from outgoing President Robert Edwards, followed by the Financial Report (Kerry Puklowski) the Boiler Inspector's and Track Custodian's Report.

Election of Officers then took place with the following members elected to office.

President David Bell

Vice President Cynthia Cooper

Secretary Fin Mason

Treasurer Kerry Puklowski

Committee Richard Lockett, Chris Morton and Lawrence Brooshooft.

Track Custodian Richard Lockett

Newsletter Editor Richard Lockett

Librarian Merv George

Compton Shield

Voting took place with **Murray Bold** becoming the latest recipient of this coveted Trophy.

Membership Fees

On recommendation from the Treasurer the membership fees will remain unchanged at **\$ 30.00** .

With no general business at hand the formal AGM meeting was closed at 8.15pm .

A couple of items were brought along for discussion before supper was served, Graeme Hall told of the making of the rocker covers for the Kinner rotary aero engine and the difficulty of holding the cover to machine the out surfaces, the only way being to mount on a wooden former and to file the radiuses to size using a gauge with this being a long tedious process but yielding excellent results. Chris Morton showed the inner workings of a dissembled electrical rotary contactor.

The former and gauge used by Graeme to shape the outer surfaces of the rocker covers for the Kinner Aero engine.



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June Club Night continued

Graeme had on previous engines used 90 deg bends sourced from garden irrigation systems as spark plug caps but was now having difficulty sourcing these of the desired shape.

It was suggested that Graeme investigate 3D printing as a way to manufacture to his exact requirements.



Newsletters from Other Clubs

The incoming committee is undergoing some shuffling of responsibilities, re-designing of tasks, rejigging of undertakings, changes to job duties, and reassignment of how we do some things.

The club has an email address: PNMEC@trains.net.nz and I am now responsible for the emails that arrive. One of the things that come to this address are newsletters from some of the other Model Engineering clubs around New Zealand. I have inherited a list of 16 people to which these newsletters are forwarded.

If you are not currently receiving these forwarded newsletters and if you would like to receive them, then you are most welcome to email me. I will need your full name and your email address. Most clubs send their newsletters as an attachment. Some newsletters have lots of photos. It is therefore important that your computer system is able to receive sometimes large amounts of data.

Cynthia Cooper
PNMEC@trains.net.nz

MEMBERS PROJECT REPORT

When you start any model engineering project, you are embarking on a lengthy journey. This monthly column will tell the story behind some of these journeys.

JOHN TWEEDIE AND HIS “UINTAH RAILWAY MALLET”

Thursday the 9th of July was a significant milestone in the model engineering career of John Tweedie. This was the day gauge 2-6-6-2 mallet raised steam for the first time after an extensive overhaul and refurbishment.

This locomotive was originally built by Mr P.A.Newton from Rotorua in 1988. Ken Nielson (a local club member) then purchased this locomotive soon after it was constructed, and over time carried out some modifications designed to make the engine more manageable. These changes included:

- The addition of a steam driven water pump.
- Removing the displacement lubricators, and replacing these with two positive displacement lubricators, one for each bank of cylinders.
- Adding a steam vacuum brake system that is compatible with the vacuum brakes used on the club passenger trolleys.

John has subsequently owned this locomotive for the last 10 years, but after a successful period of running the boiler suffered a super heater tube failure. An assessment was made of the engines condition, and it was decided that the engine was in need of a general overhaul and refurbishment. With assistance from Doug Chambers the boiler was removed and repairs and modifications carried out that would improve its steaming and reliability. The running gear was also in need of some attention and John undertook this part of the project himself. Although John admits that this work challenged his skill set, the finished product is a testament to his persistence and engineering ability.

For readers not familiar with the fundamentals of Mallet Locomotive Construction, this engine is articulated and bends in the middle, allowing it to negotiate tight radius curves. Prior to this steam test, the two separate engine sets have been run on air and performed faultlessly.

The attached photographs show the locomotive as steam is slowly raised. During this pressure test no significant leaks or other defects were identified. We all look forward to seeing this locomotive moving under its own power once again.

Article: David Bell / John Tweedie

John Tweedie and his Uintah Railway Locomotive No 51



Kyle Mudgway preparing the Beaver Lumber Company's Locomotive Tasha for service on Sunday 5th July 2020 at the Marriner Reserve .

If you would like to be notified when this newsletter is published, send us an email with your **Name, Club and Email** address to pnmec@trains.net.nz with "**Generator Please**" in the subject line.