

Number 617

October
2016

The MICROMETER

AUCKLAND SOCIETY OF MODEL ENGINEERS INCORPORATED

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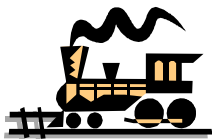
REGISTERED NEW ZEALAND PUBLICATION

Remember this?

Back in April this Big Boy was a for-sale model featured as our cover photo.

Now Grant Anderson has an update on its current whereabouts. See p9.





Train Roster

Date	Electric Driver	Electric Driver	Steam Driver	Train Controller	Station / Guard	Station / Guard	Station / Guard
2-Oct-16	P Dowdeswell	M Granger	Voluntary	<u>T Robinson</u>	P Jones	M Luxton*	Voluntary
9-Oct-16	M Hollis	D Housley	Voluntary	<u>G Anderson</u>	B Matchett*	G Murray	Voluntary
16-Oct-16	J Lankow	D Moffat	Voluntary	<u>D Russell</u>	K Ryan*	A Shirley	Voluntary
23-Oct-16	M Moore	M Plant	Voluntary	<u>T Lawrence</u>	M Richardson*	J Service	Voluntary
30-Oct-16	P Moy	G Beazley	Voluntary	<u>G Wills</u>	R Stratton	P Tomkies*	Voluntary
6-Nov-16	R Reichardt	P Woodford	Voluntary	<u>S Meikle</u>	R Copeland	R Crook*	Voluntary
13-Nov-16	B Aickin	I Ashley	Voluntary	<u>D Black</u>	P Jones	M Luxton*	Voluntary
20-Nov-16	A Bailey	P Dowdeswell	Voluntary	<u>T Robinson</u>	B Matchett*	G Murray	Voluntary
27-Nov-16	M Granger	M Hollis	Voluntary	<u>T Lawrence</u>	M Richardson*	J Service	Voluntary

Bold and Underlined Name:

This is the designated **Train Controller**, i.e. the person in overall control of all operations for the day

Bold with Asterisk* Name:

This is the designated Stationmaster, i.e. the person responsible for activities in the station area.
The Stationmaster is also responsible to account for the day's takings.

Drivers: Please keep your eyes open for unusual or suspicious behaviour around the track which may affect the safety and/or smooth operation of our trains. Report such activity to the Train Controller.

Please Note:

If for some reason you are unable to attend on your rostered date, you are respectfully reminded that it is **your** responsibility to find a replacement member to fill the gap – please don't let the rest of the team for the day be left short-handed.

Also, please ensure the member you arrange a swap with is one who is rostered to undertake the same role to ensure we always have members with the appropriate training and experience on the day.

OCTOBER CALENDAR

Tuesday October 4th, 7.30pm - General Meeting , ASME clubrooms. Auction Night!

Tuesday October 18th, 7.30pm - Committee Meeting.

President's Report

September 30 is the end of the club's business and financial year and this year, for the first time, the closing of the books for the fundraising rebate scheme. A recommendation for the membership fee for next year goes forward to the AGM in December along with the list of members who have earned a full or partial rebate. At last count it looked as though a substantial proportion of our members will be entitled to the rebate; to some extent this reflects a smaller membership with a higher proportion or commitment to the roster. Attendances generally on running days have been much better this year. The general manager has been authorised to strike off members who do not attend on three occasions without any notification, and so now that the extra station staff have been removed from the roster we are down to a core number essential to run the railway along with, hopefully, a few non-rostered volunteers who appear on the day.

The committee had hoped that it may be possible to recruit additional helpers, non-members, from other sources and Graeme Healy has done some good work canvassing local rest homes. Although the response in terms of interest was encouraging, the problem is that Sunday, particularly during the afternoon, is generally family time and the least likely time of the week for people to go out, so it does not appear that there is going to be relief forthcoming from that avenue.

The committee has recently considered a request from an organisation representing disabled people to clarify the ASME policy regarding whether or not we charge for a carer to ride on the railway. I'm pleased to report that the committee has unanimously decided that our policy will be to allow carers a free ticket; this new policy is effective immediately. We have also recently received a request for a birthday party on Sunday prior to a scheduled running, something which we often used to do. The matter was discussed by the committee and with the train controller rostered on the day and it was decided that in view of current pressures it is not something that ASME will offer for the foreseeable future so this request was denied and that policy will continue to apply. The public are still welcome to have birthday parties, but just need to use the railway between 1:00pm and 4:00pm, our usual running times.

Some news from the Bay of Plenty; on a sombre note we note the passing of Eastern Bay of Plenty President Dave Fitton last month. Our sympathy goes to our friends in Whakatane and to Dave's daughter Raewyn and the Fitton family. On a happier note our congratulations to the Tauranga club on their recent award.

By the time you read this, weather permitting, the next pour of concrete for the delivery track will be complete and that part of our infrastructure will be well on the way to completion with re-gauged capacity.

Some suggestions put forward by the president a couple of months ago for reorganisation of ASME governance and management and for allowing a new class of non-voting members have been considered and discussed by members and decided to be unnecessary at this time. The general view is that there is not a problem which needs fixing and so on that basis we should be confident that sufficient members will step forward to fill the vacancies on the committee and provide some relief for some of the current long-standing officers working in the traditional structure.

Next month we have our annual auction, once again hosted by our expert professional auctioneer Mike. This event apart from having considerable utility for members also provides a great night's entertainment and I hardly need to promote it; it is always popular. Please bring gear along early and remember that what is and isn't sold must be removed on the night.

By the look of some of the crowds on fine days we are in for a very busy summer so please support the roster or just come along as an extra on a Sunday — it's a very pleasant way to spend an afternoon.

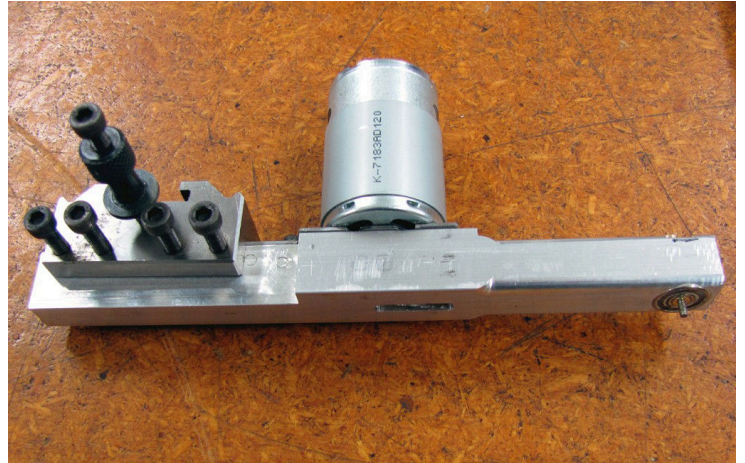
David Black

President

Bits and Pieces September 6th 2016

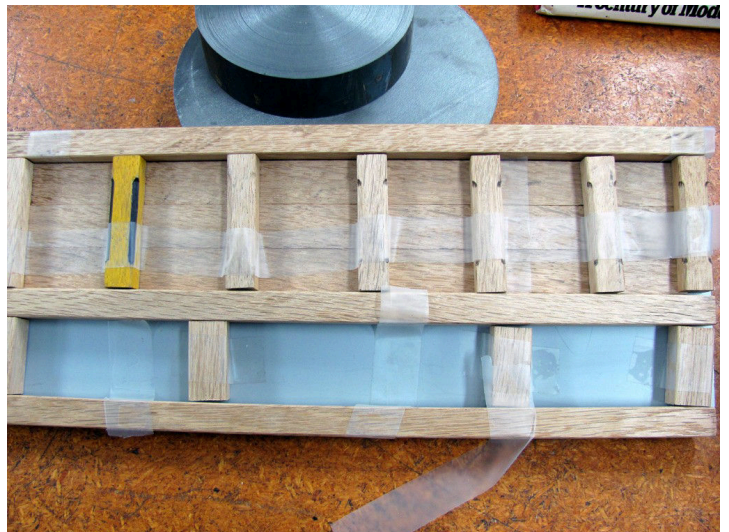
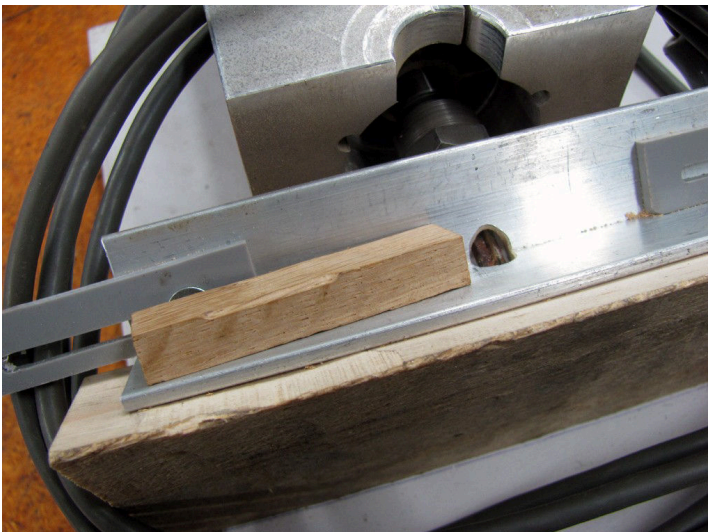
Conducted by Peter Woodford, with photos and report by Dave Russell.

Graeme Murray had brought in a few items this month, firstly was a tool holder fitted with a small electric motor and a belt driving along the length of a piece that was fitted with a burr on a spindle at the end. The gadget was made to put grooves along a 26mm bore.



Secondly was a tool holder that some of us have seen before, the whole unit fits on a round post on the lathe and has small removable tool bit holders that can be swivelled to any angle.

Graeme is building a Rocket Locomotive in 7-1/4 gauge and brought in a few bits associated with the work so far, a small router mounted to a vee shaped guide enabled the neat chamfers on the corners of the wooden beams for the tender sides.





These large cast iron blanks will be the start of the wheels for the Rocket.

Mike Banks is almost ready to fire up his 5" King so he decided to make the shovel: it got away from him on the band saw so he brazed up the extra cut.



This water pump is to be fitted in the tender of the King, Mike has also been using it for boiler testing and the connection fittings are all of the quick fit type.

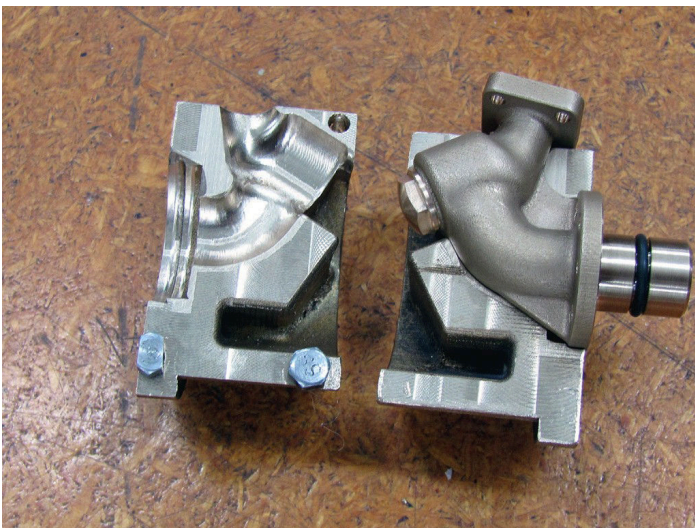
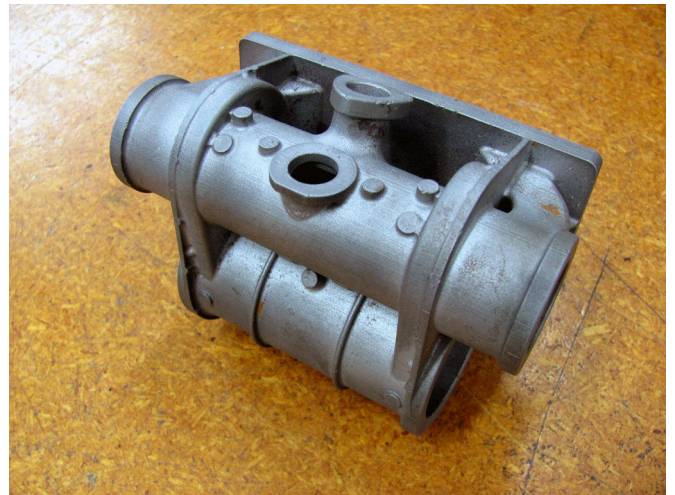
These engine number plates are for the cab sides on the King.. 6029 was the last of the GWR King class locomotives built. Mike Jack had printed up some waxes to make the investment castings.





Mike Moore brought in this odd tap & die tool. After some discussion it was decided it could be for some sort of cycle work or possibly for gas pipe work.

Mike Jack has had his 3D wax printer working overtime to print the wax for this cylinder casting in cast iron, the casting is to exact scale. Mike says the finished casting ended up within 0.1mm of his calculations allowing for shrinkage: this means there will be little material needing removal to finish the casting.



This 7-1/4" gauge BR standard class top feed valve is another example of the very fine scale work that Mike Jack has been producing with the help of his 3D wax printer. The valve is held in the fixture for machining some surfaces, the fixture being cast using a wax made by reversing the shape of the valve drawn in the CAD program (very clever). Also shown is a D bit made to form the valve seat inside the valve.



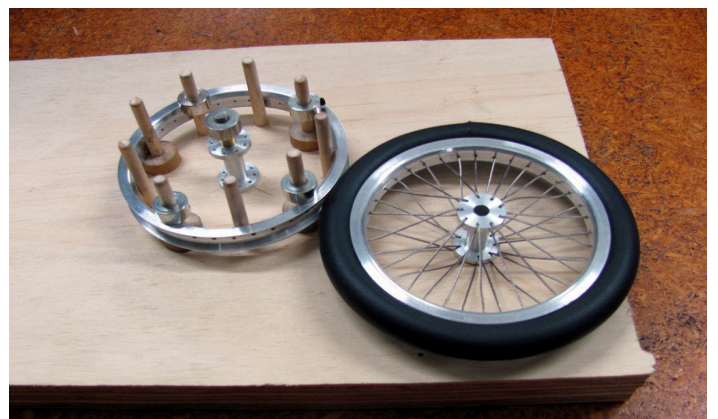
One of Mike Jack's clients needed this chimney casting in a hurry and here it is complete with reinforced chucking piece. All it needs now is boring and parting off.

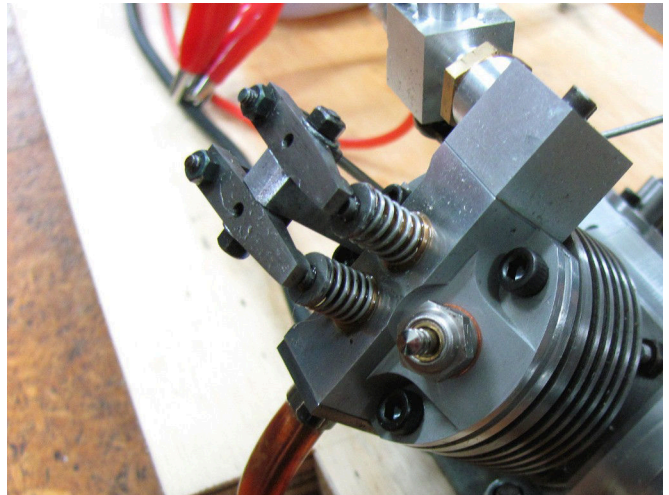
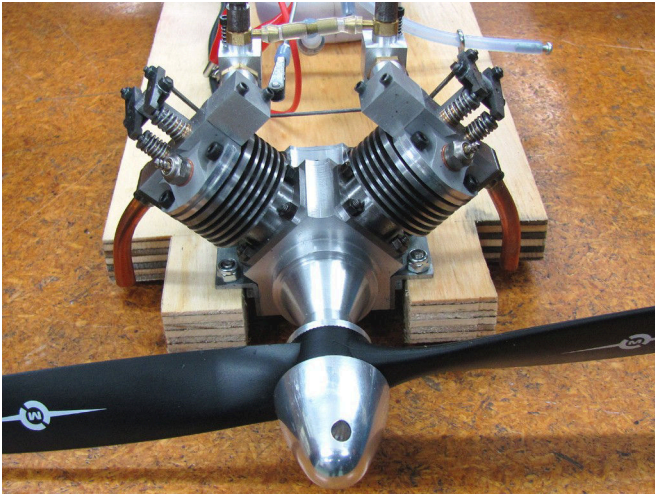
Mike has been getting scale sized metric nuts and bolts from Germany, from a company called KNUPFER (check them out on the net), this beautiful little spanner set came from the same company, really top quality.



These nice pieces are the expansion link brackets for John Lankow's 3-1/2" Britannia, John says they were a bugger (*did I really say that?*) to machine as you have to hold them at so many different angles. (*The r.h. one is actually 2 castings which needed machining separately before being brazed together*).

It was good to see some of our country members that we have not seen for a while in the form of Ross and Hayden Purdy, Ross is a very keen aero modeller and his first item that he brought along for us to look at was a scale vintage type wheel for one of his models. Ross says he knocked it up over the weekend, the spokes are made from plastic coated wire fishing trace and the nifty wooden jig holds everything in the right place while the threading of the spokes is completed. The finished wheel was surprisingly strong.





Ross has really been busy since we last saw him - he spent six months building this "Baby Twin" four stroke V2 aero engine, Ross says he is very pleased with the result.



Now, as tonight's bits and pieces was supposed to be a highlight of cock-ups we have kept them to the end. We must be good as there were not that many. Firstly, Mike Jack had printed this wax for casting an engine plate and luckily spotted the spelling mistake before it got to the foundry. Another one of Mikes rare screw ups was when he was turning the outside of this expanding mandrel to hold a cylindrical bored item for further machining, the one at top is how it is supposed to end up. Finally, Ross Purdy made a mistake on the machining of a cylinder barrel for the V2 aero engine, but instead of throwing it away in disgust he carried on with the remainder of the machining process as a practice piece for the ones he would have to re-make.



Big Boy model has new home

Grant Anderson reports:

The UP Big Boy miniature locomotive that was the subject of the front page photo in the April 2016 issue of the Micrometer has been sold and shipped to NZ. A member of the Tauranga Model Marine & Engineering Club, Shane Marshall has acquired the 5.3 metre long loco and now has the wheels out, presumably being altered to 7.25g (most in USA tracks are 7.5g). He plans to operate it at the TMMEC track at Memorial Park.

If you want to see a video of it being steamed up & run at its previous beautifully landscaped homesite in Oregon, see: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LVHNk2VAKWw>

We feel sure that all model engineers will wish Shane all the best and good luck on the (mammoth!) task he has ahead!



For Sale

Castings, frame/buffer steel and drawings for "Jubilee" 2-6-4T locomotive 3 1/2" gauge.

Designed by Martin Evans.

Castings by Reeves.

\$600.00. Offers considered.

Contact Ian Davis.

Phone 09 2389796

Mob. 027 4839008.

e-mail ian.hazel.davis@xtra.co.nz



A project of the
Railway Enthusiasts
Society Inc.

Operating since 1977

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10th September 2016

The Secretary
Auckland Society of Model Engineers (Inc)
PO Box 14 570
Panmure
Auckland

Attention: Mike Moore

Dear Mike

Re: Steam and Vintage Country Festival 2017

The purpose of this letter is to extend a cordial invitation to the Auckland Society of Model Engineers to participate in our forthcoming Steam and Vintage Country Festival 2017, to be held at the Glenbrook Vintage Railway on February 25th and 26th 2017. The occasion is the celebration of the 40th year of operation of GVR.

This event is being organised by the Glenbrook Vintage Railway, with the cooperation of the Franklin Vintage Machinery Club and Vintage Engine Restorers Auckland (VERA), and of course all the participants.

The format and content for the 2017 event will be somewhat similar to the 2013 Steam and Country Vintage Festival and again will feature an extensive selection of vintage machinery in action, and a multitude of other period attractions.

The land available at Glenbrook for the staging of the Festival will again be the large field on the north side of Glenbrook Station complex, so there will be adequate room to display and operate a large number of exhibits, equipment and vehicles.

As a starting point, and with the participation of members of the Auckland Society of Model Engineers, it is intended that the Festival will feature:

- Vintage farm machinery in operation, including steam threshing, reaping and binding, etc.
- Vintage tractors in action
- Vintage engines and machinery in operation
- Clydesdales and equipment working
- Horse-drawn vehicles
- Steam traction engines and other steam-powered vehicles operating
- Steam locomotives, including visiting engines, hauling passenger trains on the Railway
- Steam locomotives and other vintage rail vehicles on display
- Veteran, vintage, post vintage, post war and classic cars and other vintage vehicles on display and operating
- Steam cars
- Steam engines and machinery operating

Steam boats operating on the adjacent farm lake
Vintage aircraft aerial displays
Vintage tools
Models and miniature engineering
Musical entertainment
Face painting and other entertainment for children
Stalls, food, crafts etc.

The Festival, as in the past, will be an ideal opportunity to showcase ASME members' model engineering achievements to a large and very appreciative audience, in a convivial atmosphere among like-minded people, and in an appropriately period setting.

Arrangements will be made to ensure that ASME members' needs are catered for, with the intention being to make their involvement extremely enjoyable and rewarding.

Facilities for caravans and campervans will be available if required.

Passes will be issued to allow your participating members to enter the grounds and ride the train free.

The above is a broad outline of the planned event. Your feedback will be most welcome.

Please reply to: Ross Crook
Festival Organiser
GVR Steam and Vintage Country Festival 2017
c/o 4 Mull Place, Wattle Downs
Manurewa 2103

Ph 267 0291
rosscrook@ihug.co.nz

I look forward to your (positive) response!

Yours sincerely



Ross Crook
Festival Organiser
Steam and Vintage Country Festival 2017
Ph. 09 267 0291