

The MICROMETER

AUCKLAND SOCIETY OF MODEL ENGINEERS INCORPORATED

PO Box 14570, Panmure, Auckland 1072, NEW ZEALAND

Club House: Peterson Reserve, off Peterson Road, Mt Wellington,
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Number 655

April
2020

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REGISTERED NEW ZEALAND PUBLICATION

A word (or two) from the Editor

This is possibly (hopefully) the shortest Micrometer edition that you will ever get to read. You probably won't even need to make a cup of tea to read it over.

For those of you who normally do an honest day's work during the week (i.e. too young to be retired), you will be looking for something to fill in the time..

At the top of the list, you should now be able to find time to work on your favourite model building project, whatever that may be.

You will have an excuse for not repainting the house/fence/whatever, as the hardware shops aren't open if you don't have any paint or you've run out of turps.

You won't, however, have an excuse for not mowing the lawn, (even if the only plants growing in your lawn are paspalum and dandelions and the rest of the grass has all burnt off during the drought), because the service stations are still open to buy mower fuel from.

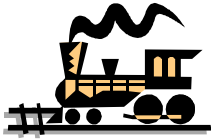
Incidentally, getting back to model building, if you're thinking of starting work on a new boiler and have run out of LPG, this is available from Z service stations - even if it's not the cheapest available, it's better than not having any when you need it. (Just don't set fire to your surroundings - it's still pretty dry out there).

Finally, something that may have slipped your notice: there are no barber shops open. So now might be a good time to get your wife/girlfriend/significant other to give you a trim. Then your hair might have time to grow back into something presentable before you have to go back to work!

Hoping you are all still with us and are finding yourselves able to cope with the necessary domestic confinement.

Cheers,

John



Train Roster

Date	Electric Driver	Electric Driver	Steam Driver	Train Controller	Station / Guard	Station / Guard
22-Mar-20	Cancelled due to COVID-19 threat - email 21/03/20					
29-Mar-20	NZ wide Lockdown level 4 - 25 March on for min 4 weeks					
5-Apr-20						
12-Apr-20						
19-Apr-20						
26-Apr-20	I Ashley	G Beazley	Voluntary	<u>G Anderson</u>	R Souter*	R Stratton
3-May-20	M Granger	M Hollis	Voluntary	<u>D Russell</u>	P Tomkies*	A Stratton
10-May-20	D Housley	J Lankow	Voluntary	<u>G Wills</u>	D Wilson*	R Shearer
17-May-20	M Moore	R Reichardt	Voluntary	<u>B Aickin</u>	M Vickers*	S Wilson
24-May-20	A Shirley	P Woodford	Voluntary	<u>P Dowdeswell</u>	R Crook*	D Beecher
31-May-20	I Ashley	A Bailey	Voluntary	<u>T Lawrence</u>	M Luxton*	B Matchett
	We will have to await developments & see if Government lifts restrictions for 26 April next. If they do then at least we have dates for you to diarise in advance					

Bold and Underlined Name = **Train Controller**, i.e. the person in overall control of all operations for the day

Bold with Asterisked* Name = **Stationmaster**, i.e. the person responsible for activities in the station area

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. **Note: the Train Controllers for both affected days must be informed of the swap in advance. It is the responsibility of the person who initiated the swap to do this.** Also advise Bob Aickin who is keeping track of the number of duties each of us perform during the year.

The details of the swap should be noted in the Run Book.

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.

APRIL CALENDAR

Sunday April 5th - No Sunday running until further notice.

Tuesday April 7th - No General Meetings until further notice.

Tuesday April 14th - No workshop nights until further notice

Tuesday April 21st - All committee business to be carried out by email or other electronic means.

President's Report

March 2020

March is usually a time where everything settles back into a routine - the schools are back, the traffic jams return, and the weather tends to be predictable as well. This March the weather seems to have been the only thing predictable, with extreme fire danger warnings in place, and now the coronavirus to deal with.

The committee has been giving these matters serious consideration, with the safety of our members being of paramount importance. We decided to stop Sunday Running with effect from the 21st March, and will monitor the situation and the Government recommendations before reinstating it - unfortunately it could be some time. Work on the track will also be difficult to arrange in view of these restrictions; hopefully we can make some progress on the more pressing tasks.

The latest Covid-19 restrictions will mean that all club meetings will have to be postponed until further notice, and the committee will consult by electronic means.

On a positive note, we have had a very generous donation to the club by Bill Joplin of an Ajax loco built by Geth Greagh, who went on to be the creative force behind the Beejax team. This is a great loco with importance to our club and will be an asset to us in the future if we can find some custodian members within the club to look after it.

In the meantime, since you won't be going on that Northern Hemisphere holiday or that ocean cruise this year, what a perfect excuse to get stuck into that modelling project you have been saving up!

Cheers,

Mike Moore.



Herewith the minutes of the 2019 AGM - apologies for its late publication:

Minutes Annual General Meeting 3rd December 2019.

Called to order at 7.39 pm.

Chaired; Timothy Robinson.

Present; 23 members.

Apologies; Alan Pritchard, Greg Burrows, Ron Copeland.

Visitors; Nil.

Minutes; The minutes of the AGM of the 4th December 2018 were read by the secretary and accepted as a true and accurate record, moved by Dave Housley, sec. Bob Aickin, carried.

Matters Arising; Nil.

President's Report; Timothy read out his Annual Report to the Meeting. Acceptance was moved by Dave Housley, seconded Derek Beecher, carried.

General Manager's Report; Greville tabled the annual accounts for the year ended 30/09/2019, following which the accounts were moved by Greville, sec Alan Stratton, approved by the meeting.

He then moved that subs remain at the current levels, sec. Dave Housley, carried.

Notices Of Motion; Nil.

Election Of Officers; The following nominations were received;

President: Mike Moore

Vice President: Greville Wills

Secretary: TBA

Treasurer: Grant Anderson

Editor: John Lankow

Librarian: Mark Luxton.

Committee: Dave Housley, Bob Aickin, Bruce Matchett, Alan Stratton, Timothy Robinson.

Greville Wills moved that nominations be accepted, sec Dave Russell, carried.

Other Business; Greville proposed a vote of thanks to Grant for his assistance in preparing the financial report.

With no nominations forthcoming for the role of secretary, the committee will field temporary replacements until a permanent candidate is found.

Meeting closed at 8.10pm.

We needed some pictures to brighten up this edition a bit, so President Mike Moore sent me these. He has been busy at home making a grunty-looking press for his workshop. In his own words:

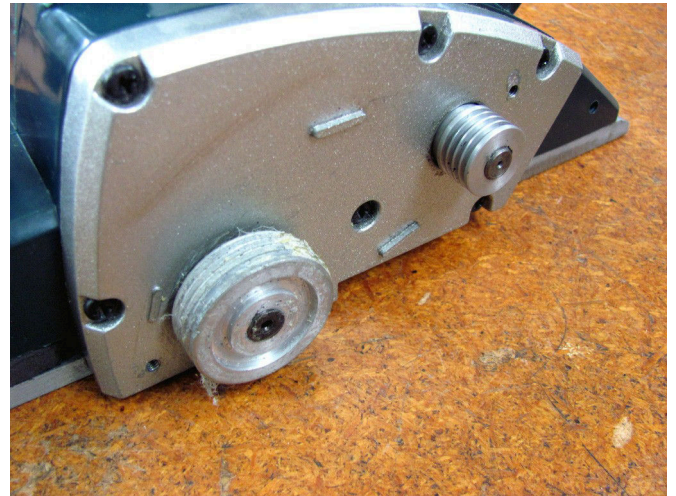
“Here are the pictures of my first project- a 20-ton press using bits I obtained from my local scrap dealer pre-lockdown. This was the first time I have really used my RF-30 (mill/drill) and, despite some limitations, it worked well. I may replace the Port-a-Power with a 2-stage pump in the future as it is a bit slow”.



Bits and Pieces 3rd March 2020

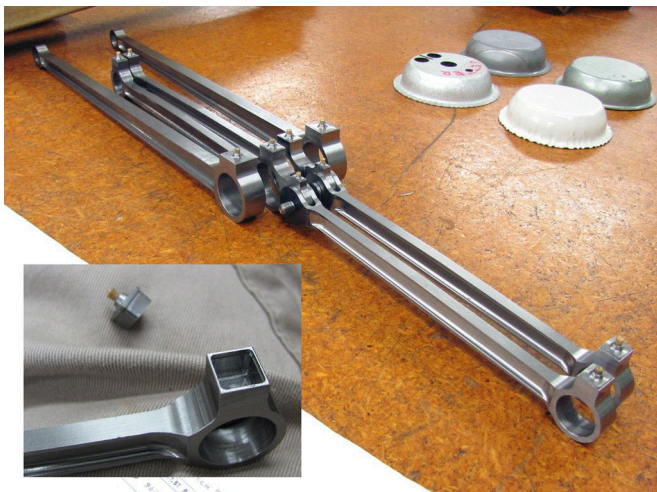
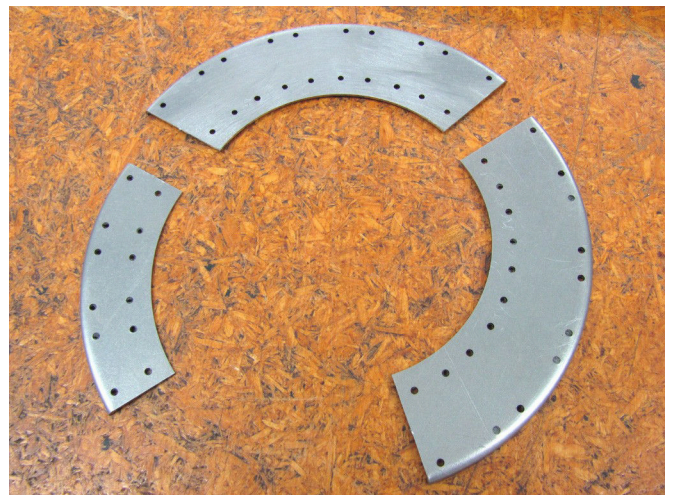
Photos and Report by Dave Russell

First up tonight was a cheap \$30 electric planer. **Grant Anderson** found out when he needed a new drive belt for it that although the machine was cheap a replacement belt was \$25. Grant is now looking around for a reasonably priced belt.



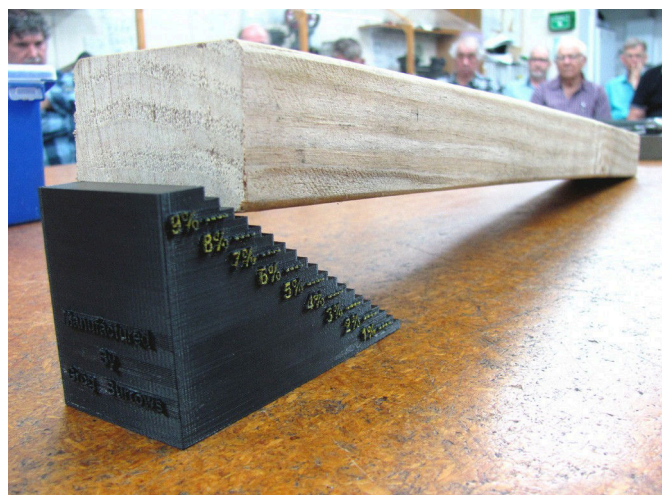
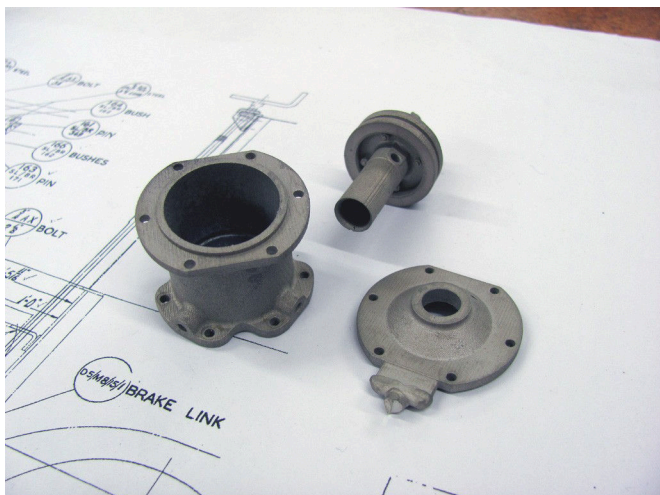
Mike Moore had some ES type collets that he wanted to use in an ER collet holder so he modified them by grinding the collets and making some spacers to fit into the ER holder ahead of the collet. The collet in the foreground is the modified one.

These balance weight pressings are for the wheels on **Mike Jack's** 5" Class 3 locomotive project, Mike says it took a couple of attempts to get the pre made holes in the right place on the die, he ended up putting some small pins in to stop the plate in location while being pressed.



Mike Jack has also been doing some jobs for customers: this set of connecting and coupling rods are for a client in the UK who is modelling a 5" Britannia, The I-beam shape is only 1.2mm thick in the centre as per scale size, The very clever oil pots (inset) have corks made from chop stick material.

Back to Mike's 5" class 3 project, and to keep up with his customers who are "steaming" ahead with their builds Mike has produced some new detail drawings and castings for the brake gear and steam cylinder, He has also had a mould made to produce waxes for the brake block hangers.



Greg Burrows 3D printed up this gradient gauge. When used with the correct length piece of timber he will be able to dig the correct gradients for his garden railway.



These sample pressed cups were brought in by **Peter Woodford** to show the different quality of finish that can be produced when using press tools on sheet metal.



This damaged - and another broken - spring pins are from Grant Anderson's Beejax loco variant. The damage happened during a derailment despite having a protection bar on the front of the locomotive. The one that sheered off was extracted by drilling and tapping into the remaining piece in the axle box allowing the piece to be extracted.

