

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 656

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2020

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REGISTERED NEW ZEALAND PUBLICATION

A word (or two) from the Editor

We're now back at Covid Level 3.

This does not mean we are able to have Sunday running or General Meetings yet.

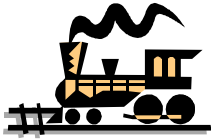
So it's back to the workshop (or the garden!) for many of us, especially those of us who are older than 70 years.

Meanwhile, what I could do with right now are some contributions from members that could be included in the forthcoming issues of the Micrometer. If you have an interesting project on the go, please send us some details and a few pictures (email address above) that will help us brighten up the newsletter till we get some more Bits and Pieces etc to look at.

Take care and obey all the rules.....

Cheers,

John



Train Roster

Date	Electric Driver	Electric Driver	Steam Driver	Train Controller	Station / Guard	Station / Guard	
Covid 19 - Level 3 - 28 April on (for how long we do not know!)							
3-May-20	M Granger	M Hollis	Fire Ban	<u>D Russell</u>	P Tomkies*	A Stratton	Cancelled
10-May-20	D Housley	J Lankow	Voluntary	<u>G Wills</u>	D Wilson*	R Shearer	Cancelled
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	
7-Jun-20	G Beazley	M Granger	Voluntary	<u>S Meikle</u>	K Ryan*	R Souter	
14-Jun-20	M Hollis	D Housley	Voluntary	<u>S Meikle</u>	R Souter*	M Vickers	
21-Jun-20	J Lankow	M Moore	Voluntary	<u>T Robinson</u>	A Stratton*	R Stratton	
28-Jun-20	M Plant	R Reichardt	Voluntary	<u>G Anderson</u>	P Tomkies*	D Beecher	
Please Note: With the Covid 19 disruptions:							
The roster is rolling forward to give you advance notice of possible dates for your calendar.							
Any cancelled running days will be re-programmed in, to catch up the numbers.							

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

Bold with Asterisk* Name = **Stationmaster**, i.e. the person responsible for activities in the station area and for the day's takings.

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.

MAY CALENDAR

Sunday May 3rd - No Sunday running until further notice.

Tuesday May 5th - No General Meetings until further notice.

Tuesday May 12th - No workshop nights until further notice

Tuesday May 19th - All committee business to be carried out by email or other electronic means.

President's Report

April 2020

After four weeks I think we can just about see the light at the end of the tunnel though no-one really knows how long it will prove to be. Grant has managed to keep an eye on our premises during the lockdown by walking from his home to the Basin - at least the weather has been favourable - and has reported that the only issue has been a broken window which has been patched temporarily and will be repaired when it is possible. If only those responsible could be encouraged to build things rather than wreck them we might gain some younger members.

In the meantime, it has been encouraging to see how the vast majority of the community have come together to help find a way through what must be a very trying time for many people, and I can only hope that the efforts made so far continue so that we don't start sliding backwards. I am not sure when we will be able to start Sunday Running and GM's again but it will certainly not be before a return to Level 2 at the earliest.

I am sure most of you will be aware of the recent passing of Bill Parker, long-time member of ASME and MLS, and some of you may have known of his condition, though most of us did not. He will leave a huge void in our modelling community and will be greatly missed by us all and I would like to extend our condolences on behalf of the club to his family.

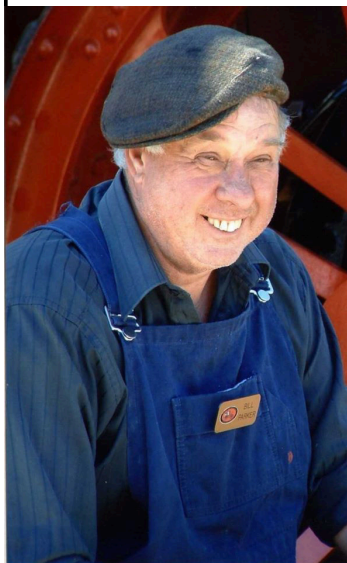
For now I would just like to wish you all well in your endeavours, while those of us who have enjoyed an enforced holiday return to work this week.

Cheers,

Mike Moore.



Bill Parker



Former ASME member Bill Parker passed away at his home about 1am on Friday April 24th. He had been having treatment for cancer for most of the last year and had apparently spent many weeks in Middlemore Hospital.

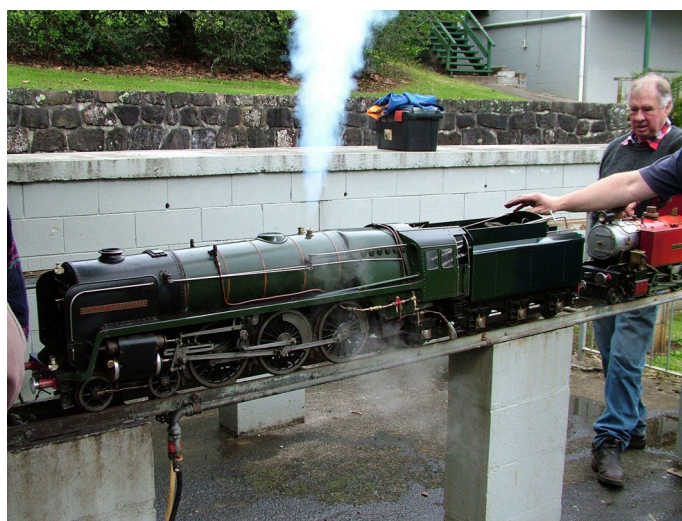
Bill joined ASME in Aug 1983 and left our membership in 2014, but has been an attender at quite a few ASME general and workshop meetings since (as an MLS member). He was on the ASME committee for about 10 years (1980/90s) and also printed/serviced our copier in the days when the club printed its own newsletter.

Bill was a regular contributor to the Bits and Pieces table at the monthly General Meetings. He occasionally raised a few eyebrows when displaying some of the larger (and heavier) components of the 4" scale traction engine he was building.

I remember a club visit to Bill's workshop in Waiuku back in 2011. He was in the process of repairing a large (I mean LARGE) boiler which was standing on it's end on the floor and was tied to the rafters with a rope to prevent it from falling over. I also remember a bucket full of scrap brass nearby. Not for tripping over!

I also received a short message from Garry Hamlin of SMM who commented that Bill had built him a new boiler for his Grandfather's 90+yr old model steamship a few years ago.

Below is a photo of Bill on Peter George's (NPSMEE) Foster traction engine and the second photo is of Bill watching the Britannia steam test.



The two photos above were supplied by Grant Anderson from the NZME FB site posted by Greg Burrows.

The photo to the right was supplied by Greville Wills.

-Ed.

Panmure Basin Fun Day – 1st March 2020.

Report and pictures by Grant Anderson.

A fine, warm day, with the tide in, was just what the Doctor ordered (and we received) for ASME's biggest operating day of the year at the Waipuna Miniature Railway. Again this year, Auckland Council and the Mt Wellington Foundation provided funds for advertising & setting up the event; so expectations were high for another large crowd. They had decreed an event time of 11am to 4pm and ASME was ready to go on time. One thing that was missing from past years was our "steamer" fleet, ordered from the tracks due to the region-wide fire ban.

The crowds seemed slow to arrive, but by lunchtime the queue was out to the 3-way bridge. However, we never seemed to be under too much pressure with the Club trains able to cope without too much problem. The Dsa loco (pictured bottom right) was finally back on the tracks (now with loco fitted brake operating equipment) and pulled one trolley around most of the afternoon – albeit requiring a battery change midway!

A good number of extra helpers swelled our rostered staff and this allowed a more relaxed sharing of duties with time to chat as well as enjoy a lunch put on by the Club up in the Clubhouse. Approximately 1200 rides were given, almost four times as many as the average Sunday; so lots of smiley faces were to be seen.

Thanks to all those who helped out – it was a big success.

Footnote: Even SMM had a big day – they had their new signage out and lots of punters driving boats. One excellent feature was a huge display of model boats lined up along the pond footwalk adjacent to the Basin pathway.

