

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,
Auckland 1060

Number 663

Telephone: 09 570 5286 Club Web Site: www.asme.org.nz

December
2020

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REGISTERED NEW ZEALAND PUBLICATION

Retirement of an ageing Scribe:

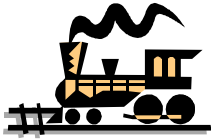
In spite of the Committee's having advertised the position of Editor for several months, it seems that no ASME members feel they have the ability, time or any other reason to suggest they might be capable of doing the job.

It ain't that hard, people!

I have held the position for 7 years, having taken it up with nothing more than a possibly better-than-average spelling ability, a home computer and a camera, and I am stepping aside now because my ageing brain is letting me know that its memory is not functioning as well as it used to. It's a bit like trying to work with a desk-top computer out of the 1980's, but there is nothing available in the way of core upgrades or larger-capacity disk drives to bring it up to today's standards! I have to work with what I've got left and providing a readable (and accurate) newsletter every month is becoming a bit too much for my 75-year-old grey-matter to cope with.

So in order to keep the Micrometer going, I urge anyone who thinks they have the ability to produce a reasonable document once a month to give it a go. Have a chat to one of our Committee members to find out what is involved.

Regards,
John



Train Roster

Date	Electric Driver	Electric Driver	Steam Driver	Train Controller	Station / Guard	Station / Guard
6-Dec-20	R Reichardt	A Shirley	Voluntary	<u>G Anderson</u>	M Luxton*	D Beecher
13-Dec-20	P Woodford	I Ashley	Voluntary	<u>D Russell</u>	R Souter*	B Matchett
20-Dec-20	A Bailey	M Granger	Voluntary	<u>G Wills</u>	M Vickers*	R Shearer
27-Dec-20	----- Xmas / New Year Break - No Roster in Operation -----					
3-Jan-21	----- Xmas / New Year Break - No Roster in Operation -----					
10-Jan-21	M Hollis	D Housley	Voluntary	<u>P Dowdeswell</u>	R Crook*	B Matchett
17-Jan-21	J Lankow	M Moore	Voluntary	<u>T Lawrence</u>	M Luxton*	D Beecher
24-Jan-21	R Reichardt	P Woodford	Voluntary	<u>S Meikle</u>	R Shearer*	K Ryan
31-Jan-21	A Shirley	I Ashley	Voluntary	<u>T Robinson</u>	R Souter*	M Vickers
7-Feb-21	A Bailey	M Granger	Voluntary	<u>G Anderson</u>	A Stratton*	R Stratton
14-Feb-21	M Hollis	D Housley	Voluntary	<u>D Russell</u>	P Tomkies*	D Beecher
21-Feb-21	J Lankow	M Moore	Voluntary	<u>G Wills</u>	D Wilson*	K Ryan
28-Feb-21	R Reichardt	A Shirley	Voluntary	<u>P Dowdeswell</u>	R Crook*	M Vickers

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 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.

DECEMBER CALENDAR

Tuesday December 1st, 7.30 pm - General Meeting and AGM, ASME clubrooms. Michael Cryns will be giving a talk on restoring the Civic Theatre clock.

Saturday December 5th, from 11 am - ASME fun run and barbecue lunch.

Tuesday December 8th, 7.30 pm - Workshop Night, ASME clubrooms.

Tuesday December 15th, 7.30 pm - Committee meeting, ASME clubrooms.

President's Report

November 2020

Hi,

Another year is coming to an end (and what a year it has been!) and that means the last meeting and the AGM. As far as I am aware all the current committee have put their names forward for re-election, and it is hoped a couple more members will come forward to help out next year. All the positions are likely to be returned with one notable exception; the December Micrometer will definitely be John Lankow's last as editor.

John has done a great job for many years and has certainly earned the right to step back and spend more time in his workshop again. To date, however, no-one has expressed an interest in taking over, with the result that we are facing the option that in the future the club newsletter will become little more than a roster for Sunday Running and a noticeboard for club events. This will not only be a sad day for the club, but may result in organisations who have reciprocal arrangements with us deciding that those are no longer worthwhile. Therefore I would once again like to ask all members to seriously consider your situation to see if it is possible for you to take on this important but not overly demanding task.

On a positive note, it is great to see members who are unable, for a variety of reasons, to commit to regular attendance, coming along to working bees and to help out at Sunday Running. It is appreciated by everyone and makes the job much easier, and I am sure everyone enjoys it.

As if the AGM wasn't enough incentive for members to come along on December 1, the eagerly awaited presentation by Michael Cryns on his work to restore the Civic clock will fill in the evening, so we can expect a good turnout.

With the difficulties and uncertainty Covid has created this year, the committee has been unable to make arrangements for a club Xmas dinner as we have in previous years. Instead, we have decided to hold a Fun Run and barbeque on December 5th, which we would like to open up to all members and extended families to attend. There will be no charge but we would ask that you give us an indication of the numbers attending to enable us to cater sufficiently. Members are invited to bring locos and anything else of interest along and operate them from the morning onward, and I would expect a club loco to be run as well if the numbers require it. There will be nibbles and refreshments available, with the BBQ operating from around 1pm, and I would like to see a relaxed family atmosphere, so don't expect any speeches!

See you there,

Cheers,

Mike Moore.

Notice of Annual General Meeting of Auckland Society of Model Engineers Incorporated

The Committee gives notice that the next Annual General Meeting will be held at the ASME Clubrooms, Peterson Reserve, Panmure on Tuesday 1st December 2020 commencing at 7.35pm.

The Agenda items will be the relevant items as set out in Rule 16.

Help Wanted

Greville has been busy converting A&G Price 5" gauge trolleys to run on our 7-1/4" gauge track and has now finished the second one. But there are still 2 more to do, and he would like some assistance with these.

The job is quite involved, but Greville has produced all the parts required in the form of a kit, along with a comprehensive set of instructions, to make the job as easy as possible. If any member can help with this work, please contact Greville.

Missing Magazines

Please do see if you can provide a copy – only then we can get the full volumes bound.

Model Engineer – Vol 216 No 4529, 4530; Vol 218 4562; Vol 222 4609; Vol 224 No 4636.

Model Engineer Workshop – No 240 April 2016

Live Steam – Vol 51 No 1, 2, 3 (2017)

Situation Vacant

The committee is **STILL** looking for a suitable ASME member to take over the role of Editor of our monthly newsletter - the Micrometer.

This person will hopefully have access to a computer and be reasonably competent using Microsoft Word, or, better still, Microsoft Office Publisher. (There may, of course, be similar products around which can do the same job).

The applicant should have a reasonable grasp of English spelling and punctuation, bearing in mind that nobody's perfect!. Don't worry, there will be proofreaders available to knock things into shape before the final edition is released!

The working conditions are not arduous - just a few hours near the end of each month, and you also automatically become a member of the ASME Committee.

If you feel you meet most of the above requirements and wish to have a go, contact the Secretary.

Bits and Pieces, 3rd November 2020

Photos and report by Dave Russell

First up tonight we had a nice set of Beejax loco drawings that had been nicely laminated by **Dave Housley**. Dave had been given the drawings and a partly built Beejax from an old members deceased estate.

Peter Tomkies brought in a number of photographs of the Items in his workshop that regrettably he wishes to sell. Basically there is a complete workshop that would suit a model engineer, featuring Lathe, Mill and all the related tooling and accessories. Peter says the whole lot must go as one lot.



A new visitor and prospective future member **Arnold van Zon** brought along a partly built boiler for a 3-1/2" Highland Lassie. This is the same type locomotive that Bruce Cooper is currently rebuilding, Unfortunately the boiler had a few issues that would cause it to fail our boiler code. Some of the tubes were so close together as to be touching and the combustion chamber had a straight join that had been brazed.

Mike Jack as usual had a number of interesting items for us to look at tonight. First was a connecting rod for a 7-1/2" gauge "Mikado" locomotive for a client in the USA. Mike has milled this from black mild steel and the rod will only be polished on the outside.

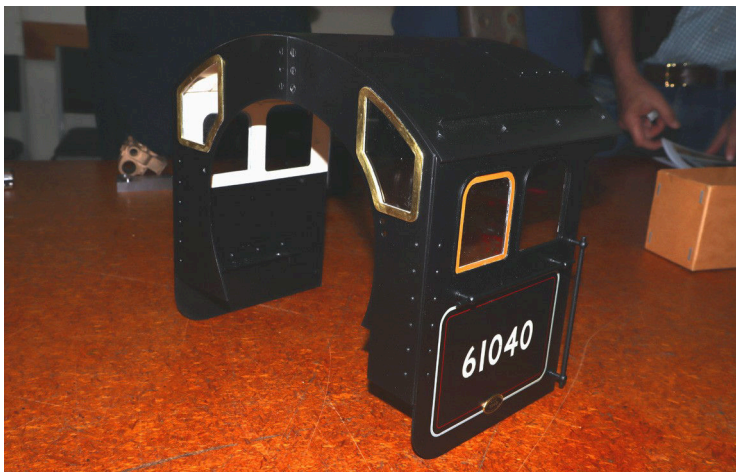
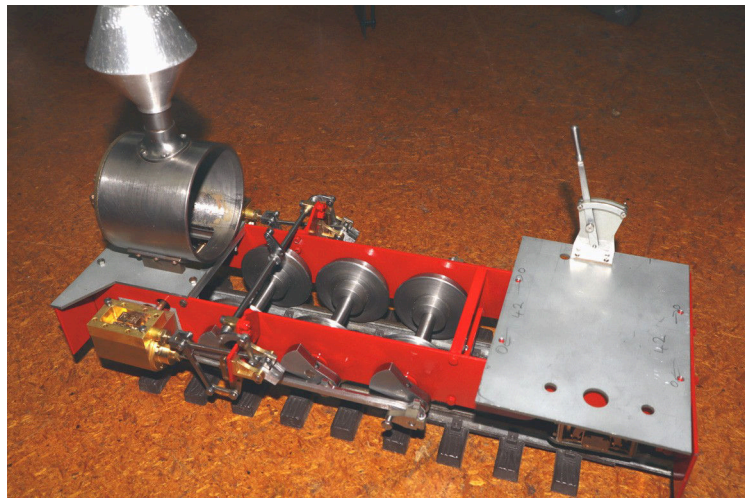


The second items that Mike brought along tonight were some radius rod lifting arms for a 5" 9F locomotive



Mike's last offering tonight was an outstanding small cylinder casting for a Gauge 1, 4-8-2+2-8-4 Garret locomotive model of a Rhodesian Railways engine. The casting was cast from wax patterns in silicon bronze.

Staying with the Gauge 1 sized models this nice 0-6-2 Bagnall sugar cane locomotive is under construction by **Greg Burrows** for use on his recently completed garden railway. Nice job Greg.



Martin Plant has been busy with the finishing touches to his 5" B1 locomotive. This is the cab for the loco; it was first painted in gloss black, the lines were added using "Precision Transfers", then after cleaning with spirits the shiny backing to the transfers came off and finally the thing was sprayed with a satin clear coating. Looks great!



In these photos we have a bit of an evolution of an idea from **Bruce Cooper's** prolific workshop. Firstly the plastic ice cream container on the draw bar for the Kathleen locomotive was to carry sufficient coal so that Bruce could fire "on the run", then after obtaining some cast-off wheels and bogie from an old club trolley he made the red wagon using a baking tin. This gave him a good wagon to carry the coal for Kathleen. Then after he acquired "Sir Warrick" and did a rebuild he felt that the red wagon was too narrow for it so utilising some wheels and buffers recently bought at the club auction he built the MK2 wagon roughly based on an HO scale wagon he had at home. Bruce says the dummy planking, which was painted after a couple of whiskys, didn't seem to affect the finished job!

Mike Banks, who was introducing the Bits and Pieces, had a largeish milling cutter to show to-night: it was one that he had acquired but was too big for any of the cutter holders he had. Mike's answer was to soften the cutter and turn down the shank between the provided centres it had to a size he could manage, and then re-harden it. Mike says it works fine and will cut mild steel without a problem.

Mike also brought in a special tap that he had made while building his 5" King locomotive. The tap is a twin start acme, L/H thread. This was made to tap the thread in the reverser trunnion for the King. In the photo you can see a spare bronze trunnion on the tap.



Workshop Night, Tuesday 10th November, 2020

Well Tuesday night wasn't looking too good with regards to the weather for the Workshop Night meeting, but 9 determined members made the effort to come along and the weather cleared up for a nice evening in the end. We started the night off in the usual way with a cup of tea and biscuits to get everyone warmed up. The meeting got underway with a couple of interesting questions from one of the members. He wanted some advice on moving his new (to him) milling machine he has just received for his workshop. One of the problems was it was still sitting on a pallet with very little head room in the space he wanted to put it on. So he was given lots of ideas and someone has offered to help out with some lifting gear to make life a bit easier.

David Housley brought along a set of drawings that would have originally been drawn by one of our senior members years ago called Geth Creagh who was responsible for the development of the BeeJax loco. The drawings also had some ideas for different variations of the wheel arrangement from 0-4-0, 2-4-0, 0-6-0, 2-6-0

Peter Woodford had been looking around his workshop and came across a tool he purchased years ago while he still lived in the UK. He had the need to replace the brake line on a friend's car after it was inspected and found to be very corroded. After looking around for a new replacement brake line he came across a company supplying this tool that puts the formed ends on the brake tube to suit the different types of fittings used.

There are two basic types of flares used on OEM automotive brake systems throughout the world. The SAE/double (inverted/45degree) flare and the DIN/ISO bubble flare. We will refer to them as SAE or DIN flare. The most common is the SAE flare. See photo below:



Michael Jack has been busy again making more 5" parts for a customer's 9F locomotive in the UK so in the photo you can see the left and right hand side lifting arms for the die block for reversing the valve gear. One of the links (centre) is the link that connects the reverser in the cab with the expansion link. Michael has machined the inside features of this link from a solid block and then had the outside profile wire-cut to complete it. The left hand side link he has done all the milling from a solid block to the finished profile of the full size. The expansion link has been made from Gauge Plate (01 steel) and is done in a couple of operations. First op is to mill the inside to shape with the curve and holes in place and then it is mounted on a jig (centre of photo) and then the outside profile is milled to shape.



The two large connecting rods are for a customer in the USA who is building a 7-1/2" gauge 2-8-2 USA Mikado. Michael has machined these from a piece of black mild steel bar and has spent a lot of time in the finishing of them with his polishing stones of different grades to get a very nice grain and smooth finish to them.

The part on the round bar is the start of the trunnion block for the expansion link. Each link needs two of these fitted to them.

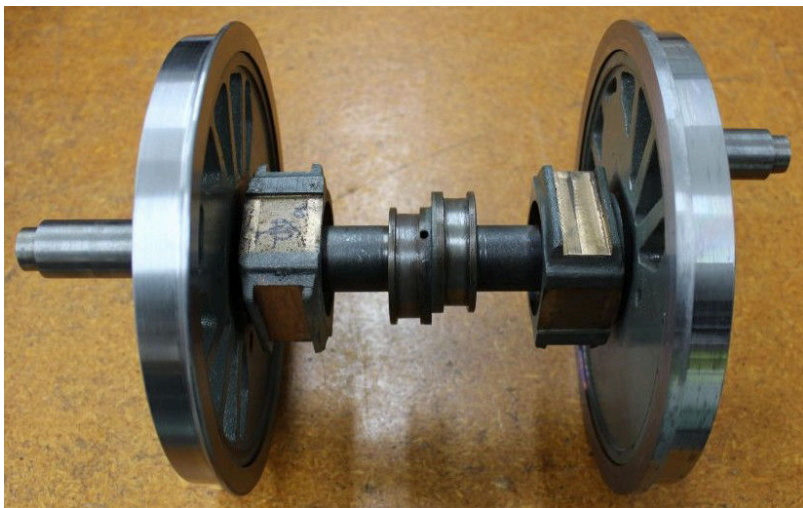
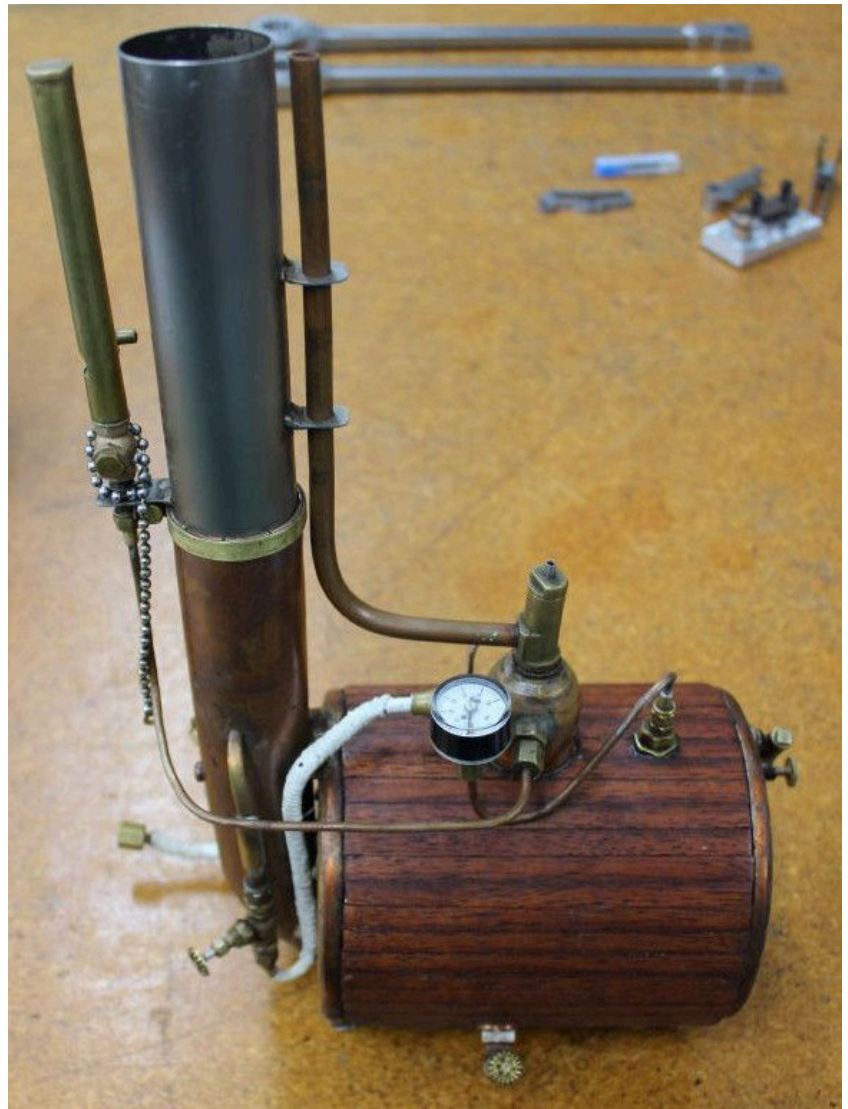


This photo above was also from Michael Jack. Mike told us about a company he has been buying cutters from and that the prices were very compatible with others he has used out of China. So this might be worth looking at if you're looking for end mills etc. for your workshop.



Murray Hollis brought along a pulley and a new sleeve he has been making to enable him to change the motor on a piece of equipment he has. The job required him to bore out the pulley and fit a new sleeve of a different bore size. He also had to cut a keyway in the bore of the new pulley. After doing some research on the internet he came across an idea for making a keyway cutter a little bit different from any I've seen before. You mill a slot in a piece of bar the same size as the hole you want to put the keyway in, and fit a piece of tool steel in the slot with the end sharpened to allow it to cut. Under the tool steel is a grub screw that comes in from the opposite side to allow you to put a deeper cut on each time you pass it through the job. Very basic but it worked a treat for him.

Mike Banks brought along a small boiler for a steam powered boat that a guy has asked him if he could help sorting it out for him. It has a couple of leaks and the guy didn't have any proper heating tools to attack the job. Mike discussed with the others at the meeting how we should go about fixing it.



Greg Burrows brought in a set of wheels that he is re-tiring for a customer that hasn't got a lathe big enough to handle the job. The locomotive is the same type and size that Michael Jack is making connecting rods for, just these are two different engines. In the photo only one side of the set has had the new tyre finished turned to size; the other side was left un-machine so the members could see what is involved in replacing a worn wheel set with a new steel tyre. The new set is made from 25mm thick Grade 350 plate (medium tensile steel)

Well that is a quick round up of the workshop night and as always it is good to see members interested in supporting this night. Remember if there are questions about engineering or other ideas on how to do something that you would like help with, just bring them to the night.

So remember this meeting takes place at 7-30pm on the second Tuesday of the month and all members are welcome to come along and join in. Cheers Greg B.

