

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 679

June 2022

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**Basil Wilson on Dave Watts 3.5g Britannia
ASME Portable Track - St Peters College April 1960
Photo: ASME Collection (B N Wilson)**

Memories from Last Century—Running on Portable Track

President's Report June 2022

As I write this it feels as though we are heading into winter, which we should be with the evenings closing in and the shortest day not far away now. I know this makes it difficult for some of you to attend the monthly meetings but it is hoped that you will continue to make the effort as getting together over our hobby is what we are all about. If you need a lift check out the member's section of the website for contact details of others who live nearby and may be able to help.

With winter come the usual ailments, as well as the continuing worry of Covid. My best wishes go out to those members and their families who have and are still coping with this, the latest I have heard of being Grant Anderson and Jan, so a speedy recovery to you all.

The return to Sunday Running has been very successful to date, with little adverse effect from the weather, and I know the teams and the public have been pleased we are running regularly again. The frequency of rostered duties has been noted by the committee and Greville is currently working on ways to minimise this, but the bottom line is that we need more active members and the committee would welcome any suggestions for addressing this, but it is an issue for most clubs these days.

One way to attract more members is to have machinery available to enable members to tackle projects which are beyond the scope of a home workshop. It is hoped the new club workshop will contribute significantly to this, both as a facility for members to use and as a teaching aid. Safety will need to be a major concern, therefore the skills and competency of users will be assessed and recorded before being allowed to operate the machinery. Painting and electrical work needs to be carried out before the machinery can be installed, and it is hoped this will be completed in the near future.

The committee has decided to offer our surplus copies of the Workshop Practise series to members to purchase, and these will be available at the June GM with further details from David Black elsewhere in this Micrometer.

Stay busy and stay healthy.

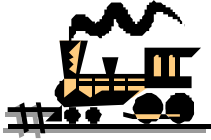
Cheers,

Mike Moore.

ASME is an active member of MEANZ, members should keep a lookout on the website too <http://www.pnmech.org.nz/meanz.php>, a good place to find other clubs when you are travelling. Just like us, our friends nationwide always welcome visitors.

JUNE CALENDAR

- | | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| <u>Tuesday June 7th, 7.30 pm</u> | - General Meeting (Clubhouse) |
| <u>Tuesday June 14th, 7.30 pm</u> | - Workshop Night, (Clubhouse) |
| <u>Tuesday June 21st, 7.30 pm</u> | - Committee Meeting, (Clubhouse) |



Train Roster

ASME

DUTY ROSTER

Date	Electric Driver	Electric Driver	Steam Driver	Train Controller	Station / Guard	Station / Guard
5-Jun-22	M Hollis	D Housley	Voluntary	<u>T Lawrence</u>	D Beecher*	C Whitiskie
12-Jun-22	J Lankow	M Moore	Voluntary	<u>S Meikle</u>	D Wilson*	L Brown
19-Jun-22	R Reichardt	B Matchett	Voluntary	<u>T Robinson</u>	R Crook*	J Anderson
26-Jun-22	M Plant	R Shearer	Voluntary	<u>D Russell</u>	M Vickers*	H Dando
3-Jul-22	I Ashley	A Bailey	Voluntary	<u>G Wills</u>	R Souter*	D Beecher
10-Jul-22	M Hollis	D Housley	Voluntary	<u>B Aickin</u>	A Van Zon*	C Whitiskie
17-Jul-22	J Lankow	S Meikle	Voluntary	<u>D Black</u>	R Shearer*	M Moore
24-Jul-22	R Reichardt	B Matchett	Voluntary	<u>P Dowdeswell</u>	D Wilson*	J Anderson
31-Jul-22	K Ryan	R Shearer	Voluntary	<u>T Lawrence</u>	M Vickers*	L Brown

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.

At the date of publishing New Zealand is at COVID Orange Traffic Light
Public running is resumed with some conditions

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.

The photos of Jim Yearn's loco in April gained some feedback. Scott Meikle sent in a photo of him running the loco about 1990 and on Graeme Wilkinson's portable track. It was normally Graeme's loco (5" g NZR K - Washington) that was used for the Christmas party's or school fairs, however Jim's Maid of Kent became a regular when Graeme gave up running and Scott helped Jim on many occasions. In this case the event was for Fisher & Paykel's Xmas Party.

ASME members had quite a record of running on portable tracks, indeed at inception of the Club, this was used for fundraising (see photo attached) and helped pay for the original track at Lagoon Drive on the other side of the Panmure Basin. But eventually Department of Labour decided this type of track was unsafe and the practice had to be stopped.



JIM YEARN was born on 25 July 1929 in Oldham, near Manchester, Lancashire, England. He died suddenly at home with his family in Auckland on 25 December 2011.

Jim went to school in wartime England, which presented many challenges in itself. However, Jim overcame these and managed to attend his local grammar school where he excelled in most subjects. Even at this early age, Jim had taken an interest in steam engines and in particular model engineering. After the war he attended Oldham Technical College where he gained his National Certificate in Engineering and eventually progressed to his degree status of A.M.I Mech. E. Jim's early talents were recognized by the respected electrical firm of Ferranti who invited him to join their development department where he remained until his move to New Zealand in the late 1960s. By the 1970s whilst working in the development department of Fisher and Paykel he met with ASME club member Graham Wilkinson who introduced him to ASME. This was at a time when the club was going through its early development stage and Jim became very involved.

(from Jim's Obituary by Hugh Martin)

Workshop night with Dave

Workshop nights are held every second Tuesday at the club rooms starting at 7:30 . It is a casual gathering of members willing to share, discuss and admit to sometimes making a cock up. Members are encouraged to bring what they are working on or various bit of equipment they are using or manufacturing. Discussions over the items usually drift away slightly off topic revealing other little known facts or experiences in engineering.





Our first exhibitor with always a myriad of items was Mike Jack with cross heads made for a customer of his, made from white bronze (previous page, photos of these are in the previous edition of the Micrometer)

Next item of Mike's was a chimney for a 7 1/4" Jubilee completely finished machining using his CNC Mill. Mike spoke of having to machine up the manufacturing fixture to enable the complex surfaces all over. You can note the tooling ball he made to assist him in the setting up. Also of note is that the fixing holes for the chimney to the smoke box are all normal to the face of the lip around its circumference, not a mean feat.

Finally a guillotine to shorten rivets as he has to manufacture more rivets than he has fingers and toes



Arnold Van Zon brought in the barrel and wrapper for his 31/2" loco he is building and was asking questions regarding silver soldering techniques and how to not fall into the pitfalls in silver soldering further down the track



One of our junior members Chris Whitiskie has purchased the startings of a 5" Hunslett and among the parts he discovered these items above. He brought them along to be identified, the first we all examined and was decided upon that it was part of a grinding rig or fixture. The second was found to be a fixture to enable the turning of the eccentrics for his valve gear and or water feed pumps. The third item was a counter which showed its age by being nickel plated rather than chrome. Lastly was a block which could have countless uses but a logical thought was it could be utilized as a turn over pivot whilst build in the chassis of the loco.



ASME is selling excess copies of the Workshop Practice series Books

There is now a full set in the ASME Library. Although they are being regularly reprinted no 49 is the last new volume we have seen for some time

*The committee has decided to sell ASME stock at
NZD \$5 each*

Most are still available from Tee Print at GBP 7.95

<https://www.teepublishing.co.uk/books/workshop-practice-series/>