

## Number 692

August 2023

# The MICROMETER

AUCKLAND SOCIETY OF MODEL ENGINEERS INCORPORATED

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Official opening of the track extension on 1st November 1987. Mayor of Tamaki City Council Harry Bean is sitting behind Murray Granger who is driving the club's Dg class locomotive.

#### **President's Report August 2023**

#### Hello everyone

The harsh winter has finally hit us with blistering cold winds coming in, I hope that everyone is wrapped up nice and warm! The team has worked extremely hard on the track, getting ready for the first set of points going in and modifying the EC locomotives bogies so that it will fit through the new points. The work done is extremely impressive so thank you to everyone who has helped out so far. We are soon going to be reaching the point where we have to lay the track on the ground, so if anyone is available to help, please do stick your hand up and let us know!

On a more somber note, it is with regret that I must announce the passing of Murray Granger, A well known and respected member of our society who passed on the 15th June due to a stroke. Murray first joined the club in August 1985 and was a member for almost 38 years. Murray was a licensed steam driver, helping out not only on the Sunday roster but on many working bee's to keep the railway operational. He was a practical man, always willing to help others whenever asked. Murray built and ran a Simplex engine on Sundays for many years, as well as a model 25 pounder gun and a few other model engineering items. Up until he passed, he was actively building a stationary boiler for test purposes. Murray is survived by his wife Jill and his children to whom we have paid our respects to.

Finally, at the next General Meeting, we have another guest speaker! Athanasius Santamaria will be coming to the next meeting to talk about his vintage sports car and the processes that went into the construction and restoration of it. I am looking forward to hearing about it, as the photos look amazing!

Thanks

Philip Dowdeswell

Remember to watch the ASME Website. www.asme.org.nz  $\,$ 

Members should keep a lookout on the MEANZ website too, <a href="www.meanz.org.nz">www.meanz.org.nz</a>. It is a good place to find other clubs. When you are travelling, just like us, our friends nationwide always welcome visitors.

#### THIS MONTH'S CALENDAR

Tuesday, August 1st 7.30 pm Tuesday, August 8th 7.30 pm Tuesday, August 15th 7.30 pm

- General Meeting, (Clubhouse)
- Workshop Night, (Clubhouse)
- -Committee Meeting, (Clubhouse)



# Train Roster

| ASME   | DUTY ROSTER |
|--------|-------------|
| AJIVIL | DOLL NOSIEN |

| Date      | Electric    | Electric   | Steam     | Train                                     | Station /  | Station /    |
|-----------|-------------|------------|-----------|---|------------|--------------|
|           | Driver      | Driver     | Driver    | Controller                                | Guard      | Guard        |
| 6-Aug-23  | R Reichardt | I Ashley   | Voluntary | T Lawrence S Meikle D Russell G Wills     | M Luxton*  | R Mascarehas |
| 13-Aug-23 | A Bailey    | B Matchett | Voluntary |   | K Ryan*    | A Tolstykh   |
| 20-Aug-23 | D Housley   | R Shearer  | Voluntary |   | R Souter*  | D Wilson     |
| 27-Aug-23 | J Lankow    | M Moore    | Voluntary |   | M Vickers* | L Brown      |
| 3-Sep-23  | R Reichardt | I Ashley   | Voluntary | B Aickin P Dowdeswell T Lawrence S Meikle | R Crook*   | R Copeland   |
| 10-Sep-23 | A Bailey    | D Housley  | Voluntary |   | M Luxton*  | H Dando      |
| 17-Sep-23 | J Lankow    | M Plant    | Voluntary |   | K Ryan*    | R Mascarehas |
| 24-Sep-23 | M Moore     | C Whitisie | Voluntary |   | R Souter*  | S Watson     |

#### 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.

#### **Club Notices**

The annual ASME Club Lunch is confirmed for;

#### Saturday December 2nd, at Waipuna Hotel.

ASME has an extensive range of Model Engineering Journals (ME and MEW) in the library, managed by Mark Luxton. The collection goes back to the first editions. However as new copies arrive binding takes a while.

If you would like to read the latest edition they are free to borrow electronically from Auckland Public Libraries. The easiest way to borrow them is using the LIBBY app. This gives access to an ME and MEW e-sub. If you encounter difficulties take your device (an iPad is ideal) into any Auckland Library branch.

#### **Closure of the Jubilee Bridge**

At notice from the Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board, the Jubilee walking bridge that crosses the entrance to the Panmure basin has been closed. Although the council has worked to keep the bridge open in recent years, it has reached a point where safety is not guaranteed. Funding for a new bridge has been secured and will be occur in 2025.

Please be aware that this means you will no longer be able to complete a circuit of the Panmure Basin through the typical walking course. This does not affect our rail operations.



### **Guest Speaker—Athanasius Santamaria**

Athanasius Santamaria has kindly offered to talk as our guest speaker at the next club meeting. Below are some photos of the vintage sports car that he has been working on. It is an Austin Seven Sports reproduction—and although it is done in full scale for someone to sit in and operate, the small size of it basically makes it model engineering!





#### **Bits & Pieces**



Greville has modified an older A&G Price Bogie to support a box for his tools around the track. He has shifted the bolts so that the wheels have a bit of wiggle room as a completely rigid bogie was prone to derailment!



Ron brought in a vortex system which is designed to sit on top of a 10 litre drum and is attached to a vacuum cleaner. It is designed to spin the dust around and force it down into the drum which has the advantage of leaving the vortex clean. He was seeking some advice on extra parts for it, Dave Housley suggested that spare components could be acquired in paint shops for hardware that operates on a similar principle.

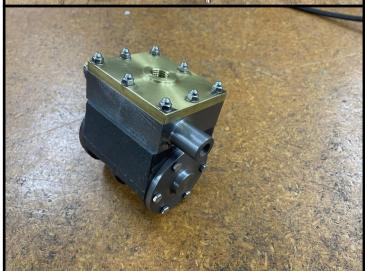


Bruce's E64 has been having regulator problems for a long while, so he has completely disassembled it. He discovered that a leak inside allowed steam to continue passing through despite it being in the "closed" position. He is thinking of making a stainless steel fitting to repair it.

#### **Bits & Pieces**



Mike has finished the main frame plates on his locomotive and then started working on the cylinders assembly. He started machining the endcaps and valve assemblies. Included are the castings for the cylinder ends. Normally he allows builders in the UK to make the parts first before updating their drawings but he felt that this time it was better to go ahead and do it himself first.



Dave updated us on the progress of his cylinder and has fixed the machining issue with the rivets. He has fitted to sections for the draincocks and was seeking guidance on including a self-acting draincocks for the cylinder plates.