



AUCKLAND SOCIETY OF MODEL ENGINEERS INC. | Issue 705 | October 2024

Contacts

Mailing Address:

PO Box 14570, Panmure, Auckland 1741, New Zealand

Club House: Peterson Reserve, Mt Wellington, Auckland 1060

Tel: 09 570 5286

President	Philip Dowdeswell	021 296 5196
	E-mail Address:	president@asme.org.nz
Secretary	Dave Housley	09 576 3923
	E-Mail Address:	info@asme.org.nz
Editor	Philip Dowdeswell	021 296 5196
	E-mail Address:	editor@asme.org.nz
Boiler	Mike Banks	021 139 4554
Inspectors	Mike Orange	021 137 3464

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Presidents Report

Hello everyone

ASME has achieved a milestone.

And a second one is coming.

In July of 2013, ground was broken as the first work began to overhaul the track. The 7 1/4 gauge was to be added and the track lowered to the ground in order to ease maintenance. It's taken us 11 years of hard work and constant effort, but as of 22nd September 2024, we can confirm that the project is now finally complete, with the last set of points being installed in the narrows to allow steam locomotives the ability to come off and rest and refuel. Details on the workings of the points are included further in the Micrometer.

I would like to personally thank everyone who has worked on this to see it through to completion, especially Mike Banks who has spearheaded the team effort to get the points built and put in place. I am looking forward to seeing Steam return to the railway in greater numbers now that we have this in place.

Additionally, its been far too long since we had our exhibition, so the full timeline for it is later in this Micrometer! I am very much looking forward to seeing everyone's exhibits on display for judging!

Our advertising for new members to help out on the railway also seems to have really taken off, as I've been sending out dozens sign-up forms to interested people all across Auckland! Hopefully in the next month or two we will see many new faces helping out on Sundays and at the meetings! Although the new members wont be on the roster for the next two months, we'll be getting them in on workable Sundays to get them trained up, and that should help alleviate our shortages!

Finally, this October General Meeting is our annual auction! Don't forget to bring along anything you think would make for a good sale—as well as the cash for anything you want to potentially buy!

Thanks

Philip Dowdeswell
ASME President

This Month's Calendar

Tuesday, October 1st	7:30pm	General Meeting, (Clubhouse)
Tuesday, October 8th	7:30pm	Workshop Night, (Clubhouse)
Tuesday, October 15th	7:30pm	Committee Meeting (Clubhouse)
Saturday, November 16th	12:00pm	ASME Exhibition
Sunday, November 17th	6:00pm	Christmas Function & Exhibition Prizegiving - Waipuna Hotel

TRAIN ROSTER



Date	Electric Driver	Electric Driver	Steam Driver	Train Controller	Station / Guard	Station / Guard	Extra / Person
6-Oct-24	I Ashley	B Matchett	Voluntary	<u>P Dowdeswell</u>	R Souter*	L Brown	
13-Oct-24	D Housley	R Shearer	Voluntary	<u>T Lawrence</u>	R Crook*	R Copeland	
20-Oct-24	M Plant	A van Zon	Voluntary	<u>S Meikle</u>	M Luxton*	K Ryan	
27-Oct-24	J Lankow	M Moore	Voluntary	<u>G Wills</u>	D Wilson*	M Vickers	
3-Nov-24	R Reichardt	B Matchett	Voluntary	<u>B Aickin</u>	S Watson*	J Bickers	
10-Nov-24	I Ashley	M Plant	Voluntary	<u>D Black</u>	R Crook*	L Brown	
17-Nov-24	D Housley	A van Zon	Voluntary	<u>P Dowdeswell</u>	M Luxton*	T Schaw	M Schaw
24-Nov-24	J Lankow	S Watson	Voluntary	<u>T Lawrence</u>	R Souter*	M Vickers	

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.

CLUB NOTICES

Model Engineering Journals

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, so the latest may not be available for 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. If you are a member of the Auckland Library System (anywhere in the SuperCity), this gives free access to an ME and MEW e-sub. If you encounter difficulties take your device (an iPad is ideal) into any Auckland Library Branch.

Please let the editor know if you have been using this service successfully, or have encountered any difficulties.

Marklin Model Engineering

The Auckland Society of Model Engineers has been invited to showcase its models at the Marklin Model Railway Club at its October Exhibit. It is being held at Whangaparaoa Hall at Stanmore Bay. Setup is available from mid afternoon on Friday 11th October, with the venue being open to the public on Saturday and Sunday from 10am till 4pm.

If you would like to showcase an exhibit, please send an email to Dave Housley at info@asme.co.nz so that he can send you details.

United North Piha Lifeguard Service

Every year, ASME donates money to charities in need. We are very selective about who we donate to, taking into account what services they provide and how much of an impact we can really make on our local communities.

Last year we donated to the United North Piha Lifeguard service who was trying to improve their situation and their ability to provide safety on the nearby beaches.

We are pleased to have been informed that lifeguard team has informed us of their new building that has just been completed, and ASME has even been acknowledged as a contributor on a plaque inside the building!



ASME EXHIBITION

After a gap of five years, it's time to dust off and polish up your prize models to show off to your fellow modelers and the public.

We would like as many models and variety of models as possible. Steam & electric Locos, stationary steam and combustions engines, partial completed projects, clocks, workshop made tools, marine and aviation models.

The normal array of cups and awards are on offer including the prestigious Jackson Cup.

Prize giving will be held on Saturday evening at the Waipuna Hotel and will incorporate the annual club Christmas function. The cost of dinner is to be \$27 per person. We have booked for space for a member and their partner. Alcohol is available onsite but is sold separately. Payment can be made into account:
BNZ 02-0223-0078104-00

Please include your name in the particulars so we have a receipt for who has put their payments in!

We will shortly be asking for both expressions of interest for participating in the exhibition and numbers for prizegiving / Christmas dinner.

Security will be operating as usual in the workshop and clubroom. So long as everyone ensures the doors remain locked if they are there alone, then all models should enjoy safety of security. Onsite security will be provided on the Friday and Saturday nights.

Timeline (November 2024)

Saturday 9th: Exhibits may start being delivered and setup in the ASME Workshop.

Friday 15th: Last day for Exhibits to be delivered and setup in the ASME workshop.

Saturday 16th:

- 09:00am—12:00pm: Final Exhibition setup
- 12:00pm—04:00pm: Exhibition open to the public.
- 12:00pm—03:00pm: Exhibition Judging.

Sunday 17th:

- 10:00am—04:00pm: Exhibition open to the public.
- 01:00pm—04:00pm: Normal Sunday operations.
- 04:00pm—05:30pm: Exhibition packup and removal
- 06:00pm—08:30pm: Exhibition Prizegiving and Christmas Function at Waipuna Hotel

ASME Points Operations

The new points have been installed. And with new points comes new rules to ensure everyone is safe and can enjoy the railway. The new points are located in “The Narrows” - a short section of the track between the engine shed and the bridge ahead of the station. Operation of each set of points is done via a lever stick, exactly the same as how it is at the station. At the start of operations, if steam locomotives are expected to operate, or at the Train Controllers discretion, the Train Controller should direct to have the points unlocked using the Hex Key that is attached to the station trolley. This is the same red tool that is used for the station points. There is a speed restriction of Half Speed from the Narrows Points to the station. All points follow identical colour markers on the levers. If the lever is RED, the points are set to divert. If the lever is WHITE, the points are set to normal, following the mainline.

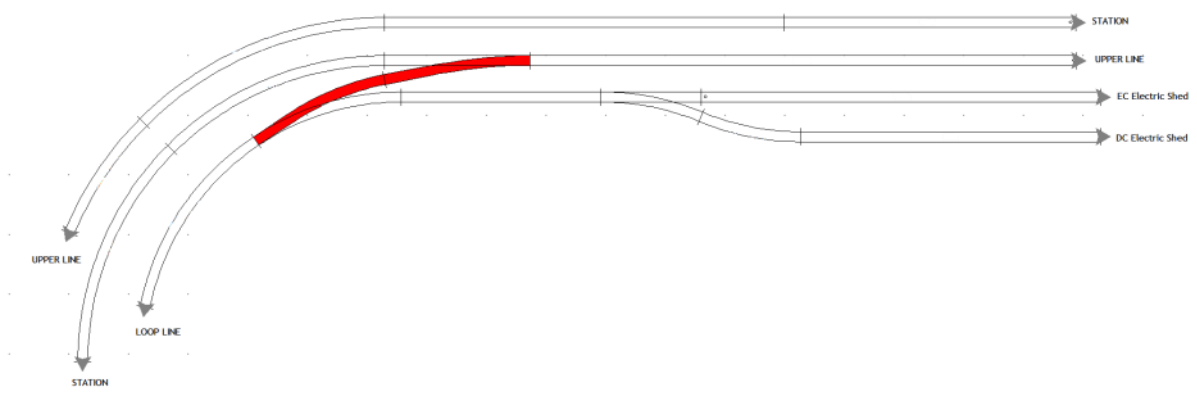
1. First Responsibility of the Station Points is the Station Master who is allowing trains to depart the station. Only the Station Master should be changing these points.
2. Second Responsibility of the Station Points is the Train Driver who is departing the station, who should always be watching the track ahead of them. If they believe that the Station Points are incorrect, or are uncertain of their state, they should request the Station Master to inspect and confirm before departing.

The Narrows Points are considered “unmanned” unlike the Station Points, and as such, follow the below rules:

1. First Responsibility of the Narrows Points is on the last Train Driver who changed them. If any driver is crossing the points, they should ensure that both sets of points are reset back to their default on WHITE.
2. Second Responsibility (And Ultimate Responsibility) is on the approaching Train Driver who should be approaching and crossing the points at Half Speed if staying straight (white) and 3kmph if diverting (red) and ensuring that the points are set correctly. This speed limit may change in the future, but everyone will be duly notified when or if this change occurs.

If pulling into the station on the second line, the driver should pull ahead of the fence and stop. The driver should then direct the passengers to the normal exit and ensure they can cross safely. We are looking into a different method of unloading but this should suffice for now.

The below diagram indicates the layout of the points, as well as what direction they are set to if the levers are set to RED.

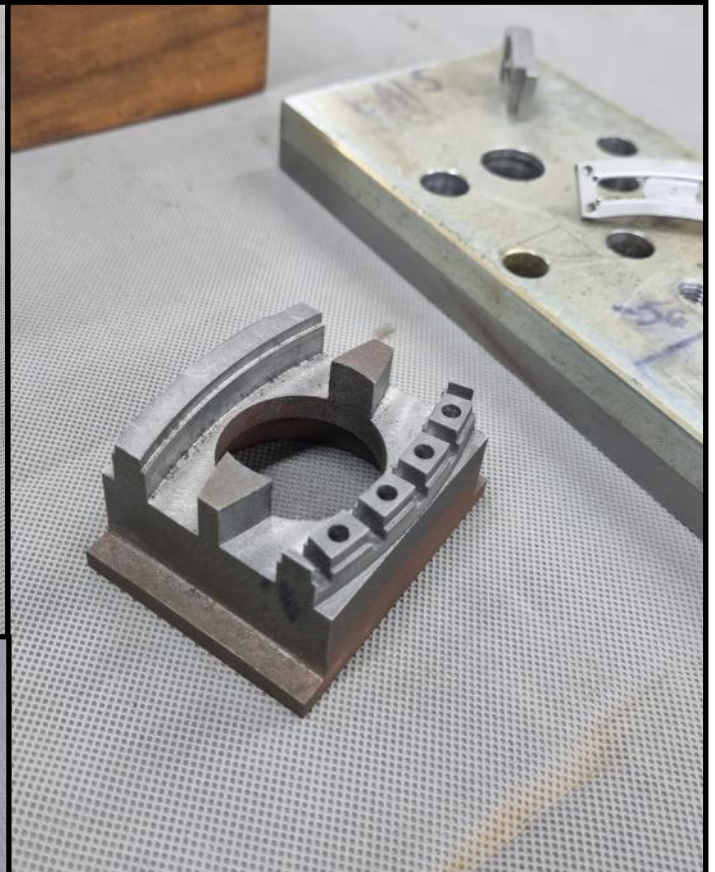


Workshop Night

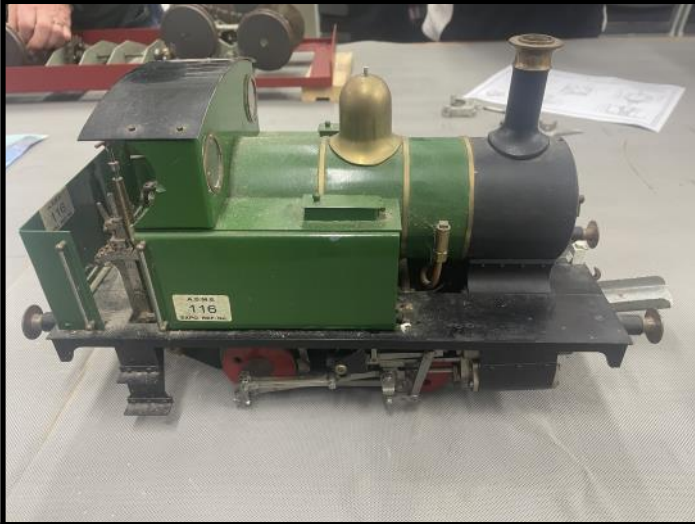
As the nights are still cool a brave trio turned up for workshop night bringing evidence that they are still working in their dungeons. Roger shearer bought in his home made swarf cleaning appliance consisting of a length of PVC pipe, 3 neodymium magnets, copper rod and plastic ferrule. He has been using it for months now which proves its success and that you don't have to buy everything from Machinery House.

Steve Watson is making a set of miniature clamps for his model making, an idea borrowed from Mike Jack. Steve is achieving quite a lot of apparatus improvements to his workshop equipment.

Dave Housley presented the unfinished expansion links now with a recess to the grooves for the die block to keep the said die blocks captive on assembly rather than peening a head on the trunnions. He was told at the general meeting that the die blocks should be preferably cast iron not steel so he has machined up a set ready for parting off.



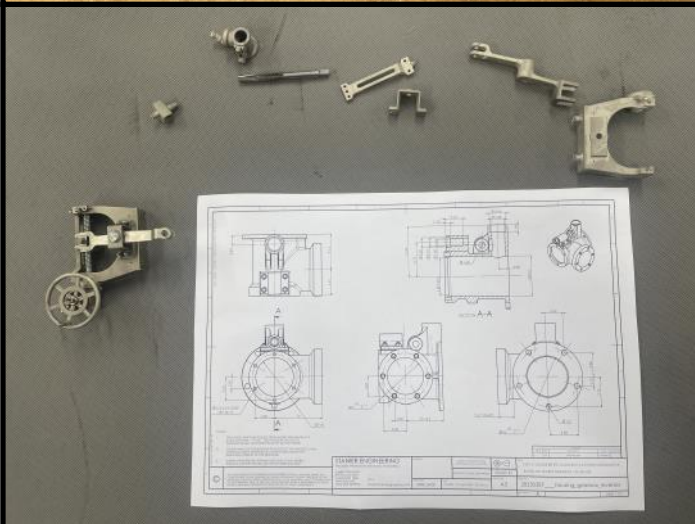
Bits and Pieces



Ryan's grandfather built this Titch from the ground up. He's hoping to get it fired up and get it going round the track. It looks like its still in good condition so shouldn't take long to get operational!

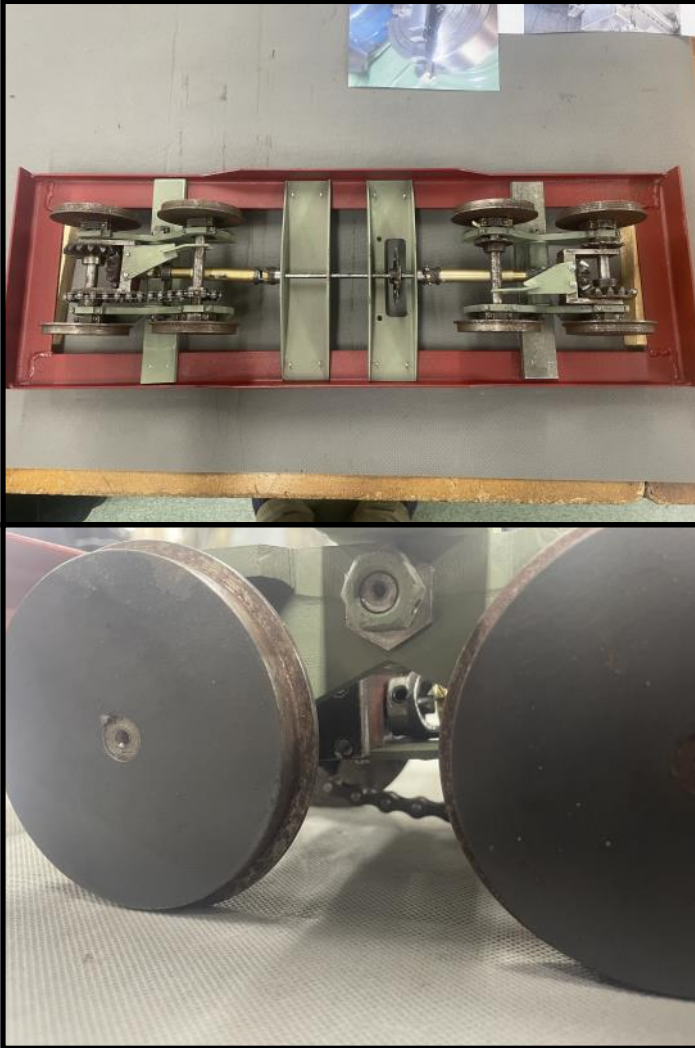


Roger decided to follow some burnishing tutorials from YouTube and this appears to have gone quite well! He's also found a great use for these callipers as they have measurements for millimetres but also fractions of those as well.



Mike has made the reverser for the BR Standard Class 3 locomotive. It's fully functional and as close to scale as possible with relation to the metal screws. The gears are off-the-shelf but he's otherwise made everything himself. Every part has it's own join and if he needs to alter anything, its quite easy for him to do.

Bits and Pieces



Bob has made more progress with his motorized heisler. He is considering options for a motor. The chain sprockets need some work, but it's finally coming together and looking good! He doesn't have a date for when it will be complete, as he's enjoying the journey of building it. He's considering calling it BELLE: Bob's Electric Little Locomotive Experiment.

