

# AUCKLAND SOCIETY OF MODEL ENGINEERS INCORPORATED

PETERSON RESERVE, PANMURE, AUCKLAND

PO BOX 14570, PANMURE, AUCKLAND 1741, NEW ZEALAND



Club House Telephone

(09) 570 5286

Club Web Site

[www.asme.org.nz](http://www.asme.org.nz)

President

*Grant Anderson*

*Phone: 027 481 0185*

*E-mail address [president@asme.org.nz](mailto:president@asme.org.nz)*

Secretary

*David Russell*

*Phone: 09 446 0957*

*E-mail address [info@asme.org.nz](mailto:info@asme.org.nz)*

Editor

*Hayden Purdy*

*Email addresses*

*[editor.asme@gmail.com](mailto:editor.asme@gmail.com)*

*[editor@asme.org.nz](mailto:editor@asme.org.nz)*

NOVEMBER 2011

NUMBER 563

# THE MICROMETER

REGISTERED NEW ZEALAND PUBLICATION

**In This Issue:**

- Page 2.....Train Roster
- Page 3.....Club Calendar
- Page 3-5.....President's Report
- Page 6-8.....Track & Trolley
- Page 8-9.....Notes From The Editor's Desk
- Page 9-10.....Around The Clubs
- Page 10.....Glenbrook Vintage Railway
- Page 11-18.....ASME Exhibition Weekend
- Page 18.....Classifieds
- Page 19.....ASME AGM 2011



Jean Batten's record-breaking Percival Gull Six, named *Jean* on its engine cowling at a 1954 UK air show

# Train Roster

Date	Electric	Electric	Steam	Station	Station	Station	Extra Guard
6-Nov-11	P Moy	T Robinson	<u>D Russell</u>	C Mitchell	D Moffatt	<b>G Murray*</b>	
13-Nov-11	P Woodford	D Black	<u>G Wills</u>	<b>J Olsen*</b>	W Parker	G Quayle	P Dowdeswell
20-Nov-11	I Ashley	D Booth	<u>G Anderson</u>	R Reichardt	M Richardson	<b>K Ryan*</b>	
27-Nov-11	B Cotton	P Eaton	<u>G Bell</u>	<b>A Shirley*</b>	R Smith	R Stratton	
4-Dec-11	M Granger	<u>R Hannah</u>	L Farquhar	R Street	<b>T Taylor*</b>	P Tomkies	
11-Dec-11	J Harrison	P Haycock	<u>T Lawrence</u>	<b>S Weston*</b>	Reuben Yu	D Addis	
18-Dec-11	M Hollis	D Housley	<u>M Jack</u>	P Boyes	R Brown	<b>J Burnett*</b>	
25-Dec-11	----- Xmas - No Roster in Operation - Voluntary -----						

## **Bold and Underlined name:**

This is the designated Train Controller, i.e. the person in overall control of all operations for the day.

If you are the Train Controller you should phone around the others rostered for that day to make sure they remember to turn up.

## **Bold with Asterisked\* name :**

This is the designated **Stationmaster**, i.e. the person responsible for activities in the station area for the day. The Stationmaster is also responsible to account for the day's takings.

**Please Note**, there is no expiry period or date on train ride tickets previously sold.

## **Please Note:**

On your rostered day you should arrive by 12.45pm to get prepared for the days running. If for some reason you are unable to fill 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".

# Club Calendar

ASME Events	
1 <sup>st</sup> November	General meeting & AGM
8 <sup>th</sup> November	Committee Meeting
12 <sup>th</sup> Nov	1.00pm, Member Fun Run Day at the track.
15 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Workshop Night, at Graeme Murray's home, featuring vacuum forming.
6 <sup>th</sup> Dec	General Meeting, Talk on Rapid Prototyping by Keith Watts of F&P.
10 <sup>th</sup> December	ASME annual dinner and awards presentation.
General Events	
26 <sup>th</sup> November	Glenbrook Vintage Railway open invitation to like minded clubs, ride by donation, a great day for all. The day starts at 1pm at Glenbrook Station
5 <sup>th</sup> – 9 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2012	International Convention, Whangarei

## Presidents Report

### November 2011

Well, another year has rolled by and we have our AGM coming up – this is a good time for all members to be thinking about helping the Club in the upcoming year by being prepared to be elected onto the Committee or one of the other roles which are necessary for ASME to fill on an annual basis. A strong team helps to ensure things get done and that there are plenty of exciting activities for members – so please do come along and be ready to help out! We have a least two current members who will not be seeking re-election to their current roles. Without a full and effective committee, the organisation and smooth working of the Club could be at risk. Nomination forms are included in this issue. If there is anyone who wishes to consider taking on the President's role, then please call me – I am more than happy to stand aside as I have plenty of other things to do with my time. Otherwise, I am prepared to stand for another year.

You will have seen the AGM notice in the October issue of the Micrometer in accordance with the rules. Since then, an amended notice has been sent out to provide some additional information which was requested by one of our members. Apart from the usual business to be undertaken at the AGM, the two other items mentioned in the notice are important business. Firstly, the rule change needed to the bank withdrawal re-

quirements will enable the Club to move into the 21<sup>st</sup> century and internet banking! We have a new account set up with the BNZ on acceptable terms and approval for the rule change will modernise our club's banking activities while preserving the security of two signatures for any withdrawal. Secondly, the members' decision to be made via a variety of simply worded, proposed resolutions to determine the future nature of our miniature railway – the item referred to over the past year or so, as “track & trolley”. This is a decision which I feel is vitally important to the future of the Club and the members decision will give direction to the new committee for future planning. Elsewhere, I have set out some thoughts for members to ponder as they consider these resolutions. I want to give a friendly reminder to all members as we go through this next important step in the process of reviewing our miniature railway that we remember that we are in this club as a hobby and for our enjoyment and that while it is a serious matter for the future of our Club, we nevertheless treat fellow members and their particular views, with every respect. Please keep this in mind as we debate the issues at the AGM.

I am pleased to acknowledge that we had 10 members turn out for the working bee on the 24<sup>th</sup> September – this complemented the 13 who turned out a week earlier ( 8 members attended both working bees!). My thanks to all involved in these works which enabled the smokebox corner to be completely re-graded and has improved the safety of, and ride on, this section of track. The next working bee will be on 29th (& if necessary the 30th) October, when we have some quite major repairs to undertake to the boat pond. This work is being headed by Tony Lawrence and Timothy Robinson with special assistance from our resident plumbing expert, Graeme Dickey, so if you can help out give them a call to offer your services. If we have any labour surplus from this main work, there is always plenty of general maintenance work to do around the railway, so bring some tools along and help out – 9am Saturday 29th for starters.

The ASME Annual Exhibition weekend was held on Saturday 8th & Sunday 9th October and was a success. While the public turnout was a little disappointing on the Saturday, I believe it was much better than in recent years. Club members were out in droves and appeared to be enjoying the occasion, with plenty of signs of discussions between groups of members. Special thanks to our Chief Organiser Bill Parker and his helper Hayden Purdy for all their organization. Also thanks to the members who bought exhibits along – by 10.30am on Saturday there was a wide cross section of model engineering exhibits - it was good to see. Thanks to all the members who helped out in the exhibition hall and at the station, I've also passed on the thanks of many members to my partner Jan who arranged and prepared the meals for the weekend – assisted by various members. While we are unlikely to have broken even financially, it will likely be close! The Judges led by Murray Lane did their thing and the awards will be formally made at the Christmas Dinner. It was disappointing that we had an incident on the track mid-afternoon Sunday after a vandal placed a piece of wood on the line – fortunately no injuries were sustained although the derailed locomotive suffered some damage.

We had a further incident just last weekend after both of the Club locomotives failed due to what appears to have been flat batteries. This indicates that the battery chargers were not hooked up correctly after the locos where last used. It is important to plug in and twist the fitting until it clicks – then pull the fitting (gently) and it should not be possible to pull it all the way out indicating it is properly in place. A final check is to observe that the amp meter on the relevant charging unit is showing that a charge is being delivered. Please also ensure that the electrics are placed back in the shed on the correct track which is noted on the inside of the door. The incident occurred when the electric train, having failed due to the flat battery, was reversed back to the station and an approaching train ran into it, fortunately at low speed.

These incidents serve to remind all members who are involved in operating our railway that they must ensure that whenever there is **any** stoppage of a train, the **first** duty of the crew is to go back and stop any following traffic. Also that all drivers must remain at all times vigilant and be ready to stop if any obstruction is ahead of them – yes, I know this is very difficult when you are running all afternoon and often one's mind drifts....., but safe operating is our No 1 priority – if necessary take a rest. Our safety committee will be looking into these incidents and some changes may be required, especially any additional steps necessary when a train is to be reversed.

The next Club fun run will be on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November from 1pm, then two weeks later on 26<sup>th</sup> we are invited for an afternoon at the Glenbrook Vintage Railway – feel comfortable about bringing family and friends along for this special day which will be funded by donations collected on the train.

Graeme Murray has agreed to host the November workshop night on 15<sup>th</sup> at his home – thanks Graeme.

Special thanks this month to Timothy Robinson who has been working to replace the electronic controller and make preliminary preparations for an improved control panel - also other maintenance and improvements - on the Club's DSC locomotive. Timothy got the completed locomotive back to the track for a test run on the Friday night of the Exhibition Weekend and other than a minor fault on the horn which he quickly sorted, it ran perfectly.

Our next audit of the railway by MEANZ will be undertaken by Dave Giles and Roger Reynolds of MEANZ on 27<sup>th</sup> November. There are several things being tidied up by our safety committee ahead of this audit and I thank them for the efforts to ensure the ASME miniature railway gets a "pass"!

Thanks to Greville Wills, (our Vice President) for looking after club matters while I was away with Jan on holiday. It was a shock to learn of the passing of Tim Crake – Greville attended the funeral on the Club's behalf. Since returning, I have been advised of the death of Jack Rennie – an early member of ASME who most recently attended during the club's 50<sup>th</sup> jubilee celebrations. Alan Pritchard has had a turn or two over the last month and while in as positive mood as ever, has decided it's time to turn over the role of "tea and biscuits" man – so we are looking for someone to take over this role and make sure our stores are fully supplied to sustain our inner selves while at the Club – please let me know if you can help out here.

Look forward to seeing you at the AGM

*Grant Anderson*

18<sup>th</sup> October 2011

**Members who attended the working bee on 24 September 2011 – much appreciated guys!**

Trevor Taylor

Clyde Mitchell

Dave Russell

John Lankow

Pete Woodford

Tony Lawrence

Ross Smith

Peter Tomkies

Timothy Robinson

Scott Meikle

Sustained by a nice cake from Hillary - many thanks

# Track & Trolley

## The Future of ASME's Miniature Railway

As your President, I feel it is my duty to set out some facts and other comments to help in your consideration of this important matter which will be available to be discussed and debated as the various proposed resolutions are tabled for consideration at the 2011 Annual General Meeting.

Two appropriately, yet simply worded prime resolutions reflecting the March survey outcome, are intended to be put to the members at the AGM. In addition, two further resolutions have been included in the notice to cover a scenario should either of the two prime motions be declared lost. It is intended that, as a result of any discussion on and the putting of and voting on these motions (as relevant), the club members present, will determine a clear & unequivocal direction for the future of the miniature railway at ASME.

In addition, I want to assure members that if any changes are authorised by the passing of resolutions at this AGM, the matters authorised will then need to be properly scoped, resources planned, work costed and the funding means identified and secured. Then it will be necessary for the committee to seek authorisation by further resolutions to be passed by the members at a properly convened meeting, all as required by the Rules, before any action can be taken to implement the changes.

With that preamble, here are some factors for you to ponder:

1. The number of steamers being operated by members on public running days has steadily fallen over the last few years. Where as we used to regularly have two steamers rostered each Sunday, now there is only one and this is drawn from approximately 10 rostered steamers of which typically 5 to 6 are active at one time. Typically we have a steamer for public running about every second Sunday.
2. We have had a reasonable turnout of steamers at our regular "fun run" non public days started earlier this year – anything from 5 to 8 steamers – in most cases each are operated for a few hours on these casual occasions, expected to be held about 4 to 5 times year if they continue to be supported by members.
3. The great majority of the public rides are catered for by the Club's two electric locomotives. In the current operating scenario then, might it seem logical to make our railway as easy and as efficient to operate as possible for this principal activity? This might include ease for the station staff dealing with the public (selling and loading) and for drivers able to be rested by getting trains easily off the main line (proper loop system).

4. In the past ASME's exhibition weekend's attracted a lot of visitors from other likeminded Club's– these days we get few if any interest shown in our special weekends by the members of other Clubs. If we are to have better inter- club activities, does ASME need to have a more “compatible” miniature railway?
  5. The current ASME layout **can** accommodate 7.25 gauge – the smallest curve is greater than the minimum radius used by other Clubs – e.g. Manukau. Some ASME members do have 7.25g locomotives which have the potential to be run at ASME – might this help increase our steamer running roster – and interest levels - in the future?
  6. Trolleys with a 7.25g bogie provide a more stable load carrying capacity and brakes would be easier to fit and maintain (Note MEANZ requirement for brakes on every second trolley). An offset towing point, i.e. 5g locomotive hauling a 7.25g trolley does not create any towing issue in practice.
  7. Most Clubs provide for 7.25g -ASME is one of only 5 Clubs who do not have 7.25g (the others are at Picton, Timaru, New Plymouth and Napier) out of a total of 22 Clubs in NZ. Can ASME afford to continue not to provide for model engineers with an interest in this gauge?
  8. Like all railways, ASME **can** determine and set out its loading gauge and weigh limits to ensure the safety and enjoyment of all users of the ASME railway.
  9. The pros and cons of various options available to ASME were set out in detail in the March report issued to members. This included the likely costs of the options, as calculated by the sub-committee, all based on a similar standard of construction using permanent low maintenance materials and on the same layout as at present. While cost may not be the most important consideration, it may nevertheless be important because it will have to be funded one way or the other.
- |   | \$000's |
|---|---------|
| Rebuilt raised track at slightly higher level (3.5g & 5g) | 142     |
| Rebuilt ground level track (3.5g, 5g, 7.25g)              | 90      |
| Rebuilt raised track at existing level (3.5g, 5g, 7.25g)  | 139     |
10. Notwithstanding that our Club is not a “model railway” club and member's interests in model engineering is acknowledged as wide and varied, the survey showed that most members felt the railway was very important to the Club and important or very important to them.
  11. I believe in considering the way forward, we should be focused on what is best

for this Club's future. I challenge members to set aside any personal desires as to what is best for them now and instead try to project minds 20 or 30 years into the future when most current members are unlikely to be still active in the Club. Ask yourselves, "what features will our miniature railway need to possess then, in order to attract and retain members, and to operate safely in what one must assume will be an even more onerous safety environment?"

*Grant Anderson*

*18<sup>th</sup> October 2011*

## **Notes From the Editor's Desk**

### **Trophies**

Could all of the people who are currently in the possession of a trophy please return the trophy to Murray Lane for engraving ASAP.

### **Thanks**

A special thanks to Tim Robinson who has installed a new controller in the club DSC locomotive.

Also thanks to all those who attended and supported the Annual October Auction - \$390 was raided from donations to the club.

### **Committee Nomination**

All those who wish to apply/re-apply for a position on the committee need to fill in and tear off the Committee Nomination Form attached to the back page of this newsletter, or download it separately from the newsletter page on the website. Please bring it along completed to the AGM.

### **Positions Available**

The current Secretary and one member of the committee have indicated that they will be standing down at the AGM, so please give some thought to putting your name forward for either job.



## Tuesday Club

The Tuesday Club are looking for a few more members who don't mind giving up a little bit of time on a Tuesday. A number of the regulars are getting a bit older and their abilities are not what they used to be. They tell me it is one of the most rewarding parts of being a member. If you would like more information please contact Hugh Martin or just turn up on a Tuesday.

## Boilers

Anybody who owns a boiler which is subject to club rules needs to contact the secretary stating that they still own/use that boiler. The reason behind this is the committee would like to cull the long list of boilers on its books - as many have now long gone, or even gone overseas.

## Club Website

A handy digital version of the club calendar is kept on the club website here - <http://www.asme.org.nz/MemberArea/calender.aspx>. I regularly update the calendar, so if any events change, they will be updated here first.

For those that do not know the login details for the club website, or have trouble logging in, please email the editor at [editor.asme@gmail.com](mailto:editor.asme@gmail.com).

Please note you are no longer required to login to download the newsletter, these are now in the public domain. Find them here: [www.asme.org.nz/newsletter.aspx](http://www.asme.org.nz/newsletter.aspx)

You are most welcome to send the editor any content you think may be suitable for the club website (or magazine), such as photos etc, to the following email address:  
[editor.asme@gmail.com](mailto:editor.asme@gmail.com)

# Around the Clubs

## November 2011

### The Workbench, Durban - October 2011

Some interesting thoughts on getting old and what to do with your models and equipment when you depart this world. Sounds familiar. A good account too on the history of the track. An article on the 2 foot gauge sugar cane railways.

### Conrod Newsletter - September 2011

Photos of the various gauge layouts and some big upgrades to the raised track.

**Blowdown Kapati - Spring 2011**

Much work on the locos and the trollies and on the track too. The Seaview extension on hold while a water pipe is laid. The story of the building of a Dart loco for Club use, a real team effort.

**South Canterbury Model Engineers, Timaru - August 2011**

Photos and write up on the Club visit to Ashburton with their boats sounds like a great day out. A lot of info on radio frequencies for remote controls.

**Northern Views, Whangarei - September 2011**

Track improvements well under way. articles on a party tram, pressure-cookers, cranes and swingnose frogs.

**Engine Booster, Los Angeles - August 2011**

Great photos of Lew Soil Belman's memorial lunch. A chance to buy a paver to go in front of the new station. Photos on the back cover of some very nice garden gauge layouts.

**Mailship - September 2011**

Sad to note the passing of Keith Barton, a valued member. Good write up on the X class submarines, and the valuable work they did during the war.

**Expansion Link, Hamilton - September 2011**

Photos of full size locos in the snow. Railfan videos and 2012 calendar for sale.

*Alan Emerson*

# Glenbrook Vintage Railway

## 26<sup>th</sup> November

All Welcome, family friends and like minded enthusiasts. Visit and enjoy a live steam train ride by donation to GVR, this is always a great day. The track now goes all the way to Waiuku, along with stops which allows a visit to the workshops, as well as photo and video opportunities. Afternoon cup of tea included.



# ASME Exhibition Weekend

## 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> October

Instead of a regular "Bits and Pieces", I would love to comment on the great weekend that just happened at the track! I have heard the auction went well, but what about the "Exhibition Weekend?".

I want to tell you, people just kept on wanting rides and kept on having a good time visiting the exhibition!

It was great! A bloody marvellous effort from Bill P. and his helpers, who put a well supported plethora of models up for show!

The most wonderful thing for me, as I saw it, was the public response!

My impression is that people love what we do! I think people can see and relate to the effort that goes into our work!

So, dear members, don't doubt that your efforts are appreciated!

"The public" were amazed that "people", (and not a machine) made the engine that drew the train they were hauled on! "

"Wow, how can such a tiny thing take a crowd for a ride!?"





"That's amazing!? Where do you put the petrol in!?"

In the main hall, people were heard to remark all the time about the miniature engines they saw.

This is the illusion we build?! In a small scale, we make the "world" seem small. It doesn't matter how small our models are, the public do appreciate what we do. The public are the ultimate judges, protagonists and supporters of what we do. "They" are our accolade.

We spend "forever" on a part that no money can buy. WHY? Because us builders know, "It has to be right, for #\$\$%\* sake!"

Therefore, size does not matter. No matter what scale us modellers chose to work in, it's the "illusion" that counts. We could run a commercial enterprise "hauling passengers" or we can create an engine that "takes only me". Its not the scale that counts, it's the effort and the finished model that counts.

The poorest modeller can make a machine that is a masterpiece in it's own right, which stands against a monumental amount of brass and steel, because of the effort that went in to make it what it is.. we all know this, as my dad used to say, "modelling is an illusion".

I loved the weekend amongst fellow creators that we just had. It was great!

*Rog.*



# ASME Exhibition Weekend

## Award Winners

### Main Award Winners

#### Jackson Cup:

Hugh Martin, GWR 5100 class Tank Engine - *Photo A*

#### Jack & Ethel Hocking Cup:

Mike Banks, GWR King class Locomotive - *Photo B*

#### Horological Trophy:

David Hamp, English Style Clock - *Photo C*

#### Les Fitt Award:

Greville Wills, Dividing Head - *Photo D*

#### Peter Baker Memorial Award:

Bill & Justin Parker, Lima Mogul Tender - *Photo E*

#### Committee Cup:

Hayden Purdy, Pachasa Aero Engine - *Photo F*

#### ASME Shield:

David Russell, Boring Head - *Photo G*

#### Beginners Medal:

Ross Smith, Turntable Pick-up Arm - *Photo H*

#### Kresta Cup:

Allan Roberts, Gattling Gun - *Photo I*

### Highly Commended Certificates

David Housley, Lima Mogul Chassis - *Photo J*

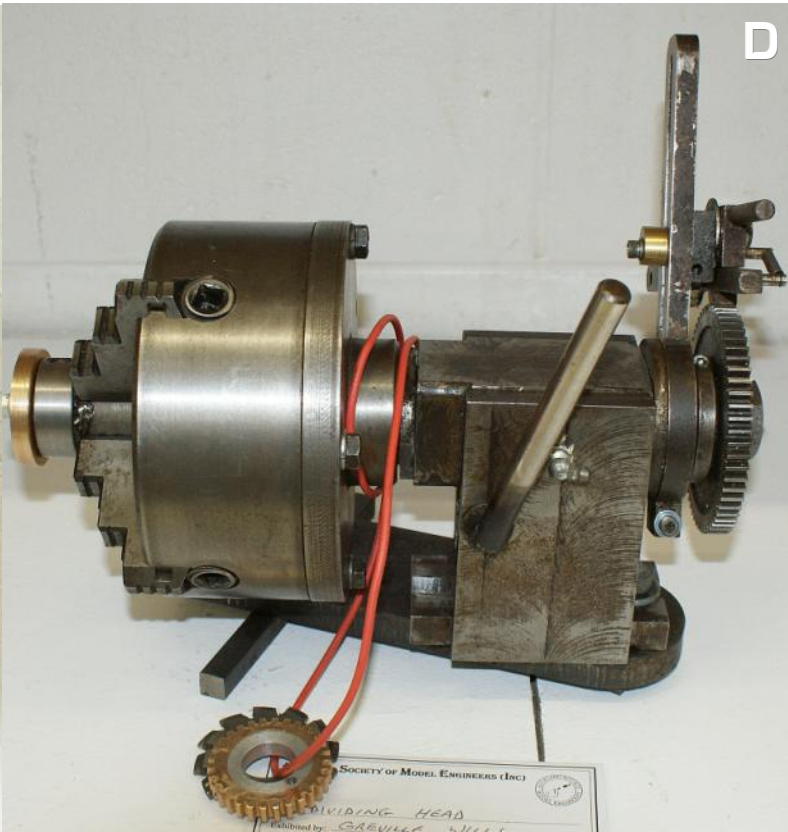
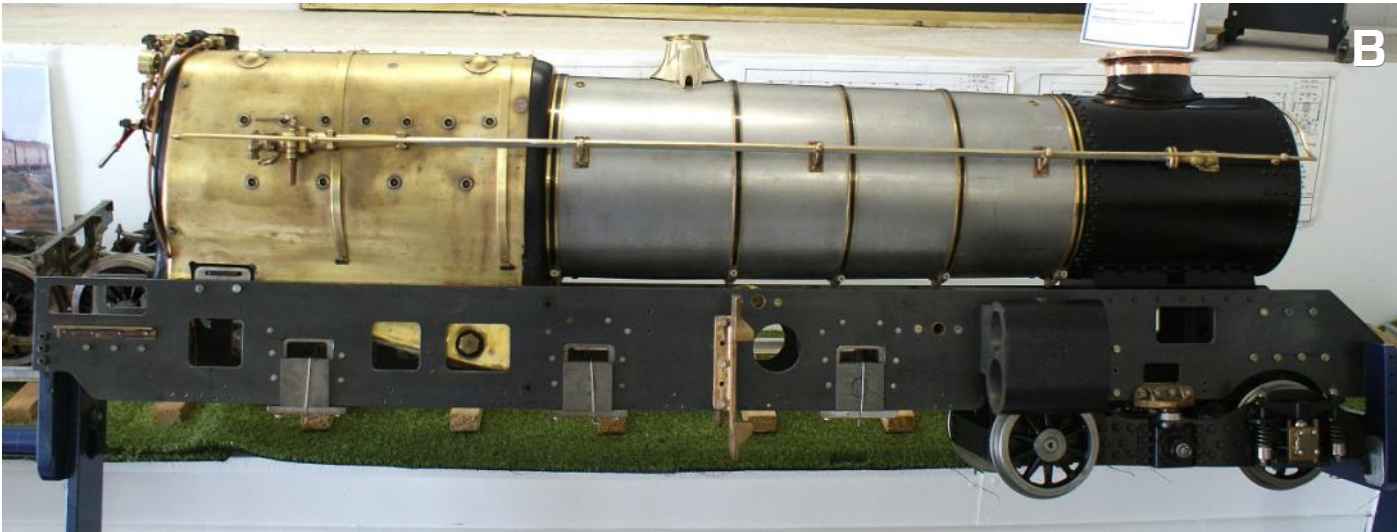
Alan Foster, TS3 Commer Diesel Engine - *Photo K & L*

Alan Gasteen, Diagonal Paddle Boat Engine - *Photo M*

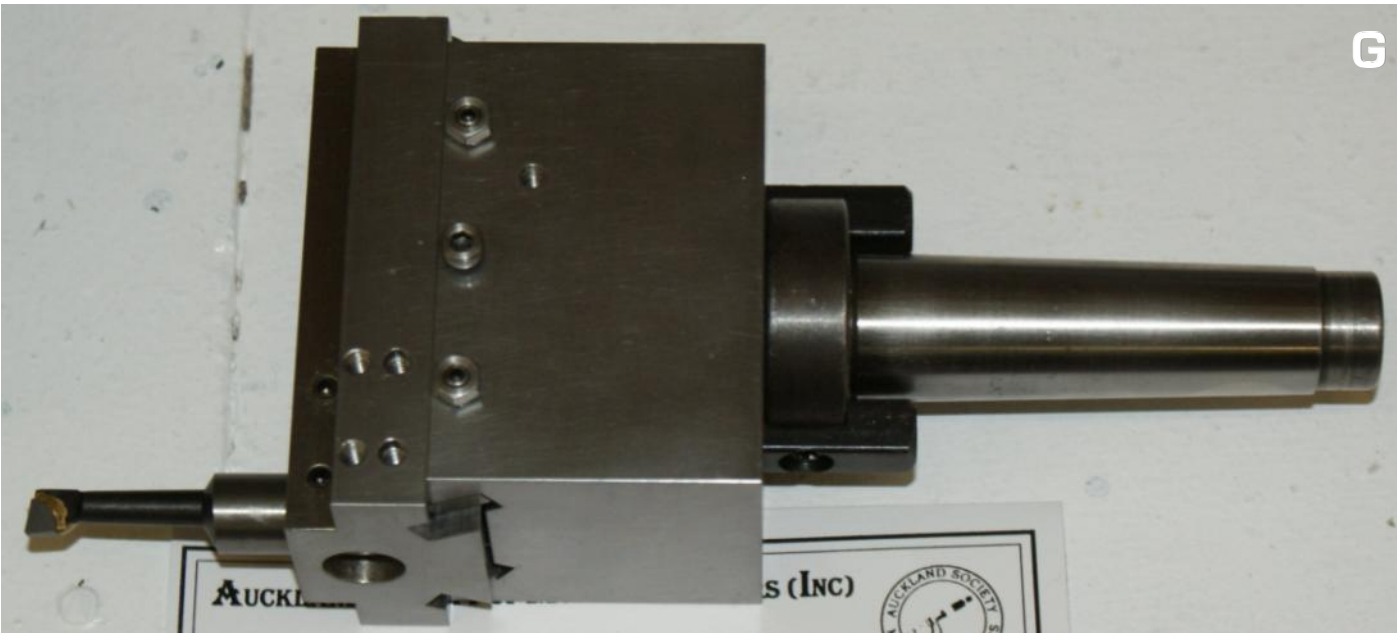
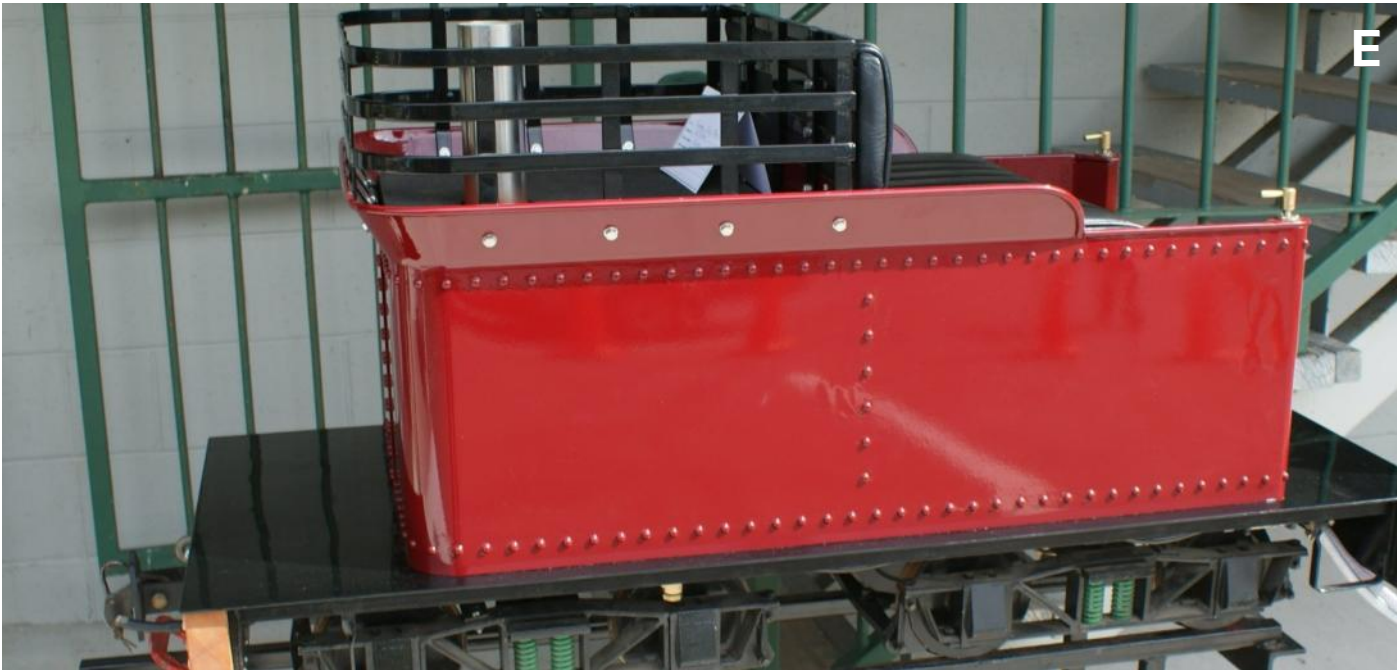
Hugh Martin, Yarrow Boiler - *Photo N*

Murray Lane Stuart Turner 30cc Two Stroke Engine - *Photo O*

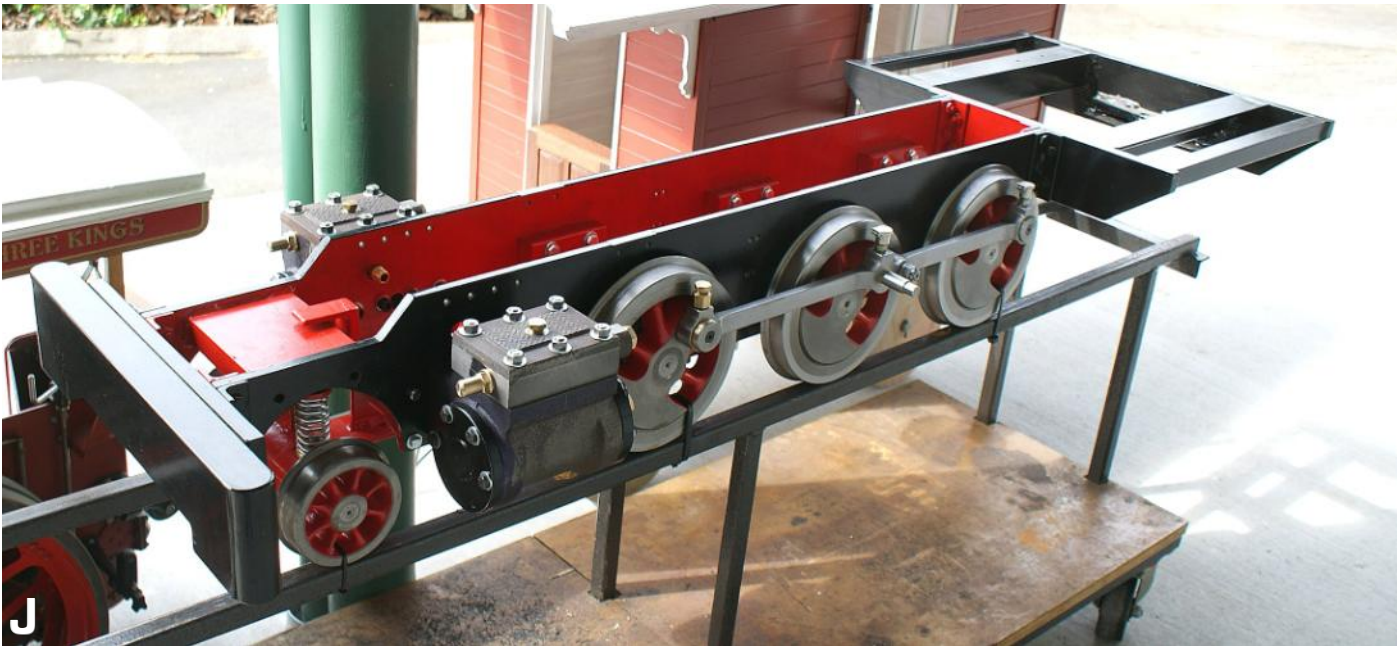
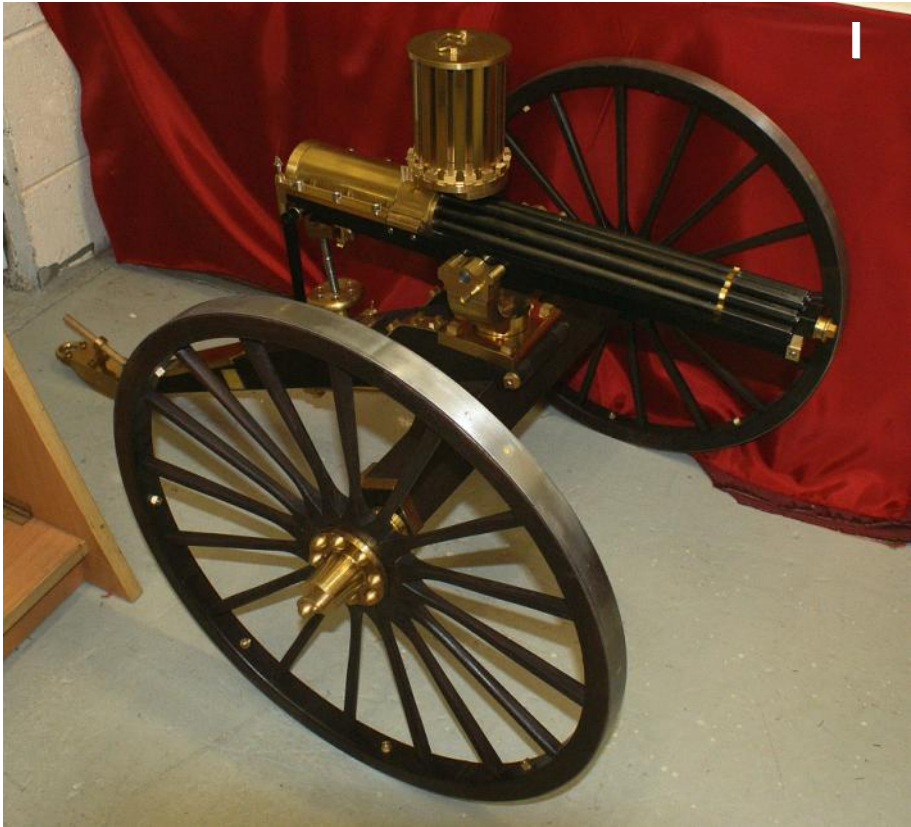
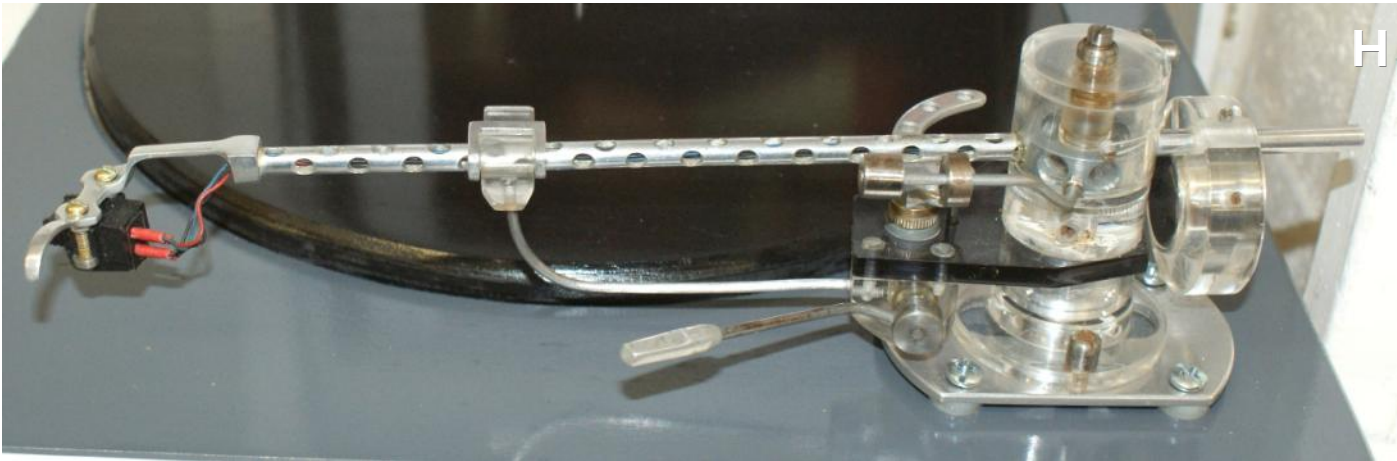




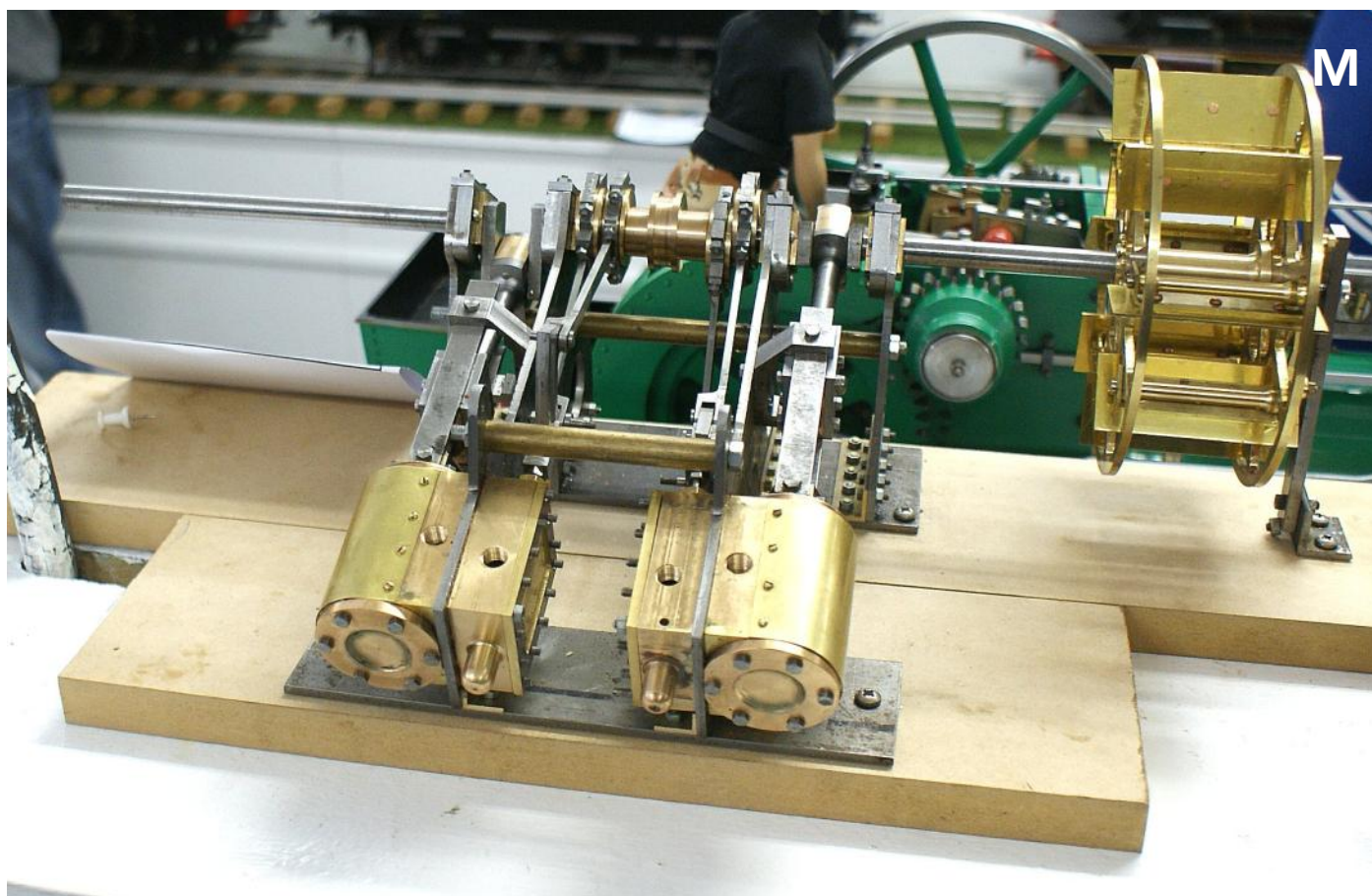
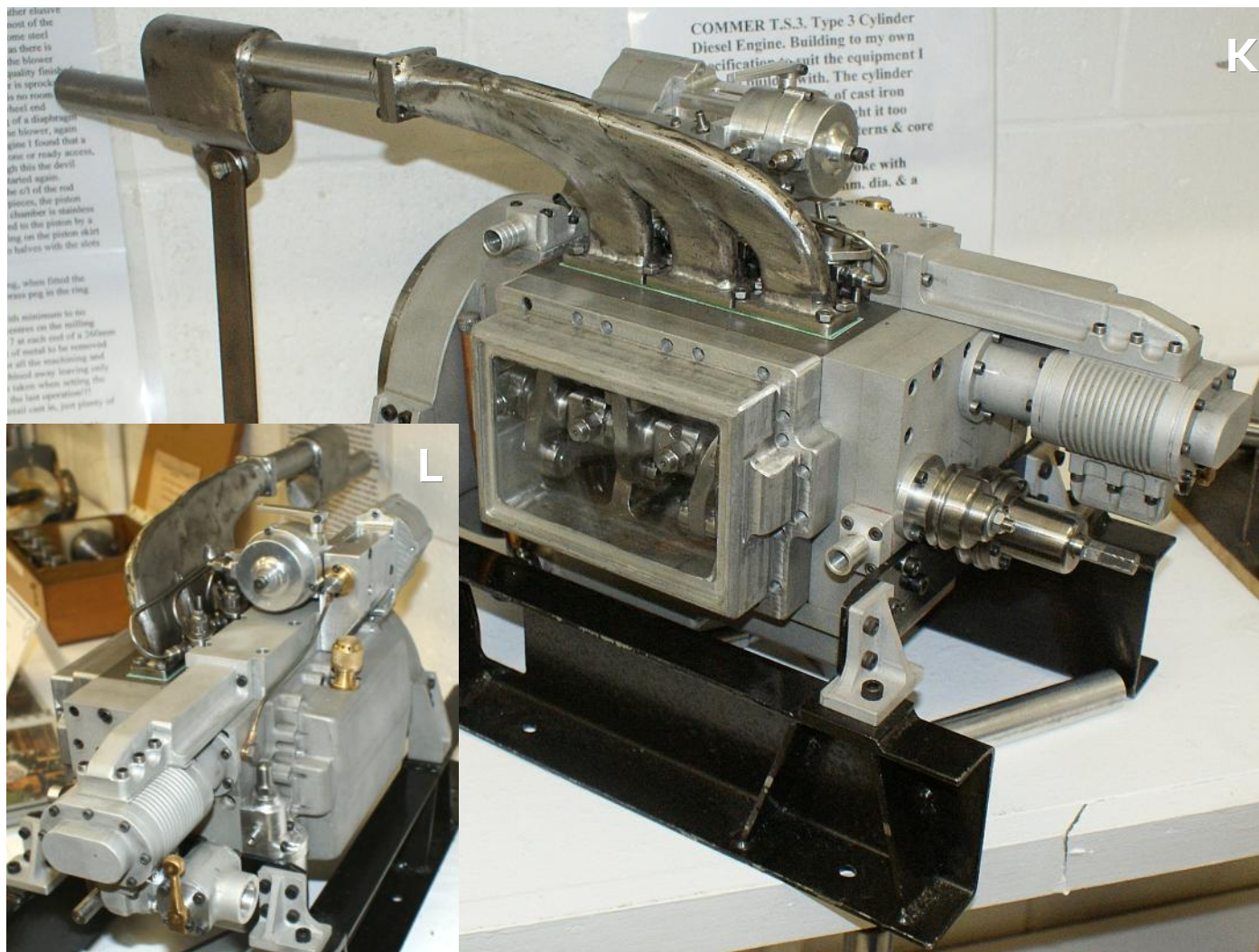


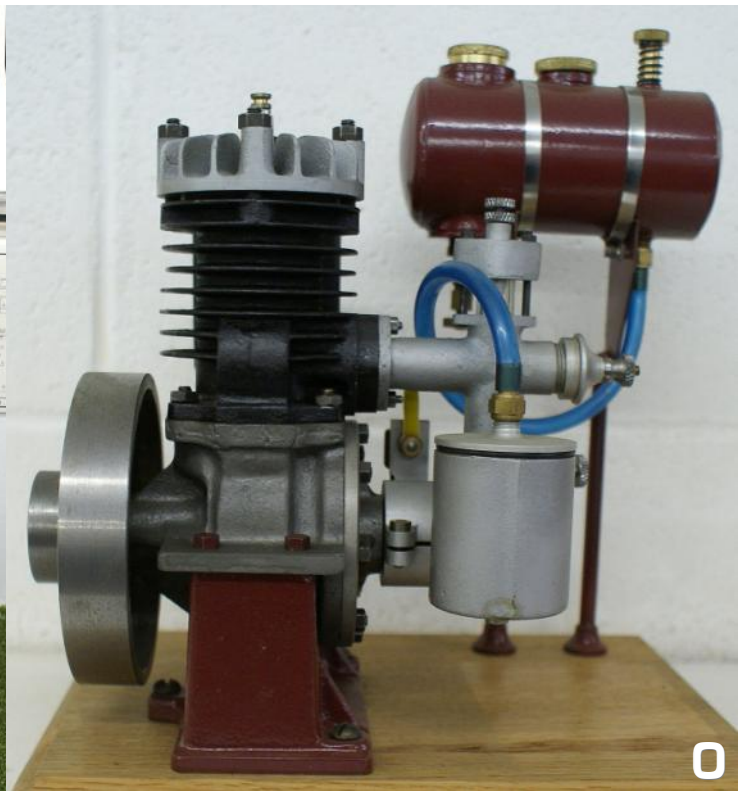
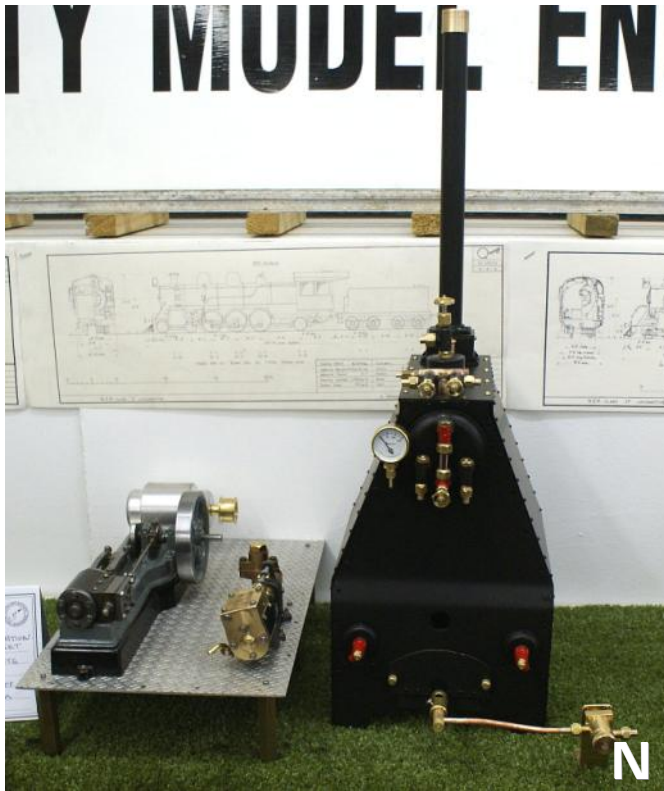












# Classifieds

## For Sale

VP10 Maximat

5 inch centre

18 inch between centres

Set of collets

2 chucks

Single phase

Tons of tooling

\$2500 (Or very, very, very near offer.....)

*Please Phone Stan Locke; (09) 480 5115*



# Auckland Society of Model Engineers AGM 2011

## Committee Election Nomination Form

All those who wish to apply/re-apply for a position on the committee need to fill in and tear off the Committee Nomination Form attached or download it separately from the newsletter page on the website. Please bring it along completed to the AGM.

The current Secretary and one member of the committee have indicated that they will be standing down at the AGM, so please give some thought to putting your name forward for either job.

Position	Nominee	Proposer	Seconder	Acceptance
President				
Vice President				
Secretary				
Treasurer				
Editor				
Librarian				
Committee				
Committee				
Committee				
Committee				