AUCKLAND SOCIETY OF MODEL ENGINEERS INC. | Issue 711 | May 2025

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Presidents Report

Hello everyone

Things are going well with our maintenance for the railway. We're hoping that by next month, we'll have the DS^B back in action (Originally it was called the DS^A but as we've since been shown, it's really a DS^B). It's been out of action for a while, needing a replacement controller, but it's almost finished!

Last meeting, Bruce gave everyone a tutorial on how he did the painting for his locomotive. It's a long drawn out process, the but quality of the finish really shows that it's worth every minute for getting such a beautiful livery on the engine and tender! Next meeting, we're looking forward to Mike Banks giving us a history of his work at Air New Zealand as the Certifying Engineer (L.A.M.E: Licensed Aircraft Maintenance Engineer) ensuring that all the planes are good to go before being sent back into use.

I will be in England for the better part of July and I am planning on visiting the National Railway Museum in York. As I have since discovered, they have almost every drawing and plan for historical mechanical designs that were made in the UK over the past 300-400 years. They are slowly digitizing everything but it's an extremely long and slow process as they have to sort everything between the various different companies and said companies independent method of labelling everything. Access to these drawings is free for any commonwealth citizen (Which includes New Zealanders!) so while I am over there, if there are any plans you can think of that you want digitized, please let me know and I will do my best to locate them. I've got an entire day booked to go there, so I'm looking forward to trawling the archives for some things I want myself!

Finally, we have tentatively booked in the next exhibition for the 18th and 19th of October, with the end-of-year luncheon and awards at the Waipuna Hotel for the 1st November. Time to start thinking ahead for your exhibition showcases!

Thanks

Philip Dowdeswell

ASME President

This Month's Calendar

Tuesday, May 6th	07:30pm	General Meeting (Clubhouse)
Tuesday, May 13th	07:30pm	Workshop Night
Tuesday, May 20th	07:30pm	Committee Meeting (Zoom)

TRAIN ROSTER

Date	Electric Driver	Electric Driver	Steam Driver	Train Controller	Station Master	Station / Guard	Extra Person
4-May-25	M Moore	R Reichardt	Voluntary	**G Wills**	**R Souter***	S Watson	
11-May-25	D Housley	R Shearer	Voluntary	**P Dowdeswell**	**R Crook***	K Ryan	
18-May-25	M Vickers	C Whitiskie	Voluntary	**S Meikle**	**M Luxton***	B Matchett	T Mcdonald
25-May-25	I Ashley	A Van Zon	Voluntary	**T Lawrence**	**B Aickin***	S Heath	
1-Jun-25	D Housley	S Watson	Voluntary	**G Wills**	**R Souter***	T Schaw	M Schaw
8-Jun-25	M Moore	R Shearer	Voluntary	**P Dowdeswell**	**M Luxton***	K Ryan	
15-Jun-25	R Reichardt	C Whitiskie	Voluntary	**S Meikle**	**R Crook***	B Matchett	S Heath
22-Jun-25	M Plant?	T Gil-Goldsbrough	Voluntary	**T Lawrence**	**A Van Zon***	S Watson	B Maroc
29-Jun-25	I Ashley	R Shearer	Voluntary	**B Aickin**	**P Dowdeswell***	G Wills	T Mcdonald

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 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.

Colchester Student Lathe

Stephen Carr is looking for anyone who may be selling a Colchester Student Lathe. If anyone knows of one for sale, please let Philip know so that he can pass in Stephen's contact details.

ASME Exhibition + End of Year Luncheon

We have tentatively booked the next exhibition for the 18th and 19th October and the End-of-Year Luncheon and awards ceremony for the 1st of November. More details will follow in the coming months.

Workshop Night—April

The April Workshop Night was a resounding success, with 10 enthusiastic members in attendance. The highlight of the evening was undoubtedly Dave Housley's detailed presentation on the finer points of single point boring on the lathe.

Using the large lathe, Dave demonstrated both carbide and high-speed tooling, emphasizing the importance of speeds and feeds. He showcased both roughing out and finishing techniques, and it must be noted that Dave's "roughing" finish was superior to most of our finished work—a testament of his skill and experience.

In addition to the practical demonstrations, Dave covered the accurate measurement of bores and introduced various types of bore measuring techniques, we all left with a deeper understanding and appreciation of lathe boring.

The hands-on nature of the workshop kept us so engaged that we forgot to take any photos. However, the knowledge and skills gained were invaluable.

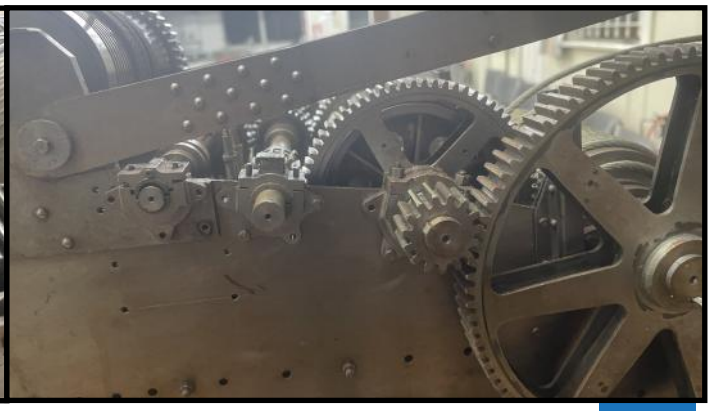
Looking ahead, the next workshop night is scheduled for May 13, 2025. We will be back on the lathe, focusing on the material-saving techniques of trepanning. We look forward to another informative and productive session!

Brian Mould's 5" NZGR Craven Crane

In the 1980's, Brian Mould started working on a 5" NZGR Craven Crane, presenting it at the ASME Club's EXME Exhibition in 1987 in a largely complete but still unpainted state. It was described in ASME's 50th year booklet as "one of the finest models ever built" (Page 88).

Last month we were notified that he was moving house and would have to part with it. If nobody was available to take it then it would unfortunately be going to a tip! The committee was more than happy to accept it as donation. After some heavy lifting, some strong lads put it on the back of a ute and brought it here where we collectively lifted it up the stairs into the clubroom. It now stands proudly on display in the clubroom and we'll be getting it polished and cleaned up for the next exhibition later this year!

The model was originally designed to be fully functional, however it's lacking the final components to make this possible. Regardless, it's a fantastic model in it's current presentable condition and stands as a testament to the capabilities of our engineers!



Bits & Pieces

Bruce Cooper brought in the Tender and bogies from the Maid of Kent locomotive that he's been fixing and painting. He gave us a great tutorial about how he gets his very high quality paint finishes. It's a long process with many steps, but the resulting quality is absolutely worth it! Right now he's working on finishing the locomotive, now that the tender is complete. We are looking forward to seeing it on the tracks after he acquired it a while ago.

Mike Jack brought one of the reversers' frames that he has been producing along with a batch of the screws and a nut. They've been modelled closely to the full size parts but he has used a slightly larger diameter thread. All of the parts were prototyped to prove the design before the batch was made and also to prove that they could be machined manually. The thread is M6.0 x 1.25P trapezoidal 3-start thread giving a lead of 3.75mm, meaning only seven turns from full forward gear to full reverse. This was cut using an ilfanger blade held in ilfanger's tool holder which allows the blade to be swiveled to the helix angle of the thread. This is very important for any thread which is being cut, firstly to provide the correct clearances for the tool and secondly to generate the correct thread form. A tap was made to clean out the nuts (brought to a previous meeting), which ensures all nuts are the same size thus allowing all screws to be interchangeable.

Bits & Pieces

Steve brought in the new controller for the D^{SB} locomotive that has been out of service for a while. All that's left is to program the controller, which we're getting some external help for, and to then install it into the locomotive.

In the past this locomotive has erroneously referred to as a D^{SA} locomotive, but at the last meeting we had a check in the records and as it turns out, it's definitely modelled after the New Zealand Railways DS^{B} locomotive!