

CONROD

July 2016

The Otago Model Engineering Society
Celebrating 80 Years of Modelling



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Club Dates

Working Bee	10.00 am	First Saturday of the month
General Meeting	7.30 pm	Second Monday of the month
Boat Group	7.30 pm	First Wednesday following General Meeting
Engineering	7.30 pm	Third Monday of the Month
Scale Railway	7.30 pm	Each Tuesday
Thursday Toilers	9.30 am	Each Thursday
Committee Meeting	7.30 pm	Last Monday of the month
CONROD Deadline	12.00pm	Friday following Committee Meeting

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www.omes.org.nz

www.facebook.com/OtagoModelEngineering

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Photo: Lachlan Clark

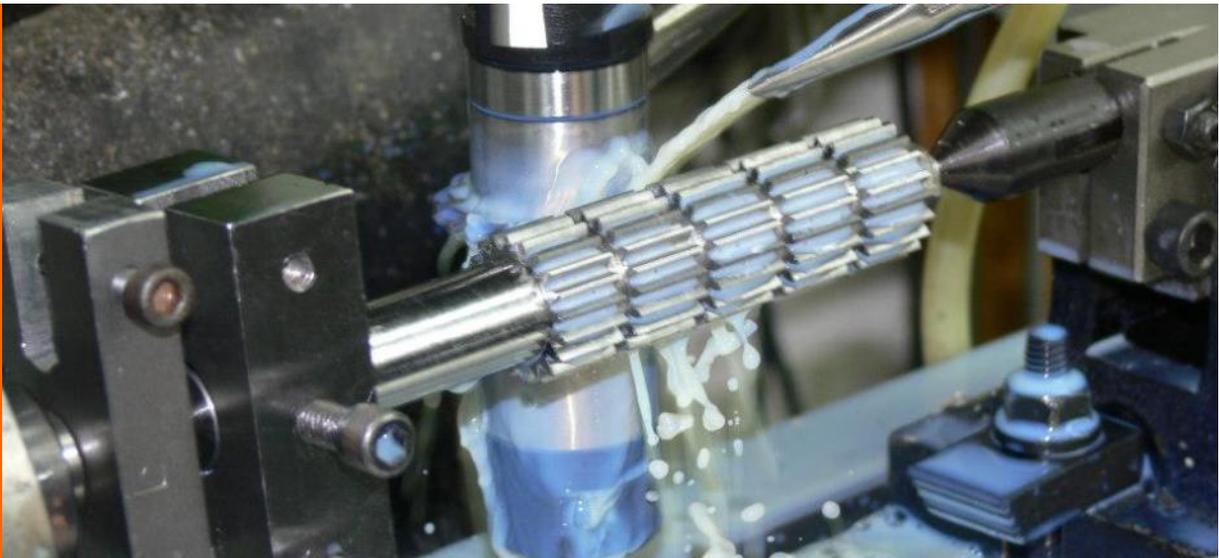
From the President - Michael Forrest

“Wow!” was my reaction when I opened the email telling me the results of the auction held on June's last-Sunday-of-the-month running-day. Over thirty Members attended, the atmosphere was friendly, auctioneer Kevin injected some of his good-natured humour into the proceedings, almost everything was sold, and everyone left feeling happy. OMES made approximately \$628 after agreed shares were paid out to the vendors. The wet-or-fine last-Sunday gatherings are starting to take off as important fixtures in the life of the club.

The biennial MEANZ audit was conducted on Saturday 18th June and went very well, with no problems and just a few details to follow up on. It was good to see Donald Ross again and to meet Duncan Robbie from Invercargill. Many thanks to Jim Woods for efficiently providing everything the auditors needed to carry out their task. Members are reminded that the emphasis on health and safety is now a personal matter so we are all obliged to become familiar with the relevant manuals and forms in the library.

The defibrillator has been supplied and will soon be mounted in the hall behind the entrance-doors, complete with instructions and accompanied by a first-aid kit.

At the July General Meeting our co-patron Robert Storm will give his presentation on New Zealand railway-turntables, postponed from the June Meeting as Robert had double-booked himself. Fortunately the June Meeting had some very good Bits on the Table to help fill the gap, and these are always welcome even with a full programme. Following on from the auction the Committee is trying a new seating-arrangement for General Meetings in an effort to improve the acoustics for the benefit of those Members whose hearing is not as acute as it once was. Do come along and see if it works for you. See you there!



Editor's Desk - Lachlan Clark

With the shortest day now behind us and as we move towards summer once again, the group reports tale of members winter efforts which much being achieved over the first half of the year. Chris Kennedy has been beating the Winter blues in Brisbane, taking out first place in the 3.5ccA grade class at the 2016 Queensland Championships. Congratulations Chris!

Back at the club it seems that the cold hasn't put members off attending the club meetings with group nights seeing good attendance.

For Sale

Keen to own you own full sized railway? How about a steam roller or two? Well I may have found the property for you. The Tokomaru Steam museum is currently up for sale along with its content at a 4.8 ha site 18 km south of Palmerston North. Check it out at the link below. Photo from the same source. <http://www.trademe.co.nz/property/commercial-property-for-sale/auction-1056148202.htm>



In the News

Hornby, the model toymaker looks to be in trouble unless it's investors back an eight million pound emergency fundraising plan. In short, what does this mean for us? Well, a potential reduction in the number of product lines by 40%. More information here <https://www.theguardian.com/business/2016/jun/22/hornby-urges-investors-to-back-8-million-pound-fundraising>



Tether Car Racing - Chris Kennedy

It has been quiet on the OMES track recently due to weather. Colin, Murray, and Stu are all eagerly waiting the chance to test their new Wayne Burns cars.

Chris has again ventured over the ditch to Brisbane to race. He was hosted this time by John and Pat Walker who took him for a drive following the MG car group to the Gold Coast.

Racing was held on the Saturday in fine sunny conditions. Chris's first run recorded a speed of 268kph. On the second run the car reached 270 before suddenly stopping. Chris thought this is going to cost me. Fortunately his first run was good enough to give him first place.

"On return home I dismantled the car to find a broken Zimmerman valve but luck was on my side as there was no damage to the liner. An email to Mart has new parts on the way to New Zealand to fix the car."





Photo: Mike O'Cain

Engineering Group - Russell Clark

At our June engineering group meeting we had a good mid winter turnout of eleven members.

The clubs pressure gauges and boiler testing kit are now housed in a new box made by my father-in-law Arthur Campbell, and Mike has kindly volunteered to complete the project by varnishing the box. The gauges require a re-calibration test and Mike will also attend to this.

As our maintenance day fell on Queens Birthday Saturday only three members turned out and undertook some track levelling along the back straight.

It was reported that a recent picnic highlighted the need for continued maintenance of the air operated points. The picnic itself was well behaved by the children involved and well supported by club members helping to run the event. Feedback from the parents involved indicates that our premises are favoured for such events because the area is contained, the hall is available if the weather is not kind and pricing is reasonable with other comparable venues.

Jim reported that the bi-annual MEANZ audit had been completed the previous Saturday by Duncan Robby and Donald Ross with no major concerns encountered and only the paper work to be completed.

In the workshop Mike O'Cain has been working on the back axle of his tethered car and passed around a very well made morse2 tapered slitting saw arbour (Photo above). Colin Winter has been working on a box for the boat he acquired from Charlie Crossan. Gordon Rusbatch has been mainly woodworking also making a box for a boat.

Chris Kennedy reported on his recent car racing exploits in Brisbane and a Zimmerman valve malfunction that fortunately only caused minor damage to the engine of his A grade car.

Continues Over.....

Boiler Inspectors

Des Burrow
454 5565
Colin Downing
454 2528
Logan McGhie
476 1425
Allan Stevens
455 8665
Jim Woods
476 1369

Boiler Records

Geoff French
454 2171

Geoff French continues to make steady progress on his Railmotor locomotive having now completed the ashpan and grate and not letting the grass grow under his feet is already starting work on the patterns for his next locomotive, a 5" gauge narrow belpair boilered 4-4-2 Jersey Lily.

Logan McGhie has completed lagging the boiler of his Sweet William loco but the fine weather is limiting his time in the workshop. Jim Woods is heavily involved in house renovations but still manages to continue work on the control panel of his mill, paint the pony truck of his Isle of Man loco and problem solve starting problems with his newly acquired diesel shunter.

Dave McBride showed off his (Des's) progress on his 3.5" Tich locomotive, completed chassis, clad boiler and handmade dome with work continuing on the cylinders (Photos right).



Photo: Russell Clark



Photo: Russell Clark

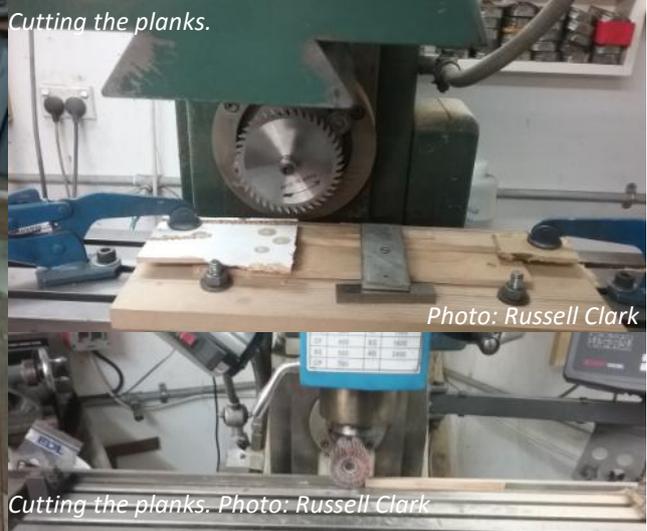


Photo: Russell Clark

Russell's progress on his 3.5" wagon.



Photo: Russell Clark



Cutting the planks. Photo: Russell Clark



Russell's progress on his 3.5" wagon.



Hamish's model of the "Moa"

Boat Group - Henry Goosselink, Photos John Anderson

As we sit down to write this report I see we are almost at the shortest day. We had 14 members present at our June meeting and started with notices, followed with bits on the table.

Notices

We are invited to come to the OTAGO Maritime Society meeting (OMS) on Thursday 22nd September 7:30pm at HMNZS TOROA (the OMS club room) and are requested to bring and discuss models relevant to NZ history. We will also be able to view their RNZN Museum. Our previous meeting with OMS was very successful and they are keen to have us again.

Medical update on Robin and Eric.

Another six members are to have a conducted tour on the ice breaker "Italica" on Thursday 16th June at 2pm.

The last Sunday of the month is our running day. The aim is to have it as a social time with afternoon tea in the Hall.



Bits on the Table

John Anderson demonstrated a small electronic speed controller and timer, which he has built. This is to be fitted to a small free flight aeroplane of about 500mm span. The unit allows the motor power, flight time and power ramp down time to be adjusted. To give you some idea of its size the battery is only the size of a kiwi stamp and the electronics PCB about 30 x 25mm. The motor is only 20mm long, with gear reduction and a 150mm prop, smaller units are also available. He also had an 8 RGB (red, green, blue) LED strip connected to a micro computer that can be programmed to give different colours and sequences. The brightness and colour of each LED can be individually controlled and strips can be joined together for bigger displays. You can also get the LEDs as single units, rings of various diameter, squares, flexible strips of different lengths and LED spacings.

Continues Over.....

Brian Nunn had been working on the deck for his Thornycroft torpedo boat. He had upgraded the deck fittings and the ply deck is now decked with Lime planks with a central Mahogany plank, all lightly stained.

Brian Milne had purchased some very small, and well detailed, 3D printed plastic AA guns along with some water tight doors for his model. The larger guns are less than 20mm high (Photo right).

Hamish Tyson and Bruce had also made good progress on their Footy yacht kit sets, with the hulls etc painted and the servo's and rudders fitted. Both yachts will be fitted with traditional mast and sail rigs (Photo right).

Hamish has also made progress on his model of the MOA (RNZN coastal defence vessel), hand making many of the small fittings and items for the deck. One of these item is a scale Zodiac constructed out of 15mm dowel, 1 and 1.5mm ply (Photo right).

Murray Vince had been working on his "Strom 2", busy cutting out the cabin walls with 22 windows on each side. The windows have been cut out with a milling machine. He had also made the linkage arms for the rudders, purchased some ball joint linkages from China and started on the wheel houses at each end (Photo below).

Kevin Gamble has almost finished his model of the paddle steamer "Golden Age". This vessel was the first ferry on Otago harbour. It was 44m LOA with a licence to carry 300 people. The vessel was built in Melbourne with two masts and sailed to Dunedin where the masts were removed(Photo below right).



Gary Douglas has finished the refurbishment of his fishing Vessel "Norman", with the sides repaired and everything given a fresh coat of paint. The vessel was one of his first efforts at modelling over 20 years ago.

Andrew Douglas had brought along the plan for his 10cc Hydro to show to Keith Murphy, unfortunately Keith is over at that small island west across the Tasman Sea.

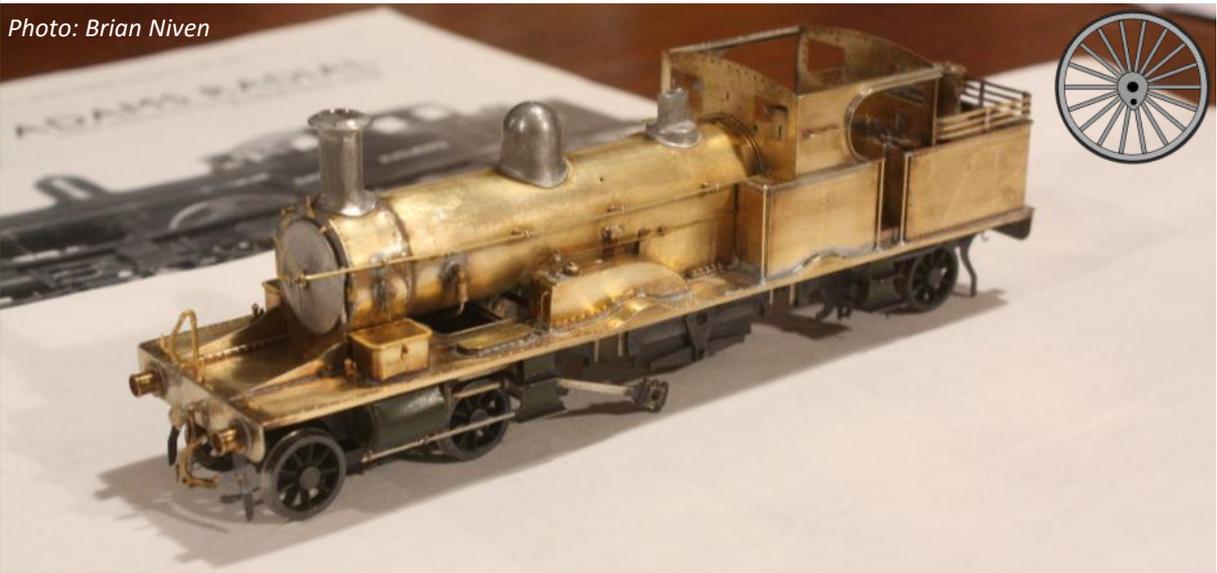
Henry Goosselink had gutted his footy, lengthened the fore deck and installed a stepped mast with side stays so the mast can be moved to find the optimal position. He had also made a deeper balanced rudder from balsa and lined it with an alloy drink can. The rudder is now controlled by a mini servo set up with a loop linkage, and the main and jib now have the same distance for pivot and sail control points (Photo right).



Next Meeting

For our next meeting we will have bits on the table.

Photo: Brian Niven



Scale Railway Group - Brian Niven

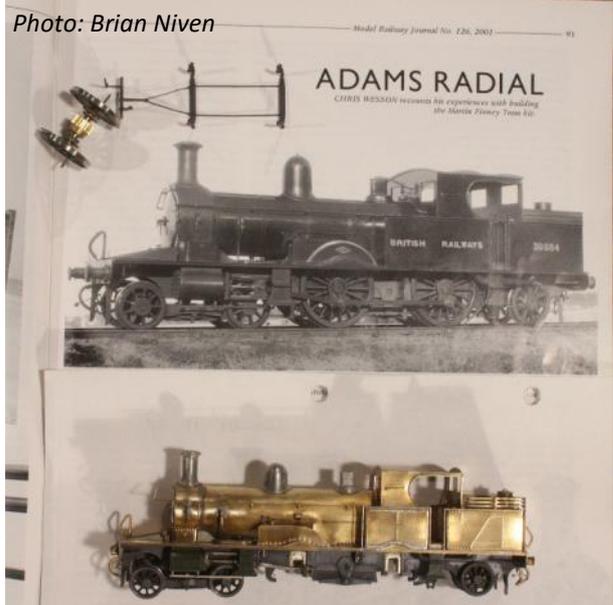
Our June meeting opened with finance for proposed signalling for the N scale layout. Its likely that 2 gantries and 2 bracket signals to control traffic at the junctions of the front and back parts of the layout and associated relays will be needed.

James Tamis asked if members would be interested in some clinics. Some interest was shown in spray painting, servicing locos and rolling stock, and some simple electronics. So it has been decided to try some of these out on the first Tuesday of the month. The first will be a spray painting session in early July led by James.

Continues Over.....

Stuart Robertson brought along some flyers that were originally included in Railway Modeller in the 1980's.

John Knight entertained us with details of the building his LSWR 4-4-2 Adams Radial tank (Photo right). This is a Martin Finney kit in brass, built to his usual P4 scale. He said that the kit was well designed, had good detail, and was accompanied by excellent plans and build instructions. Nicely detailed back-head. The only problem encountered was in soldering the rear of the water tanks into the cab, as these were separate pieces. No instructions on how to hold small parts to do this. This model will be of fullsize #426 built by Beyer-Peacock in 1882 and has raised rivet detail as it is an early production model. Later engines had flush rivets, so giving the loco a different look. The "Radial" in the tanks name is due to the use of the rear axle being mounted in shaped hornblocks, so as to allow it to move laterally on an arc of a circle to reduce wear, compared to a fixed axle in the same position.



Finally John posed a question. How to make P4 boiler bands, black with white edges? Geoff offered suggestions of using a bow pen (or equivalent) or using a base used for waterslide transfers and drawing on to that.



Photo: Lachlan Clark

Bookings - Michael Forrest and Kevin Gamble

Events

Team	Date	Time	Description	#Att n	Note
1	Sat 29 October	1.00 - 3.00	Birthday Party - Jo Davison	20	Electric locos only please, no steam Open the hall by 12 noon to allow set up

Team	Day Controller	Phone	Member 2	Phone	Member 3	Phone	Member 4	Phone
1	Gary Douglas	4767311	Kevin Gamble	4554547	Bob Newbury	4763892	Mark Hughes	452870
2	Colin Downing	4542528	Murray Gibb	4898489	Des Burrows	4545565	Ross Nicholls	0212247620
3	Michael Forrest	4551642	Henry Gooselink	4883284	Harvey Max	7421080	Harvey Anna	7421080
4	Ian Marsh	4892267	Brian McCammon	4883828	Ross Jamieson	4727260	Keith Murphy	4731740
5	Michael O'Cain	4882075	Brian Niven	4554491	Glen Lawrence	4883826	Brian Nunn	4554658
7	Terry Smith	4545697	Hamish Tyson	4762116	Bruce Milne	4544471	Stuart Reid	453406
8	James Woods	4761369	Brian Wolff	4727749	John Anderson	4543542	Stuart Robertson	0211480683

Spare Members

Leslie Bennett	4763852	Lawrence Clarke	4738684	Geoffrey French	4542172
John Nelson	4892942	Colin Nicholls	4545432	Barry Stoddard	4876128
Lance Wild	4728603	Colin Winter	4564382	Jon Winton	4542950
Bill King	4881518	Ron Johnstone	4556623	Allen McGregor	4767666
Gordon Rusbatch	4544800	Glen Rusbatch	4544800		

It is up to the Day Controller to phone the other 3 men of his team and ensure they will be available for the function. The Day Controller is also the go-to person to liaise as necessary with the hirer/party organiser, and should meet them as soon as they arrive on-site and see if they're OK about everything.

As each booking is received and confirmed it will be allocated to the next team on the roster. If you are unavailable to take your turn it is up to you to find a substitute, either by swapping with someone else or by arranging for a 'Spare Member' to take your place. Please then inform the Day Controller so he knows whom to expect on the day. As I am now handling the bookings I shall inform and remind the Day Controller.

Health and Safety Report

There are reports someone has kidnapped Thomas the tank engine. More details to follow.

Source: <http://imgur.com/gallery/7FaQupD>



**Otago Model
Engineering Society**

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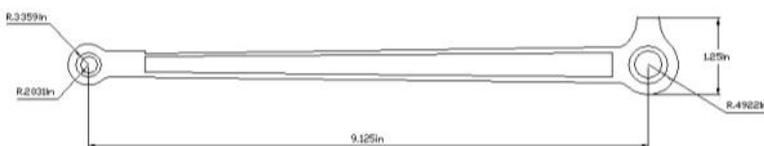
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