
CONROD NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 25 ISSUE 10



OCTOBER 2014

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Those of you who attended last month's monthly meeting had the enjoyment of an excellent presentation from Craig Didham on the Otago Helicopter and Rescue Service.

This month's guest speaker is to be Margaret Stevenson the Nurse Manager of Birchleigh Dementia Unit. She will talk on the subject of Dementia and hopes to impart some knowledge to those that attend how to visit some one you may know who suffers from Dementia. These skills I am sure will be of benefit to all of us, as we age, and face the awkwardness of visiting a relative or old friend.

So please come along and bring the wife, partner or friend. There will be something we could all learn.

Michael Forrest asked for members to assist with the formation of a Festival Week Committee and I ask you to read his comments on page 3.

In addition to his comments I would appreciate it if those members who are prepared to act as Day Controllers during Festival Week would please inform him or myself. This needs to be sorted as soon as possible for there is no sense wasting time planning a Festival Week if this role cannot be fulfilled.

Regards Brian

SOCIETY MEETINGS

GENERAL MEETING Second Monday of the Month
7.30 pm

COMMITTEE Last Monday of the month 7.30pm

CLUB OFFICIALS

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Graham Batts
Chris Staynes

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Colin Downing	4542528
Michael Forrest V.P.	4551642
Henry Goosselink	4883284
John Knight	4766312
Dave McBride	4761992
Stewart Robertson	0211480683
Terry Smith	4545697
Jon Winton I.P.P	4542950
Murray Wright	4894218

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Colin Downing	454 2528
Donald Ross	453 4002
Allan Stevens	455 8665
Jim Woods	4761369

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SCALE RAILWAY

Firstly, it is pleasing to see our group leader John Knight back after a little leg surgery in Christchurch and looking well. At our September meeting he asked us to think about how festival week sessions might be conducted. It would be nice to have a theme, and a suggestion was for running a session depicting military use of railways. This could match a theme in the main hall of Navy boats and aircraft. It was noted that members of DMAC have some military style aircraft, and at least two of our group have military items of railway interest. Another idea was to split the two usual USA running days up into two distinct sessions – pre 1950 (or thereabouts) steam trains and the later Diesel era trains.

Some thought was also given to the possibility of using the N scale layout, given to us by Don Spittle, for children to operate during Festival week. That layout is currently in the main hall, and would require some upgrading for that. Some members had been off buying items in recent times so there were a few bits on the table to peruse.

James Tamis had been looking for “Rail Enthusiast” train spotters and had two smart looking sets from Bachmann Branch line and Preiser purchased from England. Thinking it was a pity to only send for these in one parcel, he also decided to bulk out his purchase with four OO scale Bachmann FNA Nuclear Flask wagons, together with a Farish N scale 2-6-4 Fairburn Tank in BR livery plus some 14 ton Mobil tank wagons. All finely detailed – the 2-6-4 ran sweetly on its inaugural run.

Geoff Murray said he had succumbed to buying a Hornby OO GWR Star class loco “Knight of the Grand Cross”. The prototype Churchward designed locos were built from 1907 to 1923, with five of these being rebuilt as the first of the Castle class in the mid-1920’s.

It’s a good addition to your GWR stable Geoff. He also showed a Bachmann Scenecraft ‘red brick hay barn’ building which he had originally thought to be a kit, but came as a fully built, well detailed and coloured resin casting.

From **Barry Stoddart** we saw two sets of DVD’s relating to British Railways. He recommended “Glory days of British Steam” for its true to life colour and sound, compared with others in his collection. The other 4 DVD set was “Day in the life of a steam train”. Each of these follows the daily workings of a Terrier tank, Bulleid Pacific, GWR Mogul and GWR Devon branch line.

John Knight had been building up part of his Mogul 2-6-0 locomotive Malcolm Mitchell kit in brass. He noted that, as usual with a number of kit manufacturers, there were no wheels, axles, gearbox or motor supplied (and no tender either!). This is because modelers may want to fit OO, EM or P4 scale wheels to suit their modeling scale. He had sourced wheels and axles from Ultrascale in the UK, thinking that they were protofour (P4) scale, but when they arrived after some months delay, they were OO scale not the P4 scale that he thought was ordered. Need to be careful in checking the order before pressing the send button! So the axles are a little short for P4 scale. John asked where he could purchase 1/8” silver steel to make replacements. Suggestions of Acorn Hobbies (Christchurch): some of the boat group may know. However, we saw that the wheel profile and finish of the wheel sets John obtained was superb. John also produced a copy of the Model Railway Journal which had photos of a superbly modeled 7mm scale GWR King Class loco set in a loco shed. You couldn’t tell it from the real McCoy.

Brian Niven reported little progress had been made on the DCC upgrade. He is considering software and printing methods to produce some simple labels for the DC/DCC indicator LED lights which will be placed on all control panels.

GROUP GET TOGETHERS

Boat Group Wednesday Following the General Meeting 7.30pm

Engineering Third Monday 7.30pm

Scale Railway Each Tuesday 7.30pm

Thursday Toilers 9.30 am to 4pm Weekly

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The last time such labels were produced he used an early Macintosh machine with the MacDraw Pro drawing program.

It is proposed to use LED's having Yellow/Blue diffused colours to indicate DC/DCC modes rather than the Red/Blue as used on the N scale, so they will be more easily seen against the red point LED's and black panels used on our OO/HO railway. However, Murray Gibb has been tidying wiring in the control desk ready for installation of the overload indicator bulbs.

By Brian Niven



Yesteryear on the HO Layout



The control box of the HO layout undergoing its changes to DCC / DC control

NEXT MEETING

MONDAY

13TH OCTOBER 2014

**Guest Speaker Margaret Stevenson Nurse
Manager Birchleigh Dementia Unit
Wives, Partners and Friends welcome to attend**

Festival-Week Report

Festival-Week 2015 is off to a shaky start. I asked each member of this year's planning-committee if they would like to be on next year's, since we obviously did a good job, but only three agreed. I spoke to the September General Meeting asking for support, and had a motion passed to confirm the Society's wish to continue our tradition of holding Festival-Week; however no-one came forward. Of course only about a quarter of Members attend monthly General Meetings, so this is an appeal for every Member to consider whether they can actively contribute to organising our biggest annual fundraiser and community event. It would be possible for four men to do the job but when I tried to call an initial meeting to set basic things like dates one person was unavailable, and another was going away and could not agree to an alternative date, so I called it off as not being worthwhile for just three of us. One reason for having more people involved is to achieve as much consensus across the wider membership as possible to ensure maximum satisfaction with what we come up with. Time is pressing on so PLEASE let me know how YOU can help make Festival-Week 2015 as successful as this year's was.

Michael Forrest.



Hall display 2014

Engineering Group News



The last meeting was well attended with 14 members present. During the meeting Lachlan had a slide show on the TV of the latest GL5 society's gathering at Ryedale in the UK.



A quick run around the workshops showed that plenty was happening, but outside projects put in place by the domestic goddesses were becoming a priority for most!

The subject of the refurbishment of the club's 08 was discussed. Colin Downing reported on the fact one of the Ex OMES 08's in Invercargill is being repowered with motors and controls from the US. Once we have had some more info and what the group considers to be best practice for the future of the club's loco's, this will be presented to the general membership for approval.

Mike commented on his efforts getting the new tethered car track under way. However, information was fairly limited for any useful discussion.

A discussion was held about the requirements for heating the main exhibition hall during winter. General thoughts from those present was that the existing heaters should be turned on earlier, and general meeting attendees should wear better clothing.

Both Donald Ross and Dave McBride have offered to monitor the carbon monoxide output from any fuel oil type heater as demonstrated at the last general meeting. It was also suggested that we look towards the roof and consider photovoltaic solar panels to provide electric power. This would have the long term effect of our overall electricity bill and even earn us credits. This could be done as a club project.

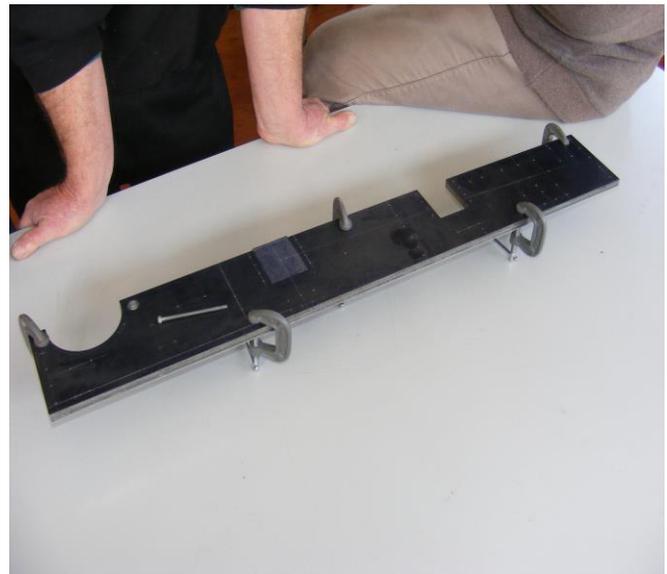
By J Woods for D.McBride



Above is a photo essay of the OMES doing what it does best.

Bob Newbury, Vaughan Peterson, Jon Winton and Ken Da-Rin caught in earnest discussions about Jon's frames for the Sweet Pea he is currently building.

For the interest of readers the discussion was about how to best secure the two frames together to enable the drilling of the holes in the frames.



The options being discussed were: - weld the frames together, and then drill the holes through both frames at the same time.

Leave the frames clamped as photographed drill and bolt through the frames to secure them.

Conrod's investigation revealed the Jon chose the latter option. Drill through; bolt together, one hole at a time. Result we are informed was successful

By Editor

PICNICS AND PARTIES

Date			Crew	Time	# Attn	Contact Ph	Contact Name
Oct	Sat	18		2pm - 4pm			OMES Staircase/Kitchen Opening
Nov	Sat	1					Boat Show Edgar Centre
Nov	Sun	2					Boat Show Edgar Centre
Nov	Sun	9	7	11.30 - 2.30	100		Grants Braes School - Gaylene O'Brian
Nov	Thu	20	TT	9.30 - 11.30	25	456 2929	Caversham Playgroup - Julie Blair
Nov	Fri	21	TT	9.30 - 11.30	25	456 2929	Caversham Playgroup - Julie Blair
Nov	Thu	27	TT	9.30 - 11.30	25	456 2929	Caversham Playgroup - Julie Blair
Nov	Fri	28	TT	9.30 - 11.30	25	456 2929	Caversham Playgroup - Julie Blair
Nov	Sat	29	3	1.00 - 3.00	60	454 2528	Lodge St Patrick - Colin Downing
Nov	Sun	30	5	11.00 - 3.00	100 +	4796715	Delta Xmas Party - Matt Nesbit
Dec	Mon	1	TT	9.30 - 11.30	30 - 50	456 3213	Dunedin Community Child Care - Tracy Cross
Dec	Tues	2	TT	4 to 6 pm	100	021 866620	Paws - Stu Hayes
Dec	Wed	3	TT	9.30 - 11.30	30 - 50	456 3213	Dunedin Community Child Care - Tracy Cross
Dec	Wed	10	TT	10am - 12	30	4709377	Vera Hayward Centre Jo Deker
Dec	Fri	12	TT	10 am - 12	100	4772944	Wild Things - Jan
Dec	Sun	14	6	11am to 2 pm	80	4743300	DCC Social Club Kids Xmas Party

Crew	Day Controller		Member 2		Member 3	
1	Brian McCurdy	4898936	Murray Wright	4894218	John Knight	4766312
2	Selwyn Bennett	4557305	Brian Niven	4554491	Barry Stoddart	4876128
3	Dave McBride	4761922	Colin Downing	4542528	Jim Woods	4761369
4	Michael Forrest	4551642	Henry Goosselink	4883284	Mark Hughes	4552870
5	John McDonell	4878457	Craig McDonell	4878457	Ron Johnston	4556623
6	Chris Kennedy	4667372	Lachlan Clark	4763663	Greg French	4543634
7	Mike O'Cain	4882075	Stewart Robertson	211480683	Colin Nicholls	4545432
8	Gary Douglas	4767311	Bruce Milne	4544471	Kevin Gamble	4554547
9	Terry Smith	4545697	Brian Wolff	4727749	Allan McGregor	4767666
10	Gordon Rusbatch	4544800	Ken Da Rin	4555850	Bevan Robertson	4894783
11	Jon Winton	4542950	Lance Wild	4728603	Gordon Duell	4883663
12	Donald Ross	4534002	Keith Murphy	4731740	Hamish Tyson	4732116
13					Bill King	4881518

BOAT GROUP REPORT

We had 16 members present for our meeting on Wednesday 10 September and I draw your attention to the following

1. Our trip to Invercargill on the Saturday of Labour Weekend 25 October

2. The Go Otago Boat show at the Edgar Centre on November 1st & 2nd 9 am - 5 pm. There will be a small pond 6m x 6m available for smaller boats.

The mid week boating group made the most of a fine afternoon with 12 members turning up on Wednesday 10th.

Bits On The Table And Workshop Areas

Keith Murphy placed some historical boating books on the table for anyone interested.

Gary Douglas has almost finished his small harbour Tug. The model has very good detail and finish.

John Anderson is making a small yacht and has been working on its rigid wing-like mainsail.

Henry Goosselink had made an alteration to the lead-weight on the wing-keel of his America's cup yacht, and is also planning a new rudder for it.

Brian Nunn has finished his model of a German S-boat. It has very good detail and looks superb! He is trying out different motors to obtain the best speed/endurance performance.

Murray Vince showed us the product of 4 months hard work on the now finished Dragon head. Next project - something to fit it onto?

Bruce Milne had a brochure of a 3D printer. The price of these is coming down to around \$1000.

With spring in the air and warmer days various members had also been doing gardening and spending more time in the workshop and around the house.

There was a suggestion that for our next meeting we start with an outing on the pond, before we look at bits on the table. We decided to make the decision on the pond nearer the time but in the meantime don't be caught out with Flat Batteries!

By Henry Goosselink
Boat Group Leader



John Anderson's wee Footy playing in the harbour



Kevin Gamble's USS Paul Hamilton. A model Guided Missile Frigate



Kevin, Murray, Gary and John enjoy a chat out of the wind

OMES EVENTS

Check your Diary and Pen In The Dates

OFFICIAL OPENING OF NEW KITCHEN AND STAIRCASE

SATURDAY 18TH OCTOBER

2pm.

Afternoon Tea and light refreshments

Invitation to Invercargill for their OPENING DAY and Great Little Train Show

Labour weekend 25th -27th October

Henry Goosselink has agreed to organise the hiring of transport for this trip. So if you're interested give Henry a call

Phone 03 4883284

BOAT SHOW

**1ST AND 2ND NOVEMBER
EDGAR CENTRE**

**Please note that due to the unavailability of the organiser this event has been cancelled.
It may be rescheduled for next year**

CLUB CHRISTMAS DINNER

Essence On The Park

FORBURY FUNCTION CENTRE

Bob Newbury and Brian McCurdy are working towards an evening meal for all members to be held towards the end of the year.

Date and time: - Friday 21 November at 6.30pm

Menu and prices will be published in later copies of the Conrod. Meanwhile register your interest with either Bob or Brian

FOLD 1 HERE-----

Conrod

OCTOBER CONROD

FOLD 2 HERE-----

**OTAGO MODEL ENGINEERING SOCIETY
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SOUTH DUNEDIN**

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