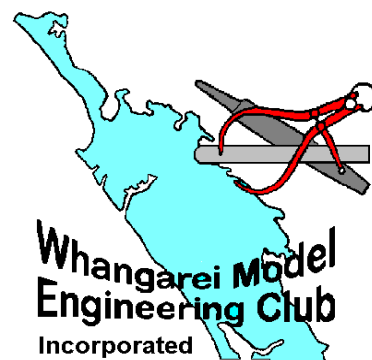


NORTHERN VIEWS

ISSUE No 283 July 2015

Clubrooms/Running Track at Heritage Park, SH14, Maunu, Whangarei.



Rankin's "Q" fresh off the turntable and rarin' to go.

CLUB NOTICES

3rd Sunday Running — July 19, 2015.
Mid-week Workdays — Mostly Every Wednesday.

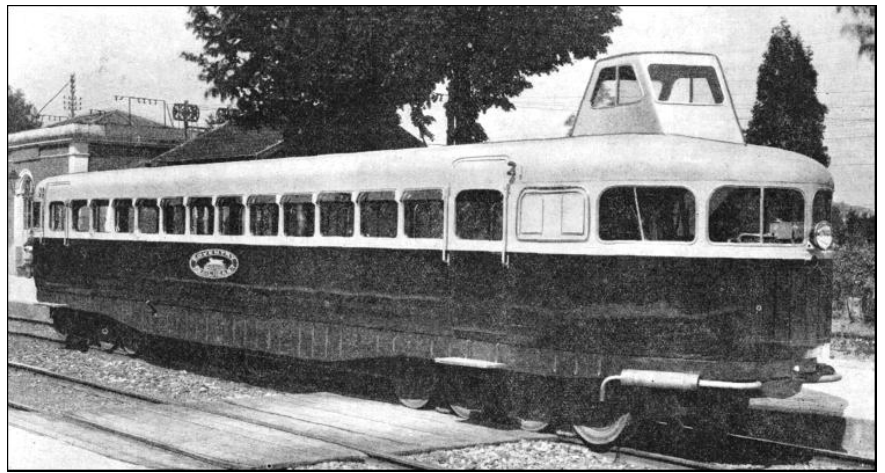
Extra Running Days This Month:

NONE ADVISED

THESE WORK IN WITH
MUSEUM "LIVE" DAYS AND
OTHER EVENTS

QUIZ — What is it?

For answer see Page 4.



WEDNESDAY WORKDAYS:

By The Editor



General maintenance seems to be the “Order of the Day”. Lloyd and helper has been round the track with the weed spray train and with regular application to the track and surrounds the weed problem seems to be kept at bay.

Some of the trackwork is somehow out of gauge (how??), so some work has been done in that department.

The W-W-D group has been looking at the possibility of putting a 20ft container somewhere in the vicinity of the station for the storage of ride-cars. One suggestion was placing a container alongside the present low-level basement track behind the picket fence and another suggestion was to shift the water tank to one side and put a container against the block wall of the basement.

The rationale of this is to allow approximately three trains to be ready made-up and ready to go instead of having to marshal trains each time. This in turn would allow more space in the basement and keep a road free for maintenance and engineering works, etc. Possibly allowing for more storage of member's engines. This would also make it easier to store visitors locos over night when visiting for special occasions.

Option 1 would involved the shifting of a pile of basecourse left over from the original construction of the retaining wall and the building of a proper set of steps to the lower area. It would also entail the re-configuration of the adjacent single track from the main line.

Other Club's Events:

Riveredge Railway, Whakatane. Sparks in the Dark, July 11-12, 2015.

Keirunga Park, Havelock North: Open Weekend, Labour W/E, October 24-26, 2015.

New Plymouth Model Engineers: Open Weekend, Labour W/E, October 24-26, 2015.

National Convention: Hosts, Tauranga Model Engineers, January 7-11th 2016.

LIST OF CLUB OFFICERS

Website: wmec.org.nz

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Secretary: Colin Smith. Phone (09) 438 7861. E-mail; brencols@xtra.co.nz

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Newsletter Editor: Ian Mison. Phone (09) 434 3125. E-mail; julianm@xtra.co.nz

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Club Telephone: (09) 438 9520 (Available Work and Running Days Only).

THIRD SUNDAY RUNNING

The patronage for the June third-Sunday operating day was surprisingly good in spite of the previous few day's weather. Judging by that weather it was a close call on whether to cancel the event.

There was a good turnout of members and at times four trains were required to keep things moving. One of the ride cars had decided that it wasn't going to play ball and kept coming off the track (nuisance value only). The offender was removed from service and the diagnostic team descended upon it to try and find the problem. It was discovered that during construction a small saw-cut had been omitted on the wooden body and once this was rectified it was back in business. The cold weather must have made the customers hungry and the 120 sausages we had for cooking disappeared in double quick time. The newly donated barbecue had a good workout. ■



NOTES FROM THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

(NOT OFFICIAL MINUTES)

The 2015 Annual General Meeting was held in the clubrooms on Wednesday, June 10 at 6 pm, after the advertised Pea, Pie & Spud meal which despite the pinch-penny sounding title was very delicious. To me it proved that despite the often negative thoughts about supermarket pies these ones were excellent (Irvines).

There was 11 members present with three apologies.

The minutes of the previous AGM were read and confirmed and the President's Report (see page 5) was also confirmed and the Annual Finance Report was presented and accepted. It was proposed and seconded that the Treasurer and Auditor be accorded a token acknowledgement of \$200 each for the specialised work carried out on the accounts.

There was nothing to report on boilers except that Tony Tanner's boiler for his A3 is approaching the point of its first pressure test.

The Annual Subscription has been reduced to \$15.00.

The election of officers was as follows:-

President: Rankin Kennedy.

Secretary: Colin Smith.

Northern Views Editor: Ian Mison.

Vice President: Roger Reynolds (subject to availability and need).

Treasurer: Herb Smith.

Librarian: Neville Hewinson (subject to need).

Committee Members: Rodney White, Roger Reynolds, Lloyd Cross, Ian Mison, Neville Hewinson, Brian Mould.

It was agreed by the new committee to invite John Wright to join the committee in view of his considerable knowledge and previous assistance.

The meeting also agreed the rules requirement for one year's membership before being able to be elected to the committee be waived in the case of Brian Mould who, also, has had wide experience in the model engineering scene in Auckland before moving north and who has already been of great assistance to the club (painting of the new locomotive, etc).

It was also accepted unanimously that Rodney White and Neville Hewinson be recognised for the valued work they carry out for the club. ■

ANSWER TO QUIZ ON PAGE 2:

Michelin Rubber-tyred Trains

Michelines were a series of rubber-tyred trains developed in France in the 1930s by various rail companies and rubber-tyre manufacturer Michelin. Some Michelines were built in the United States by the Budd Car Company.

Most Michelines were self-propelled, but a number of locomotive-hauled trainsets were also produced.

Michelines offered unprecedented ride smoothness, but they soon proved to be problematic because the low load that the wheels could bear limited railcar sizes and demanded a high number of tyres (up to 20) per car. Furthermore, they were subject to flat tyres, unlike cars with steel wheels.

Eventually, the Michelines gave way to rubber-tyred metros, pioneered by the RAPT (Paris transit authority) which introduced them for their superior acceleration characteristics, in order to increase the capacity of their subway lines.

However, as time went by, the extra complexity of rubber-tyred rolling stock meant that they were superseded by conventional steel-wheel rolling stock.

Five years ago, the French State Railways placed in service an experimental pneumatic-tyred rail-car developed by the Michelin Company. So successful did this prove, that the stock of such cars has gradually been increased to between seventy and eighty, these mostly being 56 and 100-seater units. In England, the L.M.S. authorities are at present trying out two pneumatic-tyred rail-cars of new design. Each of the cars is carried on 16 pneumatic-tyred wheels, accommodates 56 passengers, seated, and has a cruising speed of 60 m.p.h., with a maximum of about 75 m.p.h. Each railcar is driven by a 275 h.p. petrol engine with self-changing gearbox, and can run with equal facility in either direction. Silent and smooth running is a feature of the pneumatic-tyred railcar. Another distinct advantage is that the pneumatic tyre presents a high co-efficient of friction in contact with the rail, this giving acceleration and braking greatly in excess of the rates possible with steel-tyred cars.

☺ A few years back I was in Sapporo (Japan) and found out that their underground trains were equipped with rubber tyres. It was very, very smooth to ride. ■



A picture of a captive Micheline at the Cité du Train de Mulhouse, France.

Newsletters Received . . .

Title	From	Dated
BOIVR	Bay of Islands Vintage Railway	June 2015
Blast Pipe	{ Hutt Valley Model Engineering Society (Inc)	June 2015
	{ Maidstone Model Engineering Society (Inc)	" "
Cinderbarrow Flyer	Lancaster & Morecombe M. E. Society (UK)	Spring/Summer 2015
	E.P.O.B. Society of Model Engineers (Inc)	June 2015
Canterbury Tales	Canterbury Society of Model Engineers (Inc)	June 2015
Keirunga Park Platform	Havelock Nth Live Steamers & Associates (Inc)	Winter 2015
Leading Points	Thames Small Gauge Railway Society (Inc)	Winter 2015
Model Torque	Hawkes Bay Model Engineering Society (Inc)	June 2015
Piston 'n' Prop	Marlborough Associated Modellers Society (Inc)	June 2015
Steamline	Steam Incorporated	
The Generator	Palmerston North Model Engineering Club (Inc)	June 2015
The Squeaky Wheel	MOTAT Society (Inc), Auckland	June 2015

THESE MAGAZINES ARE AVAILABLE TO READ IN THE CLUBROOMS FOR APPROXIMATELY 1 MONTH

WHANGAREI MODEL ENGINEERING CLUB

President's Report presented at AGM held on 10th June, 2015, at 6 pm

I would like to begin by thanking all the committee members for their help and support over this last year which has made my job so much easier.

We have also gained one new experienced member in Brian Mould and can see he will be a great asset to our Club. Our numbers are still low but good participation from the membership has meant we are able to continue progressing within the Club and provide entertainment for the public.

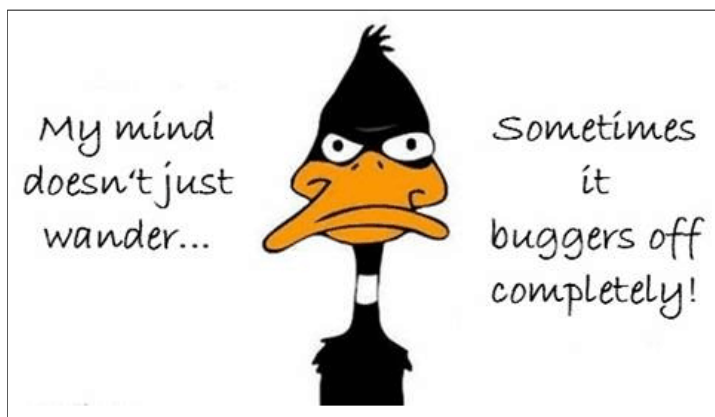
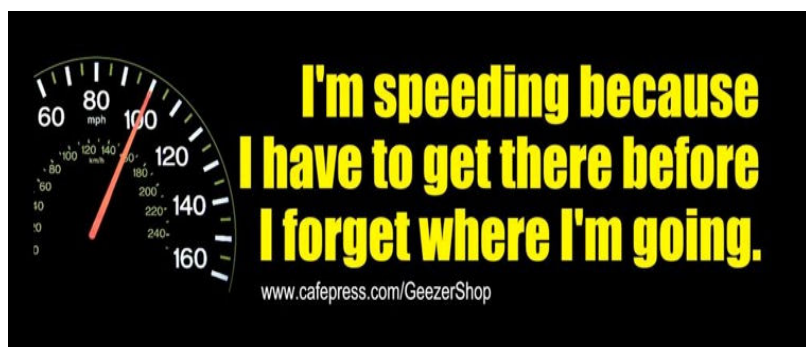
Working bees continue to be successful and we have installed a safety fence at the back of the hill, a viewing seat opposite the station and our in-house painters have completed the painting of the picket fence and the veranda ends. We endeavour to keep the track up to a high standard and the rolling stock in good condition. We have removed a set of points which were previously used as the entrance/exit to the carriage shed. We foresaw that the movement of carriages onto the main line may cause a hazard at some time and we wanted to pre-empt this. New signage is being undertaken by Ian for where we will now enter the main line.

Our emphasis this year has been on purchasing and finishing the new Kiwi Rail DC444 engine. This was basically built by Icon Engineering and the body finished by Martin Wallace Ltd in Whangarei. We are very happy with the work carried out by both companies. Brian Mould kindly offered to paint the engine which has saved the Club a lot of money and we are very grateful to him for doing this. Rodney has fitted lights etc to help complete the job. We have booked the signwriter and trust he will carry out his work in the next few weeks. Overall, we are finding the new engine is going well and already paying its way.

Roger Lund's staff have more or less completed the barbeque shack but unfortunately it is having to be put on hold until discussions with the Museum Committee are completed and an amicable decision reached.

There have been many discussions about what we now see as the important work to be carried out by the Club in this coming year. In this regard a priority list has been drawn up from the suggestions from the membership.

Rankin Kennedy,
President.



SIX SHORT STORIES

- (1). Once all villagers decided to pray for rain, on the day of prayer all the people gathered, but only one boy came with an umbrella. That's FAITH.
- (2). When you throw a baby in the air, she laughs because she knows you will catch her. That's TRUST.
- (3). Every night we go to bed, without any assurance of being alive the next morning but still we set the alarms to wake up. That's HOPE.
- (4). We plan big things for tomorrow in spite of zero knowledge of the future. That's CONFIDENCE.
- (5). We see the world suffering, but still we get married and have children. That's LOVE.
- (6). On an old man's shirt was written a sentence 'I am not 80 years old ... I am sweet 16 with 64 years experience' That's ATTITUDE.

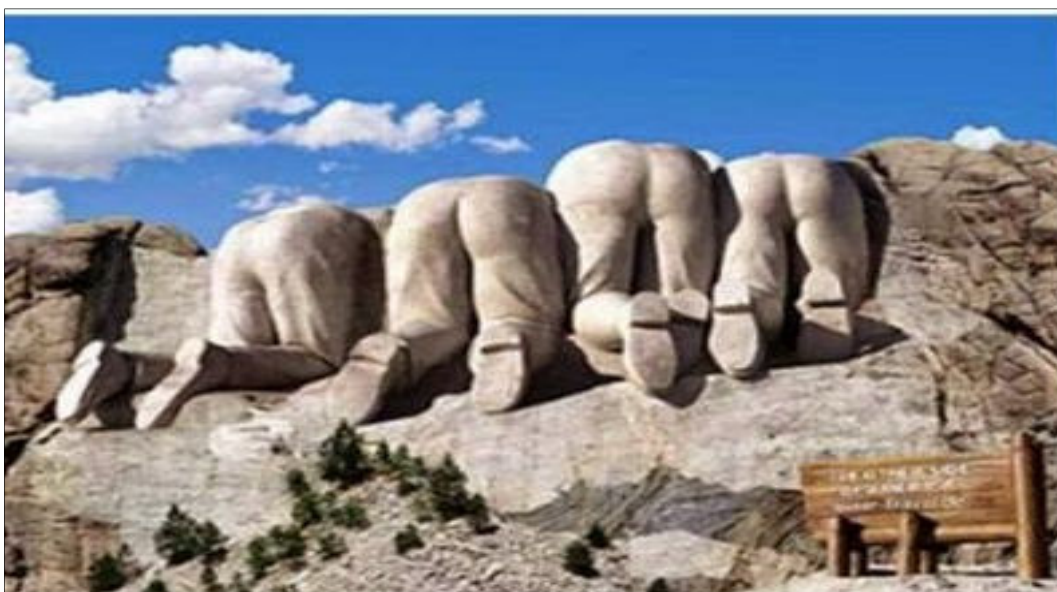
Have a happy day and live your life like these six stories!



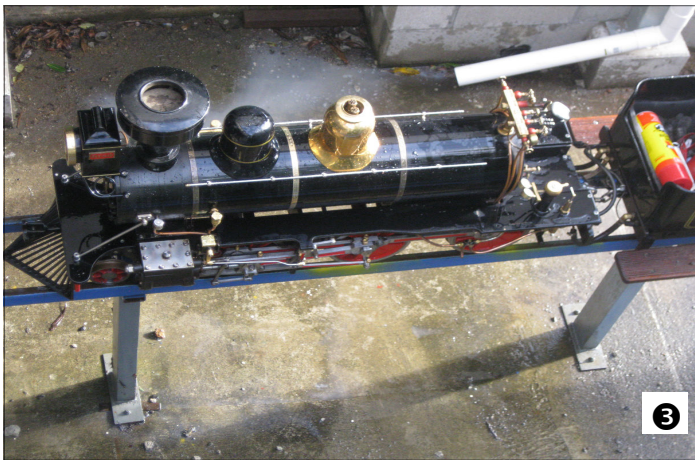
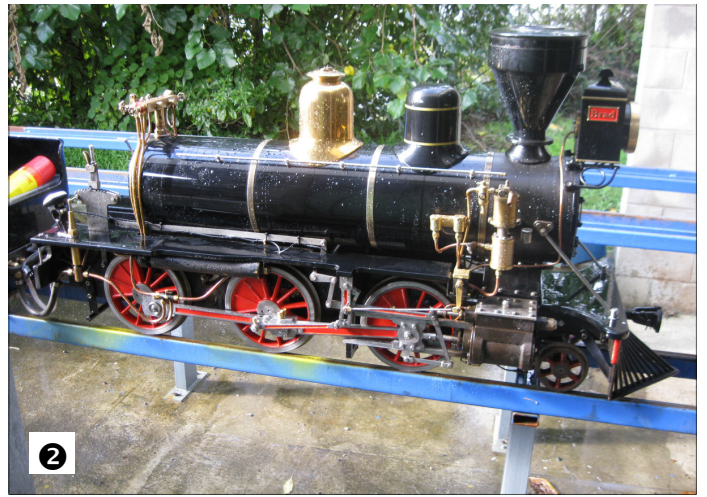
A BUSY DAY ON THE WESTERN SPRINGS TRAMWAY. The view shows the tramway crossing on Meola Rd, just in front of Auckland Zoo. A Wellington “Fiducia” class tram is crossing the roadway and further back up the hill is an Auckland “Streamliner” followed by a Melbourne SW6. Behind that again is a Sydney R class. Altogether there were eight trams operating this day.

The traffic lights and “T” lights are operated by magnetic loops laid in the concrete within the rails. This also works in conjunction with the pedestrian phase.

You know, there are some things
that you just never think of ...
like Mt Rushmore from the
Canadian side



General Pics from Around the Site



PHOTOS ABOVE:

1. First finished driving wheel for Tony's A3.
2. Lloyd's N with cab removed for servicing. Lloyd was fixing a leaky gauge glass seal.
3. A birds eye view of the N.
4. A cold day makes for great steam effects. The "Big Railway" loco under way.
5. Part of the queue for rides. This type of photo put a great big smile on the Treasurer's face.
6. Ditto. As per No 5.
7. A dead carriage awaiting resuscitation

IF UNDELIVERED PLEASE RETURN TO:—

Whangarei Model Engineering Club Inc,
P.O. Box 10233, Te Mai, Whangarei 0143.

