



Piston'n'Prop.

Newsletter

Marlborough Associated Modellers Society Inc.
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If Clubs or members currently receiving this Newsletter by mail could receive it by email please let me know carlmcmillan@ihug.co.nz

June 2017

Committee Meeting notes for April / May

We regret to advise that Ken McIntyre passed away on Thursday 10th May 2017 and a memorial service was held on Tuesday 23rd May. Ken was a long-serving life member and contributed a great deal to the Society over many years and will be missed very much. He had a wide and practical engineering background and produced many models from his workshop. He gave a great deal of pleasure to many people in the train rides he gave when visiting different

club tracks around New Zealand. Our thanks to the different clubs who have sent letters of condolence.

Our Annual General Meeting in April returned the same committee but with the change of Colin Grocott who replaced Alan Fairweather. Alan stepped down after a number of years serving on the committee and we thank him for his contribution. The Annual Subscriptions remain the same as the past year and our Treasurer, Tom Hood, reported that financially we are in a satisfactory position, even after the expense of extending and completing the raised track project. Our thanks go to the Committee for being willing to stand again and to club members for their support.

The Society Officers & Committee are:

Patron the Mayor of Blenheim, John Leggett
President Philip Gibbison
Vice President Brent Coburn
Secretary Nigel Wood
Treasurer Tom Hood
Committee Carl McMillan
 Ron Perkinson
 Mark Taylor
 Colin Grocott
Brayshaw Park Reps Tom Hood, Nigel Wood (deputy)
Hon Solicitor P. Radich
Hon Auditor D. Manning
Newsletter Ed/Website Carl McMillan
MEANZ Rep Brent Coburn

We welcome new members Peter Smith (aero), Trevor Faulkner (aero) and Keith Westoby (engineering/boating) and wish them well in their time with MAMS.

Various projects are under way around our area of the Park and I would like to thank different people who have been diligently weeding around the plantings on the track extension. The area is looking good and the shrubs are growing, although it appears we are still being plagued by thieves who are taking the larger shrubs.

The Boating Section is proceeding with extending the existing shed for more storage of models and equipment. The Flying Section had the caravan stolen from the flying site and are looking at repairing the old NZR ticket box and relocating it to the site. The Engineering Section has been donated an old 20ft container which is being re-purposed as storage for ground level locos and this is well on the way to being installed. The ground level track points are being serviced and tracks re-aligned in places. Growth of grass, weeds and shrubs around the area has slowed somewhat but many maintenance tasks still need to be done.

We would like to advise that our raised and ground level tracks will be available for train running for conventioners following completion of the Nelson Convention in January 2018. Our facilities will be open for train operation on 9th and 10th January and at subsequent times later that week if desired. Interested conventioners can contact our Committee members, such as Brent Coburn or Mark Taylor or myself who will make arrangements for the tracks to be opened. No catering will be provided. We trust the convention will be a success and enjoyed by many.

Nigel Wood
Secretary

Steam Section Meeting notes for April 18th.

A quieter meeting but with discussion on the different jobs and projects dealing with raised and ground level track installations.

Member's current projects are getting too big and heavy to bring to the meeting but things are progressing.

Ron has been reviewing our MAMS Policy and Procedures to determine what needs updating. He noted there is a requirement for passenger trolleys to have regular Warrants of Fitness inspections and this led to discussion on what level the inspection had to cover. Each trolley is current visually inspection for serviceability before using on running days but this needs to be standardised and a check sheet used.

Running days have been good recently and with good weather.

The evening finished at 9.25pm

Steam Section meeting May 16th.

A welcome to Jim Acot who was visiting and is interested in learning more about model making. He would like to make "Mabel" but is not sure what gauge would be best - 3 1/2" or 5" gauge.

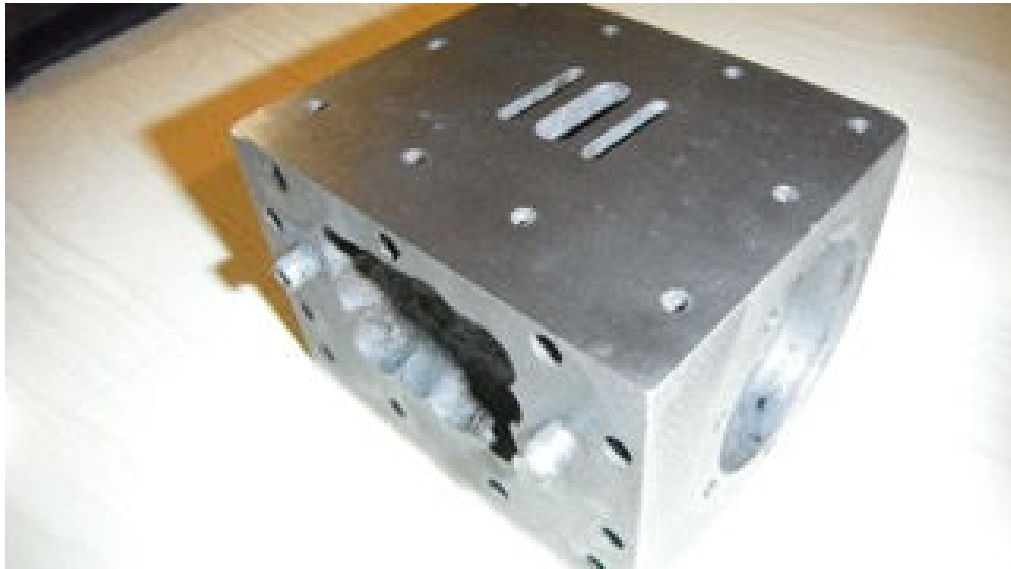
Mark Taylor showed samples of the boiler tubes he is preparing for his 5" gauge "Speedy" boiler. He has 1/2" dia drawn tubing he is turning down to 7/16" dia using a standard carbide tipped tool lubricated with WD40. This gave a fine



finish and cut cleanly. The tubing needs to be turned down to obtain satisfactory ligaments on the tube plates and clearance around the 32 tubes involved.

Discussion about how to get large photo or drawing of our area of the Park to record where pipelines, electric cables and services are located as part of the investigation Tom is undertaking for the Park Users. Use of drones is not possible because of our proximity to Omaka airfield. Would try again to see if Council can help with suitable drawing.

Peter Holdaway talked about Lactate products and need to have correct clearances for best results. He distributed a handout for information.



Brent Coburn is in the middle of a tear-down inspection of his NZR Super “Q” loco which is 40 years old. The boiler needs to be re-certified as well. He showed one of the cylinders which has pitting on the slide valve surface but the bore has been honed and is in good condition.

One tonne of Welsh anthracite coal has been purchased from Timaru and it will be interesting to see how our locos perform with it.



Win Holdaway showed the tender for his 3 1/2" gauge "Evening Star" which hasn't been looked at for 30 years. The loco needs a lot of work to get it operational again because a dart on the superheater tube is leaking and is extremely difficult to remove for repair.

The old shipping container has had a hole dug and a start made on painting the sides before being sunk in the ground. Intention is to get rail installed at waist height so servicing the locos is easier. Tree stumps removed but need to be reduced in size for disposal. The old asking loop on the raised track has been modified as first stage in permitting eventual trolley storage under cover on the siding.

Nigel

Boating Report

I haven't been boating for some time but I was there today with four other boaties and it was a pleasant afternoon. There are some leaks in the pond somewhere and we will manage these as we find them.

The shed extension is under way, Colin Grocott has a band of merry men, Allan Fairweather, John Henson and Allan Holdaway helping to do this and things are progressing nicely. The area immediately in front of the shed is being built up as well to make access easier and safer.





As I mentioned in the last newsletter I now have photos of Terry Stevens's boat and Phil Souter's yacht, nice to see them on the pond.



Two of our members are not in the best of health and we may not see them at the pond for some time, best wishes to Graham Vercoe and Robin Wemyss, we hope to see you in future. A third member, Kerry Campbell is in line for surgery, we hope all goes well and you are back on deck soon.

I know there are a number of boats being built, it would be good to see the progress of some of them, how about bringing something to the section meeting! Section meetings are going well, next meeting is this Thurs 1st June, 7.30 at the clubrooms.

Philip

Flying section report

Welcome new members Trevor Faulkner and Peter Smith to the flying section. Trev turned up at the field with an interesting trainer to fly, an RTF Cub foamie with automatic stability control. It is mode 2, as most RTF models are these days, and the other flyers present were on Mode 1. His radio has a 3 position switch for varying level of stability, and a panic button to hit if things get out of shape or disoriented which automatically levels the plane. With no flyers to test it out for him did a couple of short flights, just take off and glide down along the runway. All looked good so he had a few flights of 5 to 7 minutes, with me giving him a few pointers on things to do and where to fly. He did the flights all on his own with the help of modern technology and went home model intact and has had many flights since. Switching from full stability mode when the plane is up lets him fly with full control and he can switch back if need be. Not like the old days of learning to fly. I have seen in magazines that you can buy receivers, or controllers, for fixed wing aircraft that offer similar features, offering stability in windy conditions, self levelling, or some even with GPS and a return home feature in case you get too far away or disoriented, so your model will fly back and circle overhead until you take back control. Great things if you wish to fly in slightly windier conditions, or if you want to try flying first person view (FPV). There is some amazing new tech out there, the hobby is continually developing.

The weather has not been kind to us as far as the Gliding/Aerotow days at Quail Dale Station have gone this season with the last 3 scheduled local events being cancelled due to bad weather. I think the next one is on the 24th June. These events are for any type of glider flying from Radians and DLG to aerotow launched gliders.

The replacement shelter for the flying site, replacing the caravan, has still to be shifted out to the field. It will happen but not sure when, Mark has offered to shift it when he gets his trailer back.

The weather has been a bit iffy lately but there have been a lot of good flying days and good turnouts at the flying field. I hope the week day flyers are getting some flying in, there have been many great looking flying days while I have been working.



I have had a bit of a spend up lately, getting a Saito 61 petrol engine that I am trying out on the Katana, and also getting a relatively cheap 3D scanner and printer, which has produced the pilot figure among other things. The Saito has had several runs on the ground and I hope to get it airborne in the near future, it has been a bit of a challenge so far but now seems to be putting out enough power to fly. 3D printing has potential but is very slow to print objects. There are lots of things on the internet to download and print. If any members want to have models of themselves printed to put in there planes I could try scanning and printing them, let me know.

Don't forget subs for the 2017/2018 year should have been paid by now.

Have fun, fly safely.

Carl M

NOTE - NZ Model Flier's World is now available for issue at both Blenheim and Picton libraries.

MAMS Membership and Subscription Structure

Ordinary Member (all Sections)	\$55.00
Family membership	\$60.00
Junior Member	\$35.00
Country Member (+40km from Blenheim)	\$35.00
Life Member	Nil.

Members may belong to any or all of the following Sections, for one Ordinary Membership fee:

Engineering - Boating - Flying.

*Flying Section members may join **MFNZ** (Recommended) for an **additional** annual fee of: **Senior \$75, Junior \$20, and Family \$80**, paid to MAMS.*

*NOTE: MFNZ Fees must be paid to the club before **31 March**. New members*

joining after 1 January can be charged a full year fee and they will be recorded as financial members of the 2017/18 year.

For on-line payments members just have to use the club account number, give their name and purpose of payment, i.e. **MAMS subs**, and/or **MFNZ subs**.

SBS Bank Account number is 031355 0512739 00

Subscription Policy: Financial membership shall cease if the required subscription fee has not been paid by the **31st of July**. **Non-financial members are not covered by our insurance policy and therefore cannot operate their models at our designated sites**, and they do not receive a Newsletter.

(**New** members who have joined and paid their Subs from December 2016 onwards are still considered paid up club members for 2017/2018 year)

Those who have paid their subscription since the last AGM may collect their membership card and receipt from a folder on the notice board in the clubroom. Anyone not wishing to renew their membership please let the treasurer, or a committee member, know. If any flying section members are not renewing their membership could they also return their key to the flying field.

Publication dates: 1st week of February, April, June, **August**, October, and December.

Please get any items (Notices, articles, or for sale items etc) for the **August** issue to the editor a few days before the end of **July**.