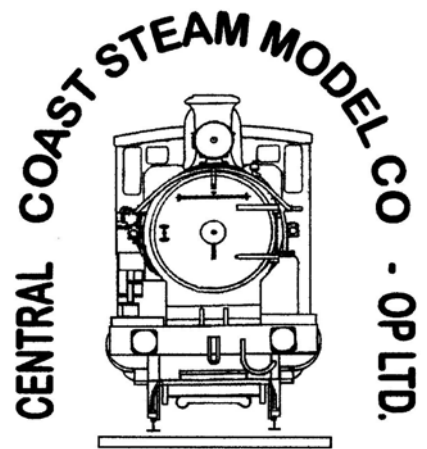


SHORT NORTH



Journal of the Central Coast Steam, Model Co-Op

July 2010 Edition



Central Coast Steam, Model Co-Op Ltd.

PO Box 692, Gosford NSW 2250.

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Secretary@narara.cjb.net



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	Ken Howells	
Child Protection:	Sam Hawkins	
Driver Licensing Register:	Mick Farrell	
Locomotive & Carriage Register:	Ken Howells	
	Greg Rowland	
Mechanical Inspections:	Ken Howells	
	Greg Rowland	
Newsletter Publication:	Sam Hawkins	
Signalling:	Team Leaders:	Area A: Ivan Burns
		Area B: Leal Brack
Training Facilitators:	Noel Richards	
	Lindsay Brack	
	Keith Lewis	
Club Locomotives: 71/4" Steamer	Greg Rowland	
Club Carriages:	Fred Pryde	

Public Running Day: 1st Saturday of Every Month – 11am to 4pm

Members Play Day: 2nd Saturday of Every Month

Members Meeting: Last Thursday of Every Month (except December) 7:30pm

Grounds Maintenance Days: Last Thursday and Saturday of Each Month
and as required.

*Front Cover: 5" Locomotives of John Crowhurst, John Gordon and Adam Kinkade.
...Just who does have the right of way?!?!?*



From the Presidents Desk

With the upcoming Birthday Run, efforts have been focused to have the track and grounds looking their best. Firstly, if anyone has any spare time, even if it's only an hour, please come down to the grounds and do something to help. Lawns need to be mowed, edges need to be whippersnipped, and paths need to be blown clear.

We are hoping to achieve a real carnival atmosphere this year. Invitations have been sent to the Ann Brack Gallery and Central Coast Leagues Club Camera Club for those groups to hold exhibits on the Birthday Run Saturday. Both groups have offered one of their works for us to hold a raffle on the day. In keeping with our club objectives, the proceeds of this raffle will be donated to charity. Sam asked, and the Board agreed, for the nominated charity to be the Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service.

An invitation has also been sent to the Hunter Valley Farm Machinery Club who have accepted our invitation to display their machines on the day. There will also be the trains to ride. We are hoping for a bumper turn-out of visiting loco's and drivers from affiliated clubs. The only thing that can bring us undone will be the weather. Please don't wash your car the day before!



Unfortunately the board again has received several complaints from members attending the Public Run Days who are disappointed with the inaction of several members, who are sitting or standing around and not helping out. While we are all only volunteers and not employed by the club, we are a co-operative who needs to work together to achieve a common goal. Our one day per month of hard work, the Public Running Day, is what subsidises the cost of our hobby to make membership only \$33 per year (or less for Concession holders). The Treasurers reports show just how much money we spend on infrastructure alone. The Board request all members who attend on Public Running Days to make yourself known to the Run Day Coordinator who will allocate you a task that needs to be done. While there will always be some banter and socialising, this is the day for working. Members are again reminded that locomotive works and testing should be done on other days, such as the Members Play Day, not on Public Running Days when we need all available members to assist with operations. We are all one group.

Of note from the AALS Annual Membership Returns, they will no longer be producing the Member Insurance Cards. Their reasoning was that no-one is ever asked to produce one, so why bother going to the expense. All AALS affiliated clubs are insured through the AALS so they are not necessary. Our club will be producing 2010/11 Membership cards to show that you are a financial member of our club when visiting affiliated clubs.

That's it for now. If you are able to, please come to one of the upcoming additional Run Day's and lend a hand. The revenue from these days goes directly back into our club.



Secretary's Inbox

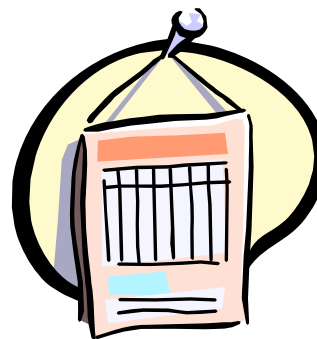
The usual comings and goings have been the ordinary happenings at the desk. Items of note:

- We've received an email from the Samaritans at Bonnells Bay seeking work experience for a couple of their intellectually impaired clients. I wrote back to their facilitator seeking information about what experience they were looking for as well as their capabilities etc. The response was pleasing. Their clients have moderate impairments but are able to function and complete tasks. They were looking for any sort of work in an environment that was not clinical – in a nutshell, they are more than happy to assist us with lawn mowing, raking etc. They just want the opportunity to be involved in something outside their own circle. They have their own carers with them at all times and have their own insurance. I raise the idea with the Board, and was granted conditional approval to invite the group to attend our grounds for trial. So far, the group has attended several of our work days. The boys are very pleasant and eager to help us with our grounds maintenance, from raking up leaves & grass clippings to pushing a lawnmower; they have proven themselves able to undertake the tasks with the supervision of their carers. This initiative gives the clients valuable life skills outside of a clinical, pre-fabricated environment, and provides our club with some assistance in grounds maintenance. I have taken the liberty of inviting them to one of our upcoming run days as they are train enthusiasts, which was the reason our group was selected for them to approach.
- I have spoken with a number of members about the Active Membership Rules with regard to their status being "inactive" because of a lack of attendance at Club Meetings. See article on Page 7 for more information on how we are working to try to resolve this issue.
- An article in the newsletter of an affiliated club has upset several members with reference to the late Stan Smith and his membership of our club. The Board of Directors would like to make it known to all members that Stan Smith's years of dedicated service to our club were not forgotten when Stan's health was failing and he was not able to meet the "Active Membership" requirements. Stan was offered a number of alternate duties to fulfil his requirements but Stan declined this offer and tendered his resignation of his own accord. The Club even named its party area, Helstan Circle, after Stan and his late wife Helen. It is a testament, I feel, to Stan's integrity that he wanted to fit in with the existing rules of the club that everyone abides by, rather than having the rules changed to suit him. Perhaps some clubs and their secretaries should get their own affairs in order before criticizing others without being armed with any facts.
- On a pleasant note, our club Birthday run is coming up again on Saturday 7th August 2010. The evening dinner will again be catered. All members and their families are invited. Please find your RSVP Slip contained in this edition of Short North and return to John Crowhurst or put it in the Secretary's Inbox in the Club Meeting Room.

Calendar of Events

July and August see the club becoming a hive of activity. Following the Public Run Day on Saturday 3rd July, we also have the School Holidays Public Running Day on Saturday 10th July.

In addition we have 2 groups booked in for Thursday 7th July and Thursday 22nd July. Members are asked to make themselves available for as many of these dates as possible.



Day	Date	Occasion	Times
Saturday	03/07/2010	Public Running Day	11:00 - 16:00
Thursday	08/07/2010	Run Day – Woy Woy Vacation Care	11:00 - 13:00
Saturday	10/07/2010	School Holidays Public Running Day	11:00 - 16:00
Saturday	10/07/2010	Supplementary Club Meeting	10:00 - 11:00
Thursday	15/07/2010	Grounds Maintenance Day	
Thursday	22/07/2010	Run Day - Holy Cross School	11:00 - 14:00
Saturday	24/07/2010	Grounds Maintenance Day	
Thursday	29/07/2010	Grounds Maintenance Day	
Thursday	29/07/2010	Board Meeting	10:00 - 12:00
Thursday	29/07/2010	Club Meeting	19:30
Saturday	31/07/2010	Grounds Maintenance Day	
Thursday	05/08/2010	Grounds Maintenance Day	
Saturday	07/08/2010	Public Running Day	11:00 - 16:00
Saturday	07/08/2010	Club Birthday Dinner	18:00 - 22:00
Sunday	08/08/2010	Club Birthday Run	11:00 - 18:00
Saturday	14/08/2010	Members Play Day	10:00 - 18:00
Saturday	14/08/2010	Supplementary Club Meeting	10:00 - 11:00
Thursday	26/08/2010	Board Meeting	10:00 - 12:00
Thursday	26/08/2010	Club Meeting	19:30
Saturday	28/08/2010	Grounds Maintenance Day	
Thursday	02/09/2010	Grounds Maintenance Day	
Saturday	04/08/2010	Public Running Day	11:00 - 16:00
Saturday	11/09/2010	Members Play Day	10:00 - 18:00
Saturday	18/09/2010	Run Day - Yarran Early Intervention	TBA
Saturday	25/09/2010	Grounds Maintenance Day	
Thursday	30/09/2010	Grounds Maintenance Day	
Thursday	30/09/2010	Board Meeting	10:00 - 12:00
Thursday	30/09/2010	Club AGM	19:30

Active Membership Issue



Following many months of debate about changes to the Active Membership Provision within our club rules, an idea dawned on me – why go to all the hassle of going through

the Co-Operatives registry and changing rules, which may or may not get over the line when put to a vote, when we can simply adjust our own practices within the existing rules.

After speaking with Keith Lewis, the driving force behind the proposed changes to the rules, it was noted that the main beneficiaries of changes to the rules would primarily be our older members who are unable to attend our club meetings on the last Thursday of each month. Let's face it; our membership has an average age that would definitely qualify for the Seniors Card. So with that ageing membership, a number of challenges are presented to keep the club alive and strong. This article is not intended to address those issues, just the Meetings issue.

The rules state that members must attend 2 Club Meetings in a 12 month period. It does not say that the club can only hold 1 meeting per month. So why not have a supplementary meeting during the day time? The meeting will essentially contain the same information as the regular Thursday evening meeting, but will just be held during the day when members who can't attend evening meetings can make it.

The next question was when to hold this supplementary meeting. I didn't want this meeting to detract from works undertaken on the Grounds Maintenance Days and thought that the attendances at the Members Play Days appear to be dwindling recently. As it is simply a play day, and no works are generally undertaken on the day, it seemed the perfect day to hold the meeting. At 10am (or thereabouts) we sign the meeting attendance book, have a coffee, read through the minutes of the previous club (Thursday evening) meeting, and then minute any other issues raised by the members attending this meeting, then they will be added to the other club minutes book and read to the next regular Thursday meeting.

I put my idea to Keith Lewis and then to several members who may potentially benefit from this idea, and following support from them, I put a motion to the June Board of Directors Meeting. The proposal was approved by the Board to trial 2 Supplementary meetings prior to this years AGM giving everyone 2 further opportunities to meet their attendance requirements for their membership and voting rights, and we as a club can be more inclusive to all members regardless of their individual circumstances.

In the Calendar of Events on the previous page of this edition of Short North, you'll notice that there are 2 dates, Saturday 10th July and Saturday 14th August 2010. We will attempt to commence the meeting about 10am. If you are coming, please call Sam Hawkins on 0428323148.



Upcoming Club Birthday Run Arrangements



The Club Birthday Run will be held on the weekend of Saturday 7th August 2010. Saturday sees our usual Public Run Day from 11am to 4pm hopefully with a variety of visiting trains to supplement our popular community attraction.

Our annual dinner will be held from 6pm Saturday. All members and their families are invited to attend and asked to complete the RSVP Slip in this edition of Short North, and return to John Crowhurst or put it in the Secretary's Inbox in the club meeting room.

Saturday Evening will see night train running to 10pm. All rolling stock operating after dark must be fitted with headlights and red tail lights.

Sunday 8th August is a Members and Guests Play Day. Usual Play Day rules apply. This function is closed to the public.



King of the Kids – Leal Brack, with Joee Crowhurst, Joey Hawkins and Josh Hawkins.

AROUND THE GROUNDS

The **McDonalds Bridge** has been replaced after much toil by Greg Rowland and Leal Brack....and the new Kubota tractor. I'm sure when you drive over the bridge you'll notice how nice and smooth the run is. Greg believes these improvements will give the bridge another 10-15 years life – even with all the salt water running underneath.

GOT ANY SCRAP TO DONATE?

In order to dispose of the old McDonalds Bridge components, there will be a scrap metal skip bin delivered to the club grounds which the club will send to the metal recyclers. We expect a small windfall from the scrap recyclers and this will go towards consolidated revenue for club projects. If anyone has scrap metal around their house that can be added to the skip bin, please bring it down to the grounds and put it near the end of the carriage with the McDonalds Bridge remnants.



PARTY AREA BBQ

Keith Lewis has volunteered to erect a brick BBQ structure in the Helstan Circle Party area to house an existing BBQ top that we have. No dates as yet for construction.

TREE LOPPING

A Tree lopping project is set to be undertaken on Thursday 15th July 2010. Any members available on that day are asked to come and lend a hand. A Mulcher will be hired the following Thursday 22nd August to do the clean-up. Free mulch will be available to those who want it.

All in all, despite the cold weather, the grounds are looking marvellous. The lawns are still growing and always in need of mowing.



Our Club Grounds at the July Public Running Day Sat 3rd July 2010.