



Leon at the controls of his *Golden Goose*, leading a double header around the track on a recent run day.

#### THE BULLET TRAIN AND THE KINGFISHER



Readers may be interested in how the 500 Series Bullet Train, that travels at speeds in excess of 300 km/h, is modelled in a Kingfisher bird. The problem was that the sonic boom created as the train exited a tunnel exceeded environmental standards. Eiji Nakatsu, an engineer and bird watcher, noted how the kingfisher beak enables the bird to dive from one drag regime to another.

He used the same principle in designing the nose cone of the bullet train, with the result shown in the picture, and completely removing the sonic boom.

# CENTRAL COAST STEAM MODEL Co-op Ltd

## Newsletter

January 2016

Public Running Day 1st Saturday of the month, 11am-4pm  
 Running Day preparation Thursday prior to Running Day  
 Members work day any Thursday  
 Members Information Meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday, 12 noon

Showground Road, Narara (opp. Bellbowrie Ave)



Ken ferries a very sedate Santa around the track on the Yarran Open Day on 28 November 2015.



Mick drives his well justified pride and joy around the track.



Robert (left) gives his new loco a try beside Mick's old one.

## 60<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL AALS CONVENTION

25-28 March 2016 Cobden Miniature Railway Park, Victoria

Registrations are now open for the next AALS Convention. Online registration at [cobdenminiaturerail.org.au](http://cobdenminiaturerail.org.au).

### NEW SECRETARY

Unfortunately Robert Holland had to resign as secretary after only a short period in the job. Our thanks to Robert filling in at an urgent time. Ian Svenson has taken on the job as Secretary in his place.

### NEW MEMBER

Melissa Crowther was welcomed as a new member at the last members meeting. Melissa is well known to us as a hard worker of long standing. It is a pleasure to welcome her into membership.

### THE CURRENT SITUATION REGARDING CHAR

There was considerable discussion at the last members meeting regarding the use of Brown Coal briquettes from Bunnings for use in steam locos. Unfortunately Bunnings have advised that this product has been discontinued. On a similar note however, two articles in the latest edition of *Australian Model Engineering* deal with the use of Welsh Steaming Coal in locomotives with promising results.

### CHILD PROTECTION LEGISLATION

Members will have read the debate in the letters pages of *Australian Model Engineering* regarding the new Child Protection legislation. Basically this requires that anyone engaged in child-related work must have clearance number.

A problem for other clubs is that there are numerous categories of child-related work (which means the *AME* bush lawyers are having a field day!) but the bottom line is that the club must be one that provides programs or services primarily for children. It is irrelevant whether club members are volunteers in the strict sense of the word as there are only two categories: paid and voluntary. But since none of their activities are defined as "activities for children" (primarily or otherwise), it would seem that, although children participate, they are not required to register.

The problem for our club however is that we have had a ruling from the Department of Sport and Recreation to the effect that we must comply, probably because we allow for junior members. In all likelihood we will be seeking a new ruling, but until that happens the old situation unfortunately applies.