



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

April 2017

**Reminder MAMS AGM at the Club rooms at Brayshaw Park
7:30pm Tuesday 11th April**

Committee Meeting notes for February / March

Heritage Day has come and gone and is a distant memory now but it was a very enjoyable and successful time over the weekend, especially with the official opening of our raised rail track extension. Thanks again to all those members

involved with the track extension project; there have been many favourable comments about the extended track and we hope it will bring pleasure to many people. Thanks, too, to everyone who helped make the weekend a success, for helping with preparations and for taking part in the different activities. The shared evening meal on the Saturday was very pleasant and enjoyable also. We appreciated the presence and fellowship of the members from other clubs who came and helped us in many ways. We couldn't have coped with the numbers of people wanting train rides without their assistance. Thanks especially to the ladies who provided morning and afternoon teas and lunches during the weekend - it was very appreciated. Tom is very happy with the financial outcome of the weekend which will help with paying for projects and maintenance during the year.



The start of every new year seems busy in many ways for everybody. For the club we had organisation and preparation for Heritage Day and hard on its heels, it seems, is the Annual General Meeting on Tuesday April 11th at 7.30pm in the clubrooms. This signifies the start of another club year and we trust it will be a good and fulfilling time for each member. Please note this date on your calendar and plan to attend. It is one of the few times we get together as a club and when you have the opportunity to elect a committee to oversee the running of the club for the coming year. I wish to express my thanks and appreciation to the present committee and for their commitment to the oversight and running of the club and for their encouragement.

We welcome new members into the club – Reese Cobb (Engineering), Robin Stevens (Engineering), Chris Barnard (Aero), Nathan Cross (Aero), Daniel Wye (Aero), Alf Van der Hulst (Aero), Terry Stevens (Boating), Garry Morgan (Aero) and Philip Elvy (Aero). We trust you all will enjoy your time with MAMS pursuing your different interests.

With the onset of Autumn and cooler weather there seems to be a surge in growth of grass, shrubs and weeds, as well as falling leaves. Thanks to members who helped with the recent pond cleaning and for those people who have been diligently weeding and watering the shrubs and plantings around the track extension. We plan to put more shrubs in soon and to grass the area inside the track. The windmill by the pond has been removed for repair and will be repositioned at the north end of the property by the little station building to advertise our presence to the community. Where the windmill was by the pond will be filled in and provide more parking space for the Boaties.

The old NZR signboard which advertised the 2000 Expo was in poor condition and is being refurbished with the intention of displaying local companies who sponsored materials and services in connection with the raised track extension project. The ground level track points have been serviced and are operating properly now. Thanks to those who carried out this task. The anti-tipping rails at the station have been modified and should be more effective in preventing passenger trolley derailments when passengers are boarding.

The club was donated an old ticket box from the ferry terminal at Picton. This is in poor condition at present but we intend repairing and painting it and placing the building where it can be useful once more.

On behalf of the committee I wish you all a very happy and successful new club year and enjoyment of your hobby.

Nigel Wood
Secretary

Steam Section Meeting notes for February 21st.

Meeting started with discussion on Sunday afternoon train running sessions which have had fair attendance by public but with both raised and ground level tracks operating we need more members to help with operations. There is a need to foster interest in getting more people to join club and take part in operating the trains even if they don't actually get involved in the engineering aspects. Main reason is to enjoy themselves. Club membership is around 85 - reasonably evenly

spread between boats, planes and trains but we don't see most of them on running days.

Ken McIntyre commented on the Heritage Day static model display in the clubrooms and suggested that it would be an advantage to have models operating for public interest. There were a lot of questions about his Stirling engines which were operating.

Lawrence Brehaut showed a bending fixture he had fabricated to make spring hangers on axle boxes and asked about suitability of certain materials to make the springs. He asked if anyone had used red CRC high-temp sealant 360 before and whether it would be suitable for sealing his 5" gauge Bexhill valve chest covers.

Mark Taylor has been working on the axle boxes for his Speedy and commented that he had acquired another Speedy over Heritage Weekend from someone who had started building but couldn't finish. He is not sure which one to continue with now.

Win Holdaway has been making tapered pins for the valve gear on his Pennsylvania loco. The pins have a parallel portion where they go through the rod end bearing and need some careful machining and concentration.

Tom Hood commented that the Brayshaw Park Administrators have a sub-committee carrying out a survey of any long-term needs of each society in the Park. He suggested that our society could use a toilet, an improved water supply and reticulation, a phone line for eftpos transactions and perhaps 3-phase power for operating air compressors.

The evening finished at 9.25pm

Steam Section meeting March 21st.

7 members present with a guest, Roger Cullen, from the Blenheim Model Rail-road Group who spoke on the progress made by the group since last contact. They currently have 5 members but others are interested, especially those who have models but no room for layouts. The group have been constructing a detailed layout for a national show in Christchurch recently and won the trophy for the best layout. This layout needs the electronics installation to be completed and the plan is to house it in the Blenheim Railway station where the public can view and operate trains remotely for a donation. The layout has been self-funded but hopefully funds can be raised from donations. The group is in contact with Ministry of Education about unused school buildings which could be used to house a permanent layout and be relocated to our area of the Park by the roundhouse.

This would be a good attraction for the public to view. The BMRG group would be club members and come under the umbrella of MAMS. We await developments.

Mark Taylor showed sight glass fittings he has been making for his Britannia.

The matter of coal supplies for our locos was discussed and Tom commented he had tried the Welsh coal that Reese Cobb was using in his 3 1/2" gauge Maisie. Tom was very impressed with the lack of smoke and his Sweet Pea seemed to operate well with this coal. The Cascade Creek coal we have been using is no longer available and Tom would like to get some of this coal for us to try.

Moved/Tom, Seconded/Brent that we purchase 1 ton of the Welsh coal from the Timaru supplier. Carried.

Brent Coburn is to order the coal from the supplier.

Modified anti-tip rails had been installed on the raised track at the Station and some passenger trolleys would need spacing blocks added beneath the footrests to make use of the facility so the trolleys didn't tip when people were boarding.

The Annual General Meeting is being held on 11th April and the Steam Section is to decide on and advise the AGM of persons who would be elected to comprise the Boiler Committee. After discussion it was decided that the present members would be nominated for re-election. These are Win Holdaway, Mark Taylor, Ken McIntyre, Nigel Wood.

Locos and trolleys being taken to Nelson for the Expo next year will require WOF certification. The matter will be discussed at next month's meeting.

Boat Report

The weather seems to have settled down a bit over the last two months and we've had some quite nice boating days. The pond is getting used regularly during the week as well as the weekends.

Heritage Day was a big success for the club, thanks to all members who made it such a great day. Hiring out the Starlets was a very popular choice, thanks to all who were willing to let us use their boats. The weather was good and there were no major hiccups.



We we've had three new Starlets on the pond recently, my new "Kermit" was ready just in time for Heritage Day as was and Phil Souter's boat. Phil's one is quite fascinating, it's finished in a cruising style and it has music playing on-board! Unfortunately I haven't got a decent picture of it but I will get one. John Rainey's new "Scarlet Runner" looks good too. Big thankyou to the guys who helped empty and clean the pond recently, it looks a lot

better with clean water.

Welcome to new member Terry Stevens, Terry didn't know he was a Boatie till he got a bargain at a garage sale, forty dollars for a boat with radio gear ready to go. We hope you enjoy your time with the club.



Section meetings have been quite well attended with a variety of topics discussed. The next section meeting will be on Thurs 6th April 7.30 at the clubrooms. The AGM will be held on Tues 11th April, come along and support your club.

Flying section report

Our Slope soaring sessions have now finished for this season. We have had four regular fliers and enjoyed flying in a variety of conditions. It does pay to have a variety of models for different wind speeds, My JW60 was great in medium to strong winds and a variety of gliders and electric gliders were flown in light to medium winds. Even Radians were fine in light winds. There could be another JW60 or two next season?

We welcome new members to the flying section – Chris Barnard, Nathan Cross, Daniel Wye, Alf Van der Hulst, Garry Morgan and Philip Elvy, I hope you will enjoy your time with us.

Don't forget the MAMS AGM at the club rooms at Brayshaw Park at 7:30pm on Tuesday 11th April. If anyone want to represent the flying section on the MAMS committee please let me know, I am happy to continue if you wish but we could do with someone else as well. Come along and meet members from the other sections of MAMS as well.

The Club caravan was stolen between 11th and 16 March. The chain on the gate was cut and the caravan taken. The Police were informed and a couple of members put photo's and messages on Facebook, so far the caravan has not been returned. Most of the gear we had in the caravan has been recovered thanks to Roy Crosswell who found it dumped beside the river upstream from the flying site.

We had a meeting out at the airfield on Saturday morning to discuss the problems



with the Caravan being stolen and other issues. Eight members attended. It was a nice friendly get together and a chance to see members I have not seen for some time. The ex NZ rail ticket box that has been given to MAMS would be an acceptable replacement for the stolen caravan, rather than purchasing a Garden shed, for storing our gear, windsock, first aid kit, chairs frequency board etc, if the council will allow us to use it.

The ticket box measures 1.5 by 2.5metres and need some work to fix it up properly.

We also discussed improving the toilet facilities, and putting up a sunshade/windbreak shelter. At this stage I have emailed council regarding the Ticket box/shed and the shade/windbreak shelter.

MFNZ members should have paid their affiliation fees for the 2017/18 year by now, a change from previous years, if you have paid them to MAMS prior to April you will still be current, and I will forward them to MFNZ after our next committee meeting. MAMS Subs will be due after the AGM, those new members who joined (and paid) in the last few months will be current for the coming year.

The weather has been pretty changeable this season but there have still been many good flying days. It is good to get out with fellow flyers enjoy the flying and gossip. The hobby is very diverse now and we have members that fly Quads, helicopters, gliders, electric models, glow, and petrol powered models.

It has been some time since our rules have been reviewed and updated, I will email them out to members and will look forward to your feedback. Have a look at the latest developments on MFNZ website regarding flying rules and safety.

The Classic fighters air show will be on at Omaka over Easter and I look forward to seeing it, inspiration for some scale flying, watching how full size aircraft manoeuvre in their displays and seeing what aerobatic planes can really do.

I see Hobby corner at Roseland has a huge range of modelling stuff in now, good to see. They also have a website <http://www.hobbycorner.co.nz/>

As always, be safe, fly safe and have fun.

Carl M.

For Sale:

7 1/4"g. Loco and Tender "Southern Belle" with 3 NZR Ride on Passenger Carriages, ALL Running gear and storage/work trolleys.

Excellent performing Loco for sale because of health.

Full details from Ken McIntyre 035783346. 15 Solway Drive, Blenheim.

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)	TBA at AGM
Family membership	TBA at AGM
Junior Member	TBA at AGM
Country Member (+40km from Blenheim)	TBA at AGM
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 1st 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 **June**, issue to the editor a few days before the end of **May**