



THE CENTURION SMOKEBOX

"Providing smoking news and steaming interests to members and friends"

Centurion Society of Model Engineers

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No responsibility is taken by the CSME for any subject matter in this newsletter other than official Society notices.

CSME NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2021

COMMITTEE

Chairman – Leon Kamffer
Vice chair. – John O'Mahony
Treasurer – Ballot Marx
Secretary – Imogene Groothuizen
Committee – Jon Shaw
Committee – Carel JanseVrensburg
Safety – Norman Reyneke
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Membership Fees for 2020 are unchanged from 2019

2020 SUBS R400 FOR ORDINARY MEMBERS R200 FOR SENIORS & STUDENTS

Bank details for any payments to CSME.

For any payments please email details of payment to Ballot Marx at csmetrains@gmail.com or ballotmarx@gmail.com

Bank Details are as follows:

Bank: First National
Branch: Centurion, code 26-15-50
Account Name: Centurion Society of Model Engineers
Account No: **62060752906**
Reference: Your Full Name/ subs 2020 (or what payment is for).

Note the account number change in red

Official correspondence and newsletter

If you are not receiving mail from the CSME you should contact the secretary or editor to update your details. Please ensure we are notified of any change of email address.

Those members without email can collect a copy of the newsletter from the clubhouse on track day.

Wishing all readers, a better happy and prosperous year for 2021

Next Club Meetings

The Saturday and Sunday of the 3rd Sunday weekend of the month will again resume as the member's days and that Sunday also being steam Sunday for the public. This month the 16th & 17th of January will be the member's weekend. Members are welcome any other time by arrangement with Swannie 012 643 0750, or 071 619 1644. The gates are again operational by cellphone. **We will schedule the AGM for March club weekend.**

Obituary

Neville Thompson passed away on 31st December. Neville was one of the builders choosing to construct something less common and chose as his last project an NGG16 2' gauge Garratt in 5" Gauge which he had just completed to high standard. This he steamed in December at RSME before it was transported to Andries Keyser's railway in Stellenbosch where it will remain on display. He will remain in our memory as a loyal member of both RSME and CSME.

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Rene Etter passed away during December at the age of 97, he was a world-renowned model engineer, who built over 20 model locomotives, two of his models a 15F City of Cape Town (silver medal) and his Shay, Hephaestus (gold medal and Crebbin cup) at the London model engineer exhibition, a feat yet to be repeated by any other South African model engineer. Ron was also a highly active member at the RSME club where he began with the hobby before retiring to Knysna. Ron was also a superb designer of model locomotives, British, American narrow gauge, and SAR locomotives. He put a lot of pen to paper and re-engineered many locomotives to get the best out of them, many a modeler would often comment, and say his locos were on steroids - the end product spoke for itself; he will be deeply missed by many. RIP RON ETTER YOU LEGEND!!!! Thanks, Rocco, for the obituary.

Chairman's comments.

We had a very well attended and successful members year end function on the 19th of December. Thanks to all the members and families that attended. We also had a well-attended public running day on the 20th.

Covid numbers stayed low, but we suddenly saw an increase over the Christmas period with a renewed level 3 lockdown. We decided not to open for the public for the first 2 Sundays in January. We will continuously evaluate the situation and with the relevant Covid protocols we can definitely resume limited activities.

We completed the new elevated storage beginning of December, with the track connecting it to the station still outstanding. While we were busy moving all our locomotives to the new storage on the 22nd of December, we experienced flooding. Water levels stopped just short of entering the workshop building and caretakers flat. Thanks a lot, to the members hard work to complete the final touches so we can use the storage. We will definitely need lots of help to do a quick changeover as the track may prevent some of the old storage to be used until they are also raised.

Members are encouraged to keep our hobby alive, a renewed request to inform our editor with updates on their latest projects. A few photos will say a thousand words.
Leon.

Year-end function

Our year end function was very kindly hosted by Daan Du Plessis who organised sheep on a spit together with a whole array of veggie and salad dishes. A big thankyou Daan. The sheep braaiers were on site early and we could see our treat progressing.

Although most members had arrived earlier and enjoyed social interaction the festivities officially started at 12 noon with the arrival of Santa for the children. The annual prize giving followed with our lunch at 13h00.



Prize Giving

ROOKIE OF THE YEAR.

NIEL WEBB

In his short time at the club, Neil has become a great asset, supporting us every month and on many other days, he has also acquired locomotives that did not run well and got them to run all day a deserved winner of this award.

DRIVER OF THE YEAR.

FRANCOIS HANNEKOM

Francois is a new member to our club and from the word go he involved himself. During the lockdown time he chose to drive the club locos for parties a job he did painstakingly day in and day out, this generated a lot of income for the club, thank you Francois.

SUPPORT PERSON OF THE YEAR

" BIG NORM " NORMAN REYNEKE

Norman has been a member of our club for a number of years, a person always working behind the scenes, thanks to Norman all the unpleasant work gets done, Alarms, Facebook, advertising, and a stalwart at the work party.

CSME MEMBER OF THE YEAR 2020

JON SHAW

Thanks to Jon we were kept up to date with the hobby, during lockdown we received correspondence from our club, and we heard from other clubs locally and worldwide a huge job Jon did so well, newsletters are not easy, and yet they are the beating heart of any club, most of the time you do not get help from members, you must source your own information. Jon is also a real stalwart at workdays, thanks for not locking down when the rest all did. (Getting info from most members is like a dentist pulling teeth but they don't visit this dentist. Ed!)

THANK YOU, LEON KAMPHER.

Thank you, Leon, for the huge effort made with the new bunker, the members have decided to make a plaque for the bunker wall it will be known as " **LEONS BUNKER**"!

THANK YOU DAAN DUPLESSIS

Thank you Daan for sponsoring the wonderful club lunch the CSME really appreciates it.



Norman Reyneke



Francoise Hanekom

Our thanks to Rocco Popich who every year organizes prizegiving and obtains the prizes. The editor's apologies to anyone not mentioned and missed out in the newsletter.

And then a superb lunch served with veggies, salads, sauces & homemade bread etc.

Meat



Paptert



tatties



A sumptuous meal I am sure, well enjoyed by all – left me ready for afternoon nap but too busy.

Track and grounds

Swannie and his workers are kept remarkably busy maintaining the grounds as the very welcome rain has set everything growing at a fast pace. The Keiapple plants around the perimeter have now put a spurt on so hopefully will be well set to grow faster to provide our thorny barrier to the border of our property. The council have not yet been approached for trees but will be this month now the year end break is over.

Secretary's Bit

I wish each and every member and their families a good 2021. We have ended 2020 on a sad note with the passing of another member, bringing the total to three. Let us lift our heads and hope for better days for 2021. Covid-19 is going to be with us for a long time, putting pressure on the committee to keep the boat afloat. The decision was taken to open the facilities to the public and parties will continue and we hope that this can be maintained for some time.



Costs are still being curtailed and employees are working only 80% of the time. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Birthdays were celebrated (I hope!) by Michael Eykelhof and Pine Pienaar. Hope you are very busy with new projects.

Imogene Groothuizen

Tuesday and Saturday Gangs

The Monday gang has now become officially the Tuesday Gang. Any members wishing to Join the gang are welcome. – plenty of work for new hands!

Recent work has focussed on the new storage building pre- holiday in particular to make sure everything was above previous flood levels.

On the Tuesday after the Y E function all turned out to make sure everything was away, locked up and as far as possible above flood level. All was going well until rain started and floods began, but luckily the water did not rise far enough to flood buildings but we all got wet feet!



water rising

We were getting worried, but the flood did not reach the flat or workshop.

Member's home progress

It would appear that nobody goes near the workshop as the only updates I receive are from Leon.



Leon's 5 class progress,



He spent many hours on this also



Boker 110mm vise for sale R300 ono contact Jon Shaw 0724370710.

Funnies



2020

When you take kids for a walk:

