



THE CENTURION SMOKEBOX

“Providing smoking news and steaming interests to members and friends”

Centurion Society of Model Engineers

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GPS 25° 51.066'S 28° 10.971' E

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

CSME NEWSLETTER June 2020

COMMITTEE

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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.

Next Club Meetings

Due to the corona virus CSME Have closed all activities until further notice.

**PIETERMARBURG WINGS WHEELS AND WHISTLES IN AUGUST IS CANCELLED
CSME SEPTEMBER FAIR HAS BEEN CANCELLED**

Many thanks to the members who have so generously responded to our appeal for emergency funds.

Chairman's comments.

It is another month since the lockdown due to Covid 19 and the ceasing of all social activities at the club. Cases are still rising in south Africa, so one cannot expect a swift end to the situation.

We have not had any news of members health affected by the virus so far and trust that all our members apply due care and take the necessary protective measures to limit their exposure.

At least we are in Level 3 of the lockdown easing and can maintain and secure our premises. The challenge is still that everything is done by volunteers that fall in the high-risk categories due to their age. Our caretaker is on the premise looking after the site. We have some limited labour to keep the grass in check before the winter to reduce the risk of fire.

We have taken measures to limit our expenditure, but with absolute zero income from public activities, we will have to rely on members and public supporters to make sure our club can survive this period so we still have our beautiful site available for years to come.

I am sure a lot of members are spending some quality time in their workshops, by now they must have caught up with the domestic backlog. I ask again to take the time to send the editor a few photos, comments on current projects and what is going on in the workshops. Now is the time to keep the hobby alive and generate interest in what we do. One of the members of the RSME is writing quite a few articles in the Model Engineer currently.

The CNC club had a successful meeting using Zoom to share some of their activities and show workshops that we did not see before.

Regards Leon

Secretary's Bit

Wishing Ray Greyvenstein, Alex Groothuijzen, Jon Shaw and Ian Brink happy birthdays and safe days!

Track and grounds

Minimal labour has been used on site mainly to keep grass under control for fire safety risks.

Monday and Saturday Gangs

Still no general access to site but a small number of the Monday gang have recently been on site for essential maintenance of maintenance machinery.

Member's home progress

Well Guys Leon Kamffer has been setting an example for us in his workshop, No messing about!



Image 0194



image 0198



image0188



image 0190



A few pictures of built up fittings made for the SAR 5 Class. Picture 0188 is of the building up of sight glasses before silver soldering, complete with stubs for machining, and image 0190 of the final machined bodies, before completing and fitting final parts like plugs. Image 0194 also show some valve bodies with machining stubs.

Image 0198 is SAR style injector bodies build up the same method as the sight glasses.

One of the editors "roundtuit" jobs lately has been Sharpening many drills, thrown into a box when replacements were bought, using a Martek drill sharpener, purchased many moons ago.



Here are two pictures of what Carel has been busy with, mainly brass etchings and assembly. The lamps are 1:12 and 1:24, the signals 1:24 for our CSME32-45mm layout.

Overseas correspondence

Some of you may remember Steve Savage who emigrated to Canada a while ago, well covid has kept him busy in the workshop.

While Tom (son) has been busily making a number HO scale models since shutdown began, I have been rather busy with working from home. We did however find some time to finish off a project that has been hanging around for a while.

A while ago I imported a PMB kit to make a horizontal 2 cylinder oscillating steam engine as a first project to start using my old Southbend lathe which had been more or less dormant since coming over from South Africa back in 2008. The kit, developed by the Pietermaritzburg Model Engineering Society, in South Africa specifically as a starter kit to encourage beginners to get something built without needing a lot of expensive machine tools. The parts are mostly laser-cut 1/4" thick steel sheet (frames, base plates, flywheel - made of 2 rings and a spoked centre piece all riveted together), steel round bar (for the pistons, crank shaft and crank pins), solid square section steel which gets bored out to become the cylinders and brass round stock for the bearings. Sundry screws, nuts, springs, and washers are also provided. While I am sure it must be possible to make it without a lathe and milling machine, you need to be rather good with a drill if you want everything to be perpendicular and parallel! I certainly wouldn't tackle it without a lathe - even then I wound up making a lot of mistakes, and a lot of flaws - due to wear, tear and not much care from its previous owners - became quickly apparent in the 1937 model 9 Southbend lathe. I also discovered that laser cut steel surfaces are hard to machine if you have a slow running machine with only HSS tools!

The beauty of the model is that you can easily make replacement bits with steel flat or round bar you can get from a hardware store and there is plenty of scope to make it look better than if you just did the minimal amount of machining to make it functional.

After getting the kit we have acquired a milling machine and supplemented the Southbend lathe with a Myford ML10 lathe - both were a great help in correcting the errors in earlier attempts to build the engine. The Myford lathe - despite coming from Bowmanville, Ontario - also has a South African connection. Through my old club in South Africa (Centurion Society of Model Engineers), I received the Richmond Hill Live Steamers club newsletter in about January 2020. The Myford was advertised there and I contacted the advertiser - Jeff - who turned out to be selling it on behalf of someone else (Roy). It sounded like a good machine in tip-top condition, so arrangements were made to drive through to Bowmanville to collect it one Saturday. It is about a 5-hour drive from our part of Montreal to Bowmanville near Toronto, so Tom and I set out late one wintery Friday afternoon and stopped overnight in Kingston. An early departure got us to Roy's house by 09:00 where we met Roy, Anne - Roy's wife and

Jeff. The lathe was all loaded by 10:30. After a lovely tea and scones provided by Anne, we left by about 11:30 and were back in Montreal - after lunch with Tom's girlfriend in Kingston - by 18:00. The engine still needs some work to make it nice, but it is good to have it running at last. Next project will be an engine with proper valve gear and the ability to run in reverse. We also need to make a boiler for this engine - it is running on compressed air in this video. So that is our COVID project for now. Cheers Steve and Tom. *Steve you can always contact Martin Hampton for more engine and boiler kits!*

And from Australia



Gerardus Mol's (Wagga Wagga society) fine work in progress, and view outside the workshop.

Commercials

Hannes Paling has a few items for sale, was nice to own them but probably he will never use them and must start clearing a few items.

Pola G gauge No 907 Silverton station building kit, No 923 water-tower, and N0955 Track trestle sets, all unbuilt in original boxes.

He also has a Stuart Turner 5A vertical steam engine casting set, nothing machined or made with drawing. The castings weigh about 15 Kilo's.

Anybody interested can send him a mail or whatsapp. japeng@mweb.co.za 0832307762

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Funnies

