



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 2021

COMMITTEE

Chairman – Leon Kamffer
Vice chair. – John O'Mahony
Treasurer – Ballot Marx
Secretary – Imogene Groothuijzen
Committee – Jon Shaw
Committee – Carel Janse Vrensborg
Safety – Norman Reyneke
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Membership Fees for 2021 are unchanged from 2019/20

2021 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 2021 (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

This month the 19th & 20th of June 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.

Obituary

Sadly, I must announce that Armande Gault a regular visitor with the Shaws, mother of Veronique Shaw, (wife of David) and known to many as Dominic's Granny passed away on Saturday 29th May. The committee and members of the CSME offer their condolences to the family and friends.

Sandstone

Here at Sandstone, we are open for visitors but are not running any large events at present. Hopefully as Covid retreats we can get back to some form of normal and start running our railway. We do not run for day visitors due to cost of course. All the best from all of us at Sandstone!

Chairman's comments.

Public attendance most Sundays is good which means we continue can continue to build some reserves for possible changes to the lockdown restrictions. We regularly have a few locos out, even steam, thanks to a regular group of drivers, helping to draw constant crowds rather than very busy 3rd Sundays. Party bookings is also consistent with most Saturdays fully booked.

Restrictions just got adjusted to 250 people for open venues, so we will definitely be impacted.

We received a visit from John Sharpe with his K1 Garratt, a particularly good passenger hauler and steamer and a welcome change to the locomotive fleet. (See photo below) The K1 full size Garratt was a 2'0" gauge running in Tasmania and now on the Welsh Highland railway.

We made good progress with our riding cars, a few final brake parts. Some are already joined to locomotives and seen working on Sunday 06/06/2021.

Good progress was made by Nick Popich on his latest project, thanks for the update from Roko.

The 45mm group will arrange some special exhibits in June so look out for them.



Photos of Nic Popich's switcher tender courtesy Roko Popich and Leon Kamffer.

Secretary's Bit



Covid-19 is still very much with us and with new regulations having been promulgated, things are likely to get tough.

We appeal to members to assist on Sundays with driving loco's as we need to maintain social distancing on the riding cars as well. Furthermore, we need to monitor the passengers and visitors to ensure that they adhere to the new regulations. As a club we are very vulnerable to inspections and close downs. So, please assist those few members who are willingly helping out already.

The month of June is very popular for birthdays. Best wishes go to Ray Greyvenstein, Hudson Taylor, Alex Groothuizen, Jon Shaw, Andre Janse v Rensburg and Ian Brink. - **Imogene Groothuizen**

Track and grounds.

The rainy season excessive growth Has been cut and is now under control and attention is focussed on other work. The leaf composting area has been dug out, compost removed, and used in the gardens and for potting of new tree saplings, and plants. Soil is being spread alongside track edges to level the adjacent ground to track height to make trackside grass cutting easier.

We May attempt to compost the water hyacinth to make use of the nuisance if time permits!

Work on the new line itself, from the new storage to the station is finished. The associated concreting and paving is finished with the surrounding area being rehabilitated. Some sort of plants will be planted around that area as well. The west lake just outside our premises is still totally covered by the water hyacinth although turned brown and the other ponds are becoming stagnant due to lack of inflow. The boat club lake is being aerated by the fountain so is in the best condition of the lot. Our labourers are keeping the water hyacinth under control in the east lake.

Tuesday and Saturday Gangs

Site maintenance machinery is the priority each Tuesday with something always requiring maintenance and repair. Lizzie is undergoing a tidy up and should be back in service soon. As usual the lawn mowers required some maintenance each week as did the backpack blower and brush cutters. We did however get round to painting and some assembly of the new driving cars and parts designed, and laser cut by Leon. These can now be seen in service. Every week, Lizzie gets maintenance and necessary repairs, Dennis and Trompie have both required attention. The electric Loco's also need attention but not as much as the other Loco's. those big batteries drink distilled water like a fish, so levels need a constant watch. After each run, they go back to the shed and are put on automatic chargers that replenish the charge then keep them on a maintenance cycle ready for instant use. The duty electric (of which we have 3) is also used with the goods wagon as an electric oversize wheelbarrow during the week for all sorts of work around our long track. We even got round to painting and numbering the point lever cover levers, Thanks Hudson. Tuesday Gang never have to look for work, and never have an idle Tuesday! The gang members never wait to be allocated jobs they always seem to notice or are aware of something and get on with it. This last Tuesday after continuous derailing of the maintenance truck, (also causing loco derailment,) at a certain set of points exasperation took over and the truck and points underwent maintenance. It certainly is no fun having to get out the loco rerailing equipment and put it back on the track as the electric locos are so heavy. The rerailing procedure for our locos is not scaled down from full size in proportion with the loco's scale! Saturday Gang this month was more of a social nature as we had the storage roof wetting braai (barbecue for non- South Africans)



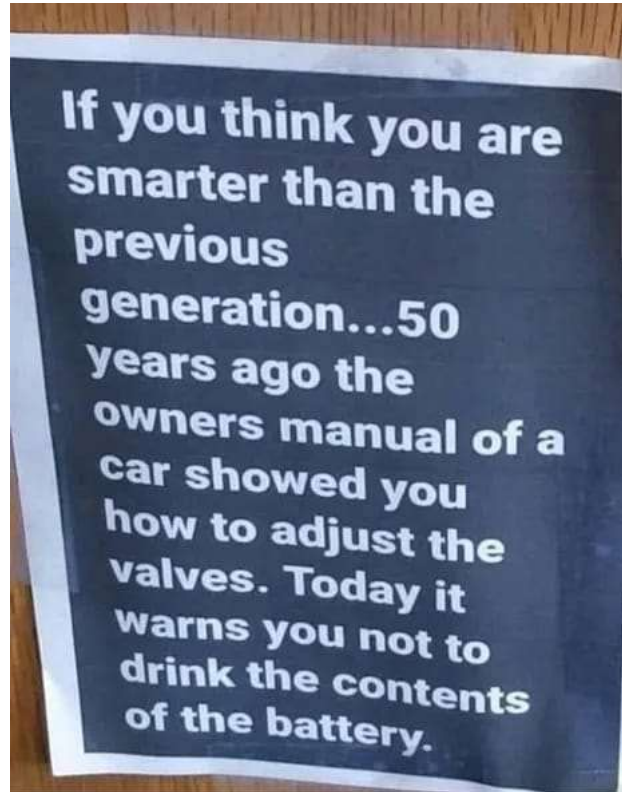
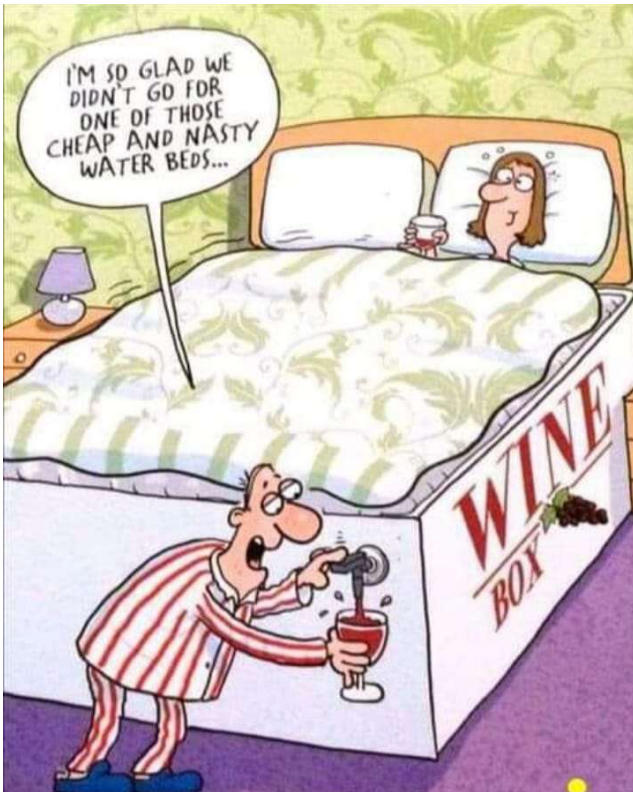
John Sharpe's K1 Garratt in 7 1/4" gauge



Commercials

CSME need 2 steel drums 220 Litre if you know of any going begging in Pretoria, please let a committee member know to arrange collection.

Funnies



**SO A NEIGHBOR
KNOCKED ON MY
FRONT DOOR AT 3AM...
3AM!!!
LUCKILY I WAS
ALREADY UP PLAYING
THE BAG PIPES.**



This is where the problem started, one idiot must have mixed the two