



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 NOVEMBER 2020

COMMITTEE

Chairman – Leon Kamffer
Vice chair. – John O'Mahony
Treasurer – Ballot Marx
Secretary – Imogene Groothuijzen
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.

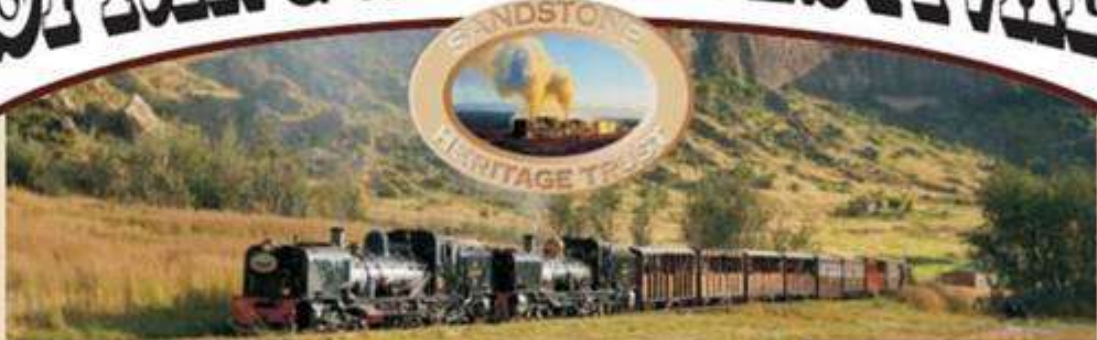
Those members without email can collect a copy of the newsletter from the clubhouse on track day.

Next Club Meetings

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 14th & 15th of November will be the member's weekend. Members are welcome any other time by arrangement with Swannie 012 643 0750, 071 619 1644. The gates are again operational by cellphone.

Just North of Ficksburg — join us for a 4-day

SPRING STEAM FESTIVAL



Enjoy an unforgettable day with us in the Eastern Free State, see vintage cars & trucks and ride on the Sandstone Heritage Trust's world famous private 2ft Narrow Gauge Vintage Steam Railway.



This wide variety of working South African Heritage lies in the foothills of the Maluti Mountains ... visit us to experience the unique Free State country hospitality.



STEAM TRAIN RIDES
on our Narrow Gauge Railway
daily from 10am



MORE TO SEE: Walking Tours of the farm complex,
see the vast collections of old engines and farm equipment
— or even take a slow Ox Wagon ride — so much on offer!

Wide open
spaces!
Picnic Area!
Refreshments
available

19 to 22 November 2020

Entrance Fee: R200 pp, R125 per child under age 12
* train rides included (from 10am) *

COVID-19 REGULATION COMPLIANT EVENT
MASKS, DISTANCING & RESTRICTED NUMBERS WILL BE IN EFFECT

On the R26 between Fouriesburg & Ficksburg — Read more: www.sandstone-estates.com

ENQUIRIES: Call 051 933 2235 or 071 658 6970

Chairman's comments.

We are seeing improved attendance on our running days from the public, but we are not back to normal yet. At least we are operating in such a manner that we can start to balance the books. We also need to prepare and build reserves if the Covid situation deteriorates and we need to close again.

The Tuesday gang tended to our lawnmowers and blowers, critical equipment now that the rainy season started. Our premises are really looking well maintained and grass is still under control.

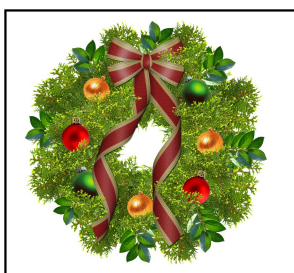
A few regulars assisted with the work on the new storage on Saturdays. Thanks to all the extra hands, good progress was made on the tracks to the storage. We just need the roof and get the hoist to operate before we can move in. We hope to be able to store most of our locos in it before we have any flooding again.

The Mini Truckers did a lot of work on their enlarged area and draw a lot of attention when they come and play.

We hope to see more of our members starting to attend and get involved in the running of the club. We still miss a lot of faces. After all, a club is the sum of its members.

We will again arrange a private member's function for yearend, please book the date and we look forward seeing everyone.

Secretary's Bit



We are coming the end of the year again, and despite Covid-19, we need to remain positive and hopeful during this Christmas season.

Please take note of these dates:

Club will be open to public on 16 December 2020.

Members' Club day to be on 19 December 2020.

Re-opening on 3 January 2021.

For our club day, 19 December 2020 (please note it is a Saturday) we shall have our usual function. Can I prevail on the ladies to once again, provide the lovely salads we have become used to?

We wish to welcome a new member, Hudson Taylor, who has taken over a loco from Willem Nel.

Our birthday calendar shows that Leon Kamffer, Eddie Lloyd and Roko Popich are the birthday boys for November. Happy birthdays!

Imogene Groothuijzen

Track and grounds

The grounds are now flourishing thanks to the rain we have had recently. The grass is growing fast, and the lawnmowers are now well in use to keep up with growing grass. Trees are now sprouting, and trimming has begun to remove lower growth and dead parts. Some of the apparently dead trees will need removal and replacement.

Tuesday and Saturday Gangs

Members have been making track to access the new storage. Lawnmowers, blower machine etc. seem to require constant maintenance. Trees from the nursery have been put out for planting. Trees apparently dead have been marked to see if they come alive and if not will be removed and replaced. Many trees were severely burnt during the winter veld fires.

Leon would appreciate any assistance offered in connection with the new storage and trackwork. Contact him 082-577-7813

Last Saturday 7th November was the final steaming of Neville Thompsons 5" NGG16 Garrett at RSME before being relocated to Andries Keyser's track in the Cape.



Track from the new storage to the station line.



Repurposed car lift altered to raise locos from steaming bay line to the storage line height