

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

Centurion Society of Model Engineers

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Centurion Society of Model Engineers

& Centurion Society of Model Engineers' Supporters Group

CSME NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2025

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2025 SUBS: R500 FOR ORDINARY MEMBERS R250 FOR SENIOR MEMBERS AND STUDENTS

Official Correspondence & Newsletter

If you read this and 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 and cell phone number. Those members without email can collect a copy of the newsletter on request from the clubhouse on track day. The news letters are also distributed via the official CSME Whatsapp group.

Next Club Meetings

The committee meeting is on Saturday 14 November 2025 and club running day Sunday 15 November 2025.

Members are welcome any other time by arrangement with Swannie 064 520 8572. The gates are operational by cell phone for members. Members, please contact Norman Reyneke to be added to the gate motor list.

Chairman's Chatter

A busy month on all fronts with Sundays well attended.

The terrain suddenly turned green after the rains, although the overgrown dams do not have water yet.

We worked on the raised track, plan to do so again weather permitting this Saturday, please join us as plenty of hands keep the welding of sleepers as fast as the welder allows.

We have a night run for members, friends and family, no public so please join us for an evening of fun.

We also heading to the end of the year, our club function will be on Saturday the 13th of December with our last public run the 16th public holiday.

Leon

Secretary's Bit

The relevant form to update your membership details is available on the club website in the Members Page menu and the Club Documents sub menu. Please download, complete and return a form when next you visit the website. Forms can be emailed to admin@centuriontrains.com. There are still members who have not yet updated their information.

As reported in the last Newsletter, CSME hosted an event during October, for the Downs Syndrome Association of Tshwane (Pretoria) DSAT. Unfortunately, they had a glitch with their transport buses. Consequently, only about 25% of their expected attendees arrived. Nevertheless, the event was deemed a great success and the Association was very pleased with our facilities. Thanks go out to the members who attended.

Our Birthday wishes for November go out to: Leon Kamffer, who has now joined the 60's gang, and Dirk Boshoff.

Norman

From the Editor

Thank you very much for all the contributions to this edition on **THE CENTURION SMOKE BOX.**

The second last newsletter for the year! Wow, puff, gone is 2025!

Leon's workshop articles are very popular and are also published in other MES newsletters. We call on members to submit their gadgets to share with the community. One or two photos with a paragraph or two does the trick.

Also consider to share pre-loved tools and parts or projects in our sell/swop section. It will most certainly find new purpose in another workshop!

Carel

Inter club Night run

On the November club weekend, we are planning an inter club night run on the 15th of November 2025.

We call on all club members to assist in making this a memorable evening. We are going to dress the bridges and tunnels with fairy lights, to make the night run even more magical.

Bring and Braai at 18:00



Bring the family and enjoy to drive club locos.

Workshop Gadgets - Leon Kamffer

Ball turning tool holder

Making a once of ball or radius in the manual lathe can be faster even if you own a CNC lathe with the right tool.

One finds various different designs in magazines like the Model Engineering Workshop, or on the internet. Youtube videos are another source of inspiration. Some designs require you to remove the tool post. They may be more rigid on smaller lathes, but one loose your tool ost position, especially if one owns a lathe with a digital readout.

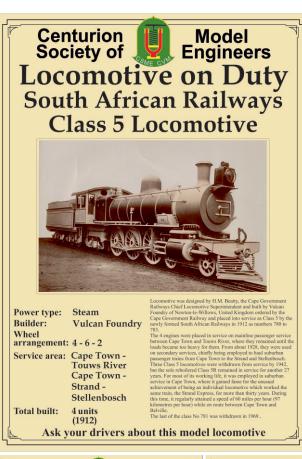
One design I decided on was using a boring head for the adjustment, and instead of sacrificing a standard tool holder made a custom one for the tool. Best is to keep the eye out for a cheap boring head, or import one from China.

I also made a few special tool holders, using carbide inserts to allow faster cutting speeds.



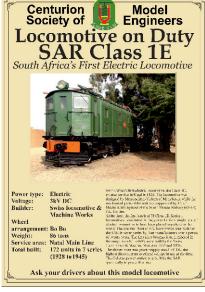
Seen around the Club

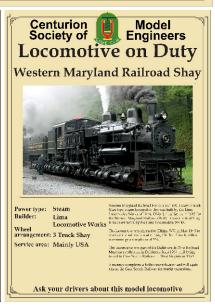
These engine information boards are a welcome addition to the Meerpark Station platforms (work in progress). On public running days, each platform will display a board showing which locomotive is on duty. A short summary of the engine, along with details of its full-size prototype, offers visitors an engaging snapshot of history while they wait for their ride. Members are welcome to forward their engine details to the committee, in order for us to design the board in this format, and get them made for display when their engine is on passenger duty in Meerpark Station.











Members Out and About

Lucas Nel on Charles' 16F in front of Leon's 16DA at RSME's Woodside Station.



Members Out and About

We were invited to exhibit at the Model Train Expo held in Kempton Park in November. Me and Neil with Dirk joining us, with support from Leon, Kevin as well as Norman but Neil did all the hard work, steaming his VIRGINIA, plus his coal fired stationary steam plant. Dirk also running his stationary plants, with me just talking about trains and showcasing some miniature train parts.















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Seen around the Club







Ballot preparing the container footings.

Meerpark looks great after very good early season rains.

No more wobbly checker plate ramp!



Who can spot the mother to be?



Who's doing what?

