



# THE CENTURION SMOKEBOX

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

## Centurion Society of Model Engineers

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<https://www.facebook.com/pages/SocietyofModelEngineers/420612321335973?ref=hl>

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.

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## CSME NEWSLETTER May 2019

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### COMMITTEE

Chairman – Leon Kamffer  
Vice chair. – John O'Mahony  
Treasurer – Ballot Marx  
Secretary – Imogene Groothuizen  
Committee – Jon Shaw  
Committee – Hugh Williams  
Safety – Norman Reyneke  
Non-committee person contacts  
Caretaker – Louw Myburgh  
Facebook – Norman Reyneke  
Alarm system – Norman Reyneke  
News letter & Website – Jon Shaw

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### Membership Fees for 2019 were raised as per the 2018 AGM

**2019 SUBS, R400 FOR ORDINARY MEMBERS, R200 FOR ASSOCIATE MEMBERS, SENIORS & STUDENTS**

Bank details for any payments to CSME.

For any payments please email details of payment to Ballot Marx at [csmetrains@gmail.com](mailto:csmetrains@gmail.com) or [ballotmarx@gmail.com](mailto: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 2019 (or what payment is for).**

**Note the account number change in red**

### Official correspondence and newsletter

If you read a hard copy and are not receiving email from the CSME you should contact the secretary Imogene Groothuizen & editor Jon Shaw 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**

**Next running day will be Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2019.**

**Next committee meeting will be at the clubhouse on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2019**

### **Secunda steamers mini Meet.**

Secunda steamers are holding a mini steam meet over the long weekend 15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> June 2019 at the Duck Pond. You are invited to join them so contact either the Chairman Frans Pretorius on 0832369578 or the secretary Leonora Lacante on 0732073658

## **The Pietermaritzburg Model Engineering Society**

**Invites you to join them in Pietermaritzburg for the**

### **2019 National Live Steam Meet**

**Which will be held on the first weekend, Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> and Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> August 2019.**

**All the normal fare will be available.**

**Contact: Alan Hill 072 3962592 or Martin Hampton 083 3883149**

#### **Relevant e-mail addresses are:**

Alan Hill:	hillac@ukzn.ac.za
Dave Tanner:	dawie.tanner@gmail.com
Les Cloete	lescloete012@gmail.com
Martin Hampton:	martinjchampton@gmail.com
Lucas Steyn:	oomstoom@gmail.com
Steven Van Der Watt	mrsvdw@gmail.com

**We will at the same time be hosting our annual Hobbies Expo, 'Wings, Wheels and Whistles'.**

**CSME** will also be holding their usual hobbies fair over the September long weekend.

## **April Track day**

April track day was again busy and the weather was again pleasant, with a good number of public attending to make the best of the holiday weekend. We had more than the usual number of steam engines and drivers and plenty of volunteers for driving electric locos. The editor was spared his day driving! Steam was provided by the Garratt driven by and Derick, Alex with No 73, Henk and Roko were also hauling passengers with their locos. The Blue and red electrics were out and driven by various drivers. Now we have the electrics more members are driving especially ones without passenger hauling locos of their own. It is good to see that the inner track was also used by several members.

**All members are reminded to be more vigilant, to close the gate as soon as they have entered the premises, to keep a look out for any persons who should not be entering that gate and to either request the persons to leave or notify a committee member immediately.**

This month we had a table showing progress by Nic Popich and Leon Kamffer on their loco construction.



### **Monday and Saturday Gangs**

The gangs have been working on the new DZ style riding cars designed by Leon.



Bogie frames



bogie swivel plates

### **G scale section news**

#### **Centurion 32-45mm Update:**

The first step was to establish the elevation and general topography the layout will have to handle in the area allocated. Since a fair part of 'Garden railroading' consist of live steam trains, it is an absolute must that the track bed should be 100% level. The small live steamers tend to battle on inclines and run away on the declines (allowing for lots of humor watching the operator/owner running after runaway locos and burning their fingers once they catch the loco!). The station of 12 x 1,5 meters will be 1 meter from ground level, not only allowing for good handling of trains, but also much more visually pleasing as most of these train are highly detailed.

The excavations are done, and that allowed us to plan the layout as follows:

Leaving the station to the eastern side, 1 meter from ground level, will be a series of arch modules, simulating the Gautrain viaducts, typically seen over the N14 and Jean Avenue crossing. At the 'hill', a modern tunnel entrance will see the trains disappearing into the tunnel, and at the exit, a more traditional stone tunnel exit. From here the trains will cross five arches of the Fountains Valley train bridge, then the track will be at ground level along the northern side, crossing a girder bridge found at the southern side of the Irene station. A long curve, on a high grassed embankment will lead the trains over a three metre steel bridge on the western side, like the one crossing the road at the PPC factory in Hermanstad. Another raised curve will bring the trains back into the station.

Well, this is the plan, and we are busy constructing the cement road beds, arches and bridges. The process is typically building masters out of MDF or M Foam, then create molds, and casting it out of fiber reinforced cement. The station will be built with a brick base, having a 'frame' out of real railway rails, and a cement slab.

We are very fortunate to have received support for the projects in various forms, from a cash donation from Riekus van der Westhuisen, owner of the Third Rail Train Shop in Benoni, to guys helping with laser cutting at no cost and building consultations. We also received a donation from Vibro Bricks, supplying all the bricks that we will require for the project. We are still needing cement, sand and stone, and anyone that wants to contribute, in any form, can contact **Carel Janse van Rensburg at 076 774221.**



Curved road bed master to be cast out of cement.



Side panel for the Fountains Valley bridge to be cast out of cement.

One of the tunnel exits

## **Members play day**

This month we had a members day on the first of May, not very well attended but those who did attend had a great time sitting around chatting, messing around with trains and braaiing. It was so enjoyable to have a day to ourselves without the public.



## **Secretary/librarian's titbit**

As part of fulfilling its voluntary community duties, during April CSME hosted an afternoon outing for the staff and volunteers of Meals On Wheels (MOW). This was a tea and cake affair with the CSME providing coffee and tea and train rides. My better half, Alex, with faithful Tim (already having done 15 years of sterling service), were once again pressed to do the job. The event went off without a hitch and all attendees (99% retirees) thoroughly enjoyed themselves – being children again!



Just for those not in the know, MOW is a non-profit worldwide organisation with the Pretoria branch operating out of the premises of Magnolia Haven, a retirement home. These not even two dozen persons are responsible for buying and collecting of groceries and vegetables etc, preparing, cooking, dishing up and delivering meals to the needy. They currently serve an area ranging from Elandspoor/Daspoort in the West to East Lynne in the East, four times a week. MOW also try to cater to other needs for these people for instance, clothes and shoes, bedding, books/magazines and at times, even toiletry items and dog food. All of which are donated by other caring citizens, thank you!

Birthday boys: Kevin Mey and Derick Louw. Happy birthday!

Imogene Groothuijzen

## **Pietermaritzburg model stationary engines**

There is no news yet of when boiler kits will be available but watch this space!

## **Commercials**

**Use this newsletter to advertise your for sale and wanted (wish list) items.**

**If the editor is not informed as to the required duration of adverts, these will only be displayed for one month**

I am a member at the Port Elizabeth Model Locomotive Society and am looking for a steam locomotive to purchase, or pointers to a South African web site.

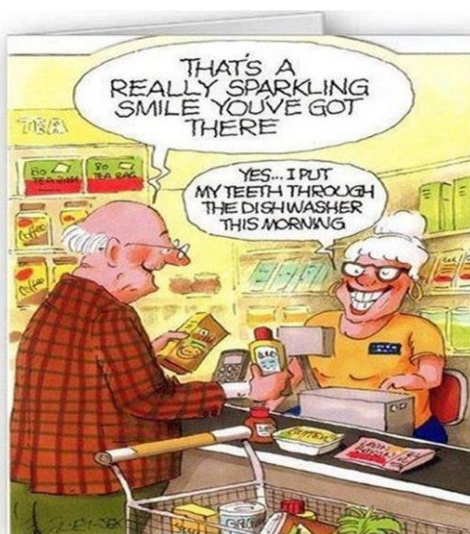
Any 5" gauge locomotive will be considered. Importing is out of the question, so I must hunt locally. Any help in this regard will be much appreciated. Many thanks,  
Mark Viviers 078 4586473

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For sale by Jon Shaw R400 O.N.C.O 0724370710.

**Do you ever wake up, kiss the person sleeping beside you, and feel glad that you are alive? I just did and apparently will not be allowed on this airline again....**



### **A Senior's Version of FACEBOOK**

For those of my generation who do not, and cannot, comprehend why Facebook exists: I am trying to make friends outside of Facebook while applying the same principles. Therefore, every day I walk down the street and tell passers-by what I have eaten, how I feel at the moment, what I have done the night before, what I will do later and with whom. I give them pictures of my family, my dog and of me gardening, taking things apart in the garage, watering the lawn, standing in front of landmarks, driving around town, having lunch, and doing what anybody and everybody does every day. I also listen to their conversations, give them "thumbs up" and tell them I "like" them. And it works just like Facebook. I already have 4 people following me: 2 police officers, a private investigator and a psychiatrist.