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**NPSMEE**

**11 Gilbert Street, New Plymouth**

**Public Running Sundays 1-4pm**

**Contacts**

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**WELCOME!**

Welcome to the next edition of the SWARF newsletter, and once again apologies about the amount of time since our last one. A lot has happened, so let's roll on! Last thing here, a belated Merry Christmas to all members and their families!



**Latest Info**

Sunday running has been increasing in popularity, deep into summer now. Lost a couple of Sundays of late due to weather not playing ball, but we

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have made that up in the amount of Private Bookings (Pre-Schools, Xmas Functions etc). The Ec and Wab have been running constantly keeping the gold rolling in, and are only requiring occasional maintenance. The Wab now has a new Regulator lever, courtesy of John Moran, and this is proving to work well. Thanks to all who keep these going :)



The new club loco is progressing incredibly well, with the hydraulics more-or-less finished, and the wiring nearly complete for the new Petrol Motor. It has been running around the track during the day, with a couple of small teething issues to fix before really getting into Passenger hauling...



Labour Weekend has been and gone, and by all accounts everyone enjoyed their time. Our 'traditional' rain-day Sunday didn't happen, however Monday was a wash-out with nothing running. Our Audit was completed, and the issues raised in this are progressively being worked on to resolve...

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Mike W has now been made redundant from Wells Electrical, but has scored a job in same field in Tauranga. He has since moved over there, and from all communication is having a great time, having recently signed up with the Tauranga MMEC. He tells us he has already been certified on most of their Petrol-Hydraulic locos, and is in the process of learning on the clubs' Phantom. We wish him well on his new adventure!



## New Members

We are always on the look-out for keen people to come and enjoy this great hobby of ours. Please keep an eye/ear out for anyone you think might be keen on coming and helping out on our Sunday-afternoon running or mini Working-Bee's, and let them know where we are and who to contact (details on the 1st page).



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### Charity Run

We would like to remind everyone of our looming inaugural Charity Run. The date is to be the 10th of January, with a rain-out date of the 11th. We have partnered with the Taranaki Downs syndrome society, and all proceeds from the Train Rides will be gifted to the charity. There will be different stalls, BBQ etc, so make sure to mark these dates in your calendar. We would like to invite members of other clubs with any 2.5/3.5/5" gauge locos to come down, it's shaping up to be a great weekend! There is now a sign on the corner fence advertising this, and it is certainly attracting attention!



### Bens DH

This new-build Loco is advancing well, with tac-welding of the chassis being undertaken by Bruce, so massive thanks to him for this. The Buffer Beams, Battery and Controller holders are all in, and the 4QD DNO-10 controller and 2 450W Motors are now wired up thanks to Grant Alexander from Cambridge. This loco is quickly expanding, as Ben's 7 1/4" gauge loco "Dasher" was sold in early December. We have already seen it running around late at night with Bruce's Dolphin Torch as a headlight. Proving to be a real crowd drawer with its batteries and wiring 'on-show' as Ben is yet to build the body.



### **Ben's Pre-Labour Weekend Clean-Up**

As you will have noted, Labour Weekend photos are spread out through the Newsletter. However some that haven't seen much light are those taken by Ben while cleaning up around the property and sheds prior to Labour Weekend. The hedges were all trimmed, the sheds cleaned out, any potential hazardous branches removed and the whole site generally tidied up. Our thanks to Ben for doing this.



**The Palmerston North Esplanade Scenic Railway**

As mentioned in the previous newsletter, Ben is a member of the above society who operate a 10 1/4" gauge (1/4" scale) Miniature Railway in the Victoria Esplanade in Palmerston North (about 3hrs drive south of New Plymouth). Ben's most recent visit was to the clubs Christmas Dinner, held at the Shed on Sunday 14th December. He also took an unplanned side-trip on the Fielding Steam Rail societies trip to Halcombe on the Sunday. Below are a selection of photos from the weekend, including some from the Monday Working-Bee. The club runs trains 1-4pm Labour Weekend to Queens Birthday, and 12:30pm to 3:30pm Queens Birthday to Labour Weekend. They also run extended hours from Boxing Day to the end of January, running 11am-5pm. Make sure to drop by and have a ride for a cheap \$2.50 per person. Well worth it!





Well, that's all for now. We hope you have enjoyed this newsletter. Please send any feedback/comments/suggestions to

[sewellben3@gmail.com](mailto:sewellben3@gmail.com)

Until Next Time

New Plymouth Society of Model & Experimental Engineers

**!!!HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!**