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NPSMEE

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Public Running Sundays 1-4pm

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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! Sorry for the lack of photos, my external hard-drive is down with a technical problem which is being sorted.



Obituary - Ted Barnes

We first pay tribute to Ted Barnes, who passed away suddenly in September. He owned the 'Mithryl Valley Railway' just south of Inglewood under the mountain, and played a key-role in the construction of Ben's 2 locos, as well as supplying Martins wife with a constant stream of electrical pieces to take apart! Our thoughts are with Jude and the family.

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Secondly, we pay tribute to Ian Reid. He was made a life member when he shifted to Australia to be with his son Robert. His funeral service was held at Tikorangi where he had lived for a number of years. He is now buried with his wife Anne in the Stratford cemetery.

Latest Info

Sunday running has been increasing in popularity, coming into summer now. Winter hasn't shown its head really, with most Sundays being either Fine or Overcast. The Wab has done a stirring job this year, holding up the club running for many sundays. But as always the Ec sits in readiness, and has had some work done on the bogies to ensure it is ready when required.

While the Ec has been out and the Wab finishing early some days, Ben's loco has seen increased use, often standing the last hour or so going round-and-round. Not bad considering the motor is only 250-watts!

The new club loco is progressing well, with the hydraulics now 'plumbed-up' and the wiring completed. Still to sort is a couple of niggling issues in the drive system, then its body will be completed and painted.

Labour Weekend is coming up (just under 2-months away now!) so you better start making plans for travel and accommodation in readiness for yet another fantastic event! Also in the future we have a club dinner and a Charity Night Run, which will be featured later on.

New member Mike is advancing well, having earned his Electric Drivers licence and on the way to his Steam ticket. Barry has also advanced in this area, having purchased Peter Lethbridge's 'Super-Simplex' loco. There was a couple of repairs to be done, which have been completed. Barry is now running this as much as he can in-order to get to know the loco better and learn its tips and tricks. Also on the sale front, Bruce has sold his P.V Baker (ex. Martin Smith) to a member in Blenheim, who is currently constructing one of the well-known 'Phantom' locomotives.

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*****MID-YEAR CLUB DINNER*****

The NPSMEE held their Mid-Year club dinner at Sunworld Restraunt in early-July. A great night was had by all, with afew late cancellations. We are looking to hold another function, possibly a BBQ, to coincide with the commissioning of the new loco once it is ready. Watch this space!



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, 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 announce our inaugural Charity Run. The date is scheduled to be the 10th of January, with a rain-out date of the 11th. We are currently investigating what charities are interested, however it seems we have decided on the Downsyndrome people. Details are still TBC, but it's definitely on! We would like to invite members of other clubs with any 2.5/3.5/5" gauge locos to come down, its shaping up to be a great weekend! Below is a taster, from Ben's camera at the Hamilton Model Engineers Night Run, held in late-September 2013.



Items of Interest

Due to the lack of photos in this edition of the SWARF, we would like to include some interesting items found by Ben of late on the following 2 pages:

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The above photo, courtesy of Andrew Hamblyn, is a 'Hi-Rail' Quad-Bike. This is used by the KiwiRail staff to inspect and maintain the rail-lines around the network.



The above photo shows the 'Durango & Silverton' train, heading up the Animas River Valley in early-March (remembering this is in Colorado, USA. Their seasons are the opposite to ours here in NZ). A truly beautiful capture! Find out more about the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad at <http://durangotrain.com> .



This is the 'Calvert-Central' GP35. Made mainly of plywood, it boasts 2x 350-watt motors geared through chains in the bogies. Rather intriguing ideas used in this! See more at <http://calvertcentral.com> .



And finally, a photo from Ben's other Rail-interest club, the 1/4 scale Esplanade Scenic Railway in Palmerston North. A 6-car, double-headed train for a bus tour-group! See more at <http://www.esplanaderail.org.nz> .

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

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Until Next Time

New Plymouth Society of Model & Experimental Engineers