



SWARF



**The Newsletter of the New Plymouth Society of Model and
Experimental Engineers (NPSMEE)**



JULY 2016

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Cover Photo:

Ryan driving the new traction engine (formerly John Morans).

Editors Report

Hi All. Julys newsletter is a bit late, but here we are.

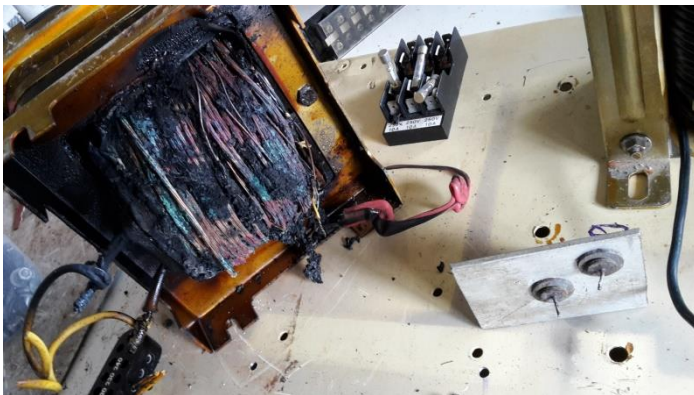
The WAB is up and running again after a bit of false start last month. It was nice to drive it for a few laps around the track last Sunday.

On the Sunday when we had all the lightning this month, smoke was noticed coming from the loco shed. After the smoke cleared one of the transformers was found to be burnt out. Martin took it home and is busy doing his magic; Thanks Martin. See photo below.

Thanks to Monty for his article for this month's Newsletter. Each month someone will be asked if they can write something for our newsletter, but if you would like to write an article/feature for our newsletter please send it to me. Don't wait for me to ask you.

See you at the club,

Lester



Member Profile

By Monty George

Easter 1962. A picture appeared in the local press of activities at the Model Engineering locality. Being interested, wife and I with baby Annette in the pram went along. Once there, I climbed over the fence and approached two men that I recognised in the picture. One was George Sutherland and the second was Gerry Gerrard. I enquired as to requirements to becoming a member. George took his pipe from his mouth and said, "pay me ten bob...". The night I decided to go along and see what went on, happened to be AGM night.

What an experience!

Jokers were sitting on tables; everyone seemed to be talking at the same time.

When order of a sorts was achieved, someone would fart which would cause much laughter followed by an in-depth discussion as to its merits ending with a points allocation!

I went home wondering how an organisation that acted in such a manner would survive. Well, here we are and it is 2016.

With the passing of Ian Reid a while back, leaves me as the longest serving Member.

Being a joiner by trade, my foray into metal working was a steep learning curve.

My first attempt at the hobby was a 5" NZR Wab locomotive. With help from members the engine became a reality and has clocked up many miles around our track.

Next came a 4" Fowler Compound Road Locomotive. I worked from two 1.5" line drawings and the majority was scaling from full sized engines. It proved a long project, some 30 years in fact. Its first public outing was at the ME convention at Tauranga 1998.

I served my apprenticeship with the Taranaki Education Board as a joiner, 8 yrs with a builder, 11 yrs making aluminium joinery and the last 25-30 yrs with Kibbys metal pressing ,doing tooling etc...

With my job at Kibbys many challenges arose. What I could not fix I sought help from our model engineers, and other ME people around the country.

My interest in steam, particularly traction engines probably was influenced by my late father. He worked around engines and associated gear in Waitara before and after WW1.

Two engines he worked with are still in existence. A McLaren that was plinthed in Rotorua for many years and brought back to life and a 4hp Burrell Gold Medal tractor is in ownership in Feilding and is still running.

Monty George

Quiz

What is this infamous locomotive?



Answer to quiz picture from June: This photo is of the end of the boiler on the steam boat Waimarie on the Whanganui river.



Upcoming Events.

Every Sunday 2-4PM	Track running
Every Thursday 7:30PM	Club night
24 th -26 th October	Labour weekend event.

Private group bookings of the railway are available from Spring – Autumn, contact: Monty (06 758 9866) or Martin (06 753 5029).

Buy, Sell, Exchange

Wanted:

- Any 5" steamers out there looking for a good home.
- 5" ride trolleys any spare ones

Contact Bruce Jamieson