



THE CENTURION SMOKEBOX

"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 SEPTEMBER 2024

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2024 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 September 2024, and club track day on Sunday, 15 September 2024.

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

One of the busiest months so far this year, good weather, lots of passengers and steam locos.

We managed to install another 6 solar panels, it should be reducing our diesel consumption close to zero, and this long-term saving can rather be invested in club improvements.

The signal lights Francois built is a regular feature and get lots of comments from visitors. We plan to have a few extra, it helps for a much safer and realistic environment.

We also finished concreting the track leading to the steaming bay and storage. We started to rework Trompie's driving train with larger couplings and hope to have it finished before the fair.

Preparations for the September fair is taking priority, extra palisade fencing to keep visitors away from the 45mm area and the track departing the station was installed. The station platform white and yellow lines were also repainted. We plan to do the last bit this club Saturday, please come and help and socialise before the busy fair weekend. Please volunteer during the weekend, a lot of members to help with the displays and visitor engagements will help creating a positive experience. We reserved the Monday of the long weekend for members only, please come and enjoy the club with other members.

Leon

Secretary's Bit

There are now 2 working colour light signals on the park. The first is at Bridge #1 just out of the station and the second is along the back straight opposite the exit to tunnel #1. Please obey these lights at all times.

A compulsory Stop sign is now permanently situated after tunnel #1 and before the crossing on the return loop. Trains coming around the blind corner from the 3rd bridge have the right of way over the crossing.

The Drivers' Safety document has been completed and will be distributed after Committee sign-off.

We have a bumper crop of birthdays this month: Rodney Michael, Dam Wessels, Gerrit de Vries, Carel Janse van Rensburg & Ballot Marx. We wish them many more years of trains and good health.

Norman

From the Editor

Thank you very much for all the contributions for thanother **FULL** edition of **THE CENTURION SMOKEBOX**.

A Flash Back by oom Hannes, Neil sharing valuable workshop information, Johnny busy building as usual, and the Tuesday and Saturday gang's action, all makes for excellent content for our newsletter.

The ME Fair is here. Please participate and come and enjoy the weekend with other members and friends at the club.

Our very successful **SELL / SWOP / WANTED** section needs new items to advertise.

If you have any parts, projects or running engines to sell, please send them through for placing in the **S/S/W** section.

Carel

Centurion Society of Model Engineers



**CSME 32-45mm Group
Centurion Mini Truckers**



Model Engineering Fair 21 & 22 September 2024

Hobbies Crafts Food

Entrance: R30 per person 9:00 - 16:00

(includes one free ride on the mini trains per entrance ticket, R15 per additional ride)

**Kwikkie Crescent, Centurion
(behind **OUTsurance**)**

E mail: kgtmodelbouery@gmail.com Cell Carel: 076 7749 221



CSME Model Engineering Fair 2024

We call on members to participate during the exhibition of the ME FAIR 2024.

We are preparing an area at the entrance and inside the clubhouse, for displays of smaller or clean (less dust) items, or items of value that is less appropriate for / at the large displays on platforms 5 and 6.

The clubhouse will be locked Friday and Saturday evening as well as Sunday evening to safely store items over night.

The N gauge model train layout will form part of the clubhouse exhibition, plus some interesting and rare static engines, parts and other scales and gauges.

There will be night guards linked to OUTsurance security across the road to safeguard the club premises and general park on Friday and Saturday night.

We also have new and interesting hobby and craft stalls, so please support those as well.

Please let Roko or Carel know if you will be participating, in order to ensure sufficient tables and table cloths etc.

This year, Heritage Day falls on the Tuesday, which makes it theoretically not a long weekend. We set out the activities for the various days over the period as follows:

Saturday, 21 September 2024 - Model Engineering Fair Day 1

Sunday, 22 September 2024 - Model Engineering Fair Day 2

Monday, 23 September 2024 - Members Only Day

Tuesday, 24 September 2024 - Heritage Day - "Normal Open Day to the Public"

We call on all members to plan their participation to make this year's ME Fair a successful and memorable event as per CSME tradition.

We also invite members of other model engineering societies to join us over this period. Camping is available and free for these members.

Campers are more than welcome to make it a long weekend as per normal CSME camp practice. Please give us an indication of your intent to camp in order to coordinate the areas and give every one opportunity to enjoy our excellent facility.

Any suggestions or proposals for activities, exhibitions and showcasing what we do, or other hobbies/clubs and crafts participation can be discussed with any of the committee members and/or directly with Carel Janse van Rensburg, 076 7749 221, the coordinator of the ME Fair 2024.



Rand Society of Model Engineers



Invite's you to a Steam Weekend



24th to the 27th of October
Please R.S.V.P with Walter at
walter@uni-hos.com or on
WhatsApp: 072-934-3208

Pap and a Beef Potjie will be offered
on Saturday evening for R50p.p

Address

Cnr. Golf Club Terrace and Louis Botha Dr,
Florida Park, Roodepoort, 1709



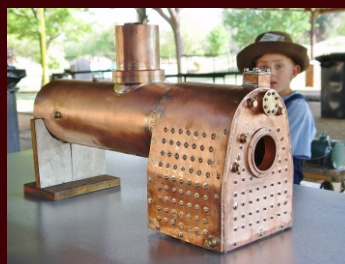
/RandSocietyofModelEngineers



CSME Flashback: BALDWIN MEET 2004

It's hard to believe that 20 years have passed since the Baldwin Meet 2004 took place at CSME. This event, a gathering of Baldwin engine enthusiasts from across South Africa, was a celebration of these iconic machines.

As always, Hannes Paling was there to capture the magic of the event. His stunning photographs provide a glimpse into the day and serve as a lasting tribute to the Baldwin Meet 2004:



CSME Flashback: BALDWIN MEET 2004



CSME Member's Workshop Report: Neil Webb

New Rings for 3 1/2 " Britannia

This loco was built in the 1980's and stood on a shelf for several decades having hardly been steamed. I acquired it in April 2024. After some minor maintenance to replace the valve stem packing and the sight glass, I successfully steamed it on the bench. In July 2024 i attempted to run it on the track but I had to give up. The cylinders were blowing past and it had no tractive effort. On removing one of the pistons I found the "ring" was square woven packing, which hardly even contacted the cylinder wall. Leon pointed me in the direction of silicone O-ring backed PTFE rings. I measured up and acquired suitable O-rings and carbon filled PTFE tube. The next issue was chucking the 45mm ø tube in my lathe. Temporary solution was to grip a 200mm chuck in my 4-jaw. Not very secure but good enough for turning PTFE. (The 200mm chuck has a 50mm ø bore, which my Emco V10-P does not) The pistons with new rings have now been fitted - still rather stiff, steam test next. The sequence of operations is shown in the photographs:



Who's doing what?



Congratulations to Andre Janse van Rensburg for getting his steam license. May you have many successful steam years ahead.



Additional fencing around the 45mm track and north of line 6 towards the lapa done by Tuesday & Saturday Gang Members



Freshly painted demarcation lines



Additional solar panels done!

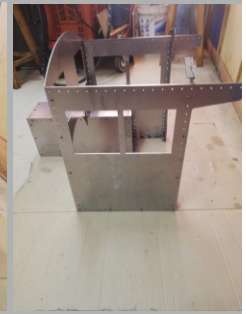


Last of the track work around the loco sheds and steam bay line completed

Who's doing what?



Johnny and Daan are on a roll with their 2X shay builds:



It is all about the JIGS
It is all about the JIGS.....
It really is. It is fascinating how
Johnny approach these builds with
jigs that are model engineering art
in it's own way!



Who's doing what?



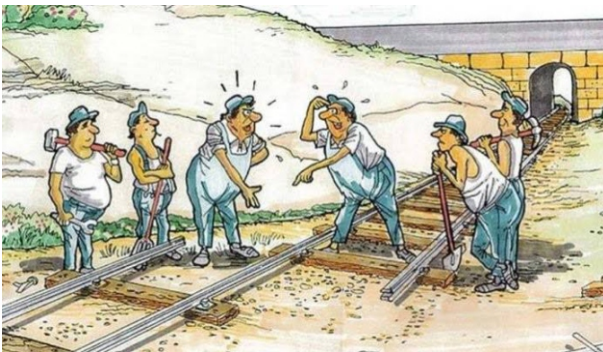
The Tuesday gang converted all the DZ wagons to the stabilizing-link system between the bogies.



Seen around the CSME track and the World



Christine Shaw appreciating real steam trains in the UK. Please send more pictures of your adventures over there! (and a picture of Jon).



The author will have to apply for special protection services during the September camping weekend after placing these photos in the newsletter.