



# THE CENTURION SMOKEBOX

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

## Centurion Society of Model Engineers

Kwikkie Crescent 999  
Centurion Lake Ext 1 (Zwartkop)  
PO Box 16023  
Lyttelton, 0140



[www.centuriontrains.com](http://www.centuriontrains.com)



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



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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 DECEMBER 2020

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### COMMITTEE

Chairman – Leon Kamffer  
Vice chair. – John O'Mahony  
Treasurer – Ballot Marx  
Secretary – Imogene Groothuizen  
Committee– Jon Shaw  
Committee- Carel JanseVrensburg  
Safety – Norman Reyneke

#### Non-committee person contacts

Caretaker – Johan Swanepoel  
Caretaker – Johan Swanepoel  
Facebook – Norman Reyneke  
Alarm system & Website – Norman Reyneke  
Newsletter – Jon Shaw

(082-577-7813) email: [lkamffer@mweb.co.za](mailto:lkamffer@mweb.co.za)  
(082 809-3595) email: [john.o@telkomsa.net](mailto:john.o@telkomsa.net)  
(082-808-5783) email: [ballotmarx@gmail.com](mailto:ballotmarx@gmail.com)  
(082 484 4237) email: [imogenegroothuizen@gmail.com](mailto:imogenegroothuizen@gmail.com)  
(072 437 0710) email: [jonsamshaw@gmail.com](mailto:jonsamshaw@gmail.com)  
(076 774 9221) email: [carel@angohygiene.com](mailto:carel@angohygiene.com)  
(082-553-7344) email: [reyneknh@gmail.com](mailto:reyneknh@gmail.com)

(012 643 0750) Phone and fax  
(071 619 1644) email: [swanepoel24.js@gmail.com](mailto:swanepoel24.js@gmail.com)  
(082-553-7344) email: [reyneknh@gmail.com](mailto:reyneknh@gmail.com)  
(082-553-7344) email: [reyneknh@gmail.com](mailto:reyneknh@gmail.com)  
(072 437 0710) email: [jonsamshaw@gmail.com](mailto:jonsamshaw@gmail.com)

### Membership Fees for 2020 are unchanged from 2019

**2020 SUBS R400 FOR ORDINARY MEMBERS R200 FOR 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 2020 (or what payment is for).**

**Note the account number change in red**

### Official correspondence and newsletter

If you 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. Those members without email can collect a copy of the newsletter from the clubhouse on track day.

## Next Club Meetings

The Saturday and Sunday of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday weekend of the month will again resume as the member's days and that Sunday also being steam Sunday for the public. This month the 16<sup>th</sup> December will be normal steam running day open to the public and 19<sup>th</sup> of December will be the member's year end function. Members are welcome any other time by arrangement with Swannie 012 643 0750, 071 619 1644. The gates are again operational by cellphone for those members on the gate list administered by Norman Reyneke.

## Obituary

For those who do not already know, Rene (Ron) Etter passed away on the 5<sup>th</sup> of December. He was one of the leading Model engineers in South Africa and will be well remembered by the Baldwin builders especially for his Baldwin designs and drawings for the model engineering community.

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**The Editor and committee wish all our members and readers a blessed Christmas and a much improved Happy and prosperous new year**

## Chairman's comments.

We are close to one of the most challenging years in the club's history. With Covid shutting us down our income dried up and we had to rely on the support of our members to be able to maintain and secure our premises. The last few months we saw visitors again supporting us. Our gardens are looking well maintained.

A few members were highly active during this period, assisting with public running days, finishing the construction of the new storage, and especially important maintenance to the lawnmowers and locomotives. A few members spend time in their workshops, please send us pictures for the newsletter, and bring a few parts for display.

We are again faced with an increase in Covid infections, that definitely will impact our operations. We will have to comply with any new restrictions and may also see visitors' numbers and members participation impacted due to the increased risk. We did not see a lot of members visiting and enjoying the club on closed days without public. Please feel free to coordinate with Swannie our caretaker or let us know to keep certain Saturdays party free for exclusive member use.

We are hosting a function for members and families on the 19<sup>th</sup> of December and are looking forward to seeing everyone. **We again organized a sheep on the spit**, so please come and enjoy the day with us. Our premises are in the open, lots of space to enjoy and comply with Covid requirements.

I wish everyone a wonderful festive season and prosperous new year.

Leon

## Secretary's Bit



**Imogene Groothuijzen**

A big thank you from Meals on Wheels. The CSME kindly made its facilities available for the staff and volunteers to have end year end function. I can assure you it was most enjoyable and much appreciated.

Birthday guys for December are Paul Fisher and Geoff Bailey. Have fun and happy modelling for December!

Hope to see lots of members on the 19<sup>th</sup>.

## Track and grounds

The grounds are now flourishing thanks to the rain we have had recently. The grass is growing fast, and the lawnmowers are now well in use to keep up with growing grass. Trees are now sprouting, and trimming has begun to remove lower growth and dead parts. Some of the apparently dead trees will need removal and replacement in the new year.

### **Tuesday and Saturday Gangs**

Work on the new storage has been feverish since the last newsletter to complete the building to the state where the building can be used to store the locos during closedown. Lawnmowers, blower machine etc. seem to require constant maintenance and every Tuesday at least one of them needs attention. Trees from the nursery have been put out for planting. Trees apparently dead have been marked to see if they come alive and if not will be removed and replaced. Many trees were severely burnt during the winter veld fires and the council will be approached in the New Year to see if they can provide replacements.

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Checking this week's work to make sure no snags with locos going into the new storage area.



On she goes!



Loco & driving car on the lift



Steaming bay side of storage all closed up!      Station side of storage Just before locking up.

The storage building as at home time on Friday 11/12/20. The gaps between the walls and roof are to be finished, and the charging systems for the 3 electric locos are to be moved and fitted. Lighting and other finishing touches are still to be done. (These always take the most time!) As the gang continue Saturday and are scheduled to work on Monday & Tuesday further progress should be quite advanced by 19/12/20 when members attend the year end function.

