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Sydney Live Steam Locomotive Society
Anthony Road, West Ryde, N.S.W.

Address all 'Newsletter' correspondence to: The Editor 20 Woodville Street, Hurstville, N.S.W. 2220

'Newsletter'

ol. 4 No. 2 Price 1



April 1976

EDITORIAL

For my personal paragraph this issue I must be excused for talking about myself in regard to the very high honour that the Live Steam Magazine has done me in choosing me for their 7th Annual Award.

When I first started work towards our Codes after the 1966 convention at Ryde I had no idea of what was ahead either in regard to my own involvment on the one hand or the wider ramifications in the years to come. We started with a rough draft prepared by myself which was then discussed step by step by a willing group representing the clubs then in existance in N.S.W., Illawarra, Lake Macquarie, Blue Mountains, Sydney Society and S.L.S. Six meetings were held and in between I made various additions and modifications as they became necessary, I also invited Stan Childs who was not a member of our club at that time to assist me with stress calculations and the staying of the flat surfaces, Stan was then practicing as a Consulting Engineer on pressure vessels. After two years work including a draft proposal that was submitted to the 1967 convention at Moorabbin the Copper Code was adopted and published in 1968. The stayless code went through a rather similar process but relied on other sources for basic data which are referred to in the actual publication, again Stan was a great help with his slip-stick and computer.

So much for the actual creation of our codes but that is only half the story, the other half concerns you the club members who accepted and worked to our codes since their introduction, we did have one or two loaners who felt that they were above such things or that they were unnecessary, that is now a thing of the past, now it is a fait accompli and to the very great credit of all our members throughout all our clubs.

In events such as the Live Steam Magazine award an individual has to be selected and it fell to my lot to be the person, but in accepting it I do so with the realisation that in this technological age it is rare that one person on his own bat creates anything, it is only through the cooperation of many that these things come about. I think of the award as a recognition by another great Live Steam country of what we the Live Steamers of Australia have achieved towards the enjoyment of our hobby with Safety.

Reg. Wood.

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENTS WIFE

To the members of the Sydney Live Steam Locomotive Society. On behalf of my husband (who may have already done so) and myself I would like to convey our most sincere thanks to everyone who made this Easter of 1976 such an outstanding success. Without the combined efforts of the men and women who gave their utmost support to my husband I am sure this would never have been.

To all the Ladies and Gentlemen who worked in the kitchen (a most thankless job as all housewives know) we thank you, to the ones who committed themselves to working all day and everyday in the tents serving food and drinks we thank you, to the ones who made up the sandwiches, lunches and teas we thank you, to the ones who cleaned and tidied up the Masonic Hall we thank you, to relatives and friends who gave their time to make cakes, scones savouries etc. we would thank you too.

To the Ladies Committee who planned and gave so unselfishly of their time we sincerely thank one and all. If we have left anyone out of our list blame the (Mrs) as I always put my foot in it somewhere along the line.

I know words cannot really express how deeply Bill and I really and sincerely thank you one and all for the help, time and expence given in making this event the best (the best ever as President and wife)

Yours very sincerely, Betty Richards.

THE CONVENTION

We can now let that sigh of relief escape from our lungs, after a gigantic effort by a good proportion of our members, wives and girl friends (fiances) the 1976 Convention went off as another great success, we must be in high favour with Jupiter, Mars and all the gods that be, our last convention in 1969 and now 1976 enjoyed the most glorious weather and this year after the dire promises by Lennox Walker that Easter would be 'wet', well we rigged all the tents we could muster and the awning but all we used them for was shelter from the sun. The smiling faces

under the soot and grime were the best sign of our visitors enjoyment, The new elevated track with Cec Gunnings stub points was rated Tops, even the staunchest 'ground levelers) were keen to ride it, thanks to Cec's ball and chain, I mean lock and key, there were no problems but it is hoped that a better safety system can be worked out. The opening ceremony on Saturday afternoon was quite spectacular, the massed assembly of ground level locos waiting at the station for the EL boys to do their lap of honour was a real picture even if a little smokey. The speech by our guest of honour Jack Sparks recalled many interesting aspects of our history and Live Steaming in general and was capped off by Jack driving Cec Gunnings 'Coronation' through the ribbon to officially open the new track and start the parade, I noticed that Jack and his party were very late for afternoon tea, it seems that his hand got stuck to the regulator. Locos registered were 49 - 5", $27 - 3\frac{1}{2}$ " and $7 - 2\frac{1}{2}$ ", a total of 83 which I believe is the largest so far, the types were infinite, from 0-4-0 Tichs to Mikados, Consolidations, Pacifics and a Garrett and of course a few Diesels from switchers to main line types also a couple of electrics. Notwithstanding the numbers everyone seemed to be able to get in all the running they desired and the roster boards were not needed except for a brief peak period. On the ground level track the electrically controled signals and points on the main lines and sidings all functioned splendidly and were a great credit to the team that put in long hours making point motors, control desk, wireing, points and all that went to make the whole success. The entire atmosphere was very happy and gay with our new flag pole bedecked with the Convention flag and the flags of all the visiting clubs, for the first time I think all clubs had their flags flying from the yard arm. The ladies department was a hive of activity from 8am to 8pm and right well did they provide for the inner man (should I say person) the food was voted tops and the service par excellence, a tribute to the thought, planning and work done by our ladies. On Sunday afternoon a coach tour was arranged for those who wanted a break from cinders and soot, a party of 40 set out at 1-30 pm and travelled via Gladesville bridge to the city thence over the Harbour bridge to the Spit bridge, northern beaches to Palm Beach via Whale Beach road where some fun was had with the traffic, we had the only rain storm of the weekend on our way to Bobbin Head where afternoon tea was served in the park, tea hot scones, jam and cream in plenty and greatly enjoyed, during this break we all sang Happy Birthday to Clarry Burden who turned 21 again. The finale was the return via Galston Gorge and it speaks well for our condition that there were no cases of nervous exhaustion after negotiating the six hair-pin bends of the Gorge road. The party got back to Ryde at 6-15 to enjoy the evening B.B.Q.

Two meetings were held, on Friday night we discussed A.A.L.S. matters and resolved that A.M.B.S.C. should continue to operate independently and in direct contact with clubs trace stands at conventions came in for much talk and it was decided that they should be allowed but entirely at the discretion of the host club. Coming conventions will be, 1977 at S.A.S.M.E.E. including their 50th anniversary, 1978 at Q.S.M.E.E. at Strathpine and subject to confirmation next year 1979 will be in Perth at Castledare. The Sunday morning meeting was largely devoted to A.M.B.S.C. matters, points resolved included, a basis for approved manufacturers to work within our codes, change of ownership which has already been covered by a circular but this will be recirculated, A.M.B.S.C. correspondence to be sent direct to the nominated Boiler Inspector of each club instead of the Secretary, Part 1 of the code is about to be reprinted with some minor modifications, metrication was discussed and although some equivalents will be quoted full metrication will not be done until the next reprint becomes necessary, this partly because there will be a lot of 'Imperial' materials and equipment still in use for some years yet. In future the Sunday morning meeting will be devoted to A.A.L.S. matters, when any A.M.B.S.C. matters arrise the Secretary will convene a meeting of Boiler Inspectors probably for the Friday night and after due notice has been given to those concerned.

Well time passes and Conventions come and go but one thing is sure and that is that the Brotherhood of Live Steam gets stronger every year, I believe that although steaming up and running our locos is great, the greatest thing that we get out of our conventions is the ever increasing bonds of friendship with our fellow enthusiasts throughout our country, see you all next year.

INTER-CLUB MEET

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Members should remember the 29th and 30th May as this is the turn of the Sydney Society of Model Engineers to hold this event, they have gone to a lot of trouble to make this a great day and as our club originated the idea of these meets it is up to us to give maximum support.

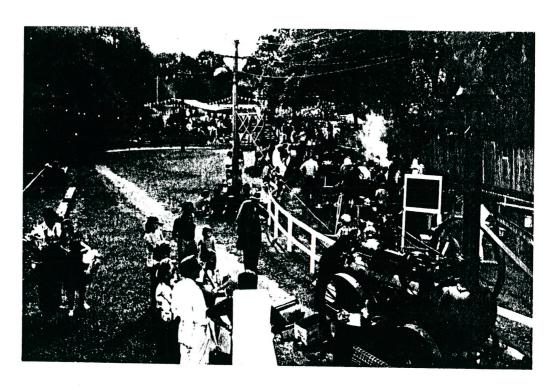
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THE CONVENTION GETS UNDER WAY

SEVENTH ANNUAL

Live Steam Magazine Award

In recognition of the guidance by

Reginald V. Wood, Ch. Eng.

for Live Steamers throughout the world

Giving most unselfishly of his time, energy and experience, Reg has been instrumental in the formulation and national acceptance of the Australian Miniature Boiler Safety Committee's Code for construction of hobby boilers. His pioneering work will serve to guide Live Steamers internationally in one of the most important phases of The Hobby.

Presented in grateful acknowledgment on this seventeenth day of April in the year of our Lord, One Thousand Nine Hundred Seventy-Six.

William C. Fitt, Publisher Live Steam Magazine Dont forget that the meeting on June 1st is the Annual General Meeting and election of Office Bearers, it will be held at the usual rendevous.

NEW MEMBER

Colin Wear became a member early in the year and I omitted to mention this in the last issue of 'Newsletter', welcome to the clan Colin, we hope to see more of you in the months to come. Colins address is 23 Arlewis Street, Chester Hill.

Sydney

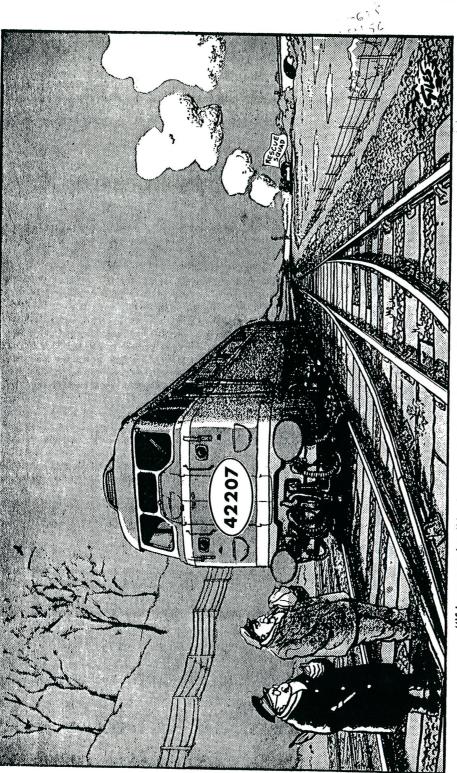
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