

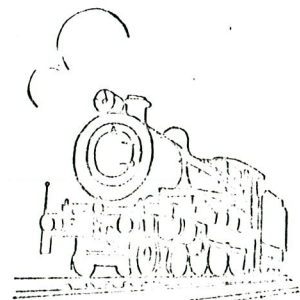
Sydney Live Steam Locomotive Society

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'Newsletter'

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July 1973

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25 Years - The June Annual General Meeting saw the end of the five year term of our Society's existence, in the beginning we had fifteen foundation members of whom very few are still with us, some let their membership lapse others have unfortunately seen their last red signal and during the latter it is very sad to record the recent passing of (the) late, Beckelmer who was club secretary from the inception up until his final year stroke of illness in 1966, a tribute to Cec. appears later in these notes.

The new fiscal year presents some changes - for the first time we have a change of President - Cec. Cuming has in previous years expressed a wish to see some other member take up the reins of senior office and at this year's election he left no doubt as to his wish, as a result we have a new President in Bill Richards and a worthy recipient of the office could not be found. Bill is always on the job and has had a hand in all our various projects in recent years - Lets get behind our new President fellows and help him to carry the burden.

Members showed their appreciation of 25 years service that Cec. Cuming had given our club, this was in the form of a presentation 2-6 December, the ceremony was backed up by a very appropriate speech by Bill Richards. Cec. will be around just as much ever but with more freedom and still to be seen feeding half a meat pie to his favorite Beach every Saturday.

As is required by our Constitution the A.G.M. set the subscription for the coming year - this shows an increase of \$2.00 over last year, the meeting considered that in view of the rate of inflation that is taking place that it would be unwise to allow another year to go by and then have to impose a much larger hike, rising costs affect everything even Live Steamers, it is emphasized however that increases are not desired if they can be avoided.

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

They say that a 'new broom sweeps clean', however, it is not my intention to sweep the place off the map but there are two things that I would like to introduce:

The 19th Live Steam Convention to be held at Easter 1975 is scheduled for N.S.W. and there is every probability that it will be at our grounds. If you will cast your minds back to the 13th Convention in 1969 you will remember that the elevated track just made the grade. Today four years later this track is hopelessly sub-standard by interstate standards so it becomes imperative that the reconstruction be ready by Easter 1975. A quick look at the construction programme drawn up by Reg. Wood shows the schedule to be 4 months behind with no prospect of completion on time at the current rate of progress. As I see it there are two solutions to this situation, first is to extend the Saturday afternoon working to an all day effort, the problem with this is that too many members are tied up on the Saturday morning one way or another also, it is subject to the diversions of all the other club activities. The second thought, and this would be my preference, is the introduction of Sunday working parties, starting at say 9 am. for the sole purpose of building the elevated track. It is well within the capacity of the society membership to provide a six man team every Sunday with nobody having to work more than once a month. I will appreciate members views on this proposal and also their willingness to nominate for a work team.

My second item is in regard to the monthly meetings of the society, with but few exceptions these evenings have been business meetings only and I have felt (nay, known) for some time that this is regarded as pretty drab and routine stuff by a large number of members.

I would like to see subject to the members approval, the affairs of the society conducted by a Management Committee, meeting monthly, consisting of the present three office bearers and say four committee members, to be elected at the Annual General Meeting. All that would be required at the monthly meeting of members would be the reading of the minutes of the previous committee meeting, a report by the President and a brief discussion on both, this should not occupy more than half an hour. The rest of the evening would then be given over to social activities and include Films and Slides - Talks - Show of Work etc and Tea & Bikkies.

The above changes are felt to be more in keeping with the increased membership of the society as it now stands, if you have any thoughts on either of the above proposals let me know, it is intended to submit a Notice of Motion to cover my second item later in the year.

Bill Richards

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CECIL STEWART MACKELLAR

The death of Cecil Stewart MacKellar "Mac" of Dalxland Road, Rhodes, N.S.W. on 30th May 1973 takes from the ranks of the Model Engineering and Miniature Steam Locomotive fraternity in Australia one of its most widely known members.

Cec. MacKellar throughout his life was actively engaged in Model Engineering and the construction and running of Miniature Steam Locomotives.

In 1921 he joined the Sydney Society of Model Engineers then located at Sumner Hill, N.S.W. and until recently at Ashfield, he later became Secretary of that Club and retained the office for ten years.

Together with the late J. E. Hurst Cec MacKellar was a founder of the Sydney Live Steam Locomotive Society in 1948. He was the first Secretary of S.L.S.L.S. and held the position for eighteen years up until 1966. He built his first locomotive in 1918, a 2½" gauge 4 - 6 - 0 using castings supplied by Judd of England. His second loco also 2½" gauge was a three cylinder 4 - 6 - 2 free lance 'Pacific' this, the 'Red Terror' was completed in 1925, it was later converted to a 4 - 6 - 4 'Hudson' type and operated on various Society tracks over a period of twentyfive years.

Cec also built a 3½" gauge N.S.W.G.R. 34 class 4 - 6 - 0 and this engine was frequently seen running on S.L.S.L.S. tracks in recent years. It was because of his intense interest in the construction and running of Miniature Steam Locomotives and to encourage their development that he arranged for the supply of Drawings, Castings, Pressure Gauges, Injectors, Bolts Nuts etc.etc. and so he became widely known throughout Australia. He built many locos to order and constructed many boilers, mainly to L.B.S.C. and Model Engineer designs however he always had a deep love for N.S.W.G.R. types. Cec. was often referred to as the L.B.S.C. of Australia.

Cec. MacKellar was always a welcome, honoured and respected person at Model Engineer Exhibitions and Live Steam Conventions, he will be missed. He was eightyfour years of age.

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ROSTERS

Gate: (Attend at 1.15pm., gate opens at 1.30pm.)

July 21st	Brian Kilgour
Aug 18th	Tony Eyre
Sept 15th	John Hurst jnr. ↵
Oct 20th	Charity Day
Nov 17th	Ian Ramsay
Dec	No Public Day

Garden:

July	H. Ball, M. Haynes, B. Potter, J. Hurst jnr., E. Sweet, I. Somerville.
Aug	J. Davies, R. Lee, J. Hurst snr., C. Hazelwood, K. Gyles.
Sept	B. Tulloch, A. Eyre, I. Thompson, B. Hurst, T. Geraghty.
Oct	P. Brotchie, S. Childs, D. Cross, W. Edgcombe, G. Floyd.
Nov	C. Gunning, T. Arney, A. MacKellar, R. Wood snr., R. Wood jnr.
Dec	W. Richards, I. Ramsay, J. Logan, J. Renford, G. Parkes.
Jan '74	R. Jenkin, P. Hinkley, G. Sharpe, B. Kilgour, I. Somerville.
Feb	H. Ball, M. Haynes, B. Potter, J. Hurst jnr., E. Sweet.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Western District Live Steamers advise that their track will be officially

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opened by the Mayor of Fairfield on Sunday 12th August at 2 pm. - members are invited to attend and the track will be open from 11 am. - $3\frac{1}{2}$ " and 5" gauges are available, the track is elevated. Members intending to attend should advise our Secretary or President indicating number in party and not later than 21st instant.

Illawarra Live Steamers intend to hold a trial run for the proposed Australian Miniature Locomotive Efficiency Competition at their track at a date in October to be advised. Clubs are requested to nominate one 5" and one $3\frac{1}{2}$ " gauge loco to take part in this trial - nominations must be in the hands of I.L.S. not later than September 1st, for further details contact Reg. Wood.

M.S.M. Film Council. Our society has joined the Film Council, this is in line with the desire to introduce evening meetings of wider interest, please refer to the programme of events.

Model Engineering Supplies. Members should note that the supply of Hex Bolts Nuts, Rivets, Union Nuts etc. and M.A.P. Publications previously provided by John Mann has been taken over by Barry Tulloch, phone 76-8117.

Use of Transfer on our Elevated Track. On the occasion of our running day in May last one member used the transfer from the $3\frac{1}{2}$ " Depot and very carelessly failed to remove it from the track with the result that the next loco out of the station was derailed and the driver John Davies is still suffering from a very nasty leg injury, it is to be hoped that this will be a lesson to all to think of the next man when using the transfer.

Change of address. Please note new address as follows:

Harry Ball, 4 Trevalsa Place, Burraneer Bay, 2230. Ph: 523-6632.

Special Film Night. At the conclusion of business on the next monthly meeting Aug 7th. Ian Somerville will give a show of Slides 45 min. and Film 15 min. taken during visits to the Mount Newman projects in W.A.

NEWS AROUND THE CLUBS

Current issue of 'Oilcan' from Queensland Society relates a new resurgence of effort and progress with the track at Strathpine which provides for both $7\frac{1}{2}$ " and 5" gauges - to date they have laid about 1000' with 500' to go - this remainder includes a spectacular trestle bridge of 230' which is 9' high at one point. It is good to hear that the job is moving along again after a very dead period.

The 'Eccentric' (they are not really) from South Coast M.E.S. also reports very good progress and activities - they are very enthusiastic about ground level running in both $3\frac{1}{2}$ " and 5" and also that their multi gauge points do the right thing too. There is rumour that they are to get $2\frac{1}{2}$ acres (I don't know how to put that in hectares) of council land at Albion Park in the near future - half your luck chaps.

Hot Oil - Western Districts Live Steamers please see special heading re opening day.

S.A.S.M.E.E. Bulletin reads as though the boys down south are recovering after the invasion from the North.

Big Wheel from Moorabin gives out the hope that they may have squared off with the Departments and may be able to restart Public Running Days soon.

TIME TABLE

Every Saturday except the Third is a working day.

July 21st	Running Day
Aug 7th	Monthly meeting and Film show by Ian Somerville.
Aug 18th	Running Day.
Sept 4th	Monthly meeting.
Sept 7th	Film night for Wives, Families and Sweethearts Potpourri of Rail, Topical and Funnies.
Sept 15th	Running Day.
Oct 2nd	Monthly Meeting
Oct 20th	Charity Day.

Editor: Reg. Wood