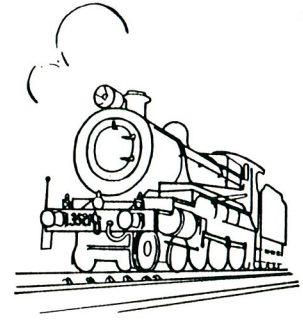


Sydney Live Steam Locomotive Society

Anthony Road, West Ryde, N.S.W.



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

'Newsletter'

Vol. 2 No. 3 Price 10c

July 1974

Editorial:

For a number of issues now I have given forth in a somewhat pessimistic strain but I really believe that a marked change is taking place. At the conclusion of our Extraordinary meeting two months ago I left feeling that the time had been wasted and that the message had failed to get across. I now believe that I was wrong, in recent weeks and many times in most inclement conditions we have had teams working chopping out trees, shovelling dirt, digging holes etc. etc. and this is really good to see. The wheel has started turning again fellows, whenever possible lets keep our shoulders to it and we will soon be on top of our reconstruction.

Annual General Meeting:

This was held at the usual meeting place on June 4th, the main item of interest was the election of Office Bearers - retiring officers were available for re-election and there being no other nominations they were re-elected:

President	W. A. (Bill) Richards
Secretary	J. L. Davies, P.O.Box 124, West Ryde, 2114
Treasurer	J. L. Hurst

The Presidents Annual Report follows:

Gentlemen it pleases me to present to you the 26th Annual Report of the Sydney Live Steam Locomotive Society for the year ending 30th April 1974.

The beginning of this year marked the end of a chapter in the Society's history insofar as the founder President Mr C. W. Gunning retired after twentyfive years continuous service in this office. During this time Mr Gunning has guided this society from a jungle paddock and a handful of men to the impressive layout that it is today, with a membership of fourtysix members. The members showed their appreciation of this dedication by presenting to Mr Gunning a Moore & Wright 2" to 6" outside micrometer, the presentation was followed by prolonged acclamation.

At the beginning of the year progress on the new elevated track had fallen somewhat behind schedule but notwithstanding an unusually wet summer the programme has picked up considerably with over 300 feet of posts and beams in place. It proves the theory to my mind that when the members can actually see what it is all about they are more willing to do their bit.

Ground maintenance has been kept to a satisfactory standard, most members attended on their rostered month. The lawn mower fleet stands at four 18" machines and one 24" power driven machine, the acquisition and overhaul of this fleet has been carried out in the greater part by Peter Shiels.

The 'Clubhouse' which was virtually destroyed by fire early last year has been completely rebuilt with extended awning roof and improved internal fitments. This building is now used exclusively as an amenities block. A new 'plant and equipment' shed has been built adjacent to and to the south of the existing building.

During the year three new locomotives have been 'commissioned' to traffic and are listed below:

'Speedy' an 0-6-0 tank engine, 5" gauge, built and owned by Ern Sweet.

A 2-8-2 tank engine, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ " gauge, built by Jim Jackson jnr. of Brisbane and owned by Peter Shiels.

N.S.W.G.R. 59 class, a 2-8-2 tender engine, 5" gauge, built and owned by Ray Lee.

This year saw the introduction of regular interclub invitation

... line oil fired 59 class.

days, the first one being held at our grounds on 27th October 73, Despite intermittent light rain throughout the day the occasion proved to be a great success with about one hundred visitors attending and several locomotives running. The second day held at the Illawarra Live Steamers grounds at Wollongong on the 23rd March 74 was a complete washout weatherwise but despite this about thirty visitors attended and a few stalwarts actually ran their locos in the rain. I think that this augurs well for the future of this scheme.

Membership stands at fourtysix, consisting of 31 full members, 11 associate members and 4 affiliate members. During the year Mr P. Shiels was transferred from associate to full membership, new members accepted into the society were Mr Tom McMurray, Mr John Lyons and Mr Ray Bremner.

The public has continued to support us well on our open days despite the inclement weather previously referred to, this constitutes a large percentage of our total revenue and this has been greatly helped by the sale of soft drinks and afternoon teas etc. and I take this opportunity to warmly thank the ladies concerned for rendering this valuable and welcome service.

Two charity days were held during the year, one for the Crowle Home on 20-10-73 and one for the Spastic Centre Action Appeal on 16-3-74. Both days were outstanding successes, the latter occasion resulting in a record number of rides given.

In conclusion Gentlemen, I do sincerely thank all those members whose energy and co-operation have furthered the aims and progress of this society and have assisted me to fulfil my first year of office.

W. A. Richards, President, S.L.S.L.S.

General Meeting July 2nd.

An item of note at this meeting was the motion to appoint a Works Manager whose duty would be the co-ordination of our various projects at our grounds - it was pointed out that at times the labour available was not always used to the best advantage either for lack of direction or availability of the necessary tools, materials or information as to what was intended - that this could better be overcome by an individual not directly concerned with a particular phase of the work in hand. The motion was seconded and after lengthy discussion a vote was taken which was in favour of the motion. The meeting was informed that a 'Notice of Motion' would be circulated to all members and that same would be voted on at the next meeting which notice would propose that the Works Manager be an elected officer of the club and also that an election would take place at the meeting to fill the office.

Progress.

In addition to the work on the new track it is good to be able to report that the 'plant and equipment store' is complete with the mowers neatly stacked in a special rack to conserve space also a bank of lockers for individual use, another addition to our 'gear' is a half ton chain block recently purchased and a set of sheer legs constructed so that the heavy lifting of the concrete work will be eased.

On the Track.

Since the Easter Convention when the 59 class made its debut Ray Lee and his oil burner have been seen with great regularity at our running days and on several other occasions both on our track and on visits to other clubs - keep up the 'good oil' Ray - Also good to see Peter Shiels and the 2-8-2- tank enjoying themselves - after months of nothing but work on the grounds its high time you had some pleasure out of the club. Ern Sweet has finished his 'Speedy' but we have yet to see it run. My new Consolidation had a trial run on June 3rd but a siezed up slide bar stopped activities, all looks well and with a few minor changes another run is planned.

Around the Clubs.

S.C.M.E.S. issue No8 of The Eccentric tells of the Club grounds at Flowerville being washed out in recent floods the position was so bad that they have had to obtain another site, they are in the course of re-establishing themselves in Albion Park at Tongarra Road, 2½ acres are available so a fine layout should eventuate.

Diamond Valley, the 7 1/4 gauge club in Melbourne has been incorporated as a limited company and is now known as Diamond Valley Railway Ltd. P.O.Box 53, Eltham Vic. 3095

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Around the Clubs cont'd.

Canterbury S.M.E.E. Inc. New Zealand, 'The latest Newsletter tells of the 1974 Sth Island Steam Trials, this event had twelve entries from Invercargill down south to Blenheim in the north - without more details it seems to be as they describe it themselves more of a 'sporting event' with no great claims for any technical value in the results but a day that is greatly enjoyed.

S.L.S. of Victoria, Big Wheel News has some pleasant reminiscing on the recent convention and gives honourable mention to several S.L.S. Locomotives - Steam, Oil-fired and Electric and the drivers and firemen (women) of same.

Adelaide Miniature Steam Railway Society, late news to hand is to the effect that council has now granted a lease of the land at Regency Road, Prospect, as development plans have already been prepared and a considerable amount of track constructed it should not be long before Adelaide has its first ground level 5" gauge track, the arrangements with the local council provide for full man proof fencing so security will be good. The site is to be known as 'Railway Park' and will be an added attraction when next we all visit Adelaide.

Victorian Steam Locomotive Society, The June run was the last that took place at 'Lodden Vale', Dudley and Mrs Smith have had to dispose of the property and have moved to Maryborough. The club has been fortunate in obtaining a new site in Eddington township and work is commencing on their new track.

***** S.L.S.L.S. visit to Lake Macquarie Live Steamers, will members please note that we will be visiting as above on the 28th inst Sunday so make a note and roll up. *****

ROSTERS :::::

Garden Roster :::::

Aug. G. Sharp, B. Kilgour, R. Larkin, P. Hinkley, I. Somerville.
Sept. M. Haynes, H. Ball, B. Potter, E. Sweet, J. Hurst jnr.
Oct. J. Hurst snr., J. Davies, R. Lee, N. Campbell, K. Gapes.
Nov. B. Hurst, B. Tulloch, T. Eyre, L. Thompson, J. Lyons.
Dec. W. Edgecombe, P. Brothie, S. Childs, D. Cross, G. Floyd.

Gate Roster :::::

July W. Richards, Aug. R. Larkin, Sept. I. Somerville, Nov. S. Childs.

A.M.B.S.C. The ranks of our safety organisation have been swelled in recent months by the following new supporters:

Weapons Research Establishment Model Engineering Society.
Adelaide Miniature Steam Railway Society.
Adelaide Miniature Railway Association.

FOR SALE :::::

The opportunity exists to acquire 35 years of Model Engineers at an attractive price - For Sale Model Engineer 1935 to 1970 - a very complete set unbound, only 23 issues missing, \$140 o.n.o. ring or write Barry Tulloch, 11 Mackenzie Street, Homebush, 2140. Phone: 76 8117.

A CLOSING THOUGHT (acknowledgement to the 'Vine', Hornsby and District Club)

A LOCAL TRAIN OF THOUGHT

Alone, in silence, at a certain time of night,
Listening, and looking up from what I'm trying to write,
I hear a local train along the Valley. And "There
Goes the one-fifty," think I to myself; aware
That somehow its habitual travelling comforts me,
Making my world seem safer, homelier, sure to be
The same to-morrow; and the same, one hopes, next year.
"There's peacetime in that train." One hears it disappear
With needless warning whistle and rail sounding wheels.
"That train's quite like an old familiar friend," one feels.
Siegfried Sassoon.