

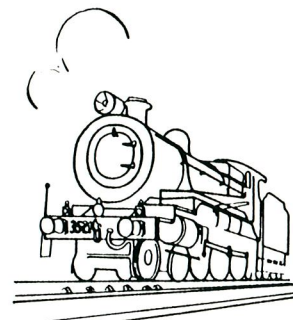
Sydney Live Steam Locomotive Society
Anthony Road, West Ryde, N.S.W.

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

'Newsletter'

Vol. 4 No. 4 Price 10c

November 1976



Editorial :

My editorial this issue is in the nature of a 'Swan Song', it is now four years since I undertook to initiate our 'Newsletter', this because I believed that the communication of information to our total membership and to other clubs in Australia concerning our aims, objects and achievements would be an important contribution towards maintaining the growing interest in club activity, the comparatively small number of 'Live Steamers' in Australia makes the production of a journal such as the American Live Steam or the Model Engineer quite uneconomic and Club newsletters are the only alternative. In the future I would like to see us include more in the nature of informative articles and less of the general 'chit chat' but during my term I have had little success in the way of contributions from members. I feel that after four years as editor it is time for someone else to pick up the job and bring in new ideas, this issue will be my last effort, it would not have been a surprise to me if I had been sacked after calling 'loners' "loaners" in my last issue but I got in first with my resignation. Thank you to all those who have read my screed over the years and also to the very few who on odd occasions gave me something to print, finally my very sincere good wishes to the incoming editor who will be one of our newer members, John Lyons, I have had several chats to John and I know that he has ideas that will make Newsletter 'bigger and better than ever'.

Before finally signing off I would like to draw your attention to the matter of incorporation which is presently before you members, this is referred to in a paragraph by our Vice President Graham Sharp and also is dealt with in some detail in the enclosure. Over the years Live Steam Clubs have been very fortunate in that, as far as I am aware, there has never been an accident of any consequence to life or limb, had there been and in the absence of any form of incorporation, each and every member could have been sued at Common Law for damages, in this day and age 'damages' is a word to scare the daylights out of us all, notwithstanding insurance policies there are still grave possibilities. Incorporation is the only way to insulate the individual from this risk and for a group such as ours the Co-operative Society is the most economical means of gaining this end. As well as in the case of accidents, any other event which may result in an action at law could only be taken against the incorporated body and only to the extent of its invested capital (share issue) and physical assets. The safeguard to the individual member more than offsets the slight changes needed to run our affairs on a company basis. I can only urge members to move in favour of the change.

Convention 1979 ::

Some information has been received from the Secretary A.A.L.S. regarding possible travel costs to Perth in the event that the 1979 convention is held in that state however it will also be necessary to get some estimates of costs of accommodation and sustenance as well, before members will be able to make up their minds as to whether they can afford to make the journey, the idea of a convention at Castledare is most attractive but it will be rather expensive I fear, members and clubs should remember that a final decision has to be made during the convention next Easter in Adelaide.

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Christmas Party :::::

Our wives and girl friends have been working for some time towards our annual Christmas party, this year arrangements have been made for a personal visit by Father Christmas. The party will consist of a 'provide your own' barbecue tea plus an organised party for all children or grandchildren of members which will be held late in the afternoon. Each parent or grandparent will be responsible for the presents to be given to the children by Sant Claus, the maximum value of such presents to be \$3.00 each. Will all members wishing to attend please advise Elizabeth Tulloch at the earliest possible moment and state the number of children and/or grandchildren under the age of 16 years. Elizabeths telephone number is 76-8117, please do it NOW.

Charity Days :::

The charity day on the 16th October was literally a wash out, the lousey weather that has persisted for so long was in full blast, total takings fell short of the costs of the advertising however at the last club meeting the members decided that the loss would be borne by the club. Saturday 4th December is set down for a Charity Day for the Spastic Action Appeal so let us hope that summer will at last be with us, we will need plenty of locomotive power so get those engines ready.

Efficiency Trial :::::

We have been invited by Illawarra Live Steamers to hold the next efficiency trial, this was discussed at our last meeting and it was decided to accept the offer, Ray Lee was appointed to take charge of the organisation and details, there was some discussion about the effects of the long down-hill run that will apply on our elevated track, it would seem that provision for a brake truck will be necessary. More details later but the probable date for the event will be Sunday 13th March.

A NEW LOOK AT DAYS GONE BY :::::

I make no apology for the following re-print, I don't put it forward as an oldie nor do I consider it in any way as a hit at the younger generation but only as a very interesting review of the twentieth century.

PRAISE FOR THE 'OLDIES'

During Commencement ceremonies, President Eric Walker of Pennsylvania State University told the graduating students: "I'm not going to tell the older generation how bright you are. Nor am I going to say we've made a mess of things and you are the hope of mankind. I'm going to reverse the process." Then, quoting some facts gathered by Dr. Bergen Evans of Northwestern University, he said:

"These, your parents and grandparents (watching this ceremony), are the people who within just five decades - 1919-1970 - have, by their work, increased your life expectancy by approximately 50 percent. "These are the people who, while cutting the working day by a third, have more than doubled per capita output.

"These are the people who have given you a healthier world than they found. And because of this you no longer have to fear epidemics of flu, typhus, diphtheria, smallpox, scarlet fever, measles or mumps that they knew in their

youth. And the dreaded polio is no longer a medical factor, while TB is almost unheard of.

"Let me remind you that these remarkable people lived through history's greatest depression. Many of these people know what it is to be poor, what it is to be hungry and cold. And because of that, they determined that it would not happen to you, that you would have a better life, you would have food to eat, milk to drink, vitamins to nourish you, a warm home, better schools and greater opportunities to succeed than they had.

"Because they gave you the best, you are the tallest,

healthiest, brightest; and probably best looking generation to inhabit the land.

"And because they were materialistic, you will work fewer hours, learn more, have more leisure time, travel to more distant places, and have more of a chance to follow your life's ambition.

"These are also the people who fought man's grisliest war. They are the people who defeated the tyranny of Hitler, and who, when it was all over, had the compassion to spend billions of dollars to help their former enemies rebuild their homelands.

"They built thousands of high schools, trained and hired tens of thousands of better teachers, and at the same time made higher education a very real responsibility for millions of youngsters - where once it was only the dream of a wealthy few.

"While they have done

all these things, they have had some failures. They have not yet found an alternative for war, nor for racial hatred.

"Perhaps you will perfect the social mechanisms by which all men may follow their ambitions without the threat of force. And if your generation can make as much progress in as many areas as these two generations have, you should be able to solve a good many of the world's remaining ills.

"It is my hope, and I know the hope of these two generations, that you find the answers to many of these problems that plague mankind.

"So in closing - try to do as well as your parents and grandparents have done. It won't be easy. And you won't do it by negative thoughts, nor by tearing down or belittling.

"You may do it by hard work, humanity, hope and faith in mankind."

BOILERS AND

An instance traction engine gathered around that someone chap went off he subsequently approval was and rusty iron owner was glad had said it Inspector's opinion about to an outside but it was please not

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NOTE TO
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BOILERS AND THE EXPERT ???

An instance has arisen where a non club chap visited a club with a traction engine that he had recently bought, a number of club members gathered around and were asked for their opinion of the boiler, it seems that someone expressed the view that all was well, following which this chap went off and spent quite a bit of money doing the whole engine up, he subsequently submitted the boiler to another club inspector for approval who promptly knocked it back, it was steel, built of 1/8" plate and rusty into the bargain so the inspector did the right thing. The owner was quite annoyed and said that the 'Inspector' of the first club had said it was O.K. so why?. This brings up the point that a clubs Inspector should be the only person allowed to make any expression of opinion about the acceptability or otherwise of a boiler and particularly to an outsider, in the case in point we don't know who made the statement but it was certainly not the authorised Inspector. Would other clubs please note and perhaps make some statement to their members.

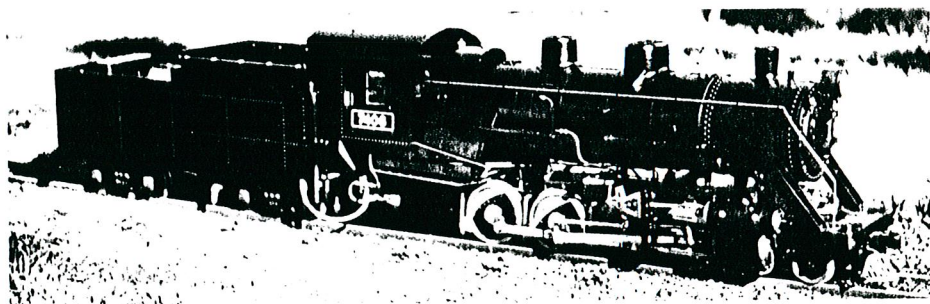
Reg. V. Wood A.M.B.S.C.

ROSTERS :::::

Will members please refer to the previous issue of 'Newsletter' to see when they are rostered on for Duty Roster and Gate Roster.

FOR SALE :::::

Due to a long standing back injury the owner of the locomotive shown in the photograph is offering this loco for sale, the loco is in first class condition and a detailed specification may be had by contacting Reg. Wood on 57-4455 or writing to 20 Woodville Street, Hurstville, 2220 Also available is a Comet 2 cutting and welding set complete with gauges, hoses, two heating tips and all equipment, again Reg. Wood.



CHRISTMAS IS HERE AGAIN :::::

Or nearly so, to all readers of 'Newsletter' we wish you sincerely the Happiest and most Enjoyable of Festive Seasons and with the continuing hope that the future may see some return to a more stable way of life.

Editor.

NOTE TO CLUB SECRETARYS

Because of the change in Editorship of this 'Newsletter' would other clubs please address copies of their own publications to this societys post box address as follows :
Sydney Live Steam Locomotive Society, P.O.Box 124, West Ryde, N.S.W. 2114.

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