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## CASTLEDARE MINIATURE RAILWAYS

W.A. (INC)  
[www.castledare.com.au](http://www.castledare.com.au)

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# APRIL 2012

ISSUE NO: 307

**Castledare Miniature Railway**  
P.O Box 337  
Bentley, WA 6982

**Patron:** Dr. M. Lekias

**Contact listing for CMR Management Committee members.**

All information on this page ratified by Management Committee on 20<sup>th</sup> April 2012

**President:**

Craig Belcher - Ph: 9440 6495 Mob: 0417 984 206  
Email: craig.belcher@bigpond.com

**Vice President:**

Chris Doody – Mob: 404 269 687  
Email: factory@westernstainless.com.au

**Secretary:**

Ken Belcher - Ph: 9375 1223, Fax: 9375 2340  
Email: cmr1963@tpg.com.au

**Minute Secretary:**

John Watson – Ph: 9458 9047

**Treasurer:**

Tania Watson – Ph: 9479 5045

**Committee:**

Les Smith – Ph: 9314 6382 Email: ausrail@box.net.au  
Victor Jones - Ph: 9527 5875 Email: jonses12@optusnet.com.au  
Trish Stuart - Ph: 9295 2866 Email: [richard.stuart@bigpond.com](mailto:richard.stuart@bigpond.com)  
Richard Stuart – Ph: 9295 2866 Email [richard.stuart@bigpond.com](mailto:richard.stuart@bigpond.com)  
Eno Gruszecki - Mob: 0408 908 028

**Membership + Licenses:** Sue Belcher

**Boiler Inspectors:**

Richard Stuart - Ph: 9295 2866  
Keith Watson- Ph: 9354 2549  
Phill Gibbons - Ph: 9390 4390

**Qualification Examiners:** Steam Locomotives – Keith Watson, Roger Matthews  
Diesel Locomotives - Roger Matthews, Craig Belcher  
Guards & Safe working – Keith Watson, Trish Stuart  
Signals – Mike Crean, Ric Edwards

**Track Master:** Craig Belcher

**Editor of Cinders and Soot:**

Trish Stuart – Ph: 9295 2866 (after hours) Email: [richard.stuart@bigpond.com](mailto:richard.stuart@bigpond.com)  
No personal letters will be printed without committee approval

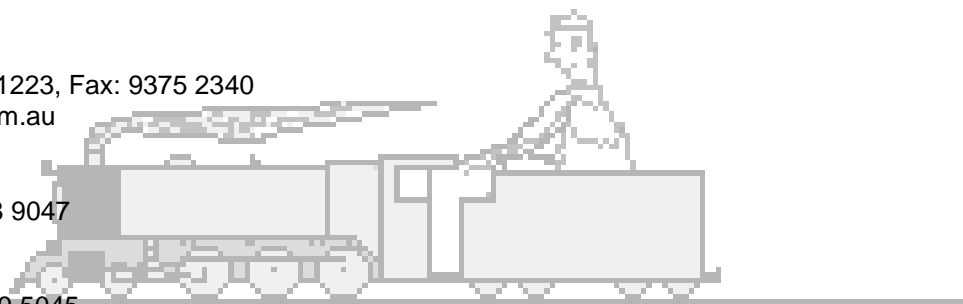
**First Aid Officers:** Keith Watson, Tania Watson

**The Castledare Miniature Railway is sponsored by:**

Coal Supplies: The steam locomotives at the Castledare Miniature Railway operate with coal supplied by Premier Coal.

**Cover page:** Member of the Year Award recipient – John Palm

**Photographer:** P. Stuart



Castledare Miniature Railways  
Bentley W.A 6102

## President's Report

Four years on and my Presidency has come to an end at last. I say at last because it was with huge reservation that I took on my second term. As some of you here tonight will know the first time I took on the presidency I only lasted about four months but that was because someone else wanted the job far more than me. I firmly believe that change is good which was the only reason I nominated to replace Richard four years ago. It was never for reasons of a personal barrow to push and that I felt there was need for change of direction, but I do know that Richard will tell you after his five years he was more than ready to step down. Change brings different ideas and views and helps with renewal. When I decided to take over from Richard I knew it would be a very hard act to follow and at no time did I try to emulate that, but my plan at the time was to just keep the club on an even keel while encouraging those members that were prepared to take on tasks and run with them to do so. I like to think that I have done that even when I was not in favour. Fortunately I was at times proved wrong even if I did not always admit it ☺. Of course as the title suggests I just presided over a willing and capable committee, a committee that did not change in that time so I thank them for their support and commitment to both me and you the members.

Regarding the membership, numbers have remained about the same with some leaving and others joining and thankfully not too many having passed on. We all join and retain our memberships for many different reasons, CMR is a Miniature passenger carrying railway, not a society of model engineers or such like. Members along with their different reasons for belonging also give different amounts of their spare time. Of course we all know just how much track, infrastructure and rolling stock there is and that some of that infrastructure after close on fifty years is in need of repair and in some cases replacement. Unfortunately there are only a certain number of members who are both able physically and also have the practical ability to carry this work out. We must also always bear in mind that not all members join to get involved in the upkeep and maintenance with some just joining for the sole purpose of helping out on run days. This in itself is an important contribution and we should each and every one of us respect everyone's time, commitment and capabilities to contribute. To this end as I've said before, the committee will I feel need to look more and more to contracting work out. Of course this is going to cost money, which was why I pushed for an increase in the cost of rides recently. As the committee will testify I have often pressed for a reduction in membership fees which I feel are unnecessarily high especially for members on fixed incomes with the ever increasing costs from our outrageously over-governed Country that we live in. I know some will argue that part of the membership fee should cover member's public liability insurance, but I have never subscribed to that line of thought considering that we make more than enough money to pay for that. I for one spend over \$500 per year on petrol alone, as I'm sure other members do as well. I think it would be worthwhile that the new committee looks into this issue.

There are two major infrastructure expenditures, one is the repair of the dual bridge and I can tell you the committee have endorsed contracting the manufacture of new hand rails with the other remedial work to be carried out by members and this will cost several thousand dollars. As you know the carriage shed extension is well under way and this is designed to be done in stages. The other major work is the replacement of the footbridge. This particular infrastructure does present quite a large commitment both in monetary terms, outside contracting, as well as membership commitment. Personally I'm in favour of building it in stages using steps, but with the provision of installing ramps later. It is worth reminding members that this bridge is only used about fourteen times a year for about six hours.

Very shortly I shall be handing the reins over to Craig Belcher who has been a member much longer than me, even if he is half my age or more. I know everyone here tonight knows of Craig's deep rooted interest in all things trains and railways and very much his interest and commitment to CMR. He has proved this with the excellent job of Vice President for the past year and track master for quite some time now and has shown his ability to think outside the square and make things happen. Craig will, I'm sure, bring a very different outlook and feel to the presidency. We all as members will need to get behind both him and the committee. If he and the committee bring in some changes which some may either not like at first or agree with we should none-the-less be prepared to give him and his ideas a chance to succeed. Craig is always open to constructive ideas and even constructive criticism so long as it is backed up by a good and cost-effective alternative. What must happen is that all new infrastructures need to be as strong and long lasting as is possible because as Craig has said to me many times he only wants to do things once in his life time.

As you know I have decided not to re-nominate for the committee, which for the first time in a few years has left a vacancy for which we have had two nominations. Both nominations have come from fairly new but active members, John Palm and Les Smith. Both are excellent hard working members and bring different skills and talents with them. This has also meant that Trish and Eno whose terms have come to an end are also up for re election. This will mean a ballot, as there are only 3 positions to fill. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Trish and Eno for their time and commitment to the committee and CMR and everything that they do and have done during that time if they should be voted out tonight.

With Craig taking on the President's role the club has been fortunate also in having Chris Doody take on the Vice President's role which I'm sure will be good for the club's future, and John Watson has nominated to take on the role of Minute Secretary with Tania Watson continuing in the role of club Treasurer. This is all excellent for the wellbeing and future of the club and I thank them for taking on these important positions and for their past endeavours. As I have said in my reports over the past four years, I have been both pleased and amazed by the amount of work that gets done by the dedicated groups such as the Wednesday Crew, the Saturday Morning faithful, the third Friday nighters and also the hard working ladies in the canteen. There are also those that regularly turn up on the second Saturday of each month and at other times. Thank you to every member whatever your contribution.

I should after four years give some individual thanks, which is always fraught with danger because one can often miss someone out. First, once gain thanks to Richard for his wise council and guidance especially in my first year, the infrastructure and rolling stock inspections and for representing CMR and kindred WA clubs so well to the AALS. Thanks to Craig for his support as Vice President this past year and for making my retirement a reality. It is absolutely no exaggeration when I say I would never have been able to stay in the President's role without the outstanding help and assistance I have had from Ken. You all know how well I would have got along with governmental departments and such like. Whenever I rang him to ask for something to be done or if he could go to the railway, it was never too much trouble. That is not to say we have not had our disagreements, but what good working relationship is without the odd standoff ☺. Also, someone who has known me for a very long time is his wife Sue. As is sometimes the case when a group of mostly men do things together it is often a woman's perspective that sheds just the right amount of light on things, and she has always had a very good insight into my peculiar ways and at times irrational thoughts. Also, my partner Tanachai who with his Thai Buddhist philosophy and perspective on life is slowly making me understand what is important and what really matters in life.

Finally, thanks to you the members for your help and commitment to CMR and myself over the last four years. It has been an enjoyable and at times a challenging experience. The hardest part was always my monthly report especially in the early days, which I mostly tried to keep positive, which for a practicing cynic was not always easy! I was encouraged by some very nice comments from members and at times from some unexpected quarters, which was much appreciated. I feel proud of what has been achieved, especially that the clubrooms were rewired and the old deadly steam shed doors replaced, as member's safety should always be paramount. The continual upgrading of the track and the excellent signaling system that is now in place during my presidency. It is also very pleasing that after tonight things will continue to move forward under your new President and committee.

Next year we shall celebrate fifty years of CMR under the guidance of Sue and your new committee. I have said in each of my annual reports that what we have on the banks of the Canning River is both environmentally sound and an asset to the Regional Park and the people of Perth. We should all be very proud of what has been achieved over the past forty nine years by both past and present members. Lets continue to improve and care for what we have.

Thank you.

Roger Matthews  
President (Retired), Castledare Miniature Railway

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## FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

Notes from the last Committee Meeting – these are only a brief summary of some of the items discussed.

- Reminder that General members meetings now to be held quarterly – the next being June 2012
- Carriage shed extension proposal has been approved and work has started – this project is now in the hands of a contractor – brick retaining wall completed and internal work underway in readiness for track replacement – new doors fitted.
- Maroon set to be sent to Thornlie TAFE for repainting (TAFE have now confirmed this project will be happening in the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester 2012)
- Annual General Meeting held on 20th April at the Eco Centre, Kent Street – 19 members attended and results of this year's AGM are displayed inside the front cover of this magazine.
- Work on Dependable progressing – in the hands of John Watson
- Re-sleeping project nearing completion – member John Palm has undertaken this work in conjunction with the Trackmaster
- 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration – preliminary notice now on web site and advertisement to be placed in the AME magazine.



## DATES FOR THE DIARY:

Month	Day	Date	Event	Times	Canteen	Duty Officer
April	Sunday	29 <sup>th</sup>	Reverse Run – Members only – BYO LUNCH	From 9.30am		
May	Wednesday	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Work day	9am – 3pm		
	Saturday	5 <sup>th</sup>	Preparation of Railway	From 9am		
	Sunday	6 <sup>th</sup>	Public run from Niana		Kathy Watson & Gill Davies	David Edwards & Rod Bradley
	Wednesday	9 <sup>th</sup>	Work day	9am – 3pm		
	Friday	11 <sup>th</sup>	Committee Meeting	5.30pm		
	Saturday	12 <sup>th</sup>	Track & Major work day	From 9am		
	Sunday	13 <sup>th</sup>	Mother's Day			
	Wednesday	16 <sup>th</sup>	Work Day	From 9am		

	Friday	18 <sup>th</sup>	Work Night	From 4pm		
	Sunday	20 <sup>th</sup>	Public run from Wilson	From 9am		Trish Stuart
	Wednesday	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Work Day	From 9am		
	Sunday	27 <sup>th</sup>	Retinitis Australia fund raising	10am – 2pm		
	Wednesday	30 <sup>th</sup>	Work Day	From 9am		
<b>June</b>	Friday	1 <sup>st</sup>	Set up AMRA exhibition			Contact Chris Doody for further information
	Saturday	2 <sup>nd</sup>	AMRA Exhibition	From 10am		Chris Doody
	Sunday	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Public run from Niana	From 9am	Judy Bowyer & Sue Belcher	David Lyons & Les Smith
		3 <sup>rd</sup>	AMRA Exhibition	From 10am		Chris Doody
	Monday	4 <sup>th</sup>	AMRA Exhibition  Public Run from Wilson with Cit of Canning	From 10am  Time to be confirmed		Chris Doody



**And the planning is continuing towards October 2013 !**

**WILL YOU HELP ???**

*It is planned to produce a DVD depicting the club's history and this is where you, the members can assist. Do you have any photos, video, film, etc. taken over any of the previous 48 ½ years the club has been*

operational? If the answer is yes, are you prepared to make a copy and allow it/them to be included in the DVD??



Ideally, any photos, etc. should include a brief but explanatory description of the location and also, an idea of the date the image was taken. Acknowledgement will be given to the owner/s of private photos as part of the DVD.

This project can only be achieved with your help – can you and will you assist preserve the club's history? Obviously the more material that is made available, the better the DVD can be. If you are able to contribute, please contact me to discuss the options available.

A few members have already offered copies of material they have so this is looking positive for the production of the DVD.

## **DESIGN THE LOGO !!**

As has been customary, CMR has, in the past, produced a 'builder's plate' that has been given to the owners of locomotives registered at conventions hosted by the club. This is planned to continue for our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

**To this end, I extend an invitation to all current members of Castledare to participate in a competition to design the logo that will be used as the Club logo for 2013. The logo will be used as a 'watermark' on all correspondence, on the pages of our club magazine, and hopefully, for the builders plate and a badge to commemorate the occasion. The logo will also be used on a souvenir type item specifically for the 50<sup>th</sup>.**

Get your thinking hats on – it's time to start designing. Please bear in mind that your design will need to be able to be resized relatively easily to accommodate the different uses that are planned.

Entries need to be received by me no later than the public run day on **3<sup>rd</sup> June 2012** and will be judged by a person who is completely independent of anyone at Castledare. The judges decision will be final. There will be a small prize for the winning entry.

**You only have about 4 weeks to get your design submitted !!!**

Sue Belcher,  
50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Co-Ordinator

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## Castledare Gallery

◆◆◆ 2012 AALS Convention – Penfield SA ◆◆◆  
(Photographer – R. Stuart)



A nicely finished LMS Black 5



The Senior Steadmans looking at a new-fangled diesel



A traditional "American" 4-4-0



2011 in Hanson livery



"Puffing Billy" Garratt in 5" gauge



Exquisitely presented Southern 4-6-2





“Tiny” – 7.25” gauge Tinkabell



A beautifully finished 5” gauge tram



Big chunky cane loco



CMR's own Mike Crean with 4401



Paul Sherman & Koojedda



More generations of Steadmans having fun as usual



Perth's own Steve Reeves pursues runaway Teddies



Tom Winterbourn and 'friends' ☺



Ingenuity - this loco was powered by a drill

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## Castledare Gallery

◆◆◆ 2012 CMR AGM – 20<sup>th</sup> April ◆◆◆  
(Photographer – P. Stuart)



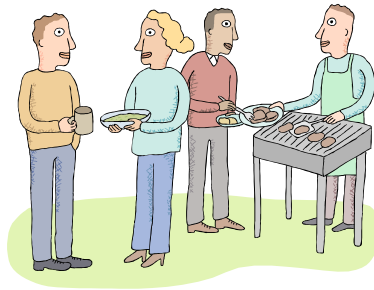
Executive Committee - Tania, Roger, Ken and Chris



Executive line-up with Craig in the President's position

Members enjoying a light supper after the AGM





## **Members Day**

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**SUNDAY 29<sup>th</sup> April 2012**

**The months of the year where there are 5 Sundays – every endeavour will be made to organise something that may be of interest to the members - if you have any positive suggestions, then please do not hesitate to speak to a member of your Committee.**

**Commencing with April – as the second Sunday this year falls on Easter Sunday, there will be no Member's Day however as there are five Sundays, on the fifth Sunday we will have a day of 'playing trains' – no public – reverse running over whole railway – provided the Trackmaster concurs of course.**

*THESE DAYS ARE STRICTLY NO PUBLIC AND NO WORK - ENJOYMENT BY MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILY ONLY.*

**Please BYO barbecue or picnic lunch and share the club's facilities with your fellow members.**

### **WORK DAYS:**

As usual, there are always many and varied tasks of routine maintenance to be performed. The Wednesday work crew achieves quite a lot but there is always room in the crew for more to join in. This past week, Ken & Sue's 14 year old grandson Simon joined in while he was in Perth for the school holidays. His efforts were greatly appreciated and a good day's work was put in by all.

If any members are on holidays from work, or simply want to contribute and help their club progress, don't wait for an invitation – simply turn up on a Wednesday [not Anzac Day] and join the crew. All help appreciated and will benefit your club.

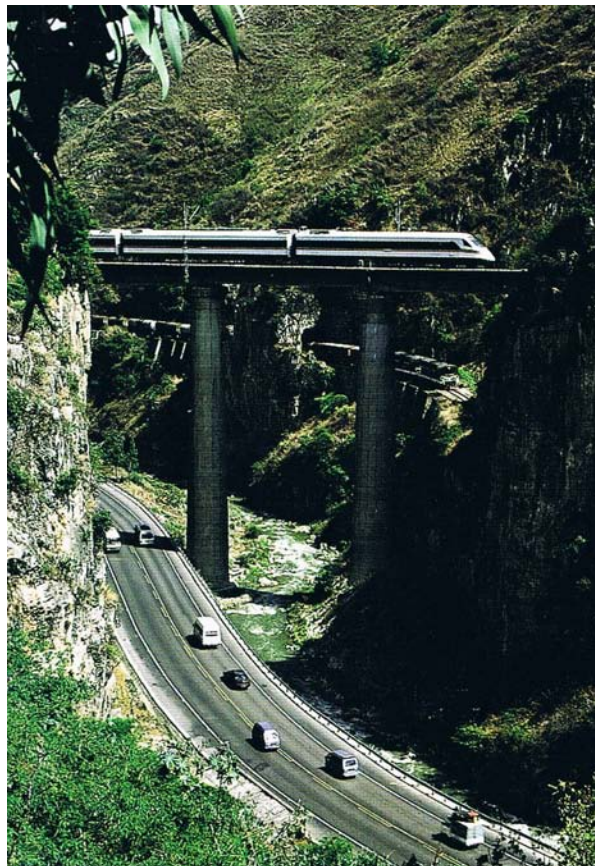
*Sue Belcher*

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## This is real Railway Engineering

There is an extensive metre gauge system in China. Based at Kunming (at 2000m altitude, the city of Eternal Spring) the old French built line to Hanoi is seen on its 1:40 alignment following a gorge down to the Vietnam border with the newer standard gauge link to NaNing built to 1:100 gradients which is on top of the older line. The new s.g. meanders in S type fashion as it has to travel 2.5times the distance for the same altitude loss. The s.g. tunnels are often over the top of the old n.g. ones. It is very spectacular but sadly the International "coach" is no longer run through to Hanoi and you do not complete the journey from the Chinese border through the bomb craters, which blasted mallet steamers out of existence. Ex Queensland d.h. locomotives (not repainted) were hauling the last International connection to Hanoi.

Les Smith



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## AMRA DISPLAY

Castledare has booked a display area in the AMRA display on the 2<sup>nd</sup> to the 4<sup>th</sup> of June at Claremont Showgrounds.

I am looking for volunteers to help set up and man the display over the weekend. We will be setting up the display on Friday afternoon the 1<sup>st</sup> June and dismantling the display on Monday afternoon/evening.

At this stage it will be a small display, with my two locos. I need some assistance on the Friday afternoon to get them off the trailer, I also require the two trains stands. If anyone could pick up and deliver these on Friday afternoon that would be appreciated. It would be fantastic if anyone has items they would like displayed. Please don't hesitate to contact me on any of the details listed below to have them included, the more the better.

I understand this is a busy weekend for Castledare with two run days, one Sunday and one the holiday Monday. If you could spare a couple hours over the weekend to help please let me know, any help at all is appreciated.

Many Thanks

Chris Doody

Phone: 0404 269 687

Email: [factory@westernstainless.com.au](mailto:factory@westernstainless.com.au)

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## Notice Board

### For Sale - REDUCED

71/4 Black 5 chassis, complete and working on air. Tender almost complete. Copper boiler, silver soldered by Bob Brown and pressure tested certified.

Reason for sale, failing strength and health! Buyer collects.

Can be inspected at:  
4, Glenelg Way, Mandurah.  
Telephone: 9582 0334. Cliff Pole

Price: \$20,000.00 (offers considered)

### For Sale

HAFCO Model HM 30 vertical mill with machine vice drill chuck, boxed collect set imperial & metric, 1/2 & 3/8 draw rods with face cutters, rotating table selection end mills, etc.

Price: \$1250.00 o.n.o.

HAFCO Bandsaw – needs new blade.

Price: \$1000.00 o.n.o.

Buyer collects – view at 4, Glenelg Way, Mandurah.

Telephone: 9582 0334. Cliff Pole

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## MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

Please do not forget to notify the editor if you change your email address, or home address. This will ensure that you always receive your Cinders and Soot notification, or 'snail mail' copy.

**HARD COPY C&S RECIPIENTS:** If you would like to stop receiving C&S by mail and change to downloading it from the CMR website instead, please let the editor know – we are always keen to reduce the number of hard copies where possible ☺

If you wish to contribute an article to Cinders and Soot, please note that the closing date is the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. Please send your contributions to Trish Stuart at the email address on the page 2.

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