



**CASTLEDARE
MINIATURE RAILWAYS**

W.A. (INC)
www.castledare.com.au

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Castledare Miniature Railway
P.O Box 337
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All information on this page ratified by Management Committee on 14th March 2014

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No personal letters will be printed without committee approval

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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: We came across this 'Steampunk loco' on our trip to New Zealand!

Photographer: P. Stuart

The President's Bit

It was great to see a good turnout for the club's Christmas party this weekend just gone. The night run continued until almost Midnight and was enjoyed by all in attendance. From what I could see the use of outside caterers made for a relatively stress free evening for most and on the whole, it made for a great night. A six-month Calendar is being prepared for the beginning of next year and it is highly likely a similar evening event will take place sometime around May.

As mentioned at the Christmas party, I hope next issue (should Mrs Ed be willing to provide me some extra space) to outline a few ideas on where I see the railway going over the next couple of years. Public Speaking has never been my forte, and my hope is that via this means I'm better able to show where I think the railway needs to be heading, and with your support will be trying to get some projects in motion accordingly. We have a big milestone coming in about 16 months time, that of the 30th Anniversary of the Wilson Extension, and this should be celebrated in style. My aim is to use this event as the goal for some of these projects to be completed by, much as we have previously with the 2009 convention, and then the 50th birthday celebrations.

Good weather combined with the school holiday runs recently have helped recover to a degree from the washouts a few months ago, but as we look to outsource some of the heavy work around the railway, the trade off is the need to "play trains" a bit more for the public. Please remember the extra runs scheduled for January, being the 1st Sunday and Wednesdays during the School Holiday's (7th, 14th, 21st and 28th). Help is needed on these days, run from Wilson. Trains run on these days are tailored around available staff, and like the Wilson runs when they first started, are run to a less pressured schedule.

Now for the usual highlights and news...

- My thanks to those who turned out in recent weeks to assist with several major jobs, including the clearout of a large amount of scrap (will be another bin load before long) and the major pruning of several trees. Special thanks to John Palm who has been able to arrange for us yet again the use of not one but two Elevated Work Platforms to assist with the pruning task, and Eno, John Palm and John Watson for the chainsaw work – not to forget Tom and his ute for removing all the debris.
- In the scrap removal mentioned above, some members will have seen our old steel water tank is now gone to a better place... in due course the gutters of the carriage shed will be reconnected to the tank system via a large 90mm water pipe to direct feed into the water system. I would like to see some native plants and mulch placed in the area vacated by the tank, but there will be further discussion on this one in due course.
- Repaving of the canteen forecourt has been completed and to my eye is a vast improvement over what was there. Some work remains to be done on the fence and a few other little jobs to finish up the work here but it's a credit to those involved. Thanks to Luke and Heidi Prindiville for the donation of the pavers used.
- While the upgrade of the club's toilet block was mentioned last issue, a recent assessment (during the course of some maintenance) followed by discussion at the last committee meeting, it was decided that this would be put on hold for the short term, to allow the completion of the footbridge repairs first. This last stage will see the vast majority of the main span across the track replaced and any steel changed out for new galvanized material. The toilet block will be looked at again a bit later in the year should funding allow.
- The deep storage freezer in the canteen failed over this last weekend leading to the loss of some stock. A new upright freezer is being sought to replace this one, and should be easier to manage going forward, with better access to products etc.
- The boiler for Dennis P Moore has reached a milestone with the welding now complete and it is now in the process of receiving its new copper fire tubes. My thanks to those who have

been involved in this project, from design and construction to collection of materials etc. One thing is for sure, it will be a very different engine when it is fitted!

- As mentioned last issue, our loco water supply pump has been replaced. The new unit is a pressure pump system, and will fill tanks at a fair speed. Please remember, the tap at the corner of the loco shed is tank water, and ideally should be used ONLY for boiler water. Mains water is available from the tap inside the picnic area or under the footbridge. Thanks to Clive and his helpers for the work so far in re-plumbing the yard end of the system and the pump change out.

That's about all for now, so from Damelsa and me, and indeed the rest of your Committee, please have a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year. If travelling please do so safely and enjoy your time away, we want you to come back next year to enjoy our hobby!

Craig Belcher
President, Castledare Miniature Railway



FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

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

A change to the CMR Operational Hand Book at section 9c;

“a person seeking a Class N Driver’s license must be aged 17 years or more. Persons **(under)** 17 years must be under **(the)** direct supervision **by (of)** a licensed Driver **(18 years or older)** at all times.”

Please add or replace the italic text with the text in brackets.

The entry will now read;

“a person seeking a Class N Driver’s license must be aged 17 years or more. Persons under 17 years must be under the direct supervision of a licensed Driver 18 years or older at all times.”

Reminder, the club has new email address:

Secretary secretary@castledare.com.au

Bookings cmr1963@castledare.com.au

Treasurer treasurer@castledare.com.au

President president@castledare.com.au

The 2015 AGM date has been set for Friday 20th March. More details to come in a future edition.

The committee meeting minutes are now posted on the breezeway notice board. Please check them for any changes that may affect you from time to time.

To those locking up the premises, **PLEASE** turn off the lights, hot water and pump before leaving. Check that all the doors and the turntable are locked. Our power bills have more than doubled in the last few months, and while not solely attributable to lights and appliances being left on, it does serve as a reminder to be vigilant.

Please note that the 1st Sunday run days in January have been reinstated, therefore on the 4th January 2015 we will be open for business!

Mike Crean
Secretary

From Ken, Private Bookings Coordinator

In the next 3 months there is going to be an extra run day over and above our normal public open days.

- From Niana on the 17th January from 11am-2pm **Two trains needed**
[approx. 100 people]
- From Niana on the 21st February from 1pm – 4pm **Two trains needed**
[approx. 90 people]
- *From Niana on the 22nd March 11am – 3pm **Numerous trains needed**
[unknown number of patrons]

*This is the annual Retina Australia fundraising day and is generally well publicized and open to the public.

Help from members on any or all of these days is required and would be appreciated. Please contact Ken to confirm your availability whether it be with driving a train, guard or general assistance on the station and/or signals.

Please mark the dates in your diary or wherever you will remember them.

My thanks to those who assisted on Sunday 14th December.



NEWS FLASH

School holiday train rides are on again in January from Wilson Park Station on Jan 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th.

After the successful running of school holiday train rides in October the committee has decided to carry on with them during 2015. Apart from the fact that members have shown interest and asked that they continue there is also another very good reason.

Due to membership involvement remaining stagnant and in some cases declining on workdays, it has become ever harder to maintain the railway's infrastructure, which in some cases is over 40 years old and when it was built was often from materials that were second hand or donated. These days there are stricter building requirements, plus restrictions placed on the railway by Authorities on what materials we can use and other types of compliance.

The present committee is also of the opinion that it is better that members do what they do best and that is railway orientated things such as Track, Signals, loco and day-to-day maintenance and use the money we make from running trains for both our own enjoyment and that of our patrons to then pay contractors to do other things i.e. the rebuilding of the footbridge for example.

Unfortunately due to some very wet run days this winter we are down in income this year, so it is hoped to regain some of this loss during January. Ideally it is best to run three trains, but if we only have enough members to run one then that's what will happen.

If any member is available on these days please email myself at rogerrcmr@hotmail.com or message on 0407381527, or even call that number after 1 pm Mon, Tues, Wed, or at any other time.

Cheers

Roger
CMR Treasurer

Castledare Gallery
◆◆◆CMR Projects◆◆◆
(Photographer – C. Woodward)



The boys from Thornlie TAFE admire their work in front of our canteen – 21/11/14



Ken supervises the loading of our old water tank, now heading off to China to make diesel locomotives.

Notice Board



..... *From the editor*

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

Changed your email address, or home address? If so please do not forget to notify the editor. This will ensure that you always receive your Cinders and Soot email notification, or 'snail mail' copy.

If you wish to submit an article for inclusion in Cinders and Soot, please note that the closing date is the 15th of each month. **The format should be; Word, Arial font size 10, photographs less than 1MB (.jpg).**

Please send your contributions to Trish Stuart at the email address on the page 2.

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