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**CASTLEDARE  
MINIATURE RAILWAYS**

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

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**FEBRUARY 2015**

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

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All information on this page ratified by Management Committee on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2014

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Diesel Locomotives - Craig Belcher, John Watson, Vic Jones, Eno Gruszecki  
Guards & Safe working – Trish Stuart, John Watson, Vic Jones, Eno Gruszecki  
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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:** T.S.S. Earnslaw – the largest steamship built in New Zealand

**Photographer:** R. Stuart

## The President's Bit

First up this month, I'd like to offer my congratulations to Northern Districts Model Engineering Society on the Celebration of their 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary this month, a milestone for any organization, as we well know. Onwards to your 50<sup>th</sup> now!

It's been an eventful week at the railway, with yet another car ending up in the river along the wetlands route, near Bullfrog loop. At least this time the offender is known and is being dealt with, and has offered to assist in restitution should it be required. The entry point has been found and the City of Canning notified to enable the problem to be stopped in future. The vehicle has been removed, with minimal impact, but some work was required on the track and the embankment to return them to operating condition.

The Feb 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Run was a good steady day, with operations having settled down somewhat over the previous run. Some track work had been carried out over the previous month, with expansion joints being addressed on the Fern Road section (thanks John and Vic) and some sleepers replaced on the Dual Bridge during the first hour of the running day (Eno, Rod, John, much appreciated). We also saw a couple of members passed out with new qualifications which is great to see, congratulations to Luke Mills on his Guard's ticket, and I believe Damelsa Belcher is in line for a signals ticket.

The astute will have noticed that the 6 month calendar, included in the last issue, did NOT include the June long weekend special run. While this run should be taking place, with the current pending changes to local governments, we will confirm this one a bit closer to the time.

Now, for the usual highlights and news...

- The site cleanup in the canning area is now all but complete, with the last of the brick rubble being removed earlier this week. Plans should now move ahead for the contractors to start work on site. Out of interest, some 9 ½ tonne of scrap steel was taken away, along with a 3m brick waste bin, and at least one extra bin lift from Cleanaway. The result is a much tidier area, but there is still a lot to do. The material that has been kept will need to be sorted and stored properly in time to finish the job off.
- As a result of the heavy leaf and bark debris that falls this time of year, the last committee meeting resolved to investigate a contractor to assist with this work, particularly in relation to the picnic area, nothing concrete as yet, but members will be kept updated on what happens here as info is available.
- Signals crew have all but finished Niana North work, with the semaphores back in operation last run day, (was great to see Mike) thanks to all those involved in this project. I believe focus will start shifting towards Niana South (B box) with conversion to air operated points, and eventually the removal of the signal box, all control being centralized in the new cabin. Some track work will be associated with this project in the longer term, seeing the station throat and yard trackage altered for improved flexibility.
- Committee have agreed to engage our building contractor to complete the reconstruction of the footbridge. This work will take place following the March 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Run, and will include replacement of the main span deck and rebuilding of the oval side ramp. This project has been talked about for some time now and it is good to see it coming to a conclusion. The next major project in terms of buildings etc, will be the upgrade to the toilet block, as mentioned in previous issues. Quite possible utilizing the same contractor.
- We are in the process of applying for a renewed maintenance permit with the Swan River Trust, this will again be a 2 year permit, though hopefully with a bit more clarity than we have had in the past.

- Rolling stock inspections are underway, with several sets already being attended to and some works carried out to rectify defects found, thanks to Les and Richard for the time being put in to this work.
- Some track work is to be carried out in the yard and planning is underway to see 4 road installed at Wilson Station for storage, to ease congestion on busier runs.

Some discussion has been taking place over the issue of storage of equipment at the railway. While not an immediate issue, (we have a little room to move for the time being) there are a number of locomotives nearing completion that will be looking for space. It is inevitable that at some point soon we will likely reach saturation point and need to strongly consider what options we have to ease the situation. While there is some equipment in the roundhouse that does not see much use, in general terms, we will need to consider what can be done to free up some additional space.

While I know there may be some members attending the Convention in Adelaide at Easter this year, for the rest of us, would there be any interest in a Barbeque (BYO) and night run over the long weekend?? I'd suggest the Friday night, considering we also have a Public Run on the Sunday, but open to suggestions, also open to the possibility of other clubs joining in.

Mention has been made in the last couple of issues of outlining some plans for the future potential of the railway - as I see it. All members on the email list for the club will have (or should have) received a copy, and we should see some hard copies on the clubroom table this weekend all going well. Please do not hesitate to comment, constructively, between the efforts of the combined membership I see a great future for the railway and would dearly like to see it realized.

Till next month, enjoy some workshop time (I know Don has!) and enjoy the railway we have built.

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Situations Vacant:

Wanted, enthusiastic events Coordinator to look after the organization of 3-4 club events each year, including the club Birthday Run, and Christmas Party. Any interested members, please contact myself either at the railway, or by email/phone.

Craig Belcher  
President, 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 (the minutes are now posted on the breezeway notice board):

**Thanks:**

Many, many thanks to all those who have helped out with the remedial works clean up. This has been a major work project and undertaken by a very dedicated team of members. Again thanks to all involved in the clean up. There are a few minor items remaining to be moved. This should be complete before the 28<sup>th</sup> February.

**AGM:**

The Eco center is booked for our AGM on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2015 at 1800 (6pm), please remember to forward any committee nominations to the Secretary by the 1<sup>st</sup> run day in March. Nomination forms are at the end of this publication.

**Signals:**

Another special thanks to the hard work put in by the Signals team, the Oak Tree Junction signal/point system has worked a treat at our last running day.

The Wilson primary point motor has had new relays and micro switches fitted and is now back in service.

**Cleaning Up at the Club:**

All members should be aware that the club accumulates waste of all types. Batteries and similar waste should be placed beside the rubbish bins in the breezeway for appropriate disposal.

**Dual bridge:**

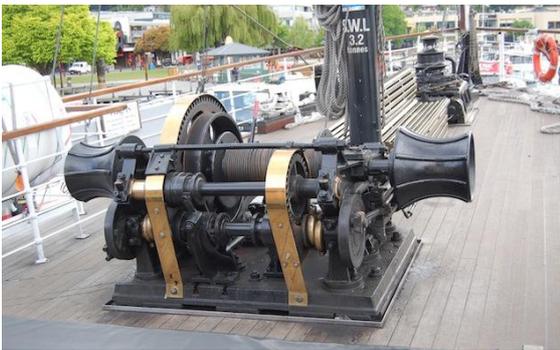
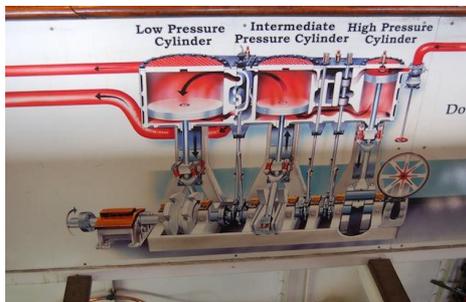
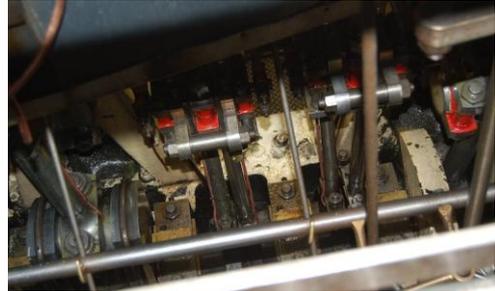
A member has informed me that the dual bridge was always known as Renner bridge, named after our late member Mel Renner (RIP). I would like to see the name officially dedicated to the bridge. Member's comments are welcomed; please address them to the Secretary at [secretary@castledare.com.au](mailto:secretary@castledare.com.au)

Mike Crean  
Secretary

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# T.S.S. Earnslaw

Photos taken of the engine room and around the ship  
(Photographer – R. Stuart)



# Notice Board

## For Sale

7 ¼ inch castings for The Lawley. It is a narrow gauge steam train used in South Africa, built by the Beira Railways.

There are many parts, also the patterns for the parts and some plans. Would suit an experienced builder.

Price for the lot, \$3,000

Contact: Bob Hawrylak  
Mobile: 0428 108 164

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## 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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 page 2.

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**NOMINATION FORM FOR ELECTION TO MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE OF CASTLEDARE  
MINIATURE RAILWAYS OF W.A. INC.**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2015**

I \_\_\_\_\_(Nominator) hereby nominate \_\_\_\_\_(Candidate)

for the position of \_\_\_\_\_

I accept this nomination and if duly elected, agree to serve on the Management Committee of  
Castledare Miniature Railway.

[signed] \_\_\_\_\_(Candidate)

Nomination seconded by \_\_\_\_\_(Seconder)

**To be received by the Secretary no later than 3pm Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2015**