

CMR Christmas Party - photos by Tricia

MERRY CHRISTMAS

CASTLEDARE MINIATURE RAILWAY (INC)

www.castledare.com.au

Issue No: 418 - December 2021

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No personal letters will be printed without committee approval

Qualification Examiners:

| | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Steam Locomotives | Richard Stuart | Luke Prindiville |
| Diesel Locomotives | Craig Belcher | John Watson |
| Guard & Safe Working | Tricia Stuart | John Watson |
| Signals | Mike Crean | Mitch Knyn |

From the Editors Desk – by Tricia and Robin

Welcome to the December issue of Cinders and Soot. Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Just a reminder that the date for C&S submissions is in the calendar and photos would be greatly appreciated. All submissions will be vetted for formatting, spelling and appropriateness of content before being included!

If you have an article that you think may be of interest to your fellow members, please send it to the Editor's email address – we'd love to hear from you.

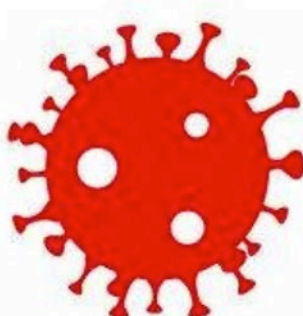
For Sale ads are also welcomed, but this is dependant on available space and will only be included for a maximum of 6 publications.

Members Celebrating their Birthday this Month are:

| | |
|----------|----------|
| Clements | Nicole |
| Depane | Annmarie |
| Edwards | Will |
| Goodlet | Benjamin |
| Jones | Howard |
| Lawrence | Curtis |
| Millman | Xavier |
| Skinner | Terence |

The COVID-19 notice below has been placed in various locations around CMR. Look out for it when you next visit! **Note; we still need to adhere to these requirements & the QR sign-in.**

COVID-19 Hygiene Important Notice



Please help keep us all safe by following these simple protocols:

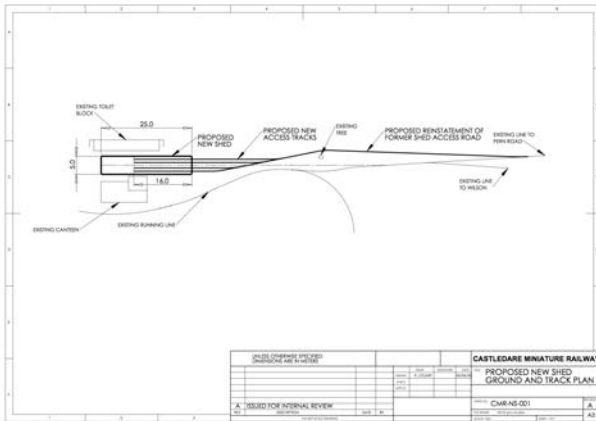
- Wash your hands & sanitise before & after signing in (use your own pen if possible)
- Use your own cup/glass for drinks
- Sanitise ALL surfaces, including handles, tables, kitchen utensils, toilet and workshop surfaces/ equipment, before and after use
- Magazines should be read **ONLY** if wearing gloves

NOTE: Hand sanitiser, gloves and paper towels are provided to assist you to comply. Please feel free to bring your own if preferred.

Thank you, from the CMR Committee

President’s Report – by Les Smith

Well, the year is over...thank-goodness. Apart from Covid, which may clobber us again next year, we lost more running days due to rain than we have in the last ten years. We had just over 19,000 “riders” with the last 2 months being equal to or slightly better than previous years. Last Sunday’s run from Wilson was exceptional for this time of the year. We capped off this day’s proceedings with a pizza lunch much to Ethan’s enjoyment. Delivered by Dylan-1 who was perhaps over zealous by using a nine wagon Heritage set with Comet Vale! Now, what could Santa bring us next year? A couple of us have been working on the basic requirements or hurdles that have to be conquered before the lodgement for a site development / building permit with the City of Canning. As mentioned at our recent Xmas party, we are almost ready to seek member’s approval to go forward to build a new carriage shed. This new shed is proposed to “lurk” (as Richard termed it) in-between the toilet block and what was the canteen / eating area. This has satisfied the “heritage” mob that it will not interfere with the “vista” from NIANA House out over the Canning River. The proposed shed is 25m x 5m as this is about the maximum that we can get into the area and secure adequate track connections. We only require some 16m of shed for our wagon sets and thus the 9m available at the Station or “Southern” end becomes available for equipment presently stored in the “containers” and some other work. Following is what the trackage and shed could look like.



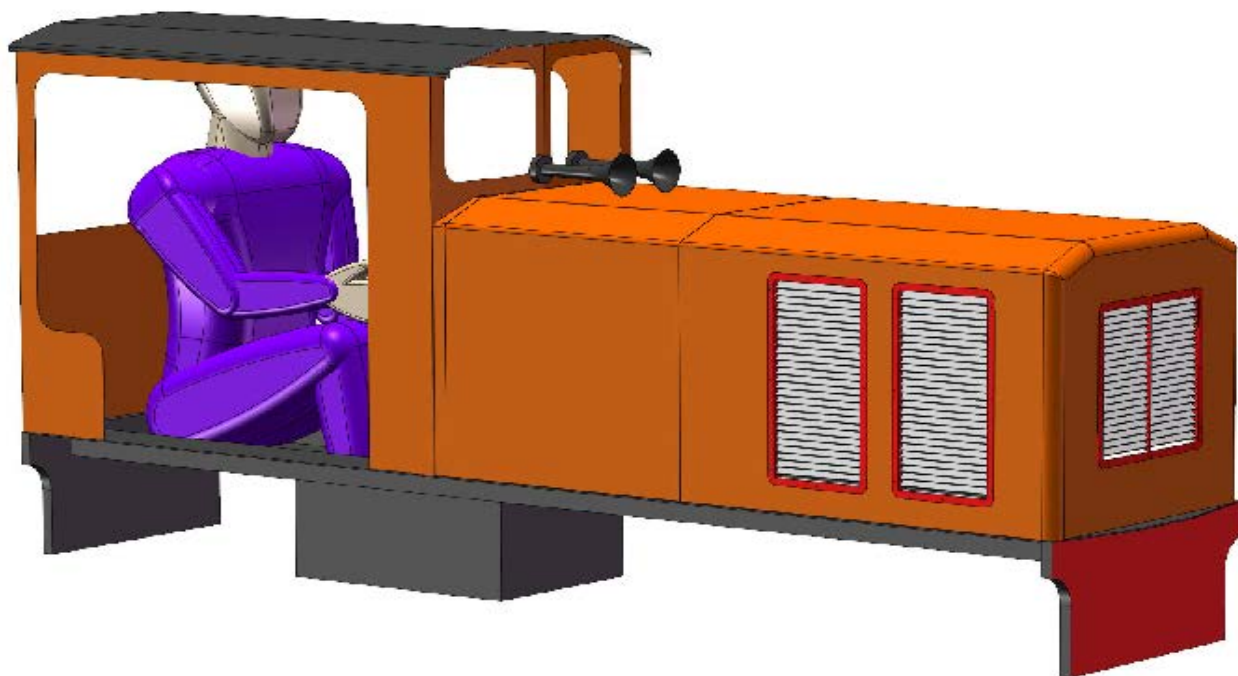
The proposed shed would be positioned to allow at least a 1.5m walkway gap for access to the ladies toilet and to connect both toilets in the future to sewerage either to the Fern Road or Bywater Way developments. The height of the shed eaves would be set to allow fitting of a new awning over the whole of the canteen area sometime in the future with removal of the hip roof portion to obtain a pleasing modernised area and a safer roof structure. This proposal can be utilised to free up other areas to allow for a future clubroom, Committee / Secretary / records room – and there may be a disabled toilet pending new area manager, the City of Canning.

The proposed trackage as shown also requires approvals and it will be emphasised that we would be re-using an original roadbed that once accessed our workshop on the other side of

the toilet block. Furthermore, no trees have to be removed and exit and re-entry to traffic would be via Fern Road. An off-traffic entry from the Canteen corner to this area could be envisaged in the future provided an auto catch-point could be established to satisfy safety concerns over rollbacks down the gradient that could occur. The toilet side track in this shed would be most likely extend into the 9m area to be utilised for repairs to particularly long locomotives that are difficult to handle in Jerry's Workshop.

It may be noted that Craig has been working on trackage and has successfully received a donation of some 100m of such from Nathan Clements that will go a long way to fill our needs. Thanks, Nathan!

As already stated, hopefully Santa will be nice to us and even if Covid threatens again in 2022, we can use the time to develop into a new era. Now....the "new" CARABAO.



Proposals are well in-hand to rebuild this unit into a "heavy hauler" and if members feel inclined to offer their ideas for a new body please 'ave-a-go!

Best wishes for Christmas and the New Year,

Les Smith – President.

P.S. There are thoughts on how to expand on lunch (see opening para) for the "after-running" in the New Year, we just need to coerce a few ASSISTANTS.

Secretary's Report – by Robin Greeney

Time for that corny “year in review” with 2021 rapidly drawing to a close.

The year started with the Railway being badly affected by Covid restrictions and, even when these were eased, there was a significant reduction in riders. All operations were from Wilson because of the ease of separating passengers with separate arrival and departure “platforms”.

Slowly numbers increased back towards our normal ridership as restrictions were further relaxed.... We then recommenced running from Niana and numbers overall have continued to return to more normal figures.

Once the border is opened to those over East, we will be required to do a new Covid plan.... Details of which are yet to be provided by the State Government. Currently there are thousands of new cases a day in both Victoria and NSW which doesn't bode well for our operations early next year once the border is open in February.

And with my Covid Marshal's hat on, just a reminder to all to have their booster vaccination. Just two doses are ineffective against the omicron variant – after your booster you have around 80% protection against hospitalisation and worse (but you can still catch Covid).

Shortly all members will be granted access to the online SMS database. This database holds all reference documents and forms etc used by the railway. Once this is available you will be sent your membership renewal form... and when you sign this form you will be agreeing to the terms and conditions as detailed in the SMS. The renewal will only be accepted with a signed form.

We are also around three months away from our AGM so start thinking about whom you want to nominate. As soon as booking of the CREEC centre is confirmed, you will be advised of the date.

Happy New Year to all, and fingers crossed for a better 2022.

Robin

Congratulations to the following people...

- ✓ Jeff Weeding for attaining his Safe Working qualifications.
- ✓ Wendy Gore for attaining her Safe Working qualifications.

An article from Les follows....



Esperance with a familiar steamer and the “bell tower” that requires another metre of concrete added to it surrounding foundation. The town council looks after the miniature rail very well.

A forlorn Ian Willis V at Pemberton does not suit the old primary school joke.....why can't a steam locomotive sit down? Answer...because it has a tender behind. The massive V's always looked great (complete) exiting Midland fresh from O/H.

Also forlorn is Y1114. Went on the trial run after an O/H. The fuel tank was not down between the bogies to keep the length short and they swayed around a bit at speed. (Imagine an up-right piano on bogies)





Merry
Christmas



CMR Calendar 2022

| January | February | March |
|---|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 Sa New Year's Day/Prep Work | 1 Tu | 1 Tu |
| 2 Su Niana Run Day | 2 We Work Day | 2 We Work Day |
| 3 Mo New Year's Day Holiday | 3 Th | 3 Th |
| 4 Tu | 4 Fr | 4 Fr |
| 5 We Work/School Hols Run Day | 5 Sa Run Day Prep Work | 5 Sa Run Day Prep Work/Gen Mtg |
| 6 Th | 6 Su Niana Run Day | 6 Su Niana Run Day |
| 7 Fr | 7 Mo | 7 Mo Labour Day |
| 8 Sa Track Work Day/Gen Mtg | 8 Tu | 8 Tu |
| 9 Su Members Day | 9 We Work Day | 9 We Work Day |
| 10 Mo | 10 Th | 10 Th |
| 11 Tu | 11 Fr | 11 Fr |
| 12 We Work/School Hols Run Day | 12 Sa Track Work Day | 12 Sa Track Work Day |
| 13 Th | 13 Su Members Day | 13 Su Members Day |
| 14 Fr | 14 Mo | 14 Mo |
| 15 Sa Committee Mtg / Work | 15 Tu | 15 Tu |
| 16 Su Wilson Run Day | 16 We Work Day | 16 We Work Day |
| 17 Mo C&S submissions close | 17 Th | 17 Th |
| 18 Tu | 18 Fr Workshop Night | 18 Fr Workshop Night / AGM ??? |
| 19 We Work/School Hols Run Day | 19 Sa Committee Mtg / Work | 19 Sa Committee Mtg / Work |
| 20 Th | 20 Su Wilson Run Day | 20 Su Wilson Run Day |
| 21 Fr Workshop Night | 21 Mo C&S submissions close | 21 Mo C&S submissions close |
| 22 Sa | 22 Tu | 22 Tu |
| 23 Su | 23 We Work Day | 23 We Work Day |
| 24 Mo | 24 Th | 24 Th |
| 25 Tu | 25 Fr | 25 Fr |
| 26 We Australia Day/School Run day | 26 Sa | 26 Sa |
| 27 Th | 27 Su | 27 Su |
| 28 Fr | 28 Mo | 28 Mo |
| 29 Sa | | 29 Tu |
| 30 Su | | 30 We Work Day |
| 31 Mo | | 31 Th |

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