# FROM THE ENGINE SHED



February 2014 Edition

## CLUB CONTACTS:

<u>Club Patron:</u> Mr Keith Whiteley <u>President:</u> John Howie – 328 7459 <u>Vice President:</u> John Hamilton – 338 2497 <u>Secretary:</u> Russell Gifford – 358 3365 <u>Treasurer:</u> Alistair Ward - 351 9614 <u>Loco Foreman:</u> Rob Wilson – 960 4305 <u>Commodore:</u> Dean Farrow – 339 6319

#### Loco Foreman's Report

The train speed limits are being well observed but some misalignment of the track has led to а number of derailments recently. Checks levels and super on elevations at trouble spots will be attended to On Wed 26th Feb.

Some coupling bars appear to be too tight in their coupling sockets. Station attendants must ensure that passenger weight is spread evenly along each trolley.

Thanks to Alan and his team for diligent management of the shed and also Jock and others for the gantry crane which is now operational.

#### From the President's Desk

Another month gone since Canmod, things are back

to normal once more. The Wednesday work and fun day is still on with a good number of members turning up. If you have a little time to spare come down, we have a great time, do a little work and it is a great chance to get to know your fellow club members. 9am to 2pm.

We are looking for someone to take charge of the cutting and maintaining the roses to give John Beauchamp a hand. John has been doing this job for a long time so if you are keen come out and have a look. The engine shed is coming along. Alan and his workers are making a big difference. The lights are up and ready for the wiring. There is so much more room in the shed now with all the trolleys in the new extension. There are a lot of small jobs still to be attended to. Landscaping round the engine shed to be finished, the concrete ramp at the back doors and the stormwater drain to go in at the back of the trolley shed. The concrete work at the crossing north end for public access now that the new spur line is in. Thanks to lan and George the points work is nearly completed. The painting around the station area needs to be finished. The raised track woodwork needs painting.

Please remember if you are the last one to leave the complex, to look around and to make sure that all padlocks, door locks and alarms are secure before you go! Talking alarms, if by chance you set the alarm off by mistake you have two minutes to reset it. After that time you have to ring the security firm, the 0800 number is on the paper work above the alarm boxes. Inform them that a callout is not necessary, if you do not do this we get charged a callout fee. There seems to be only a small number of people who know how to use our dishwasher.

would like a larger number of people to find out how. Please when you have finished your coffee or tea, put your cup in the dishwasher and if it is full, put some powder in and turn it on! It does need to be emptied when done. So come on chaps keep your kitchen clean and tidy. Don't leave it to someone else will do.

Finally we say goodbye to our special adopted member from England. Pete and Pat Smith are heading back to the UK, after spending the summer here in Christchurch. Pete has spent most Sundays and Wednesdays working alongside us, Pat was a great help during CANMOD. We have enjoyed their company and hopefully see them back again in December.



#### From the January Committee Meeting:

**MEANZ:** Rob has responded to a request from MBIE for photographs of our layout. There has been an international response to the Engineers Report associated with the 'Kapiti Incident'. Engineers worldwide, and within NZ, are not happy with the Report. MEANZ response is to establish North and South Island Technical Advisory Groups of well qualified engineers to advise MEANZ members and to counter the thrust of the IPENZ Recreation Safety Engineers Group. From CSMEE the nominated South Island members are Dr Athol Carr, Dr Graham Parker, Jock Miller and Kelvin Lewis.

**Halswell GLT:** A siding for the coal wagons is a priority and the finishing off of the train shed for sign off by Council. Track maintenance (realignment) is also a priority. It is recognised that some problems are season related. Long periods of dry conditions tend to affect the track foundation.

Membership: Welcome to Alex Hunter and Howard Pegram

**Boiler Committee:** Steel boilers: No Problems. Copper Boilers: George Hodges and Ian Fanshawe to investigate TIG processes. Testing, Copper Boilers: Retest after 4 years. Steel Boilers: Retest after 4 yrs. Testing for other clubs. Fusible Plugs: Recommended for larger boilers. Incidents. A rework of a 3 inch T.E. boiler considered possible. Registration of Boiler Tests and Qualifications under way. Testing of Air Brake Tanks not considered necessary.

Drawings of all tested boilers to be held by the owner. There was some discussion on "good housekeeping" rules with boilers in an effort to keep scale build up to a minimum.

**General Business:** There have been 9 requests for "parties" on Sundays. Possibility of purchasing a Defibrillator. Pub Charities was a suggested source of funding. Documentation confirming our release from the Andrews Cres Lease has been received. Included was a note of thanks for the thoroughness of the clean-up.



### Commodore's Corner

The "Liquid Fence" has been an ongoing failure at deterring ducks. We are seeking a refund.

Efforts to contact authorities for advice on the removal of Pekin ducks have proved unsuccessful.

Rubber strips have been added to the dock sides.

Scouting Cubs will be using the pond on Mar 11th. (Start time 7.00pm)

A number of boating members have joined the club recently.











Any suggestions, comments or items for inclusion in the bulletin can be sent directly to thatwhillislot6@kinect.co.nz