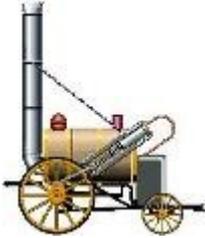


# Penfield Model Engineers Society

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# The Rocket



Volume 41 Issue 1



The **ROCKET** is the official journal of the Penfield Model Engineers Society Inc. The views or opinions of Authors of contributions to this magazine are not necessarily those of the Office Bearers, Committee Members or Members of this Society.

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**Index**

- P 3 Presidents Report
- P 4 Hamilton N.Z. Steam N' Steel 2020
- P 6 Around the Club 2020
- P 8 A Blast from the Past 2003
- P 9 The Great Pull Test 2004
- P 12 Action on the Race Track 2004



# PRESIDENTS REPORT

To All Friends & Members.

In these trying times of self isolation etc. I hope that everyone is keeping fit and well. and are not getting too bored.



The year started out a bit on the quiet side then the Covid-19 virus erupted and turned every ones life upside down. Something that none of us needed.

Thank you the few who turn up in small groups or individually at various times to check the grounds and attend to essential maintenance of the grounds.

Please see that you observe the Government regulations on large gatherings, social distancing and hygiene at all times.

Your support is vital to the survival of the club and hopefully this will continue once this epidemic is over and we can resume our lives as we once knew them.

Keep up the good work .

Have a Happy and safe Easter.

Also, Happy Modelling to everyone.  
(Something we can all do at home!)

*Lynn Venning.* President.

## Hamilton N.Z. January 2020



A very happy little "Vegemite", Gerry driving his favourite loco "Alfred."



The same very happy little "Vegemite", Gerry driving Dave Giles's Shay "Enterprise".

# Steam N' Steel 2020



Even a common container can be made to look respectable!



Inside the Frankton Junction South Signal Box.



Hamilton Model Engineers Station showing the Frankton Junction South Signal Box.  
Below - A very good imitation, it even sounded like the real "McCoy".



Above—The very busy Steaming Up Bays.  
Below—five Phantom Locos in action.



# Around the Club





Dave Giles from N.Z. driving Rob's La Fayette around Rob's track on the Gold Coast Easter 2019



Pine Valley Easter 2019 a little man at the rear pushing a very heavy load.

**Left Page:-**

Top — John Hall and Associates preparing to concrete the new shelters for our visitors. Five supervisors to two workers looks about the right work balance?

Centre — art work at the Artistic Blacksmith site.

Lower — Christmas 2019 Karl visits Santa "Len" to pass on his Christmas wish list. March 2019 David (surrounded by all the members), taking social distancing to the dizzy limit.



Above Nathan taking Danny for a ride at the Pine Valley Railway.

Below — leaving the Pine Valley Station by Tram.



Below - Steam replica Moreton at the Bundaberg Ginger Factory. Easter 2019.

# A Blast from the Past



A few shots from 2003



# The Great Pull Test 2004



## Left reminders of 2003

Danny with his newly acquired Hunslet Loco.  
 700 waiting to take on passengers.  
 Bill driving Mac.  
 John Berry driving Jubilee.  
 Rays Tram.  
 Arthur driving his Amtrak Loco.

Right reminders of the 2004  
 Invitation Run.  
 Story next page.



# Invitation Run 2004

Saturday the 15th of May saw a dozen or so of our members poised ready to host something new in Inter Club Runs in South Australia, a "24 Hour Run". Being the Adelaide Cup Long Weekend with many other events on around town and the weather forecast predicting rain, the only formal response to our invitation was received from members of the Clare Valley Model Engineers Society.

Despite the threatening weather, four members from Clare arrived around lunch time, in time for a cuppa and cake. Their two Locos were soon off loaded onto the track and were given a test run. On the Home front, the signals had all set up, the Station had been swept clean, Ron Russel had his Loco 706 primed and ready to run, also Derek was ready to run his Diesel Shunt Loco and Ted with

"Lil Ted". After a run around the track, the bonnets of the Locos were lifted and ideas about building Locos were discussed the drivers exchanged Locos there was more general running around the track. Later in the afternoon, after a cuppa and more cake, someone suggested that it was time to hold a pulling contest to see just what each loco was capable of pulling. First away from the Station was Ron Russell driving 706 hauling 17 riding cars and 19 passengers. Ron's Loco never missed a beat and hauled the load without any trouble out of the Station and out around the long loop and up onto the bridge with ease.



## Invitation Day Run 15th May 2004

Second to take up the challenge was Colin Hean driving Rosie Mae hauling 16 riding cars 13 passengers. Colin experienced difficulty leaving the Station and needed a slight push by some of the passengers. By the time the train reached the straight out in the paddock the number of passengers had dwindled to 9. A little more assistance was needed to get around the curve leading up to the bridge. Finally, the crest was reached and it was a trouble-free run back to the Station.

Next to take up the challenge was Derek Berry with his Shunt Loco. Hauling 17 riding cars with 12 passengers on board there was a bit of wheel slip leaving the station, but extra ballast (in the form of Tony sitting on the bonnet of the Loco) was added to increase traction. With the wheels continuing to slip on the steeper sections of the track the summit at the bridge was finally reached and the train continued onward down the hill and back to the Station. Last to take up the challenge was Don Springbett driving Poppa Don (CLP?) with 18 riding trucks and 11 passengers on board. Despite the wheels slipping, Don made it around to the summit without any assistance.

After this it was time to partake a sumptuous BBQ tea provided by Cheryl and Julie (assisted by Dennis our resident Chef on the BBQ). After tea, Barry was preparing to hold some time trials with his Fearmont Junior Speeder, but due continuing rain, it was decided to call it a day. Our visitors from Clare heading for home between showers. Everything was put away and the lights were turned off around 8:00 P.M. The next morning saw activity at the club recommence around 9:30 A.M. when several members arrived, including Bill who arrived with his latest acquisition "Lil Lima" steam engine. Most of the day was spent preparing and running the new toy.



## Action on the Track Easter 2004 *By John Cooper*



Easter 2004 can go down in 1/4 Scale history in Australia as one of the best events held so far.

In conditions of humidity and rain on Saturday and a clear warm day on the Sunday made track conditions the same for everyone, but a headache for our hard-working track team of Peter, Brian, Tony, Malcolm and Russell Ferguson from Victoria with the technical advice. But despite a track that looked more like a ploughed paddock at the end, with some bumps that were like launching pads the racing was still very fast.

The Super Sedan drives of our own guys in Mal Osborne on Saturday night with 17 laps on 3 wheels to finish second to Peter ("Pappa Smurf") Henley in first and our lovable English gentleman, Dave Owen in third was a sight to see. Well done guys.

The SA Sprintcar main saw four of our guys Garry Bassett, Peter Henley, Peter Barr and John Cooper qualify direct into the 12 car "A" Main and Mal Osborne's car stopped on the start line before we started. Defending Australian Champ Robert Coombs (Vic) won the title from Matthew Turner (Vic) and Mal Paton (NSW) who just happened to transfer from the "C" Main to Position 11 in the "B" Main and then transfer to Position 12 in the "A" Main. Great job Mal well done.

The Australian titles on Sunday saw one of the best drives we have ever seen in a Super Sedan by Dave Own (in his Rookie Title event).

Jumped to the lead out of Position 3, and was never headed for 20 laps when someone else's accident saw a stoppage and they came up nose to tail behind him. Dave shot away again only to become involved in a racing incident between, he and Peter Henley and Dave's engine stopped.

The car was lifted off the track and then the engine started but under the rules once removed cannot be put back. Maybe we need to look at the World of Outlaws 2 minute work area and the car be put back in its rightful position. Never mind Dave come back and prove that you are the best. Well done mate.

First - Malcolm Osborne (SA) Second -Mal Paton (NSW) and Third. - Peter Henley (SA)

A big thank you must go out to Cheryl Hall and her team for keeping everyone fed for the 2 days. Also, to Raelene Cooper for the excellent effort put into not only producing the program, but for being the lap and point score co-ordinator.

We have two new guys building sprintcars who are about to join our club, they were there on both days in the role of Lap Scorer and Pit Marshall, Robert Chadwick and Paul Cain - thanks guys you are both inspirations to our sport.

Also, to Lynn Venning our Penfield Secretary for his efforts in co-ordinating the entire list of nominations and attending to the Budget for the event.

We cannot forget the effort that Mike Carmody put in securing Mitre 10 Salisbury as our major sponsor.

Thank you to all our sponsors - Mitre 10 Salisbury, Adelaide lap Dismantlers, Couriers Please and "A" Class Sports and Trophies.



## More of This N' That



Left - Mic Mac with his newly acquired Traction Engine. (2005)

Below - a traction engine and a steam yacht at Hamilton. Trains are not the only attraction at the Steam N' Steel 2020 Convention.



Below - National Park Station and the Ki-Wi Rail passenger train that operates between Auckland and Wellington.



## New Zealand January 2020



Left - Looking out the front of our Motel room on the shore of Lake Taupo.  
Right - Huka Falls near Lake Taupo



Below - Lake Rotorua as seen from Mt Ngongotahā

Left - Maori carvings seen whilst cruising on Lake Taupo.  
Below - High above the clouds heading for home.



# What's on



Once we get our lives back to normal  
General Working Bees held every Wednesday & Saturday

Please do your bit to support the club!

On Open Days Members are asked to arrive early to help set up equipment etc. for use on the day, then to assist to pack up afterwards.

On Open Days, wherever possible, Members are expected to operate their models until the conclusion of the Open Day.  
In the mean time stay safe. Take care everyone.

Happy  
Easter!



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