



THE CENTURION SMOKEBOX

"Providing smoking news and steaming interests to members and friends"

Centurion Society of Model Engineers

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No responsibility is taken by the CSME for any subject matter in this newsletter other than official Society notices.

CSME NEWSLETTER February 2016

COMMITTEE

Chairman – Rudy du Preez
Vice – John O'Mahoney
Treasurer – Mike Venter
Secretary – Edward Lloyd
Committee – Jon Shaw
Committee – Leon Kamffer
Committee – Ballot Marx
Non-committee person contacts
Caretaker – Louw Myburgh
Webmaster – David Shaw
Alarm system – David Gough
News letter – Jon Shaw
Safety – David Gough

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(082-808-5783) email: ballotmarx@gmail.com

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Membership Fees 2016

2016 SUBS

**R300 FOR ORDINARY MEMBERS
R200 FOR SENIORS & STUDENTS**

Bank details for any payments to CSME.
For any payments please email details of payment to Mike at
csoe.09@iburst.co.za

Bank Details are as follows:

Bank: First National
Branch: Centurion, code 26-15-50
Account Name: Centurion Society of Model Engineers
Account No: 62060752906

Reference: Your Full Name/ subs 2014.

Note the account number change in red

AGM have fixed the fees at the same level until end of 2017

Subs are now due for review at 2017 AGM for 2018.

15 members renewed their subs on January track day.

According to our constitution those in arrears of subs for 2015 as at 1st May 2015 have automatically and voluntarily terminated their membership, and should contact the committee if they require being re-instated.

If you are intending to drive a loco on our track you must either have subs paid up to date as at the time of driving, or be a bona fide paid up member of another model engineering society to be covered by our public liability insurance.

Members are reminded that to obtain a CSME boiler certificate, the builder must consult our boiler inspector prior to commencing any work. This is to ensure the envisaged boiler is of an acceptable design and to ensure the boiler is built to current regulations and to plan the interim stages at which inspection is required. Our inspector is Leon Kamffer.

CSME have now adopted the Pietermaritzburg boiler code which will be published on the member's page of the website. **ALL members are requested to ensure that CSME have copies of the boiler certificates for all their locos. Copies can be scanned and sent by email to jonsamshaw@gmail.com or lloyded@telkomsa.net or alternatively either bring your certificate to Jon Shaw or Rudy du Preez on club day to be copied or scanned. We then have a record should there be any insurance or Health & safety queries.**

Official correspondence and newsletter

If you are not receiving mail from the CSME you should contact the secretary or editor to update your details.

Those members without email can collect a copy of the newsletter from the clubhouse on track day.

2016 subs are due, 29 members apart from life members already renewed; don't forget to renew your subs.

2016 AGM

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Centurion Society of Model Engineers held at the CSME clubhouse on 17 January 2016 at 14h00.

- 1. The Chairman Rudy du Preez opened the AGM by welcoming all who were present.**
- 2. The following apologies were noted:**
 - a. David Shaw**
 - b. Mike Bond**
 - c. Michael Kidson**
 - d. Brian Hartland**
- 3. Rudy mentioned that due to an incomplete and out of date members contact list some members never received the prescribed fortnight notice of the AGM. The postal system is also unreliable.**
- 4. Rudy asked if there were any objections to the AGM proceeding. No objections were noted.**
- 5. A membership list was circulated for updating of contact details and signing attendance.**
- 6. Rudy read his 2015 Chairman's report.**
- 7. Mike Venter read his 2015 Treasurer's report.**
- 8. Rudy thanked Mike for his report and conservative financial management.**
- 9. Annual subscriptions are to remain unchanged.**
- 10. Prizes were awarded at the Christmas party.**
- 11. Rudy said that as 16/66 members constituted a quorum, the election of office bearers could continue. The following members were elected to the 2016 committee:**
 - a. Chairman: Rudy du Preez**
 - b. Vice chairman: John O'Mahony**
 - c. Treasurer: Mike Venter**
 - d. Secretary: Edward Lloyd**
 - e. Additional members: Leon Kamffer, Ballot Marx and Jon Shaw who is welcomed back onto the committee.**
- 12. John O'Mahony showed Brian Hartland's proposed design for the 2016 nationals' badge.**
- 13. Roko proposed Brian Hartland for Honorary CSME membership. There was broad agreement and Roko was asked to write a citation as required by the constitution. Roko agreed to do this.**
- 14. A new member joined the club during 2015: Martin Roediger.**

Jon Shaw said that the no increase in subs in fact applies to 2017.
- 15. Mr. Kock asked for consideration for a concession ticket for friends of a member's children.**
- 16. Rudy mentioned the possibility of the reintroduction of an entrance fee that includes one free train ticket to discourage those not interested in the hobby from misusing the facility.**
- 17. Rudy asked for proposals for exhibitors at the nationals in September.**
- 18. Rudy thanked all those present and adjourned the AGM at 14h35.**

Edward Lloyd

Secretary: Centurion Society of Model Engineers

CSME: Chairman's Report 2015

The outgoing committee was elected in April 2015 at a special general meeting after the previous committee came to a halt due to various reasons and circumstances. This report therefore deals with the period from April 2015 to today 17 Jan 2016

In general the activities in the club ran as usual without any serious hiccups, i.e. the monthly club days, other Sunday activities, the picnics, the children parties, special weekends, etc.

The one day we had some unfortunate and unplanned happenings, was our day of the Christmas party. Due some misunderstanding the gate was closed early, while it had been announced that the gates would be open for the public until early afternoon. We apologize for any inconvenience to members and public who arrived and were turned away.

An additional scene developed in the form of the by-weekly family market. This activity took place on the site previously exclusively used by the model yacht club. After somewhat lengthy negotiations involving the Council, CSME, the yacht club, the paintball club, and Outsurance, the Council allocated the site to CSME, and approved the family market.

Agreements between CSME and the family market and the model yacht club were negotiated. Although it is still early days, these developments seem to be beneficial to the CSME.

Less visible to the members were the activities of the working parties, the Monday gang and the Saturday gang. The fruits of hard work are, however, visible in the form of an extended track and foundations and abutments of a new bridge (both not completed yet), an upgraded compressor hut, an extra refurbished container on pillars, refurbishing of club loco's and rolling stock, planting of trees and shrubs, etc.

Many other smaller extensions, upgrading and maintenance of club equipment and infrastructure were performed as well.

We want to thank Nick Popich, Allen Pletschke, Karl Rosenstrauch, Ballot Marx, Alex Groothuizen, Leon Kamffer, John O'Mahony, Jon Shaw and Bill Williams for their dedicated hard work most Mondays and some Saturdays. Thanks also to Leon de Lange who had done most of the initial work on the new track during 2014 and the earlier part of 2015.

A special word of thanks to Jon Shaw, who, in addition to looking after our plants and trees, also handles the newsletter, the web site, the key list, the member list and many other aspects such as coal, paraffin and oil supplies. Also to David Gough, who maintains and expands our security system continuously in order to meet the security demands of our difficult exposed site.

Thanks to our committee members, John O'Mahony (VC), Mike Venter (TR), Ed Lloyd (Sec), and Roko Popich, Leon Kamffer, Ballot Marx, for their time and hard work to keep the club running. The meetings were pleasant and the functioning of the committee was efficient and to the point. In addition to the meetings, many extra hours and trips to the club were required to deal with unplanned situations and problems.

The main work for this year up to the Nationals is to finish the track extensions and the new bridge. A lot of hard work will have to be done before that deadline.

Without the dedication of these volunteers we would not have had all these facilities, and without the continuous maintenance of what we already have, things would quickly grind to a halt.

We want to thank Louw and Antoinette, our caretakers, for their hard work to organise and run the children parties, to keep our facilities and site clean and to look after the place. The neatness of our site and facilities stands out and we get much facilitation from the public and members of other clubs every year. These tasks were performed under sometimes difficult situations when Louw had an operation and health problems.

Our ladies have done their part as well again to look after the kiosk, ticket sales, tea and refreshments. Many thanks for their continued support to help make our club days a pleasant experience every time.

We also want to express our appreciation to the affiliated clubs, the boat club and yacht club (not very active at the moment due to the low water level in the dams). The boat club adds a lot to the attractiveness of our site and activities. We wish them a successful 2016 as well.

In a club like ours, where a number of people with diverse backgrounds, experience, pride and goals meet and interact with each other, it is perhaps natural or human nature that the interactions occasionally become unpleasant. We would like to urge members to restrain themselves and to avoid such situations. We all want to enjoy our presence at the club, our wonderful hobbies and our fantastic site.

Let us stand together, build together and enjoy our club and hobbies together during 2016.

Saturday Gang

The Saturday gang have a lot to do prior to the national so please support Leon Kamffer in is sterling efforts each Saturday prior to the Sunday track day. The next Saturday gang will be on **20th February 2016**

People planning to come can call Leon Kamffer on 0825777813 to confirm their intentions.

Monday Gang

The Monday gang are back in full force, half of the team feverishly continuing with construction of bridge parts, the others, doing all manner of jobs - garden roller bearings replaced ready for duty compacting soil at the side of the new track, riding car maintenance, Diesel engine overhauls, tidying coal container, filling coal bins, removing scrap, - anything to get ready for the national.

Whoa? Electric what?

By John O'Mahony

Want to ride the tracks but finding full-on steam a bit daunting or perhaps you are even a died-in-the-wool steam-head wanting a quick, clean, fun ride? Then read on....

The all-electric personal rail vehicle (EPRV) is your answer.

Ballot and John are designing and putting together two prototype EPRV's at the CSME steaming bay. And the challenge is to prove the basic design within 3 months!

The design drivers are to build something that is simple, safe, light and doesn't break the bank.

To keep things light the vehicle is "ride-on". Why add ballast when most of us are walking around with plenty to spare? So, passengers provide the ballast needed for traction.

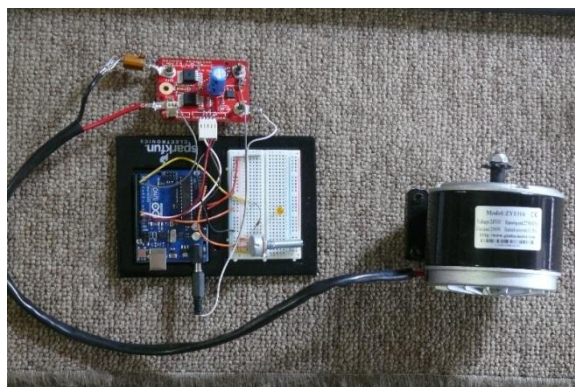
Readily obtainable lip-channel provides the basic frame. Pillar block bearings mounted inside the channel allow for track asymmetry and kiddies' scooter motors are the latest on two wheels.

The budget goal is to come in under R7000 and less than 70kg (tare of course).

The picture below shows the early beginnings of the frame with running boards. The seat will run lengthwise down the centre.



Early stages of the riding frame.



Breadboard electrics under test.

What could such a thing look like in the end? Well the imagination is the limiting factor. Here are a couple of pictures to ponder.



Thanks

Thank you to the retiring committee for your work in steering the CSME during the past year and all your hard work behind the scenes not normally visible to members. We also wish the new committee well in their task for the ensuing year.

Thank you Bill Williams for yet again giving your time and materials to produce a loco face for Dennis. This will be fitted as Dennis goes for overhaul. "Dennis is a friend for Trompie." See above right.

Thanks Nic Popich for loaning your file of club history to be scanned for club digital records.

Wanted by the Editor

I am trying to find our newsletters prior to 2002 and a few odd ones since. If you have kept any on file please make them available to me to scan and return to you. I will take great care of them while I have them. I also need bits and pieces to publish – workshop or engineering tips helpful to others or anything of interest to the hobby that can make the newsletter interesting to members. I need to give you what you want to read.

Thanks Nick for your loan of documents. If anyone else can help, please do so.

LOOKING FORWARD INTO 2016 & 2017 FORTHCOMING EVENTS

CSME camping weekend 18th to 21st March 2016 inclusive

National live steam meet 2016- CSME will host this event 24th & 25th September.

Next Stars of Sandstone is scheduled for 2017

Commercials

Use this newsletter to advertise your for sale and wanted (wish list) items.

If the editor is not informed as to when to delete adverts, these will be removed at the editor's discretion

Iain Headland has a Springbok in pieces for sale. 99% of it is there but needs a new boiler due to the existing one being soft soldered and collapsing. I have about 95% of the copper Inc tubes, flanged plates copper sheet for rolling the boiler and firebox. It needs a bit of work on some very minor items. The copper alone is worth R11 000.00. Drawings are A3 and I have copies of all the construction articles

I am asking R15 000.00 for the lot. **The best way to contact me is via email.**

headlandian@gmail.com Thanks. Iain Headland CSME Member, Ex President JLSC

The Monday and Saturday gangs are appealing for any spare tools you might have lying around. Mainly hand tools like pliers, spanners, hex keys, and a solid lockable metal toolbox etc. But any tools donated will be put to good use.

The committee has decided to dispose of the Prema 14" shaper in the workshop that was donated to us. We are open to offers in excess of the scrap metal value. As far as is known the shaper is complete except for a motor and machine vise. The buyer is responsible for the loading and transport of the machine.

If you are interested in building a 7.25 simplex or fairly complex contact Jon Shaw who has access to drawings and some parts donated from the estate of the late John Gundry which can be viewed by appointment and cash offer to the committee will be considered.

Flip Heystek on email flipheystek@telkomsa.net or Cell 083 304 1042 wishes to purchase a stationary steam engine, if anybody wishes to sell or knows of one for sale please contact him.

I have plans for model trains that I want to sell. Drawn in +- 1936 Please contact James on jamesstewart@flysaa.com

Louwrens Nortje is looking for a small metal shaper (+-6inch stroke). The condition of the machine does not matter. I've restored many old machines previously. Can somebody maybe help? (074 5838844) or elmarienortje@gmail.com

Next Club Meetings

Saturday work party 20th February 2016

Next running day will be Sunday 21st February 2016. **Committee meeting.** Contact Rudy du Preez.