



April 2009

PHOENIX

Editor's report

As this is the first Phoenix for the year I hope we are all ready to be involved in our next exhibition (in 4 weeks time) over the Queen's Birthday weekend June 6-8. We will need all hands on deck over the 3 days if possible, more inside.

The next outing for Phoenix Electric after our own exhibition will be Caulfield in August. Some reports are included in this magazine. Photos are from the Geelong Exhibition where our layout was exhibited - and the Sandown exhibition.



The Phoenix is published by the Ballarat and District Model Railway Club Incorporated, to inform members of club activities. Contributions and advertising are welcome and should be sent to the editor. Closing date for submissions is the last Wednesday of the month prior to issue.

BALLARAT AND DISTRICT MODEL RAILWAY CLUB INCORPORATED

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|---|------|------|-------|-------|------|------|
| Membership is open to all who are interested in model railways. Why not join us? | Oct | Dec | Feb | April | June | Aug |
| Fees if joining during the month of : | Nov | Jan | March | May | July | Sept |
| Concessional: Persons older than 12 years but under 16 years at 15th October, pensioners and full time students. | \$60 | \$60 | \$40 | \$40 | \$20 | \$20 |
| Senior: Individual membership includes family members. | \$90 | \$90 | \$60 | \$60 | \$30 | \$30 |

Membership renewals are due on 15th October each year

TIMETABLE

| | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|---------------|---------|------------------------|
| CREW ROSTER | Wed | May 13 | 8.00pm | Ordinary Meeting |
| President. Tom Chambers 5339 5260 | Wed | May 20 | 7.30 pm | Work/Run |
| | Wed | May 27 | 7.30 pm | Work/Run |
| Vice President Alan Carter | Wed | June 3 | 7.30 pm | Prepare for Exhibition |
| Secretary John McClure | Fri.-Mon. | June 5-June 8 | | Our Exhibition |
| | Wed | June 10 | 8.00pm | Executive Meeting |
| Treasurer Ian Barrett 5332 4168 | Wed | June 17 | 7.30 pm | Work/Run |
| | Wed | June 24 | 7.30 pm | Work/Run |

Phoenix Editor
Paul Richie 5332 1138

Exhibitions

Ballarat, June 6-8, Eastwood Leisure Centre, 10.00am-5.00pm Saturday and Sunday, 10.00am-4.00pm Monday.

Correspondence should be addressed to:

Glen Waverley, June 6-8, Brandon Park Community Centre, 645 Ferntree Gully Road, 10.00am-6.00pm Sat. & Sun., 10.00-5.00pm Sun.

Ballarat and District Model Railway Club Inc
P.O.Box 267
Ballarat 3353

Stawell, July 11-12, S.E.S. Hall, Sloane St., 9.00am-5.30pm Sat., 9.00-4.00pm Sun.

Exhibition information

At this stage we have an almost full hall. Two of our local exhibitors have had to pull out - one due to study and the other due to health problems. We should be able to fill the space. There are at least 3 layouts that have not been exhibited before.

We need all members to put their hand up to help over the weekend. If you are unable to attend the club and want to help, phone Tom Chambers or Paul Richie.

The Scouts group will be providing meals and looking after the kiosk for the public. There will be a roast meal at the venue on the Sunday evening after the exhibition closes. Members who wish to attend must let Ian Barrett know; members of our club will be expected to pay. After there will be the usual 'raffle'. If you have items to contribute to this, let Steve R have them as he is looking after this part.

If you know of possible sponsors for our Exhibition, Sue Oakes is the one to get in touch with.

HO Layout

Not a lot has been done to the layout. Main station is in, the area around the end loco facilities is in the finishing stages, then it will be wired up with its own panel.

Exhibition layout

Phoenix Electric was exhibited at the Geelong Exhibition in January, ran well and was enjoyed by the public. The layout did not go to Sandown because of a lack of members to operate (we need a minimum of 4 preferably 5). The next outing is our own Exhibition in June. We are asking for operators so we can give a good display on how busy this layout can be.

Housekeeping

As we usually do, some exhibitors will be staying out at the clubrooms during the exhibition weekend. Our members are requested to tidy the clubrooms before the exhibition. Thank you in advance.

Ballarat & District Model Railway Club Inc.

Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday, 11th March 2009

Meeting opened at 20:15 pm

Apologies: Ian Barrett, Dave Healey, John Douglas.

Present: Tom Chambers, Paul Richie, Alan Carter, Tony Mason, Allan Fraser, Garry Kennedy, Stephen Richards, Keith Parkinson, John McClure, Sue Oakes, Toney Oakes, Rodney Featherston, Vaughn Prato, Les McLachlan, Peter Ervin.

Minutes of Last General Meeting: Taken as read.

Moved - Keith Parkinson

Seconded - Stephen Richards

Carried.

Business Arising:

Proposed bus trip to hobby shops (Saturday trip), Museum, and Steam Rail (Sunday trip). There is a list on the notice board and some dates. Please fill in the appropriate dates that would suit you. Stephen Richards volunteered as a driver.

The DCC system has been ordered along with a power pack to suit. These items should be here within the next week.

We missed out on a portion of the Federal grant that we submitted a document for. The next round of City Council grants are due to open next month. We also need to update our quotes for the repair of the floor. This has been started and should be completed by the end of the month.

Exhibition is proceeding well. There is still some room for a couple of small layouts. Catering is being undertaken by a scouting group. The group has a menu that they can offer and we need to indicate what we would prefer, then work together for a menu that suits.

Sponsors need to be followed up. Sue is going to follow this through. Some information can be obtained from the exhibition book.

The TV and DVD player need to be replaced before our exhibition. Mark Mills has a spare TV that he may be able to donate to us.

Correspondence:

Buffer Stop sent their newsletters for January and February.

Treasurer's Report: Ian unavailable. Report will be supplied next meeting.

HO. A little more work has been done on the track and around the engine shed and turntable.

N. Refer to the grant report.

Junior Layout. More lighting has been added to buildings and streets.

General Business

Snake Valley Hall Committee of Management. Need to follow up what is happening. John to follow up.

Follow up the break in with the Air League. John to follow up.

Fridge has to be repaired. Ian Barrett and Ian Mitaxa to repair.

Paul is requesting rail posters for the exhibition. If you have any and can lend them to Paul, please let him know.

Meeting closed at 20:35pm

Newport

Tom Chambers

Not so long ago in the days of steam Williamstown and Newport through to Spotswood were a vast Victorian Government Railway complex including a power station and a hospital.

Any item that the railways required was manufactured at one of the sites, including station clocks, locks, screws, door handles, signals, platform equipment and tarpaulins being just small examples.

Tait Electric trains, swing door carriages (dog boxes), country passenger and all manner of freight rolling stock as well as a range of steam engines were produced from this site.

Today a mixture of different private companies, along with housing developments, occupy the old site and with very little left for preservation.

East Block and West Block are preserved and occupied as described.

East block contains 150 preserved W class trams along with some Tait carriages and the remainder of the space is used by Connex.

West block is taken up with Steam Rail, roads 2 to 7, 707 Operations 8 and 9 and a DERM preservation group in the next road with the remainder given over to Steam Rail.

Most of the preservation and maintenance is carried out by volunteers on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays' when there are no running days so there is always plenty to do, add running days e.g. weekends and it gets very busy. The main projects in the pipeline at the moment are the scheduled painting of the wooden carriages; these have to come in for painting and roof and interior repairs every four years.

The A2 project. This entails a complete rebuild. At the moment the boiler has been tested and passed, but a lot has to be done to the frame, tender and wheels before it can be assembled.

At the moment I am preparing fire box doors and the boiler to be painted with heat resistant paint to keep the rust away. This project has been on the go for around 15 years and is still a long way off.

Due to the poor wheat harvest, the diesels that are normally on hire are in for maintenance and a T is in being repainted and looking good. So if you think you would like something different, pop into Steam Rail and you will be made most welcome.



Diablo Mine building

Paul R

These photos show the mine interior which includes the steam winches (crow river) cage and ore bucket (scratch built) mine head, ore bunker, platform and coal bin from strip wood grained and stained.

The main buildings were constructed with a core of art card covered with stripwood, windows are Barmills with Grandt doors.

The corrugated roofing is from Keiths Corrys shingles from Evergreen Hill and the tarpaper from Paper creek. The Steps are from Rusty Stumps, nuts are Grandt and Tichy. This mine was based on a plan in the Gazette some years ago bent to suit.

