



NORTHERN DISTRICTS MODEL ENGINEERING SOCIETY INC.

April 2004

48th AALS Convention — Bunbury

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The 48th AALS Convention was held over the Easter weekend at the South West Model Engineers Society's track in the pleasant surrounds of Forrest Park, Bunbury.

Everyone who made it to one or more of the Convention days will certainly agree it was a most enjoyable and memorable event on every level. The weather was absolutely perfect, there was a great variety of model engineering on display and the host club made everyone very welcome. It was a great opportunity to meet, talk and relax with

Ed Brown and his Bolton Trophy award winning miniature WAGR Dd class loco at the Bunbury Convention.

Photo: John Shugg

other steam enthusiasts from all over Australia. Our own Society was well represented, as detailed in other reports in this issue and in forthcoming issues of Steamlines.

For those who unfortunately missed out, you'll just have to wait six years until the next one!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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Public Run Day	Club Track Site Vasto PI, Balcatta	11:00 am—3:00 pm	Sunday 25 April
General Meeting	Club Meeting Room Vasto PI, Balcatta	8:00 pm	Friday 14 May
Club Run Day	Club Track Site Vasto PI, Balcatta	8:00 am—3:00 pm	Sunday 16 May
Public Run Day	Club Track Site Vasto PI, Balcatta	11:00 am—3:00 pm	Sunday 30 May

Minutes of March General Meeting

by Andrew Manning

The March General Meeting was opened at 8:00 pm with the President Dick Langford in the Chair.

ATTENDANCE — 27 Members and 2 Visitors: Richard Deacon, John Ditmanas.

Apologies – N. Merchant, S. Martin, J. Parker, E. Brown, J. Crawford.

Minutes of previous Meeting held 12 February accepted as presented. Moved J. Shugg, Seconded S. Reeves. Carried.

GENERAL BUSINESS — Andrew Manning outlined to the meeting the opportunity that had arisen whereby there was a possibility of the Society being able to procure and install an as-new Cibes 400kg lift for the same cost as a stairway wheelchair lift. (See photo and details page 3). There was a limited window of opportunity and it was essential that all costs were identified and accounted for. The President and Secretary felt that the Cibes lift would represent better value to the Society considering the very large outlay that is required to provide disabled access to the meeting room.

There was again a challenge to the decision already made at a previous General Meeting for the Society to progress with a fully certified commercial disabled lift rather than attempt to make or modify something ourselves.

Note of clarification from Secretary re drawings held by City of Stirling for our building:

*In September last year when the problems with the original wheelchair lift were recognised, I spent considerable time at the City reviewing their files on our building to understand the history. We also had discussions with CoS regarding possible alternatives. (It was these discussions that resulted in the submission made to HREOC). The drawings held on file by the City of Stirling do contain drawings in which reference to **Wheelchair lift** has been replaced by **Disabled Access lift**. The City advises that as far as they are concerned the change is meaningless. The BCA requirements for disabled access are that a person in a wheelchair must be able to access the meeting room without having to get out of the wheelchair. The only specific information on a disabled access lift in the CoS file is a quotation for an Electro-hydraulic lift at some \$40,000+ and a letter, dated July 2000, from the Society advising, among other items related to the building, that a **disabled lift** had been procured and was available for CoS inspection. — A. Manning.*

Phil Gibbons moved that the Committee be allowed to get on with getting the lift or wheelchair lift installed. Seconded Ron Date. Carried by show of hands.

Clive Chapman asked that a Special General Meeting be held to discuss annual fees and the proposed roster.

Seconded S. Reeves. Carried. The Special General Meeting will be held immediately before the show of work at the Meeting on Friday 14 May.

Membership – Now at 46. Noted that Ken Collett is no longer a member of NDMES and therefore cannot act as an NDMES Boiler Inspector.

Our Constitution has no requirement that correspondence be tabled at General Meetings. However it is normal practice that items of interest are tabled for Members' information.

MODEL ENGINEERING — Guest speaker **Dr Geoff Edwards** from Applied Resolution Technologies gave a very interesting talk on how he came to be building CNC machine tools, the tool itself and what it can do. Geoff sees the CNC machine as a possible bridge between PC-literate youth and engineering/science and technology and is successfully targeting schools. Geoff demonstrated the simplicity of programming the machine, showed examples of items very precisely machined both milled and turned. See photos below.

RAFFLE – A screwdriver and socket set donated by **Ray Shersby** was won by **Vince Devine**.

The Meeting closed at 10:30 pm.

Andrew Manning



Above: A selection of solid shapes cut with the CNC mill.



Left: One of the miniature Stirling cycle engines working happily on the heat of a Laptop computer's power supply.

Photos: Jim Clark

Notice of Special General Meeting

A Special General Meeting will be held immediately prior to the next General Meeting on Friday 14 May.

The purpose of this Special General Meeting will be to cover two topics:

1. Changes to annual fees and rosters as proposed in the March issue of Steamlines - this is a follow up from the motion carried at the last General Meeting.
2. Replacement of the Society's current Constitution with the model Constitution from the Department of Consumer and Employment Protection.

Disabled Access Lift

The Committee have decided to proceed with the lift option as outlined at the March General Meeting and have made the first payment on the lift.

All Members should have by now received a letter from the Committee outlining the decision and the financial position of the Society. Would those that are able to, please forward your contribution to the Treasurer as soon as practical. If you have not received the letter please contact the Secretary Andrew Manning.

Responses to the present date have been good — a big thankyou to all those Members who have generously loaned and/or donated funds so far.

Right: The Cibes disabled access lift, type A5000 A1 with fully enclosed shaft, similar to the one being purchased by the Society.

Information and specifications can be found on the Internet at www.cibeslift.se

Some brochure details are also pinned up on the Notice Board at the Club Rooms.



The Committee have been working on this replacement Constitution since last year. Every Member will be mailed out a copy of the new Constitution, notes from the Committee, notice of Special General Meeting and a postal ballot form.

This material will be in the mail to all Members in the next 10 days. Should you not receive your copy by the end of this month, please contact the Secretary.

Andrew Manning.

Mailing Update

Do you have an email address? If you are receiving a printed copy of this newsletter, how about receiving your copy electronically via email?

The benefits to you are quicker receipt and a full colour copy that you can view and keep on your computer. You can print the emailed copy out yourself if you want to read it as a full colour paper copy.

The benefits to the Society (and particularly to the Editor) are the reduced time and cost of printing, copying, folding and posting out the printed newsletter.

If you have an email address and want to receive your newsletter by email, please send an email to:

jimclark@tpg.com.au

Articles Wanted

Articles, photos etc. wanted for forthcoming issues of Steamlines. What about some more "how to" articles such as those recently done by Phil Gibbons. How about an article on how to fit a speedometer to a loco?

AMRA Exhibition

An early reminder that the annual AMRA Exhibition will be held on the long weekend of 57 June at the Claremont Showgrounds.

This event is a big opportunity to show off our Society to the public and has in the past been a big money earner for us. It is an opportunity for all members to get involved, both with assisting in running the trains and also in manning the exhibition stands and demonstrating and explaining examples of model engineering.

Steve Reeves and Doug Baker are coordinating this event. Please give some thought to items you may want to put on display and contact either Steve or Doug for further information.



Northern Districts Model Engineering Society Inc.

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<http://www4.tpg.com.au/users/jimclark>

Easter Monday Run Day

by Dick Langford

Easter Monday was a special run day at our Balcatta track. About 15 visitors enjoyed themselves at our Society's site, running locomotives and chatting. Scones and pikelets for morning tea and a sausage sizzle for lunch enhanced the day. These edible goodies were provided by Noelene Langford. Thankyou Noelene, we really appreciated your effort which we know started about 7 am as you put a batch of scones in the oven. Lynn Shugg also contributed to lunch with a very fine batch of



Above: . Andrew Manning and Brian Lawrie taking a turn round the grounds on Andrew's Foden steam wagon.



home made sausage rolls. Thankyou Lynn, they were great.

At lunchtime, Doug Baker, AALS WA State Rep and Chairman of the AALS Safety Committee, presented Ed Brown with the Bolton Trophy (see photo at left).

Ed gets to keep this trophy for the next 50 or so weeks before he has to arrange its return for presentation at the 2005 AALS Convention in Brisbane, Queensland.

Below: George Palmer seems quite impressed by the steam plume being generated by his NSWGR C38 loco!

Photos: Jim Clark

NUTS & BOLTS FOR SALE

BA nuts and set screws available from Dennis Lord. Prices are per 10 items:

2BA x 5/8"	St Hex	\$3.11
2BA	St Nuts	\$0.25
4BA x 1"	St Hex	\$1.50
4BA x 1/2"	St Hex	\$2.93
4BA x 7/16"	St Csk	\$1.25
4BA	St Nuts	\$0.50
6BA x 1/2"	St Hex	\$2.00
6BA	St Nuts	\$0.46
8BA x 1/2"	St Hex	\$2.00
8BA x 7/16"	St Hex	\$1.90
8BA x 1/2"	Br Ch	\$2.56
8BA x 1/2"	Br Csk	\$3.35
8BA	St Nuts	\$1.00
10BA x 1/2"	St Hex	\$2.10
10BA x 3/8"	Br Ch	\$2.55
10BA x 1/2"	Br Csk	\$2.50
10BA x 1/4"	Br Csk	\$1.96

Also Pressure Gauges 3/4" dia 0-120psi (scale for 5" g) approx. \$55 depending on exchange rate.

Contact Dennis Lord on 9445 3424 for details.

