



May 2002

New Track Site Fencing Installed

Inside this issue:

April Meeting	2
President's Report	2
Ministerial Visit	3
Run Day Report	3
George Palmer's 60th	4
For Sale, Wanted etc	4

Your Committee

President Ron Date	9246 2835
Vice President Ian Allison	9490 2381
Secretary Andrew Manning	9446 4825
Treasurer John Martin	9448 8843
Committee Members	
Jim Clark Newsletter	9446 5870
Phil Gibbons	9390 4390
Dick Langford	9342 8049
David Naeser Safety Officer	9375 7785
Steve Reeves	9354 1395
John Shugg	9246 9549
Publicity & Events	
Jim Crawford	9276 5464

NDMES
PO Box 681
Balcatta 6021
Western Australia

This photo shows the first 14 panels of new palisade fencing, nearing completion on Saturday, 13th April. The final two thirds of the boundary fencing were completed in the following week

Photo by John Shugg



With the generous support of the City of Stirling, sufficient new palisade fencing was supplied by the City to replace the whole of the southern boundary fence (adjacent to the park). The old and now very tattered chain link fence on that side

has long been an easy access point for vandals both entering the Society's site and passing through to the BMX area.

With vandalism imposing an ever increasing drain on the time, efforts and

(Continued on page 3)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

General Meeting	Laurie Strutt Park Elvire St, Waterman	8:00 pm	Friday 10 May
Club Run Day and Public Run Day	Club Track Site Vasto Pl, Balcatta	10:00am—4:00 pm	Sunday 26 May
AMRA Exhibition	Claremont Showgrounds	Daily	Saturday-Monday 1-3 June
General Meeting	Laurie Strutt Park Elvire St, Waterman	8:00 pm	Friday 14 June
Club Run Day and Public Run Day	Club Track Site Vasto Pl, Balcatta	10:00am—4:00 pm	Sunday 30 June
General Meeting	Laurie Strutt Park Elvire St, Waterman	8:00 pm	Friday 12 July

Note: There may be additional Birthday Runs or other special events scheduled at short notice. Check with Andrew Manning or Jim Crawford for latest details.

April General Meeting

The April General Meeting opened with 20 members and no visitors.

A minute's silence was observed in respect of the untimely death of Lindsay Adams.

GENERAL BUSINESS — **Doug Baker** extended thanks from Lindsay's family for the steam up on the day of the funeral. He moved that the new building be named the Lindsay Adams Building. Following some discussion the motion was withdrawn on the basis that at the next General Meeting all proposals for recognising Lindsay's input to the Society will be discussed and an agreed action arrived at. Doug also moved that the society should dedicate one run day per year to Lindsay Adams and that the funds raised be donated to the Cottage Hospice at Shenton Park.

Copies of the new Copper Boiler Code were provided to Ian Allison. These are available at \$20 each, with \$2 going to the Society. AMRA had handed NDMES a collection of very old Model Engineer magazines — a letter of thanks is to be forwarded.

Ron Date highlighted the need to build an appropriate fence between the BMX and the Society's areas. We also need to remove trees adjacent to the steaming bay.

Ian Allison will be looking to complete the roster for AMRA at the next meeting. Please put your name forward if you can assist.

David Naeser advised that a Duty Officer's task list has been developed and comments are welcome.

BUILDING REPORT — Block work is complete. Progressing doors, end gables and screens for windows. Seeking quotes for roofing the building. Progress seems to have slowed in recent weeks...

FENCING REPORT — The new Palisade fence has been started. The City of Stirling have provided tree lopping, bobcat and rubbish removal services as part of the site preparation. The first 16 bays of fence posts were already installed and completion of the whole south side was expected the following weekend. The clean-up has really improved the site appearance.

MODEL ENGINEERING — **Doug Baker** and **Bruce Weir-Smith** gave a demonstration and explained the background to the RF-based signalling system they are developing for the above ground track.

Andrew Manning showed his lathe aligning tool, index dial engraving tool and copies of Foden spare parts and driver's manual.

Bob Brown presented Part 3 of his recent interesting series on boiler making.

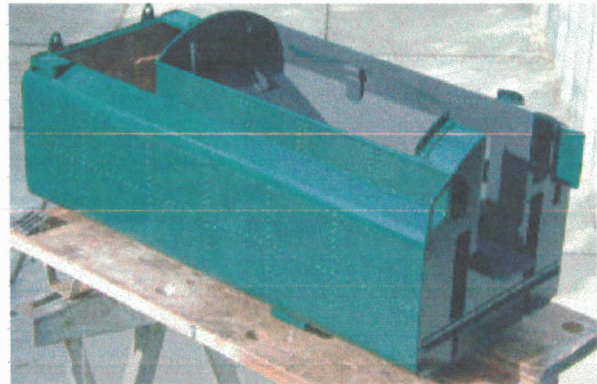
minutes of meeting by Andrew Manning

Jim Clark displayed the tender for his Britannia, with lots of brass and detail.

Russell Dunn showed the drawings, chassis and some lost wax castings for his Willamette loco.

RAFFLE — **Phil Gibbons** kindly donated one of his well-made injectors for the raffle.

Andrew Manning



Jim Clark's BR Britannia tender body, now with a coat of paint.

Photo by Jim Clark

President's Report by Ron Date

The building progress suffered again as a morning was recently spent repairing vandalism to the tunnel door. However, they did not get in!

After a further hiccup while we whacked the fence up, progress on the new club house so far is to a trial fit of the gable frames (they didn't at first so needed some surgery). Gables should be in this week, so the roof can go on very soon, followed by doors, windows, security windows, and then the floor, stairs and internal walls. Easier to say than do of course, but it would be done sooner if lots of the other odd jobs around the site didn't distract the workers.

You may notice a reduction in the overgrown bush - the go is to cut down and whip it straight up to the tip, so if you are hanging on to City of Stirling tip passes which expire in a couple of months anyway, come along and help with the trimming. A tidy site is easier to maintain. Dennis Lord has kindly massacred the acacia bushes alongside the Steaming Bay, so we can now do something with the guttering so that the water collected off the roof will be cleaner and the reconditioned pump set up by Jim Crawford can do its job properly.

We also have some sections of fence to erect on our internal boundaries, so volunteers please! (but not from the building crew — we need to keep pushing on).

Ron Date

Ministerial Visit by John Shugg

NDMES and Westside BMX were very pleased to welcome the Hon. Mr John Kobelke MLA (Minister for Consumer and Employment Protection and Member for Nollamara) to our site at Vasto Place, Balcatta on Friday 15th March.

The opportunity to show the Minister the work in progress and to discuss our plans for the future was greatly appreciated.

In the photo opposite, (L to R) Doug Baker, Ron Date, Mr John Kobelke MLA, Mr Bunny Lim (BMX President) and Mrs Yvonne Lim. Photo by John Shugg.



New Fencing by Ron Date

(Continued from page 1)

resources of dedicated Society members, action was essential. It is hoped that this will be the start of a more secure perimeter, and will help to reduce the level and frequency of the mindless damage and petty theft that currently plagues our track site.

Organised by your Hon. Sec. Andrew Manning, the fence took two spells of three days to erect, one third in the first spell, and the remainder in the second. That stuff is so-and-so heavy and sharp!

The 'old boys' did a great job and the Council are very pleased with the result. There were some problems caused mainly by the supplier — we got rails punched for 19 pickets per panel but got enough pickets and rivets for 18 pickets per panel as it should be, so Andrew was racing all over town to get what was needed to complete the job.

Veteran member Dick Langford (now on the Committee again) brought his shiny new compressor along to drive a second rivet gun, the compressor was OK, but the rivet gun wasn't! However, you can see the completed, u-beaut new fence and the Council's contribution to the job if you care to stroll that way.



The photo at the left shows the NDMES crew as they set the first post.

A lot of old stuff has gone to the tip as part of the

Council-assisted clean-up, saving us future hard yakka.

Money for further palisade fencing along the Vasto Place side of the site will be available in August, so watch this space for the next great erection! (HA)

Run Day Report by Ron Date

The April Run Day was a dull old day weather-wise, but a load of fun for all who attended, as well as being reasonably profitable, almost enough to cover the expenses incurred on our magnificent new palisade fence at the southern side! As usual, the noisiest bloke in the Society patiently manned the entrance and collected this revenue, and sold drinks and souvenirs all day. You may not have recognised him behind his new moustache, but it was really David Hunter.

The Club Blowfly performed flawlessly with its new gas firing system, made and fitted by Ernie Redford primarily for AMRA duty, but it may well be copied by many others as it is so good. As well as all that effort and a test run with three passenger cars plus bum truck, Ernie spend most of the run being the Station Master. Hats off to him for a super contribution. On top of all that he has welded up five of the seven doors for the clubhouse. Now that Ernie has a boiler built by Bob Brown ready for his own loco, let's hope he can find some time for himself to get his very own loco running.

With your Vice Pres. Ian Allison as Duty Officer, the day went well even though we had some cantankerous locos on and off the track. Big Mike's Sweet Pea did it thing without fuss as usual. Bruce Weir-Smith's signal system seemed to test OK so far, well done Bruce.

We could fill pages with accolades for members who made positive contributions on the day — they know who they are, so well done blokes.

Ron Date



Northern Districts Model Engineering Society Inc.

Track Site:-
Vasto Place
Balcalta
Western Australia

All correspondence to:-
PO Box 681
Balcalta
Western Australia 6021

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

George Palmer's Birthday Run

by John Shugg



Above: George Palmer's C38 loco in the steaming bay.

Left: George and Judy Palmer

Below: The 38 approaches the station with George at the controls and a load of happy passengers.

Photos by John Shugg



What a great way to celebrate your 60th Birthday!

George Palmer turned 60 recently, so he and his family and many friends gathered at NDMES on Saturday 4 May for a BBQ lunch, and a ride behind George's fine 38 Class loco.

George picked the best of days weather-wise (he is a Major in the Salvation Army and probably had a few words with the Boss upstairs...)

From all accounts a great day was had by all, although George had some problems with the loco perhaps due to coal selection, late in the day.

Ron Date and Clive Chapman ran their locos as well. Ron's sister Heather arrived from Sydney during the Saturday morning and had a ride behind Ron's 3246.



POSITIONS VACANT

Gutter Cleaner — Steaming Bay and Station.

Hedge Trimmer — picnic area and curve above the tunnel, fence from the overbridge back to the tunnel mound and plenty more, just come along.

The last pre-run day turn up was very poor. Please help out if you can!

FOR SALE

Myford Super 7 lathe with power cross-feed, cabinet and accessories \$9,000.

Alpine mill drill plus boring head and endmill chuck \$2,000

7 1/4" Black 5 — part complete \$8,000

Model Engineer, AME and ME Workshop magazines.

Contact C J Pole on 9534 2146 or pole@iinet.net.au

COMMENTS WANTED

Draft documents with NDMES procedures and requirements for Duty Officers and Station Masters are now available and your comments are invited.

Please contact David Naeser for details.