

To Richard Lockett President MEANZ

Through Heather Wilson MEANZ Secretary

Dear Richard.

With just over 6 months to go to the MEANZ National Model Engineering Convention I thought it timely to make contact through yourself to all MEANZ registered clubs in New Zealand to clarify a few issues that some club members seem to be concerned about.

The first is our system of fail safe braking, I have explained how our system works through our newsletter Wheels and Floats and also stated that no matter what system other clubs used for train braking, provided they do have an effective braking system, they will be able to run on our ground level tracks. We are in the final stages of developing a ride car that will have a stand alone fail safe braking system that can be used in conjunction with any of the conventional miniature railway braking systems, so visitors do not have to have any concerns whether they can run or not. Trains will be limited during public running to three ride cars, working within the MEANZ guidelines of one braked car per three cars. The rear car will have a guard as required, he will ride on what we will call a brake car and will have control of a braking system if required. So come along, bring your locomotive and enjoy the Tauranga hospitality.

We are upgrading our raised track services, no concerns here with failsafe braking. Our club raised track ride cars have mechanical brakes and we encourage those who want to use the raised track to bring their own trolley if that is practical, otherwise we have 6 trolley's that can be used and I'm sure that those who are able to bring one would not mind sharing. We really want to see our visitors 3.5" gauge and smaller 5" gauge locomotives on our raised track during the convention and hauling the public.

In an effort to get public participation during the convention, we are promoting the event as a convention and hobbies EXPO. This increases our workload of course, but we have the facilities to put on a great exhibition of all hobbies focusing on those that involve hand skills. We want the best display to be model engineering so we are asking model engineering clubs in New Zealand to please support this concept by bringing completed and

not so completed projects of anything to do with model engineering to Tauranga. This is an opportunity to promote our hobby and remember during the summer months people from all over New Zealand come to Tauranga/Mt Maunganui for their holidays so this is an opportunity to lift the profile of our hobby and get new members interested. There will be people attending the hobby display who have an interest in engineering but don't know the details of model engineering clubs in their area, so this is an opportunity for clubs to increase their membership. A display also gives our members and visitors incentive to get on with building something, or even completing a project, and for meeting other model engineers.

We have received some feed back regarding the waiver and indemnity clause in the registration form. If you look closely and compare it with the registration statement for CANMOD 2014 you will find that ours may have a few more words but in essence is much the same. This is standard form for events of this type.

Our convention committee is really working hard to make the event enjoyable for everyone, direct any queries to our convention Secretary Mike Treloar who will refer them on to the convention committee Email mike.treloar@xtra.co.nz.

See you at Tauranga in January 2016.

Kindest regards

Peter Jones

President TMMEC.