



# Model Engineering Association of New Zealand Incorporated.

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## MEANZ Update February 2012

The Convention at Maunu, Whangarei was a real treat and we all enjoyed the get together with other model engineers and playing trains some of the days! The Saturday was a washout that played into our hands as we had the largest MEANZ Biennial General Meeting we have ever had. The room was comfortable and out of the wet so we had 52 signed on the attendance sheet, and we suspect there were some who did not bother.

The Sunday was not as bad so the Auditors meeting was not so popular with the observers and the attendance was 19.



Copy for Secretary.

Copy for MEANZ Rep

currently the club's President and the Manager of the club's railway operation, the Marriner Reserve Railway.

At this time, the late 1980's, the PNMEC were extending their ground level railway track so I became involved in this side of the hobby, shifting dirt, pouring concrete, fabricating steel bridges, plantings trees, building track and I'm still doing it.

PNMEC has always had a healthy interest with issues at a national level and were always present at any meetings pre MEANZ. I was present at the meeting in Taupo where MEANZ was formally set up and have been at most, if not all, of the meetings since. I suppose ending up on the executive team was going to happen at some stage.

I did finish building the Traction Engine and some of you may have seen it running, and then purchased a 7¼"G Kerr Stuart Wren class locomotive called "ROBYN" and operated it while I built a 7¼"G NZR tank loco W192. I am currently building a 7¼"G NZR 'U' class loco U193. Both of these locos were products of the Addington Railway Workshops.



## New MEANZ Executive

### President

Richard Lockett of Palmerston North Model Engineering Club

So how did I end up in this position? As I've liked from an early age to build things I did metalwork through high school and went on to an engineering apprenticeship as a teenager. While having a spell living in England, in the early 1980's I used to visit the Model Engineering Exhibition at Wembley Stadium each year. Before I returned to NZ castings were purchased for the 1½" scale Allchin Traction Engine.

On joining the Palmerston North Model Engineering Club I found out that there is a process to follow to construct and certify model boilers and eventually you end up on the club's boiler team. Next is a spell on the club's committee, then a spell as treasurer, and I am

### Secretary / Treasurer

Dennis Searle of Experimental and Model Engineers

I joined the model engineering fraternity seventeen years ago. The first seven years were spent learning to drive steam

locomotives whilst building one of my own. My first locomotive was a 5" gauge NZR class WAB. My second locomotive was another WAB in 7¼" gauge. This I finished two years ago. Currently I am in the final stages of constructing three all



steel ride cars. On completion, I hope to build my final 7¼" gauge locomotive an NZR class K 4-8-4.

Taking on the role of MEANZ Secretary/Treasurer is not a daunting task. I learnt the ropes whilst a member of the Jaycees, then took on the role at the Hamilton Model Engineers several years ago. Currently I am the Secretary/Treasurer of the Experimental & Model Engineers.

Filling Peter Anderson's shoes will be a big job but I am looking forward to the challenge.

**North Island Rep**  
Dennis Collins of  
Cambridge & Rotorua  
Live Steamers

I was born in the fifties, in Morrisville, and grew up in Ngaruawahia very close to the main trunk line, which started my love affair with trains.

I have been married for 37 years to Romoana. We have one son and 2 grand-children, and we currently own two engineering businesses, one based in Cambridge and one in Hamilton.

I built our first 7¼"G train in 2007, a Phantom, with lots of help from Romoana. We then went on to build a WF look alike for the Granddaughter. We have run these locos at lots of tracks in the upper parts of the North Island.

We are currently helping build the track at Cambridge, and with lots of hard work and long hours we are making steady progress.



**South Island Rep**  
Rob Wilson of  
Canterbury Society of  
Model & Experimental  
Engineers.

Aged 62 years, married 40 years, 2 kids and 2 grandkids.

Currently working as the Engineering Manager for Timtech Chemicals Ltd,

providers of timber treatment chemicals. Interested in trains of all sizes and scales from an early age. Have also had over the years many exhibition quality G gauge layouts and still have a rather overgrown garden railway at home. I am Loco Foreman at the CSMEE and enjoy producing all documentation used at our railway,



Running Rules, check sheets etc. In my spare time (!) I coach and referee local ice hockey in CHCH having represented NZ overseas in the late 80's both as a player and as a referee. Enjoy constructing and running the unusual with my Galloping Goose #2 being the latest example. Quake damage has limited activity in the workshop as of late, with a complete house and garages rebuild to happen.

## Applications for MEANZ Membership.

As noted in the Minutes the four new clubs have been accepted as members of MEANZ bringing the total membership to 29.

- Mana Ariki Railway Inc.
- Cambridge and Rotorua Live Steamers Inc.
- Otago Miniature Road and Rail Society Inc.
- Experimental & Model Engineers Inc.

## Amusement Device Regulation

At the time of writing the Whangarei Registration has not yet come back from the DoL and we have no further word from them.

It remains for us to maintain our safety procedures and follow up on any audit points that require attention in an effort to reduce the risks in our operations.

Each club should prepare for a satisfactory inspection by a 'competent person' by working through the all the points in the Interpretation Document which has been sent to all clubs and is available on our website.

Any questions should be addressed to the Executive members.

## Our MEANZ Website

[www.meanz.org/](http://www.meanz.org/) is hosted by the Palmerston North Model Engineers and thanks go to Murray Bold who keeps the site up to date.

**Thank You** to Whangarei members and others who helped you prepare for, and run, a very good convention.

*Peter Anderson,*

Ex Sec/Treas. MEANZ 14 February 2012