



# Model Engineering Association of New Zealand Incorporated.

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## Update July 2005

**To All MEANZ Representatives and Secretaries of Member Societies.**

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### Subscriptions

Some clubs have already paid the MEANZ sub of \$30 for 2004-5. Those who have yet to pay will find the first invoice enclosed. It would help greatly if you could get it to your treasurer and passed for payment in reasonable time. Last year I found this business stretched over about nine months of the year.

### Exec Meeting

In October last year the Exec met to further our ideas on self management as decided at the last AGM held at Hamilton. Over a couple of days a basic system was worked out in heading form and Colin then did some solid work putting it into a proper set of documents. This has been further discussed within the Exec but still requires refining for our benefit, and it has only been discussed between Colin and Keith Stewart of OSH on 11 May. The OSH attitude is still to require us to comply with the existing regulations and have asked Colin for more detail on the stumbling blocks encountered by individual clubs.

It is felt that we should take more definite steps toward implementing our safety management plan. The first step has been to obtain copying rights, and licence to use for five years, the United Kingdom Health and Safety Executive document HSG216 "Passenger Carrying Miniature Railways, Guidance on Safe Practice". The UK HSE document will form the foundation document for our self management plan. The existing MEANZ Operating Instructions are being revised to compliment the general nature of the above UK HSE "Guidance on Safe Practice" in safety management.

### Safety Management

Each club will be required to work through the Guidance and ensure that their documentation is available showing the likely danger points of their operation, determination of the magnitude of each identified problem, and the steps taken to minimise the likelihood of having an accident. Procedures and documentation will need to be in place to cover inspections, maintenance, and reporting. MEANZ will have to have an audit system set up to ensure that overall requirements are being met and will help clubs to meet these should it be necessary. It is proposed to appoint suitable people from within our ranks who have the knowledge and experience to enable sensible and consistent standards to be met. This would form the alternative to the Inspecting engineer required by the present A D Regulation system and the plethora of special requirements usually added by OSH at head office.

It is hoped to have the scheme mapped out and available for comment in the next month or so as the Exec plan another meeting for early September.

## Canmod

Please bear in mind that there will be the **2006 Biennial General Meeting of our Association at Christchurch on the Saturday 7 Jan at 1400hrs.** Further notice will be given in November but your club should plan who will be your representative attending the meeting, and if necessary seeking a proxy. We do hope that all clubs will be represented and that there will be a good number braving Cook Strait as our southern members did in 2002 and 2004.

## Open Weekends

There has been a number of great open weekends again this year and reports in the newsletters show the trouble that some clubs go to to host members from other areas. Recently there have been more clubs deciding to have meets on extra days, such as Waitangi Day, especially when it was a long weekend, and their advertising has been variable but we trust they have all worked well for them. Most clubs respect the right of another club traditionally holding their event on a fixed weekend such as Labour Weekend, and have not set up 'rival' events without care and consideration of the effect it might have on the other club.

Please advise me if there has been a change in your club open weekend date or if Update has not shown your arrangements previously, and I will publish the complete list again in November. Before then we have New Plymouth and Havelock North (7¼"G) at Labour Weekend, and Tauranga over the 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend in November.

## Australian Convention 2005

This was attended by quite a number of NZ members from Whangarei, Manukau, Auckland, Thames Havelock North, Palmerston North, and Christchurch, along with your President (Kapiti) and Secretary (Hutt Valley), at their own expense in case you were wondering.

The next AALS Convention is the 50th and will be hosted by the Sydney Society of Model Engineers Inc at their grounds at St Marys over the Easter weekend 14~17 April 2006.

*Colin Burleigh*      &      *Peter Anderson*  
**President MEANZ**                      **Secretary MEANZ**  
20/7/05



George Johnson (Canterbury SMEE), David Proctor (AME Editor) Jock Miller (CSMEE and MEANZ South Is Rep.) and Dave Giles (Pres Manukau LS)  
A photogenic group caught over at the AALS convention at the Warner track of the Queensland SME.