



# Model Engineering Association of New Zealand Incorporated.

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## MEANZ Update July 2010

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### Report from Colin Burleigh --

#### Visit by Kate Wilkinson, Minister of Labour, and Nathan Guy, MP, to Kapiti Miniature Railway on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2010.

The visit was initiated by Nathan Guy, MP for Kapiti, following an offer by Nathan to visit the track a few weeks prior. Despite a really bad run of weather the appointed day was fine and sunny. I provided the party with a ride around the Kapiti track behind "E1" and at the end of the trip offered Kate Wilkinson, Minister of Labour, the opportunity to have a drive herself. She responded with a "yes please".

I sat behind giving a little supervision with the go and whoa driving instructions, with Nathan on behind.

Before departure the passenger safety instructions were given again, and the Minister drove off after getting the track signal. She was very proficient and drove well. I only had to remind her of the compulsory whistle points. At the end of the trip we all went up to the club rooms for morning tea.

#### Status of ADR negotiations with DoL

I took the opportunity to thank Kate Wilkinson for her directions, and her continued follow up with the Department of

Labour (DoL) to get the amusement device regulations sorted out so that MEANZ model engineering clubs could conform to the regulations. The Minister had been previously made aware of the "impossible to comply with" clauses which DoL refused to change for the last 32 years.

At the present time MEANZ is reaching the end of the substantive consultation and negotiations regarding the ADRs. The proposed changes now go to the DoL and Crown Law Officers for drafting.

I also expressed MEANZ executive's appreciation of the helpful cooperation given by the recent DoL negotiators, and the good progress being made.

I asked the Minister to make sure that DoL

*The Minister of Labour, Kate Wilkinson, driving E1 on the last leg of her lap of the Kapiti track. Colin Burleigh and Nathan Guy are riding on the trolley behind.*



allows MEANZ to review the regulation changes and new interpretations prior to her empowering the changes. It is vital to get the better system of registration correct and workable, as we, and she, have requested.

### **Up date and approval for changes to MES club registration**

As soon as MEANZ has a clear view of the general implications of the changes all MES Clubs will be notified and their support requested as discussed at the Nelson Convention in January. In the mean time Kapiti club, like most other MEANZ clubs, is continuing to operate out side of the ADRs but meeting MEANZ guidelines and undertaking Safety audits. DoL indicated, if and when the new ADR changes & interpretations are approved, they will apply only to MEANZ clubs operating to MEANZ standards & guidelines.

### **Lottery Grants Board funding for capital improvements at tracks.**

I also talked with Nathan Guy regarding changes by the Lottery Grants Board on their policy regarding grants for capital developments, such as the Kapiti clubs "Sea View Track Extension" project. The model showing the now approved new track extension was out on display. It was a good meeting, and both Nathan Guy and Kate Wilkinson seemed to enjoy their 45 minute visit.

Regards, *Colin Burleigh*  
President MEANZ

### **Meetings with Department of Labour.**

Another meeting with Rex Moir and Kathy Drysdale to discuss further issues that have arisen is scheduled for 8 July. They are now looking to even less interference with the existing regulations so further details will be looked at in these ongoing negotiations.

We can only repeat that should there be any such difficulty with your local DoL officers please advise one of the MEANZ Executive.

It has been pointed out by New Plymouth that difficulty could come from the Local Authority who also has an obligation under the ADRs. We will endeavour to deal with this issue too should any problem arise. Continue

to operate safely under our standards and guidelines in anticipation of the planned changes.

The Departmental timeline still indicates that a Regulatory Change could come into effect about the end of this year.

### **Audit Check List Revision --**

The small changes made recently to this document by the Auditors are now operational and the form amended by Gavin McCabe is available on our website. A copy of the wording is enclosed with this Update to keep you aware of some of the safety issues that require attention. Remember it is only a check list and the Guidelines and Operating Manual indicate the areas that may need attention.

### **Repeat Audits**

Despite the stated five year term of the first round of audits the Executive would encourage every club to organise for another to be carried out in the near future. In this way we can all gain assurance that we are acting on any shortcomings noted and treating safety matters in a positive way.

This will provide backup for the new regulatory scheme being negotiated. The amended check list will be used during this round and further changes looked at on its completion.

### **Address changes**

Please note some subtle changes in the e-mail addresses for myself and President as included in the letterhead.

For mail direct to Colin's mailbox use the [colin.burleigh@paradise.net.nz](mailto:colin.burleigh@paradise.net.nz) and my provider is now InSPire so [pjand@inspire.net.nz](mailto:pjand@inspire.net.nz) is now the appropriate form.

*Peter Anderson,*

Sec/Treas.  
MEANZ  
2 July 2010