

Model Engineering Association of New Zealand Incorporated.

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MEANZ UPDATE February 2022.

Presidents Report January 2022.

Dear fellow engineering enthusiast.
This is my first President's Report since being elected to the position at the delayed BGM in January 2022.
I wish to sincerely thank both the outgoing President, Richard Lockett and the North Island Representative, Bill Krippner for their selfless service to the MEANZ Executive and to the hobby as a whole. I shall certainly be using Richard's wise council as the Past President for some foreseeable time.
Well, like it or not, we are all living through a significant event in history. The Covid Pandemic in all its current and possible future variants will affect how we enjoy our hobby for some time to come.

We have been asked "what is the MEANZ position on Covid?" or "how can we operate in this environment?"
The answer is: we shall all abide by the laws and regulations as set out by the Government and Health authorities in New Zealand. In general, clubs should set their own policy over how they run, with smaller clubs or clubs with fenced,

private facilities being at an advantage due to lower, more controllable numbers. Larger clubs, such as my own (CSMEE) are situated in Public Domains or Parks. In our case, we have no control whatsoever over attendee numbers so may only possibly operate at a low level for members only.

Now, I must welcome to the MEANZ Executive, Lester Watchorn from New Plymouth as the incoming N.I. MEANZ Rep, and Donald Ross from Dunedin as the new S.I. MEANZ Rep.

We have all been tasked with working with MBIE and Worksafe to ensure our collective hobby group remains in compliance with the present and upcoming new Regulations which are part of the current rewriting of the Legislation that covers our activities. As such we shall review our guiding documents, the MEANZ MOP's and MAP's, to ensure that they continue to comply with all present and possible future Regulations.

We believe, with certainty, that our current documents, Safety Audit System, Competent Persons and Safety Auditing Persons are all compliant with the regulations as currently written (with some minor changes) and provide us and the regulatory bodies with confidence that what we do is based on,

Safety Principles, Best Industry Practice, International Standards where applicable, Safe Operating Procedures and correct and detailed record keeping of all operations, maintenance, improvements, hazard identification and mitigation etc. As mentioned above, we shall be updating these documents. It was identified at the MEANZ Auditors meeting that uniform or standard forms for all our hobbies required record keeping would make the job for the clubs and Auditors easier. We shall work towards this in the short term. It was suggested by MBIE at a meeting between the prior Executive, Worksafe, IPENZ Safety Group and others, that we as MEANZ should be Audited. We have been guided to have a meeting with IANZ to see what would be required. So, a bit of work ahead of us on your behalf as we live under the shadow of Covid. One last thought at this time. The operation of our hobby to provide safe venues for our members and the public to enjoy operating trains and train rides means that we are all engaged with a process of constant monitoring of our facilities in regard to identification, elimination or mitigation of hazards such as tripping, proximity of dangers to persons such as rose bushes, ensuring the riding public obey all signs, messages and requirements. Also observe what is happening on train consists other than your own and stop them and address the issue when able or if required. Familiarity with your own club's environment, where minor hazards that cannot be eliminated such as steaming bay minor tripping hazards is common.

So, please allow visiting drivers or members of other MEANZ Affiliated clubs, who are looking with a fresh set of eyes, to say something. They may see something that has been overlooked and requires attention either through an Improvement Notice or Hazard Identification/ mitigation process. Capture these pieces of well-meant advice and act on them accordingly.

Well, enough from me.

May I wish all members of MEANZ Affiliated clubs, their families and friends, all the very best for the future and may we all look forward to carefree summers again.

Sincere regards.

Rob Wilson

MEANZ President.

Introducing the new MEANZ Executive.

President: Rob Wilson MEANZ President and member of Canterbury Society of Model and Experimental Engineers:

Hi, I am Rob Wilson, 72 years old and married to Lorraine for 50 years this coming March 2022. We have a son and daughter and two grandsons.

My work background is that I was first a Design and Engineering Draughtsman for Fletcher Board Products in Christchurch working in an office at the end of the Asbestos Cement production plant. Every morning I would wipe the dust off my board prior to starting work!!

After 5 years of this I changed and completed an Adult Apprenticeship in Fitting and Turning gaining Trade Cert and advanced Trade Cert. Fletchers closed and I never was out of a job until my family and I decided to emigrate to Canada. We arrived in Vancouver, British Columbia in March 1978 and stayed there for nearly 5 years returning to New Zealand in late 1982. While there I started playing Ice Hockey and on returning to NZ was selected for the first Ice Blacks team to attend an International Ice Hockey Tournament where we gained the Bronze medal. Later I became an Internationally Ranked Ice Hockey Referee and was lucky to travel to Australia, Canada, South Africa and Turkey to officiate at tournaments. I am a Life Member of both the Canterbury Ice Hockey Association and the New Zealand Ice Hockey Federation. I am proudly Ice Black #22.

I returned to Engineering in New Zealand and worked for several companies, mainly working with providing, installing, maintaining Timber Treatment plants at many venues around New Zealand, Australia and the Pacific Islands. I finally retired 5 years ago.

I have always had an interest in railways of all scales and sizes from HO to 10 ¼" gauge. I have made many locos (too many some say) and am lucky to have

an understanding wife and a reasonably well equipped workshop.

I look forward to leading MEANZ through the next three years.

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Donald Ross new MEANZ South Island Lead Auditor & Rep

I'm originally from Southland where I trained as a Fitter Turner, and worked in the Engineering Industry there until we moved to Dunedin in 2008, for me to take up a job as Technical Training Advisor for KiwiRail Mechanical. After various restructures of KiwiRail, I became KiwiRail Operational Safety Advisor for South Island Network Services, then worked for Dunedin Railways as Safety and Training Manager. With changes brought about by the pandemic I now work at Dunedin

Airport as Safety and Compliance Manager.

Married to Angela, with two grown up children.

I first got involved in Model Engineering in 1991 and have been a member of Southland Society of Model Engineers since then, as well as a member of Otago Model Engineering Society and Otago Miniature Road and Rail Society. I have built a 5" gauge diesel which is now owned by a CSMEE member, have a small battery electric 0-4-0 Industrial Shunter which I bought from the UK, and have just completed a 5" Gauge Sweat Pea.

Outside of Model Engineering I am a keen road motorcyclist, a Trustee for Waimea Plains Railway at Mandeville and occasional Driver and Fireman there. I also still work part time as a Guard, Train Examiner, Shunter & Locomotive Assistant at Dunedin Railways, and am a certified Training Provider for Guards, Train Examiners, and Shunters for Mainline Heritage Rail Operators.



Lester Watchorn North Island Rep. and Secretary of New Plymouth Society of Model and Experiment Engineers Inc.



Lester Watchorn is a mechanical engineer working in the energy industry. He has spent the last 9 years working as a consulting engineer designing & assessing industrial pressure equipment including, piping, pressure vessels and boilers. Prior to completing his engineering degree, he completed his trade as a "fitter turner", working in a number for machine shops. Modelling and engineering have always been passions, including building scale static models to radio control planes, helicopters, boat and cars.

Heather Wilson: Secretary/Treasurer and member of the Otago Miniature Road and Rail Society.

My name is Heather Wilson and I have been involved with Model Engineering Clubs together with my husband Noel for many years. I was fascinated with the operation of steam locos from an

early age and learned how to drive these. I regularly drive Steam, IC and electric at our club the Otago Miniature Road and Rail Society that is situated at Wal's Funland in Mosgiel. My paid employment is the Manager of the Otago/Southland Myalgic Encephalopathy society. I am vice president of ANZMES the National Society, Vice President of the Otago Rock and mineral club, and volunteer in some other community groups. I have a solid background in the running of Clubs and Incorporated Societies and knowledge of Rules and paper work that Model Engineering clubs must run under as have been a club secretary for many years. I am a keen photographer and run Facebook pages for several organisations.



Secretary

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Subscriptions

Subscriptions are now due to MEANZ for the 2021-22 year for \$60. An Invoice has been emailed out to clubs.

Auditors Meeting 2022.

At the Auditors meeting Donald Ross was voted in as a Lead Auditor, along with Richard Lockett. Rob Wilson has stepped down from his position as Lead Auditor while he is president of MEANZ.

Applications for Amusement Device Certificates.

An updated information form has been completed as to what Worksafe requires for Amusement Device Applications and will be sent to clubs along with this newsletter.

Heather Wilson

MEANZ Secretary/Treasurer February
2022