The MOTAT Society Newsletter ISSN 2350-2940 (Print) ISSN 2350-2959 (Online) Issue 17 - Nov 2014

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Hi everyone,

Just a quick newsletter this time, primarily to remind people of the "MOTAT Inc" Reunion function coming up shortly on SUNDAY 7th DECEMBER - see notice on reverse. We are hoping to see many of you there - a chance for current Society and MOTAT team members, along with past contributors, to get together in this 50th Celebration year - we have a number of Life members coming in specially from around the country. Please RSVP to me as soon as possible so I can add you to the list! Also please let me know if you can help out with final preparations or on the day.

Driving Wheel Magazine and Squeaky Wheel Newsletter:

We haven't quite got Driving Wheel Issue 8, the 50th edition magazine, to the printers in time for the Reunion but should have preview printouts available to view with the full magazines out later in December. Along with the magazine we'll include a fuller Squeaky Wheel Newsletter with profiles (of Life members, Lush award recipient, new committee and board members), Reunion and MOTAT 50th Live day pictorials and other news.

AGM Update:

The AGM in September went well with close to 60 attendees. Following the usual AGM business (minutes to follow), plus a brief Board report by Board member James Douglas, we screened Harold Stone's Museum Makers footage which seemed to go down a treat! Thanks again to Frances for use of her screen. We hope to have more MOTAT related footage running in the background at the Re-union function.

Life Members: At the AGM the following were nominated and approved with acclimation:

 <u>Colin Zeff</u>, for his leadership of the tramway section, and work in establishing the tramway extension to the Meola Road site.

- Ken and Andre Pointon, for their huge contributions to the pumphouse restorations and steam section, and Andre for his efforts with the Society, especially the establishment of regular publications.
- Brian Claney, for 46 years dedicated service to the Tramway. Sadly we must announce the passing of Brian in October, farewell Brian you will not be forgotten.

Lush Award: At the AGM, Evan James was nominated and approved as the Lush Award recipient for 2014 for his ongoing contributions as editor of The Controller, the tramways magazine.

New Committee

At the AGM we didn't quite get a full committee of 10, with only 7 members confirmed at that point:

Bill Rayner (Acting Chair), Henry Swan (aviation rep), Jonathan Pote, Kim Heppner (Road Transport rep), Frances Young, Bruce Wild (Rail rep), William Irwin (Telecoms rep).

John Wolf has since been co-opted and we hope to fill the remaining 2 positions shortly - please get in touch if you might be interested. Note next year's committee meetings are moving to the second Monday evening each month.

2014 Board Appointment: In October, the MOTAT Board was joined by new member Graeme Osborne, following this year's Society/Council(RFA) Board appointment process. Many thanks to Philip Heath for this contributions as interim Board member from June to Oct. The media release on Graeme's appointment is available on our website.

Website / Facebook: <u>www.motatsociety.org.nz</u> now includes a link to the new test website and Facebook page I am putting together. Why not check it out.

Thanks everyone - Tessa, Society Administrator



"MOTAT (Inc)" Reunion



When: Sunday 7th December 2014, 3pm - late with greatest attendance expected between 4-6pm. We'll do brief informal speeches around 5:30pm

<u>Where:</u> Point Chevalier RSA, 1136 Great North Road, Pt Chevalier. We'll be in the large back function room

<u>Who</u>: MOTAT Society and MOTAT Team members past and present that have contributed to MOTAT over the last 50 years, along with partners / family.

Parking: public carpark off Parr Road North (behind Pt Chev KFC)

RSVP: Please let Tessa know ASAP if you are coming and with how many extras, so we can book appropriate catering. ph (09)3909160 or mob 021-0479973

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The MOTAT Society invites all those that have contributed to MOTAT's development over the last 50 years to a bit of a Reunion / Christmas get together. Whether you were there at the beginning as part of the Society of MOTAT (Inc) or later as part of the Museum or the MOTAT Society, everyone has played their part - whether as Volunteer, Staff, Board, Society Member or Donor. Let's celebrate everyones contributions, the Museum reaching its 50 year milestone, and catch up with friends past and present.

We hope for a good mix of current and past members, and already have a number of Life members coming from around the country including from as far afield as Invercargill!

We plan to provide some finger food (as afternoon tea/light supper) and a complimentary drink each, with further drinks and food available from the RSA bar and restaurant. We hope the bulk of people will arrive by about 4pm and then around 5:30pm we would like to do a bit of a presentation of this year's Life Member and Lush Award certificates, and say a few words of thanks to everyone, but basically will be keeping it low key and informal.

For ambiance, along with 60s music we plan to have some early MOTAT images on display, early footage running, and early museum publications to peruse, along with preview copies of the 50th magazine. Paul Gourley has also been scanning some of founder Ian Stewart's previously unseen colour slides from his time at the museum so we'll have some prints of these on display.

Check out www.motatsociety.org.nz for last minute updates

