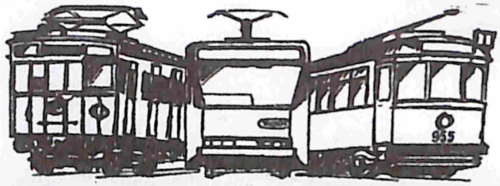
JM 5



MAXIMUM TRACTION

The Newsletter of the Model Tramway Association of Victoria
P.O. Box 305 Camberwell 3124

Issue No: **2012.7** **August** **2012**

Meeting Room: Hawthorn Tram Depot, Wallen Rd., Hawthorn (Melway 45 B 12)
Meetings : **2nd Tuesday of each month .**
President : (Acting Sec / Editor) : Graeme Inglis 9887 9367 or 0417 316 767

Minutes of Members' meeting: Tuesday 14th August at Hawthorn Depot.

Meeting opened: 8.10pm

Present: Kevin Taig, Glen Mills, Graeme Elliott, Jim Potts, Graeme Inglis

Apologies: Steve Altham, Simon Steer

Minutes of previous meeting: Read. Moved received: Graeme Inglis
Seconded: Kevin Taig

Business arising: AGM - to be held at the November meeting.
Advise members that the October meeting is CANCELLED.
(More detail below.)
Working Bee: Thursday 23rd August

Correspondence: In: TramliNZ No. 57 July 2012
Australasian Traction Modeller Vol 24 No. 3 July 2012

Out: Bruce Temperley

Treasurer's report: $1,391.84

General business: Eurotrams (Yahoo Groups): Glen indicated I was in error in last month's 'Maximum Traction' regarding delivery of photos from this site. Apparently selecting 'Daily Digest' for delivery of emails still allows all the posted photos to be seen, the advantage being that you receive only one email from the group rather than many separate individual ones. However, Yahoo may reduce the Kb size of each photo with this. Electing to receive individual emails keeps the photos at their original kilobyte size as sent by each poster if you are keeping copies for yourself.

While 'The Engineer' is available from the 'Grace's Guide' website (http://www.gracesguide.co.uk/), Glen asked if other contemporary magazines such as 'Engineering' are also available. I will check on this as soon as possible. (*Sorry - upon checking, they're not available - Ed.*)

Glen also asked what the MTAV Constitution says regarding eligibility to vote at the AGM. I have checked the only copy I have (dated October 1996 !) and the presumption is that members need to be fully paid-up subscribers; that payment of subscriptions for each current year (1st July to 30th June) should in fact be completed no later than 2 months from 1st of June for the member to retain membership. (So, if you haven't paid up yet - please do so !!!)

Nowhere does the Constitution actually state that in order to vote at the AGM members must be current subscribers. (See below for a proposed alteration to be put forward at the AGM to clarify this apparent anomaly.)

Models for Display: Combino developments: Graeme Elliott outlined further changes he has made in developing his Combino models.

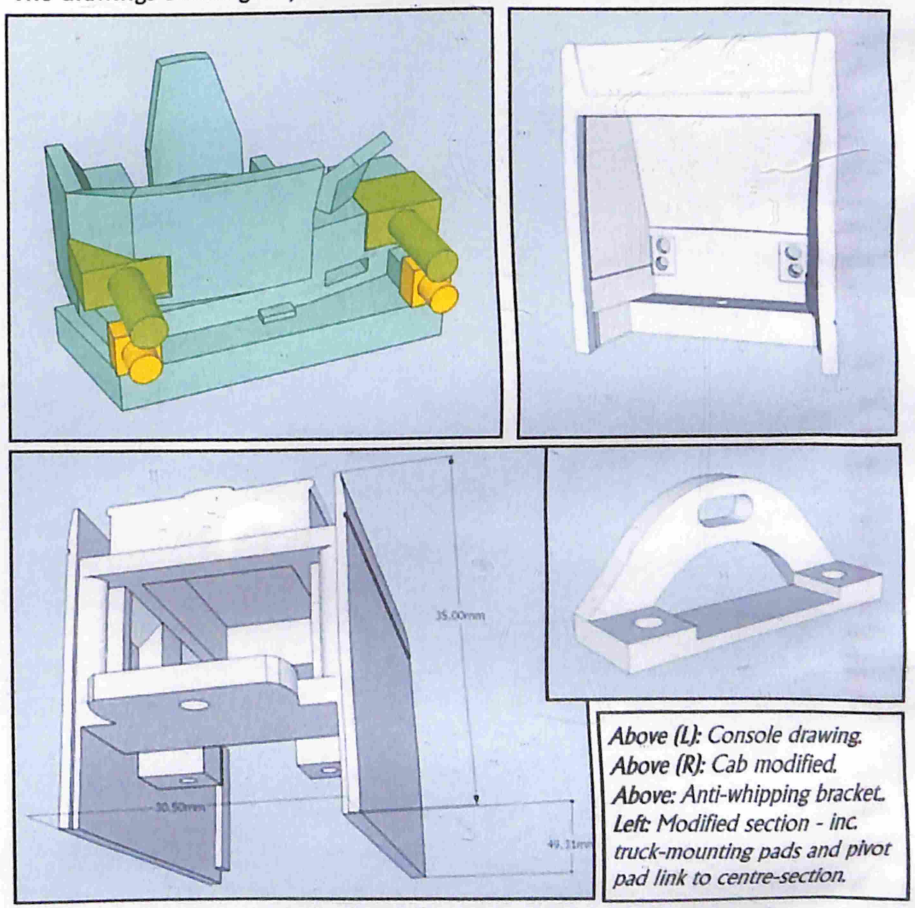
'O' gauge water tanks: Glen tabled two food tins with corrugated sides under their labels which could make fairly effective 'O' gauge water tanks - namely a Coles Tomato tin and a Heinz 220 gram Spaghetti tin !

Meeting closed: 9.19pm

Glen's slides: Graz, Austria 3rd June and 7th October, 1973

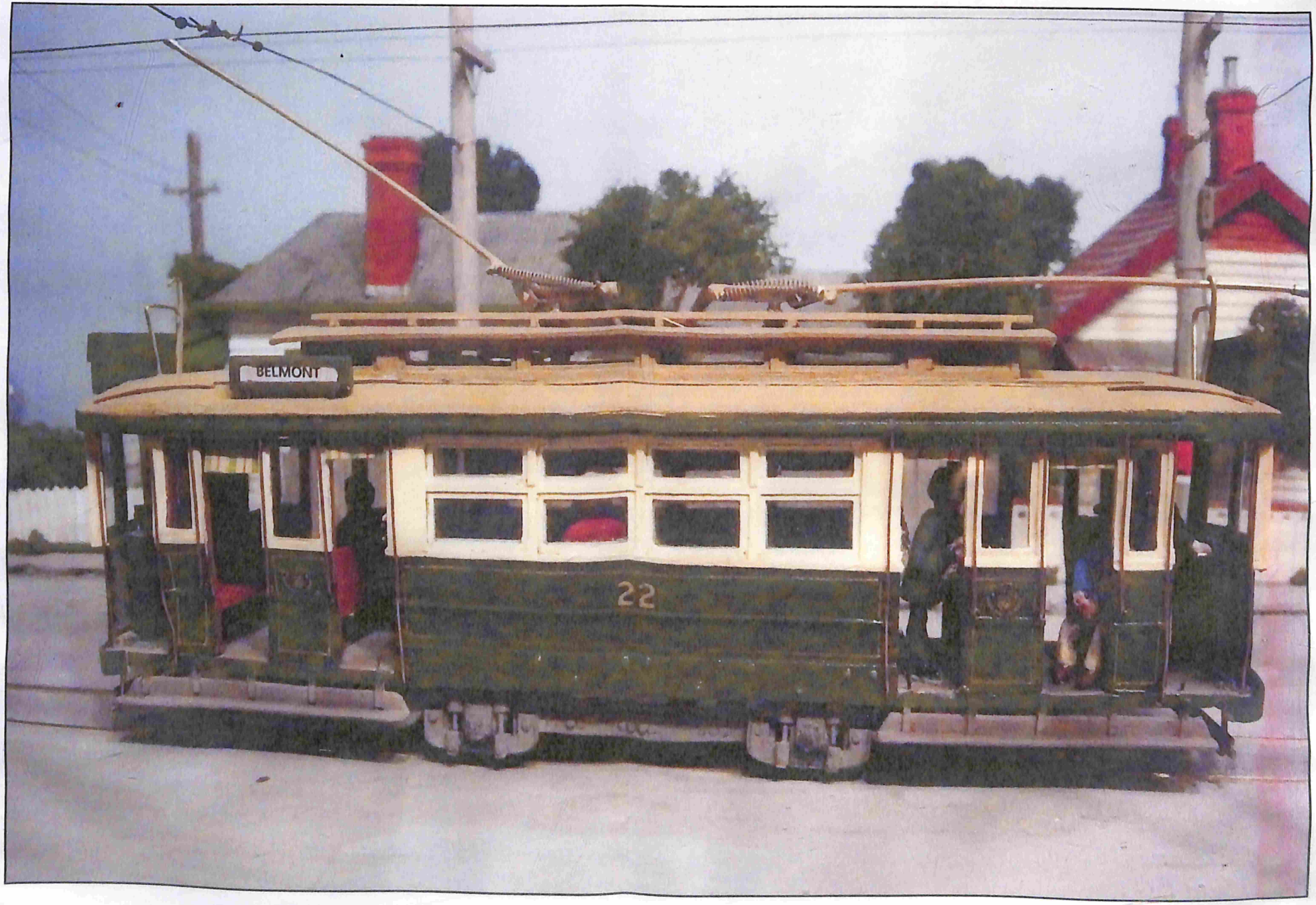
Proposed amendment to MTAV Constitution: To be eligible to vote on any matter arising at an Annual General Meeting, or any Extraordinary Meeting, members must be current, fully-paid subscribers at the time of the meeting'. (**Please note**: The 14 day minimum period to advise members of the proposed change is hereby given. Postal votes are also acceptable if members cannot attend the AGM but must be received by the time of the meeting.

Graeme Elliott's Combino project As mentioned in the Minutes, Graeme has made some further design changes and refinements to his Combino(s). Briefly, these involve modification of the cab consoles and their method of attachment, plus a special bracket to reduce the whipping effect of the longer motor shaft. The drawings below give you a visual idea of these alterations.



Above (L): *Console drawing.*
Above (R): *Cab modified.*
Above: *Anti-whipping bracket.*
Left: *Modified section - inc. truck-mounting pads and pivot pad link to centre-section.*

Jonathan Milne - Geelong Pengelley No. 22: Jon says: *I actually made the truck...a bit rough and ready...not under floor...but runs very well with a lovely (tram?) noise...I used an ex HO diesel motor (a discard from a Rotary friend) complete with flywheels and some gears from my junk box...don't ask me the ratio for I have no idea... the side frames are of course made of card... fortunately I had a plan to work from... I made #22 mostly of card as I did with #5 and I'm very happy with the result... I also made the trolley poles... incidentally, the pole on #5 I purchased from (the late) Peter Duckett at the Model Dockyard way back in the early 60's...that's how long it took for it to see action !*


BELMONT
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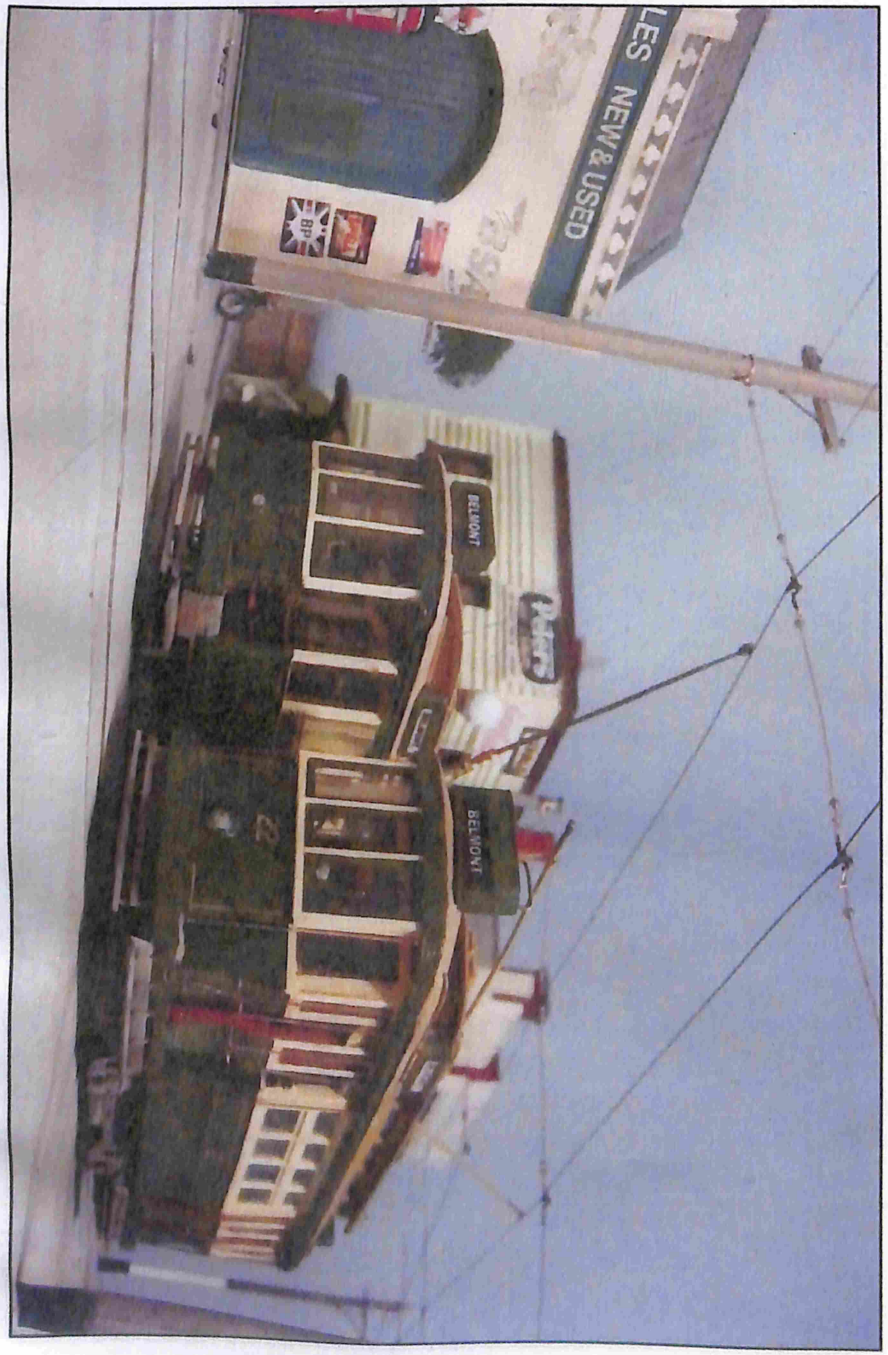
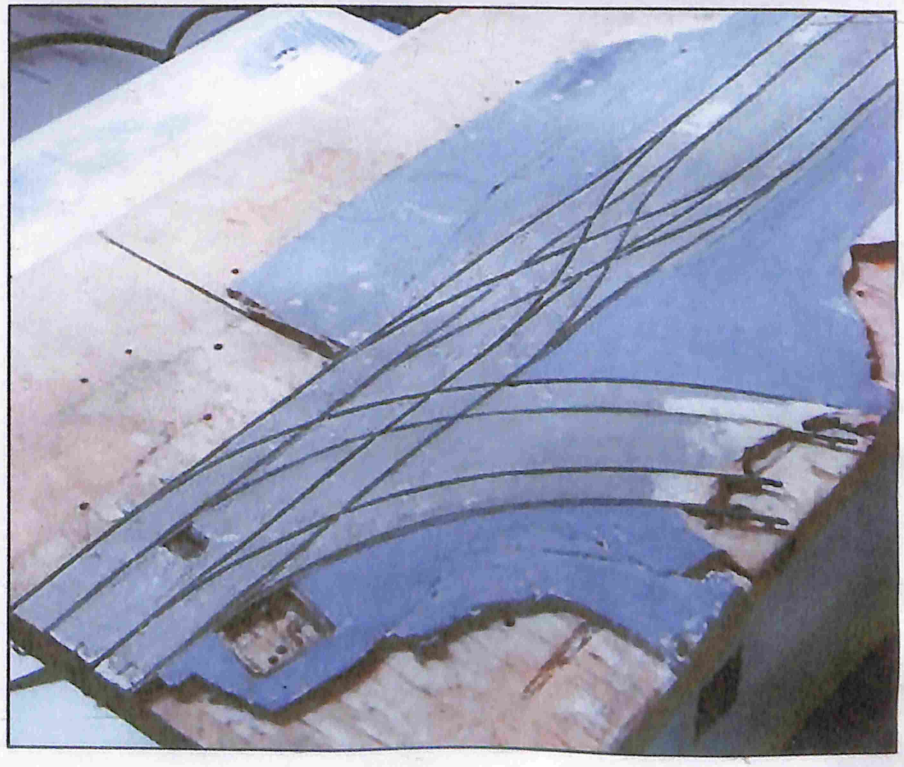
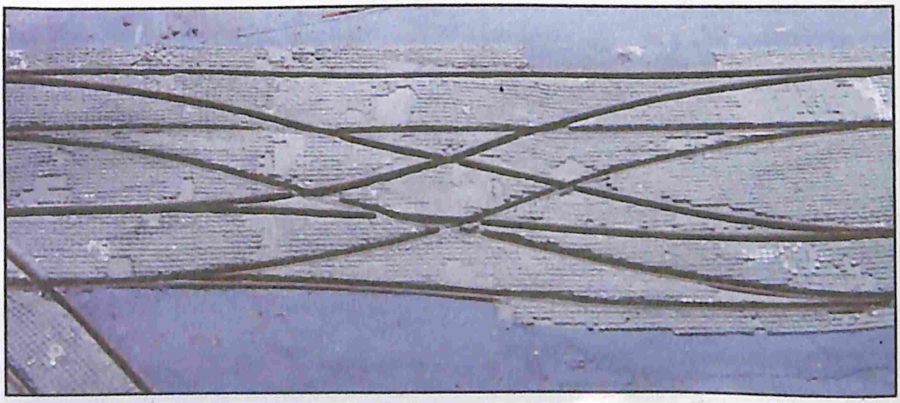


Trackwork: Tramways, being the urban icons they are in cities which have had the foresight to retain them, or renewed foresight to build new ones, present certain modelling challenges - particularly in representing in-road trackwork which not only looks realistic, but also gives trouble-free running of models.

In developing the newest module for the club layout, and making the necessary changes to its immediate neighbour, great care is being taken to get the track 'just right' - operationally and visually because 'good' trackwork also looks 'good'.

By chance I saw a posting on the UK model railway site - RMWeb - which bears this out. As a teenager in the 1960s, Dave Smith built a OO gauge tramway layout modelled on the terminus outside the Town Hall in Wimbledon, South London, with a bit of licence with scratchbuilt track and pointwork. When he moved on to other things in life - cherchez les femmes - he dismantled his layout. For nostalgia's sake he kept a section of the layout with some typically complex trackwork and posted some shots on RMWeb. The quality of his work still stands out nearly 50 years later, as you can see yourselves below and p. 8.





Late News

Tramalan Good news for modellers is that the TRAMALAN Model Business will be back and running commencing in October under the name of TRAM-LINES. All overhead and etched brass items will be available straight away with conversion kits soon after. Full kits will follow as and when time permits.

An email address plus contact phone number will follow as soon as full details are known. The TRAMALAN name will remain with the Tram DVD's from **www.tramalan.com**

The Diablo Movies: Geoff Baxter reports: *I have just finished making a movie about The Diablo drive truck, in order to better explain its features:* **http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h8E8LECEW-Y&feature=plcp** *It was shot in Full HD, so please enjoy it by changing the video quality to 1080p.*

M.T.A.V. Meeting - October 2012

Please note that the meeting scheduled for **Tuesday 9th October** has been **CANCELLED** as Kevin Taig will be away and we will not have access to Hawthorn Depot. Glen Mills will also be away at this time and thus unable to present his Treasurer's Report, so the consensus at the August meeting was that the simplest solution would be to cancel the meeting in October.

Therefore, the **Annual General Meeting** will now be transferred to the November monthly meeting - **Tuesday 13th November.** Apologies for any inconvenience caused, but this now allows the AGM in particular to proceed in one uninterrupted procedure rather than having various adjournments, etc. However, if you are still 'unfinancial', could you please pay your $30 Annual Subscription via P.O. Box 305, Camberwell, 3124, as soon as possible, please.