

EASTER WEEKEND 2018

SMAS WAS AT THE DRAGGINS CAR SHOW ONCE AGAIN!



This Meeting – Wednesday May 2nd
Next Meeting – Wednesday June 6th is a THEME NIGHT!

- #1. The Russians are coming.
- #2. Monster Trucks and other Big Trucks.

Spare Parts is a monthly publication of the Saskatoon Chapter of the International Plastic Modellers Society (IPMS). Articles and comments should be submitted to Mike Reid, Editor, 41 Moncton Place, Saskatoon, SK S7H 4M6 or by email at minreid@shaw.ca.

THE EXECUTIVE PAGE

PROGRAMME FOR THE MAY MEETING

6:30 pm Swap & Sale, socializing, bring and build, etc.
7:30 pm **Business Agenda** (no reason not to continue building at the same time).
Visitors & Introductions.
Old Business: Bridgecon status.
New Business: Update on summer plans and schedule; Any further suggestions for Sunday Build locations during the summer; What topics would members like to see addressed at Greg's workshops.
Juniors.
Treasurer's Report.
Models on the Display Tables.

2018 EVENTS CALENDAR

May 2nd: Regular club meeting.
May 5th: Bridgecon 2018.
May 13th: Sunday Build @ Alice Turner branch library.
May 26th: Mini Maker Faire at Exhibition Place.
June 6th: Club Meeting Theme Night.
#1: The Russians Are Coming.
#2: Monster Trucks and Other Big Trucks.
July 4th: Club Night and review of the "Target Groups" projects.
August 19th: SMAS BBQ hosted by **Sue and John Giesy.**

PRESIDENT'S PIECE

Well, the **DRAGGIN'S Show** is over for another year. It was a success, as usual, with the folks who participated having fun, displaying models and fellowship for the 2 days. I believe its about the 22nd year that we have participated and had fun. It is believed that the fellow who had the most fun was the "barker", "front man", "pedestrian traffic director", the "tank protected cars director", etc, etc, that guided in approximately 500 people towards our display, besides the "folks" that went in on their own, that saw the display being successful again. Thank you to all that participated. On another note....every organization has to have "spark plugs" to run well, just like car and other engines. Our organization is blessed with many "spark-plugs", thus doing a great job, how-ever, "spark-plugs" some times lose their spark or need to be changed, so, remember, our organization needs more "spark-plugs" for future events.

BRIDGE-CON 2018 is ready to go on May 4th & 5th. Let's come out full force with everyone participating as a contestant, a volunteer to assist ("spark-plugs"), make a donation, sponsor a trophy and just tell friends, family and "enemies" to attend. **LET'S** make **Bridge-Con** a success like we did last year, ok, **SMAS?**

A couple of ideas for theme nights are: "Cold War Theme (1946-1991)", "Canadian Remembrance Day-November"; just something to think about, eh?

Just an advance warning, the "**Pres**" will be undergoing some surgery, a left hip replacement on May 16th, thus he may not be available for the next couple of months meetings....however, there are the rest of the **Executive** to assist in that manner, ok, keep up the good work, have fun and make models!

- Raymond Moskowec

SMAS WEBSITE

Need to find SMAS newsletter back issues? Check us out! You can find them at: www.smasonline.net



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COMMENTARY

This month will see the last **Sunday Build** at the **Alice Turner Library** for a while, that is until the library resumes Sunday openings sometime in the Fall. It can be seen from the number of members participating that the location is suitable. In fact (up until the time this is being written) we did not run into parking conflicts with the soccer crowd as we did last year.

Interest has been expressed in continuing these sessions, so other potential locations are being considered. At the **April** meeting **Logan** and **Ken** let us know about a comic book store (**Bridge City Comics**) near the **Shaw Centre** on the west side. The owner, **Lee Pearson**, is not only prepared to provide space for a session, but wondered if it would be possible for **SMAS** members to do a demonstration for making dioramas. With more dioramas appearing on the tables and in displays, it sounds like a practical proposition. From what we have heard about the comic book store programme so far, probably a Saturday would fit best. Something for further discussion for sure, especially if we can interest some of the guys from the **Prairie Rail Workshop** into participating. I know I am not the only one who finds a lot of the scenery work involved with model railroading to be impressive.

Other summertime activities naturally include barbecues. August 19th has been selected by **Sue** and **John Giesy** as the date when they will host the annual **SMAS** “potluck and burger” event. Also a bit earlier in the summer, we intend taking up **Dave Newhouse’s** invitation to **BBQ** at his place. When it happens it will be an opportunity to go to **Group 2** in **Birch Hills** as well, so that probably means a Saturday trip. The other activity that will resume when the weather is better, revolves around **Saturday Workshops** (and **BBQ**) hosted by **Greg Burke**. In those sessions it is possible to demonstrate techniques that are not practical or advisable in the **Parkridge Centre** meeting room. Things such as weathering, resin casting, various approaches to painting and so on are always favourites.

One item that will be added for a workshop is the technique for dealing with clear parts that are marked in one way or another. That does not include clear parts that are cracked, where the only solution is to replace the item. Making replacement clear parts is a subject all to itself.

Near the end of May **SMAS** will participate in the **Mini Maker Faire** at **Exhibition Place**. Exactly how much space we will end up with is not yet clear, but **Colin Kunkel** is communicating with the organizers on an on-going basis. In fact one of organizers came by our display at the **Draggins Show**, so they now have a real idea as to what **SMAS** is all about.

Looking over this page it seems as though there is an awful lot going on, but I hope that does not intimidate anybody. Making opportunities to participate in the hobby has always been a cornerstone of the **SMAS** approach. Nobody is expected to participate in all or any of the activities. It has always been recognized that due to work commitments, other activities or location (e.g. **South Korea**), participation is on the “I will when I can” basis. There are groups where attendance is expected, almost mandatory, or else membership is forfeited- not at **SMAS** and I hope it never comes to that.

- Mike Reid

A BLAST FROM THE PAST AT THE DRAGGINS SHOW

One of the displays that caught the attention of people was this **Showroom and Service Centre** built by **Greg Burke**. He adapted the LED lighting to run off a transformer rather than batteries, so it stayed really bright and attractive for the whole weekend.

A recent press release from “**Burke Developments Inc.**” stated that planning permission had been received for an



adjoining property. The intent is to establish a salvage yard (and possibly a police impound lot?) in the area.

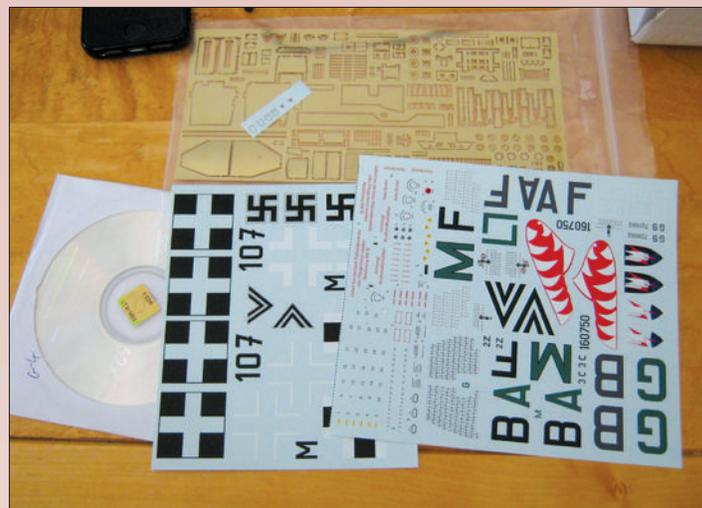
- Mike Reid

PEEK IN THE BOX

Number One

These images are of **Aims Models** conversion set to make a **G model Bf 110** from the **Dragon C,D,E** kits. By telling the maker what kit you have (I have) he tailors the order to that kit.

I've done a D/E to G conversion once already but the conversion set had a few shortcomings (not least of which was serious warpage and two left side engines). I could fill a small book with the problems in that conversion but, having built some of **John Mcillmurray's** (**Aims Models**) **Ju 88** conversions, I felt safe in ordering this kit from him. It is a very cleanly cast resin kit with many parts and



spares, so I'm quite impressed with the contents of the conversion.

I've included a couple of pictures of the **Aims** canopy conversion as well as some images of the **Superbug/Largescale**



conversions kit parts to compare to the **Aims** kit. I'm not sure if it's the state of the art of garage kit makers getting better, although **Aims** products appear to be made in **Hungary** (going by the return address) and not so much a garage kit. The **Largescale** conversion/**Superbug** kit originates in the **United States** and is definitely of garage quality. The **Aims** kit has beautifully cast, clean, bubble and warp free castings. The **Largescale** kit has short shot,



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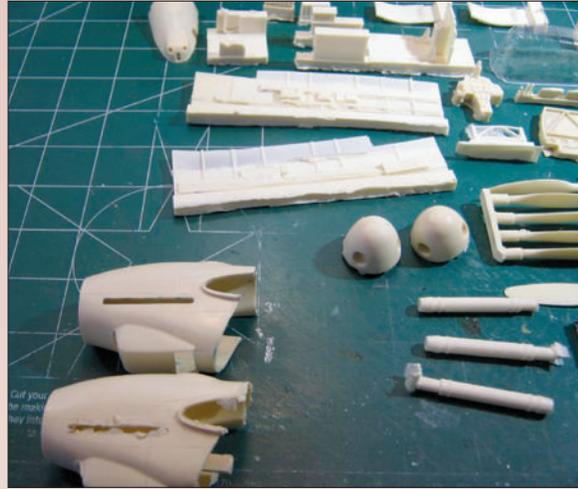
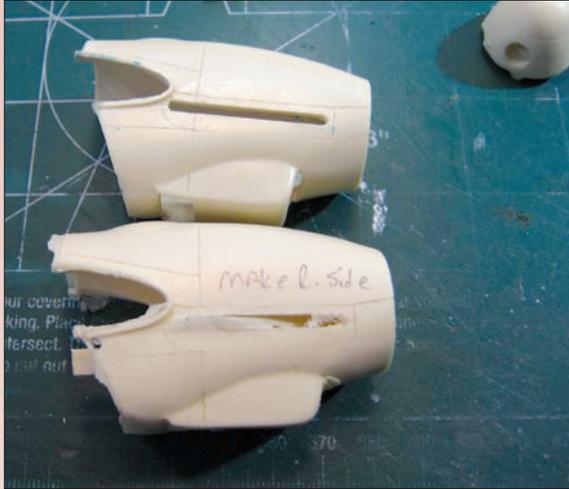
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bubble influence, warpage malformed and dirty parts, although none of those shortcomings prevented me from using the first kit I purchased a few years ago.

The biggest problem with that first kit, as with this one, is two left side engines, requiring a lot of work to make the left side resin engine fit the right side kit nacelle.

Work on this conversion will begin shortly...stay tuned!

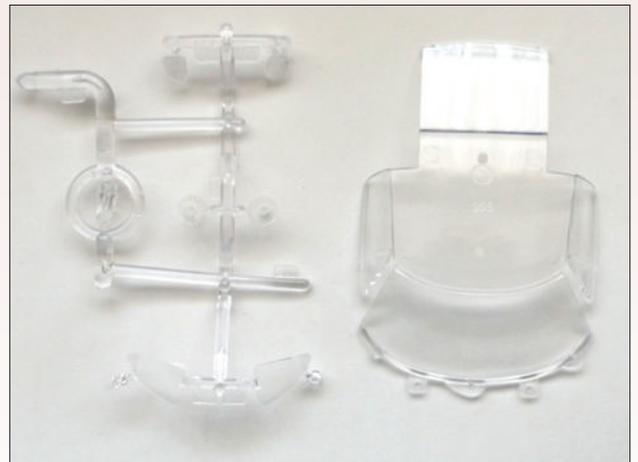
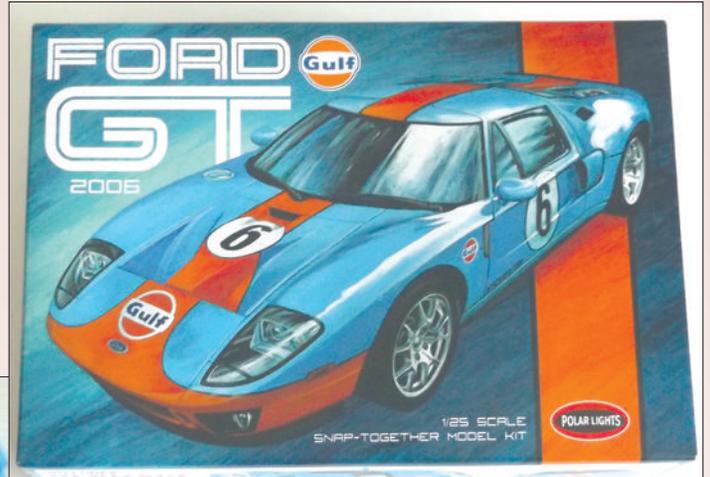
- Chris Parsons



PEEK IN THE BOX

Number Two – 2006 Ford GT in 1/25th Scale from Polar Lights

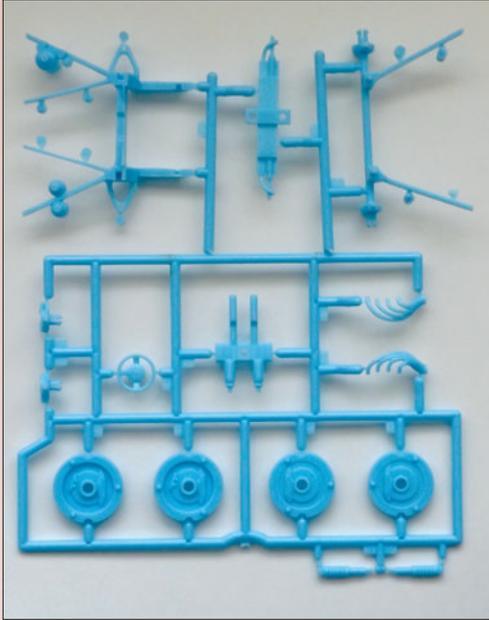
One of the questions posed quite often by potential customers at **Express Hobbies** relates to starter kits for a grandchild/niece/nephew just getting into the hobby. So normally our first response is “what do they like”? No matter what the preference, more often than not we suggest starting with a snap kit of some sort. In the past the selection has been limited and obviously not very challenging. Now there is a kit from **Polar Lights** which, although basically a snap job, appears



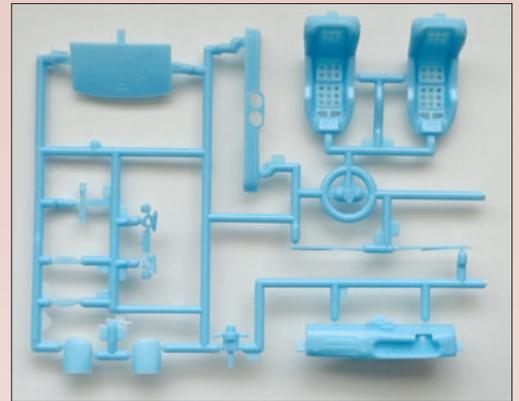
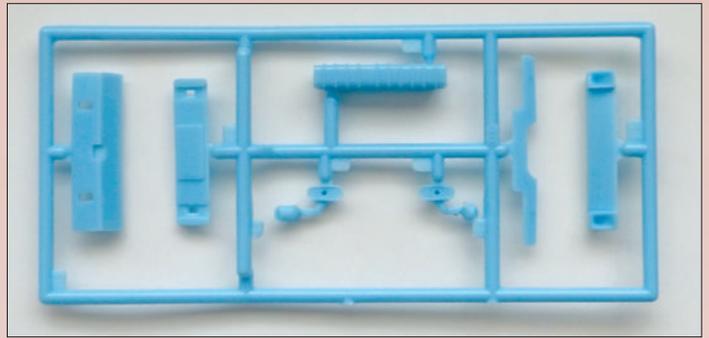
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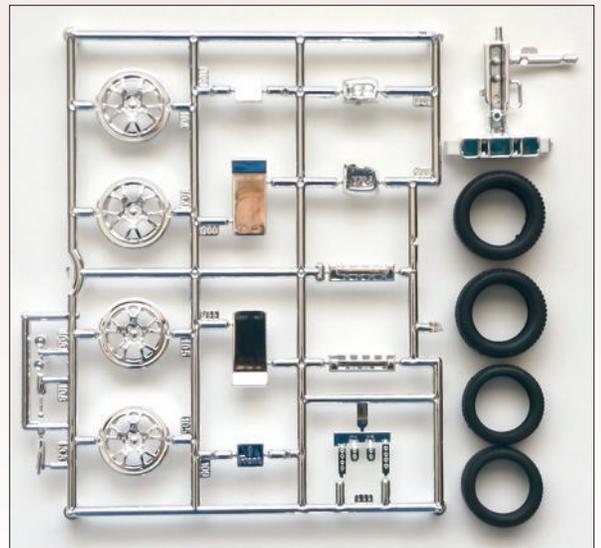
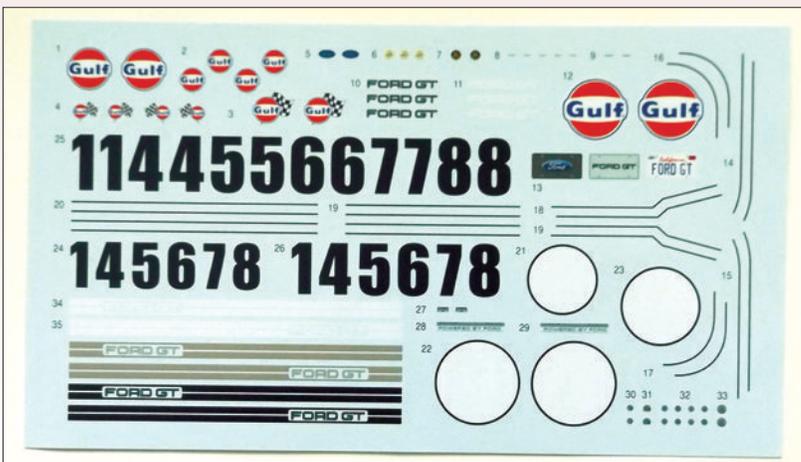
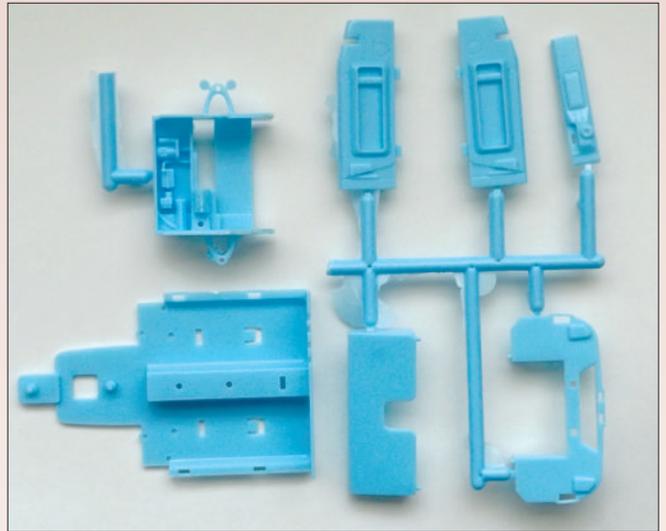
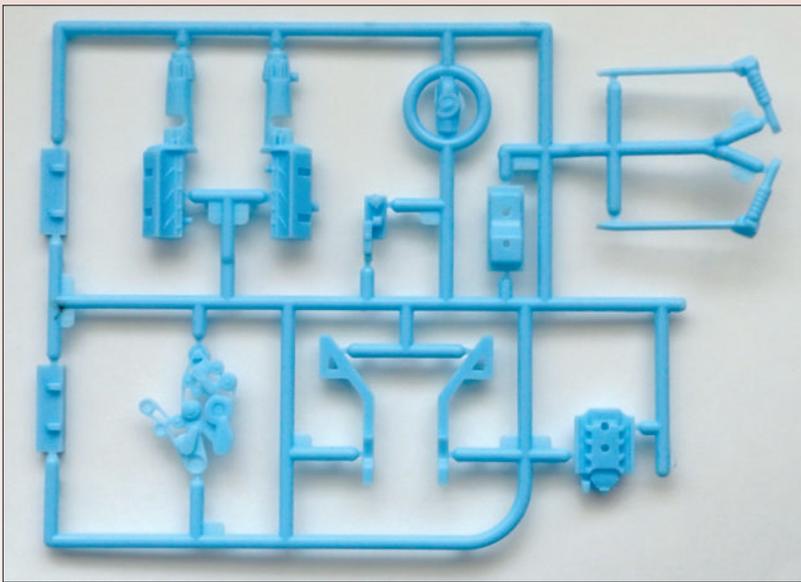
to be engineered and detailed to the point where it is one level above similar kits. In fact the more the kit is examined the more it cries out for detailing.



The box art shows a car in **GULF** colours with racing numbers. There are some photos on the internet that appear to be of a road car presented in such a way. This kit is definitely not a racing car since it lacks the internal protection structure and rear wing amongst other things. The tires provided are road items with heavy tread although they might probably pass for "wets". Turning it into a full blown racer should not be too much of a challenge if somebody wishes to get away from the basic snap version.



- Mike Reid



HOLIDAY HOBBY SHOPS

People familiar with **Southern Ontario** will know that **Mississauga** is in the western part of the **Greater Toronto Area**. This store is easy to find when driving, although access by Transit needs some planning, depending from where you start. The place is well worth a visit regardless of how you get there. For a model builder there are numerous racks of kits which include many out of production kits in addition to current releases. A little digging at the bottom of the aircraft kit racks turned up a few vacuforms and older kits in bags. From personal experience there appears to be a regular turnover in that part of the stock.

The automotive section also looks pretty comprehensive with both new and old kits. The AFV section also appears to be stocked in the same way, although my personal recognition does not run to distinguishing one tank from another. All genres are covered in one way or another and there is a large selection of materials, both in plastic and metals.

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Not all of the materials are there specifically for plastic model builders. Model railroading is well covered and as can be seen from the photos, people in the store have built (and are building) working layouts in the back of the store. Another “moving” hobby that is very nicely covered is slot car racing, with an impressive selection of cars, track sections and other accessories. All-in-all, well worth a visit.

- Mike Reid



SHOPPING CART

"Just getting back into the hobby"- that is a comment heard quite often by **Greg Burke**, **Bob Kunkel** and *myself* while we are doing building demos at **Express Hobby**. The current price of kits is a shock to many people who remember buying such things at places like **Pinders Drugs** for \$6.99. Not only are those days long gone, but there is a whole selection of hobby materials with which many people are not familiar. Also around **SMAS** there are those catching up on the latest innovations. As a result a few **SHOPPING CART** articles will feature items not necessarily familiar to many people, even though they may be repeats to other club members.

The first of these repeats comes at the suggestion of **Colin Kunkel**. It involves a way to mould and cast in resin, some of the simpler shapes we run across. The mould material is two part silicone rubber that is mixed in equal parts. It has a relatively short working life during which it can be shaped to form the mould, so to my mind it is not suitable for all projects.

This particular brand is available from **Michael's Crafts** and is quite economical when bought using their coupons.

Just how large a piece can be moulded only comes with experience, so the key words are "start small". Bear in mind that even a mix made with fresh material has a short working life before it sets. The latest moulds

on my workbench were for four replacement tailplanes (upper and lower) for a WW2 bomber. On reflection it would have been better to have made just two moulds at a time from a single mix of rubber. One thing that was not done very well was to set the finished mould up prior to pouring the resin. If they are not absolutely level the resin will run off the edge leaving an incomplete part. The cure for that should be to make a dam around the outside of the mould using either silicone sealant or a bit more of the mould rubber. A photo here would be nice but this is being written a couple of thousand miles from the work-bench – maybe next time..

Up until now only simple (one flat side) shapes have been copied. When it comes to things such as figures and aircraft propellers, conventional pourable mould material is probably the best technique.

There is one drawback in that the mould material also has a limited shelf life. There is one box in my fridge that is about two years old which, to all intents and purposes, is useless. Even getting it really cold did not extend the set up time.

- Mike Reid



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New Address! 1-306-934-7575
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SMAS meets on the first Wednesday of each month at the Parkridge Centre, 110 Gropper Crescent, Saskatoon (off Fairlight Drive), officially starting at 7:00 p.m. Any suitable material received for the newsletter on the Sunday before the meeting, stands a very good chance of being printed for that issue.

