

B&DSME News

A Company limited by Guarantee registered in England Number 3351832

Volume 22, Issue 9, September 2003

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The
monthly
club news-
letter
For
Bournemouth
& District
Society of
Model En-
gineers

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Watch out Watch out there's a vandal about

The new track is proving to be very successful with many members of the public having rides on Wednesday's.. Friday's & Sunday's, it is a credit to everyone that takes their locos down and does public running this is enabling money to be put back into the society's bank. Ultimately this can then be used to begin to repay the debts the society has incurred in the Littledown project with the members, more news on that later from the committee. Since last months news at least two counts of vandalism have been encountered, the first incident, which some members are aware of involved a section of rail being unbolted and bent through 90 degrees! This quite clearly had been planned. The good news is that this section of rail has been replaced before any running took place. The other was slightly more serious and took place whilst being operational and involved the derailment of a train whilst running luckily no one was injured and the driver could not have foreseen the cause. The latter incident is concerning as children who were refused a ride jammed a stone between the rail out of site of members who were there. The moral is if you suddenly see children who have been hanging about and generally being a nuisance disappear, chances are you may need to be on your guard.

At next month's meeting the subject of the clubs loco the 'Maid of Kent' is going to be raised. It has been suggested that this loco either be sold and the proceeds go towards buying a battery-electric loco for public running, or someone else within the club become the custodian and be responsible for its upkeep and use it for public running. As the loco was donated to the society many years ago it was felt that the membership as a whole should make this decision rather than just the committee. Its up to all of us what we want to do with this loco, personally speaking I'm more than happy to take up the mantle of being the custodian, as I understand so are a couple of other members, its your choice, its your society.

Recently your editor has been seen loitering around various events some near some far. The first being the Bristol Model Engineering exhibition which I advertised in last months issue, quite simply this is an extremely good, well run & well supported show both by the trade and the public alike. The Bristol club have secured the facilities and rights for the next few years. If you can, go next year as did some of our members who enjoyed themselves probably more so because they could see me manning the Polly stand and ask awkward engineering type questions, thanks Brian! The more recent was the Polly Models open weekend at the Nottingham society's track at Ruddington. This

society has got to be one of the most organised and certainly the most friendly I have encountered (bar ours of course!) nothing is too much trouble. The track, signals, tunnels and station give the drivers an interesting run over approximately ½ mile. The traverser, which was described by its builder as 'cobbled together from scrap' is quite simply a charm to operate. A couple of chaps who will remain nameless offered a free holiday by the seaside to the builder in return!!! Everyone that went from our society had a good time, maybe next year more of the Bournemouth society's members can go, it's worth it.

As a footnote to this month's newsletter I would like to say thank you publicly to Brian Merrifield, who under great pressure from yours truly accompanied by some 30 odd members of the society chipping in with advice successfully repaired my Polly loco which I had seized only the previous evening at Luscombe Valley. Without his help I would have been unable to run at Nottingham, I am now auditioning for a part in the 'Black & White Minstrel Show', cheers Brian, dinners on me.....ED



Polly's everywhere, now which one should I buy? Ponders George at a recent gathering.

Situations Vacant

Richard Knott is looking for an experienced engineer to look after and maintain the steam collection at Luscombe Valley. They comprise of: 4" scale Road, & 3.5 & 5" scale locos.

Obviously the engineers standards must be high, as this is a superb railway of some quality which needs to be upheld. Richard is willing to negotiate a fee for the work. Interested in a project of this diverse scale? Then give Richard a call on 01202 709833 to discuss things.

Diary Dates

17-Sep-03 A talk on the Windsor Bell & the Norwegian Royal Yacht by Frank Robinson

15-Oct-03 Presentation on the cinema

19-Nov-03 Jack & Anne Bath - Archive Films

17-Dec-03 Christmas Party

Prize Fund

The monthly key raffle prize now stands at **£103.00** Last months consolation prize went to John Ingram. Good luck to all that participate. Club funds are being helped by all that try their luck

Workshop items for sale

MYFORD 'M' Series Lathe 3 and 4 Jaw chucks, Backplate, fixed and travelling steady, 1 Morse taper drill chuck a Vertical Slide and a Quick Change Tool Post. No Tooling (still wanted) Good working order but well worn. £450.00

TELMECHANIQUE Single to Three Phase inverter With 1 HP Three Phase motor and Manuals £100.00

RODENSTOCK RM600 X-Y Axis table (Profilometer) Fitted with 2 Bearer Lhar 5phase stepper motors, no manuals or information. Table size 100mm x 100mm Set on a piece of granite. Sensible offers invited.

SMALL MIG WELDER £30 SMALL STICK WELDER £15

Phone Nigel Moody 07866 555142 anytime

Chairmans Thoughts

Thanks to Lena and Derek for organising the barbecue I bet we wish we could all raise as good a fire as Derek had that night. Thank you Ladies for the cakes etc. it was nice to see so many of you.

I did not realise we had entertainment booked for that night but well done Editor for the interest you caused with your running repairs. Normans Sweet Pea also caused interest. I will ask the Muscliffe Centre if we can install a bench for this type of occasion in the future! We must sort out some heavier tables if people are going to bring models of this size.

I am sorry if some people could not hear me, I will try harder next time but my main point was the locking of the bollard at the track. If you open it you are responsible for closing it, no ifs or buts. We do not want to lose this facility do we!

The next committee is to be Wednesday 1st October 2003. Regards David

This Months Competition

Q1 Which small railway was recently involved in a driver tragedy?

Q2 A 'Johnson bar' on locos in the U.S. is referred to as what in the U.K.?

Q3 Who has recently acquired Bruce Engineering?

Q4 The original model engineering exhibition is celebrating how many years this year?

Last Months Competition

A1 4.5Km

A2 LBSC

A3 Dural

A4 Golden Hind

South West Model Expo.2003

27th - 28th September Tank Museum Bovington

10:00am to 5:00pm each day

And Finally

At a recent computer conference a Swedish company announced the introduction of the worlds smallest voice recognition computer. Many top experts in the computer field were flown to the factory at great expense in private jets and then in air conditioned limousines to the factory. When they arrived they were escorted at top security to an area where sure enough there was this extremely small computer connected to a microphone and printer. The man in charge asked the engineers if anyone had a question they would like to ask the computer in order to test its brilliance. Finally one man stepped forward and having thought long and hard about a question he stepped up to the microphone and said "Where is my father" a few seconds passed, the computer sprang into life, with flashing lights a whirring of the printer motor out is spat a piece of paper which read, 'Fishing in Ireland'.

The audience were amazed however the man who asked the question said "Wait its not correct my father is dead" Silence fell over the gathered audience. The head designer suggested that maybe the question wasn't asked correctly and perhaps if it was re-worded then the result may prove more favorable. So having thought for a minute the volunteer once more stepped up to the microphone and said "Where is the husband of my mother" The computer paused, then again with a flashing of lights and a whirring of the printer a piece of paper was spat out which read "The husband of your mother was killed over the English channel in his spitfire by a German luftwaffe pilot at 10:15 am on the 2nd June 1943"

"However your father is still fishing in Ireland."



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