

B&DSME News

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

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**February
News**

Spring is in the Air

As the daffs start to break through the soil in my garden, it seems such a long time ago that Brian and I were organising the Christmas special. Judging by your feedback it appears everyone that came and helped, had a super day. Or are the seasons getting shorter? Anyway the new traverser is coming on nicely, Graham (feeler gauges) Osmond ably assisted by Phil (Taz) Cutler & Bob (Cme) Deveraux are working hard to get all the pieces in place ready for the changeover day, but more news on that as the weeks progress. What we do have to look forward to this year is a number of special events. The first being the official opening by the RW. Mayor of Bournemouth. This event will take place on Easter Sunday the 11th April at Middy. The society is hoping to escort the Mayor from the official car to the station by way of a traction engine in full steam. If this is permitted and we can arrange a traction engine then this will demonstrate to the authorities how safe they are and also raise the awareness to others that the society is more than a 'train club'. On that Sunday members are requested to have any models in situ on the steaming bays by 10:30 am at the latest. There will be many official visitors that day ranging from the councillors through to the contractors who worked for us; there is rumour that the architect may even make a guest appearance albeit not in his dress! The local media will be high in attendance so polish your shoes chaps. More details will be announced at the next few club nights.

The next event for the society will be the June on the 11th June when the society plans to throw its doors open to visiting societies on their open day. On this day as its an Open Day, car parking will be reserved for visitors with loco's only, all BDSME members will have to park in the main car park. This promises to be a very good day with visiting societies being given a ploughman's lunch along with tea and cakes in the afternoon. I understand that members of the committee are organising this event, stay tuned for more details as they appear. One day you do need to note in your diary, is the J.P.Morgan 4th July celebrations weekend. Negotiations are commencing with the organisers, if we aren't invited to take part, which after last years event is highly unlikely, then the track will be shut for the two days. Next comes a charity day on Sunday 8th August where all proceeds for the day will go to the Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance of which Dr. John Hoyle does so much fund raising for. So the more advertising

we can do the more members of the public will come and take part and the more money we can raise, I'm hoping the helicopter will make a guest appearance, as if it does I'm first!

The important thing for everyone to be aware of is a rule change. As of Sunday 11th April it will be mandatory for spark arrestors to be fitted to all passenger hauling steam locomotives from that point onwards. This has to be enforced to stop anyone coming to harm now that the public are becoming increasingly aware of 'claim culture'. If you do not take members of the public for rides then it isn't a requirement.

So all in all it looks like its going to be a busy year for the society what with the increasing awareness of our presence by the public, Sundays look like becoming busy. The emotive subject of the club loco 'The Maid of Kent' has been resolved at last and the committee have taken the decision (thankfully) to retain this specimen of hard work and not to sell it. What is now required is a custodian of the loco. I know that a number of people are interested in this position and if you are one of them or know someone who will take this loco under their wing, maintain, run and generally care for it then please submit you name in an envelope to a committee member by no later than Tuesday the 24th February. At the committee meeting that will take place the very next day a decision will be made as to the new custodian.

The club is currently contemplating the fate of a 3.5" Juliet locomotive that was part of the bequeath from the estate of the late Mike & Dianne Styles. What the committee need to know from you the members is whether it should be sold to the highest bidder in a sealed bid auction or kept within the club in a similar format to the Maid Of Kent. It is important that at the next club night your views are aired. To round things off this month, news of the societies Annual Dinner at the Crooked Beam restaurant saw 30 diners enjoying wine and food again 'it was an enjoyable evening' said Dick Ganderton. The society also attended the Wembley engineering exhibition again this was a nice run out for the day despite numbers not being quite what they should have been. For those that did brave the perils of the minibus I can only say that if I run a trip next year I will get a bigger bus! Hopefully one that also won't conk out on me when returning it to the rental company! Hey Ho mustn't grumble. ED

Diary Dates

18-Feb-04 - Brian Chidgey "Road Safety for Model Engineers"

25-Feb-04 - Committee Meeting

17-Mar-04 - Richard Knott "Video Evening"

24-Mar-04 - Committee Meeting

1-Apr-04 - Visit Cheddar Models

11-Apr-04 - Official Opening

21-Apr-04 - Alan Frampton "Wildlife Wood Carving"

19-May-04 - Malcolm Bowditch "Cordite Factory at Holton Heath"

13-June-04 - Open day

16-Jun-04 Bits and Pieces

Subscriptions Now Over Due

£18.00 Single £19.00 Joint

Chairmans Thoughts

Good news we now have a date for our official opening on the 11th April at 12.00 midday by Mr Mayor as she has to be officially addressed, so we need a good turn out from all the members for this special event. It's a chance for us to show off our club so let's have a good display of models of any kind, shapes and sizes. Also it would be good if all the steaming bays had locos on display even if not working. The Mayor will be with us for about half an hour I am told to do the official bit, she may decide to stay longer and have a cup of tea (note we may have to buy an official cup and saucer) then we can entertain our invited guests for the rest of the day. More details of help required nearer the time. A start has been made on tidying the hut out, the scenery has been stored in the corner and the carpets tied up in the roof. The Christmas presents and decorations have been taken off site for safe storage. We need to try to keep the hut clear of unwanted articles (no more junk). The old ply wood sheets and oil drum will go to the tip unless somebody wants to take them away. The council have started to plant some shrubs at the back of the hut to try to disguise it but this could take a few years to mature. We have contacted the council regarding access in to the track as this is very muddy and rutted hopefully I will have some news at the next meeting about this. So if you use the drive through the trees to get to the track please take care.

Martin

David

This Months Competition

Q1 What was the working pressure of Rockets original boiler?

Q2 This year marks the centenary of what historic event?

Q3 What is the date of the official opening?

Q4 What is the name being given to the world land speed steam car challenger?

Last Months Competition

Q1 8 Euros.

Q2 King George V No.6000.

Q3 The first microchip

Q4 3 Years

And Finally

A undergraduate engineering couple were invited to a swanky family masked fancy dress Halloween party. The wife got a terrible headache and told her husband to go to the party alone. He, being a devoted husband, protested, but she argued and said she was going to take some aspirin and go to bed and there was no need for his good time to be spoiled by not going. So he took his costume and away he went. The wife, after sleeping soundly for about an hour, woke without pain and as it was still early, decided to go to the party. As her husband didn't know what her costume was, she thought she would have some fun by watching her husband to see how he acted when she was not with him. So she joined the party and soon spotted her husband in his costume, cavorting around on the dance floor, dancing with every nice "girl" he could and copping a little feel here and a little kiss there. His wife went up to him and being a rather seductive babe herself, he soon left his new partner high and dry and devoted his time to her. She let him go as far as he wished, naturally, since he was her husband. After more drinks he finally he whispered a little proposition in her ear and she agreed, so off they went to one of the cars and made passionate love in the back seat. Just before unmasking at midnight, she slipped away and went home and put the costume away and got into bed, wondering what kind of explanation he would make up for his outrageous behavior. She was sitting up reading when he came in, so she asked what kind of time he had. "Oh, the same old thing. You know I never have a good time when you're not there." Then she asked, "Did you dance much?" He replied, "I'll tell you, I never even danced one dance. When I got there, I met Pete, Bill Brown and some other guys, so we went into the spare room and played poker all evening." "You must have looked really silly wearing that costume playing poker all night!" she said with unashamed sarcasm. To which the husband replied,

"Actually, I gave my costume to your Dad. Apparently he had the time of his life."



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