

B&DSME News

www.bdsmengineers.co.uk

A Company limited by Guarantee registered in England Number 3351832

Editor
Richard Harvey
19 Kings Ave.
Christchurch
Dorset BH23 1NA
rharvey@exchequer.com
01202 481100

Volume 23, Issue 11, November 2004

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

*Sec.Dave
Finn 01202
474599*



November
News

Auction Time

In this months newsletter you will find a list of items that are going to be auctioned at the December meeting, the proceeds of which will be used to start the building fund account. It was decided at the last committee meeting that we needed a long-term strategy to be put in place to provide funds for our station and eventually a replacement engine shed. Much talk over the past years has been on the subject and now the committee has decided to open a separate account with the building society to start to accumulate the funds necessary for such a project, the auction will kick start this. For those that came I hope you had an enjoyable hot meat tap last Sunday, perhaps if demand was there I could organise a large whole pig roast next time, let me know. I'm glad to see a few orders for corporate shirts in the post, remember I need to order a minimum of six at a time so I have taken the liberty of including an order form with this months newsletter. If you are still thinking about buying one then please let me have it back with the money and I can process an order, for those that have sent me the details I'm waiting on a couple of more members to order.

As for the track a couple of things you need to be aware of. It was decided that a large working party to repair the tightness of the gauge wouldn't be required by Dick Ganderton as it was felt that a small party on Wednesday's could more than handle this task. On the subject of gauge, I made a mistake in last months news, I said it was over gauge this was incorrect and I apologise for the confusion it may have caused. What I should have said was that the gauge was "tight" (rather like model engineers really)! The siding has had all the support posts cemented in place and the next task will be to put the rail on the top of them and alter the bendy beam, but that's an engineers job so that leaves me out. Bookings are coming in for this years Santa Specials on the 19th when this letter went to print we were up around the 50 mark well done everyone that is promoting this, perhaps we can all have a final push to promote this special day in the last few weeks, bookings to Brian Merrifield please.

Its early days yet but Brian and I will be organising a Polly owners day next June with a talk from the manufacturer at an additional club night accompanied by a Saturday run and Barbeque, so for 'Polly's in the Park' watch this space. The "And Finally" this month is a little long and if you dont have a P/C may not seem funny, but for the ones that have and have had troubles read it through. Remember its ladies night next meeting so God knows what Brian has planned, should be interesting.

Happy steaming

ED

Purbeck Visit

We are invited to the Purbeck Miniature Railway, which is located in the senior school in Wareham for an afternoons steaming on their 7.25" railway on Saturday 11th December starting at 1pm to 6pm. Hot soup will be provided all afternoon.

Alexandra Palace Model

Engineering Exhibition

Sunday 23rd January 2005

I am investigating the possibility of a coach trip to the London show in January we will need a minimum of 30 passengers each paying approximately £15.00 – entry to the exhibition will be extra. At the October evening meeting approximately 16 people expressed an interest so we are currently half way to our goal. If you have not already put your name down and would like to be a part of this adventure then please let me as soon as possible Tel: 01202 683701. Many thanks Brian Merrifield.

Luscombe Valley Railway

Luscombe Valley Railway Santa Special on December 18th. Father Christmas at 12.30. Reindeer willing!

Traverser Report P2

As most of you will know (those that visit the club track that is) the flat rail for the traverser is now in place, it required some 86 aluminium spacers, each machined to a specific measurement & each stamped with a number 1-49 many are paired some tubular, all now idden under cement ramping. Overall levels should be within +/- 1.0mm, V-rail to flat rail and down the lengths and across. So far so good., I can now get on with the wheeled units. Phil has straightened out the buckle that was somewhat distorted after welding, all is now well. The buckle can now be fitted to the short plain wheeled unit & put to one side. One of the dirtiest and time consuming jobs has been descaling the black iron we had to use, not only to prevent wear and tear of machine tools cutters etc, but to provide a sound surface on which to paint, my hands have never been so black. Oh well on with the next part, more later

Graham Osmond.

Diary Dates

- 17- Nov-04 Jack & Anne Bath Ladies Night
- 24-Nov-04 Committee Meeting Gallery Room
- 15- Dec-04 Christmas meeting and Auction
- 18- Dec-04 Luscombe Valley Railway Santa Special
- 19- Dec-04 Santa Specials
- 26-Jan-05 Christmas Party

Last Months Competition

- Q1 Michelin Man
- Q2 Felix (Wankel)
- Q3 Breathalyzer
- Q4 Janitor

This Months Competition

- Q1 John Walker from Stockton on Tees Invented what?
- Q2 What was the name of the town where George Stephenson came from?
- Q3 Who invented the steam turbine?
- Q4 The town of Wylam was the home to two famous people who were they?

Chairmans Thoughts

The leaves have turned, the blossoms faded – a time for reflection on the season. We finished with a Sunday roast courtesy of the editor, thanks Richard and the ladies for serving it up to everybody and supplying tea and cakes. I am sure everybody that attended had a great day and the weather was kind to us yet again. Good to see Brian's traction engine running in the park again it shows that members have other interests than locos. I hope all the male members will be getting ready to do the Teas and coffees at our next club meeting as it is a Ladies night so we need plenty of volunteers. So aprons at the ready gents we need to show them how it can be done! Do not forget we have got our Christmas Party, raffle and auction on 15th December followed by our Father Christmas event on Sunday 19th December so will all our Father Christmas's get in training for that day by eating plenty and plumping yourselves up. Well the summer season has ended but this does not mean we have finished running, the track is open all through the winter for those who want to run. Subject to any maintenance that has to be done Bob Devereaux will be keeping us all informed and will be looking for helpers on certain tasks. The committee is looking in to applying for a grant from Awards for All, part of the lottery, to fund the new station and I will keep you all informed of our proposals in the next few months. David Martin

And Finally

A recent call to our support desk!

Dear Tech Support,

I'm currently running the latest version of GirlFriend and I've been having some problems lately. I've been running the same version of DrinkingBuddies 1.0 forever as my primary application, and all the GirlFriend releases I've tried have always conflicted with it. I hear that DrinkingBuddies won't crash if GirlFriend is run in background mode and the sound is turned off. But I'm embarrassed to say I can't find the switch to turn the sound off. I just run them separately, and it works okay. GirlFriend also seems to have a problem co-existing with my Golf program, often trying to abort Golf with some sort of timing incompatibility. I probably should have stayed with GirlFriend 1.0, but I thought I might see better performance from GirlFriend 2.0. After months of conflicts and other problems, I consulted a friend who has had experience with GirlFriend 2.0. He said I probably didn't have enough cache to run GirlFriend 2.0, and eventually it would require a Token Ring to run properly. He was right - as soon as I purged my cache, it uninstalled itself. Shortly after that, I installed GirlFriend 3.0 beta. All the bugs were supposed to be gone, but the first time I used it, it gave me a virus anyway. I had to clean out my whole system and shut down for a while. I very cautiously upgraded to GirlFriend 4.0. This time I used a SCSI probe first and also installed a virus protection program. It worked okay for a while until I discovered that GirlFriend 1.0 was still in my system. I tried running GirlFriend 1.0 again with GirlFriend 4.0 still installed, but GirlFriend 4.0 has a feature I didn't know about that automatically senses the presence of any other version of GirlFriend and communicates with it in some way, which results in the immediate removal of both versions.

The version I have now works pretty well, but there are still some problems. Like all versions of GirlFriend, it is written in some obscure language I can't understand, much less reprogram. Frankly I think there is too much attention paid to the look and feel rather than the desired functionality. Also, to get the best connections with your hardware, you usually have to use gold-plated contacts. And I've never liked how GirlFriend is totally "object-oriented."

A year ago, a friend of mine upgraded his version of GirlFriend to GirlFriendPlus 1.0, which is a Terminate and Stay Resident version of GirlFriend. He discovered that GirlFriendPlus 1.0 expires within a year if you don't upgrade to Fiancee 1.0. So he did, but soon after that, he had to upgrade to Wife 1.0, which he describes as a huge resource hog. It has taken up all his space, so he can't load anything else. One of the primary reasons he decided to go with Wife 1.0 was because it came bundled with FreeSexPlus. Well, it turns out the resource allocation module of Wife 1.0 sometimes prohibits access to FreeSexPlus, particularly the new Plug-Ins he wanted to try. On top of that, Wife 1.0 must be running on a well warmed-up system before he can do anything. Although he did not ask for it, Wife 1.0 came with MotherInLaw which has an automatic pop-up feature he can't turn off. I told him to try installing Mistress 1.0, but he said he heard if you try to run it without first uninstalling Wife 1.0, Wife 1.0 will delete MSMoney files before doing the uninstall itself. Then Mistress 1.0 would uninstall anyway because of insufficient resources. Looking for your advice.



November
News