

The monthly club  
newsletter for  
Bournemouth &  
District Society of  
Model Engineers

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## Chairman's Thoughts

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> was another fine day with just a few of us in steam. Cream teas and cakes were laid on by the ladies and enjoyed by all that attended. We must say a big 'Thank You' to Peggy for cooking all the scones. A good opening for the start of the season.

You might have noticed that JP Morgan have put up new No Smoking signs, making their campus a No Smoking Zone. This has pushed their smokers into our area of the park and we now seem to have a problem with dog ends littering the ground. All the smokers now come out of JP Morgan and immediately light up, putting out their fags before going back in to work. We have contacted Littledown and asked them to tackle JP Morgan on our behalf as it is their park and hopefully they will have some clout with them. So, please can our smokers use the Dog End Buckets so we do not add to their dog ends.

What an Exhibition! It started with the tables being set up by John of the Ringwood Town & Country Museum on Friday and by the time I got there on Friday afternoon the tables had been covered with blue paper and many models were in position. The 16mm Narrow Gauge mob had set up their portable layout and had two locos in steam and the final finishing touches were being made to the scenery.

Models were being brought in and, very important this, booked in and placed in their relevant sections. What a diverse selection with models of all types from boats, motor bikes, locomotives of all gauges, traction engines in steam running up and down outside, a miniature fairground organ and working clocks to IC engines, stationary steam engines actually working, if only on air, workshop tools, electronics and even model aeroplanes hung from the ceiling, which all goes to show that as a society our members have many varied interests.

Saturday morning came and the final touches were being made to the exhibition. The *Bournemouth Echo* arrived and took some photographs, so by the time this *Newsletter* comes out hopefully we should have had a picture in the paper. (We did, in the Tuesday edition. Ed.) The

doors were opened and we had a steady stream of people - 106 on Saturday and 93, I believe, on Sunday. The Ringwood Town & Country Museum staff was most helpful with drinks and those who had meals in the Bistro were impressed. They asked me if we would like to do it all again next year!

The ladies once again showed they also have many skills and talents and just not for making the tea and feeding us. This is also good for any prospective new members to see that they can all participate in the Society. We did get cake, thanks to Peggy's surprise birthday cake, which she kindly shared with us all on Saturday afternoon, but unfortunately I missed out on the Sunday morning cream cakes supplied by Jean Brookes. We also ate the other cakes on the Sunday afternoon.

The event came to a close and all the exhibits were booked out before leaving the building. The table coverings were folded and packed up ready for another day.

Again I would like to thank every body who helped with the Exhibition and Ringwood Town & Country Museum for hosting the Exhibition. A special vote of thanks must go to John Hoyle and Dick Ganderton; without their many late nights spent planning and organising, it would not have been such a success.

It was nice to see what useful materials are available from Museum Engineering Workshops, Tel: 07836 764384. Mike gave out quite a few of his lists on both days.

Next month we have our Open Weekend on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> June, a two day event again. Hopefully we will have a better turnout of visitors than last year. Don't forget to bring your loco so that if nobody turns up we can still enjoy ourselves, but visitors, of course, have priority.

It was decided at the last Committee Meeting to have a 'No Steam Sunday' on 15<sup>th</sup> July, giving all those with battery locos a chance to run all day without having to give way to steam.

The next **Committee Meeting** is in the **Littledown Centre** on **Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May** commencing at **7.30 pm**.

**David Martin**

## Speedy News

As many of you will know Speedy's new boiler has made its first public appearance at our model engineering exhibition complete with the inner and outer firebox wrapper formers. If you did have a chance to inspect it I hope you are pleased at the way it is taking shape; I would like to be able to claim it is all my own work but the truth is Merlin Biddlecombe is the man responsible for the neat workmanship. The next stage is to roll the boiler barrel, which is going to be done by a friend of Merlin's, Pete Carr, who you may recognise as a boiler maker based in Bristol. By the time you read this it should have been done and then we can start the process of silver soldering it together.

Ron Challenger has made a start on machining the axle boxes and is now waiting for the frames to come back from up north where the horns are being trimmed up by Dick's friend, Ken Cottle.

Brian Merrifield

## Editor's Ramblings

I hope that you all enjoyed our Exhibition. Everyone I have spoken to did, including the ladies, who, I think, put on a fantastic display. Neil Horder put together a very professional DVD of our activities for the show. We propose to make an enhanced version for sale to Members. If you are interested, let me know.

Just a couple of items. Are you on Broadband and want to receive your *Newsletter* via e-mail? Let me know - **by e-mail** - please. Why only by e-mail? That way I get your current e-mail address!

As you will have noticed I use my computer for just about everything I do. I appreciate that not all of you have a computer and I try to make allowances for that. However, if you use your computer to write something for the *Newsletter*, please, please, do not print it out and hand me the paper version. I am not a copy typist and it's very frustrating to see a beautifully prepared piece of text, knowing that it is sitting on your computer. I need the computer file, but **not** in **.wps** format. I need either a **.doc** or a **.txt** file. It is simple to save it in either of these formats - do a 'Save As' and select the 'File Type' from the menu.

The doctor still won't let Peggy travel, so our Granddaughter Inspection has been postponed for at least another month. **This means that the Copy Date for the June issue will now be Friday 1<sup>st</sup> June.**

Dick Ganderton

## 16mm Up-Date

**S**ecurity. That is the theme at the moment. A set of removable panels, with locks, to cover the whole track bed is almost complete. By the time you read this, it is hoped the whole system will be 'locked up' and we may even have started track laying.

Let the fun begin!

Gordon Miles & Dave White

### Other Events

The **Southern Federation Rally** will be held at the **Oswestry MES** site at the **Oswestry Show Ground**. See below for details of how to get to the site.

19<sup>th</sup> May 2007

**Oswestry MES** have their **Open Day** at their site at the Oswestry Show Ground. Further info and directions from Glyn Davies 01691 650352 or on their website [www.oswestry-mes.co.uk](http://www.oswestry-mes.co.uk)

20<sup>th</sup> May 2007

**Vale of Aylesbury MES Annual Miniature Traction Engine Rally**

Dick has further details and Entry Forms  
2<sup>nd</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2007

**Guilford Rally & Exhibition**

21<sup>st</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2007

### Luscombe Valley Happenings

Richard Knott has now arranged the dates for his 'Steam Enthusiast Weekends'. You will be able to run, shunt and do what you want with no public or serious passenger hauling to spoil your enjoyment. As Richard says, "Luscombe Valley as it used to be!"

Grand Charity Weekend 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> July

Autumn Running Weekend 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> September

Steam Enthusiast Weekend  
29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> September

Humbug Day December 22<sup>nd</sup>

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## B&DSME Diary Dates

10 <sup>th</sup> May	Monthly Informal Technical Discussion Meeting; 7.00 for 7.30 pm. Muscliff Community Centre. <b>Note change of date.</b>
16 <sup>th</sup> May	Monthly Meeting; Muscliff Community Centre. Wild Life Trust.
7 <sup>th</sup> June	Monthly Informal Technical Discussion Meeting; 7.00 for 7.30 pm. Muscliff Community Centre. Back to normal first Thursday.
20 <sup>th</sup> June	Monthly Meeting; Muscliff Community Centre.
16 <sup>th</sup> & 17 <sup>th</sup> June	Open Weekend; Littledown Miniature Railway.
5 <sup>th</sup> July	Monthly Informal Technical Discussion Meeting; 7.00 for 7.30 pm. Muscliff Community Centre.
15 <sup>th</sup> July	No Steam Day; Littledown Miniature Railway.
18 <sup>th</sup> July	Monthly Meeting; Muscliff Community Centre.

## Exhibition - Thank You From The Organisers

Well, the Exhibition is finally over and we can finally relax and get on with our lives. Both of us have enjoyed, if that's the correct word to use, organising the event and seeing it actually turn out as we had envisioned it.

So, a very big sigh of relief and a big thank you from us to all of you who helped make it such a success, lending your treasured models and helping with the organisation of the various sections, as well as stewarding on the two days. Without you all there would have been no Exhibition.

Thank you, one and all.

**John Hoyle & Dick Ganderton**

## Letter To The Editor

Hi Dick

I have just re-subscribed to *Model Engineer* after many years absence and one of the first things I read was a piece in Smoke Rings titled Metrication. I imagine you are aware of the government's intention to outlaw the use of imperial measurements in the UK in a couple of years time. From what I understand it could become illegal to sell anything with imperial measurements, such as drawings published in the ME or taps and dies from Tracy Tools. I visited the web site they indicated to register my concerns with HM Government <http://petitions.pm.gov.uk/Metrication/> Is this something that should be covered in our Newsletter?

Brian Merrifield by e-mail

Very much so, Brian. Yet another of this government's poorly thought out schemes. Send me your thoughts. Dick.

## Websites Worth Watching

Here are some more Websites that Members have suggested you could find interesting.

<http://www.internalfire.com>

The website of the Museum of Internal Fire. This is a small privately run collection of internal combustion engines of all types and sizes, housed at Tan-y-Groes between Cardigan and Aberystwith.

<http://www.camdenmin.co.uk>

Camden Miniature Steam Services has a very wide range of books covering some very interesting subjects. Their free *Booklist*, order online, is a very good, and often lighthearted, read. **Dick Ganderton**





## Caption Competition

# Competition - Exhibition Pictures



**W**hat is Neil Horder saying to John Hoyle (left) and Ron Challenger (centre) at the Ringwood Town & Country Experience Museum? Write a humorous caption for this picture and send it to the Editor. *Photogrphe Richard Knott.*



Richard Knott

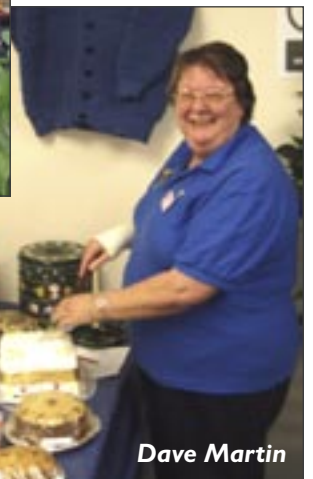
*Above: Jackie Miles and Margaret Carpenter perform a ritual dance to the music of Richard Knott's fairground organ.*

**I**nstead of endless pictures of models - for which I haven't got the space this time - I thought that it would be a good idea to show the light hearted side of the Exhibition



Michael Clay

*Left: Charlie Betteridge, George Wheatley (seated) and Richard Knott contemplate something or other.*



Dave Martin

*Above: Peggy Ganderton cuts her surprise Birthday Cake. Of course, she gave us all a piece of it afterwards.*



Dave Martin

*Left: Nobody would dare try to sneak in the back door without paying with this lot on duty. Jackie, Tricia, Margaret and Irene.*

