



## Chairman's Thoughts

It is with deep regret that I start this month's report with sad news, the passing of Mike Mortimer on Wednesday 22nd November at Forest Holme hospice. Mike was a long term and much respected member of the Society as was his father Les, and he will be sorely missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family at this difficult time.

We also had the sad news that Lena Adams died at the end of November. Obituaries for both Mike and Lena appear later in this *Newsletter*. Lena and her husband Derek were the drivers of the 0-2-0 barbeque. The picture shows them at the Kings Park track. Just compare this view to what we now enjoy at Littledown!

On a much happier note thanks are due to everyone who has helped organise this year's Santa run, especially Irene and David for the bookings and presents and the ladies for the catering. These ramblings are being written just before the big day, but I am sure we will have a good event. (*Of course we did! Dick.*)

Continuing with the happier theme, we must congratulate Peggy on recently being appointed an Honorary Freeman of Verwood in recognition and appreciation of the service she has rendered to the town and community over almost 40 years.

We recently had a site visit from the company who are supplying our new storage container. The purpose of this was to check access for their lorry and the integrity of the area it will occupy. They were happy with the arrangements we have put in place, and therefore we hope to take delivery before Christmas subject to the weather. A huge thank you has to be extended to Mike and Malcolm who have created the base and site for the container and negotiated with the company.

If I don't see you at the Muscliff Meeting on the 20th December, I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Best wishes.

**Peter Burton**



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## B&DSME Diary Dates

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|---|--|
| 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2017                            | Monthly Meeting; 7.30 pm. Muscliff Community Centre, Shillingstone Drive, Bournemouth BH9 3LR.<br><b>No Christmas Party as it has been moved to the January Meeting.</b> There will be mince pies instead of biscuits but Bob Devereux's latest cruise pictures are not yet ready to show so Graham Smith will present a short Christmas film show which will be followed by a quiz after the mince pie break. |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> January 2018<br><b>Note date change.</b> | Tech-Chat (Informal Discussion Meeting); 7.00 for 7.30 pm.<br>John Hoyle. Please let John know.  |
| 17 <sup>th</sup> January 2018                             | Monthly Meeting; 7.30 pm. Muscliff Community Centre.<br>Andrew P. M. Wright, official photographer and press officer to the Swanage Railway will give an illustrated talk on Tarrant Rushton.  |

## Subscriptions

Subscriptions become due on 1<sup>st</sup> January each year. The amount due is incremented by one pound each year. The increase is voted on at the AGM each year.

Ordinary Member	£27.00
Family Member	£28.00
Associate Member	£7.00
Country Member	£14.00

Payment may be made by one of the following methods:

In cash or by cheque direct to the Membership Secretary (details below)

Direct to our bank.

Society Name:	In full or B&DSME
Account Number:	91316176
Sort Code:	40-21-21
Reference:	One initial and first three letters of Surname (e.g. JBLO for Joe Bloggs).

NOTE: EVERY subscription MUST be accompanied by a completed RENEWAL FORM (attached to this *Newsletter*). In the case of renewals sent direct to the bank the Form must be sent to the Membership Secretary (details below).

Subscriptions will be accepted from your receipt of the December *Newsletter*.

The list of members will close on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018. Our rules state that Members who have not paid by the 31<sup>st</sup> March shall cease to be Members.

The Membership Secretary will be at the Littledown track on every running day from Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2017 until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018 and at all Society Meetings at the Muscliff Community Centre.

G. Wheatley  
Membership Secretary  
B&DSME  
67 Moorlands Road  
VERWOOD  
BH31 7PD

### 16mm Up Date

**S**easonal Greetings to all our readers. Firstly I must thank all those 16mm members who braved the wind, rain and cold to put on a continuous running show of an operating steam railway during the recent Santa Run. This was in spite of lighting problems and stock being blown off the track. Luckily no major damage occurred.

However, I did have to call an end to the steaming before the allotted time due to the muddy conditions underfoot causing an additional hazard with the thought of packing away in increasing muddy conditions and the likelihood of falling over creating damage to our rolling-stock and ourselves. Thank you all for staying with it to the end, I was proud of the effort you all put in.

Let us hope you all have pleasant memories whilst you sit at home, warm and dry, now enjoying your Christmas festivities.

I know that we are all getting older, but please don't read too much into the mass production of crosses. Perhaps you can guess what they are really for.

Merry Christmas to you all.

**Gordon Miles**



## Editor's Ramblings

**A**mongst the several letters and messages of appreciation from delighted parents was this letter from Father Christmas. This makes it all so very worthwhile.

*The Grotto and Reindeer Stables  
Lapland.  
Monday, 11th December 2017.*

*Hello My Dear Friends,*

*Just a few lines to thank you very much for the enjoyable day I had yesterday at the Littledown Railway.*

*I thought that the whole day ran very smoothly in spite of the awful weather, I was very impressed by the way that all the members, no matter their age, lent a hand to do whatever needed to be done. I wish my fairies and elves were as eager.*

*I think that the children, their parents and everybody present had a lovely day, the smiles on the faces of the youngsters made it all worthwhile.*

*The Bournemouth Society is obviously in excellent health and, with a fair wind, the future looks very promising.*

*My diary gets very full near Christmas time so I have pencilled in Sunday 9th December 2018, I do hope that you invite me.*

*Best wishes to you all, I hope that you have a happy Christmas and a safe and prosperous New Year.*

*Father Christmas.*

## Michael Mortimer

Most Members will, by now, have heard of the passing of Mike Mortimer at the age of 80 years. Mike was the eldest son of long time Member, the late Les Mortimer. After leaving school he trained as a pattern maker but, after National Service, he chose not to follow that trade and instead he joined the Dorset Constabulary. He joined the Society and set about building a *Metre Maid* locomotive which turned out to be a very successful passenger hauler, Mike certainly enjoyed Sundays at the track giving rides to the children as this picture of him letting Dick drive the *Simplex* that his father built on the first train at the new Littledown Miniature Railway shows.

For many years he played an important role in the Society as a member of the team of Boiler Testers.

In July 2003 he was elected Honorary Treasurer of the Society a role which he performed very competently and successfully until his retirement in 2011.

For the past year Mike bore his cancer with stoicism lovingly cared for by his wife Mary. He spent his last few days in Forest Holme Hospice in Poole and passed away there on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2017.

Mike was a quiet, unassuming, straightforward chap, a good friend to all who had the privilege of knowing him. He will be sorely missed.

Our thoughts at this sad time are with Mary and her family.



## Lena Adams

It is with great sadness that I have to tell you that Lena Adams, widow of the late Derek Adams, passed away on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2017.

It was only a couple of days previous that we had been discussing this year's Christmas cards, and some of you would already have received a card sent by me, but from Lena as she was not able to do them herself, but she wanted everybody to know that she had not forgotten you all.

Lena was in a nursing home for the last seven weeks of her life. A lovely new home which is a short walk from where we live ourselves, so we were able to visit her often and take her out in a wheelchair for a breath of fresh air and a visit to the shops.

Unfortunately, we found out in July of this year that her lung cancer had returned, and she got progressively worse from then on. Having a couple of falls a short while back, made her very unsteady and we decided that it would not be possible for her to continue living by herself, hence the nursing home. Despite original doubts about going into a nursing home, we can honestly say that Lena loved the place right from the start, she met several nice residents and the carers and nursing staff were all excellent, it is just a shame that she did not have a bit more time to enjoy it in there.

We were hoping that we would get one last Christmas with Lena, but obviously it was not to be, and we have to be grateful for the years that we did have.

Lena loved hearing from all her friends in England, even if it might only be once a year by way of a Christmas card, but also from those of you who kept in touch by letters throughout the year. Although it was lovely to have her with us for the last years of her life, she missed England to the end and all the friends that she had over there.

The photo of Lena was taken in February of this year on her 84<sup>th</sup> birthday, when we treated her to High Tea at the Palazzo Versace, one of the best hotels on the Gold Coast. When we arrived there she could not believe that we were going in as we had walked and driven by the place dozens of time before and always remarked how grand it looked. But we are glad now that we did this for her on what was to be her last Birthday with us.

Sorry to be the bearer of bad news, but Lena never forgot all the good times that she and Derek enjoyed at the Railway events with you all.

We wish you all a very Happy Christmas and wish each and every one of you all the best wishes for the New Year.

**Mark & Karen Adams**



## The *Ellie* Project

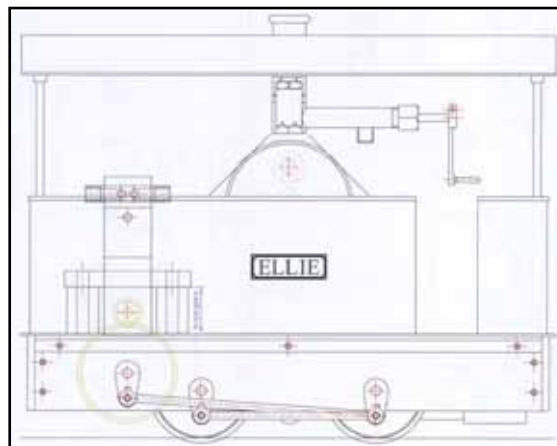
I had been thinking hard about what to do as a follow-up to the Soldering Course and possibly incorporating lathe work and milling, when I received Camden Miniature Steam Supplies' *Newsletter* with their latest book on building *Ellie*, a steam tram loco, prominently featured.

Here was what appeared to be the answer. A simple steam loco for both 45mm and 32mm gauges, so I sent off for a copy. On receiving the book I immediately ordered a set of laser cut, tabbed, chassis parts for the jack-shaft version. I then discovered that several other Members had had similar ideas and at the December Tech-Chat Meeting the table was covered in *Ellie* books!

It looks like eight or nine Members are going to build an *Ellie* and I have proposed running a course for Members to build an *Ellie*. I have the jack-shaft version well under way, as shown in the drawing on the right reproduced from the book. You don't have to have built a steam loco to join the Course, just want to learn.

If you are interested please contact me - don't leave it too long. Once I know what version of *Ellie* you are interested in we can place an order with Camden for the laser cut kits and source the other material.

For those who have expressed an interest in the Soldering Courses, don't despair - they will happen just as soon as the container arrives and we can get the Engine Shed and Workshop sorted.



**Dick Ganderton**

## For Sale

Many Members will remember Bill Nelmes and his very nice 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ " Gauge LMS 2-6-4T to Martin Evans' *Jubilee* design. Bill had almost completed a superb 5" Gauge S&D 7F 2-8-0 loco to Martin Evans' *Ivo Peters* design, which just needs painting to finish. Unfortunately, failing health has forced Bill to decide to move into a home and he has decided to sell both locos and his entire workshop.

The workshop includes a mill/drill with power table feed and a 9" Southbend Workshop lathe with Norton screwcutting gearbox.

For further information contact [dick.ganderton@me.com](mailto:dick.ganderton@me.com)

