



Editor's Ramblings

You will notice some changes to the layout of the *Newsletter*. For some months now I have been trying to work out ways of reducing the amount of work involved in printing the copies of the *Newsletter* that still have to be posted to a minority of Members.

The December issue ran to eleven sides of A4, including the Renewal Form, Annual Dinner Menu and Minutes of the November Committee Meeting. This takes the filled envelope almost to Royal Mail's limit for a standard thickness Second Class stamp.

So, I have moved the notices from page 2 to the last page. I intend to only print this page in January and those Members who receive their *Newsletter* by post will only get that page in January. Please remember to keep it for future reference.

The January Meeting will start **promptly at 7.30 pm**. The interval will be 45 minutes long and Margery will be serving seasonal nibbles, so there is no need to bring anything. Irene is running the usual raffle and would appreciate any donations for it.

The January Committee Meeting was cancelled so the December Minutes have not been approved and signed off. They will be published as soon as this happens.

To finish off here are a couple of photographs of a very satisfied Barry Linger and Bob Devereux following a successful steam test on Barry's Modelworks 5" Gauge GWR Small Prairie Tank that Bob is sorting and finishing.

Have a prosperous New Year.

Dick Ganderton



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Little Down Railway

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B&DSME Diary Dates

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| 18 th January 2017 | Monthly Meeting; 7.00 for a prompt 7.30 start! Muscliff Community Centre, Shillingstone Drive, Bournemouth BH9 3LR.
<i>Graham Smith starts the new year with some more 8mm and 16mm films. During the interval we will be offering seasonal nibbles to make up for the loss of the Christmas Party. Irene would appreciate items for the raffle.</i> |
| 25 th January 2017 | Annual Society Dinner. 7.00 for 7.30 pm, The Manor, Salisbury Road, Burton, Salisbury BH23 7JG
<i>Ron Barson. secretary.bdsme@gmail.com</i> |
| 2 nd February 2017 | Tech-Chat (Informal Discussion Meeting); 7.00 for 7.30 pm.
<i>Gordon Miles. Please let Gordon know.</i> |

16mm Update

Our good wishes to all our readers for a Happy and Healthy 2017.
The period of boiler steam testing is nearly upon us, which should be completed by the end of March. We are pleased to announce that Glyn Tandy will be joining Gordon Miles in getting these tests completed as smoothly as possible. Please make prior arrangements with Gordon or Glyn.

At this time of year we would venture a few tips to help steaming.

1. Store your locos over-night inside the warm house.
2. Store gas tanks also inside.
3. Switch to 30% Propane/70% Butane gas mixture.
4. If possible, when at the track, keep your gas canister in an inside pocket to keep it warm.
5. Shake canister before use.
6. When initially lighting up gently rock the loco to ensure better mixing of the liquid gas mixture.

The period of boiler steam testing is nearly upon us, which should be completed by the end of March. We are pleased to announce that Glyn Tandy will be joining Gordon Miles in getting these tests completed as smoothly as possible. Please make prior arrangements with Gordon or Glyn.

Do not forget that we run the Garden Railway on the first and third Sunday every month, weather permitting, of course. We also have an EXTRA day on the second Sunday for FEBRUARY ONLY!

Happy Steaming for 2017.

Gordon Miles & David White

Subscriptions

Subscriptions became due on 1st January 2017. Amounts due have been increased in accordance with the vote at the AGM and are as follows:

Ordinary Member: £26.00
Family Member: £27.00
Associate: £7.00
Country Member: £13.00 (includes Partner)

Payment may be made by cheque (payable to B&DSME), by hand, or by post to the Membership Secretary (address below)

Payment in Cash direct to the Membership Secretary (George Wheatley)

Payment Direct to the bank:

Account Name: Bournemouth & District Society of Model Engineers

Account Number: 91316176

Sort Code: 40-21-21

Reference: one initial and the first three letters of your surname. (e.g. JBLO for Joe Bloggs)

Every payment must be accompanied by the completed Renewal Form attached to this *Newsletter*. In the case of direct payments to the bank the completed form must be sent to the Membership Secretary (George Wheatley).

Subscriptions will be accepted at the Track starting on 4th January 2017 and at all subsequent running days until the end of March. Although grace is allowed until 31st March it would be very, very much appreciated by the Membership Secretary and Treasurer if timely payment could be made.

G. Wheatley, Membership Secretary

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Merlin's Mutterings

Thought I would mention the forthcoming model engineering and hobbies exhibition being held at the Michael Herbert Hall, South Street, Wilton on the 1st and 2nd April 2017. All profits are given to the local Hospital charities, a well worthwhile cause.

All exhibits are usually of quite a high standard with several traction engines in steam outside the hall and running into the town.

One feature I quite like is that the display tables are not cordoned off, enabling one to get quite close to the exhibits. This enables people like me who wear bi-focals to get them in focus, something I never seem to be able to do at the larger exhibitions.

M J Engineering will be in attendance with the usual bits and pieces.

It is worth a visit drop the Ladies off in the shopping complex and they can have a meal in the restaurant, etc.

Exhibits are still required, so why not enter something like a diesel outline loco or any unusual model. If interested contact Peter Parish on 01980 610346 or by e-mail: p.parish@btinternet.com

You will enjoy the event.

Merlin

For Sale

Electric Motor

Metropolitan Vickers 1/4 HP; 1425 RPM; 230V; 50Hz; single phase; rigid mounting.

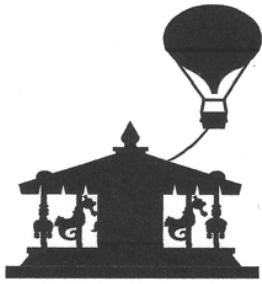
£12.50

Contact merlinb@hotmail.co.uk

Direction of Running

We alternate the direction of running at the Littledown Miniature Railway to try to even the wear on the riding trolleys. It also provides a change of 'scenery' each month and gives drivers different challenges. The direction of running is clockwise for even months and anticlockwise for odd months. So January 2017 will be anticlockwise and February 2017 will be clockwise.

The 16mm Narrow Gauge Garden Railway will still be running on the First and Third Sundays of each month, weather permitting. The next dates are 15th January 2017 and 5th & 19th February 2017 plus the extra day in February, Sunday 12th February 2017.



Model engineering and Hobbies exhibition

1st and 2nd April 2017

At

The Michael Herbert hall
South street, Wilton

Sat 10am-5pm Sun 10am-5pm

After the success of the exhibitions held in 2003,2005,2007,2009, 2011,2013 and 2015 it is planned to run another Model Engineering exhibition at Wilton. All profits from all the shows were and are going to be donated to local hospital charities.

Once again I am hoping to create the same high standard as previously with interesting exhibits and you are specially invited to exhibit. We look forward to an enjoyable weekend and we will provide light refreshments and sandwiches for lunch for all exhibitors. I hope to receive your **early** reply. A stamped addressed envelope would be appreciated.

P.J.Parrish

01980 610346 or mobiles 07757945076 or 07596391255

e-mail;p.parrish324@btinternet.com

Cut and return at latest 31/1/2017

33 Tidworth Rd

Porton

Salisbury, Wilts

SP4 ONS

Details of exhibit;

Please indicate approximate table space required and if you need electricity or if you have an outside exhibit.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

Tel; _____

e-mail address;

I/We agree to indemnify and hold harmless the organisers of this event from claim for accidental damage or personal injury, what so ever,whilst taking part in or journeying to or from the event.

Signed _____ - Date _____

FREE PARKING AND VERY LIMITED CARAVAN SPACE

IMPORTANT

This page contains notices that do not change throughout the year. They will only be printed out with the January *Newsletter*. If you receive your *Newsletter* by post this will be the only time that you will get this page. It is, therefore, important that you **keep this page for reference**.

Insurance & Membership Lists

A copy of the Society's Insurance Policy has been placed in the desk in the Engine Shed. The original documents are held by the Secretary and can be viewed by arrangement. For Members wanting to run their locomotives at locations requiring evidence of Public Liability cover there are copies of the Certificate at the back of the same folder as the copy of the policy. This needs to be signed by a Committee Member on an individual basis before becoming valid.

The new Application and Renewal Forms means we can keep our Membership List up-to-date. An abbreviated list, which omits addresses, can be obtained on application to the Secretary. A copy is kept in the desk in the Engine Shed.

Ron Barson, Secretary

Engine Shed Mobile Phone

A Mobile Phone has been installed in the Engine Shed at Littledown for the convenience of Members. It can be used for outgoing calls on Society business and in an emergency. Members who are at the track can also be contacted if required. The number, 07879355399, is on the 'Contacts' page of the Society's Website www.littledownrailway.co.uk

Boiler Testing

If you require a Boiler Test, please remember that you need to book it with one of the Boiler Testers. Also you should have all the paperwork with you - that's all the past Test Certificates and the *Written Scheme of Examination!* You have kept them, haven't you?

If you are presenting your loco for its 4-yearly Hydraulic Test please note that you cannot expect the Boiler Tester to provide the necessary blanking plugs. You should have a complete set of blanking plugs for each of your locos, one of which must have a **male** 1/4" x 40TPI fitting to allow the connection of the test pump and gauge. The threaded portion of this should be at least 3/8" (10mm) long with a 60 degree countersink to take a standard nipple.

Please pump the boiler up at home to check that there are no leaks.

Boiler Testers

Dick Ganderton dick.ganderton@me.com

Bob Devereux

Mike Mortimer

Barry Linger

Gordon Miles (16mm locos only)

Glyn Tandy (16mm locos only)

IMPORTANT - PLEASE READ

The Committee would like to remind Members that it is a condition of our Lease that they must only park their cars or motorcycles in the designated parking area. **There is to be no parking in the area around or near the Engine Shed, on the driveway or turning circle. There are no exceptions to this rule.** As soon as you have unloaded your engine and/or equipment you **must** move your vehicle to the parking area by the entrance gate. As parking spaces are limited please use the main Littledown Centre Car Park if you are not bringing a locomotive to run.

B&DSME *Model Engineer* Magazine Library

Please use the library as it is a wonderful source of information and there are many fascinating articles within. Please remember when borrowing a magazine from the Society's library, to complete the sign out sheet, which is attached to the storage cupboard door. The *Model Engineer* library is fully up to date.

Please treat the magazines with care as many are fragile due to their age.

Peter Burton

Newsletter By E-mail

If you want to receive your copy of the Society's monthly *Newsletter* as a .pdf file, in full colour, you must let Dick know, by e-mail, sent from the computer you want to receive it on.



www.littledownrailway.co.uk