



Chairman's Thoughts

I hope everyone had a merry Christmas and I wish you all a happy and healthy new year. The Santa event was a great success, despite the very wet weather, thank you to everyone who was involved in its organisation and implementation. Special thanks must go to Irene and David for taking the bookings and purchasing and wrapping the presents, and of course the Ladies for the superb spread of food. Also to Kevin Hunt who put up his huge marquee over the station. What would we have done without that? (swim, I suppose).

Looking forward to the January meeting at Muscliff on Wednesday 17th January 2018, we are very lucky to have Mr. Andrew Wright from the Swanage Railway giving us a presentation on Tarrant Rushton airfield, near Blandford. This should be a very enjoyable evening and I hope that you are able to attend.

The Committee have amended the *Code of Safe Practice* to include a new rule, which is the signal **must** be put up and proved to be working before trains are allowed to run on our mainline. The signal is a failsafe indication that the Bendy Beam is set and locked for the correct running position. In addition to that we are trialling the use of a high visibility traffic cone that **must** be placed on the mainline whenever the Bendy Beam is unlocked and away from the normal position. This will act as an added visual cue to the driver.

Best wishes.

Peter Burton

Editor's Ramblings

The recent severe gales caused one of the trees alongside the track to split leaving the top part of the trunk hanging over the track. Fortunately for us the trees are the responsibility of the Parks Department, who decided that it was too big for them to sort out. They called in their tree surgeon and the tree was carefully cut down. So the track is now useable again. Pete Burton's picture shows them preparing to operate on the tree trunk, which can be seen at an angle over the track. Pete cunningly decided to cover the track with the Bendy Beam steel cover - just in case!

The Workshop extension is progressing well and it should be possible to start the Soldering Courses in the very near future. I will call a meeting soon, probably at the Engine Shed, to discuss the format and content of the courses to ensure that they are tailored to Members' needs.

The January Meeting at Muscliff sees Andrew Wright, the Swanage Railway's official photographer and Press Officer coming to give an illustrated talk on Tarrant Rushton airfield. This should be very interesting and well worth making the effort to attend.

Dick Ganderton



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Secretary

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B&DSME Diary Dates

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|-------------------------------|--|
| 16 th January 2018 | Project <i>Ellie</i> Meeting; 7.00 for 7.30 pm.
<i>This is a preliminary meeting for those interested in building Ellie. Open to all levels of loco building skills, from absolute novice to fully experienced. John Hoyle. Please let John know.</i> |
| 17 th January 2018 | Monthly Meeting; 7.30 pm. Muscliff Community Centre.
<i>Andrew P. M. Wright, official photographer and Press Officer to the Swanage Railway will give an illustrated talk on Tarrant Rushton airfield.</i> |
| 1 st February 2018 | Tech-Chat (Informal Discussion Meeting); 7.00 for 7.30 pm.
<i>Gordon Miles. Please let Gordon know.</i> |

Subscriptions

Subscriptions become due on 1st 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 31st March 2018. Our rules state that Members who have not paid by the 31st March shall cease to be Members.

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

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



www.littledownrailway.co.uk

Car Parking - Important Notice

Until the present spate of bad weather ends the Committee has decided that nobody should use the Car Park at the track as the grass is too soft to bear the weight of vehicles. If it gets churned up there is the possibility of losing the right to use it as a car park. Please use the main Littledown Centre Car Park until further notice

You can still use the drive to get to the unloading facility if you are bringing a loco or have heavy equipment, but after unloading please take your vehicle down to the main car park.

Please do not drive on the grass, anywhere.

The Committee

Typeset by Dick Ganderton in Helvetica using Adobe InDesign CS5 v7.0 on an Apple Mac mini 2.3GHz Intel Core i5 running MacOS High Sierra v10.13.2.

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.

The *Ellie* Project

To date 14 Members have told me that they are going to build an *Ellie* and the proposed course for Members to build an *Ellie* is definitely on. I have the jack-shaft version well under way and my photograph shows the laser cut, tabbed chassis being soldered. As you can see, the chassis just fits into the small hearth that I will be using for the Soldering Courses.

The picture also shows the torch that I used to solder the chassis together. Very expensive at £3.99 post free from China, but produces enough heat even for small silver soldered jobs like the *Ellie* lubricator in my other photograph.



Ellie is a simple steam loco for both 45mm and 32mm gauges and you don't have to have to have built a steam loco to join the Course, just want to learn.



If you are interested please contact me. If you can, try to attend the preliminary *Ellie* Project meeting at John Hoyle's on Tuesday evening 16th January 2018. (See the Diary Dates panel on page 1.)

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 sell both locos and his entire workshop.

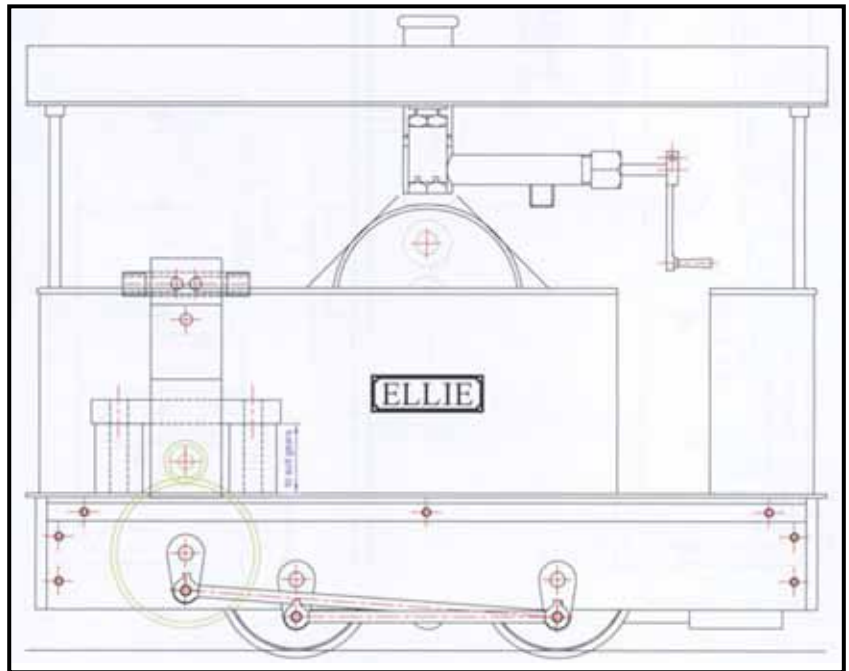
The workshop includes a 9" Southbend Workshop lathe with Norton screwcutting gearbox.

For further information contact dick.ganderton@me.com



For Sale

Two 5" Gauge locos built by Mike Mortimer's father, the late Les Mortimer, are offered for sale. They are a Railmotor to Don Young's design and a Martin Evans Simplex. For further information contact Kevin Mortimer kevinmortimer@hotmail.com



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.

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

Barry Linger

Brian Williams (Trainee)

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

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