



Chairman's Thoughts

We have been trying to arrange delivery of our container with the company who are supplying it, but the very soft ground at the park has been against us. However, the extremely cold weather recently had frozen the ground and at last made delivery a possibility. And so on Thursday 1st March we managed to get a delivery slot before the heavy snow arrived, and it was successfully loaded onto its custom made concrete pads. 48 hours later the snow had gone and we were left with more mud.

Paul Green is kindly installing the lighting and power, and the racking is ready to be fitted in place, finally then we will be able to create a nice Members' area in the Engine Shed.

Malcolm Smith has been working very hard on updating our Code of Safe Practice, and in parallel to that completely rewriting our risk assessments to make sure that our operation is as safe as possible. When this project is complete all of the Society's rules, policies and risk assessments will be in one folder located in the Engine Shed for everyone to view.

Please, can I ask all Members to think about our electricity consumption. We have recently had a large bill for same, and although we need to use a certain amount for battery charging, lighting and heating, having three 2kW fan heaters on with the door open is not good for us or the environment.

At the March Committee Meeting, George Wheatley decided to stand down from the many roles he has so successfully carried out on behalf of the Society. It was unanimously agreed that, in recognition of the very hard work he has put into these roles, George would be made an Honorary Vice President of the Society.

Congratulations, George and thank you.
Best wishes.

Peter Burton



Editor's Ramblings

The Soldering Courses got off to a good start with 12 Members turning up for the initial meeting. This meeting discussed the format and content of the courses and it was decided to continue with meetings every Tuesday evening. As a large proportion of those on the Course are building an *Ellie* I will use *Ellie* parts for demonstrating and teaching the various aspects of soldering.

The March Meeting will be a presentation by G1 modellers showing us why we should expand the Society's horizons to accommodate G1. I do know that there will be some excellent scratch built locos on show, including a coal fired BR 9F 2-10-0! I hope that we get a good turnout for this meeting.

Ron Barson has arranged for our Annual Dinner to be held at The Bridge House Hotel, Longham on Thursday 22nd March 2018 at 7.00 for 7.30 pm. If you haven't already booked you can let Ron know your menu choices by e-mail, ASAP and let Phil Drake have your payment by cheque made out to **B&DSME**.

The Menu and Booking Form was included with last month's *Newsletter*.

Dick Ganderton

B&DSME Diary Dates

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| 20 th March 2018 | Soldering Course; 7.00 pm. Littledown Miniature Railway.
<i>Soft soldering steel using the tabbed Ellie chassis. If you have a tabbed Ellie chassis, please bring it with you. Repeat of the 13th March Course.</i> |
| 21 st March 2018 | Monthly Meeting; 7.30 pm. Muscliff Community Centre.
<i>Presentation by G1 modellers to show why B&DSME should embrace G1.
Short talk, videos of local G1 meetings and a display of G1 models.</i> |
| 5 th April 2018 | Tech-Chat (Informal Discussion Meeting); 7.00 for 7.30 pm.
<i>Gordon Miles.
Please let Gordon know.</i> |

Editor

Dick Ganderton

'Graskop'

76 Dewlands Road

Verwood, Dorset

BH31 6PN

editor.bdsme@gmail.com

Tel: (01202) 822701

Secretary

Littledown Railway
Tel: 07879355399

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Subscriptions

Subscriptions became 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 (these were attached to the November and January *Newsletters*). 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
67 Moorlands Road
VERWOOD
BH31 7PD

Our New Container

At last it has arrived! Our new store - aka *The Container* - is finally in place. The three railwaymen who have been instrumental in arranging it and preparing the really professional quality groundworks have done a great job. Thank you!

The inside has been professionally lined out by the company that supplied the container and it was well worth what it cost us to have it done!

Paul Green is fitting the lights and electrical sockets and when that has been done we will install the industrial racking that has been donated by a local company.

Then we can get on with improving the 'lounge' area inside the Engine Shed.



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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.

Project *Ellie* Progress Report

The number now building an *Ellie* has grown to 21, so Gordon's prediction of 20 has been fulfilled, although one of the participants is not a Member of B&DSME but lives in Australia! He is a member of the Queensland SMEE and a fellow member sent him the extract from our *Newsletter* about Project *Ellie*.

John Hoyle's *Ellie* has overtaken mine as can be seen from John's pictures. He has used the single cylinder oscillating engine that was the project for one of the Lathe Courses, chain driven to the jackshaft instead of gears. This shows the versatility of the jackshaft version of *Ellie*! The boiler still needs to be silver soldered but it's looking very smart with the body turned out in Works Grey.

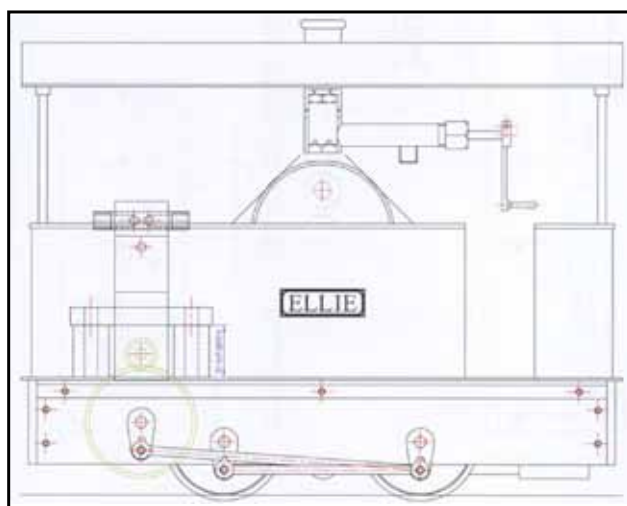
Most of the material for the boilers has now been purchased and awaits cutting up and packaging into boiler kits. A kit will comprise the copper tube for the main boiler shell, two squares of 3mm copper plate for the ends, a length of $\frac{3}{16}$ " dia. copper rod for the longitudinal stay and the $\frac{1}{2}$ " diameter bronze bar for the three bushes. Also in the kit will be the brass angle to make the boiler mounting supports and enough silver solder to complete the boiler.

The free cutting steel bar for wheel blanks awaits cutting up and packs of four blanks will be made available to members to buy. Like the boiler kits, these will be sold by the Society at cost. I will keep you informed of costs and progress via the Project *Ellie* Bulletins.

Camden now have laser cut brass parts to make the basic frame for the single cylinder oscillating engine as described in the *Ellie* book. I have ordered two of these kits as I want to see if I can use them to make up a twin cylinder version based on the *Ellie* engine. I am eagerly awaiting the postman to deliver them but I think that he must be coming via China!

You can still join Project *Ellie*; If you are interested please contact me.

Dick Ganderton



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Facebook

www.littledownrailway.co.uk

16mm Up Date

The Boiler Testers are a little disappointed at the slow response to their request for tests before the end of March. So far we have only been presented with 13 locos out of our estimated 48. You may be delayed running come this April unless you have a valid Test Certificate.

We look forward to testing your locos before April.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Gordon Miles & Glyn Tandy

News From Joel In Bristol

I realised it's been a while since I was down at the track and thought a quick update for the Society would be in order. My Apprenticeship is progressing well, but I have quite a long way still to go!

Some of the highlights of the past few months have been:

- Learning basic fitting and inspection skills on some vintage Rolls-Royce helicopter gas turbines at college
- Completing a toolmaker's vice in the machine shop at college
- Having my first proper placement in the company workshops

Since getting a very small desktop lathe I've also started building a relatively simple, twin cylinder, vertical marine engine from some online plans. Scrap bins at college provide a rather nice selection of free offcuts, particularly in the larger sizes of bar stock!

Joel Keen



For Sale

Many Members will remember Bill Nelmes and his very nice 3 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