

September 2006

Steaming Ahead



www.scmes.freemove.co.uk

Well September is here already and the nights are drawing in. We have now acquired a scissor lift for the north east corner there is a lot of work involved to install this, digging, concreting, walls to build, electrics to put in, steel work and welding, any assistance

you can give please contact Dave Mosley.

The Tuesday social this month on 26th with a bring and share buffet—please could you bring a plate of food. If you're stuck for ideas give Carol Whitson a ring (01543 675852).

Hopefully we won't get all sausage rolls or all sandwiches!



Events This Month—September

Sunday 17th Birthday Party

Saturday 23rd Steam up 2.00pm onwards

Tuesday 26th Steam up & Social (with a buffet)

Club News in Brief:

- Second gate in north east corner installed
- Scissor lift acquired for the carriage shed
- New bogies are assembled
- Watch out for another stationary engine night
- Would you like any other theme for a night

New Members

The following applications for membership were approved by the board on Tuesday 5th September

Full members : **Allan Leary**
Allan Duckworth

Dates for Your Diary

Oct 13—18th Midlands Model Engineering Exhibition

Nov 11th Bonfire night—Balleny Green

Nov 28th "Magnus Volk & his Brighton Seashore Railways" Speaker Alex Gordon—Balleny Green

Dec 3rd Santa Special 1— Balleny Green

Dec 10th Santa Special 2— Balleny Green

This news letter will only work with your input

DRIVER LICENCING POPULAR

A record number of 13 members completed the test to enable them to drive diesel locomotives on both the raised and ground level tracks at public events on Saturday 19th August. It was an enjoyable event for many, but some members found it a little traumatic, especially as we had a saboteur wandering around the grounds with a bucket of water which he placed on the track at various blind spots, in addition to the occasional red flag.

It tested both the drivers and the locomotive brakes, which on occasions were not too effective – THE BRAKES THAT IS!!

My thanks to Steve Hodgetts, Chris Greene (the saboteur), and George Weedon for the loan of his small diesel locomotive, and Stirling Barsley who took his life in his hands as a tester!

The following are now fully licenced to drive diesel locomotives on public event days, and haul members of the general public:

Ann Barsley
Bob Bates
Bill Betts
Mike Brophy
Bill Colman
Eric Davies
Terry Dell
Steve Hodgetts
Ian Loughlin
Ray Oakley
Ivor Thompson
Ann Tyso
Carol Whitson

I have subsequently been asked if a steam licencing day could be arranged, and I will try to do this early in the New Year. Watch this space!

Garry Tyso.

Boiler Inspectors

Colin Davis
0121 351 4681

Peter McMillan
0121 308 2957

Stan Jones
01827 63983

Barry Kefford
0121 350 5743

Richard (Dick) Smith
01827 12758

Neal Harrison
0121 378 3992

N.B. Should you require the services of a boiler inspector, please contact one beforehand. Please do not simply arrive at the ground and assume that there will be one available.



Peter J. Henderson—The Penny Farthing Man. Spotted at The Great Dorset Steam Fair. He said 'It only took him two days to get there on his bike, hence the picnic basket on the back.'

Advance Notice

I am pleased to announce that we have been invited to stage another display of our members work at next year's Sutton Coldfield Railway Society's Annual Exhibition. The venue of the exhibition will be Bishop Walsh School, Wylde Green as usual, and will take place over the weekend of Saturday 28th and Sunday 29th April 2007.

Nearer the time I will be coming round twisting your arms for

models and exhibits, so I just wanted to give you plenty of notice so that you can make "much swarf" over the coming months.

Thanks

Peter McMillan

Copy dates for future news letters:-

Tuesday 26th Sept for Oct

Tuesday 31st Oct for Nov

Tuesday 28th Nov for Dec

This Months Quote:

Pleasure in the job puts perfection in the work

Editor: Steve Whitson Phone 01543 675852 Fax 01543 677671

Mobile 07976944171 email steve@casprint.co.uk

Have you sent any comment or requests ????

AUGUST 2006 TUESDAY "HORT" TEAM REPORT

HORT SITE REPORT

It's about five weeks since last months report and a lot has been achieved in spite of team members having the temerity to go on holiday.

In the first couple of weeks Bill, Grenville and I completed the hawthorn hedges around the perimeter leaving only the road side of the front hedge. The accumulated rubbish was burnt; the first bonfire and smoke for almost 6 months other than that from the Steaming Bay.

Cutting hawthorn hedges brings back the risk of punctures and in spite of being extra careful with clearing up, the new tractor has a suffered a puncture. The tyres are only tubed 2 ply compared with the old tractor on which we fitted 4 ply tyres and cured the problem – at least so far.

On the Tuesday prior to the Garden Party, Stuart kindly removed a panel from the security fence round the Maintenance Store and with help from Dave Moseley's team (who are working the new track work to the carriage shed) we were able to get the lawn tractor(s) out. With the lawn tractor extracted from the confines of the maintenance store we put it to good use getting the site ready for the Garden Party.

Following a suggestion to the Chairman, and almost before we knew it, Stuart was converting the removed fence panel into another gate. This enables the tractors and mowers to be removed without running over Dave's new track, well almost!!!!

Hopefully the next thing will be to install weather protection in Teds switch cabin, or as some wag called it, 'Teds Toilet'. Once completed and given a coat of green paint it will prove most useful as the weather gets less enjoyable and winter approaches.

The Garden Party is the first of the

four main revenue earners and as such requires a lot of effort preparing for and running it. Steve (W) and his team did a very good job and although the weather was not that kind, the rain did keep off for most of the time. A very enjoyable day with plenty of member support.

After the Garden Party the team turned its attention to the laurel hedges, bushes, shrubs and strimming the grass now it has seeded and died back. At this point I decided that my holiday was due and left it to the team for the rest of the month.

Sterling and Ann have been sorting out the bird boxes now the nesting season is over. Having cleaned them and renewed the 'rubber bands' they use to hold the boxes to the trees, they were replaced. Lots of birds use them over winter and quite often you can find several in one box, little Blue Tits in particular. Something you may not know -- Sterling and Ann tell me that it is now illegal and prohibited to use rubber inner tubes in car tyres. So where do they get ----- don't ask!!!!!!!

It's now September and I'm just back from holiday but can see that the team has worked well while I've been away, so 'THANK YOU ALL' for all your efforts. During the Garden Party a number of our regular visitors said how good the site was looking but it was when three members said it to me that I was really pleased for the team.

Heritage Lottery Fund / Carriage Project.

There is now just less than 2 months to go before we have to account to the HLF at the end of October. Garry and Steve have done a superb job as have those

who assisted producing/machining the bits for the 12 new and 2 refurbished carriages (not to mention brake vehicles – rumoured to have comfy padded seats and places to put cups of tea!!). I've written to the HLF several times giving updates on progress and now I'm looking forward to writing the final letter, completing the '**End of Award Report**' and submitting it along photographs of the new fleet of SCMES carriages.

I have tried to convey and demonstrate to the HLF that the society is a responsible one, does a good job promoting our work and hobby to the various parties and visitors we welcome through our gates and is, above all else, worthy of the HLF Award and the confidence placed in us.

Finally, I hope that all the good work will enable us to submit and have approved, a further HLF Project Award. This will be difficult and we will have to build on what we have achieved with the first award. Steve Whitson and I have an idea but it must wait until the current one is completed, successfully agreed with the HLF and signed off.

Eric Davies

4th September 2006

Tuesday Working Party

Due to refurbishment the Holly Bush will be closed in October so there is a change of venue for the bi-monthly lunch.

The Toby Carvery, Shenstone (used to be The Highwayman)

Steam up & BBQ
Tuesday 22nd August



Adrian Lancaster-Hale with Ann & Sterling Bardesly on Barry Kefford's Foden 4½" Timber Tractor.



Kev & Colin Renshaw with their 040 AJAX

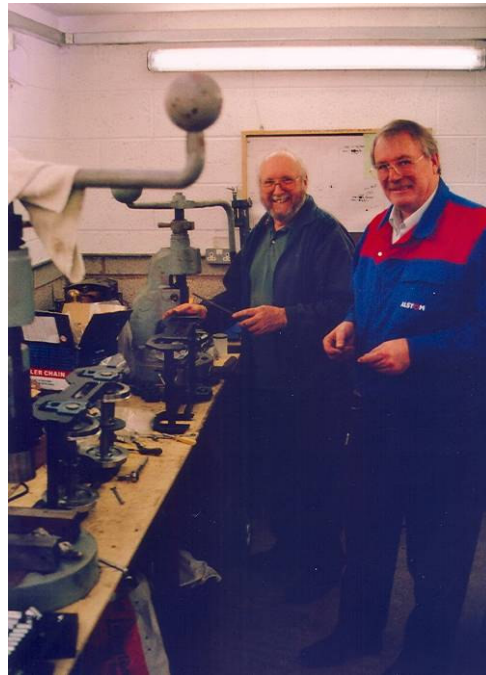


James & family on the 040 Electric Robin



Bob Bates with his 3½" Jubilee Tank

Barry Kefford



Bogies are now assembled— thanks to our elite bogie building team:-

John Copestick and Ray Oakley

It's Santa Time Again

Where on earth has 2006 gone? Here we are three-quarter of the way through and I am begging again, for any items you may be able to donate to us for the

Tombola's. You usually do us proud for these occasions, and I am relying on your good generosity again. Please leave anything you may have in the club room marked 'For Tombola'. Thanking you in anticipation.

Betty Wincott.

Calling All Ex-National Servicemen

Did you know that you are all entitled to a Veterans Medal?

The Secretary of State has now confirmed that ALL who have served in The National Service (which ended 31st December 1959) and Those who served in the Regular Forces, ALL services, can now apply for this. You will receive a certificate of verification with the badge in a nice presentation box. Information needed is your

National Service Number (who can ever forget that), the date of entry and demob, also, if you do know your National Insurance Number it will speed the process along. You all did your National Service eighteen months or two years whether you wanted to or not, so be proud of that time and apply. Simply Phone 0800 169 2277. It may take a time to get a reply, but keep on phoning, it is a free call!

Betty Wincott.

FOR SALE

Due to the death of my husband Peter I now wish to release many of his tools and equipment from his workshop. Peter was an enthusiastic engineer and had an assortment of equipment.

All equipment is new or less than 3 years old.

DESCRIPTION	ASKING PRICE
Warco - Major Milling Drilling Machine	£1200
Warco - Lathe with extras	£1200
Warco - Combined bending/rolling/cutter	£220 new in box
Warco - 2 Clamping Kits for milling machine	£60 each
B&Q Scrollsaw, 16" throat, new in the box	£70 cost £90.00
Taps and Dies - 2 sets Purchased from Tracy Tools, Dartmouth	£40 each
Paint Pin Striping Tool	£30 new
Boring Head Set for Milling Machine	£90 new
Milling Chuck Set	£150 new
Turning Tools 9 piece set 16mm	£100 new
Drills for Milling Machine	£30 new
Electronic Digital Caliper's - Small	£25
- Extra long	£40
Milling Vice	£80 new

Lathe Chuck	£100 new
Chuck for Milling Machine	£120 new
Chester 3.½" Capacity, Horizontal Metal Cutter Band Saw	£55
Hika 6" Bench Grinder with Floor Stand	£30
Vertical Slide Vice with Swivel Base for Lathe	£80 new
2 Way Angular Machine Vice/Tilting and Swivel - 2"/50mm	£190 new
3 x Angle Plates 4.½" x 3" x 3.½"	£10 each new
Full set of Plans for Grange locomotive	£120 open to offers
Set of Wheel Castings + other items for Grange Locomotive	£120
Back copies of Model Engineer with information on Grange Locomotive, approx 22 magazines	£10 open to offers
Heavy duty vice with 5" steel jaws on three leg stand	£25
Various new and used drills and small engineering equipment used in restoration of steam locomotives	
If you are interested in any of the above items please contact Peter's widow Lynda Gascoigne on 01675 463156	

30 Steel bars

25mm (1") x 10mm (3/8") x 4m (13')
£90

Suitable for building track by fitting into slotted sleepers.

Mark Bradley
0121 353 4673
or 07901 615865

A Texan was bragging to an Englishman about how big Texas is. "Why you could get on a train in east Texas on Monday morning, head due west all day Monday, continue overnight, and still be in Texas at sunset Tuesday," she said. The Englishman replied that you could do the same in England. The trains are just as slow here.

If an electric train is going east at 60 mph, and the wind is going east at 60 mph, which way would the smoke go blow?

Electric Trains don't have smoke!!!

PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS & EVENTS FOR 2006

(All Tuesday Evening meetings start at 7:45pm unless otherwise indicated)

Sat 23rd Sep 2006	Steam up	(2.00pm onwards)	BG
Tue 26th Sept 2006	Steam up and social	(6.30 pm onwards)	BG
Sun 1st Oct 2006	First Sunday of the month Steam-Up	(10:00am onwards)	BG
Sun 8th Oct 2006	Birthday Party		BG
Sat 21 Oct 2006	Steam up	(2.00pm onwards)	BG
Tue 24th Oct 2006	Steam up and social	(6.30 pm onwards)	BG
Sat 11th Nov 2006	Bonfire Night		BG
Tue 28th Nov 2006	Meeting –speaker Alex Gordon “Magnus Volk & His Brighton Seashore Railways”	7:30 pm	BG
Sun 3rd Dec 2006	Santa Special I		BG
Sun 10th Dec 2006	Santa Special II		BG
Tue 12th Dec 2006	Christmas Social		TBA
Tue 26th Dec 2006	Boxing Day Steam-Up	(10:00am onwards)	BG
Mon 1st Jan 2007	New Year's Day Steam-Up	(10:00am onwards)	BG

Garden Party

It was a cold & wet start to the day but the visitors (having paid for their tickets in advance) still turned up. Roger Timing's phone rang from 8am throughout the morning with people checking it event was still on, some even sent people to Balleny Green to check before packing their cars. Some came prepared for all weathers and were rewarded with all weathers, the day brightened up in the afternoon, still cold but no longer wet—until we'd packed up anyway.

Most must of enjoyed it because we had a lot of enquiries for other events. My thanks to all who helped, those on sideshows, in the kitchen, outside and on the track.

Steve Whitson



“It only took 30-45 minutes to put this up!”



Kids West Midlands Visit

A good day, enjoyed by all. Sorry no pictures for legal reasons. Many thanks to all who helped on this Special Day.