

THE CITY OF SUNDERLAND MODEL ENGINEERING SOCIETY Ltd

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## NEWSLETTER JULY 2009

**It is with deep regret that I have to inform you of the death of Alan Hudson on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2009.**

### SOCIETY CUPS and TROPHIES

Members Models are Judged for these awards at the Harrogate ME Exhibition  
These awards were presented at our 6<sup>th</sup> June open day, and their recipients were :-

**Lady of the Lake** To Ken Chicken for his Steam Picket Boat 'SIRIUS'

**Alder Trophy** To John Cogdon for his 'Non Dead Centre Engine'

**Wrangham Cup** To David Bramwell for his latest 3 cylinder Aero Engine

**Swaine Cup** To Brian Aston for his 3 ½ inch gauge locomotive 'Hielan Lassie'

**City of Sunderland Cup** To Paul Stephenson for his 3 inch scale Allchin Traction Engine

**Young Shield** To Paul Stephenson for the maintenance work he did during the past year

### OPEN DAY

Our 6<sup>th</sup> June Open Day started off rather dull and weather wise unpromising, several member having travelled through heavy rain to reach the Park. But the weather changed in our favour and it turned out to be a nice day. The Gazebo was well stocked with models and the Loco Track kept busy throughout the day. A new member Stephen Dixon steamed his 5 inch gauge Polly Loco along with our regular members with their steam and electric locos.

Another new member David Todd had his 3 inch scale Burrell Traction Engine Hydraulically and Steam Tested before lapping the Park pathways.

Rob Evans steamed his 2 inch scale Ransomes Simms and Jeffries Traction Engine.

David Watters also brought his 3 inch scale Allchin Traction Engine to complete the Traction Engine line up. Plenty of steam activity but this time with no complaints. A complaint was made to the Park Warden that the steam from the locos on our track could be harmful to peoples health and the complainant was concerned for the danger this steam could have on her two grandchildren. They had not been passengers on our railway but had merely walked past our track when steam locos were on the track.

One shudders to think about the perils in the confined space of a kitchen when boiling a kettle to make a cup of tea or boil vegetables in a pan, or is it possible some people never engage in these mundane activities. This is the second complaint about steam being harmful to ones lungs in the vast area of the Park. They say that you can't please everyone, but everyone seemed to enjoy this open day and our activities on the Park Pathways and on our Loco Tracks. The Buffet was also first class.

**Next Open Day Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2009**

**Commencing at 10am** Members Models are required for display in the Gazebo and for the tracks.

Members presence is also requested especially those willing to join in with manning the Gazebo and to do the numerous tasks to make our open days successful  
The buffet will be with the usual sandwiches and cakes but this time there will be no meat slice.  
Plenty of hot drinks throughout the day and plenty to see and do.

### **AIR DAYS - Saturday and Sunday 25/26 JULY 2009**

The Loco Track will be operational on both days from 10am onwards giving rides to the Public.

**All donations, for rides on our railway, will be presented to**

## **THE MACMILLAN NURSES APPEAL**

The last time we ran our track for this worthy cause, we could only manage to run on the Sunday of the two day event due to continual rain falling on the Saturday, but we still managed to donated £500 made from Public donations and from club funds.

Side Cliff Road will be closed to traffic during the Air Show. But I have managed to obtain some Parking Permits for Side Cliff Road for members who will be bringing locos and manning the track I repeat some Parking Permits, the supply is limited but with car sharing and those who only need a permit for Saturday these permits can be passed onto Sunday attendees

There will be hot drinks available throughout the day but you must bring your own food.. If the weather is friendly we can expect the loco tracks to be busy throughout the day. In the past we have had 5 locos on the track at once, not the same 5 all the time. Therefore we need plenty of standby locos available to keep up with demand and also plenty of drivers for these locos.

Members who wish to do so may also make a donation to help swell the final amount donated.

### **TRACK NEWS**

The societies 5 inch gauge GWR loco which we agreed to sell has now been sold.

The woodwork on the Traverser is in need of repair. We have accepted a quote from a Joiner to strip the old timber from the traverser and replaced it with new treated timbers.

He will also be asked to repair the bridge. Look out for the newly repaired bridge and traverser.

Whilst the Joiner is busy replacing the woodwork we will require some members to clean out the traverser pit and the bridge underpass, shovel work. Mid week working only, never on Sundays.

The Electric loco constructed by some of our members is still doing sterling work, so much so that a request has been made to make another one of the same design. This request has been agreed upon and work on another 7 ¼ inch Electric Loco will shortly be commenced. I have agreed to make the chassis and running gear, the motor and electronics will be purchased and an appropriate wooden superstructure will be designed and constructed

A concreted area adjacent to the Workshop is also to be given out to contract. This will require digging out to a requisite depth and concrete poured in. Finalisation of who will do this heavy work has yet to be finalised. The work is of too heavy a nature for our members to tackle, hence the need for a contractor being employed.

Meanwhile passenger hauling continues on Saturday and Sunday afternoons weather permitting, why not come along and join in these weekend activities, you will be most welcome. Starting time about 1pm, we generally finish about 4pm.