

THE CITY OF SUNDERLAND MODEL ENGINEERING SOCIETY Ltd

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## NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2008

### SUBSCRIPTIONS 2008

Just a reminder for those who have not yet paid their subscriptions for 2008 that they are now

**FULL MEMBERS £17    MEMBERS OVER 65 £12    JUNIOR MEMBERS £6**

Subscriptions can be paid at our Roker Park Clubhouse on Saturday afternoons or can be posted to our

Treasurer                      Morri Bergson  
   63 Hunter Terrace  
   Sunderland  
   SR2 8SA

### NEW YEARS DAY RUN

Once again we celebrated this event by 'first footing' the track with a loco. The weather was wet and best described as miserable, but it did stop raining for a couple of brief moments. Long enough to get the camera out and take a few photos.

Paul Stephenson had promised that he would have the club's 5" G LMS Royal Scot loco ready for New Years Day. You may recall that this loco had failed its steam test due to water gauges not blowing down correctly and the safety valves blowing off above the 10% allowance, 12% actually. Also back head valve spindles could be unscrewed, again not permitted. Paul fitted new safety valves, water gauges, back head valves and renewed and improved the pipe work. New injectors were also fitted.

Needless to say that after Paul had completed these new parts and other improvements the loco passed its steam test with flying colours. The safety valves popped at 100PSI, the injectors picked up immediately with no water dribbling from the injectors and the water gauges performed as they should. Paul fitted a pressure gauge to the steam brake line to indicate whether it's on or off.

This loco was in steam from 10am till 2.30pm, lapping the track in fine style. Some brave souls who were visiting the Park were given rides and all thanked us for our efforts and said how much they had enjoyed their ride. They had not expected to see any locos on the track in such bad weather conditions. Brian Ribton had his first drive of this club loco, but the cold got to him and he went home to get warmed through.

Needless to say there were very few members attending to sample the mince pies supplied by Morri Bergson .

The new loco cleaning equipment was needed to clean this loco at the end of its run. The rust from the track covered the frames, motion work, wheels and body work. But in a few moments all the rust was cleaned away and a protective coating of oil was applied to the engine. The engine was put away in pristine condition. No excuse for dirty locos now.

### THIS YEARS CLUBHOUSE ACTIVITIES

On the days when the weather was not conducive to outdoor activities, those attending were shown a slide show of track and exhibition activities. These included photos of our club stand at the Ascot Model Engineering exhibition. Views of the Tewkesbury Model Traction Engine Rally and also photos of the New Years Day Run.

A Laptop being used to show the photos. I took my laptop to show 2 members some photos, being well aware that ones personal photos are generally very boring to others. But this time others were interested.

Alan Towers of the Teesside Small Gauge Loco Society sent me a copy of the DVD he had made of the Curly Bowl which was held on our tracks in September 2006, he having only recently compiled this DVD. Again I took my laptop to show a couple of members this DVD and ended up with a larger audience. A Laptop is very useful when one wants to show off photos and DVD's It certainly helped pass the time on some bad weather days. But not to worry I will only bring it IF requested.

#### GENERAL MEETING SATURDAY 1<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2008

The subject for this meeting is **BITS and PIECES**

Previously this has been a very interesting and well attended meeting, let's hope it continues to be so, especially this March. Any type of model will be most welcome.

#### OPEN DAYS 2008

These will be on **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> June** and **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> September**

Commencing each day at 10am, as usual Joan will provide her excellent buffet. Make a note in your diaries and remember to attend. Models will be required for display in the Gazebos and to operate on the tracks, Park pathways and the Lake. The lake as been drained, cleaned out and refilled.

#### HARROGATE MODEL ENGINEERING EXHIBITION 10-11-12 MAY 2008

Once again our society will have a 'CLUB STAND' at this exhibition. Your models are needed for display, any type finished or not. An unfinished model attracts plenty of attention, since most of the works that are usual covered on a finished model are readily visible.

The stand will be set up on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May and if possible all the models set in place and security wired by 2pm. This gives the stewards time to book the stand in and have their tea at a respectable time. Joan and Albert Stephenson will steward the stand for the 3 days.

Whilst I like to see as many members models on our stand as possible, there is also the competition stands. Many of our members models are to a standard that could win their owners a prize. Every year the exhibition organisers request some of our models for these competition stands.

Members may enter their names, details of models, and their value on the list in our Roker Park Clubhouse, or send their details to me by letter or phone. Closing date 5<sup>th</sup> April 2008.

Members models on display at this exhibition are also judged and the best ones present will be awarded the society Cups and Trophies. These will be presented to the winners at the 1<sup>st</sup> June Open Day.

Models of Road Vehicles are also needed to steam outside the exhibition halls, these are most welcome and are a great attraction

#### 5" Gauge GWR 2-6-2T LOCOMOTIVE      FOR SALE

This will be put onto E bay

Since this loco tends to derail on the curve at the top of the incline on our track, we must, reluctantly, offer it for sale. The track radius at this point is only 29ft. Most tracks have a minimum radius of 40ft. The loco has a hydraulic and steam test certificate. Boiler water feed is by 2 Injectors and Vacuum brakes are fitted to the loco. Both the Blower and the Vacuum Brake ejector exhaust through inclined holes around the base of the Chimney. 2 cast iron piston valve cylinders, fitted with relieve valves. Oscillating cylinder mechanical lubricator, ratchet driven. This loco is a very well detailed copy of its full size sister.

#### NEW MEMBER

Jonathan Joseph is our latest recruit. Look out for new faces and make them welcome and remember to introduce yourselves.