

THE CITY OF SUNDERLAND MODEL ENGINEERING SOCIETY Ltd

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NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2009

Open Day 6th September 2009

Again we were blessed with good weather and a good turn out of visitors and members. Chris brought his 4 inch scale Burrell Traction Engine from Pickering. Chris and his family enjoyed driving his engine around the Park Pathways delighting in the novelty of a Public Park environment. Chris thanked us for the welcome he was given and promised further visits. We always make our quests welcome. The gazebo was well stocked with models and ably stewarded by Ken Chicken. Plenty of Stationary Engine Activity with John Cogdon and David Bramwell with their superb models.

Rod Evans steamed his 2 inch scale traction engine around the park pathways and Robert Greenshield brought his 1 ½ inch scale unfinished Traction Engine which attracted as much as the ones in steam. The small track had a Princess Marina and Rob Roy, both in 3 ½ inch gauge lapping around in comfort. The large track was very busy with 2 visiting 2 ½ inch gauge electric loco as well as the 5 inch gauge steam and electric locos. Ron Haswell had his 3 inch gauge GWR 2-6-6T loco, which was the centre piece of the Sunderland Echo Photo of our Open Day and Presentation.

At 2pm Sarah Goldie from Macmillan Nurses Cancer Appeal was presented with a £1000 Cheque from our Society, which was duly reported in the Sunderland Echo.

Joan provided her usual excellent Buffet and was supported on the day by Sheila Hough, Lynne Dunn and Audrey Teasdale.

This day saw the biggest turn out of locos for years with the majority be steam, even with a pair of steamers on the side lines

We now have a new roller door on the 'Garage' which is electrically operated, a key being used to operate the electric switch which is situated outside the garage, this switch has a lockable cover with a padlock. The committee agreed that key holders would be members of the committee. Since a key holder will be present each weekend we envisage no difficulties.

The Garage has also been completely rewired with extra lighting a strategically situated 3 pin sockets. The next job is to apply insulation and plywood sheets to help in making this 'garage' into a comfortable workshop.

New benches will be shortly fitted and the Lathe, Miller, Drilling Machine and Grinder wired up.

When this work is completed we will be able to give our members training in operating these machines safely. Those members who would appreciate being trained should contact A Stephenson with their particular requirements. Supervised assistance can be given in assembling members models.

A great deal of time effort and expense as been made to get rid of the rubbish that as been dumped over the years in the garage. In future nothing must be brought to this workshop without permission and definitely nothing must be left behind. The garage as been cleaned out and must remain clean.

For safety no member can work on our premises unless this member is in 'sight and sound of another member'

The Bridge on the large track as been completely replaced. New wood which will require application of a wood preservative at regular intervals. Some one will have to apply the preservative, so why not you do it, whilst doing this small task why not give the wood on the traverser a coating.

On Thursday 6th October the Assistant Editor of the Sunderland Echo, and a photographer, came to our site in Roker Park to interview members in order to write an article about our society. Joan Stephenson Albert Stephenson, Colin Hough, Bryan Tuddenham and John Barnes were in attendance at a working party. Joan on request ran her electric loco for the photographer, who took a large number of photos of

her and the members present. The result was a full page article in the following Saturday nights Echo. Joan was given pride of place with a large photo in the centre of the page. Well worth it considering all the work she does for this society. The article published in just a few words gave us some very complementary footage. Our Landlords have also expressed their appreciation on the exceedingly good coverage and how it brought welcome attention to the activities in Roker Park.

On Thursday 22nd October whilst Paul Stephenson trying out some springing alterations to his Princess Marina we had a visit from a party who are interested in assisting us in our efforts to dig out the trailer park area of the large track and concrete it out. They took all the details of our requirements and will let me know if they are able to give us any assistance. Even if they cannot assist we still intend to have this area concreted out. This will give us a hard standing area for trailers and for our members and visitors to steam their traction engines.

GENERAL MEETINGS

These were altered to the 2nd Saturday in the month at the request of a member.

Well we tried it, but members still turned up for the 1st Saturday.

We have decided to return to our original meetings on the 1st Saturday in the month, we normally do not have a General Meeting in January, July or August.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING

SATURDAY 7th NOVEMBER 2009 at 1 30pm Clubhouse, Roker Park

TIPS ON DRILLING BOILER TUBE PLATES

Will You be in attendance, why not. You can also take this opportunity to book a session Lathe Work or Milling Machine Working.

FINAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE YEAR

SATURDAY 6th DECEMBER 2009 at 1 30pm Clubhouse Roker Park

VIDEO of ROKER PARK ACTIVITIES

SUBSCRIPTIONS 2010 DUE 1st JANUARY 2010

Subs can be paid at the Park or sent to M Bergson

63 Hunter Terrace

Sunderland SR2 6SA

Morri requests that members have the correct money

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