

EXPANSION LINK

NEWSLETTER OF THE B&DMES

EDITOR JOHN TAVINER - VOLUME NUMBER ONE - ISSUE NUMBER ONE

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Editorial

Welcome to this, the first edition, of your new look newsletter.

At the AGM it was proposed that the newsletter be discontinued. A vote was taken and by a majority decision the proposal was accepted and the newsletter was no more. The reasons given were those of cost and lack of interesting content. Another reason was that now we have an excellent web-site, information of forthcoming events etc. could be conveyed via this modern medium. However since then the committee has had a number of members expressing their concern that members without access to the internet would miss out on the information given on the web-site. These concerns were discussed at the committee meeting held on 6th Feb. 2007 with the result that I volunteered to take on the task of producing the newsletter four times a year. But I also said that although I was prepared to edit and compile it I would not write it all. One of the reasons I think the previous editors did not show too much enthusiasm was that very few members were prepared to give any input. There were of course those that criticised but when asked to take on the job soon kept quiet. So lets all pull together and try and make this an informative and interesting production.

Each issue will give details of events that will be taking place over the following three months. I know this is already published in the programme of activities that are sent out to all members early in the year but it is sometimes necessary to change this schedule due to unforeseen circumstances.

The sort of input I am looking for from members is, for example, progress on any project you are working on. Have you had a problem and found a way to get over that problem that could help another member who is working on a similar project. It can be anything that is related to our hobby be it railway, road, boats or model engineering in general

. *John Taviner Editor.*

Forthcoming Events

March

- 4th Public running: 11am-4pm. Help required.
- 10th and 11th Model railway show at Aldworth Science College 10am-5pm Help required to man our stand and set up on the evening of Friday 9th. Also models to show.
- 13th Bring and buy.
- 18th Members running day.
- 27th Meeting night.

April

- 8th-9th Easter public running. Help required.
- 10th Meeting night.
- 15th Members running day.
- 21st-22nd Model engineering exhibition at Milestones Museum. We are putting on a display. Help wanted.
- 24th Bits and pieces evening.
- 29th Big Day Out. (Poss. RH&DR), See notice board for details.

May.

- 6th Public running.
- 8th Meeting night.
- 20th Visitors open day.
- 22nd Stationary engines.

June.

- 3rd Public running.
- 5th Meeting night.
- 17th Efficiency competition.
- 19th Meeting night.

It is apparent that by the time you receive this that some of the events planned for March may have come and gone. This is due to the time scale that I have had to prepare this first issue. Future issues will show the calendar for the following three months and will be on time.

Notes from the Secretary.

Secretarial Changeover.

As you will be aware from the AGM Guy Harding is relinquishing his post as secretary due to his impending move to the Warwickshire area. I wanted to take a moment to thank Guy for his help and effort over the last few years. It's a lot of work, and he managed it very well - **thank you Guy!**

I will be taking on the mantle from 1st March 2007, so if you need to reach me please contact me by any of the methods in the contact list, however e-mail is best. At times I will be unavailable for a few days as I have to travel with work, so please bear with me if I am a little slow to respond.

Bits & Pieces.

As you may recall we started last year to encourage members to come along to the bits and pieces evenings armed with things to show and talk about. Not just exhibition items but bits and pieces relating to disasters, questions and neat tricks.

Votes were awarded by members and the scores compiled by Ken Jones. Looking back over these it became clear that **the winner for 2006 was Dave Mattingly** who brought along a wide range of interesting items. Others who contributed were John Dixon, Graham Blissett, Guy Harding, and Tom Burgess and others that I have missed, all made good and interesting presentations.

As the owner of one of the larger cock-ups of the year I have decided to mutate the dud firebox I made for the GNR O2 into a trophy, so Dave Mattingly is to be the inaugural winner of the "Leaky Siphon" B&DMES Bits and Pieces trophy for 2006 – Well Done Dave!

Club Track Boundary Work.

As you may be aware the boundary fence is being replaced as part of next door's building work. This process is being managed by the surveyors

appointed for us by Basingstoke and Deane. By the finish we will have a nice and tidy boundary which will stop further slippage and run-off from the bank. We will also gain a foot or two of extra ground, which some of us with an interest in ground level, are eyeing with interest.

Beware. During this work the contractors will erect a cover over the track to protect it. So take care if you plan on using the track to make sure it is not in place as I suspect running into it will be a sorry experience for you and whatever you are driving!!!!!!

Malcolm Duckett, Secretary.

Subscriptions.

Just to remind you that the annual subscriptions of £30 are due by 22nd March 2007. Existing members rejoining after 23rd March and within 12 months of any previous membership have to pay the full annual fee plus the £2 joining fee. Either see me on a meeting night or send payment to me at the address in contacts page.

As part of this year's subscriptions process I am intending to confirm members contact details. (Address, telephone number and e-mail if applicable) and their model engineering interests. To members paying by post please ensure your contact details are included.

Payments by cheque should be made payable to "Basingstoke and District Model Engineering Society".

Financial Year End

As our financial year end of Feb. 28th approaches, could anyone who is owed money for B&DMES expenses please provide me with details and receipts so that I can reimburse you and close out the years accounts.

Graham Blissett, Treasurer.

Club News.

Proposal for Future Issues.

Although you may have received this first issue via Royal Mail it is our intention that future issues will be sent via e-mail where possible. This will save the society a considerable amount of money on the cost of paper, ink and mailing. All of which will help with funding any projects the society undertake in the coming months and years. Now that the uncertainty of the future at Viabes has been resolved, the way ahead is much more secure.

To enable the newsletter to be distributed in this way I will need the e-mail addresses of all those that are able to receive the newsletter by this method. Needless to say that your details will be secure and not passed on to any other party or organisation.

Members without access to e-mail will continue to receive their copy through the post.

Sale of club loco. "Bluebird".

At the AGM held in November 2006 a proposal was put forward that the club locomotive be sold. After a vote at the meeting plus a postal vote for those members who were unable to attend it was agreed that this would take place with a sealed bid auction. As the result of this auction three bids were received and were opened at the committee meeting on 6th. Feb. 2007. The bids were as follows.

Bid 1. M. Duckett £257.71

Bid 2. I. Shanks £231.00

Bid 3. N. Bailey £353.00

The auction was therefore won by Nick Bailey. The loco was to be paid for and collected as soon as practical.

Sale of the field known as "Broad Halfpenny".

The above named field was purchased in 2003/2004 to give an alternative site to move to if the site at Viabes was developed for housing as was rumoured at the time. However, now that a new ten-year lease for our current premises has been negotiated, it was agreed by a vote of members that it be resold. The offer by member Terry Hobbs to purchase the field was accepted by

a vote of members at the AGM and a postal vote of those members who were unable to attend and the sale is now ongoing and in the hands of the solicitors.

John Taviner, Editor.

Milestones Model Engineering Show.

Over the weekend 21st/22nd April there will be a Model Engineering Show, sponsored by MJ Engineering at the Milestones Museum on the Basingstoke leisure park. B&DMES have been invited to exhibit at the show and we have already requested four tables for an exhibition of model engineering items and four tables for a garden railway exhibition. We have also been asked if we can supply a 5" gauge railway track for public running. This is currently being looked into as the location suggested by Milestones may not be suitable. MJ Engineering will be running a 7 ¼" gauge track at the show. Nearer the date we will be looking for exhibits and volunteers to help over the weekend.

Graham Blissett.



Input From Members.

Members are invited to submit contributions for publication. As mentioned in the editorial this can be anything to do with our hobby. What you are building, perhaps a visit you have made to preserved railway or museum. It could be sales and wants or maybe a suggestion for an activity to broaden the club calendar. It is up to you but remember, without the support of members this newsletter will not survive.

John Taviner, Editor.

Garden Railway by David Dowson.

When the preliminary plans were being put together for "Broad Halfpenny" there were proposals for a Garden Railway to form part of the development.

As the long term security of the Viabes site became more certain, discussions started about developing the Garden Railway using Bob Skinner's 5" track as a base for a raised garden railway track.



Approval was sought from the Committee and work started in earnest in spring 2006 with a target for opening at the Gala Weekend in August. A lot of hard work by a number of members saw a track base formed with steel 5" track supports and a track bed of railway sleepers and ply decking. In order to provide comfort for those running trains or watching, benches and paths were installed to the steaming areas.

The track itself is a twin track of 'O' gauge and Gauge 1 track, approximately 75 feet running length with a minimum 12 foot radius which allows the running of narrow gauge and standard

gauge trains and rolling stock.

The track was completed in time for the Gala weekend and provided a welcome attraction for those waiting to ride on the passenger carrying railway or those happy to sit and watch the trains go by.

At the Gala weekend, as well as club members running a mixture of gas or meths fired live steam locomotives, clockwork and battery powered locos in both 16mm/foot scale and O gauge.



We had visitors from the Southdown Railway Group (Fareham Model railway Club) running gas and meths fired British, American and European outline locomotives and stock. To see a standard Bavarian Railways Pacific loco and rake of coaches running at full speed was a sight to behold.

To be continued.

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Who's Who.

Chairman	Neil Davis
Vice Chairman	Terry Hobbs
Secretary	Malcolm Duckett
Treasurer	Graham Blissett

Committee Members.

John Hutson	CME.
John Taviner	Newsletter
Simon Hutson	Garden Railway
Tom Burgess	Member

Project Leaders.

Catering manager	Vacant
Electrical Work	Simon Hutson
Library	Ken Jones
Painting/Decorating	Vacant
Publicity	John Dixon/ Graham Blissett
Signalling	Neil Davis/ Graham Blissett
Station Building/Contents	Vacant
Track/Site/Ground Maint.	Dave Blaza/ Mick Lowe
Traction Engine Track	John Catton
Webmaster	Stephen Newell

B&DMES Clothing.

A while back we conducted a straw poll one meeting night and had considerable interest in the members having "Society Clothing", with the society logo and name embroidered on the front, which could be worn at society events such as public running and exhibition visits. At the last AGM I gave a presentation on the type of clothing available and the overall costs.

Although I presented information and costs for Polo shirts, Sweatshirts, Boiler suits, Warehouse coats and Bib & Braces, it was apparent the main interest was for the polo shirts and sweatshirts. Unfortunately, all of the companies who supply clothing have a minimum order quantity of 10 embroidered items of any one type, irrespective of size. So, until I can obtain sufficient interest, no order can be placed.

The Logo.

It is proposed to have burgundy coloured polo shirts and sweatshirts, the colour of which form the background to the logo and so reduces the cost. The embroidered logo would be yellow, as shown below, with the society name embroidered under the logo, also in yellow.

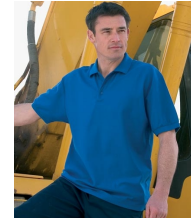


BASINGSTOKE & DISTRICT
MODEL ENGINEERING SOCIETY

The Clothing.

The Polo shirts are priced at £8.80 each and come in sizes:-

36/38", 40", 42/44",
46", 48", 50/52"



The Sweat shirts are priced at £11.30 each and come in sizes:-

36/38", 40", 42/44",
46/48", 50/52", 54/56"



If you would be interested in purchasing a Polo shirt and/or a Sweatshirt then please let me know either by Email, letter or complete the order form in the clubhouse. If you are particularly interested in any of the other items of clothing please let me know as well, the prices of which are also posted in the clubhouse on the order form, or contact me for details.

At the moment I am just taking names (No money) to see how many members are interested. If by the end of April, we have still not reached the minimum order number in either the Polo shirt and/or the Sweatshirt, I will take this to mean that members no longer wish me to pursue this idea.

Many thanks

Graham Blissett, Hon Treasurer

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