

# B&DSME News

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The monthly club  
newsletter for  
Bournemouth &  
District Society of  
Model Engineers

Secretary: Dave Finn  
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## Chairman's Thoughts



### LOTTERY FUNDED

Good news! As you can see from the logo above we have been awarded another grant from **AWARDS FOR ALL**. This will enable the club to provide a new platform complete with fencing and new access pathways. Hopefully, work will start late September.

Well, now back to club matters. The Directors, Officers and Committee have all been re-elected for another year and I would like to thank those who have retired from their duties and wish them all the best for the future.

I was pleased that after the AGM we were able to discuss what was going to happen to Speedy and members present felt it should be kept. Brian

has offered to co-ordinate the strip down and rebuild so, with the help of members, we should have another good work horse to join the Maid.

Our **Charity Day** is on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> August in aid of the 'First Opportunity Group'. We will be running on the Saturday as well as the Sunday, as Littledown is holding the **Kite Festival** again on these days and we will need the usual help of members and locos from around 10.00 am. Lunch will be provided for members on both days, but cakes would be appreciated for afternoon tea on the Sunday.

I have laid a new vinyl floor in the kitchen, so would all, especially male, members please wipe their feet before entering and remove high heels and kinky boots, please.

On a safety note, please ask all passengers to keep their feet on the running boards when riding on the trains.

Don't forget that this month's meeting, on 16<sup>th</sup> August, is **not** at the Muscliffe Centre but at the **Track**, with a **BBQ** and the **AAA Triathlon**, which will start in the afternoon and continue into the evening, giving those who work a chance to participate. Again cakes would be appreciated.

*David Martin*

## Editor's Ramblings

Surprise, surprise! Nobody volunteered to take over from Richard as Editor of our monthly Newsletter. That means that, until someone else does volunteer, you will have to put up with me. For me it's just like going back to my old 'day job', but without the advantages of having someone to do all the copy typing or help with the mundane tasks that are involved in producing a professional looking publication.

You will notice some changes in this issue. The Diary Dates will, in future, only contain events that are directly B&DSME ones. I have moved the Luscombe Valley items into a totally separate box, while events organised by other societies appear in yet another box. This, I hope, will make it easier for members to see, at a glance, what is going on.

I would like to try to incorporate some pictures as well as articles that could be of interest to our members. I can accept text in almost any format - but the preferred one is as a MSWord document with a text file as a back up. Please note that I only want text in the MSWord document - no tables, fractions, graphics or fancy formatting. The reason for this request is that I use page layout software to actually compose the pages and it throws big tantrums if I try to import a MSWord document containing anything other than text. The easiest way to send files is as attachments to an e-mail message, but you can just put the files on a CD or a 3 1/2" floppy disc and post them or give them to me at Littledown. Please remember to include a hard copy of the files - just in case.

*Dick Ganderton*

It's a fact of life that the age of people participating in our hobby seems to be for ever getting older. This article, which originally appeared in the **Stephenson Link**, the magazine of Chesterfield & District MES, is taken from the **Southern Federation News**, June 2006.

## Recognising a Stroke

**D**uring a BBQ a friend stumbled and took a little fall - she assured everyone that she was fine. Although appearing a little shaken she went about enjoying the rest of the evening. Later her husband telephoned to say she had been taken to hospital and had passed away. She had suffered a stroke at the BBQ - had they known how to identify the signs of a stroke perhaps she would be with us today.

A neurologist says that if he can get to a stroke victim within three hours he can totally reverse the effects of the stroke. The trick is getting a stroke recognised, diagnosed and getting to the patient within three hours.

Remember the following '3 steps'. Read and Learn! Sometimes symptoms of a stroke are difficult to identify. Unfortunately, the lack of awareness spells disaster. The stroke victim may suffer brain damage when people nearby fail to recognise the symptoms of a stroke. Now doctors say a bystander can recognise a stroke by asking three simple questions.

1. Ask the individual to **SMILE**.
2. Ask him or her to **RAISE BOTH HANDS**.
3. Ask the person to **SPEAK A SIMPLE SENTENCE**. (Coherently)  
e.g. "It is sunny out today"

If he or she has trouble with any of these tasks, call an ambulance immediately and describe the symptoms to the dispatcher. After discovering that a group of non-medical volunteers could identify facial weakness, arm weakness and speech problems, researchers urged the general public to learn the three questions. Widespread use of this test could result in prompt diagnosis and treatment of the stroke and prevent brain damage.

**Be a friend and share this article with as many associates as possible. You could save their life.**

### Other Events

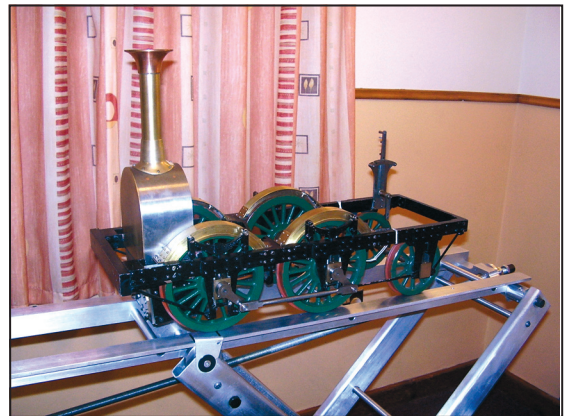
The Bristol ME Exhibition is on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> August at The Leisure Centre, Thornbury, near Bristol BS35 3JB.

Basingstoke & Dist. are having a Gala Weekend on 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> August.

Harrow & Wembley SME have their Open Weekend on 26<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> August.

Northolt MRC have their Annual Exhibition & Open Day on 2<sup>nd</sup> September.

Harlington Locomotive Society are having a Visiting Clubs Day on 10<sup>th</sup> September.



***This rather nice 5" gauge Lion, under construction by Merlin Biddlecombe, was seen at the July Meeting taking a rest on Ron Bettell's 'scrapyard special' engine lifting trolley.***  
*Photograph: Dick Ganderton*



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### Luscombe Valley Happenings

The 'Autumn Running Weekend' this year is on Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th September.

The annual 'Humbug Day' for those who want to try to escape the Christmas Shopping nightmare will be held on Saturday 23rd December.

## B&DSME Diary Dates

16 <sup>th</sup> August	Monthly Meeting; <b>Littledown Miniature Railway</b> BBQ and Triple A Triathlon.
19 <sup>th</sup> & 20 <sup>th</sup> August	Kite Festival; Littledown Miniature Railway. Members who help will be fed & watered on both days.
20 <sup>th</sup> August	Charity Day; Littledown Miniature Railway This year's charity is the 'First Opportunity Group'.
20 <sup>th</sup> September	Monthly Meeting; Muscliff Community Centre. Dick Ganderton - 'Railway Wheels and Track'.
18 <sup>th</sup> October	Monthly Meeting; Muscliff Community Centre. Keith Shepard 'The Foundry and its Technology in 2006'.
15 <sup>th</sup> November	Monthly Meeting; Muscliff Community Centre. Ladies Night.
20 <sup>th</sup> December	Monthly Meeting; Muscliff Community Centre. Christmas Party.
28 <sup>th</sup> January 2007	Annual Dinner; Crooked Beams Restaurant.

### Boiler Testing

**B**oiler testing under the new regulations is proceeding reasonably smoothly without too many problems.

There are, however, a few points that the Boiler Testers would like to bring to members' attention

It would be appreciated if you made a booking with one of the Boiler Testers before appearing at Littledown with your engine.

All boilers **must** have an identification mark clearly stamped or engraved in such a position as to be easily seen when the model is completed. This is a mandatory requirement - no identification mark, no test certificate!

Please ensure that your boiler will pump up to test pressure, without serious leaks, before you present it for testing. Points to check are the regulator, whistle valve and clacks. If in doubt make and fit blanking plugs.

The safety valves still have to meet the 10% rule for the steam test. This has been the undoing of several boilers this year. If your safety valves won't meet the rule we suggest that you investigate Gordon Smith's excellent designs for semi-pop valves as they definitely work.

If you need further help or advice - just ask one of the Boiler Testers.

*Mike Mortimer & Dick Ganderton*

### New Body for Sheddon Wheels

**S**heddon Wheels is sporting a brand new colourful body, thanks to Ted Rouse and a piece of large diameter plastic gas pipe.

Built without the aid of any form of drawing, Ted's latest creation looks very resplendent in a fully lined out pale blue livery, complete with Driver George Wheatley and Fireman Mike Mortimer on the footplate and should prove popular with the children at Littledown.



*Sheddon Wheels poses for the camera whilst on passenger hauling duty at the Littledown Miniature Railway. Photograph: Dick Ganderton*



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