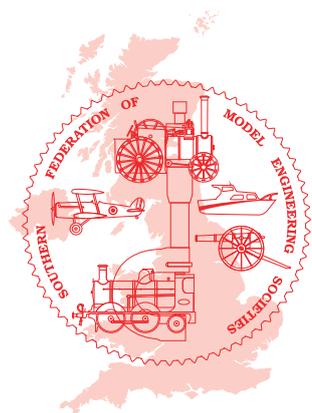


# SOUTHERN FEDERATION NEWSLETTER

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Editor

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Views and comments expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Southern Federation of Model Engineering Societies

## EDITORIAL

I have been retired from work now for nearly fifteen years. How time has flown; I don't know how I found time to go to work! Age is beginning to make itself felt and after fourteen years' service I have decided to retire from the Southern Federation committee at the next Annual General Meeting in March 2014. Apart from Brian Thompson, I am currently the longest serving committee member.

I have loved being involved and hope I have been able to put back into the hobby we all enjoy so much something to repay the pleasure it has given me. Don't think I have any intention of giving up my model engineering activities however, so expect to see me at rallies around the country for the foreseeable future.

Retirement from the committee means I shall no longer be editing our Newsletter; my last will be the issue for February 2014. I'm sure there must be someone 'out there' to take over the reins and keep this very important method of communication going. With just four issues per year, the job is neither particularly difficult nor time consuming and there is considerable freedom as to content and publication. It is also very rewarding to see the results of one's creative efforts when



'Kestrel': Hawker Siddeley experimental diesel electric locomotive.

each issue is published.

*John Walker*

Newsletter Editor

## NEW WEBSITE

VISIT US ON [WWW.SFMES.CO.UK](http://WWW.SFMES.CO.UK)

A new website has been constructed to benefit us all. It contains a wealth of information relating to model engineering and the running of our Clubs and Societies. Some of the features to be found include:

- ◆ Information Sheets and Guidance Sheets.
- ◆ Copies of all Newsletters.
- ◆ Websites and location of all Clubs and Societies.
- ◆ Annual General Meeting minutes.
- ◆ Boiler test documents and procedures.
- ◆ Model Engineering Insurance scheme.
- ◆ Diary of Events
- ◆ Publications
- ◆ Contact - Committee members
- ◆ **And very much more ...**

## FROM THE CHAIRMAN

As I write these words we're in the middle of some glorious sunshine. I hope you're all out enjoying yourselves running your models and helping with the jobs necessary to maintain your club's facilities.

I've recently visited several clubs, all with very active memberships. First to Colchester where my name first appears in the visitors' book in the late sixties, reminding me of my advancing years. Oh happy days - I could lift a 5in. 'Netta' on my own then; I struggle with a pint now! They have a fantastic track; the ground level railway has junctions, yards, is double tracked and fully signalled. Steaming bays are easily accessed for both the raised and ground level railways and there's an interchange track from one to the other. There's a gauge one track too, and a fine club house.

Next I attended Guildford for their weekend rally. When I could make it, I've been going there for as many years as the rally has been held. This year, with no catering in the big marquee, the tent was full of models which made room for a huge range of models. 5in. and 7½in. locos were running all day and there's a 16mm track too. There were very

few traction engines though and by 4 o'clock most had been put away. Where, oh where, were the visitors to such a grand spectacle? Last year was a washout; this year was sunny, so where were you? The effort needed to put on this event deserved more support than was apparent. If we don't visit other clubs and support our neighbours then we can't expect them to visit our own events. I'm led to believe that visitor numbers are generally down at many club open days.

The total apathy to recruiting members to the Southern Federation committee indicates that people are now living more insular lives which is leading to a state of affairs where your Southern Federation may only be able to 'tick over' from the next AGM due to a lack of committee members.

I visited the Vale of Aylesbury Society for a chat to see how the new boilers certification was working. "No problems - why should there be?" came their reply. It seems that most sensible clubs carry on as normal and now work within the law as best we can interpret it until such time as case law makes definitive statements; let's hope that never comes about, but we must remain vigilant.

Their ground level track

runs parallel with the standard gauge track for some distance. There's also a 16mm and gauge one track making it a fabulous place to visit. And they're on the site of the Buckingham Railway Museum or Quanton Road as it was known in the sixties.

Then on to Ted Martin's 7¼in. Great Western railway which his widow opens to selected parties a couple of times a year. I knew Ted in the late sixties when he started railway engineering and was making pressure die cast 5in. gauge aluminium alloy sleepers with the bullhead rail chairs cast as one piece, and extruded bullhead rail! He then moved up to 7¼in. gauge and made pressure die cast individual bullhead chairs and extruded rail on wooden sleepers. Ted built a superb railway in his garden with tunnels and cuttings and a GWR engine shed. A large number of the locomotives were constructed by Keith Wilson.

Tea was taken and it was then on to visit the Treetops Railway, a new private railway on private land with grand plans for a bridge over a lake in the house grounds and yards for shunting.

That's it so far - what will the future hold?

*Brent Hudson*

Chairman

### Members' Insurance

If your Club or Society is a member of the Southern Federation, you can insure your workshop building, machinery, models, home railway tracks, etc. even if your Club or Society uses another broker.

Very competitive rates are available.

Contact  
Footman James  
for details.

## DATA PROTECTION

Data Protection has become a hot topic with the result that the Southern Federation cannot now publish the Directory Supplement of Clubs and Societies giving details of the name and address of the secretaries without those individuals' written permission to publish the data.

This also affects the data published on our web site so all names and addresses have been removed unless permission has been received for their inclusion.

Our Insurance Brokers, Footman James are in a similar situation. They have a schedule of Clubs and Societies and contact details of those who deal with them. Footman James can only correspond with their contact, no other in the Club or Society so if you need to write to Footman James the reply will come to your contact who must then pass it on to you as the originator of the enquiry.

We regret that in this respect things that were so simple in the past are now either not possible or much more difficult.

When such legislation is introduced we have to abide by it. Don't blame the Southern Federation, we're not the Big Bad Wolf, we're only the messenger.

# WORK AND LOCOMOTIVES AT THE VALE OF AYLESBURY MODEL ENGINEERING SOCIETY



*Steaming Bays. Construction of a new carriage storage shed.*

*Great Western Railway Prairie 2-6-2 Tank engine built by David Andrews.*



*The extensive layout of the Gauge One track.*



*LNER P2 2-8-2 5in. gauge locomotive built by Neil Maddon.*

# SOUTHERN FEDERATION AUTUMN RALLY

## NORTHAMPTON SOCIETY OF MODEL ENGINEERS

### SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 21ST 2013

The Northampton Society of Model Engineers (NSME) is pleased to host the Autumn 2013 Rally of the Southern Federation of Model Engineering Societies on Saturday 21st September.

Our site will open to visitors from 2.00pm to 7.00pm on Friday 20th. The Rally itself, including the competition for the Australian Association of Live Steamers Trophy (see page 6 for details), will take place on Saturday 21st from 9.00am to 7.00pm. Sunday 22nd is a club running day, from 9.00am to 4.00pm; rally attendees are very welcome to stay and enjoy an additional day's running. If you cannot participate in the rally on the Saturday you are welcome to visit on the Sunday.

Our site is in a relaxed woodland setting about a mile south of the centre of Northampton. Since arriving on the site in 1965 when it was a boggy overgrown wilderness, we now have a spacious club room, modern toilets (including those for the disabled), plus workshops and other buildings to complement the recently extended tracks.

Track reconstructions and extensions were completed in 2011 and now provide a raised track of 535m (1755ft) of dual 5in. and 3½in. gauge and a ground level railway with a steaming bay, terminus station and an out-and-back run of 925m (3034ft) of dual 7¼in. and 5in. gauge. Ruling gradients are 1 in 200 and 1 in 100 respectively. Also available are 32mm and 45mm gauge tracks for garden railway style locomotives and rolling stock.

Unloading facilities for 3½in. and 5in. gauge locomotives from cars, vans and trailers are provided and a hydraulic lift is available for larger 5in. and 7¼in. gauge locomotives.

Videos of the unloading facilities are available in the 'One Stop Shop' on our website [www.nsme.co.uk](http://www.nsme.co.uk) along with information on local accommodation, a map of the site and a trip around each of the railways.

Road vehicles are catered for with steaming up facilities near the clubhouse. You may wish to drive your engine within the site or travel across the park and about half-a-mile along the road to the historic Delapre Abbey.

The Northampton Society of Model Engineers is located in Lower Delapre Park, Far Cotton, Northampton. The postcode for your SatNav is NN4 8AJ but for visitors without such equipment the directions to the site are as follows;

From the North or South take the M1 and leave at junction 15 for Northampton. Take the A508 towards Northampton and, after about a mile, take the exit signed for the Town Centre. Take the second exit from the roundabout which is London Road.

From the West follow the A43 until it meets the M1 at junction 15a. Take the M1 South to junction 15 and follow the instructions above.

From the East follow the A45 to Northampton and take the exit signed for Hardingstone, Hunsbury and Sixfields. Take the 5th exit from the roundabout signed for the Town Centre, which is London Road.

Follow London Road down towards the Town Centre past the Queen Eleanor Cross on your right, and the park, and take the first turn right just before the second pedestrian crossing. Enter the park from London Road and immediately turn left through the double gates, the Society site is at the end of the short roadway.

Visitors' cars must be parked on the grass to the right of the roadway and must not be taken into the site, except when directed by the Track Marshal, for the unloading and loading locomotives.

A buffet lunch will be provided on Saturday, with a barbeque in the evening. Drinks and confectionery will be available to purchase from the clubhouse throughout each day and a light lunch will be available for you to purchase on the Sunday.

A limited number of camping, camper van and caravan places are available from 2.00pm on Friday 20th until 5.00pm on Sunday 22nd in the adjacent paddock, however we must know beforehand if you wish to make use of this facility. Please contact [chairman@nsme.co.uk](mailto:chairman@nsme.co.uk) to reserve your place.

Finally a reminder to anyone bringing a steam powered model to operate, please don't forget your up to date certificates. We will accept BTC 2008 or 2012 style certificates as appropriate. We all look forward

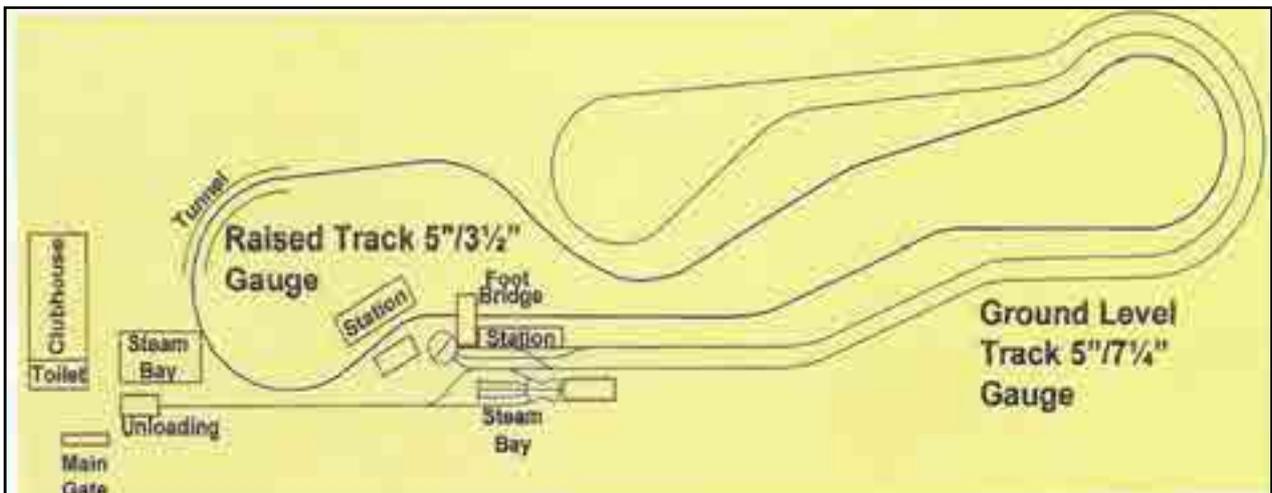
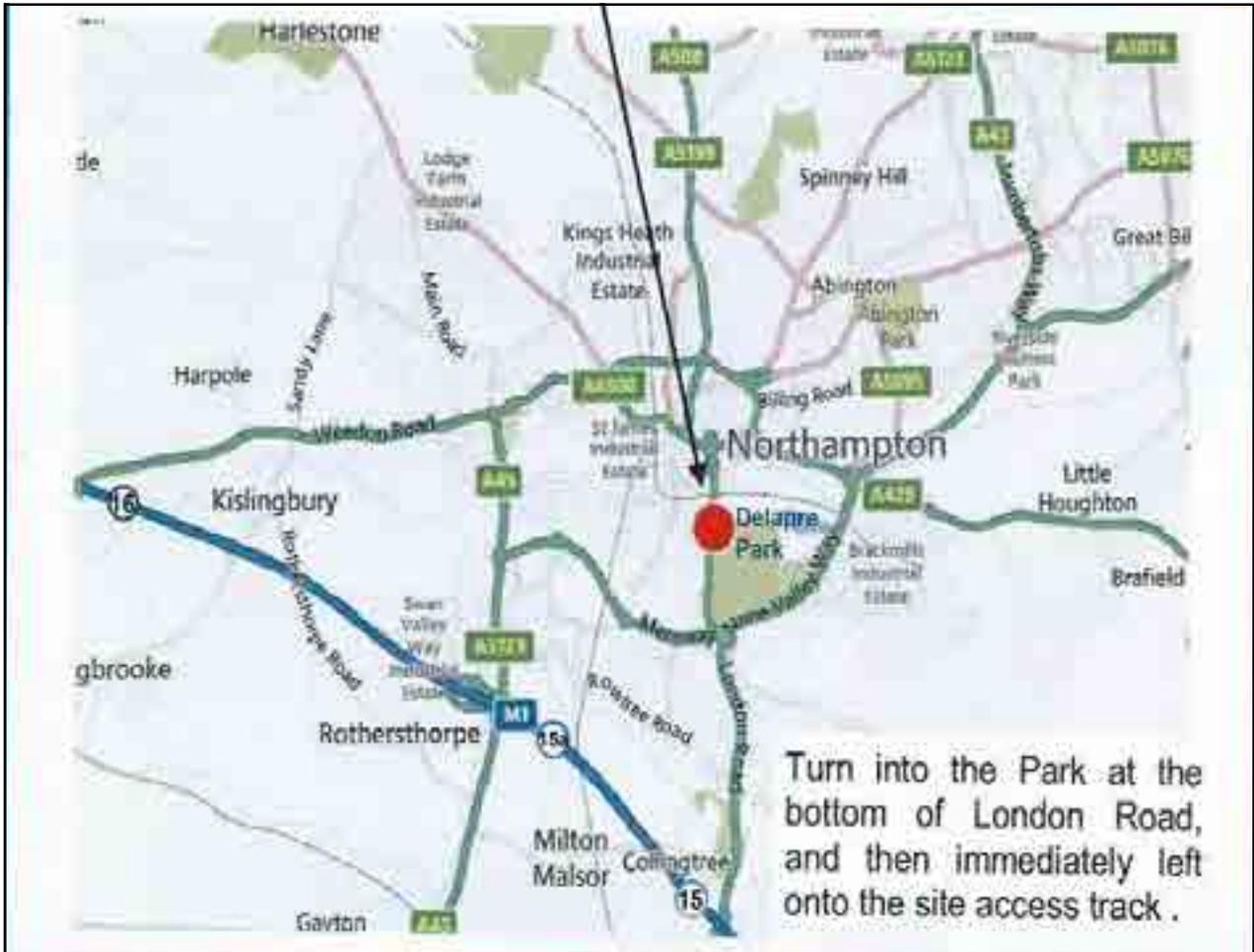


to welcoming you to our site and the rally.

For further information or to learn more about local accommodation, please visit the 'One Stop Shop' on our website [www.nsme.co.uk](http://www.nsme.co.uk) or telephone 07907 051 388 (if no answer or return call, please send a text) or e-mail [chairman@nsme.co.uk](mailto:chairman@nsme.co.uk)

# SOUTHERN FEDERATION AUTUMN RALLY

## NORTHAMPTON SOCIETY OF MODEL ENGINEERS DELAPRE PARK, NORTHAMPTON NN4 8AJ



**Track Layout at the Northampton Society of Model Engineers**

# AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION OF LIVE STEAMERS TROPHY

This trophy is presented to the Southern Federation of Model Engineering Societies to commemorate the Affiliation of the two Associations. It is presented for annual Competition at the Autumn Rally conducted by the Federation under the following rules:

1. The trophy is to be awarded to the model steam locomotive judged to be the best working example of a Commonwealth prototype locomotive in gauges from 2½in. through to 7½in.
2. The Trophy is open to members of Clubs/Societies affiliated to the Southern Federation, and such members may nominate their locomotive for judging. The judges may also include other suitable locomotives present on the day, whose builders have not nominated, should they so desire.
3. The Southern Federation is to arrange a suitable panel of Judges to select the winner.
4. The Judges, if in their opinion, a required standard has not been reached, may decline to award the Trophy. The A.A.L.S. wishes to be informed of the awarding, or otherwise of the Trophy each year.
5. The winner will take possession of the Trophy for a period of twelve months or sooner as directed by the Southern Federation.
6. Each winner will retain a suitable inscribed medallion as a memento of the award, and in addition, will have his name and locomotive description engraved on the trophy, i.e. *John Brown M.M.E.S. L.N.E.R. A3 60040 CAMERONIAN 5in. Gauge.*
7. A particular locomotive may only win the Trophy once.
8. Only the owner and builder of locomotives will be eligible to compete.



*Glyn Winsall, winner of the Australian Association of Live Steamers Trophy with his 5in. gauge Southern Railway 'U' class Mogul at the Southern Federation Autumn Rally at the Chelmsford Society of Model Engineers in 2012.*

9. Professional model engineers are not eligible to compete.
10. A.A.L.S. undertakes to pay for the cost of engraving upon presentation of an account from the Southern Federation. Also, at the expiry of the medallions, A.A.L.S. will pay for the cost of another ten (10) years' supply of a similar nature upon presentation of the appropriate account from the Southern Federation.
11. A.A.L.S. requests that a photographic record of each winner be forwarded on for Association records. Such photographs to consist of the builder together with the trophy and locomotive (general view), close up view of left side, right side, also front and rear, plus any other special close ups that the judging panel consider necessary.
12. In the event that the affairs of the Southern Federation are wound up, the Trophy reverts to the ownership of the A.A.L.S. Similarly, in the event that the affairs of the A.A.L.S. are wound up, the Trophy becomes the property of the Southern Federation.
13. The Judges' decision is final, and no correspondence will be entered into either by the Southern Federation or the A.A.L.S.

## A NOTE FROM YOUR BOILER REGISTRAR

### IMPORTANT PLEASE PASS THIS INFORMATION ON TO YOUR BOILER INSPECTORS

**W**ell gentlemen, you all seem to have coped pretty well with the new documentation since it was introduced at the beginning of the year.

I have received more than one thousand pink slips for the Written Scheme of Examination to be entered onto the Federation's database.

All things considered, and having to cope with the new boiler certificates as well, they have been filled in fairly accurately by the majority of clubs, but sadly we have received about 10% of them with errors.

2 Description of systems:

2a - no serial number and surprisingly, 2b - no owner.

2c - if not known, say so; the same with 2d.

2e - left blank, surely you boiler inspectors know if it is copper or steel, silver soldered or welded.

2g - it does say 'delete those not applicable'.

2h - I have received a few with nothing written in here or section 2i, you managed

2g ie railway locomotive, but what?

2j - this is the most persistent one with errors, 150psi working pressure plus 10% is - item 2k = 165psi safe operating pressure not 150psi

120psi plus 10% is 132psi not 120psi,

100psi plus 10% is 110psi not 100psi,

90psi plus 10% is 99psi not 90psi or in some cases 100psi,

80psi plus 10% is 88psi not 90psi,

And then, of course, there is the worst case where no figures are put in at all!

I have received some slips with up to five of these errors. Come on, chaps, these slips were introduced into the hobby for all our sakes to comply with the Pressure Systems Safety Regulations 2000 and quite a few people put in a great deal of time over recent years to make it all as simple as possible. Please think when you fill them in.

There are also the few who

actually forget to put the name of their club in the appropriate place as well.

On a lighter note, a few clubs send me the white copies! These are for the owners. I only need the pink copy. I have also received some white Hydraulic Certificates as well. These will be returned to the appropriate clubs.

Regarding postage, you can save your club some money if you send the certificates second class and by folding them and putting them into the appropriate size envelope and, even more, if you wait until you have a few to send at the same time instead of posting them singly.

Two other points - club boiler inspectors registration and boiler safety issues / queries should be addressed to Wally Pearson, our Safety Officer who is more skilled in these matters than I will ever be.

*David Mayall*

Southern Federation  
Boiler Registrar

### *Southern Federation Web Site*

All our data is now held on the Southern Federation website.

This information is used to contact you and your club.

Have you checked that your Club/Society data is correct?

Please read this page to find out more.

## BOILER TESTING AND DOCUMENTATION

**A** reminder: all Clubs and Societies should now be using the new forms for Hydraulic and Steam Testing of boilers.

A Written Scheme of Examination form should also be issued for each boiler tested.

A copy of the Green Book (Examination & Testing of Miniature Steam Boilers 2012) should be issued to every member who has a boiler tested (one copy per member is all that is required).

All the old forms should be destroyed.

# SOUTHERN FEDERATION INSURANCE FOR CLUBS AND SOCIETIES AND THEIR MEMBERSHIP

**Y**ou can trust the Federation to make sure we meet your needs with the right cover at a competitive price.

No one knows better than we do and we work hard to bring you the very best value for money.

Unlike a commercial enterprise, any revenue from our insurance scheme is reinvested in the Federation and used for the benefit of all our Clubs and Societies enabling us to provide a better service.

Insurance cover is available for all Clubs, Societies and their members who are affiliated to the Southern Federation.

## Why choose Southern Federation Insurance?

- ◆ Your scheme: insurance for model engineers by model engineers.
- ◆ The scheme directly supports the Federation and all its Clubs and Societies.
- ◆ Competitive rates.
- ◆ 40 years of insurance experience.
- ◆ Membership cover when visiting others clubs and societies.
- ◆ Boiler Inspectors' liability cover.
- ◆ Brokered by Footman James with experience in specialist insurance.
- ◆ Cover for members models, workshops, machinery and home railways.

Protect your Club/Society with the Federation's  
40 years of know-how  
For competitive insurance without compromise  
get a quote today; call

**0121 561 6249**  
to speak with Stephen Banks  
and ask for the Southern Federation Insurance



*Southern Federation Insurance is only available to Clubs and Societies and their members who are affiliated to the Southern Federation of Model Engineering Societies.*

## PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE FROM THE SOUTHERN FEDERATION

### Availability

From our stand at rallies and exhibitions or by post from Brian Thompson.

	From Our Stand	By Post
Directory Supplement 2012 (Secretarial Information).....	£3.00.....	£3.60
Directory - Detailing S/Fed affiliated Clubs'/Societies' facilities.....	£3.00.....	£4.20
Examination & Testing of Miniature Steam Boilers BTC 2012 - Green Book.....	50p.....	£1.00
Pack of 5.....	£2.50.....	£3.20
HSG216 Passenger-carrying miniature railways 'Guidance on safe practice'.....	£3.00.....	£4.50
Boiler Test Certificates - Pad of 50.....	£5.00.....	£8.20
Written Scheme of Examination - Pad of 50.....	£7.50.....	£11.50
Small Boiler Test Certificate - Pad of 50.....	£5.00.....	£8.20
Boiler History Record Card - Pack of 10.....	£1.00.....	£2.20
Plastic wallets to hold certificates size A5.....	60p.....	90p
Pack of 5.....	£3.00.....	£4.20

Please make your cheque payable to *Southern Federation MES*; if by post please send to:

Brian Thompson  
35, Rivershill,  
Watton at Stone,  
Hertfordshire SG14 3SD

### Postal Charges

There have been very large increases in the postal charges for packages from April 2nd 2013. If you require more than one item please ring Brian Thompson first and he will advise you of the postal charges

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## DIARY OF EVENTS 2013

August 9/10	Frimley & Ascot Loco Club - Locomotive Rally
August 16/17/18	*Bristol Model Engineering Exhibition - Thornbury, Bristol.
August 24/25/26	Harrow & Wembley SME Locomotive & Traction Engine Rally
August 30/September 1	*Bedford Model Engineering Society Invitation Rally.
September 1	LBSC Rally & Trophy North West Leicestershire SME
September 21	*FEDERATION AUTUMN RALLY, Northampton MES.
September 22	Northampton MES (Host Society) Open Day.
October 5	Welling & District MES Locomotive Rally including Gauge 1.
October 17-20	*Midlands Model Engineering Exhibition at the Fosse.
December 13/14/15	*Model Engineer Exhibition at Sandown Park.

The Federation sales stand will be present at events identified thus \*

Would you like your event shown in our Diary of Events? Please send details to the Newsletter Editor, e-mail address on the first page. The event should be restricted to invitation events for model engineers, NOT for public running days.

## SOUTHERN FEDERATION COMMITTEE

**PRESIDENT**  
Brian Thompson.

**CHAIRMAN**  
Brent Hudson. '

**SECRETARY & VICE CHAIRMAN**  
Ivan Hurst

**TREASURER**  
Norman Rogers  
**MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY**  
Martin Baker

**BOILER REGISTRAR**  
David Mayall

**SAFETY OFFICER**  
Wally Pearson

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR**  
John Walker

**VULNERABLE GROUPS**  
Roger Griffiths

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**  
Mike Chrisp and Tim Gregson

**INSURANCE CLAIMS  
AND INCIDENTS**  
All claims and reports of incidents should be notified in the first instance to Footman James.

**FEDERATION SALES**  
Available from Brian Thompson.

**FEDERATION  
INSURANCE BUSINESS**  
Managed by Footman James,

**Committee members details, addresses, telephone numbers and E-mail addresses will be found on the Southern Federation web site  
[www.sfmcs.co.uk](http://www.sfmcs.co.uk)**

**We're on  
the Web**

[www.sfmcs.co.uk](http://www.sfmcs.co.uk)

## DO YOU WANT THE SOUTHERN FEDERATION TO CONTINUE IN 2014?

**W**e had several resignations at the AGM in 2014 due mainly to members having served on committee for many years; advancing years and a desire to take things easy in their latter years.

Together with its Insurance Scheme, the Southern Federation provides a useful service to the model engineering fraternity and offers an alternative source of information and services. With only one such organisation, competition would disappear and costs would inevitably rise.

Come and join us to keep this valuable organisation running into the future. It's not time consuming, there are only six committee meetings a year, expenses paid. **NO COMMITTEE, NO SOUTHERN FEDERATION.**

If you'd like to join us, contact Ivan Hurst Secretary, details above.

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