



SOUTHERN FEDERATION of MODEL ENGINEERING SOCIETIES

Formed from the Federation established in 1970 by Model Engineers for Model Engineers
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Polly Young Engineer nominations to think about!



Tom Parham receives the Australia trophy from President Brent Hudson assisted by Mike Chrisp, for his fine and much admired 5" Jinty. The proper name for it is The Australian Association of Live Steamers Trophy. Commemorating their affiliation, the Australian Association of Live Steamers and the Southern Federation of Model Engineering Societies promote mutually supportive annual competitions which are in Australia at the Association's Easter Convention and in the UK at the Federation's Autumn Rally.

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**Great Rally at Cambridge
Boiler Seminar—November**

**Ladies only compartments
Polly Award—AGM**

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

EDITORIAL

Here we are at the end of the summer, a perennial remark at this time of year, but this summer seems to have slipped by with increasing speed. Perhaps it is our age or the excitement of setting fire to most of our railway sites and running around with buckets of water putting the fires out!

On a more serious note we need to search our societies for promising young engineers who are worthy of the award kindly sponsored by Jayne and Andy Clark at Polly Model Engineering. Mike Chrisp is in charge here and would be very happy to hear from you. The full set of notes and nomination form are included in this issue.

We have two contributions from member societies, David Price, Secretary of COSME tackles the issue of free rides for carers. With more special cars for

disabled people appearing on our railways, this issue may become relevant as David points out

David Boughen, Editor, Criterion from High Wycombe brings us up to date about compartments and railway cars for ladies only. The idea was suggested in Parliament recently, apparently, but was shot down quickly and firmly. Do let us know if you need to provide this sort of service.

But one of joys of the longer evenings and less passenger hauling is that we can get back into our workshops to progress those many projects that get stalled in the summer. Like many of you I have enough to last me until I am 120 years old

David Gwyder, Newsletter Editor

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

I am sure most of us will be familiar with the question asked by youngsters when we are running a steam loco, traction engine, etc., where do you put the batteries and how long will it run on them. I came across a new twist on this question a short time ago. I was at a classic car show and overheard a young lad ask the gentleman who he was with, presumably his grandfather, what is that bent piece of metal sticking out of the front of that car for. After a few seconds thought grandpa realized that the lad would never have seen a starting handle before and duly explained.

This set me thinking, how does the current generation of youngsters learn about such things. I doubt they learn about such things in school, history is about great battles, statesmen, kings and queens, dark satanic mills, coalmines and such like, not about mundane things like starting a vehicle with handle. So is this possibly one way in which we, as model engineers, can help to educate youngsters. We can let them see the fire in a firebox, even let them put some

of those black stones (coal) into the firebox, let them blow the whistle, try and explain some of the motion work, bearing in mind all this needs to be done safely and with parental approval. Do not assume that somebody has explained how things work, but explain things to them yourself, who knows you might even spark an interest in them to take up model engineering as a hobby.

I am trying to visit clubs around the country (sorry if I have not visited yours yet, but there are over two hundred clubs) and one thing that strikes me about every club, whether it has four or four hundred members is the social side. The social side, whether it simply means enjoying a chat over a cup of tea, visiting a place of interest with fellow members and everything in between, can be just as important as running a model, using club equipment, getting a boiler tested, etc. So whether it is the engineering side or the social side, keep on enjoying our wonderful hobby.

Bob Polley Chairman

Please, please, please, keep your emails up to date!

Every quarter when we send an email message to the 'prime contacts' of member societies telling them that the newsletter is available, we get back about a dozen "Undelivered Mail Returned to Sender" and we are told further "johndoe@something.com; Host or domain name not found."

It is pretty easy to track these people down and so we spend an evening or two calling these people to ask them to update their email address. Some tell us they do not know how to do it so we do it for them and

incidentally have a nice chat. Others just are not there so we send a letter by the snail post and that usually gets it changed.

You can update this information yourself and that would make our lives a little easier and save my phone bill!!!

If you have problems accessing or changing data then please contact the webmaster by using the "Need any Help?" home page or contact membershipsecretary@sfmes.co.uk and we will do our best to help".

Thankyou Cambridge & District Model Engineering Society For hosting the Southern Federation Rally 2018 Saturday 8th September



What a setting! What a day! What fun!! Cambridge pulled out the stops for the rally with a marquee exhibition hall, lots of good food and superb organisation. The Cambridge society's railway is ground level in three gauges which calls for some interesting point work as you will see in the following photos.

Towards the end of the day the Australia Trophy was presented and was deservedly won by Tom Parham for his 5" gauge 'Jinty'. Seventeen visiting locos were signed in, twenty-seven different societies were represented and one traction engine made her debut in live steam in public.

This traction engine kept in the spirit of the event as she was turned out in beautiful crimson lake simply because she was a model of an engine owned by the Midland Railway.

Riding around the track is a remarkable experience as there are really two loops or circuits connected by and ingenious crossover. Key points are named after the local inhabitants, one presumes, 'Stoat Crossing', 'Rat Junction', 'Badger Bridge', 'Squirrel Crossing',

'Hedgehog Junction', 'Fox Crossing', 'Otter bridge' being just some of them. The main loop is much the same as many clubs with a nice big race track but about two thirds the way around the driver can smack a large push button to divert his train onto an outer passing loop and then disappear into the 'forest' and onto a second loop. One could go around this loop a few times before taking yet another diversion into the centre of the woods and then to a ground level crossing and back onto the main loop. If by now you are thoroughly confused try the track diagram on their web site! Lets have some photos.



Not often does one see a Midland crest on a road vehicle

Southern Federation Rally 2018 Saturday 8th September



Alan Windle with his 'Midland' traction engine on her first outing.
Alan is a Cambridge member.



Margaret is a Metre Maid and belongs to Peter Jackson from Peterborough here in the charge of Kevin Almond



Colin Walton from the Halesworth MES is driving his 5" Manor in one of the two station roads.



'Royal Sovereign' is a Sandringham Class B2 owned by R Tremain from Hemsby and driven we believe by Will Tremain.



Class 47 from the Harlington Society courtesy of Ralph Mainwaring who seems to be enjoying himself



John Hunt from Leeds on his simplex. John won the prize for having travelled furthest to Cambridge.

Southern Federation Rally 2018 Saturday 8th September



Scamp type loco. Built 2016. Design by Colin Edmondson, Built by Randal Freestone. Name is "Fuchchi" which means small and cute in Nepalese.



Tom Parham with his 'Jinty' from the Maidstone MES. Tom was awarded the Australia trophy. Trophies are awarded to miniature working steam locomotives judged to be the best examples of Commonwealth prototypes in any gauge between and including 2½ and 7¼ inches. Commemorating their affiliation, the Australian Association of Live Steamers and the Southern Federation of Model Engineering Societies promote mutually supportive annual competitions.



Halton Tank 209, driven by Luigi Naruszewicz, Northolt MRC.



John and Mrs Dalton from Chelmsford MES with his Hunslet "Tiger". They look very happy!

Left: For sheer athletic prowess Sam Weller from COSME should win a prize. You may remember that Sam left his grate behind last year for Fareham and had to drive to Oxford and back. No problems this year!

Southern Federation Rally 2018 Saturday 8th September



Above: We hope that the driver is indeed Denis Mulford from COSME behind that cloud of steam. This is of course his Hunslet known as Charles.



Right: Peter Squire, Secretary of the Southern Federation and from Northampton waits for the road with his GWR 1452.



Above: Ron Manning's 7 1/4" electric "Jem" is admired by selected visitors. Ron came from Chingford.

Right: Brian Remnant from Romney Marsh and interesting 7 1/4 model of a loco that worked a brick works. Several were made for export. Perhaps Brian will write us an article about them one day!





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**Have you a young member
in your Club or Society
eligible for the**

**SOUTHERN FEDERATION
TROPHY &
POLLY MODEL ENGINEERING
PRIZE?**

The Nominee shall be no more than 24 years of age at the date of nomination.

Nomination shall be made by a Club or Society affiliated to the Southern Federation of Model Engineering Societies and the Nominee shall be an active member of that Club or Society.

The Nominee shall have demonstrated the acquisition of skills in the use of appropriate materials and metalworking hand tools and / or machinery / equipment by producing a model, other mechanical item or piece of workshop tooling associated with the hobby of model engineering, complete or part built, constructed using metalworking hand tools or equipment normally found in the home, school, Club or Society workshop.

Supervisory input and items built as apprentice pieces in a training environment are acceptable. The work shall be the nominee's own but normally acceptable commercial fittings, fixings, fastenings or other components may be used.

Visit www.sfmes.co.uk for further information and an entry form



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SOUTHERN FEDERATION TROPHY & POLLY MODEL ENGINEERING PRIZE

The committee of the Southern Federation of Model Engineering Societies acknowledges with gratitude the generous support provided by Jayne & Andy Clark of Polly Model Engineering Limited in promoting this award.

This Award is made with the aim of encouraging young persons to participate in the hobby of model engineering with particular emphasis on acquiring the relevant skills and use of appropriate materials.

While pursuance of excellence by those in their late teens and early twenties should be promoted, work by youngsters taking their first steps in the hobby of model engineering is also encouraged. Participation in club/society activities is also important.

Nominations are judged by the committee of the Southern Federation of Model Engineering Societies and approved by the proprietors of Polly Model Engineering Limited. Their decision is final.

The winner will receive a prize donated by the proprietors of Polly Model Engineering Limited and a suitably inscribed Southern Federation Trophy, which shall be retained.

The award will normally be presented at an Annual General Meeting of the Southern Federation of Model Engineering Societies at which representatives of the winner's family and Club or Society are welcome to attend.

Completed nomination forms must be sent to the SFMES Secretary, 18 Wakefield Way, Nether Heyford, Northampton NN7 3LU to arrive no later than 19 January 2016

RULES

1. The Nominee shall be no more than 24 years of age at the date of nomination.
2. Nomination shall be made by a Club or Society affiliated to the Southern Federation of Model Engineering Societies and the Nominee shall be an active member of that Club or Society.
3. The Nominee shall have demonstrated the acquisition of skills in the use of appropriate materials and metalworking hand tools and/or machinery/equipment by producing a model, other mechanical item or piece of workshop tooling associated with the hobby of model engineering, complete or part built, constructed using metalworking hand tools or equipment normally found in the home, school, Club or Society workshop. Supervisory input and items built as apprentice pieces in a training environment are acceptable. The work shall be the nominee's own but normally acceptable commercial fittings, fixings, fastenings or other components may be used.

NOMINATION

Please supply a summary of the Nominee's relevant projects completed and/or in hand.

Please supply photographic evidence and state to what extent the Nominee's work has been completed unaided or produced under guidance - please note that supervision is acceptable.

Please supply a summary of the Nominee's involvement in Club or Society activities.

NOMINEE

Club or Society:

Signature:

Name (please print):

Date of nomination:

Age at date of nomination:

Home address:

Telephone:

Email:

SPONSOR

Club or Society:

Signature:

Name (please print):

Position held in Club or Society:

Home address:

Telephone:

Email:

Seminars for Boiler Inspectors

For the past three years, there has been a Boiler Inspectors Seminar in the spring and autumn.

Jointly organised and sponsored by Southern Federation of Model Engineering Societies and Northern Association of Model Engineers (NAME) the seminars have visited many locations and 400+ boiler inspectors and would-be boiler inspectors have benefited from the opportunity.

The 2018 Spring seminar at Peterborough was fully booked and a great success.

The new Boiler Test Code will continue no doubt to be discussed now that it is released. The basic principles of boiler examination and testing will not have changed but there are bound to be some new do's and

don'ts tucked away somewhere!

Next seminar will be in the autumn at Sheffield on 17th November. Those who are interested should contact Peter Squire. He can be contacted by email secretary@sfmes.co.uk, or phone 01327-342167.

Future locations are influenced by delegate interest so it would be wise to indicate your intended interest to Peter in due course.

In equal importance to the location is to find a club with sufficient premises and a desire to host the seminar, possibly in the north west in 2019.

Peter Squire

Secretary and Boiler Seminars

A sign of the times??

**Written by David M Boughen, Editor, Criterion
Journal of the High Wycombe Model Engineering**

A total of 1448 sex offences were reported on the UK railways in 2016/17 by the British Transport Police compared with 650 incidents in 2012/13. These figures prompted a proposal by Jeremy Corbyn, the Labour Party leader, to revive the idea of women - only train carriages, but the idea was dropped following objections from female Labour Party MPs. However, it brought back memories of my early days as a commuter on the ex-LTSR line from Southend Central to Fenchurch Street in the 1950s.

The trains were composed of ex-LMSR compartment stock normally hauled by ex. LMSR 3 cylinder 2.6.4. tanks with guard's compartments at each end. Normally there was a Ladies Only compartment next to each guard's compartment at either end of the train. There were only four platforms at the Fenchurch Street terminus and the buffer stops were close to the ticket barriers and departure indicator boards. The Fenchurch Street terminus concourse and platforms are at high level and are only accessed by two wide staircases from street level. The station is surrounded by large office blocks and the evening rush-hour commences around 5.00 pm and continues until after 6.00 pm.

Most office workers were, and still are, hardened commuters who have developed the skill of opening the compartment door and jumping into the moving train. My friend Ken was something of an expert at this and one evening he was desperate to catch the 5.32 pm departure to Southend Central. He pushed his way

through the crowd at the barrier and waved his season ticket at the Ticket Inspector only to see that the train was pulling out of the platform. Being something of a sprinter he ran after it and managed to draw level with the Guards compartment at the end of the last carriage. He then jumped onto the footboard and without looking he wrenched open the next compartment door and fell into the compartment only to discover that it was full of ladies who were somewhat surprised to find that they had a male passenger on their journey home that night. Nothing came of the incident which was treated with a great deal of humour by the female passengers but my friend Ken never lived it down for the rest of his commuting life. His excuse was that he did not see the diamond shaped 'Ladies Only' sign on the window of the compartment door.

Co-incidentally the September 2017 issue of the Back Track magazine contains an interesting article on Ladies Only compartments by Alistair Nisbet including some extremely amusing illustrations from Victorian publications featuring the hazards of females travelling alone on trains. Ladies Only compartment labels were finally removed by British Railways from all passenger carriages in 1977, at the request of the Equal Opportunities Commission, following the passing of the Sex Discrimination Act in 1975. Interestingly the last compartments to have the labels removed were those on the London Tilbury & Southend line.

Do carers for the disabled travel for free on miniature railways? David Price COSME

We recently had an issue where a lady came to buy a ticket for her son who she claimed was disabled and asserted that under the 2010 Equality Act that she should travel for free. She was quite insistent so we thought this worthy of a thorough investigation.

Trawling the internet, I found advice from a Carers Organisation advising that they should be allowed to travel free on leisure facilities together with template letters of complaint should this be denied. I trawled through Disability Acts and the Equality Acts but could find nothing to explicitly support this claim.

I therefore decided to take legal advice, the solicitor contacted the Equality and Human Rights Commission and the result was a little surprising. There is no binary answer to the question, the Act is quite broad brush and definitions are defined through case law precedents.

However, leisure facilities "have a broad duty of care and may be expected to provide a service that treats disabled people equally even if we have to make adjustments to that service to enable them to enjoy the same facilities"

As far as my Society is concerned we can demonstrate that we act within the spirit of the law, we have a special carriage for wheel chairs and our site is Disabled friendly. We do not discriminate in any way.

But take care! There just may be someone willing to take the matter to court to set a precedent and this could be very expensive. Also, if your "Conditions of Carriage" demand a valid ticket before riding, it would be prudent to issue a complimentary ticket.

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Title	From Our Stand
Boiler Test Code 2018	FREE*
Boiler Test Certificates - Pad of 50	FREE*
Written Scheme of Examination - Pad of 50	FREE*
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HSG216 Passenger-carrying miniature railways 'Guidance on safe practice'	£3.00
Postage and packing if delivered	£4.50

David Mayall

Tel: + 44 1252 684 688

Email: davidmayall@sfmes.co.uk

Or use <http://www.sfmes.co.uk/public/?action=publicpublications>

These publications are issued free of charge to fully paid up member clubs and societies however for delivery by mail the cost of the postage, as shown, must be borne by the Club/Society placing the order.

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