

June 2011

Southern Federation of Model Engineers Newsletter

www.southernfed.co.uk



Editorial



I am delighted to have been offered the opportunity to become the new Editor of the Southern Federation magazine.

Whilst I settle into my new role the committee have agreed to issue this reduced interim newsletter until the launch of your new-look magazine in September.

As the current Editor for 'KINGPIN' - the quarterly magazine of the Nottingham Society of Model and Experimental Engineers - this enjoyable and rewarding experience has enabled me to take it to a level that is not just another society newsletter, but something more akin to professionally published magazines, with technical articles of some note. It is my intention to bring some of this style to this publication over time, as well as being able to retain much of the work my predecessor has put into it during his term of office.

I look forward to developing this magazine with you in mind and am keen to consider any news-worthy items, your correspondence and technical articles you would like to submit. I am also very keen to hear from you with ideas and suggestions.

I look forward to publishing the new format in September!
Cliff Almond - Editor

Articles can be submitted to me directly to me at;
[email: editor.sfednews@gmail.com](mailto:editor.sfednews@gmail.com)
or via web site link at
www.southernfed.co.uk



2011 Harrogate National Model Engineering and Modelling Exhibition

Each time one of the engines was fired up, visitors stopped what they were doing and made a beeline for the Gas Turbine Builders' Association stand manned by James Hill and Tim Coles. Here Tim puts his 5in. gauge GT3 English Electric turbo-mechanical locomotive through it's paces. - Photo copyright Mike Chrisp

NSMEE to host the 2011 Southern Federation Autumn Rally 16th - 17th September *See inside for details*

In this issue:

- *Red Letter Day for LMS fans at NSMEE*
- *HRH The Countess of Wessex opens new station at ESSMEE*
- *2011 National Model Engineering and Modelling Exhibition*



A BRACE OF DUCHESSES!

Nottingham Society of Model and Experimental Engineers bought together a record 15 miniature Stanier masterpieces on the June 25th., making it a red letter day for London, Midland and Scottish Railway fans.

Fifteen versions, mainly in 5"g, came from all over the UK to this unique event organised by society member, Nick Harrison - eleven of them were in steam - four on static display. With a further two Gauge 1 examples running.

The gathering was hailed as a fantastic success by all that attended.

YOUR MAGAZINE

Being the Editor of the Southern Federation magazine I am in the unique & privileged position to see many of the excellent newsletters sent in by secretaries around the UK. Many of these contain quality contributions of a technical nature that I am keen to publish for others in our hobby to enjoy.

Your Southern Federation magazine is a unique platform to offer this to a potential circulation of several thousand readers. If you would like to offer your work for publication, please send it to me in an electronic format.

Editor



The Tyneside Society of Model and Experimental Engineers

**Open Weekend
July 23rd & 24th**
For further details;
Contact Linda Nicholls
lindanic@sky.com
www.tsmee.co.uk

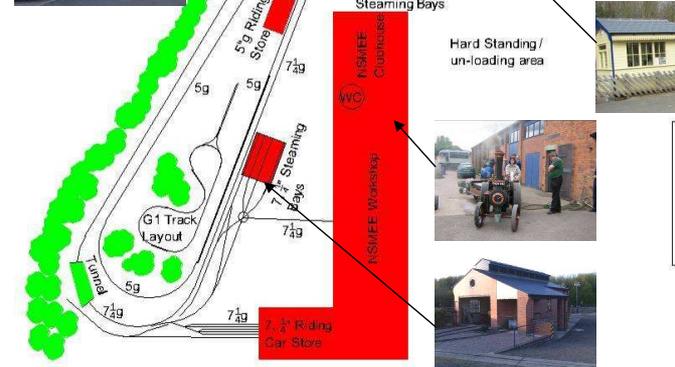
Nottingham Society of Model and Experimental Engineers Ltd.



The Nottingham Society of Model and Experimental Engineers Ltd. were formed in 1929 and are recognised as one of the oldest established model engineering societies in the UK. From our humble beginnings, membership now exceeds 230, with interests spanning the many branches of model engineering, as well as horology.

Our society has come along way since its humble beginnings and has been based at its permanent location on the site of the Nottingham Transport Heritage Centre for some 20 years, being an enthusiastic and active participant in the work carried out at the centre, alongside their full size 'Great Central Railway' colleagues. The Heritage Centre site also accommodates a bus museum and workshop, railway workshop, locomotive shed, cafeteria, new platform for the GCRN as well as a visitor centre. The society's location is also an excellent location to operate traction engines and road vehicles in a safe and environment along side the track and clubhouse.

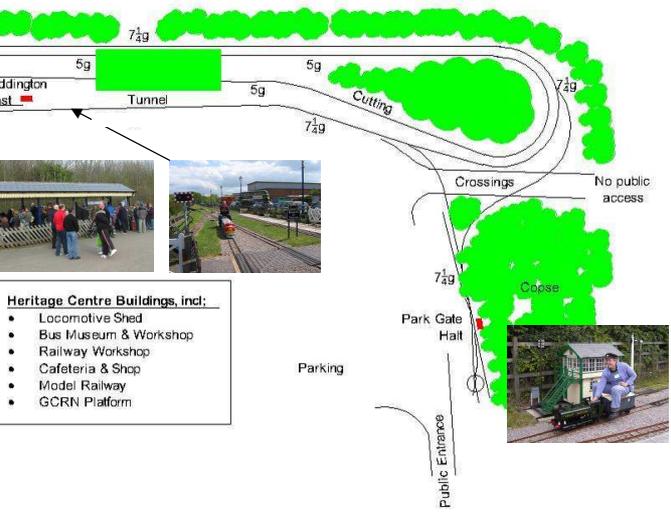
Many thousands of hours and not inconsiderable amounts of money have resulted in an extensive track system that caters for all popular gauges, including Gauge 1, 3, 1/2", 5" and 7, 1/4". In addition to the excellent track facilities, that also include a recently completed covered 7, 1/4" g steaming bay; we also boast a clubhouse, complete with audio-visual facilities. This leads through to an impressive workshop that can cater for the needs of those members who either do not have their own workshop, or need access to larger machine tools. Few societies, it is believed, can rival these extensive facilities that are open to all members several times a week.



Site

Nottingham Society of Model and Experimental Engineers Ltd.

Map



- Heritage Centre Buildings, incl:**
- Locomotive Shed
 - Bus Museum & Workshop
 - Railway Workshop
 - Cafeteria & Shop
 - Model Railway
 - GCRN Platform



nd Experimental Engineers Ltd.

We have an excellent range of both 5" and 7,1/4" gauge riding cars, giving members and visitors alike, the ability to do some serious passenger hauling!

In the true spirit of model engineering, for those not possessing either the skills or knowledge to undertake parts of their project there are always willing and able members on hand to offer assistance and support. This support is also extended to the track, with several new members over recent months expressing their thanks and gratitude to other members that have offered assistance in the driving operation and maintenance of their locomotives.

During the year members meet once a month for a varied array of interesting talks from either guest speakers or knowledgeable members. In addition to this, there are public running days throughout the spring and summer months. Several other well established outside events are also put on each year that enable members from other societies to visit and enjoy the track facilities.

Many of our members have been involved with the society for many years. However, the steady stream of new members that apply to join the society each month is testament to the warm, friendly and helpful reputation members have built-up over many decades.

NSMEE has several lady members who also take an active interest in model engineering, as well as attending its varied social events. With this in mind, we are proud to announce that the membership have recently voted in its first lady Chairman; recognising the continually increasing contribution woman make to engineering, both professionally and in its many amateur affiliations.

Why Join NSMEE?

The most important benefit of joining the NSMEE is that it brings you into contact with members with similar interests. It is always possible to contact someone with prior or perhaps greater experience of a particular subject who can help you solve a problem or achieve a goal. Most members are individuals who enjoy meeting with like-minded souls.

We also publish our own quarterly magazine, 'KINGPIN', which not only keeps members up to speed with society events, but also encourages members to contribute news or technical articles.

<http://www.nsmee.org.uk/>

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2011 National Model Engineering and Modelling Exhibition

The 2011 National Model Engineering and Modelling Exhibition opened in Harrogate on Friday 13th May, but there was no bad luck in store for the visitors! This show, the 18th, was yet another tremendous success and credit must go to the organising team. This year's winner of the *Barry Jordan Trophy* for 'Best Model in the Show' was Mr. I. Glading, for his 7, 1/4" gauge model of a Western Region locomotive. The judges were impressed by the mass of home-engineered electrical components within the finely detailed body.



The exhibition was attended by the Southern Federation. Photos copyright: Mike Chrisp



New Station Canopy and Ticket Office for ESSMEE



The **East Somerset Society of Model and Experimental Engineers (ESSMEE)**, based near Shepton Mallet, Somerset, where recently granted Planning Permission to build a Station Canopy and Ticket Office over their existing platform. They were privileged to have the Countess of Wessex perform the ground-breaking ceremony in October 2010 and work on dismantling the existing platform began soon after; with work progressing in earnest in order to meet the tight deadline of the Royal Bath & West Show in June this year.

ESSMEE were also privileged to have the Countess perform the opening ceremony on the 1st June, with members associated with the design and construction being presented to the Royal party. www.essmee.org.uk