

# SOUTHERN FEDERATION NEWSLETTER

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

## EDITORIAL

Welcome to my second issue of the Federation Newsletter, it looks as if I have got myself a second job. I shall be trying to make it more informative, especially in respect of the workings of the Federation.

Over the past decades there have been a lot of changes in respect of legislation, rules and regulations. This has resulted in us hearing rumblings in the jungle over the bush radio. The Southern Federation tells us to do this, the Southern Federation tells us to do that. This is not the case; the Associations, Southern Federation and 7¼ gauge Society receive information from the HSE, Government legislation, RSA etc and all we do is to pass it on. It is up to the Clubs and Societies to look at the information and decide what action they should be taking. We are here to help if you, please don't shoot the messenger.



*Spring Rally at the Guildford Society of Model Engineers, driving on the 7¼ gauge ground level track. See page.3*

There are going to be some changes. I have dropped the Club News, it takes up too much time in editing, by time you read it is six months old and it has been covered in

the Model Engineer and Engineering in Miniature. I still like to read your Newsletters, it keeps us in touch.

## FROM THE CHAIRMAN

In this the first edition of Chairman's chat for 2012, what have we got to 'chat' about?

At the end of January we were located in our usual spot at the Alexandra Palace exhibition where we had the opportunity to meet and discuss with our many friends all manner of topics to our mutual benefit. Just a few weeks ago, we supported the Modelworld exhibition in Brighton, this is not a model engineering exhibition in the true sense

of the word, but encompasses many aspects of the model and hobbies world. Hopefully, by supporting this event, and spreading the model engineering gospel it will encourage today's younger generation to participate in this aspect of the hobby.

In early February, Clubs/ Societies should have received details of the Federations Annual General Meeting which is being held at a very prestigious venue that we have not visited

before. The museum has a vast range of aviation and related exhibits, a change from locomotives and road vehicles. This is a very important meeting in the Federations calendar; I look forward to meeting as many of you that can make the journey.

Whilst on the topic of Annual General Meetings, have you, or any of your members considered standing for election to the Federation Committee, we have two vacancies to fill on this occasion. One area that has been of concern to the

Federations administration for some time now, is the inability to recruit younger members onto the committee, thus helping to maintain the well being of the Federation for the future, we would very much like to hear from some of our younger members, we are all getting a bit long in the tooth now.

Despite the continuing request for Clubs and Societies to ensure that your data base is up to date in respect of the Federations administration we are still finding correspondence being addressed to the wrong individuals? May I make another request,

would you **PLEASE** make sure you have the correct details in your mailing list and in addition make sure your members are aware as well, all the necessary information can be found on our website [www.southernfed.co.uk](http://www.southernfed.co.uk) or elsewhere in the newsletter.

Once again 2012 has got off to a good start for the Federations 'Road Show'. With many invitations already received, it looks as though we are in for a busy season once again. We have taken the decision not to support the new Meridienne exhibition in Manchester in early March. May I remind you, that if you

wish, you can order Federation publications for collection at any of the events that we support, thus saving on postage which is due to go up again in April? We look forward to seeing you at the following events before the next Newsletter is due in June.

Harrogate Exhibition  
May 11/12/13

Federation Spring Rally -  
Guildford M.E.S.

May 19th.

Guildford M.E.S. Open Day  
May 20th.

*Brian Thompson.*

Southern Federation Chairman

### *Southern Federation Sales*

We shall be in attendance at our Spring Rally at the Guildford Society of Model Engineers.

We will also be at the Guildford Society Model Steam Rally and Exhibition Place your orders for Boiler and Steam Test Certificates and Blue Cards.

Phone Brian Thompson, place your orders and collect on the day.

## COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

You will have read the request by our Chairman for members for our committee, at the moment we have two vacancies. The Southern Federation, like the Northern Association, fill a very important part of Model Engineering. It's not about models and running locomotives, it's about the support guidance in respect of legislation, insurance, boiler testing and many other aspects of the hobby. Without this support your hobby would be unable to function, especially in the current environment of litigation and health and safety. We are looking for model engineers who are prepared to

give up six evenings a year to attend our Committee Meetings and be a part of this very interesting organisation. The meetings are held in London at the Model Railway Club close to Kings Cross station. They are held in January, March, May, July, September and November starting at 6pm and last for about three hours with a tea break.

All travelling expenses are paid, journey to station, rail fare and any other expenses incurred in getting to the venue. All reasonable expenses incurred as a result of activities on behalf of the Federation are also reimbursable.

COME AND JOIN US

BE PART OF THE HOBBY YOU LOVE MOST

PUT SOMETHING BACK INTO MODEL ENGINEERING

If you would like to join us or find out more please contact our Secretary Ivan Hurst e-mail: [ivanatshed73d@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ivanatshed73d@yahoo.co.uk) or phone 01252 510 340  
Nomination Forms have been sent out to Secretaries of all affiliated Club and Societies.

## IMPORTANT NOTICE ADMINISTRATION CHANGES BOILER TEST CERTIFICATE REGISTRAR

### To All Secretaries and Boiler Inspectors

You are advised that with immediate effect, Maurice Bennett has resigned as the Federation Boiler Registrar. His duties have been taken over by:-

**Mr. David Mayall, 9, Parsons Close, Church Crookham, Fleet Hants.  
GU52 6HL**

Tele: 01252 684 688

E-mail: [fradav@ntlworld.com](mailto:fradav@ntlworld.com)

Would you be kind enough to please amend your Club/Society records accordingly.

## SOUTHERN FEDERATION SPRING RALLY 19/20TH MAY - GUILDFORD M.E.S.

Guildford Model Engineering Society (GMES) will be hosting the Spring Rally on Saturday 19th May and an Open Day with public running on Sunday 20th May 2012 at the Guildford Model Engineering Society ground at Stoke Park, Guildford, GU1 1TU

The ground covers some 2 acres of landscaped ground with many mature trees with a 990 foot Ground Level 7¼ track with two laps making a run and a minimum bend radius of 68 feet and a maximum incline of 1:44 up. There is a 1405 foot raised 3½ and 5 inch tracks. There is a carriage shed, an engine shed, which is serviced by 14 steaming bays with compressed air and electric power for blowers and five service ramps to unload vehicles and a ground level turntable. In addition there is a large 16mm garden railway and a clubhouse with kitchen, shower, toilets and a library. A new large workshop complements the facilities.

For the Southern Federation Spring Rally there is plenty of open area so Model Road Vehicles are also welcome and as usual Boiler Certificates and Steam Test Certificates are required. Road vehicles will require RTA insurance.

On-site caravanning space is available, but pre-booking essential. Refreshments will be available within the Clubhouse.

Contact Paul Woodhams on: 01483 826 340 or e-mail southernfed@gmes.org.uk



Steaming bays at the Guildford Society of Model Engineers.

about 1/10 mile

### HOW TO FIND US

#### By Car

Visitors travelling on the A3 from the south west should leave the A3 at exit for Bagshot (A322). At the roundabout under the A3, take the second exit, A25 Middleton Road. Continue straight on at four traffic light controlled junctions along Ladymead and Parkway. At the first roundabout take the third exit into London Road. The entrance to GMES is the first turning on the right after about 1/10 mile.

Visitors travelling from the direction of London and the M25 should leave the A3 at the exit for Burpham (A3100). Continue straight on at the first of four roundabouts. At the fifth roundabout take the second exit into London Road. The entrance to GMES is the first turning on the right after

#### By Public Transport

The nearest railway station is London Road (Guildford) which is about 10 minutes walk away. Buses run from Guildford Bus Station in the town centre and stop outside the societies' entrance in London Road. There is a connection to Guildford's main station which is in the town centre. Alternatively buses are available from the town centre to the Spectrum Sports Centre which is only about 5 minutes walk away from the society.

#### Address

Guildford Model Engineering Society Ltd.

London Road, Guildford, Surrey, GU1 1TU

**More details** go to the Guildford website:

[www.gmes.org.uk](http://www.gmes.org.uk)

### Southern Federation Insurance

#### *Why insure with the Southern Federation*

- It is your dedicated scheme.
- Competitive rates.
- 40 years of insurance experience.
- Fast and efficient service.
- Fast claim payment..
- Brokered by Footman James with the experience in specialist insurance.

Find out more ring Angela Orford on 0121 561 6210 (Footman James)

## GUIDANCE SHEET NO. 6

This Guidance Sheet Safety Management Systems has been produced to assist member clubs and societies in the provision of a Safety Management System (SMS). The information contained on the chart is by no means

to be considered mandatory and is provided for guidance purposes only. The contents of the Risk Assessments Rule Book Appendices and the Operations and Maintenance Records are chosen by individual Clubs or Societies

according to their own circumstances.

To view and download this Guidance Sheet No. 6 go to our website [www.southernfed.co.uk](http://www.southernfed.co.uk)

## BOILER INSPECTORS SEMINAR 24TH MARCH 2012 - CARDIFF MODEL ENGINEERING

Over the last four years the Northern Association has been running a series of very successful seminars for boiler inspectors, without whom the hobby of model engineering could not exist. They have proved to be exactly what has been needed to assist them in the vital

work of unpaid boiler inspection. They will run another joint seminar for the Northern Association, Southern Federation and other interested model engineers.

By kind permission of the Cardiff Model Engineering Society, the next seminar will be held at their club house in

Heath Park Cardiff on:

**Saturday 24th March 2012  
Commencing at 11am**

Refreshments will be available with tea and coffee from 10.30am.

For those interested in attending please obtain a form from Mr. N. Thompson, 109

Ruskin Avenue, Long Eaton,  
Nottinghamshire, NG10 3HX  
T: 0115 972 7876

E: wessieuk@gmail.com

*Note: Though this seminar is intended for Model Engineering Club Boiler Inspectors, it is open free of charge to all interested parties.*

## SOUTHERN FEDERATION INSURANCE SCHEME IMPORTANT CHANGES

We are pleased to announce a number of changes and additional information regarding the Southern Federation Insurance Scheme.

### **Temporary Workers**

We wish to advise you that temporary workers and volunteers are covered by your insurance policy as long as they are signed in as temporary club members when they are helping at the club premises, the range of work as helpers can be assisting with anything to do with the running of the club or for maintenance work. The cover in place would be exactly the same as it would be for any paid up member of the club as long as you have made the helpers or volunteers temporary members and keep records of their names and dates.

### **Road Vehicle Insurance**

We have become aware of a recent incident concerning a (Steam) Road Vehicle and the Motor Insurance Database (MID). The vehicle was stopped by the Police who checked if they had insurance.

As a result of this RSA have now reissued all RTA certificates for 2011 to include a unique policy number for the Southern Federation Traction Engine scheme and these registration numbers have been loaded on to the MID to avoid members getting letters from the DVLA.

In 2012 all vehicles with RTA insurance and road registered will be included on the MID. This allows the DVLA/MID the power to identify vehicles that are taxed but uninsured. If a member calls because their vehicle does not appear on the MID Footman James will check and identify the reason if necessary up-date their details with the DLA/MID.

Any club member receiving letters should contact Footman James urgently supplying copies of the DVLA letter in order that appropriate letter of indemnity may be issued. Members are requested that in the unlikely event of a member being fined RSA would look to reimburse provided that members have provided copies of DVLA letters to Footman James to submit to RSA

### **Members Public Liability Extension Cover**

We are very pleased to announce that from the renewal 1st April 2012 Member Extension Cover will now be provided within the club/society liability cover of the policy. The club liability cover will now extend to include cover for members attending club/society related shows and in addition any individual event attended by the club member. This will include garden fetes/functions etc. which are Model Engineering related. The limit of cover is

the same as the club/society cover.

As a result of this Form 2 will be discontinued as members will no longer have to arrange separate application for this cover.

Clubs who arrange liability cover will then be responsible for issuing their members with a copy of the liability certificate should any member need a copy to attend any event.

### **Members Insurance**

Members who take out insurance for their models, engineering equipment, buildings and RTA insurance for road vehicles will be sent application forms prior to renewal date by Footman James. You will not have to contact your club insurance co-ordinator to get the forms.

### **Insurance payment by clubs/societies**

For 2012, and this only applies to clubs/societies, NOT MEMBERS, will be able to pay for their insurance by internet banking (BACS).

If you wish to pay by this method you will need to ring Angela Orford at Footman James (0121 561 6210) and obtain the banking details and your reference number.

### **Policy Document**

With all the changes that have taken place Footman James and RSA will be issuing a new Policy Document for 2012. This

document will be sent to you when you renew your insurance.

### **Additional Benefits**

All members of the Southern Federation of Model Engineering Societies can also take advantage of the generous discounts provided by Footman James on any vehicles you own (modern and classic cars and modern and classic motorcycles), and on your home and contents insurance.

Footman James is a specialist insurance broker so whatever your requirements there are options to suit all individual needs.

For a quote on any of these products call:

**0843 357 1220**

during normal office hours.

Please mention your membership to the Southern Federation of Model Engineering Societies when speaking to Footman James staff. They will also require the name of your Model Engineering Society.

### **Restrictions**

The insurance policies detailed in this Newsletter are only available to Clubs, Societies and their members who are affiliated to the Southern Federation of Model Engineering Societies.

# COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

## 22ND NOVEMBER 2011

### Attendees

Brian Thompson (Chairman), Maurice Bennett, Mike Chrisp, Roger Griffiths, Brent Hudson, van Hurst, David Mayall, Wally Pearson, Norman Rogers and John Walker.

### Apologies for Absence

Roger Curtis and Andy Siddall.

### Review of the Minutes of Previous Meeting

#### Accuracy

It was noted that Mr Pearson's Safety Report (Safety Report 270911.doc), issued prior to the September Meeting, should have formed part of the September Minutes.

Other than this, the Minutes were accepted and signed by the Chairman, and are on file.

### Minute Secretary's Report

#### Correspondence

The following communications had been received:

- Change of contact details at Andover, Gravesend, Merton and Mid Wales - passed to the appropriate Committee Members for information / action.
- Various Newsletters (hard copy and electronic). Forwarded to Mr Walker.
- Enquiry from Andover re Witness requirements and alleged Southern Federation Statement – more detail sought, WP informed. Club has subsequently identified source of rumour (internal to club) – matter now closed.
- Copy of letter from a society re MELG (Original sent to WP).
- A question related to the insurance situation of volunteers assisting a society, who are not society members. Passed to Footman James – correspondence circulated to Committee Members for information.
- The latest Issue of Clive Young's Boiler Capacity information sheet - circulated to Committee Members for information.
- Offer of an article on 2011 Southern Federation Autumn Rally for Newsletter. Relevant club advised of Editor situation and publication date uncertainty.
- Notification from NAME that they had heard that some society boiler

testers were testing (non-society member) boilers on a commercial basis. They would be emphasising to their membership that this practice is not permissible under the current insurance schemes, and sought our support. A notice is now on the Southern Federation Website to this effect, and should also appear in the Newsletter.

- An offer from a society to host a Southern Federation Rally – information passed to BT. However, concerns have been raised about the parking and unloading facilities of their site.
- A communication regarding fliers etc for the 2012 Southern Federation Spring Rally - passed to the appropriate Committee Members for information / action.
- An enquiry relating to the testing of Compressor Air Tanks. Mr Pearson reported that he had replied to the enquiry – tanks of <250 bar litres are exempt.
- A request from Footman James for logo artwork (see later).

No other discussions or communications (verbal or written) held or received by other Committee Members were reported.

#### Treasurer's Report

A (pre-audited) End of Year statement had been distributed by the Treasurer for committee use.

The Accounts are now with the Auditors, and should be signed by the time of the Alexandra Palace Show.

Mr Rogers observed that the surplus was better than expected – however, this was as a result of only two Newsletters being published. Had these been published, then it was likely that there would be a deficit of some £1500.

#### Insurance

##### Footman James Report

The Footman James Report had been previously circulated.

#### Discussion

The Chairman expanded on the Newport Claim(s). The Local Authority had been approached by the club, with a view to the provision of fencing. The Authority had rejected this on grounds of lack of available funding, but had reduced their rent/rates. The Committee made several suggestions, including "smart water", based on their experiences. The Chairman would pass these on to his

contact within the club.

Mr Pearson had received an enquiry relating to Road Registered Steam Vehicles and the Insured Vehicle Data Base which will be published in the Newsletter.

It was noted that the Premiums would increase this year – it will be recalled that there had been no increase last year.

### New Applications/Membership Update

#### Renewals

The Renewal Pack will go out at the beginning of January, as hard copy.

It was agreed that Affiliation Fees should increase by £1 to £25.

#### New Applications

We had received a communication from a boat club that a group of people had broken away from an existing club, and wished to transfer affiliation to themselves. They stated that the existing club were happy with this arrangement, as they had no interest in steam matters.

#### Safety

#### Discussion

Mr. Pearson gave a report (see annex A) which is summarised below:

- Terms of Reference (ToR) for the MELG. Mr Pearson's authority to sign on behalf of Southern Federation was confirmed.
- Boiler Tests and the need for a witness. Southern Federation, in the interests of the hobby, reluctantly agreed to the proposal. However, the ultimate decision would remain with individual clubs. Mr. Pearson was again given authority to pursue changes to the proposed "certificate", and would act as he saw fit. Mr. Pearson assured the committee that he would inform them of progress.
- .Written Scheme of Examination and Boiler Test Code. To date some 80 comment sheets had been received, and more were coming in. These would be categorised before the meeting with RSA. In reply to a question, he indicated as an example that Captive Spindles was a subject that had prompted a number of comments.
- Model Gas Tanks and Gas Pressure Systems. Mr Pearson suggested that the previously published Supplement be revised, and issued as an Annex to the Boiler Test Code.

## COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES CONTINUED

- This approach was endorsed by the Southern Federation Committee
- Guidance Sheets. One Committee Member felt that the Technical Notes would be seen as “yet more rules and regulations from Southern Federation”, and could be counterproductive. The majority of the Committee disagreed, pointing out that the documents were heavily caveated throughout as being meant for information purposes only, and were not mandatory. Any person complaining to Committee members should have this explained to them.
- Safety Management System. Whilst attending the SBA Seminar, Mr Pearson had acquired an example of an SMS document, which the author gave permission, indeed urged, that we propagate. He also suggested that a seminar may be advantageous to our membership. Mr Pearson undertook to circulate the document.
- Road Registered Steam Vehicle and Insured Vehicle Data Base. Mr Pearson reported that WM advise the Motor Insurance Database as a matter of course. FJ do not do so, and would be investigating the situation

.Wrt detail of incidents, Mr Thompson reported that in the recent meeting with Footman James they had commented that in many cases they could not supply information because they had not been supplied with it themselves. The Insurance Scheme belongs to the Southern Federation, and we were entitled to contact claimants direct (subject to appropriate protection of data). This would appear to be a shift in Footman James policy.

The Secretary and Mr Pearson had recently attended a Seminar hosted by Steam Boat Association (SBA) Services. This was felt to be useful, and useful contacts were established with senior members of SBA and SBA Services. It was agreed that our respective organisations were fundamentally different in function and requirements. However, it was agreed that we would maintain a “strategic alliance” (much as we do with NAME) on matters of common interest. (Secretary’s Note: Chronologically out of order, but recorded here for convenience).

### IT Initiative

### Progress Report

Though understanding the reasons, the Committee were extremely disappointed that Mr Siddall was not able to be present at the meeting, and no report was available.

The Secretary gave his understanding of the current situation (E&OE).

He was concerned that Committee Members seemed confused over terminology, and hence used terms loosely. His (the Secretary’s) simplistic view is that there are three distinct, albeit inter-related elements:

- The Database, containing Southern Federation Administrative records – containing, inter alia, Membership and Contact details. This could be extended to include Archival documents. Access controlled – different rights (read, write, denied) applying to individuals (Committee through Membership), depending on needs.
- The Website. Effectively an Electronic Newsletter, accessible to the public domain. Currently managed by DALOG, but new version can be turned on as soon as agreed by the Committee. The new one would be a more modern, stylish, version in line with that demonstrated by Dr Baker, and which Committee Members have been invited to evaluate. It will be recalled that the Southern Federation original was configured for dial-up, and those limitations should not apply today. Some (public domain) data can be loaded directly from the Database.
- Mailing System. The simplest component – in essence a very large e-mail listing, enabling mass mail-out to clubs “at the push of a button”. Paper address labels (which are strongly discouraged) can be produced from the Database.

In absentia, Mr Siddall was requested to produce a Progress Report and distribute it as a matter of urgency.

### Southern Federation Publications

#### Logos etc

Prompted by Footman James’s request, the desirability of a Central Library of Artwork Masters was identified.

#### Brochure

Mr Walker had produced a DRAFT Brochure on Southern Federation benefits for comment. Publication is in abeyance, awaiting Footman James determination on Public Liability Insurance. (Secretary’s

Note: Chronologically out of order, but recorded here for convenience). 2012 AGM (10<sup>th</sup> March 2012)

Two nominations had been received for The Polly Award. The Chairman would distribute these to Committee Members.

### Newsletter/Website

#### Newsletter

Following Mr Almond’s sudden departure, the Secretary had published an appeal letter for a volunteer to replace him as Newsletter Editor/Website Manager.

Two expressions of interest had been received.

The first had indicated that he wished to operate remotely; this was not acceptable to The Committee, and he had been advised of this.

The second individual, after discussions with Messrs Thompson, Walker and Hurst, had written to the Chairman stating that he wished to withdraw his application for a variety of reasons – the letter had been circulated to The Committee before the Meeting.

The Secretary reported that he had written to all potential Applicants, requesting that they confirm that they had destroyed all documentation sent to them in the process. Post Meeting note – all have confirmed that they had done so.

Mr Walker had produced a DRAFT Newsletter for December, and was to be congratulated on the considerable efforts obviously expended on it. Subject to a number of editorial comments, the overall view was that it was a stylish product. Committee Members were advised that cut-off date for comment was 25<sup>th</sup> November, as the intent is to go to print w/c 28<sup>th</sup>

Mr Walker reported that the total cost (publication and postage) was £400.

Mr Walker sought comments from the Committee on:

- Was the proposed approach acceptable – YES.
- Should Club News no longer be published – YES.
- Would the Committee like him to continue as Newsletter Editor – YES.
- How should it be distributed – Hard Copy as at present.

## COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES CONTINUED

### Rallies and Exhibitions

The Chairman thanked those who had helped him at Leamington. He had received a letter of thanks from Mr Deith.

Manning arrangements were discussed for Alexandra Palace, 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup> January 2012.

The following events have been identified for 2012:

- Brighton Modelworld 24<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup>/26<sup>th</sup> February (Finalise stewarding January)
- Annual General Meeting 10<sup>th</sup> March at Cosford.
- Harrogate Exhibition 11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> May. (Finalise stewarding March)
- Southern Federation Spring Rally 19<sup>th</sup> May, Guildford.
- Guildford Rally 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> July. (Finalise stewarding May)
- Bristol (Thornbury) 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> August
- Southern Federation Autumn Rally 15<sup>th</sup> September, Chelmsford.
- The Fosse, 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> October.

Mr Deith had approached the Chairman wrt a new event that he intended to stage in Manchester on 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> March 2012. It was agreed that we should decline this invitation due to the number of commitments that we had already made for 2012.

Finally, the Chairman stated that The Northampton Society had confirmed their willingness to host the Southern Federation 2013 Autumn Rally.

### Annex A - Safety Report.

### Boiler Test Group Meeting Bedford 14 September 2011.

The 'notes' of this meeting have been issued and are available for members to view on the Southern Federation web site.

#### Terms of Reference (ToR) for the MELG.

The Terms of Reference for the Group are as indicated in the 'notes' of the meeting indicate above. The document has not been signed off since it is waiting for final approval from the Southern Federation, 7¼" G Society and the Midland. There have been no amendments submitted by NAME.

#### Boiler Tests and the need for a witness.

As above, the document has not been signed off or formally approved. It is waiting for final approval from Southern Federation, 7¼"G Society and the Midland. There have been no amendments submitted by NAME but I have recommended that a formal 'certificate' be presented in place of the worded text given in the Bedford notes. On the assumption that the proposal is adopted it will be necessary for the Southern Federation to obtain names of Club and Society members who are boiler inspectors and, more especially, those if any are authorised as single signature.

#### Written Scheme of Examination and Boiler Test Code.

The Boiler Test Code review is currently being carried out. At the end of October 2011 over 80 A4 pages of submissions have been received by the MELG from members. A substantial number will follow before the closing date of 31 December 2011.

It is intended for members of the MELG to hold a meeting early in 2012 to discuss the submissions received prior to

holding a further meeting with RSA at Manchester. It is hoped that Wally Pearson will complete the changes to the Blue Book, not including the submissions, by the end of November 2011.

#### Model Gas Tanks and Gas Pressure Systems.

Tony Wood has made contact with the LP Gas Association for further information. Although there has been a response, it indicated that UKLPG could not think of anything that would help us.

#### Guidance Sheets.

A limited number of Guidance Sheets have been issued and are available on the Southern Federation web site. In view of the fact that there is some degree of concern on the topic, the continuation or removal of the Guidance Sheets is open to discussion.

#### Safety Management System.

An option has arisen to provide a proforma of a flow chart indicating a Safety Management System (SMS). The document has been provided by a member of the BGLR who is quite willing to allow the use, suitably amended, of the document for small gauge railways. This is a very useful document when used in conjunction with HSG 216 and the Guidance Sheets. It should be noted however that certain usage conditions are attached.

#### Road Registered Steam Vehicle and Insured Vehicle Data Base.

This topic has been raised with Footman James, but to date I have no information of the outcome. However, a reply has been given by Walker Midgley.

## SOME INTERESTING FACTS

The Southern Federation is made up of the following clubs and societies:

10 Associations  
13 Model Boat Clubs  
2 Clock Clubs  
1 Radio Control Club  
228 Model Engineering clubs

Based on 243 clubs/societies, not including associations, club sizes are as follows:

Under 10 members 28 clubs = 12%

11 to 25 members 54 clubs = 22%  
26 to 50 members 53 clubs = 22%  
51 to 100 members 71 clubs = 29%  
101 to 150 members 24 clubs = 10%  
151 plus members 13 clubs = 5%

The membership levels over the past four years have only changed a little:

2008 - 14,895  
2009 - 14,664  
2010 - 14,698

2011 - 14,895

This data has been taken from the records you send in each year. It looks as if we are losing members each year, but it is relatively small. The average club membership is 60.

## FEDERATION FINANCES

The Federation's financial year ends 30th Sept at which point I close the years' accounts, prepare the closing statements and deliver the books to the auditors who then do their work in readiness for the following March when the accounts are presented to the AGM. The quiet time up to New Year is an opportunity to reflect on any emerging trends in the Federation's income and expenditure. So what trends are emerging that need to be considered?

There can be some abrupt changes from year to year. Printing & stationary costs is a good example and will vary according to what items of Federation stock needs to be replenished so it's better to look at the average over a period of years. There can also be incidental expenses that occur quite randomly but overall these tends to smooth out over the years. Regular expenses including the newsletter, the cost of supporting rallies and exhibitions and the general committee expenses don't vary much from one year to the

next but inevitably are increasing in line with general prices.

In view of the general upward trend of our costs the Federation has been careful with its spending but has still needed to increase the affiliation fee because of a couple of changes beyond our control - taxation and the financial crisis. Prior to 2006 there was a zero band for corporation tax but it was abolished giving the Federation a tax bill of around £1,300 pa, equivalent to £5.00 for each society. In addition the financial crisis has caused our interest received to plummet from £500 in 2008 to £2.19 last year! Fortunately the Federation has reserves that has helped it to ride out the storm but we can't ignore the upward trend in the costs we incur serving the hobbyist.

I would like to say something more on one aspect of Federation expenditure, the newsletter. This was developed over the years into the familiar booklet format but the loss of the editor prompted the Federation to think about what needs to

be communicated to affiliated societies and how to do it. Hence the change of format to the newsletter that you are now reading; a format designed to get essential information to you. We are also developing our presence on the internet. I appreciate that some like it others loath it, but the internet is another communication tool just as written letter and the telephone. It's advantages are considerable - it's instant, it doesn't have to be printed, enveloped, labelled and posted so it's a quicker and cheaper way of getting information out to where it is needed. The Federation now does some administration on line with many clubs and societies submit their renewal fees online. It's not necessarily the end of paper but we are increasingly mindful of the cost of standing still. So keep a watch on the website - it's about to change!!

*Norman Rogers*

Southern Federation Treasurer

## MODEL ENGINEERING LIAISON GROUP THE BOILER TEST CODE

Information was given in the December 2011 issue of the Southern Federation Newsletter related to the MELG and the Boiler Test Code. At the MELG meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2011 it had been agreed that the 2008 edition of the Boiler Test Code was due for revision. Members were encouraged to send in their comments for inclusion in the review of the document. At the closing date of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2011 some 134 pages of comments had been received over a period of time from members of the relevant Federations, Associations and Society. Considering the fact that the existing document, commonly known as the Blue Book, consists of only 21 pages it gives some justification to the requirement for a review. You can be assured that every one of the comments will be taken in to consideration by the members of the

MELG. Thanks go to all of you that took the time and trouble to give this subject your consideration and input.

At the MELG meeting held at Bedford on the 9<sup>th</sup> February 2012 the Terms of Reference document for the formal formation of the MELG was signed by the representatives of the relevant Federations, Associations and Society. Also at this meeting discussions took place on the subjects of Gas Tanks and Gas Pressure Systems. Although important these topics have not been given priority, with the majority of the time being given to the review of the Boiler Test Code. As you can imagine it was not possible to complete the review at the one meeting and consequently a further meeting will be required. The intention is to reconfigure and amend the document as appropriate before it is presented to the Royal & Sun Alliance for

approval. The minutes of the meeting of the MELG will be published once the second meeting has taken place.

Also in the December issue of the Newsletter it was announce that Guidance Sheets have been issued by the Southern Federation. You are advised that a further Guidance Sheet (No6) has been issued entitled Safety Management System (SMS) see page 4. This document is a valuable aid to be used in conjunction with your Club or Society rule book and the booklet *Passenger Carrying Miniature Railways, Guidance on Safe Practice* (HSG 216).

*Wally Pearson*

Southern Federation Safety Officer.

*Continued from page 11*

September 9	Polly Owners Group Rally Stafford & District Model Engineering Society
September 15	*FEDERATION AUTUMN RALLY, Chelmsford Society. Model Engineers.
September 16	Host Society Open Day.
October 17-21	*Midlands Model Engineering Exhibition, Leamington Spa.
November 23/24/25	Model Engineer Exhibition Sandown Park

## 2011 DIRECTORY SUPPLEMENT UP-DATE MARCH 2012

### NEW CLUBS/SOCIETIES

#### Great Yarmouth Model Boat Club

Secretary:

Mr. D. O'Sullivan, 21 Chapel Road,  
Beighton, Norwich, Norfolk. NR13 3LE  
Tel. No.(01493) 754994  
Email: david-osullivan@supanet.co.uk

### SECRETARY CHANGES: -

#### Ascot Locomotive Society

Mrs. C. James, 12 Pursers Court, Slough,  
Berks. SL2 5DL

Tel. No. (01753) 579583

Email: cathy\_james@talktalk.com

#### Bolebroke Castle and Lakes Railway Club

Mr. A. Williams, c/o Bolebroke Castle,  
Edenbridge Road, Hatfield, East Sussex.  
TN7 4JJ

Tel. No. (01892) 770061

Email: bolebrokecastle@yahoo.co.uk

#### Chelmsford Society of Model Engineers

Mr. J. Smith, 30 Hogarth Avenue,  
Brentwood, Essex. CM15 8BE

Tel. No. (01277) 210609

#### Coventry Model Engineering Society

Mr. W. Webb, 202 Trehearne Road,  
Radford, Coventry, West Midlands.

CV6 3DW

Tel. No. 07979 570963

Email: webo202@hotmail.com

#### Ipswich Model Engineering Society

Mr. P. Hyder, 35 Hazel Rise, Claydon,  
Ipswich, Suffolk. IP6 0DB

Te. No. (01473) 832119

Email: paulhyder@btinternet.com

#### Littlebrook Model Engineers

Mr. J. Smith, 12 Rosecroft Close,  
Orpington Kent. BR5 4DX

Tel. No. (01689) 818415

#### Norwich Model Boat Club

Mrs. J. Stone, 57 Lakenfields,  
Lakenham, Norwich, Norfolk.

NR1 2HA

Tel. No. (01603) 633287

Email: pbreed40@ntlworld.com

#### Pickering Experimental Engineering and Model Society

Mr. A. Leeming, 52 Kingfisher Drive,  
Pickering, North Yorks.

YO18 8TA

Tel. No. (01751) 474291

Email: tony@leemingtowers.co.uk

#### Rugby Model Engineering Society

Mr. H. Brewer, The Firs, Main Street, Cold  
Ashby, Northants. NN6 6EL

Tel. No. (01604) 740529

#### Rugeley Power Station Model Engineering Society.

Mr. A. Haywood, 67 Old Penkridge Road,  
Cannock, Staffs. WS11 1HY

Tel. No. (01543) 572345

Email: pahaywood@btinternet.com

#### Salisbury and District Model Engineering Society

Mr. J. Maxwell, 34 Marlborough Road,  
Salisbury, Wilts. SP1 3TH

Tel. No. (01722)320848

Email: 01941@bigwig.net

#### Sutton Coldfield Model Engineering Society

Mr. E. Davies, 1 Hartwell Drive, Four  
Oaks, Sutton Coldfield,

West Midlands. B75 6RU

Tel. No. (0121) 308 6886

Email: janded@blueyonder.co.uk

#### The Association of 16m/m Narrow Gauge Modellers

Mr. G. Jones, Hill House Farm, Misbrooks  
Green Road, Bear Green, Dorking, Surrey.  
RH5 4QQ

Tel. No. (01306) 711688

Email: treasurer@16mm.org.uk

#### West Riding Small Locomotive Society

Mr. S. Merton, 1 Marston Avenue, Morley,  
Leeds, West Yorks. LS7 0RS

Tel. No. (01132) 523258

Email: stuart.merton@btinternet.com

### CHANGES OF ADDRESS

#### Scunthorpe Society of Model Engineers

Mr. S. Race, 4 Willow Grove, Ashby,  
Scunthorpe, North Lincs.

DN16 2EZ

Tel. No. (01724) 858460

Email: steve.race39@yahoo.co.uk

### WEBSITE/E-MAIL UPDATE

#### Bournemouth and Dist. S.M.E.

Email: hilaryfinn@hotmail.com

#### City of Newport M.E.S.

Email: robert.gen@live.co.uk

#### Crawley M.B.C.

Email: trolltwo@hotmail.co.uk

#### Crawley M.E.

Email: anmike@hotmail.co.uk

#### Epping Forest H.C.

Email: secretary@efhc.co.uk

#### Farnham and Dist. M.R.C.

Email: ditaylor80@btinternet.com

#### Gravesend Model Marine & Engineering Society

Email: peter20748@hotmail.co.uk

#### Kirklees M.B.C.

Email: patatkirkleesmodel-  
boatclub.org.uk

#### Leeds S.M.E.E.

Email: g.shackleton@sky.com

#### Newton Abbott and Dist. M.E.S.

Email: cescourtney@gmail.com

#### Norwich and Dist. S.M.E.

Website www.ndsme.co.uk

Email: shirley-allan@talktalk.net

#### Pickering E.E.M.S.

Website www.peems.co.uk

#### Pimlico Light Railway

Email: john@pimlicohouse.co.uk

#### Pinewood (Wokingham) M.R.S.

Email: secretary@pinewoodrailway.co.  
uk

#### Rugeley Power Station M.E.S.

Website www.rugeley-sme.org.uk

#### South Somerset M.E.E.S.

Website  
www.southsomersetmodelengineers.c  
o.uk

#### Sutton M.E.C.

Email: smec\_honsec@btconnecct.com

#### The Boat House M.E.G.

Email: peter-  
mitch@monkton1940.wanadoo.co.uk

#### Theale M.T.E.C.

Email: timale@hotmail.co.uk

### Post Code Corrections/Changes

Cambridge M.E.S. Mr. T. Coles  
CB3 8JH

### Tel. No. Corrections/Changes

Farnham and District M.R.C. Mr. R.  
Puddephatt (01252) 850396

Belfast and County Down Mr. J.  
Turner (02890) 665794

### Resignations: -

Dragon Model Engineering Society.

Gorleston Model Boat Club.

Rushden Miniature Steam

Enthusiasts.

The Steam Itinerants.

# ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**Saturday 10th March 2012**

The Southern Federation Annual General Meeting will take place at:

**Royal Air Force Museum Cosford**

Shifnal

Shropshire

TF11 8UP

Commencing at 2.00pm prompt

Access to the meeting and Museum is free

Extensive car parking available

Refreshments are available

The venue is wheel chair friendly

Time in the museum before the meeting will be well spent

**PLEASE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ATTEND**

## *Change of Secretary and Treasurer*

All clubs and societies are reminded to notify the Federation of any change of name and address of its officers to ensure that correspondence, mail, e-mail and enquires continues to be directed to the right person.

## REGISTER OF BOILER INSPECTORS

Currently the Southern Federation holds records of the names of Clubs and Societies and the associated names of the chairman, secretary and treasurer. Boiler certificates are registered by number as allocated to individual Clubs and Societies and boilers are registered by return of boiler slips.

At the present time there is no record made by the Southern Federation of the names of Club and Society boiler inspectors with the small exception of inspectors who are registered with RSA to

test boilers in the 500/1100 bar litres category . This situation is unlike other members of the Associations and Federations. To bring the Southern Federation in line with the other members it is appropriate that a record is made of the names of all boiler inspectors.

The form for you to fill in to register your Boiler Inspectors was part of the mailing sent to your treasurer along with the affiliation fee request. Please return to the Membership Secretary. Additional forms are available by E-mail: [jgwal@btinternet.com](mailto:jgwal@btinternet.com)

## REPORTED ACCIDENTS

We have been asked if we would report on club/society accidents that have been reported to the insurers. We are unable to give club/society details but here is a list for the last quarter.

1. Ram raid at the club railway yard
2. Theft of a cement mixer.
3. Break-in resulting in metal stolen and a damaged generator.
4. Childs foot injured by being caught between two carriages.
5. JCB owned by a client hit a members car.
6. Train derailment
7. Gazebos damaged.

I will give details in the future of the claims sent in to our insurers.

## SOUTHERN FEDERATION COMMITTEE

### CHAIRMAN

Brian Thompson, 35, Rivershill, Watton at Stone, Hertfordshire, SG14 3SD, Tele: 01920 830 629

E-mail: brian.sfed@btinternet.com

### SECRETARY & VICE CHAIRMAN

Ivan Hurst, 16, Cypress Grove, Ash Vale, Guildford, Surrey, GU12 5QN, Tele: 01252 510 340

E-mail: ivanatshed73d@yahoo.co.uk

### TREASURER

Norman Rogers, "Ribblehead", Tower House Lane, Wraxall, North Somerset, BS48 1JP, Tele: 01275 855 435

E-mail: shed30a@hotmail.com

### MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

John Walker, 23, Redwing Close, Stratford upon Avon, Warwickshire, CV37 9EX, Tele: 01789 266 065, E-mail: jgwal@btinternet.com

### BOILER REGISTRAR

David Mayall, 9, Parsons Close, Church Crookham, Fleet, Hampshire, GU52 6HL, Tele: 01252 684 688

E-mail: fradav@ntlworld.com

### SAFETY OFFICER

Wally Pearson, 8, Pamela Avenue, Paulsgrove, Portsmouth, Hampshire, PO6 4QX, Tele: 023 9238 0664, E-Mail: wallycpearson@aol.com

### NEWSLETTER EDITOR

To be advised

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mike Chrisp, Roger Griffiths, Brent Hudson, David Mayall and Andrew Siddall.

### INSURANCE CLAIMS AND INCIDENTS

All claims and reports of incidents should be notified to Footman James in the first instance.

### FEDERATION SALES

Available from Brian Thompson, Chairman.

### FEDERATION INSURANCE BUSINESS

Managed by Footman James, Waterfall Lane, Cradley Heath, West Midlands, B64 6PU, Tele: 0121 561 6210 Contact Angela Orford.

E-mail: angela.orford@footmanjames.co.uk

**We are on the  
Web**

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

### *Diary of Events*

Would you like your event shown on 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 public running.

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1 Windsor Street,  
Stratford upon Avon, CV37 6LF  
01789 415921

## DIARY OF EVENTS 2011/2012

March 10	*FEDERATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING at R.A.F Cosford.
April 28	Polly Owners Group Rally Bromsgrove Model Engineering Society
May 6	Vale of Aylesbury Locomotive Rally Buckinghamshire Railway Centre
May 11/12/13	*Harrogate Model Engineering Exhibition, Yorkshire Show Ground
May 19	*FEDERATION SPRING RALLY at Guildford Model Engineering Society
May 20	Host Society Open Day.
June 2	Amnerfield Miniature Railway Open Day. Steam and Diesel
June 9/10	Welsh National Locomotive Rally, Cardiff Model Engineering Soc.
June 9/10	Vale of Aylesbury Traction Engine Rally, Buckinghamshire Rly. Centre
June 9/10	Harrow & Wembley SME Locomotive Open Weekend
June 10	2½ Gauge Assoc. National Rally Rugby Model Engineering Soc.
June 16	Locomotive Rally Harlington Locomotive Society
June 16	Bournemouth & District SME Locomotive Open Day
June 16/17	Sweet Pea Rally at Hereford Society of Model Engineers.
June 23/24	Little LEC at the Swansea Society of Model Engineers.
June 30/July 1	Traction Engine Rally, Miniature Steam Road Vehicle Soc. Tewksbury.
July 7/8	*Guildford Model Steam Rally & Exhibition
Jul 21/22	Dreaming Spires Rally, City of Oxford Society.
July 28	Bournemouth & District SME Pannier Tank Day
August 17/18/19	*Bristol Model Engineering Exhibition.
August 25/26/27	Harrow & Wembley SME Locomotive Open Weekend
September 7/8/9	Locomotive Rally, Bedford Model Engineering Society.
September 8/9	National Locomotive Rally & Martin Evans Rally, Birmingham S.M.E.

*Continued on page 8.*

*Note: Dates and events marked thus \* the Federation "Road Show" will be in attendance. Other events will be added as the information becomes available.*