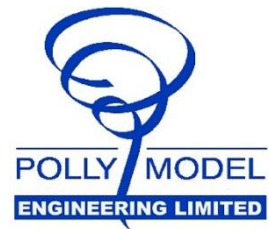




FEDERATION TROPHY & POLLY MODEL ENGINEERING PRIZE



2024 AWARD WINNERS

The awards were made at the FMES AGM Event Day held at the Boscombe Down Aviation Museum on 2ndth March 2024

The highly commended and commended award winners were able to be present and they received their awards on the day. Unfortunately, the winner was not able to attend and he received his award at a club event on 4th May 2024.

Here are the three award winners.....

James Knight

James is 18 years old and a member of Hereford Society of Model Engineers. He joined with his parents 6 years ago and has developed to be an enthusiastic and responsible member of the club.

He has almost completed a 7¼" 0-4-0 electric shunting locomotive to his own CAD aided design, with some support from the club but mainly his own work. He dismantled an old wheelchair for the motor and drive system, that he has had to modify to suit.

He has had to learn all scratch building skills including welding, machining, hand work, assembly etc and has also completed a number of smaller projects on the way such as a centre punch to support learning on the lathe, a mobile machine tool work bench and intriguingly, a brass combination lock!

There were many trials on the way including tolerancing axles and bearings where he has learned the value of Loctite retaining fluid!

He built the body from scratch: steel and aluminium panels were cut, bent and welded together including side louvres pressed using a hydraulic press and tool. This was then finished in a pleasing shade of blue although not without some 'learning' different paint types and ages!

James has become a versatile member of the club, especially on running days where his knowledge to operate responsibly a 30 lever signal frame or to drive steam locomotives is a real asset to the club. James is a regular attendee at the club's training events and all the public sessions.

James was announced as the winner and received the trophy, £100 Polly Model Engineering voucher and £100 federation cash prize on 4th May from Peter Squire at a club event.



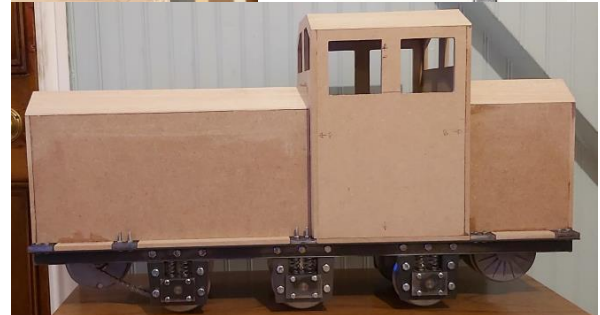
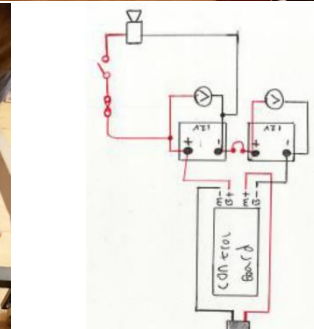
Spencer Priddy

Spencer is 12 years old and a member of Portsmouth Model Engineering Society. He joined with his father as soon as he could following Covid restrictions and his project to build an SM32 gauge electric locomotive supported his winning this award in 2023. Spencer has developed his skills since with a much more ambitious project. An article from ME magazine 35 years ago about an electric 5" 0-4-0 shunter inspired him and he set about building this with the help of some commercial parts and parts that he had to make from scratch. He also made some changes to the published designs, not the least adding a pair of wheels to make it an 0-6-0.

The need to see something running and the diligent saving of pocket money enabled him to buy a chassis kit from Maxitrak. This was built by Spencer, including making the superstructure from scratch. The motivation of this project inspired him to return to the first project and to make progress he had to learn many hand working skills and the use of power tools. As a result, he has now completed the chassis with the motor and built the superstructure. He has had to calculate the motor power and drive characteristics to design the control system.

He continues to develop his contribution to his club with running day support on locomotives and track, as well as developing driving and other skills. He gets involved in management support for health and safety.

Spencer was awarded a highly commended certificate, a £50 Polly Model Engineering voucher and a £50 FMES prize.



Kieran O'Sullivan

Kieran is 15 and a member of Southampton Society of Model Engineers. He has been building models for a number of years – including Airfix - and developing his craft skills. This has given him confidence to tackle a larger working model boat from a kit of parts requiring adjustment, fitting and modifying. Kieran has built this himself using handwork skills mainly for plastic, wood and metal as part of a working kit.



As a working model, this had to be water tight and durable for use, so finishing skills had to be developed appropriate to a marine application, as well as making the power and radio control systems fit and work.



This project has enabled Kieran to develop not only fabrication skills but also confidence to add his own touches as improvements were identified (such as securing battery boxes etc).



Many model engineers started their hobby in just such a way and Kieran has his eye on larger and heavier things, including locomotives, with an ambition to get started on an electric locomotive. His involvement with his club is growing as he develops his knowledge and experience, with his support of running days on the track, assisting with the steaming up and passenger help on the platform. He is learning to drive locomotives, and willingly getting involved in other activities as required.



Kieran was presented with his Certificate of Commendation, £40 Polly Model Engineering voucher and £40 FMES prize at