

STRATHAVEN MODEL SOCIETY Ltd

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News Letter JUNE 2017

Dear Member,

Members Information

Congratulations to both Stuart Darkins and Bill Haig in celebrating their 80th birthdays last month. As an organisation a small gift token was given to both so that they could have lunch out with their respective wives during the summer. We received a written thank you from Stuart, and Bill called me to thank the society for our gift to them.

During May we had another new member join our group, Grant Anderson who has a Maxitrak 7¼" gauge Opal locomotive and ride on truck, Welcome to the society and we hope to see you at the park assisting with running the railway during the running season, and in October you, and your loco, at our open weekend.

WEBSITE

The website is now up and running for laptops and iPad etc. The mobile site is under development and has already been launched last month This will be developed throughout the year. Our business cards are now in circulation with members. A good response from all who have handed out these cards to prospective visitors. If you require more please let me know and if available I will send them on to you. The website will be developed further during the year, any suggestions on content please pass onto me by e-mail.

We have had several members apply for a password to access the website and the members section, where all the updated information is stored. PLEASE REGISTER FOR YOUR PASSWORD.

Members section of the website. How to gain access

1/ Go on to the website

2/ Click on the tab CONTACT US. In this page at the bottom you will see a box with the header Log in. Fill in this box and submit your information.

3/ Steve Driver who will be our administrator for the website will authorise your request and you will receive a link to the next section. Once this is filled in you will get an email with a password to allow you to sign into the members' page.

4. If you are happy with the password supplied you keep and use same. If you wish to have another password please go into the contact page and change your password here.

Any questions please contact myself or Stephen regarding this.

Work Completed

Work has now been completed on Margaret and she has now been returned to the park. A steam test was completed and several circuits of the track were done to check all motion work and the repacked cylinders before signing off on completed work. Margaret will be used during the running season to keep her loose but not on heavy hauling days at present. A list of competent drivers will be published for Margaret in due course. After what seemed a never ending list of work this winter/ spring on the 6 carriages,(Eva, Abberton, Margaret and the fish van), it has now all been completed. Hopefully we will have less to do next year.. This just leaves some minor work on Margaret and the re-checking of all the airline systems on the carriages.

Work Going Forward

Black 5 (Highlander) In the workshop, the special stand that was constructed to take the Black 5 has been erected and the locomotives frame with wheels and cylinders is now in place for work to continue over the summer on this loco. In the workshop we have Fiona ready for a steam test and then she would be available for members to use in the park either on the raised or ground tracks. Work has also been on going with

Homeside which at present requires a Hydraulic test and then a steam test. We have had issues with the injector on the loco. A replacement unit will be tried instead.

Track work continues. We have several sections to complete with approximately 1000 sleepers still to be replaced in the outer track. This will leave only the turntable track and the track from the steaming bays to be completed.

For the rest of the season, if it is dry weather, we will on a Monday be working on the track to try and complete the outer track before the open day in October. **This means we need as many members who are fit and able to be available to assist complete this major task.**

Events

The special events that will occur in the park this year are:-

GALA DAY this weekend with a full complement of staff for the two days , we just now need the weather to be kind to us.

Saturday the 10th of June **GALA DAY**

Sunday the 18th of June Father's Day

Saturday the 1st of July **Pipe Band Festival** (first weekend after schools break for summer holidays)

Saturday the 29th of July **Folk Festival**

Saturday the 26th of August **Balloon Festival**

Sunday the 27th of August **Balloon Festival**

Monday the 28th of August **Balloon Festival**

Saturday the 23rd of September (**September weekend holiday**)

Sunday the 24th of September (**September weekend holiday**)

Monday the 25th of September (**September weekend holiday**)

Sunday the 1st of October last running day (Any running after this date in the Park would be donations only)

Saturday the 7th of October (Club Open Weekend) No public running.

Sunday the 8th of October (Club Open Weekend) No public running.

Thank you to those who have already entered their names into the diary when they are available to help operate the railway during the forthcoming weeks.

Kind Regards

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