



West Wiltshire Society of Model Engineers Newsletter

Issue No.21 October/November 2021



Calendar

October

- 2nd – Saturday Steam Up. 10am-4pm.
- 9th – Working Day. 9:30am-3:30pm.
- 16th – Saturday Steam Up. 10am-4pm.

November

- 6th – Saturday Steam Up. 10am-4pm.
- 20th – Saturday Steam Up. 10am-4pm.

December

- 4th – Saturday Steam Up. 10am-4pm.
- 18th – Saturday Steam Up. 10am-4pm.



News

Working Day

Request for Volunteers

Saturday 9th October

By Jon Clarke



On Saturday 4th September we had a very successful working day at the club. Track was laid and ballasted around the chord and on both lines up towards the new points by the carriage shed.



We also started to move back the retaining wall from the workshop to the carriage shed and new track sections were built up from their component parts.



Overall it was a very good day and many thanks to all the volunteers who came and helped.



Things have continued during the Wednesday working days and the retaining wall works are now completed and other progress being made around the site too.



To continue the good work we are having a working party day on Saturday 9th October, 9:30 until around 15:30. This will be to progress the ground level 5" gauge railway and some of the other projects. Any help from members would be appreciated. Whether it's a couple of hours or the whole day it all makes a difference and helps us along.

- Small socket set (1/4" drive) (Slim 7mm sockets will be useful)
- Spirit Level
- Cordless drill

Please don't forget to bring some lunch if you plan to stay all day.



If you are able to come at any time please can you let Bob Taylor or Jon Clarke know so we can understand the number of people coming. We have a variety of tasks on offer with something for everyone – track laying, digging, wheelbarrowing, track maintenance, lifting and carrying or just making a cup of tea for people.



If you could bring with you any of the following it would be helpful, and potentially speed things up:

- Kneelers
- Gloves
- Spade/Shovel
- Rake
- Small trowels (used for packing the track)

Exciting News For Members

By Pete Brougham (28th August)

Earlier this year, I informed you in the June / July Newsletter of a programme of events that the club had agreed to do and what it was probably going to cost.

So far we have:

- Fitted out our new container.
- Repaired the gent's toilet floor.
- Started the design and planning of the scenic 16mm scale railway.
- Laid half of the stock of built panels for the 5" ground level track. The remaining stock will be laid on 4th September.
- Built crossings over the ground level track for the grass mower.
- Kept the site tidy and maintained.
- Had a wet BBQ and steam up, but the rain stayed away until about 3:00 pm.

After the club Simplex Loco failed its boiler test, your committee debated what we should do. I came up with the "preposterous" idea of purchasing a Polly Model loco kit as a potential CLUB LOCO.



The route to the purchase expected to be via grants. Within a month I had secured the promise of £2500, privately, provided the club raised the remaining £5000, of the £7500 predicted cost.

I am pleased to tell you that last week I secured a Sponsorship Deal with Eurocast Industries Ltd to purchase and build a Polly Model Engineering Molly-Ann, the cost being covered by the sponsorship. Your committee saw the proposal

and offer and scrutinised them before accepting the generous offer last Wednesday. The loco has been ordered, and the first two kits should be ready to be picked up 1st October.

This exercise is designed to help show our two young members, Ben and Arthur, how a steam loco works and what the different parts do. Older members who wish to gain knowledge and learn new skills are welcome to take part, but safe space in the workshop is obviously limited.

Kind Regards,

Pete Brougham

Chairman

