



West Wiltshire Society of Model Engineers Newsletter

Issue No.37 November / December 2024

Calendar

November

2nd – Saturday Steam Up. 10am-4pm.

16mm Indoor Running.

6th – Auction night. 7pm, auction starts at 8pm.

16th – Saturday Steam Up. 10am-4pm.

*16mm Indoor Running subject to sufficient registered interest.

December

1st – Santa Specials - Public Open Day

Open 2pm-5pm. Setting up from mid-morning.

4th – Winter Evening Event – TBC. 7:30pm.

7th – Saturday Steam Up. 10am-4pm.

16mm Indoor Running.

14th – Christmas Dinner at the Horse & Groom,
Alfred Street, Westbury BA13 3DY 12pm.

21st – Saturday Steam Up. 10am-4pm.

*16mm Indoor Running subject to sufficient registered interest.

27th – Christmas Steam Up. 9am-12:00pm.

January

4th – Saturday Steam Up. 10am-4pm.

16mm Indoor Running.

18th – Saturday Steam Up. 10am-4pm.

*16mm Indoor Running subject to sufficient registered interest.



News

New 16mm Garden Railway Now Running

By Barry Statham

The new 16mm garden railway track work is now complete, with two circuits of 32mm gauge in operation. There are also two ramps in opposing directions, connecting to a raised 'steam up/disposal' area. The two main line tracks have crossovers in both directions, and connect to the ramps via the inner track. It is therefore possible for trains to travel in either direction along the main lines and enter or exit via either ramp, giving great flexibility of operation.

Operation is best suited to radio controlled locomotives and requires care in operation, but it should be possible to run several trains simultaneously in each direction. With steam locos it is important to try and retain enough steam at the end of a run to ensure that the loco can ideally complete the journey back up the ramp to the 'steam up' area! Some preliminary 'operating rules' have been drawn up to assist with smooth operation.



The construction has taken around three years since conception, and has involved many members with the work, whose efforts are much appreciated.





We would now like as many members as possible to try out the new railway and see how it runs in practice. The next stage will be to consider the scenic and garden development.

The images show a drone shot of the entire railway, and trains in operation.



Christmas Meal

By Colin Wade

The Christmas meal this year is at the Horse and Groom in Westbury, the same venue as last year. If you would like to join in with this event please let me know by the 20th November so that I can confirm our booking with the pub (I am now the point of contact rather than Rob).

A £5 deposit is needed for each booking, this can be paid directly into the club bank account or by cash to me if you see me on site. If you use BACS please put your name and XMAS24 as the reference so the payment can be easily identified.

Menu choices will be needed not later than Saturday 30th November please.

Booking and meal choice are now by e-mailing me so I have a record the booking and choices.
secretary@wwsme.org.uk

Club Loco

By Jon Clarke

We would like to remind members that our club steam locomotive is available for all members to use. This is to provide opportunities to those without a loco to gain experience firing and driving.



Where members are less experienced we recommend attending our Foundation Training, and then the committee member/ key holder will

provide the support and coaching as required during the session. If you would like to use the club steam locomotive please contact a committee member and they can then arrange this with you, or put you in contact with another member of committee or a key holder to get things arranged.

New Steaming Bays & Path To Storage Container

By Jon Clarke

The club is progressing with the next phase of site development laying the base for the extra steaming bays and the new path to the storage container.



The club will be purchasing a hydraulic platform trolley to allow 'lift-free' transfer of locomotives between the storage shelving in the storage container all the way to the track.



Shelves are available in the storage container for members to rent. If you are interested please email me chairman@wwsme.org.uk or speak to me when I'm at the club.



Each shelving unit has five shelves:

- Shelf 1 - (floor level) Suitable for locomotives, but will need lifting out and onto the trolley
- Shelf 2 - 'Lift-Free' locomotive storage
- Shelf 3 - 'Lift-Free' locomotive storage
- Shelf 4 - (approximately upper torso height) Storage for driving cars, tools, equipment etc
- Shelf 5 - (approximately head height) Light storage only - tools, equipment etc

The rental charge per year, per shelf rates are as follows:

- Shelf 1 - £75 (or £7.50 per month by standing order)
- Shelves 2 & 3 - £100 (or £10 per month by standing order)
- Shelves 4 & 5 - £40 (or £4 per month by standing order)

Auction Night

6th November

By Jon Lawes

The auction is Wednesday the 6th of November. Doors will open at 7pm, auction will start around 8pm.

The photos show the items we know about in advance; we got quite a lot on the night last year. Larger items start at Lot 501.

Lot 1 - 3" Universal Machine Vice



Lot 2 - 00 K's Kit, GWR 4300 kit



Lot 501 - 12" Bench Sheet Folder



Lot 502 - 10" Sheet Roller



Lot 503 - 240v Compressor

Lot 504 - Sweet Pea chassis



Lot 505 - 3.5" Doris chassis

