ESSMEE Newsletter

Date 27th February

Hello all members.

We are settling into editing your newsletter and decided that 8 pages would be enough for the February edition. However, this meant leaving out some reports that we have received, of which the January Sunday Club should really have been included. So we have decided to provide a supplement to the February edition, together with details and suggestions about submitting what you have been doing for inclusion in the next Newsletter.

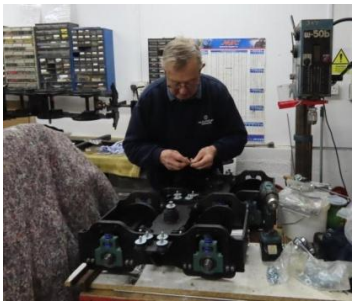
We have not yet decided how often to send out the Newsletter, as this will depend on how much material we receive. We hope you have found February's edition interesting.

5" g. Prairie

Repairs to the club 5 inch Prairie were started in January 2026 by David Hale and Andy Kiddell to see if they could get the Prairie running, one of the first jobs was to fit new piston rings and to seal the tank unit. Once fitted, they continued to steam it up but it didn't run consistently due to oil not getting to the lubricator. This week David stripped the lubricator down to see what the problem was but it is still an ongoing project for both David and Andy.

Graham Hayman

Here are some pictures of members hard at work in the ESSMEE workshops on Saturday 31st January.













Sunday Club

Sunday Club in January was attended by eight Juniors, they took turns in driving Andy Kiddell's 4 traction engine around the station yard.

February Sunday club was attended by approximately fifteen juniors, unfortunately it was pouring with rain but we still managed to do some driver experience by removing leaves and taking all the ash away. Even though most of them got fairly wet they still enjoyed themselves, some members went into the workshop with George and continuing making their little stationary engine, overall a good day.

Graham Hayman

Contributions please.

I have been looking back through the last 4 years of The Newsletter and am amazed by the quantity, high quality and variety of articles and pictures that members have submitted for publication. The summer issues tend to have more pages due to the increased activities associated with events at the Showground, but the winter articles are, by contrast more about workshop projects and their progress. Roy Procter and Alan Bridger's work on their 7/14" Holmside is a good example, as is Alan Hutfield's 3" scale Fowler traction engine. We also welcome submissions about visits to places of interest, steam centred holidays, rallies, museums etc. and members' special interests. The recently deceased Chairman of Plymouth Miniature Steam, to which your Editors still belong, had a special interest in the P2 project and its associated activities and wrote detailed reports on his regular visits to the North East, which is why I know that its cylinder block is fabricated steel ! His regular updates will be sorely missed by PMS members. What really floats your boat ? A few lines (or more !) and accompanying photos will be most welcome.

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