

VRMES NEWSLETTER

October 2015

During a recent conversation with another club member we got on to the subject of the lack of a newsletter, which John Tanner used to admirably produce on an annual basis, and the consequence of there now being no way of communicating what's happening to our society unless it is by word of mouth, which not everybody gets to hear.

To address this I am taking it on myself, without approval from the committee at the moment, to cobble together a monthly summary of happenings around the club site and forthcoming events. Of course to make this more interesting it would be nice to include input from every member, such things as visits to other societies or railways, any projects you have on the go, any ideas for improvements or additions around the site, in fact any gossip you want to share.

For my convenience I shall only be able to spread the word via email, so my apologies to those who cannot receive this type of communication, but a copy will be posted on the club notice board. Copy for inclusion, however short, should be sent to rt4ylor@btinternet.com

Rob Taylor

NEWS

- The latest we have on the sale of Floralands by Mark Spencer is that it has been leased by a company called Home and Garden (H&G) for the next 35 years. John Tanner has been in touch with our new landlords to request a meeting to discuss our future and has been told that they are keen to retain the railway and that David White, the managing director, is a "train fan". Some topics John intends to ask about are security of tenure and associated cost, whether there is any chance of extending the track into the wooded area.
- Trev Matthews has completed his class 26 and has completed running in trials with a run at Nottingham Society at their open invitation meeting. It should be a crowd pleaser next season finished in its early BR green livery.
- Steve Weaver brought a freelance Bo-Bo shunter he has recently acquired to give it a test run, it managed to haul two riding cars fully loaded without too much trouble. Is there a paint job and detailing to report on in the future?
- Pete Garrod has undertaken a repaint of the riding car shed doors, and it's rumoured there might be a chevron effect finish.
- I have recently completed the class 45, however a test run showed the front pony to have derailing issues when leaving the running line turnout. A modification to the springing has improved the situation, but the problem still persists at "reasonable" speed over the turnout. As Pete pointed out there is a 2mph limit over this section so that's me told!
- Alan Budd has been busy cutting back the undergrowth between the track and the farm park at the exit from the station. Other general grass cutting and strimming is ongoing as usual also the filling in of animal burrows has been done, take care when walking through long grass in case of reoccurrence now that the grass won't be cut so often during winter.
- H&G have taken over at Floralands, evident by the car park overflowing onto Catfoot Lane on the first 4 days of their "sale", does this mean busy times ahead for the farm park?
- A problem of incorrect rail height on the turntable has been rectified by Trev Matthews.
- The night run on Saturday 30th attracted an average turnout of members. Four locos were on track, Steve Weaver & his new Hercules, I took the cl 45, Trev Matthews with his cl 26 running under royal headcode, and Dave Redgate with his Hymek. The evening was thoroughly enjoyable and made more pleasurable with the provision of hot food and drink courtesy of Marion Matthews and Margaret Taylor. Later in the evening we succumbed to a light mist over the site, very atmospheric for Halloween.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- 15 November – Club Running Day

Don't forget – any snippets for inclusion send to rt4ylor@btinternet.com