

**Polegate and District
Model Engineering Club**
(Limited by Guarantee)

NEWSLETTER

No 13

Summer 2009

www.padmec.org.uk

Editor's Bits and Pieces

Welcome one and all to the summer edition of the PADMEC newsletter, as can be seen there has been a change in the layout and thanks must be given to Chris White for his assistance in achieving a far more professional format. It is hoped that the changes will find approval of the members.

Once again the club is reaching the time to review and decide on its future, as will be known by those who have attended the last few club track run days, we have only had limited success in getting an increase in the members and their locomotives to "share the load" with the regulars, who are the main stay of running and maintaining the track.

We also seem to have reduced numbers in attending the club night programme on the 2nd Friday of the month, David Platt has continued to get speakers to fill the programme but we are failing to support the speakers and David by the lowering attendance.

It was agreed some time ago by the club members to look for a new track site or approach Polegate Council to improve the site as it is believed that the current location and the site limitations are restricting public attendance, older club members and inviting other clubs to run at the site.

We need to remember the vision that our former members had for our club and our track, they did great things to get to the current track but were never able to complete the vision due to the limitations of the site, limited backing from Polegate Council and the failure of the planned sports pavilion.

We have been in discussion with Polegate Council and things have stalled at this time as we are not permitted to open the gate to allow public access, we are also currently in discussions with Stone Cross Nursery in the hope that we can agree terms and conditions to move the track on to land adjacent to the nursery. The club council members have seen the proposed site at Stone Cross and there will be opportunities to include tracks for smaller gauge locos including, smaller 3.5, 2.5 and 16 mm gauges along with perhaps a boating pool.

It's your club, so have your say at the August Club night along with seeing the history of our track / club in pictures from the late John Masters photo collection. (Details further in the newsletter)

Portable Track Works

During the last few weeks the club and Richard Brown have been out with their tracks to support local events / charities, below are a selection of photos taken at these events.

Right: Simplex being made ready for running at Hawkswood School Hailsham.

Below: Keith, Dave Newman and David Pratt on shift at Hawkswood School Hailsham.



Above: Keith with his 0-6-0 B.R. Class 1500 "Speedy" at Lark in the Park Hailsham with Paul Pitfield.

Left: Father and Son out with the track Baz Ridley driving with "Station Master" Scott Ridley about to whistle.

For our August 09 club meeting Chris White will be showing photos from the late John Masters collection, to wet your appetite some photos have been included.



Robbie Archer driving a 3.5" gauge loco believed to be a variation on the 4-6-2 Hielan Lassie design by LBSC.

The late Tom Gosden also driving a 3.5" gauge loco believed to be a LBSC design 2-6-2 Bantam Cock.



Visitor from East Sussex Model Engineers (then based in Alexandra Park Hastings) Dennis Hoad driving his Sweet Pea "Linda"



Some of the members of the time including Dave Newman, Keith Nicks and Peter Wilmhurst.

The late Les Markwick of Hasting Society of Model Engineers (then based at Bo Peep Junction, West St Leonards) driving his 5" gauge 0-4-2 Class 14XX GWR loco.



The late John Masters' own "Metro Tank" in fine order.

PADMEC at Romney Marsh M E S track at New Romney

Romney Marsh MES held an open run weekend during June 09 and a number of Padmec members attended. Harry Parry brought along his 3.5" gauge Masie which a number of club member drove during Saturday afternoon. Baz Ridley took the late John Masters Metro on Sunday. The New Romney club ladies supplied a wonderful spread for all and plenty of teas and coffees. Photos show a small number of the locos in operation on the Saturday.



Harry driving Masie with Padmec Chairman Dave Newman being guard.

Harry preparing to pull away from the steaming bay / station area



Editors Comments: Perhaps we can return the favour one day and have our own open run day and invite other clubs. GE 07/09

Right: Southern 0-6-0 Class Q1 "Charlie" class in the steaming bay



Left: 3.5" gauge "Netta" loco in action on the RMMES track at New Romney

Right: The 16 mm track was in full operation with many locos in attendance most being radio controlled live steam .



Left: 5" gauge Southern 4-4-0 V "Schools" class loco stopped awaiting a clear road

PADMEC Bar B Q

Padmec held a Bar B Q at the club track on Sunday 12th July 09. 11 club members with their families attended and 4 Locomotives were in action during the afternoon; the club 5" g Simplex, Keith Nicks 5" g Speedy, Glyn Evans 3.5" g Betty and Glyn Evans 5" g diesel outline electric 08 driven by Tom Evans. The weather stayed fine and most members took an opportunity to drive the available locomotives, all who attended had a great time.

Right: Cooking gets underway while the locos are made ready in the steaming bay



Left: George Danby gets a chance to drive the club Simplex loco during the afternoon.

Right: The Bar B Q food gets the OK from the children, "Thanks" go to the chef.





Above: Paul Pitfield had an early drive of the club Simplex



Above: Tom Evans driving girlfriend Sherry and his mum

Right: While some played trains, others took the opportunity to get some rays



Left: Baz Ridley driving LBSC design Southern N2, 2-6-2 "Betty" which performed well during the afternoon.

Right: Towards the end of the afternoon and with only 2 locos on the track, the trains ran the "wrong way round" for a change, Clair White at the controls of "Speedy" with Steve Danby as guard.



Boiler Tests at Padmec

Boiler tests continued during the last months and included are photographs of some of the locomotives that have been seen at the track.



3 views of Steve Danby's 4-6-0 Class B1 to the Springbok design by Martin Evans.



Above: Boiler front tube plate.



Left: A view of the cab controls

A master at work, Dave Newman Chief Boiler Inspector and Chairman inspects George Danby's Super Simplex prior to steam test.



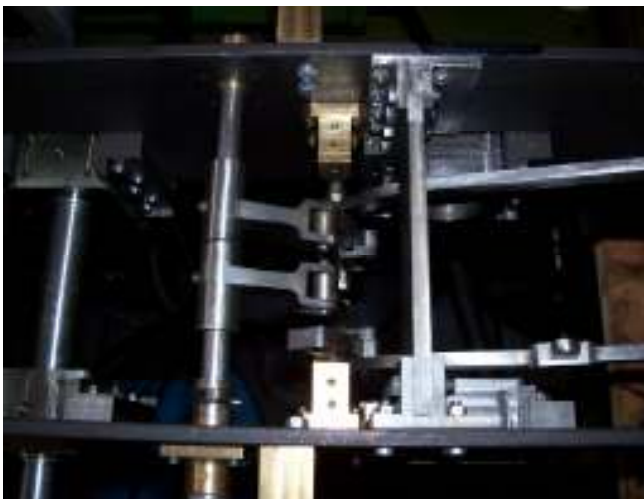
3 views of George Danby's 0-6-2 Super Simplex, the fittings in the cab have "Tufnol" control handles which don't get hot.



Right: The loco is fitted with a hydrostatic lubricator however, George has not been fully convinced in their operation and has plans to replace them.

Tail lamp

Dave Newman and Glyn Evans met at Jan's' to carryout boiler testing on his 7.25" gauge Tom Rolt, as always Jan is hard at work on his latest projects and photos of some items are below.



Jan is currently extending the frames of a 7.25" gauge GWR loco, frames and finished tender above.

The other photo shows part of the valve gear of another locomotive currently in the shops

PADMEC Driver Training

Driver training is being carried out when the opportunity allows and both Clair White and Lin Ridley are progressing very nicely, Photo shows Clair White driving Speedy at the PADMEC track during a recent run day.

Photos in this newsletter have been supplied by Glyn Evans and Dave Newman are copyright of PADMEC, Glyn Evans and Dave Newman 07/09

