



Model Steam Road Vehicle Society Newsletter

September 2023

A change in format this time – your regular editor has a number of other issues to deal with at the moment and so this has been put together by a somewhat shaky stand in – someone who volunteered first and then realised he hadn't got Adobe to create pdf documents. So please don't shoot the (temporary) editor!

Diary Dates

AGM

The AGM is scheduled for Saturday 7th December at Longford Village Hall. It's a good chance to meet and chat and there will be refreshments. Chris England, our current Secretary feels that she needs to step down and so we are looking for a volunteer. Please consider standing, it's not too arduous and the rest of the Committee have been around for a while so there should be plenty of support for a newcomer.

Meetings

Third Tuesday of each month, so - 19 September, 17 October, 21 November, 16 January, 20 February, 19 March, etc at Longford Village Hall.

Rallies

The dates for the two 'own' events are confirmed:

Blue Lias 25-27 May 2024

Tewkesbury 22, 23 June 2024

Both of these were very enjoyable this year, located on very different sites but both providing a good opportunity to meet, chat and steam.

Talks at Recent Meetings

June 20th The RN Submarine Service in the 70s

It's been a while since we had a talk from one of our own but this was a presentation by one of our members on his service in nuclear submarines. Starting with his 5 Year Apprenticeship and 1 Year Submarine Training, leading on to work as an Electrical Artificer. We heard about life on HMS Dreadnought (with its American propulsion plant) and then HMS Revenge, one of the deterrent submarines carrying nuclear armed Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles. There were many questions asked by those present, ranging from the

nuclear technical to domestic routine. Answers were comprehensive although avoiding anything which might still be deemed to be classified.

August 15th Model boat building by the Gloucester Model Boat Club

Our first Club Night Meeting in two months! It was a splendid presentation by members of the Gloucester and District Model Boat Club. Ted Tedaldi (an MSRVS member) brought model boating friends with some of their boats and associated equipment. The evening gave a comprehensive and interesting insight into a well organised and studied hobby.

The participants all had different approaches to the hobby both in prototypes modelled and construction methods used. Materials included wood, fibre glass and plasticard, but, almost universally it seems, the two stroke diesel and glowplug engines of the past have been replaced by very powerful and efficient brushless electric motors.

The Club usually meet for sailing on Sunday and Wednesday afternoons and also at other public events. Details on their website.

This year's 'own' rallies

Blue Lias

The weekend of 27th and 28th of May saw the MSRVS return to Blue Lias for a weekend of steaming, talking and road running.

The site is part of the grounds of the Blue Lias Inn, which sits on the bank of the Grand Union Canal at Southam. They provide a grass field of about 2 acres which is reasonably flat, very smooth and with the grass closely cut, so a great place to run around with engines large medium and small. There is also a water supply in the corner of the field and Chris Stubbings arranged for the essential toilet facilities.

Food at the pub is very good and the place is popular so we saw a steady stream of pub customers wandering into the field to look and chat. They also have camping facilities in another part of their site.

The bigger engines went on a road run on the Sunday, about 1½ miles to a pub which also seemed to get favourable reviews.

All in all a very good weekend, aided by excellent weather of course, and certainly one worth putting in diaries – and well done to Chris for this year!





Tewkesbury

This year's Tewkesbury event was again held by courtesy of the Tewkesbury Rugby Club so a decent flat field, plenty of space and just a few minutes walk into Tewkesbury town centre for a shopping trip or a road run. Toilet facilities within TRFC clubhouse, and the bar were of course available and we were again blessed by good weather.

As with Blue Lias the field was open for any members of the public whose curiosity drew them in but there was no charge and so no obligation for us to put on a show. The emphasis was on meeting old friends, making new ones, having a chat and steaming engines.



The future for 'our' rallies

There is a feeling that this relaxed format is likely to be the way in future since, if nothing else, it doesn't put so much pressure on the organisers and doesn't commit us to so much expenditure.

If you have strong feelings one way or the other please feel free to let us know.

Highnam Court

Not really to be counted as one of 'ours' but Highnam Court is a good event to go to. The place itself is a moderate 'stately home' and gardens (part of the National Gardens Scheme). It is a fund raising event in support of the Pied Piper Scheme, a Gloucester based children's charity.

The idea is that we turn up with engines and the bigger ones give rides in exchange for donations to Pied Piper. As a distraction there are the grounds to walk round and, for the two years that I have attended, a very respectable collection of classic cars.



Advert - Casting Supplier

If anyone needs to get castings done it may well be worth contacting Mark Prior on 07534 620886. He is a one-man band, located near Yate and can cast iron and gunmetal, and presumably other metals as well. Since it is a small operation you may have to wait a bit until he has a 'batch' to do.

Mark has done a number of castings for me in iron and gunmetal (from my patterns) and the ones that I have machined so far have been of excellent quality. GS

And Finally...

Even temporary editors need to appeal for material – please send in anything you have which may be useful, and perhaps suggestions for the type of things you would like to see in here.

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