North Wales Model Engineering Society



NEWSLETTER - June 2022

Welcome to everyone and hoping you're all well. Here's a few snippets about what's been happening within the Society.

DEFIBRILLATOR.

We were all quite shocked when we heard off Keith that the defib had gone missing from Conwy lifeboat station. Last Saturday (11th) I asked Frank if there was any news on the one we had contributed to which was located adjacent to our track at the café. Had it been used yet? That evening Frank let me know that ours had also gone missing. Later in the week we were told that the ambulance had taken it and it was now back in service. Excellent news and hoping that we have helped save someone's life.

MIDLANDS EXHIBITION.

Quite a few members have asked if we as a society have any intentions of organizing a trip to this year's exhibition. Tony has contacted a few coach operators for quotes. Obviously, prices will have increased but for anyone that has an interest in model engineering, this is our first chance of getting back to some sort of normality. October seems a long way off but will soon be with us. If you have any interest in travelling, please let Tony or myself know as soon as possible so that we can determine if it's feasible to organize a trip or not.

VANDALISM

We've been subject to quite a bit of vandalism at our track recently. Initially a large rock (or boulder) was thrown at the track. No damage to the track just a small chip from one corner of the concrete block. Recently a large stone was thrown at the signal box breaking one pane of glass. This doesn't sound much but the time and effort to remove the damaged glass then replace it is considerable. Due to weather conditions, all windows have been inserted in clear mastic and panel pins to make sure they're weather proof. Someone tried to break into the clubhouse through the rear door but were challenged by one of our local neighbours. They've also been on the roof of the clubhouse and the steel container, damaging the gutters on the clubhouse. Enough said.

TRACK ACTIVITIES

Frank and I have changed the rusty consumer unit at our electricity supply point. One bright Saturday morning we decided to let all members present have a cuppa before we turned the supplies off. Some members were not too happy over lunch. They had the last laugh though, the heavens opened causing the both of us to be soaked. Today we were installing conduit to a new warning light that will indicate if the traverser is in the open position, ably assisted by our junior member Archie.

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Peter keeps earning the society valuable revenue through selling mowers, strimmers etc. If anyone wants a bargain, they should visit that famous dealership, - "Peter's Mowers" at our track.

Martin has been very busy performing his duties as a boiler inspector. NELLIE our Simplex has been clocking up the miles under his supervision, last Wednesday I'm told he had Speedy out and running faultlessly.

Keith has sold his ASPINALL Lancashire and Yorkshire 0 6 0 loco. The new owner who's a member of Ribble Live Steamers, Preston has had it steaming at their track and is obviously happy with its performance.

Jim is still fine tuning his LNWR Jeanie Deans. Having identified a blocked pipe, he had to remove the boiler from the loco frames. For such a small loco, it's quite a complicated affair.

A few teething problems with the new driving trolleys, but we're getting there.

The weather has not been very kind to our public running so far this year. I must say that we sometimes have to laugh. A couple of middle-aged gents came to the station area asking if the train would take them to the top of the mountain (Great Orme Summit). Tony explained to them once Phil will finish his KOPPEL, it might be possible.

How many members are aware of, North Wales Coast Railway web site. For any railway enthusiast, it's an excellent site. Every Tuesday the site is refreshed.

Another excellent watch is Ffestiniog and Welsh Highland "Moving Pictures" on youtube.

I don't receive Model Engineer but I'm told there is an article on Nick's new society. It would be quite interesting if he could give us all an idea of his intentions.

No other real news.

Harold.