



2014/2

**Mike's Points** 



**April 2014** 

Recently we have lost two of our stalwart members, Dave Morfett and Eddie Davies. Eddie had been a member for many years and was a key member and leader in the Workshop area. Eddie was one of those quiet people who contributed much. Many members will remember the dashing figure he made in uniform at the Severn Valley 40's weekends.





Although Dave Morfett was a fairly new member compared to Eddie, he contributed tremendously. The BBQ Unit is a lasting memory to his work, and his efforts as a member of the core team in the new building project will be well remembered. He willingly undertook any task asked of him.

Losing these two willing members is a blow to the Society especially at a time when we need members to contribute their efforts to support the maintenance of the site and help at the Open Days.

The maintenance of the site has deteriorated and we ask members to remember their commitment to assist in this. There is always something needing to be done so please come on a Saturday or Tuesday morning, you will be welcome and asked to help on the various jobs, no special skills needed!!

This Easter Monday Open Day unfortunately left us fully stretched without enough Members present to comfortably run the site. It is expected as part of your Membership that you support these activities. The funds raised at the Open Days provide the facilities for you to use so please come along and contribute your time to enable us to maintain our standards and reputation as one of the best Model Engineering Societies in the country and a provider of great days out for our public.

The Easter weekend opening was, as they say, a game of two halves! On the Sunday we had just over 240 paying visitors whilst on the Monday we were just short of 1,000. Just shows how we are in the hands of the weather. Here's hoping we have good weather for the rest of the season!







2014/2a

### **April News**



At the start of the April Open Day the Ladies were gathered together to receive the thanks of the Society for all their hard work in achieving a 5 rating at the Food Standards Agency Inspection during the March Open Day. This rating is the highest achievable and brings credit to the Society.



On behalf of the members Ken Stoat and Nigel Kibby presented each of the ladies with a small token of thanks for their efforts.





The 5 rating certificates are now displayed, as required by law, at the Pullman, BBQ Unit, Kiosk and Ice Cream vending position. The Ladies are working hard to maintain this standard of achievement and a big thank you to them and those who have worked with them to achieve this.





2014/2b

#### **Easter Sunday Open Day**



The day turned out to be very wet and unfortunately the downpour in the morning had put people off coming so it was one of the worst attended Open Days for some time. Fortunately because there were three Parties booked this kept the numbers up and shows the value these parties bring to the overall numbers on an Open Day and are well worth doing.











2014/2c



There were four Steam Locomotives carrying out passenger hauling duties. On the Ground Level track John Styles's, LITTLE PRINCE, was driven by Cyril Chandler whilst Mick Tandy was running his A H PEPPERCORN. On the Raised Level track, Anthony Walters was running his MANOR and Ron Bignell was steaming his Rhymney Railway tank engine.













2014/2d



The new OO Layout is continuing to progress. Some buildings are starting to appear and trains are running for the public to watch on the Open Days.







2014/2e

#### Site improvements



The BBQ Unit has had a removable guard rail fitted which has improved the queueing and is much more effective than the previous plastic bollards.



It's nice to see displayed some of the early photos of the site, they not only are a reminder of all the work undertaken by Society members but enhance the feel of the building.



The tarmacing of the Patio Area has completely removed the trip hazard of the uneven slabs and made it a much nicer area. The new securing points for the gazebo guy lines came into their own on this very windy Open Day and are a major safety improvement.

The new light controlling the 'staff' crossing to the Signal Box is in and working and shows well in bright sunlight due to the newly fitted hood.







2014/2f











Who said Peter couldn't get his leg over anymore!









2014/2g

### **Easter Monday Open Day**



#### What a difference a day makes!





**Steam Locomotive preparation** 

**Graham Penn's, PENGWYN** 

Gareth Couch's American freelance Locomotive









2014/2h

#### **Easter Monday Open Day**



Society Locomotive 'ROCKY MOUNTANEER' takes a turn on the Raised Level track.

Ron Bignell's Rhymney Railway tank locomotive takes another outing.











2014/2i





Two more of the Society's Locomotives were brought into use to help cope with the numbers of passengers.



