



CMES News October 2015

Ron Bignell

Ron passed away in September after a short illness. He was formerly the CMES Vice Chairman, Chairman and then was elected as the CMES President in October 1980 - 35 years ago.



Ron was very proud to be the CMES President and although he never liked the limelight or public speaking, it was a role he carried out so well and he was a wonderful ambassador for the Society.



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Ron joined the Society, then the Whitchurch (Cardiff) and District Model Engineering Society, in 1967. Ron and his family have been an important part of the society since this time, with Margaret being a very active member of the Ladies catering group and their children and grandchildren active members. The raised level track will sorely miss his engines at the Open Days. Ron was always willing to provide the live steam motive power with his Rhymney Railway, Austerity Tank and GWR Manor locomotives.



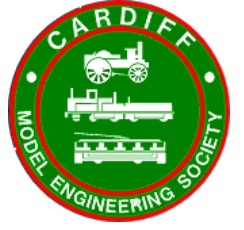
Ron and Margaret away at Baltic Wharf, Bristol in February enjoying a break with a group of fellow members and caravanners



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Ron in his element. A good days running with his Rhymney Railway tank engine on the raised level track and explaining the workings to some of the youngsters. Ron was always prepared to give his time and share his experience and knowledge in helping others, especially the youngsters. The quality of his work was outstanding as was demonstrated by the smooth running of his locomotives. People were surprised, when they saw Ron's small workshop, at his ability to produce such good work from it.



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After a busy day at the Rally, Margaret and Ron let their hair down.