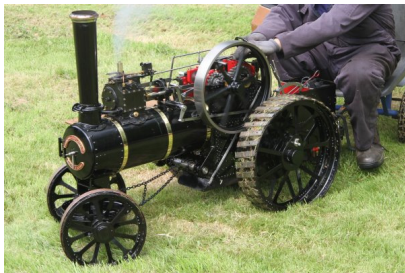


# TIVVY BUMPER

The newsletter of the Tiverton & District  
Model Engineering Society

Autumn 2014



## Editorial

Welcome to the second edition of 'Tivvy Bumper' - the re-vamped newsletter of our society.

As you may recall, we intend to publish the newsletter twice a year, in the spring and autumn - so this is the first Autumn edition. The front cover again shows the last six 'Photos of the Month' from our web site.

Remember that the club web site is the 'go-to' place for information about the society, dates of meetings and presentations, steam-up days, as well as a bulletin board where members can share experiences, share information about events, etc. So if you have access to the Internet (or someone in your family does), have a look.

The web site address is:

<http://www.tivertonmodelengineering.org.uk/>

On the front cover of this edition, you will see John with his 'Bulldog' in full steam, Mike on his steam lorry, Billy driving his Dad's 'Bantam Cock', Bob's nearly finished 3" Fowler, an archive picture of a couple of engines on our track (fittingly, in Autumn) and Chris, a visitor from Southampton MES, driving his "Princess Marina" at the club Open Day.

We are always on the look out for photographs to feature on our web site, as well as articles for the newsletter - so please contact any of the committee if you have anything suitable.

In this edition, you will find a report on the club's Open Day, and also a report from when I attended the national Rob Roy Rally at Andover club.

Steve

## **Chairman's Chatter**

This is my second “Chairman’s Chatter” for the “Tivvy Bumper” and as before, let’s get the boring bit out of the way first. What I write are my views and comments and do not necessarily represent those of the club’s committee.

I would like to emphasise that all club members are welcome to contribute to the “Tivvy Bumper”. Please send any articles to Steve Papworth.

It is now approaching the end of September and I have just returned from a very warm and pleasant Wednesday at Worthy Moor. The leaves are starting to fall as autumn approaches. Again I must thank all the members who give up their time to maintain and improve this wonderful facility. We now have hot air hand dryers in both the gents and ladies toilets – what comfort! However, these are very practical as they do away with the need for paper towels which someone has to provide and clear away. I must extend my thanks to Vic Tuckett for his kind contribution of the hand dryers.

The summer weather has been mixed, but was kind to us for our Barbeque in August. There was an excellent turnout and a wonderful buffet kindly provided by member’s wives and partners and also our neighbours – It was a wonderful day. On the subject of our neighbours, I don’t know how many members are aware that sadly due to family reasons they have put their house on the market. We can only hope that our future neighbours are as benevolent.

Being serious for a moment, there was an accident that involved me and an acquaintance’s grandson. I won’t go into the details here as these have been covered in detail within the minutes of a special committee meeting. Despite taking all precautions an accident still occurred, which just goes to show how we can never let our guard down.

Back to happier things. I am thrilled to see how many club members have been active in supporting organisations outside of the club. This list includes; Tiverton Pannier Market (Tiverton festival); Coldharbour Mill; Downes House (Crediton) country fair (St Lukes Church); Culm Valley Model Railway Club and soon (18th October) The annual Exeter Garden rail show. This helps to spread the name of our club and publicise our engaging hobby.

Finally, we have a full winter program to look forward to from now until the end of the year.

## **Treasurer's Musings**

The late summer and early autumn are quiet months for the Treasurer. A few subscriptions come in in dribbles and drabbles. The only bills this year have been for the Electricity – now averaging just over £40 per quarter - which is over double what it was when we were first connected!. It is not how much we use, just the standing charges that have risen so much.

Overall this year we have not spent very much so hopefully a good set of Annual accounts will be due at the year end.

Chris

## Secretary's Scribblings

I have to report that there was an accident that on 18 August at Worthy Moor, which meant we had to put an entry in the Accident Book for the first time. The committee has met to review the society's procedures and consider ideas for improving them.

Chairman Adrian said the accident involved his electric loco, and the eight year old grandson of an acquaintance . The locomotive is his battery operated Barclay, which at the time of the accident was at the end of its second run of the day, its batteries were almost exhausted, and it was running at reduced speed.

It looks as if the child in question had stuck his foot onto the ground, which derailed the riding trolley and threw the child off the train! He suffered a clean deep cut to his thigh, which had to be stitched.

Adrian had gone through safety procedures with everyone, including sitting still on the riding trolley, and keeping hands and feet close to the body. The committee thought that by and large our procedures are adequate, but the following recommendations were made :-

- On First Saturday steaming days, a track marshall must always be present
- The friends and family of members aged under 14 may drive on the track if it is empty, else a member must accompany the child to make sure their skills are good enough
- A copy of the safety procedures will be kept with the signing-in books and visitors should acknowledge that they have read them

We hope that our superb record for safety will be maintained in future.

John.

## Rob Roy Rally



On June 15th, Andover and District Model Engineering Society hosted a Rob Roy Rally - specifically for models of the 0-6-0 Caledonian dock shunter locomotive designed by Martin Evans in the 1980's. I travelled up to their track on the day with my version of the model. Despite the fine weather, notices published on model engineering forums, and invitations sent to several surrounding model engineering societies, and the fact that it was advertised as a national rally, I was the only visitor.

Two members of ADMES were there with their models, as well as another ADMES member with his half-finished example.

The lack of other visitors meant that for the morning, I had the track to myself. The track is about 900 feet long, and constructed of correct

profile aluminium rail. There is an incline of about 1:100, although it seems a lot less steep than the 1:100 at Worthy Moor!

I had a great time, and after lunch, re-lit the fire to do some more laps. We then stopped for a photo-call, and the picture above shows the three and a half locomotives! Keen observers will notice that all three drivers are sitting on versions of the same driving trolley (designed by another member of ADMES).

### Track Trivia

This year's club Open Day was held on June 7th, and despite lots of invitations and publicity, very few visitors attended. The weather wasn't brilliant, but a good day was had by all, and I understand there was plenty of food, thanks to Andy's wife. The committee will shortly be deciding if we hold an open day in 2015, and when it should be. Let's hope we get more visitors if it is held.

The Indian summer came to a very sudden end, with heavy rain overnight on Friday Oct 3rd, and threatening to spoil our monthly steam-up on the 4th. However, the rain passed by, and by 12 o'clock, the sun had started to appear. There were a dozen people in attendance, including one prospective member, and a future member in the form of Andy's grand-son Ben. There were 5 steam locomotives there:- Ed's 'Ajax', Vic's 'Polly', Steve's 'Rob Roy', Mike's 14xx, and John's 'Bulldog'. In addition, Tim had his 'Toby', and Andy turned up with his newly acquired electric engine. So many loco's were on track, that we had to deploy the signals, and which kept everything in order. In all, an excellent day.

### Forthcoming events

Mark your diary for these events for the next 6 months:

#### 2014

17th October	Bits and Pieces.
25th October	Visit to the South Devon railway workshops, Buckfastleigh.
21st November	Talk on Bletchley Park and Enigma by Steve Papworth and John Massey.
22nd November	Committee meeting.
5th December	A talk by Amyas Crump.
19th December	Club Christmas Dinner.

#### 2015

16th January	Mobile phones talk by Adrian
20th February	Illustrated talk on a visit to the Morgan car factory
20th March	Bits and Pieces
27th March	AGM