

**Reading Society
of Model
Engineers
Charity Number
1163244**

The Prospectus

April 2024



**President
John Billard**

**Secretary
Stuart Kidd**
07966 278968

**Editor
John Billard**
john@jegbillard
.plus.com
01189 340381
07834 998971

**Free to members
226**



Aboard *PS Waverley* in 2023. The ship has an extended sailing programme in the south this year and is well worth a trip.
Photo John Billard

**TRUSTEE MEETING
THE WORKSHOP GANG
STOKE ROW NEWS
DIARY**

THE VIEW FROM THE CHAIR

John Billard

The trustees met on 11 March. Unusually we had a number of absences so a number of items were deferred to the next meeting. The following matters were discussed or decided.

It was decided to go ahead immediately with installing a defibrillator. The hedge cutting on the A4 boundary had been completed to schedule. Club insurance was to be renewed immediately. The key register is being updated and will be reissued shortly.

In finance, the March pubic running had produced another healthy result with over £1,000.00 taken on the tracks. The electricity cost was expected to reduce shortly. More keys for the new safe were being ordered.

A membership reminder was to be e mailed to members before the end of the month.

Good progress was reported on the workshop refurbishment and materials ordered. Thanks were given to all those with a hand in this work. There was considerable waste material arising and it was agreed to deal with this as soon as possible. It was noted that work on the tracks was becoming a priority and an inspection should be held to assess this.

A comment had been received on overcrowding on the raised track platform during the recent public running. It was agreed that this could be alleviated by running a minimum of two carriages in busy periods up to the limit of stock available. In the meantime drivers should approach the station with extreme caution. A site visit would be arranged for trustees.

Club running was now on two Saturdays a month though recent days had been quieter than usual.

The question of boiler certificate lists was considered. It was decided that track marshals should ask to see certificates as before. The approved driver list is being updated however.

The club was represented at the Federation of Model Engineering Societies on 2 March, held at the Boscombe Down Aviation Museum (*well worth a visit. Ed*).

Regarding visits, discussion with Polly were continuing, and the visit planned to the Fawley Open day on 29 June is proving popular. Plans were made for the Stoke Row Rally club stand in June. This would depend on sufficient members supporting it. (*see page 4, Ed*)

It was noted that a member had come forward to assist the trustees. This was an item deferred until next month, as above.

Apologies for the shortness of this edition of Prospectus. However by the due press date of 20 March no further contributions have been received.

Please help and contribute to Prospectus.



THE WORKSHOP GANG

Building a new workshop for RSME

Left to right,

**Nigel Penford
Mike Manners
David Scott
Andrew Day**

Photo John Billard

Right Nigel explains to Andrew how the new wiring should be done.

Photo John Billard



When dismantling the old stand for the lathe prior to its removal the inscription, *left*, was found.

It was put back in its new home.

Photo John Billard

STOKE ROW RALLY 2024

John Billard

Despite requests in Prospectus and direct to members, regrettably I have had a very low response from any member to help with the club stand. Because of this disappointment it will be difficult to go ahead. But I understand that several members have bypassed my request and sent application forms direct to Michael to exhibit at the rally. Perhaps they can help?

Last year's stand had very few members helping to run it which meant it was unaccompanied for much of the time. If that is going to be repeated, then better not to be there at all.

It will be for the trustees to decide the best way forward.

Opinions expressed in PROSPECTUS are the personal views of the contributor and cannot be taken as reflecting the views of the trustees or editor.

The deadline for the May issue is 20 April

Contributions may be submitted in hard or soft copy to the editor.

John Billard Old Station House Twyford Reading RG10 9NA

01189 340381 or 07834 998971

john@jegbillard.plus.com

DIARY

APRIL 2024

Sunday 7th Public running Setting up from 0930 onwards

Thursday 11th On the Bench Night 19.30

Saturday 13th Club running 10.30 onwards

Monday 15th Trustees meeting 19.30

Thursday 25th Club Night Talk The Desk by Peter Venn 20.00

Saturday 27th Club running 10.30 onwards

MAY 2024

Sunday 5th Public running Setting up from 09.30 onwards

Thursday 9th The Cholsey and Wallingford Railway Talk by Tony Stead 20.00

Saturday 11th Club running 10.30 onwards

Monday 13th Trustees meeting 19.30

Thursday 23rd On the Bench Night 19.30

Saturday 25th Club running 10.30 onwards