

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



**President  
John Billard**

**Secretary  
Stuart Kidd  
07966 278968**

**Editor  
John Billard  
Johnbillard72  
@gmail.com  
01189 340381  
07834 998971**

**Free to members  
239**

# **The Prospectus**

**June 2025**



Scene at the Open Day at the club on 14 June. A great day for RSME. More next issue. Photo John Billard

**TRUSTEE NEWS  
A NEW 0 GAUGE GROUP?**

**SUBS NOW OVERDUE?**

## THE VIEW FROM THE CHAIR

John Billard

I apologise for the delay for this June issue of Prospectus. I have had a whole series of problems with my computer which includes the Publisher program. As we are well into the current month this Prospectus will be a short one with full resumption next issue which will include articles in further parts.

At least now I can include a short report on our open day on the on 14 June which was a great success with a number of clubs attending and full steaming days and tracks all day. Particular thanks go to all those who organised this event which was combined with our normal club running day. This made it simple to put together and it included some boiler tests for members being undertaken by Nigel.

Since the May issue we have had no less than two trustee meetings. Even though the annual general meeting might seem far off we have already started to prepare for this and the key point is the date of 30th October. There was a suggestion at the last AGM that we might move the meeting to a weekend but in the end we decided to stick to the existing arrangement.

Maintenance of the site continues and Nigel has reported on ongoing work with concrete supporting slabs for the ground level track; painting is also an everlasting job. For both of these and other tasks more help would be greatly appreciated. A prominent issue is also the loading arrangements for the raised track and this is again being looked at.

The June public running was very busy and produced a good income for the club. The July event will commence at 11 am to take account of the car show in the park and the need to avoid unwanted parking of vehicles. Private parties remain busy and the number of bookings with youngsters, scouts etc. continue.

I am very pleased to report that member Peter Jennings has agreed to take on the job of bookkeeper for the club. This will help us modernise the way we organise our finances. Thank you Peter. Other work has included the preparation of a risk assessment for the workshop.

On communications we are continuing to improve our website and how deal with questions that arise from this from outside bodies. Speaking as editor of Prospectus this is my 239<sup>th</sup> issue commencing from the autumn of 2006. I have enjoyed the job, but I have already said that I wish to stand down as editor upon reaching my 250th issue. This takes us to the middle of next year and I hope it will be possible to find a new editor to take it forward. I would like to continue as a contributor but without the onus of production. I think it should stay as a monthly issue otherwise it will lose its immediacy and probably a lot of the point in my opinion. But that will be up to members to decide.

Another aspect which has arisen is the question of DBS checking for those

involved in public running including drivers. It is the view of the trustees that this is the right thing to do starting from 1st of January next year. That will give us time to consider any comments and also to make arrangements to make it simple as possible for members. Please comment to the trustees on this if you have any views. This is intended to be a protection for members as well as the public.

### **A few words of thanks from the Treasurer**

**Jim Brown**

When I arrived at the club site a few weeks ago, I took a few moments to take a look around and was reminded just how resplendent the clubroom area and the whole site can look at this time of year with the sun shining, the grass growing and the birds singing.

A great deal of work goes into keeping the club site safe and secure as well as looking clean, tidy and attractive to the eye. We all owe a great deal of thanks to all the Wednesday Warriors. Nigel and the 'civil engineering' gang – Charles, George, and Andrew and the other 'gardeners' – David Scott for repainting the containers and the power washing, and all the others who give up their time on a Wednesday to come and help out.

Current on-going jobs around the site include the refurbishment of the raised track, which includes replacing thousands of worn out sleepers (a mammoth task), repainting the railings around the ground level steaming bays (a much more time consuming job than you would think) and re-aligning/ re-ballasting parts of the ground level track.

We could always use a few extra hands, so if you can spare a few hours on a sunny Wednesday come along and join the gang. *(Or even a rainy one! Ed)*



### **0 GAUGE GROUP**

We would like to reactivate the 0 Gauge group. The layout has been in storage at the club house for some time.

Please contact Jim Brown on 01189 587247

## DIARY

### JUNE 2025

Sunday	1st	Public running	Setting up from 09.30 onwards
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>7th</b>	<b>Stoke Row Rally</b>	
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>8th</b>	<b>Stoke Row Rally</b>	
Monday	9th	Trustees meeting	19.30
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>14th</b>	<b>Club running and Open Day</b>	<b>10.30 onwards</b>
Saturday	21st	Club running	10.30 onwards

### JULY 2025

Sunday	6th	Public running	Setting up from 09.30 onwards Running at 11.00
Monday	7th	Trustees meeting	19.30
Saturday	12th	Club running	10.30 onwards
Saturday	26th	Club running	10.30 onwards

*Wednesday Warriors every week at the club site from 09.30*

**PLEASE NOTE THAT  
SUBSCRIPTIONS WERE  
DUE FROM  
1 APRIL 2025  
Just £20.00 for all  
members over 16.**

*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 July issue is 28 June***

*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*

*johnbillard72@gmail.com*