

# THE NEW PINWOOD EXPRESS

Pinewood (Wokingham) Miniature Railway



## ISSUE 41-Summer 2014



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\*Also a Director of Pinewood Miniature Railway Society Limited.

### Images For This Issue Courtesy Of:

Colin Gross, Paul Konig

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### Cover Photo:

Stoomphy in the sunshine.

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## EDITORIAL - Andy Cross

'Oh to be at Pinewood now that summertime is here'. It's been an odd season so far, days we thought would be quiet have been busy and the complete opposite in some cases. The weather has not been as kind to us as it was last year, but somehow we still manage to keep a smile on our faces.

Thanks to some superb efforts the site in general the site is looking great. Particularly the new fencing which has transformed the external appearance.

Let's hope the rest of the year is even more successful than the first half has been.



*Chris gives one of our visitors a tour of the track*

## SUBMISSION OF MATERIAL

Contributions for future issues of the New Pinewood Express are always welcome. Submissions can be in any electronic format for a standard PC or Mac. All material, including text and photographs, must be the submitter's own work or have written permission for publication. Submission also implies agreement that materials may be reproduced in other relevant model engineering and railway publications.

**Editor:** Andy Cross

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - Ray Grace

Sadly, I have to comment again on the death of an esteemed (former) member of our Society. John Vize died on the 16th June. John had been a member of PMRS for many years and, before that, of the Ascot Locomotive Society. Recently ill health forced a move away from this area to be closer to his daughter.

This season's public running has got off to a good start despite some mixed weather in March/April. Overall passenger numbers appear to be holding up well but we have suffered some loss of revenue not helped by the very late cancellation of a birthday party.

I can report that the railway is operating well and that the infrastructure is in very good order thanks to the dedicated work of a number of people.



*Busy times in the steaming bay on Visitors Day*

I was unable to attend Visitors Day but, by all accounts, all went well despite a significant number of unannounced visitors and locomotives turning up which put some strain and pressure on the PMRS members present!

I wish to recognise, with grateful thanks, the generosity of Dave Pritchard for his donation of a quantity of aluminium track panels to our Society. Some of this track will be used to 'aluminium-ise' the line across the bridge, this will enable full track circuiting on the main lines (except in the station platforms).



Work is continuing apace on developing our signalling systems and replacing the fencing bordering 'The Square'. We can always do with more help on Wednesdays and Sunday mornings to do the routine maintenance tasks, e.g. minor track adjustments, fir cone clearing, bramble cutting back, track boarding replacement, etc.

There you have it, your railway is in good shape so make the most of it, come down and enjoy.



*Not the sort of loco you see every day at Pinewood*

## **CHIEF ENGINEER'S REPORT -David Simmonite**

We have completed our major projects except a small length of new white fencing by the ticket office. The new fencing between the railway and the square has certainly improved the image of the railway and our thanks must go to Tim and Co. for much hard work.

David Pritchard has kindly donated his portable aluminium track to the club ( many thanks David ) and this will be used to replace the steel rail over the bridge thus completing the track signal circuits.

Whilst on the subject of signals a programme of upgrading the 'country signals' so that the relay boards are mounted on the posts instead of in tubes at ground level is currently under way. To aid this operation signal S12 has been temporarily removed, this does not interfere with the running of trains.

On a more mundane note our efforts are now aimed at maintaining our infrastructure, buildings, track, essential for smooth, often mentioned by visitors, and safe running.



*"I'm not sure it does exactly what it says on the tin mate!"*



## VISIT TO GARDEN & WOODLAND RAILWAY (formerly Ted Martin's) - Andy Cross

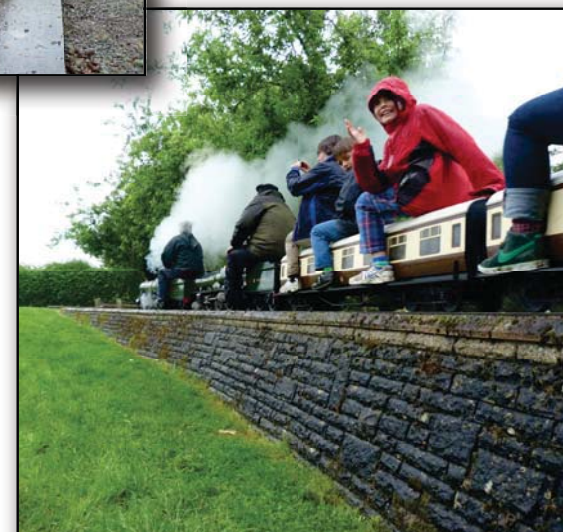
In what can only be described as 'monsoon conditions' several of our members visited the Garden & Woodland Railway in Thame on May Bank Holiday. Despite the weather we received an extremely warm welcome and were able to enjoy this really unique railway.

As a first time visitor I was not sure what to expect from a 'garden railway', to call it that really does not do it justice. It is a remarkable piece of landscaping and engineering as I hope the photographs on the next pages show.

If the opportunity arises for a future visit make sure you make the effort to go. It really is an experience not to be missed, but just mind your head in the tunnels!



*"Cheer up Ray, it can't possibly rain all day"*







## JUNIOR ENGINEERS - Andy Cross

Our junior section may be small, but they are a great asset to our Society. always willing to help out with tasks and getting involved.

Both Mark and Joseph turn 16 this year and as such will be able to take on more responsibilities. Mark has already proved himself to be a great signalman, and Joseph tried his hand at guarding on our last Birthday party. Many thanks to both John Brotherton and John Keane who supervised him during the first few runs, and both complimented him on how he took to the new task.

As always, the juniors continue to prove themselves more than capable on public running days. Helping with steaming up and much more. If you need a hand with anything don't hesitate to ask one of the lads, they are more than happy to help, and more importantly, learn from your knowledge.



*Tom takes the Holmside for a spin*



## JOHN VIZE obituary - Brian Barrow

Yet another dear old friend has passed into another world, so I will attempt to tell you a little about him.

I have known John for just over a dozen years since I joined the Ascot club. During the time I was the Chairman there he became the Treasurer as by profession he was an accountant. When we all moved over to the Pinewood Club John and his wife Pat became part of the nucleus that ran the club in those early days. Indeed, for a number of years he was one of the club's auditors.

Although John was a small man in stature, he was big in enthusiasm with a good sense of humour and good team player. As an accountant he spent most of his working life within engineering companies, so was no stranger to the ways, technology and requirements of our hobby.

Sadly and very suddenly, his wife Pat became ill and died a few years ago which left him with some severe problems, as at that time he was not in the best of health himself and was unable to drive, so elected to move into a care home with all the logistical problems that that involves. He chose to stay in the Marlow area where he had a lot of friends and was still involved with both his local Church and the Rotarians, having been their President in previous years. The home fortunately, was very nice indeed, as I saw for myself on a number of occasions when he and I went out to lunch together.

Unfortunately, in the middle of last year his health began to fail, so his daughter moved him up to Staffordshire to be with her and her family. His funeral was held in the St John the Baptist church in Little Marlow, where Pat's funeral took place, and where they both were regular church goers.

**Rest in Peace John.**



## PARKING AT THE PINWOOD CENTRE Ray Grace

As part of the continual improvement of the Pinewood Centre new plans have been drawn up by the Pinewood Steering Group for the layout of the car park. This will include a new one-way system, and improved signage and lighting.

I'm sure you are aware car parking at the Centre can be quite tricky some times with a lot of vehicles moving around the site. We are very lucky to be able to park close to the railway. However, we would encourage you to use the main car park whenever possible. This allows us to keep the area near the railway for those that are bringing locos in, or need to bring tools on site. It also keeps us on very good terms with our neighbours.



*"I think I can remember how this works"*



## A NEW ARRIVAL - Andy Cross

Those of you who were at our July Members day will have seen the rather bright and shiny new addition to our fleet.

Colin has now finished the restoration of his Mardyke Hymek 'Dark Star' The next issue of the magazine will feature an in-depth article from Colin about how he undertook the project. It will be great to see the our passengers' reactions to this new locomotive.



*The new arrival on it's first outing*

## KONIG'S KOMEDY KORNER - Ed

As mentioned previously in this issue the visit to the Garden and Woodland Railway was a rather soggy affair. Unfortunately Paul was behind the camera for most of the afternoon so we don't have a picture of him to publish. From his position behind the lens Paul did manage to get this!



*"I am not a Smurf!"*

## PINEWOOD PUBLIC RUNNING OIC ROSTER - 2014

DATE	OFFICER IN CHARGE	ASSISTANT
August 17th	Derek Tulley	Roger Marney
September 21st	Richard Smith	Mike Cole
October 19th	James Jarvis	Trevor Hill

### Santa Specials

December 7th	Paul Konig	Andy Cross
December 14th	Ray Grace	John Bradshaw

**Please note: if you are unable to attend on the date shown in the roster, or would like to volunteer for a role, please let Ray Grace know as early as possible.**

## PINEWOOD DIARY DATES - 2014

DATE	EVENT	
August 3rd	Members Running	10.00 - 16.00
August 17th	Birthday Party	11.00 - 13.00
	Public Running	13.30 - 16.00
September 7th	Members Running	10.00 - 16.00
September 21st	Birthday Party	11.00 - 13.00
	Public Running	13.30 - 16.00
October 5th	Members Running	10.00 - 16.00
October 19th	Birthday Party	11.00 - 13.00
	Public Running	13.30 - 16.00
December 7th	Santa Specials	11.00 - 15.30
December 14th	Santa Specials	11.00 - 15.30

