

THE MANOR RAILWAY NEWS

SPRING - SUMMER 2003

Following the very successful Fete on the 8th of June this year we were able to give the grand total of £545.12 to the Friends of Ingfield.

I can never thank Rosemary Warren enough for her ever faithful support in sorting out and taking charge of The Ticket Office on Fete Day.

This was made up of donations for Train Rides on The Manor Railway and an extremely generous donation, given by Ron, Georgina and Nigel Patey, made from giving Miniature Traction Engine Rides. Three generations of the family were involved in operating two of their Traction Engines.

My Midland Compound returned to The Manor Railway just in time for Fete Day and performed, thankfully, very well under the 'Tender' care of John Scovell.

Please note:-
Fete Day Sunday
13th June 2004

It has been great this year that all events, so far, have had great warm, hot, sunny barbeque weather and what better way to round off Fete Day than christening the new barbeque that Frank Welland has made from stainless steel sinks and scaffolding.



The younger generation of the Patey family helping on Fete Day.

Also a very big thank-you to Oyster Creek 16mm live steamers who were under cover this year in one of the classrooms as it was a very windy day. They hope to be able to bring along a new exciting layout next year.



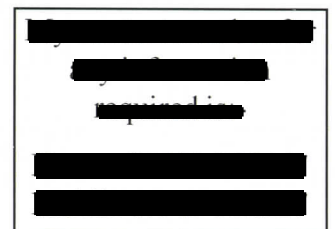
Old Reliable. John Terence waiting at Central Station.



Line up of some of the Locomotives ready for Fete Day.

Many thanks once again to all those who helped me on Fete Day and made it all so successful.

Lynn Stratton, Owner



Other Events This Year

We started off this year with Chris Knibbs, owner of John Terence, having a big 30th Birthday Steam Up on Monday the 26th of May. Both John Terence and the Midland Compound were in steam for the celebration.

On Sunday the 15th of June we were joined by The Bluebell Railway's 9F Club to whom I was saying a **big** thank-you. This was for all the work done when they arrived last November with their shovels and spades to clear away leaves from everywhere, along with all sorts of other jobs that were required to be done. They came and thoroughly enjoyed a Great Fun Day with all their families.

Also on Sunday the 15th of June, 'Happy Birthday Party' time for one of the younger visitors to The Manor Railway.



The young and old always enjoy good food and a Party.

On Saturday the 21st of June, Brighton Road Baptist Church had their annual Sunday School Day, 'Picnic Outing' with lots of fun and games.



Road and Rail Rides.

In addition to Train Rides, over the entire length of the Railway, Ron and Nigel Patey returned and gave rides once again with two of their Traction Engines.

Sunday the 29th of June, a special day for The Children of Ingfield, when they had their annual Parents Association Picnic. At the end of the day we were so pleased when some of the children, parents and teachers joined us at Haven Road and shared a barbeque with us.



Fun for all.

Railway operating, on most occasions, was simplified by Topping and Tailing the Train with a suitable Locomotive at each end. This allowed us to run the full length of the line with a quick turn around at Haven Road and Hazel Bank End.



John Terence and the Midland Compound Topping and Tailing.

We always like to encourage young people at The Manor Railway. There are so many things to do, from learning how to maintain and run a railway, to the care and attention needed with the Locomotives. We hope that we can help encourage this new generation into the hobby of miniature railways as we were encouraged in our own youth.



The younger generation at Bramble Hill.

Railway Maintenance

Track Maintenance

What turned out to be spot resleepering up The Bank from Bramble Hill Station turned out to be more than expected with some track panels requiring at least half the sleepers replacing. It's so nice under the trees in the woods but unfortunately sleepers in the woods do rot so much faster than on other parts of the line.



Philip Cracknell rebalasting the track in the woods.

Carriage Maintenance

All carriages require an inspection and service before Fete Day which involves lifting the bodies off the bogies, to enable examination and oiling.



James Nutty and Dave Wiseman oiling the bogies.



The day before Fete at Bramble Hill.

Building Maintenance

The Shelter on Platform 2 at Ingfield Central has received attention from Alan Croucher, Frank Welland and James Nutty in sorting out several of the wooden boards that needed replacing. It then had a welcome coat of paint from Peter Trinder. The roof now awaits attention and is being planned and sorted by Big Al.

Locomotive Maintenance

Before Fete Day this year four of The Railways Locomotives underwent boiler examination and testing by Frank Welland and John Scovell, under the supervision of James Nutty, to bring the Locomotives up to date for another year.



Testing the Midland Compound at Haven Road.



Invicta returns for Boiler Inspection.

All visiting Steam Engines, whether they are on Rail or Road, have their Boiler Certificates checked before running at The Manor Railway.



Checking Certificate of Engine.

Restoration and Preservation

The restoration of The Pitmaston Moor Green Stirling Single, progresses, slowly, with lots of care and patience and hopefully will be back in operation some time next year.



The Stirling Single in August 2003.

Hot weather has had its draw backs, with the track having to be cooled, owing to buckling under the heat.



Chris Knibbs cooling the track.

Also the Gazebo Team are always there for shade in the hot weather or shelter in the rain.



The Gazebos go up on another hot day.

Dates for the Diary

Sunday 13th June 2004
Fete Day

Saturday 19th June 2004
BRBC Sunday School Outing

As a little extra for the Parents Association Picnic, the children were delighted when we had a surprise visit from a Steam Lorry and a Steam Tractor who had been passing near by.



A Foden Steam Lorry and a Burrell Steam Tractor come to visit.

The Midland Compound has finally returned after being away two years for restoration, just in time for Fete Day which was her first public running in 30 years. This locomotive



The Compound driven by John Scovell. was originally built in the 1920's and has now been restored to her former glory.



Happy faces at Haven Road Engine Shed.

We look forward to seeing you all at The Manor Railway again soon.