



INSIDE MOTION

News and Views from the
TYNESIDE SOCIETY of MODEL and EXPERIMENTAL ENGINEERS
No. 64 July 2026

LATE EXTRA

Preamble

I hinted in the May issue that there might be one more IM before I finally put down my quill. Here it is.

Club matters

Public Running

June's event was a repeat of May's – reasonably weather but a low turnout of visitors compared with previous years. Why this should be is a matter of debate, but the closing of the Park Café with its toilet facilities may have a bearing.

In July, the Park resembled an internment camp with high security walls and fencing everywhere in support of a run of public concerts. The A J Bell Great North 10K Run was also held on the same Sunday with many local roads closed. Nonetheless, plenty of visitors came to TSMEE for a train ride and we were kept busy for most of the day.



Open Day

This was probably the most successful event for a few years. The weather was fine (previous years had been marred by wind and heavy rain) and visitors came from quite far afield – Carlisle, Workington and York. TSMEE members were also there in force, some with their own locos, so there was plenty to see, admire, discuss and watch. The “inner man (er – person, being?)” was kept watered and fortified by our stalwart caterers Linda Nicholls, Mary Graham and Carrie & Kate Taylor, to whom many thanks. Thanks also to John Duncan for epic janitorial services.

AGM

The 2026 Annual General Meeting was well attended (24 present, 7 proxies) and business conducted briskly and without issue. Your Committee for 2026/27 comprises ...

Chairman – Peter Newby

Secretary – Linda Nicholls

Treasurer – Norman Blacklock

Site Manager – John Lazzari

Workshop Manager – Steve Lowe

Other members – Ian Spencer, Adrian Morley, Jim Scott, Brian Nicholls, John Rowley, John Duncan, Mike Maguire

Accounts Examiners – Ian Spencer, Mary Graham Webmaster – John Rowley

Librarian – John Duncan

Boiler Inspectors

Your Boiler Inspectors for 2026/27 are ...

Brian Nicholls (01670816072, 07522300752, b.nicholls@sky.com) Ian Spencer, Eddie Gibbons, Norman Blackburn, Mike Lax

Please remember to request tests **in advance**, either directly or via the Secretary. Failure to do so may result in a polite (or even impolite !) refusal.

Traverser



The traverser has been fitted with a skid plate to ease alignment problems when reversing a vehicle to unload a locomotive. It no longer needs to traverse, but the scissor lift function is still active.

Postamble

I took on the position of Newsletter Editor in 2019 and my first effort went to press in July of that year. It took a while to find my stride and output was sporadic and content variable. By the early summer of the following year however, we were in the throes of Covid and, at the suggestion of Peter Newby, our Chairman, the Newsletter became a “virtual Clubhouse” where people could exchange ideas and information and generally keep in touch without physically meeting. The initial success of this, and the sheer volume of Member’s contributions, required a shift in emphasis and so “Inside Motion” was born.

The format worked extremely well for several years – a mix of reports of Club activities and developments and Member’s projects and interests – but for reasons not entirely obvious, the latter contribution steadily dwindled. By 2025 it was evident the format had run its course – content was down to mostly Public Running reports and Diary Dates. It was also clear that some people weren’t even reading it at all. I concluded that it was time to call it a day.

It was a good run and I (mostly) enjoyed it. A final thanks to all those who supported the effort through their “Musings” and to our Secretary Linda Nicholls for handling distribution.

The future rests now with WhatsApp.

Contact information

Club Secretary – Linda Nicholls – lindanic@sky.com – 01 670 816072

Website – www.tsme.co.uk Webmaster – John Rowley – johnrowley@btinternet.com

Headquarters and Multi-gauge Track – Exhibition Park, Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 4PZ

A few Open Day sightings



