



INSIDE MOTION

News and Views from the
TYNESIDE SOCIETY of MODEL and EXPERIMENTAL ENGINEERS
No. 54 June 2025

Preamble

After a poor start in May, the weather has been pretty kind and activity inside and out has picked up. The Flood Mitigation work at the head of the Park lake has been a tad inconvenient, but should be over soon.

Club matters

Public Running

In spite of an unfavourable weather forecast, plenty of visitors came along to this month's event. A few short, sharp rain showers passed through in the morning but things improved as the day progressed. Four steam locos and several drivers were available to handle the traffic with two trains kept quite busy over most of the day.



Three "Wrens" and a Hunslet "Quarry" do the honours

Dates to note

Sunday 8th June – the "Come Together" event slated for that weekend has been moved to August so there will now be normal access through the Park.

Sunday 29th June - **TSMEE AGM**. You should have received the official notice from our Secretary – if not, give her a shout. Please make every effort to attend – whilst not the most exciting event in the calendar, it is important that the membership engages with the Club's general management.

Sunday 6th July - 10K Great North Run and Wylam Brewery Charity Food Event – the Park road is closed, but negotiations are under way to allow access through the Claremont Road car park gate to the perimeter of the Town Moor. Only **six** parking spaces will be available, reserved exclusively for the Public Running team. Pedestrian access through the Park is open to others.

Sunday 13th July – "Lost Minds in the Park" Music Festival – no vehicular access

Saturday 19th July - **TSMEE Open Day** – fun and food for all

Junior Engineers

One benefit of now having our own steam locomotive is that we can use it at will, no longer having to rely on others to bring theirs in. An early advantage was taken to provide Ethan Morrison with training in firing and driving the engine under the tutelage of Linda Nicholls and Adrian Morley.



(photo L Nicholls)

Erratum

In the May issue I wrongly attributed the builder of the ex-Beamish Rack Koppel to be Ken Swan. It was, in fact, built by Mike Lax. My confusion (an increasingly common occurrence as I approach the land of ga-ga) arose from it being Ken Swan's design and believing it to be the only one built.

Member's musings

The New Clubhouse – Episode 2

Linda Nicholls

In May 2014 planning permission was granted for the new building. The clock was ticking, with only three years before planning permission ran out. Fund-raising ramped up and in August 2015 we employed a company to dig and lay the foundations, at a cost of about £15,000.



Pouring the floor-slab



The finished floor-slab

On 17th November the building structure arrived (£17,000) and members arrived to help move all the parts from the muddy car park onto our site.

A resilient group of members then attended every day to get the framework put up and then clad.



Erecting the framework. Note the mud !!!



Meccano for grown-ups



Fitting the external cladding



Compare the size of the old huts to the new structure !



Laying the roof



Getting close – hanging the guttering

By Christmas we had a watertight shell – but still lots of mud !

(to be continued ...)

Postamble

Thanks to Linda Nicholls for another glimpse into the new Clubhouse story – all epic stuff.

I'm on holiday at the end of the month so if there is to be a July issue of IM it might come out a bit later in the month. If nothing else, there should be a full AGM report. Any other content will be greatly appreciated.

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