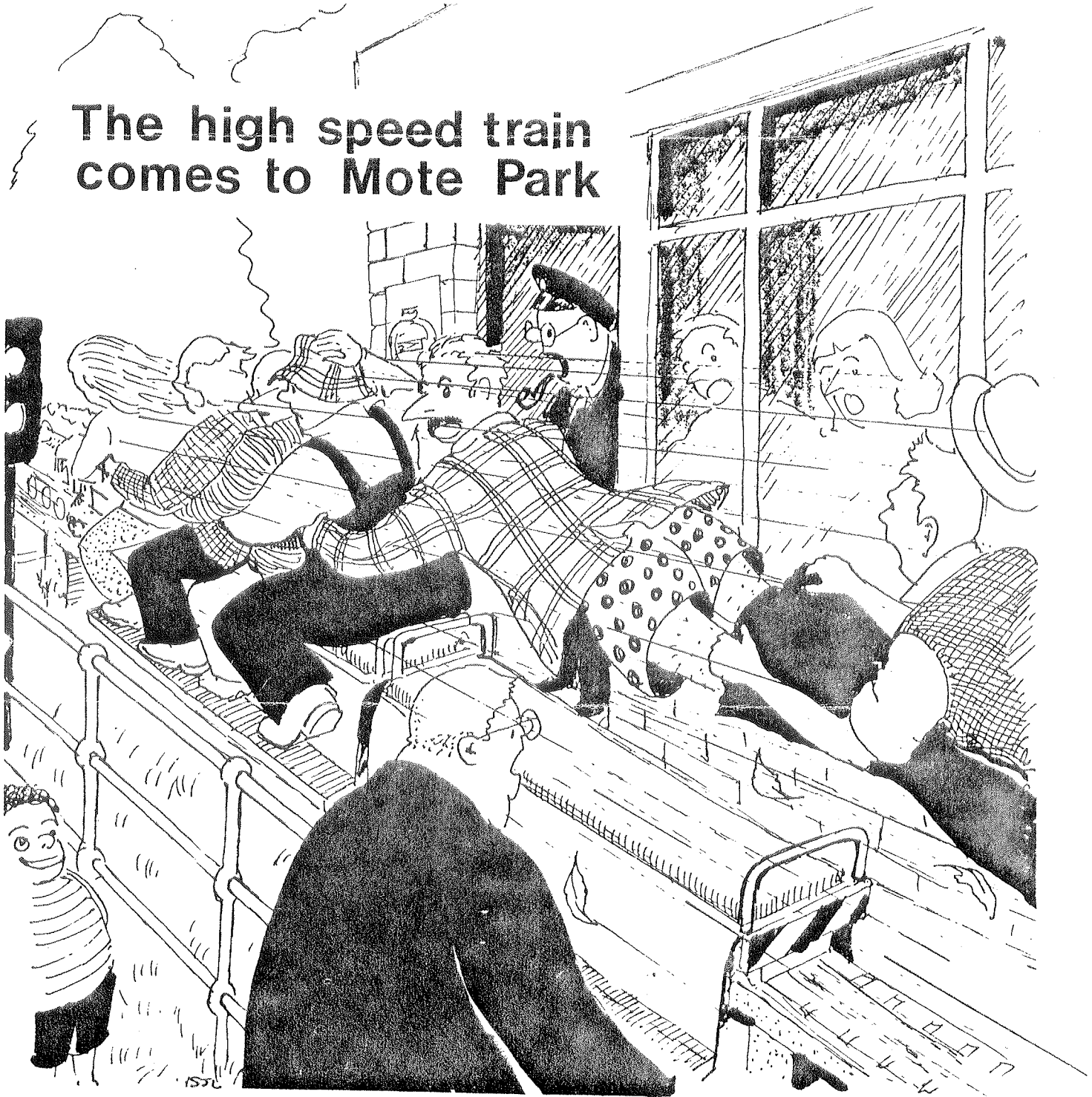


Maidstone Model Engineering Society

The high speed train comes to Mote Park



Newsletter - Spring / Summer 1989.

1988 TRAFFIC CONTROLLER ROSTER

April

9th R. Spencer
16th G. Riddles
23rd A. Gurr
30th C. Williams

July

2nd R. Hills
9th R. Hodgkins
16th L. Hulbert
23rd P. Jackson
30th N. King

May

1st G. Evans
7th R. Chessman
14th S. Cox
21st R. Crane
28th C. Brewer
29th R. Crane

August

6th P. Kingsford
13th S. Ludford
20th R. Marshall
27th P. Martin
28th C. Neil

June

4th C. Darley
11th F. Deepröse
18th N. Dodd
25th T. Gregson

September

3rd D. Osbaldstone
10th S. Parkes
17th A. Probyn
24th R. Pursey

October

1st P. Ransley
8th R. Stagg
15th R. Vane
22nd R. Broadbent
29th P. Clark

Please do your duty when requested. If this is not possible please contact Chris Williams as soon as you can. This is an important task to ensure smooth running during the season. Your co-operation will be appreciated. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The 1988 summer was again a very poor one as far as hot sunny Sundays were concerned. However, revenue from the track has been sufficient to keep us on a sound financial footing. Let's hope that this summer will see some weather more to our liking.

The winter has seen some essential work on the track carried out. The beams have been given additional supports to eliminate flexing where the reinforcing has been exposed due to frost damage. This is now going to be a problem which will have to be dealt with as our track becomes older, but this seems to deal effectively with the problem.

The second project which has been carried out is the re-superelevation of the curve out of the station straight. This has improved the bend, which may have possibly contributed to the very nasty accident we had on this bend.

The third item that has been attended to is the nasty "kink" in the track on the top bend, which is a legacy from the last motorised cowboy's attempt to leap the track.

Finally, there are still quite a few jobs which remain uncompleted, please examine the noticeboard for details, and the new Chairman and Committee will be very pleased if volunteers come forward.

I would now like to thank the committee for their support and diligent attendance once a month to attend to the running of our club over the past three years of my stint as Chairman.

Graham Kimber.

DIARY DATES 1989

Friday April 7th : Video Evening - Romney Events 1988 & Various Big Steam.
Friday May 5th : Bits 'n' Pieces/Bring 'n' Buy/Odds 'n' Sods Night.
Friday June 2nd : Evening Run and Fish 'n' Chips.
Saturday June 3rd : Visit to Sutton Club.
Friday July 7th : Evening Run and Barbecue.
Friday August 4th : Preparation Evening for Open Day.
Saturday August 5th : Our Open Day and 60th Anniversary Ceremony.
Friday September 1st : Club Night - to be arranged.
Saturday September 2nd: Sutton Club visit to us.
Friday October 6th : Club Night - to be arranged.
Saturday October 14th : Wine 'n' Dine on the Kent & East Sussex Railway.

FURTHER DETAILS

Hopefully you will all have received this as a timely reminder that Friday is the next Club Night. We will be showing the Romney Club video of their open day in 1988 and the L.B.S.C. Bowl (if Wilf remembers to bring it for us!) and also Geoff should be bringing a video on engineering (nothing to do with trains for a change), Tim has offered some big steam stuff and we have had some other videos offered as well and so it will be a pretty good evening. All evening meetings commence at 7.30. The May evening is a general get together and bring something along night, the last one was a few months ago and a resounding success. June heralds the first twilight run with a visit to the Chippie to stoke us all up. The following day we have been invited to Sutton Club for a run. As some of you may know, they have spent the last couple of years relaying their track so it has been a while since we last paid them a visit. Please let our secretary Martin know if you are interested in going so he can let them know how many of us to expect. July is barbecue time but it does seem that people do not seem quite as keen to barbecue as they used to! But do remember there will be at least a couple of barbecues going so do bring along your bangers and burgers etcetera to do. Although not advertised above, Saturday July 1st is the famous Leeds Castle Open Air Orchestral Concert and as several of us will be going, is there anyone who wants to join us? It is a very enjoyable do, tickets are £12 and if anyone fancies coming along please let me know by the end of April so I can get the tickets. Hang on, my chronological order has gone a bit adrift. Never mind, onto AUGUST and we really want to make a superb do for our Open Day this year to celebrate the Club's 60th anniversary. Last year our display of models was not as plentiful as previous years and this year we really want to excel. Ted Joliffe, editor of the Model Engineer, is to attend and there will be a small ceremony for our club members where a cake celebrating the occasion will be cut (made and decorated by one of our members) and we will drink a toast to the Society. Please come and assist, lend a hand in the kitchen, especially bring a model for display, and ladies perhaps we could set up a handicraft display? Everyones assistance is required and will be greatly appreciated, the time of the cake cutting ceremony will shortly be posted on the Club Noticeboard, as are up to date details of events. September and October Club Night happenings have not yet been decided, Sutton Club are coming back to us on 2nd September.

On Saturday October 14th in further celebration of the Club's 60th year, a dinner has been booked on the Kent and East Sussex Railway Pullman. Tickets for this are limited and are on a first come, first served basis and are available BY POSTAL APPLICATION ONLY TO EVERYONE. Limit two seats per member so please complete and return the enclosed slip overleaf to me as soon as possible enclosing your cheque in favour of Maidstone Model Engineering Society. I will be in touch with you in the next few weeks to let you know if you are one of the lucky ones.

That completes the line up of summer events to date. Any change, or additions, or extra information, will be posted on the Club Noticeboard. Hope to see you all soon.

+ VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED + VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED + VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED + VOLUNTEERS +

+ This Club needs YOU +

There are many jobs that need doing on the club property in the way of repair and particularly repainting and although the place is not falling down yet, it is better to tackle these things before they get too bad. Therefore, with this in mind, a schedule detailing what needs to be done has been drawn up. With sufficient people and proper organisation there is no reason why everything cannot be done ourselves.

Our Clerk of Works is Peter Kingsford who is at the Club nearly every Sunday. The idea is to do most of the work Sunday mornings. Please let Peter know if you wish to help and what you would like to do; if there is a particular project you would like to see through from start to finish, fine. As Peter is co-ordinating the work please keep him advised as to what is going on. There is plenty to do and materials will be obtained by the committee (unless you know of a better source).

+ WORK SCHEDULE +

Station Fence and gate to be replaced and painted.
Replace fence at rear of compound and paint.
Paint metal fences and guard rail.
Ticket Office and Station - replace one barge board of each, paint all barge boards.
Put glass in Ticket Office window frame.
Clubhouse : Paint all shutters, window frames, door frame (also needs repair) and front barge boards. Complete interior redecoration.
Outside Clubhouse seat - repair or replacement.
Paint stores and workshop metal doors.
Repair and paint lamppost.
Paint seat.
Paint traverser.
Paint steaming bays.
Paint main entry gate to compound.
Repair/replace side fence.
Repoint above trolley store.
Repair coalshed where it leaks.
Add concrete pillars to support track where necessary.

Basically, if it stands still long enough, paint it!

Please let Pete know if you spot any other jobs which can be added to the list.

No experience necessary, enthusiasm is probably more important.

If Pete is not around, he will try and ensure someone else is who can point you in the right direction.

We all have plenty of little jobs at home which require our attention, but if you can spare the club your time and talent for a little while a lot can be achieved.

Unless members are prepared to help out, the committee may have to consider in due course the necessity of employing and paying people outside the club to come and do the jobs no one here is prepared to do. This would be a sad thing when you think how much time and effort has been created and given by the older members to provide all that we have today. Please help to maintain our Club to a standard that is worthy. Thank you.

+ VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED + VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED + VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED + VOLUNTEERS +

*SUE'S SPOT *

Hallo everybody did you all have a nice Easter? The weather gradually improved and it was a glorious day on the Monday. It is good to get off to a good start to the running season although we could do with more passenger hauling locomotives and any helpers are always welcome. If there is sufficient interest perhaps some days we can start passenger hauling at 2.30 instead of 3 p.m.

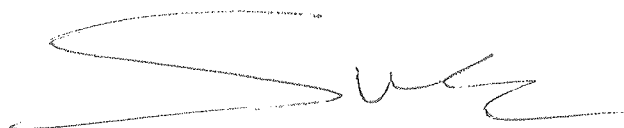
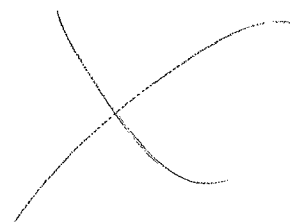
Thanks to Sam for providing the cover of this newsletter and we are all pleased he is better after his poorly turn at Christmas. This newsletter came close to being a newsheet rather than a newsletter and as you can all see we are sadly lacking in articles to print. Closing date for articles for the next newsletter (she says hopefully) is the end of July so that gives you all a good four months to pen something on whatever topic you desire. Otherwise we will just have a sheet to print.

Overleaf is details of the work that needs to be done around the club. The longer standing members have done a lot for the club and we do not want it to deteriorate, so please assist with the maintenance.

The Open Day on August 5th is particularly important to us this year as it is the Club's sixtieth anniversary and so it would be nice to have a really big display of models, never mind if you have not completed what you are building, bring it along anyway. We are all looking forward to seeing and tasting the celebration cake. Places on the Wealden Pullman in October are unfortunately limited so we are being very fair in allocating places which is why it is by postal application only.

I have not got much more to say except congratulate my old man on becoming the new Chairman and to say to you all as ever "Hope to see you at the Park" and wish you a happy summer steaming.

All the best,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Sue', written in dark ink.A large handwritten mark resembling a stylized 'X' or a flourish, drawn with two intersecting curved lines.