

# **STRATHAVEN MODEL SOCIETY Ltd**

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## **News Letter November 2017**

Dear Member,

### **Members Information**

Another year draws to a close with Guy Fawkes Night concluding our running for 2017. Thank you to all who has assisted in making this a record year for passenger numbers carried safely during the season.

Our Christmas lunch will be held on the 19<sup>th</sup> of December at Strathaven Golf club please find enclosed invitation letter, pre-order form and a copy of the menu. I have also enclosed a pre-addressed envelope to return your deposit and completed order form.

### **Guy Fawkes Night**

A big THANK YOU to all who crewed the railway on Saturday night where £507.90 was collected as donations on the night. Thanks to Bill Carleton for providing the soup and preparing the food on the night. Big thank you to Fergal on the night the cooker's oven failed and it looked like we were having cold pies!! Fergal and Craig arranged to transport the pies to his house and have them heated they were then to return with hot food for everyone. Thank you to the drivers of the locomotives on the night dealing with difficult track conditions. Back straight and final bend into station was very difficult which caused loco's to suffer wheel spin with a full load of passengers. After sanding off track all drivers found the track easier to circumnavigate. Before sanding three of the crew for this evening waited on the back straight to assist if locomotives got into difficulty and added an extra push to get trains through this section.

We had more volunteers for this event than could be safely accommodated on the platform and station area. We asked several members to stand down on this occasion. Those who did this have already been put in the diary for next year's roster. Thank you to those who did this, this year

### **Website**

Looking for a volunteer to assist with in keeping our web site up to date, will be about one hours work per month to liaise with web master Les Hoggan who will do the main updates on our site. If you are willing to take on this role please let me or any of the other directors know. Thank you.

### **Winter work schedule**

Enclosed with this month's newsletter you will find our list of work to be carried out over the closed season. Work at the park and in the workshop. This is not the final list, from experience once we start to complete some of these tasks we find that other work is also required.

### **Kiosk**

Thanks to Jay for rewiring the winter heater that is in the kiosk, now fitted with a longer cable making it easier to position it within the loco shed area. Jay will also take on the wiring of our Guy Fawkes tripod lamps again to give us a longer cable which will give us more choice of where we can put them on the night. After Guy Fawkes Night we need to clear away all the equipment used, hopefully this can be done on Monday next.

### **Strathaven Castle**

Strathaven Castle has been run on a local track to the builder and was found to be operating well. The loco will now be stripped down to its key components and painted in Crimson Lake ready for delivery next year. Name plates have been finished ready to be fixed on to the cab sides.



### **Work Going Forward**

We intend to complete the sleeper laying of the back straight weather permitting before winter sets in. Please come prepared on a Monday during November and early December to finish this section of track.

### **2018 Running Season**

The 2018 running season will commence on Saturday the 17<sup>th</sup> of March through to our final running day on Sunday the 30<sup>th</sup> of September. Our open weekend next year will be on the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> of October 2018.

Kind Regards

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