

# STRATHAVEN MODEL SOCIETY Ltd

Registered Office and Clubrooms  
2 Dunlop Street  
Strathaven  
South Lanarkshire  
ML10 6LA

Company Secretary  
Ian Samson  
2 Dunlop Street  
Strathaven  
South Lanarkshire  
ML10 6LA

Mobile Tel: - 075 191 88872

Email: - [iandsamson@btconnect.com](mailto:iandsamson@btconnect.com)

Web address: - [www.strathavenminiaturerailway.org](http://www.strathavenminiaturerailway.org)

 [Facebook.com/strathavenminiaturerailway](https://www.facebook.com/strathavenminiaturerailway)

## News Letter December 2017

Dear Member,

### Members Information

As the year rapidly comes to an end the workshop is all a buzz and work in the park due to weather has been reduced at present. On the 19<sup>th</sup> of December our Christmas lunch will be held at the Strathaven Golf Club 12.30 for 13.00 with approximately 36 attendees. Looking forward to seeing you all on that day. We have two members at present who are facing surgery one perhaps before the Christmas break or both in the New Year please keep them in your thoughts during a difficult time for both of them and their families.

### Winter work Schedule

. Work on the carriages has commenced with two units now in the workshop. We will spend in the region of £2000 on the six carriages and the loco tenders to make them fit for our passengers for 2018. Larger air reservoir tanks and new fittings throughout replacing units that have had twenty years' service. All push air fittings to be replaced by airlines fitted with olives and screw tight connections this will eliminate many of our air loss points on each of the carriages. Once one carriage is complete we will require all hands to work on the rest of the carriages copying the work from the master carriage. Once this is complete all tenders and fish van will be evaluated as fit for purpose to supply the air into the new breaking system.

It has also been decided that the two containers that we have in the park will be replaced in the New Year. We have several rust areas on both units and the carriage container has had earth piled up against the outside which is causing major rust to develop on one side the full length of the unit. We are at present waiting for quotes for the replacement units, the locomotive container is to be thermally lined so that our members or club locomotives can be stored safely in a dry location. This means that container two will require to be emptied in the near future and only what we are keeping to be stored in the carriage container at present until new unit is ready for use. We will then replace carriage container in due course.

The winter work list attached still has many items to be completed and all members are asked to help where they can to carry out this work.

### Kiosk

Work has commenced on replacing the entrance upper door bolt. Thanks to Eric Lougheed this is almost complete. All the cables and light units used on Guy Fawkes has still to be cleared away hopefully that can be completed on Monday, require one or two people to assist with this task. **WATER HAS BEEN DRAINED FROM THE SYSTEM** please do not turn water on unless you close all taps that have been left open.

We will also need to measure the adjustment to the track in the kiosk to allow Strathaven Castle to fit in when delivered in the Spring.

## **WORKSHOP**

One of the tasks that has to be done over the winter was the clearing of the workshop of old tools and scrap bits of metal, along with making space in the metal store. Gordon Cheape has started this daunting task with clutter slowly becoming order, Thanks Gordon.

A new compressor has been bought and fitted, this unit can deliver air at any required pressure ideal for working on the carriages.

Fiona our 5" saddle tank loco has finally been steam tested and passed. She is now ready for running in the park on raised or ground track by members. Once containers are fitted out she will be moved to the park.

Homeside work continues with this loco boiler has to be taken off the frames again to attend to super heater issues and other work that requires completing before ready to be tested.

HIGHLANDER work has been progressing steadily with many issues being sorted out from previous work done over the years. Latest has been oilers on the motion and the route that the oil had to take. Brian has taken home several parts of the loco to sort out this issue and they are now ready for assembly. The team of Mike, Allan and Brian have been progressing with this task and may have the loco running on air in the near future. Ian McDonald has completed the new axles for the coach that requires a set of new wheels which Fergal is working on at present, they will be fitted together in the spring ready to go back to the park in time for the new season.

## **Website**

Some updates have been made to our website [www.strathavenminiaturerailway.org](http://www.strathavenminiaturerailway.org). New videos have been added and if you hover your cursor over the Photos tab you will see two galleries have been set up. The 2017 gallery has some photographs from the open weekend and Guy Fawkes Night. If you have any Photographs from any of these events please send onto me to be included in this section of our website. Help is required to maintain this site along with Les who updates all on the main system. Couple of pictures from Guy Fawkes Night before running for the night took place

## **Strathaven Echo Newspaper**

We have appeared twice recently in the local newspaper once for the open day see article attached. The second time was in November when a picture from Guy Fawkes Night was on the front cover. Not this one below but one of the pictures on our updated website.



Thank you to all for all their efforts in making 2017 an excellent running year.

Best Wishes to you and your loved ones for Christmas and a Healthy and a Happy and New Year.

Kind Regards

Ian