

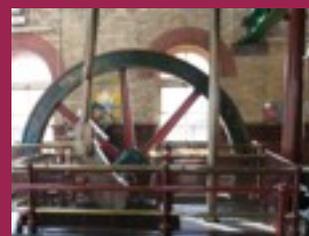
Coleham Pumping Station



Shrewsbury Steam Trust



Newsletter



November 2013

Articles and items of interest for future publication in this newsletter can be forwarded to newsletter@colehampumpingstation.co.uk or direct to the editor.

The committee and members would like to take this opportunity to thank Joe Targett for writing, editing and producing the newsletter over the past years and we wish him well with his studies in these final years of his apprenticeship.

The 2013 year steaming days, when we open the Pumping Station to the public, concluded on 15th September with 403 visitors over the weekend. The number of visitor for the year totalled 991.

In addition to the working beam engines this year. Visitors have enjoyed various working displays from Mike Woodman's '0 gauge' Hornby trains, John Balmond with his Trix Twin model railway, Mike Glover brought 'Lilly Bank Tramway and each open day Ron, Joe Targett and friends ran their 16mm railway in the yard at the rear of the station. A new display, we welcomed Tom Roberts with his models of wooden farm machinery, traction engines and musical fair ground.



One of the major tasks this summer, carried out by Frank Marsh and Mike Evans, has been the repainting of the horizontal overhead steel girders that support the mezzanine floor and the working beams. The working beams of the engines have also been repainted green to match the new paintwork of the steel girders. Other painting of doors and woodwork etc has given the engine room a clean and brighter look for visitors. (see letter received below)

Dear Sirs

Just to say that my wife and I much enjoyed our recent visit to the pumping station. I'm not a technical person, but anyone who visits can appreciate these wonderful pieces of equipment and the enthusiasm of the people who keep them in operation.

Phillip Leather, 4th October 2013

Tuesday remained the regular working day throughout the summer with five new members who are bringing new skills as well as drinking tea. A biscuit barrel has also been added to complement the tea breaks.

We welcome two new members to the steam trust, Mrs Yvonne Sherratt and Mr Alan Brown.

It will save the cost of postage if you can receive the Newsletter by email. Let me know.

Michael Glover. Editor

Members Corner



I recently took early retirement and, having finished the outstanding decorating, took up making model stationary steam engines, I needed some assistance, and was directed to the Coleham Pumping Station who may be able to help me.

The following Tuesday I called in for a chat and decided to join the merry gang, and now a year has passed with me helping with the preparation for open days, brass polishing, filling oil pots, manning the front door and getting to know how the systems work.

Then someone mentioned that there were a few stationary engines that had been languishing out in the open under a tarpaulin and standing in water for a number of years. I have repaired my own cars and motorcycles so I decided to see what could be renovated.

The first of these stationary engines, a Lister D type was in reasonable condition but needed some TLC and adjustments. With some help from others the engine was fired up a few weeks later, has been painted and was exhibited on a recent open day.

A second engine, a Petter Type A (see photo) was the next project but needed far more TLC. This engine required major renovation with over 60% of it dismantling, revealing a cracked sump, a frozen carburettor and other corroded and damaged parts. The flywheel needed to be removed, a difficult task, so that the damaged parts could be removed and renovated. After a few months work and again with help from other members, the engine has been painted and had it's first successful run.

I now feel at home at the Pumping Station, enjoy working with the other volunteers and Tuesday is a regular day in my diary.

We all enjoy a joke, a cup of tea and biscuits and no one is under any pressure to do anything but I much prefer to work when I am there. Time passes quickly and working on the two engines I feel I have achieved something.

I would recommend any retiree who has time on his hands who enjoys repairing and maintaining things to join the Shrewsbury Steam Trust.

Keith Rees

Other News

Al Inge and Mike Glover have successfully completed the Lister Water Pump installation on the wall, run pipes to the water tank so the pump can now be demonstrated pumping water.

The Spare link for Thomas Telford's Menai Bridge has been removed from the wall in the engine room and Frank Marsh has spent time painting it ready for it to move to a new home in the town museum.

