HASTINGS TRAMWAYS CLUB NEWSLETTER

No To

MARCH 2008

Welcome Around the trams 48 & 56

On our last Newsletter in December '07 we could see from the plan how we hoped to resite our two tram bodies. With the aid of a few railway members we were able to move them to their new positions. The start of this operation didn't go too well due to the amount of rain we had had. The clay ground around the trams gave way to the jacks that were in place which sank deep into the clay but with the use of a large steel plate which spread the load we were able to continue with the lift, then we slid them into position on some scaffold poles which had been placed underneath at the start of the operation.

The original plan to site the train truck alongside No48 may now have to be revised as there may not be enough space as first thought. Other things to be done now are the rebuilding of the parts of the lean- to that are exposed to the elements including the section around the front 'A' end of No 56.

News from members

It was good to receive news from member Paul Barratt, from Thames Ditton, Surrey. He reminded us of several events later in the year - our stall at the Bus Rally in May and the Volks Electric Railway's anniversary this year in Brighton to name but two.

Nigels mini tram

After being turned down for a site at the Brede Pumping Station late last year Nigel had high hopes of a site near Hadlow Down, nr. Heathfield, Sussex with good prospects of running hit tram there. There was already a narrow gauge railway there that ran on the same gauge as Nigel's. Things looked good as it was thought Nigel may have been able to run his tram alongside, or within, the tracks but unfortunately this was not to be and yet again sadly for Nigel the whole project was again doomed. If any member can help in Nigels plight please give him a call, the situation has become very urgent. We all wish you good luck in your search Nigel.

In memory of Reginald Chatfield

Once again we have to report the very sad loss of a friend and member Reg Chatfield. We were deeply saddened to hear of his death shortly before Christmas from his son Steven. Re had been a Tramway and Trolleybus member for many years. He had helped in the return of our two tram bodies and had worked on the interior of No56. He and his family often helpe out running our stall and also supplied us with goods to sell. Reg will be missed by us all, the

had suffered with heart problems and his health deteriorated over the last year. We send our deepest sympathy to his wife Lilian and all the family.

A visit to Acton Depot

A few members took a trip to the London Transport Museums Acton Depot on Sat 8th March there were a number of tram and underground tube layouts and of coarse several of the real things, trams buses underground trains including Sarah Siddens electric loco, It was a great day out, I had the chance to drive the trams on the three-and-half gauge layout from our friends of the sussex area of the Tramway and light railway society on their appox 40' track they had there, Outside in the not so good weather was a live steam railway of I think 7 ½ gauge with an electric tube train that took people to sit and ride on.

LATE NEWS UPDATE

ris@trbeckett.co.uk.

Nigels mini tram

Dispite all the set backs mentioned earlier things have taken a complete turn around Nigel has now been given the go ahead to have his tram at Hadlow down after all. With the help of some of there members they were able to take the tram to its new site at Hadlow, at the present time Nigel is busying himself clearing the rest of his things back at the school site garage in Bexhill, Although this is really good news for Nigel he still hopes one day to have a site of his own.

Meetings

Meetings are held at the RAF AssociationClub in Wellington Square, Hastings, usually on the last Thursday of the month but club opening times are being revised so this may be revised. The next meeting will be the AGM (see below)

and Cambridge

AGM will be held on Tuesday 8th April at the RAFA Club. This is the formal notification and all members should attend.

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Chris Sweatman	Vacant	
Secretary	Fundraising	
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Roy Austen	Oliver Boorman	
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used to really enjoy watching trains up in London when I was		
voungster and if they were to	The state of the s	
ry would be a real asset to the		
van think they should bring		

note the presence of a driver and a conductor