

HASTINGS TRAMWAYS CLUB

Newsletter
No. 54

June 2013



DEVELOPMENTS AT STAPLECROSS!

*A NEW LEAN-TO HAS BEEN ADDED ADJACENT TO THE TRAMS
PROVIDING A WALK-WAY ALONG THE FULL LENGTH OF THE TRAMS
AND PROTECTION FROM THE WEATHER.*

ROY AUSTEN 01424 751798 DEREK MASTERS 01424 752668
www.hastingstramways.org.uk

WELCOME

Welcome to the 54th newsletter of Hastings Tramways Club! Thank you for your continued support of the club.

WORK AT STAPLECROSS *By Roy Austen*

Work at our new site at Staplecross is progressing steadily. The club has recently purchased some new fencing for the site and it has now been fitted beside the trams despite a couple of set-backs! As we began preparing the ground for the fence posts, we discovered that the entire area was covered in a thick matting material. This is used by the the nursery to prevent weeds growing through the top soil. Trying to get through it was not an easy task! Then, we hit another problem (literally!). When we first moved to the site, we had re-routed some blue plastic water pipe used by the nursery for watering so it avoided our site. Forgetting that we had done this, as we dug down for the new fence posts, we hit the pipe with a spade and went straight through it! Thankfully, the pipe wasn't under mains pressure at the time so we were soon able to stop the leak and repair it.

The next major task was to try and add some roofing over the trams to protect them from the elements. We are in the process of joining some roof panels onto the fencing to stretch over-top of the two trams to try and cover them completely.

We hope that the gap between the two trams can be used for displays. We have already

enclosed this area using some old roofing and floor panels from Robertsbridge so it's looking quite good. We've even added an old glass



door to the front to allow easy access!

I am currently trying to get a large print or mural of a old tram postcard made up to fill in the gap.



In the meantime, our new member Helen has been busy at work rewiring

some old electrics on the site and has fitted a power socket to allow us to use tools etc. more easily. Helen was also keen to develop a workshop at one end of our site so we could store our tools securely. All our tools from Robertsbridge had previously just been piled up in one corner! In the last few weeks, she has acquired a shed from the Midlands and has been busy fitting it out as our new workshop.

Derek has also been busy reorganising the Cosy Club Mk. 2 so it has larger capacity. The sink and cooking area has as been improved so it's now even easier to stop and have a cup of tea! We have also installed a new water pipe which means our sink now even has running water!

The weather hasn't been particularly favourable to us over the past few months but I think we are progressing in the right direction!

CROWHURST SUMMER FAYRE

We will be holding a fundraising stall at the annual Crowhurst village summer fayre on Saturday 10th August. We always have difficulty at this event because many other stalls have tombolas so we have to come up with something different to do! This year, we have created a ten-pin bowling game so hopefully that will prove popular.

The fayre is held at Crowhurst Recreation Ground and opens to the public at 2pm.

OVAL BUS RALLY

That time has come and gone again – the Bus Rally! For only about the second time in 10 years we actually had a reasonable day, weather wise! Takings were pretty good too:

Pick-a-ticket	£46.00
Sales	£67.50
Donations	£9.50
Total	£123.00

It was good to see several members attending, particularly those from further a field.

Thank you to Roy, Derek, Alan and Oliver for their help on the day.

HASTINGS & ST LEONARDS SENIOR FORUM

We have been invited to attend an open day organised by Hastings and St. Leonards Seniors' Forum's Transport Group in July. Representatives from Stagecoach, Rambler, the Sussex Community Rail Partnership and various other transport organisations will be holding stalls.

The event will be held at Hastings Town Hall on Friday 12th July and is open to the public from 10 am to 3 pm. Admission is free to the public. It should be an excellent opportunity for members of the public to learn more about the various transport groups in Hastings and an opportunity for us to attract some new members! If you're free, pop along and say hello!

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The club will be holding it's next regular meeting at Mike Turner's Studio, 17 Priory Road, Hastings at 7:30pm on Monday 5th August 2013. The meeting is open to all members.