

HASTINGS TRAMWAY CLUB

AUGUST 2004

NEWSHEET

No 29

DEAR MEMBER

Please Note: No 28 Newsheet along with this one. No 29, will be included with this posting.

Let me first apologise for not issuing a Newsheet/ Newsletter earlier, plans for this seem to have gone haywire! Plans for one in June did not get completed - too many things on the go, Tram, Trolley, Trains, Models. Events, Exhibitions, Outings and working on site at Robertsbridge Sundays and Wednesdays, plus meetings and attending events and of course all those jobs to be done at home that never seemed to get done! The list gets bigger and bigger, still I know I am not alone in these matters and again I do like doing what I do - I know that all of you have offered your help some time or other and I am most grateful to you. Still that's enough of this old twaddle, let's see if we can get back on course once more with the Newsletter. What I was hoping to do was to produce a newsletter like we had several years ago, booklet style, with coloured covers, but this has not been possible for several reasons so I decided to go the easy way like we have at the moment. Hopefully I can go back to the booklet style once more - if only one is produced per year, plus several Newsheets, then that may be the answer for the present time.

THE YEAR 2005

The coming of the year 2005 is one of importance to Hastings and Hastings Tramways Club, It will be 100 years in July 1905 since the first electric tramcar took to the streets of Hastings and St Leonards and a year later on to Bexhill. Up to sixty five open top four wheel trams were built for the Hastings Tramways.

COUNCIL MEETING

A meeting with Kevin Boorman, head of Tourism and Leisure took place at the end of July 2004. I asked him if there were any plans for commemorating Hastings trams in 2005. He told me that there was only a limited amount of money available which had to cover all the other aspects of the position he held. The good news is that he was quite willing to give his full support to having an event at the town centre (Memorial) and enquired as to whether it would be possible to have one of our trams there. I told him I would like to but there is a problem in moving; them due to (1) their condition, (2) removing them from the site. He said that the Council could fund the use of a low loader but I suggested an alternative, providing the owner agrees, and that is Nigel's tram which is just under ½ size, almost the same as the Hastings trams four wheeled open top open fronts except the stairs are reversed and its colour is wrong. Other items discussed were about publicising the event in the council's publicity literature handouts for 2005, a date has been set aside for this which will be 23/24 July 2005 which will almost correspond with the opening of 1905. I asked about producing a set of post cards on the trams with Judges Postcards and Kevin has agreed to help us with this.

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EVENTS PAST PRESENT and El IT RE

Appledore Vintage Car Rally 1 8th July 2004

This event was nearly called off due to the weather as it was raining quite heavily that morning, I phoned Chris Sweatman who was to join me that day and asked him what he thought we should do. I told him everything was loaded in my car ready to go - shall we go and hope it may clear later - we decided to go! When we arrived at the site the rain had eased off so we decided to erect the gazebo, other people were already on the site, once we were set up the clouds began to appear heavy again and it started to rain, we were just thinking this was it, pack up and go, when it stopped and the sun began to break through. The day then turned out to be one of the best, sunshine to sunset! Takings for the day were £55.20, (Tombola £41.20, Sales £13.00, Donations £1.00).

Hooe Vintage Classic Car Rally 1st August
Taking here were £48.40. (Tombola £38.40, Sales £10.00).

Future Events

William Parker School. Hastings - Sat 9th & Sun 10th October.

Hillside School, Ore, Hastings - Sun 10th October.

H.T.C. OPEN DAY SAT 4th SEPTEMBER 2004 / R.V.Rly OPEN DAY SUN 5th SEPTEMBER 2004

Our Open Day will again be held at Robertsbridge R.V.Rly site. Saturday will of course be our day to display and show what we have acquired of the old Hastings trams. We need our members present to help make it a worthwhile and enjoyable day. I hope to have the model layouts on display inside the tram shelter (lean to) along with pictures etc; No 56 will be kept open for visitors. We hope to have a barbecue if we can get someone to run this. We would like a few stalls selling just about everything so if any member or friend would like a pitch and maybe make a donation to the club - that's if they have been successful - please let me know or just come along on the day.

MEETINGS

Thursday 26th August 2005

Thursday 25th November 2005

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