

# Hastings Tramways Club

The photograph, right, was sent to the club via email from Ivan Stretten, whose family still live in Hastings. The photo shows tramcar 42 near the Bopeep in St Leonards on sea. The gentleman shown standing next to the car in the photo is Mr Alfred George Stretton, born 1887 and the grandfather of Ivan, who worked as a conductor for Hastings Tramways.



## Work at Robertsbridge

Work continues on the trams at Robertsbridge, when time permits. Roy and Derek have been working on the lean-to to develop the townscape on the rear wall. They have now added several shop fronts including a pub - not long until it will be serving punters! The floor of the lean-to has also be improved. Roy and Derek have laid a layer of wood chippings to provide an even surface for easier access.

Some track for the a quarter scale mini tram has now been laid down to allow the model to be displayed to visitors more easily.

Roy is now aiming to build up a platform at the front of the PMV wagon to allow easier access and to allow railway memorabilia (such as cases and bicycles etc.) to be displayed. The wagon itself is still in need of a lick of paint, although time is always limited.

## Oval Bus Rally - 16th May 2010

This year's Oval Bus Rally, organised by the Hastings Trolleybus Restoration Group, was once again a big success. The event attracted over 30 buses and 100 vintage cars along with the star of the show, 'Happy Harold'. There was a very good turnout at the event and the tram club had quite a successful day. We raised £36.80 with our 'Pick-a-ticket', £24.85 in sales and £6.55 in donations; a total of £68.20.



## Hastings Tramways Centenary book - David Padgham

Anyone who owns a copy of the 'Hastings Tramways Centenary 1905-2005' book, written by David Padgham, can now obtain an update sheet with corrections and further information as an insert for the book. These can be obtained from Roy Austen (01424 751798) free of charge.

## Seaton@40

2010 sees the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Seaton Tramway. 40 years ago, in 1970, Claude Lane and other members of the Modern Electric Tramway Company moved their miniature 2' gauge tramway from Eastbourne to the seaside town of Seaton, Devon. From the simple beginnings of battery operation and hastily laid track to the nationally renowned tourist attraction it is today, it has come a long way.

To celebrate this special anniversary, the tramway held a gala weekend on 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> June. With intensive running, celebrity guests and the re-launch of the newly re-painted car 12, the weekend could not be missed. Car 12, decorated in a psychedelic 70s paint scheme, was re-launched into the fleet by light rail enthusiast Nicholas Owen and Brotherhood of Man at Seaton on 5<sup>th</sup> June, followed a 70s concert in Colyton. The Sunday saw a 'green transport' festival at Seaton, special depot tours and tram driving experiences from Colyton. Here's to another 40 years!



## This year's events

Event	Date	Tombola	Sales	Donations	Total
K&ESR Northiam gala	2/5/2010	£5.20	£6.50	£2.10	£13.80
RVR model weekend,	8/5/2010	£8.00	£16.50	£0.00	£24.50
Robertsbridge	9/5/2010	£0.60	£16.00	£17.77	£34.37
Appledore	18/7/2010	£7.00	£17.25	£1.50	£25.25
Hooe Vintage Car Rally	1/8/2010	£27.80	£9.30	£0.21	£32.31
Crowhurst Summer Fayre	14/8/2010	£21.20	£1.25	£1.00	£23.45

The club recently learned of the sad death of Anne Enefer, wife of Barry (who has been a member of the club for many years). The club wishes to pass on their condolences to Barry and family at this difficult time.

## Forthcoming Event

The club will be holding a stall at the Hastings Family History event at Horntye Park Sports Complex on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2010. The event is open to the public from 10am.

## Date and time of next meeting

The club will be holding its regular meeting at the RAFA club, Hastings at 8pm on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2010 & 30<sup>th</sup> November 2010. They are open to all members.

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