

Hastings Tramways Club

News sheet No 51

March 2012

Dear Member

Welcome -- despite the mild weather prior to Christmas and early 2012 I think we must all have thought that the worst of the winter was over, but that was not to be as we all now know as an arctic blast hit the country with heavy snow and icy roads as we entered February and the forecast looked bleak. Things may be looking as gloomy for us with the trams, we now know that we have to remove the trams etc, by August 2012. Derek and myself have been trying to arrange things at the site in readiness. We have removed all the items and stock from the P.M.V. wagon that we own, ready for it's move prior to it being sold, most of this has been put in the lean-to.

KEEPING WARM

I have removed the old wood/coal burning fire from the wagon and resited it in part of our shed area which was built to cover the front end of tram no56, along with the sink unit to give us a temporary place to have our break from the cold weather outside.

Although things are getting untidy as we sort everything out we still get a number of visitors, although mostly they are from the railway, who enjoy a nice cup of tea and biscuit with us and a chat and joke at times, It will be sad to lose some good friends we have made since we have been there.

LOOKING FOR A SITE

I have been looking at quite a number of places to site our trams, and some I have had to make several return journeys, one took seven trips to confirm we could not have it! Although we had high hopes at first of having a space at one of the RVR member's farm near Watlington that also failed to materialise. Other sites visited included around Hastings and St Leonards, one site near Crowhurst looked ideal with a shed to take both trams quite easily but that again was not to be, We have another site to see, let's hope we have some success.

BACK AT ROBERTSBRIDGE

We have been making a start at dismantling part of the lean-to. The mock shops we built in the lean-to, instead of destroying them completely I decided we could make use of them in one of the trams bodies, so not all is lost, all the models I had there are now safely back home,

Some of the bags of fine stone chips we brought for the mini track seemed to have split open, these will have to be rebagged before we can remove them. What we could use is somewhere to store some of our prizes we have for our stall so if any member can help let us know, mainly those in the Hastings area.

TRAMS LAST RUN

The mini tram's last run on Sundays at Robertsbridge - I have made a poster for the side of the mini tram denoting the 'last day of the Mini Tram at Robertsbridge' although it says the last day we may well still be there for several weekends yet. Already part of the mini track has been removed by us to make way for a port-a-loo to be erected there as part of the ongoing programme for the railway.



INSIDE THE
LEAN-TO
SHOWING
TRAM 48
ON THE 'R'
←



'LAST DAY' AT ROBERTSBRIDGE
MINI TRAM