

# PEEMS NEWSLETTER: 16 January 2017

## Comment

First of all, a Happy New Year to you all! Although it is only just over 2 weeks since Christmas and a week since New Year, 2017 seems to be moving on apace. Perhaps the workshop is beckoning after the festive break and that the project started a while ago is being worked on! Now that an icy blast is promised – at least it was when this was being written – a heated workshop is the place to be! At least there are no distractions such as gardening to compete for time!

The Club has an interesting programme for the year and with the new Chairman, Jim Everett, involving more people in the operation of PEEMS it is hoped that there is something for everyone.

As detailed below, the next Club meeting is on the 1 February, but this is preceded by the workshop morning 'get together' on the 17 January and it is hoped that members will be able to get to these and start 2017 with enthusiasm!

## Recent Activities

### Club Meeting, Wednesday 7 December.

This was an extremely interesting meeting, featuring the talk by Gabriel Uttley on his project to build a streamlined motorcycle capable of running at speeds in excess of 400mph, at which speed it will cover the length of 2 football pitches every second! Not only did he bring along a full-sized replica of the motorcycle he is developing but he also gave a fascinating talk on the history of speed records, particularly at Bonneville, as well as the design and other issues facing him in developing his project, including chassis design, engine development, wheel design as well as complying with the overall rules and regulations surrounding record attempts. How to stop the motorcycle is just as important as acceleration! It was interesting to hear that the design parameters for the motorcycle started with the width of his shoulders! This governed the width of the roll cage and hence the width of the bodywork and then the width of the engine and other mechanical parts. Perhaps obvious but something that is a basic starting point.

The design aspects were fascinating and his approach to solving some of the issues that were involved was an eye-opener. For example, the engine comprises two 4 cylinder units linked together in a narrow V formation so that it would fit into the overall width of the machine. The two blocks of 4 cylinders, however, were staggered so that the circular cylinders both overlapped and 'meshed' with each other more closely, thereby reducing overall width of the unit. A clever solution but one which brought in a new set of design issues to resolve. All in all it was a brilliant end to the year for PEEMS and to see the replica of the motorcycle brought the whole project to life. Our thanks go to Gabriel for such an interesting talk. It would be good to ask him back at some point in the not too distant future to have an update on his progress.

Whilst there is a photograph of the replica for those who get this newsletter by email, it is also possible to gain more information by visiting his website: [angelicbulldog.org.uk](http://angelicbulldog.org.uk)

### Workshop Morning, Tuesday 20 December.

It was good to see some different faces at this last workshop meeting of the year, including some potential new members. The usual programme of chat, tea drinking, biscuit eating, putting the world to rights, exchange of opinions on matters engineering took place, all the right elements although not necessarily in the right order, to plagiarise the Morecambe and Wise classic line.

## **Forthcoming Events.**

### **Workshop Morning 17 January, 10.00am to 12 noon.**

This will be an opportunity for members to see the additional equipment that has been provided in the workshop. Whilst the milling machine is still awaited, and should be installed in the very near future, other, smaller, items are now available for members to use. The usual refreshments will be available, but if you come along and have any surplus Christmas cake or mince pies to bring, it would be much appreciated!

### **Club Meeting, Wednesday 1 February, from 7.00pm.**

The first meeting of the New Year is to include a talk by Roger Taylor entitled 'Modern Fuel Injection Systems' but it may well widen to include the more general topic of engine management systems. Given the fact that we, probably, do not do any work on modern engines or perhaps do not look under the bonnet as much as we used to other than to top up the windscreen washer fluid, it will be an interesting topic for us all. It will also be a good opportunity for us all to catch up with one another and describe what excellent model engineering presents we got for Christmas, in my case cleverly disguised as a jumper and socks!

### **Member Information.**

Some of you may know that Paul Windross has had a spell in hospital having treatment for Birkin's Lymphoma, a rare blood condition. He was in for a couple of weeks, came out for Christmas, but is scheduled to go back in next week. He is very cheerful and upbeat and those who visited him in hospital found him as positive as ever, to such an extent that his fellow patients in the ward were berating him, in a pleasant way it must be added, for eating too much of the hospital food! Nevertheless, he has more chemo treatment to undergo and would no doubt like to see visitors when he is back in hospital. He was in Ward 31 of York District Hospital before so will probably be in the same ward again from Monday of next week, but probably best to ring beforehand if you do consider visiting him, the hospital number is 01904 631313.

### **Model Engineering Show, Doncaster, 12/13/14 May.**

This show is clearly quite some way off but the club has already confirmed that it will be there so now is the time to begin to think about what you may wish to display. It would be good to have our usual variety of models and other items for display, reflecting the fact that the club is not a single-focus club, such as a railway or boat club – not that there is anything wrong with such clubs I hasten to add!! It would be good to feature models or items which are still work in progress as often this stimulates questions or comments from visitors, so do not be put off if your item is not finished. Richard Gretton is co-ordinating our display so do get in touch with him either at the club meeting or by email:

### **Photographs.**

For those receiving this by email, as well as the photograph of the motorcycle there is also a photo of Paul Gammon's inspection lift for his 5" gauge locomotive. If you would like further details of this then you might like to get in touch with him or ask him at the next meeting.

### **Finally!**

This is my last newsletter and Nevile Foster will take on producing it for the next edition. I have enjoyed producing this newsletter and thank David Hampshire for circulating it to you all. I am sure Nevile will do an excellent job – and perhaps the humour (if you can call my efforts that!) will improve.

See you at the next meeting on the 1 February. Paul Hayward

