

## NEWSLETTER November 2024

### Hello Gents.

First of all some sad news. I have just been informed that Ron Baier passed away on Saturday. Ron was a founder member of the society and will be remembered for his amazing steam powered launches that graced our stands at Harrogate and Doncaster shows. Latterly, Ron built Orreries that were loaned to the society and used to support our school visits. Ron will be missed. The funeral will be on the 9<sup>th</sup> December. For details, please contact me.

A "Thank You" to all of you who attended the AGM, and for those who couldn't, the write up is in this newsletter.

Without enough volunteers to do things, it might be the time to ask, "what do you want the Club to do?" Then we will get a better idea of the task ahead. As it stands, every daytime and evening meeting, outing, speaker, email etc. needs organising, and someone has to do it.

We all really enjoy a get together (and drink tea), so I will do as much as I can to keep "the show on the road". How about you?

The Calendar is filling up for next year, but we will always find space to fit in something interesting. A topic that occasionally gets mentioned is VFD /Inverters. I think we all know a little bit about them, but I will bet if someone offered a masterclass at the workshop or at evening meetings, it would be very popular. An alternative title could be "*The Dummies Guide to.....*". Only a couple of days ago my lathe inverter came up with a fault code and then let a bit of smoke escape, so my learning curve is going to rise steeply. I'll keep you informed!

*Take care, kind regards, Jonathan.*

### □ Forthcoming Events.

- **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2024. Pre-Christmas Social and 'Bring and Brag'.**
- **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December. Workshop Morning with mince pies.**

### **No Meetings In January**

- **Wednesday February 5<sup>th</sup> Rob Davey. Overhauling a *Velocette* Motorcycle Crankshaft.**
- **Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> February. Workshop Morning.**

## Club Meeting On Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November At 11am ~ Annual General Meeting (AGM).

Chairman Jonathan Milner welcomed everyone to the PEEMS 2024 Annual General Meeting (AGM), including a guest, Richard from Holme-On Spalding Moor. 22 members attended.

Jonathan had some announcements and 'notes for diaries' before the AGM started:

- **Model Plans.** As mentioned in the October newsletter, Ken Hutchinson from Ebberston has donated folders of model plans to the Club, that members can examine or borrow. There will be some more coming in. Please note: If you borrow any drawings, please bring them back to the Club.
- **Christmas Social.** PEEMS will be holding a Christmas social on Wednesday December 4<sup>th</sup> at the normal time of 7.30pm. There will also be a 'Bring and Brag'. If anyone wants to bring any models along, please do so, but the evening will really be a social evening.
- **N.A.M.E.** Jonathan has received a notification from the North Association Of Model Engineers (N.A.M.E.) appealing for volunteers to help with being Newsletter Editor/Treasurer. This will be for the Derby Area. They asked that PEEMS put the message out and Jonathan is doing just that.

### ○ **The PEEMS 2024 Annual General Meeting.**

Apologies For Absence: Mike Sayers and Dave Hick.

### ○ **The AGM 2023 Minutes.**

The minutes of the 2023 AGM had been e-mailed or posted to members. Jonathan asked if there were any comments about the minutes. There were none.

Proposal that the 2023 AGM minutes are correct: Andy Wilson.

Seconded: Pete Bramley.

A unanimous show of hands of approval from the members present.

### ○ **Matters Arising From The 2023 AGM Minutes.**

There were no matters arising.

### ○ **Chairman's Report. (Jonathan Milner).**

#### ▪ **Club Activities.**

All the Club's activities have been written up in the monthly PEEMS Newsletters. We have had guest speakers, and 'Bring and Brag' model events. This year the Club introduced an auction night which went well. Alistair McLeod was the auctioneer. It was different. Whether we do it next year, we don't know yet. The problem was that there were a lot more sellers than buyers, which doesn't make for a good auction.

The 'Mike Sayers Trophy' night, which included a 'Bring and Brag', was good in that it did involve more people, although there were not a lot of entries. What was entered however, was of a very high quality.

There was a trip to the Leeds Industrial Museum which was excellent. Any trips that the Club has recently organised haven't been particularly well attended, compared with the past. The trips to *Sylatech* and also *Forum EnergyTechnologies* in Kirkbymoorside were well attended. These two companies are local to Pickering, which may indicate that people don't want to travel far. The Club did look at a couple of trips to southern Teesside (around Redcar). Those didn't happen because the companies were working on classified defence contracts.

#### ▪ **Banking.**

Since the last AGM, PEEMS have been looking for a Bank Account that better suits our needs. The last account we had, had no internet banking. Tony Leeming found that Lloyds Bank 'ticked all the boxes'. They had internet banking, some interest, and no fees. For that reason, the Club moved to Lloyds Bank. It was not quick and easy to set up the new bank account, so a big "thank you" to Tony for doing all the hard work.

Unfortunately, we received an intention from Lloyds to stop that account, which is a "Treasurer's Account" for small clubs. Lloyds were changing their policy and closing "Treasurer's Accounts". They have what is called a "Community Account", but that incurs a small charge. This means that electronic banking is free, although each cheque in and out is 50p, and cash incurs a charge of 75p/£100. However, the monthly admin. charge is £4.25. There is nothing the Club can do about that. The interest the Club gets from the 'Community Account' however, covers the admin. charge. Basically, the Club now has internet banking.

Jonathan doesn't think all the members do internet banking, but he thinks a lot of members could do it. It would be a big help to the Club, especially when paying annual subscriptions, if members could make bank transfers.

The simple reason is that if a member transfers money, and gives a reference to their name, the transfer will be easier. If people prefer paying cash, it's no problem, the Club will take cash off you.

In conclusion: Since last year, the Club couldn't find any other accounts that paid interest. It should be noted that it's difficult for a Club like PEEMS to receive as much interest as an individual.

**Please Note:** From now on, PEEMS will not accept any cheques.

- **The PEEMS Website** <https://peems.co.uk>

This year, PEEMS decided to have their own website. The old PEEMS website was 'piggy-backing' off a company website that was dormant. We have been informed that the company website is now closing.

PEEMS now have their own domain, and the new website can be accessed using the address above.

Maybe we should have paid for a website developer/designer. However, with the guidance from a family member, the new PEEMS website is now up and running. Jonathan thinks the new site is pretty good. There has been no feedback from members to say they don't like it. The only feedback is someone saying they preferred the term "forthcoming events" to "upcoming events".

If you see any problems or can see how to make improvements to the site, please let us know. Andy Wilson knows someone who had mentioned the website, and they said that if the web site is operating, they could do a critique for us (but there might be a fee), and maybe suggest a way to improve its appearance. Jonathan did ask someone who used to come to Mike Sayers' charity events, and who runs a web design franchise. He was very helpful. He said he could help improve the PEEMS web site, but the setup fee and monthly service charge was way beyond PEEMS' budget. Jonathan didn't realise things could be so expensive in the IT world. PEEMS is looking for a happy medium with regards to cost in order to improve the site.

- **The Bradford Challenge.**

The big event this year was *The Bradford Challenge*, which was hosted by the Bradford Model Society. PEEMS entered with the '*Pickering Flyer*'.

Some members put a lot of time into the project and some members even more. The Club got a lot out of going to Bradford, because *The Flyer* won with the fastest times around the track. The event wasn't particularly well attended, although PEEMS had a good show of members and guests.

This year, a core group of members started a monorail project, based on the 'Brennan Monorail' (see PEEMS June 2024 newsletter).

The *Bradford Challenge* is in June, and hopefully the monorail will get a run around the track then. There is room for some more members to join the team, and Peter Bramley will be pleased to talk to members about the project, and what is required.

- **The Harrogate Model Show.**

There was no Harrogate Model Show this year, but Jonathan bumped into Simon Boak a few weeks ago. Simon said that he was trying to organise a two day show over Friday/Saturday at the Harrogate Event Centre where it was held in 2023. This is not definite, but he is aiming for the beginning of May. It should be noted that it's gone 'a bit quiet' since. Mike Sayers was at the Midland Show and said that some of the 'top men' there, were in contact with Simon. They were very supportive of Simon's vision for the show. So, watch this space.

- **Club Treasurer and Secretary.**

No one has stepped forward to volunteer for either the Club Secretary's or Treasurer's roles. If we don't fill the posts today, the Club may find it difficult to survive in its current form with meetings in the Hungate Centre. Both the Club Secretary and Treasurer are pivotal roles in the Club.

**Treasurer:** This role is important because we can't have anybody casting doubts about where Club money has gone. Retiring Treasurer Tony Leeming (who has done a splendid job) will be presenting a financial report and an up-to-date balance sheet, down to the last penny. It just has to be that way. Any new Treasurer will not be "thrown in at the deep end", because Tony is pleased to hand over and offer advice. Basically, the job will take a couple of hours a month, so it's not really a big commitment, but it is a very important role so the Club can be transparent in its finances.

**Secretary:** The Secretary's post is a bit more involved, but again any volunteers won't "be thrown in at the deep end." There is still time for a decent handover from David Proctor. The Club runs very well at the moment. Jonathan defies anyone to criticise the running of the Club as it is, but without a Secretary, mistakes might be inadvertently made in the future, That is why it is important to have a dedicated Secretary to do the job.

The Secretary's job could well be a shared role. Details will have to be worked out. The Secretary will have to be conversant with computer word processing and spreadsheets. If nobody comes forward to take over the role, what can we do? We could muddle through for another year, but if we don't have a Secretary or Treasurer this time next year, the Club will be in trouble.

**David Proctor:** If we don't get somebody to fill these roles we will have to have a managed reorganisation. This could mean taking the Club back to where it started, which is a group of friends with a shared interest, meeting together. That process has to be managed so that the final result isn't chaos. That is important.

**Jonathan Milner:** We are all getting older, and other Clubs are having the same problems. When we do get together, we have a very good time, and we want to continue in the same vein. However, that requires some organisation, especially where money is involved. Just before I started in PEEMS there were about 50 members. It then reduced to a membership of about 40, which David Hampshire, the Treasurer at that time, said was the minimum for a viable Club. Now we are down to about 33.

The Club is at a pivot point now. It would be good to keep the Club going as it is. For example, we have to book the Hungate Centre a year in advance, to allow us to have meetings and speakers. We don't want to lose that capability due to lack of key administrators. The Hungate Centre is an ideal place for us. We have hired it for another year, and we have only been able to do this as we have a Secretary, who by exercising due diligence, has managed to get the Centre at last year's rates. The job has to be done properly by a Secretary.

### **Insurance.**

One of the Secretary's current jobs is to organise Club insurance. As it stands, we have to have insurance to go to the exhibitions/shows. The insurance is expensive. When the cost of insurance is divided by the number of members, the cost is significant relative to each member's subscription. By concentrating on the social aspect of the Club, and removing boiler testing as an activity, the insurance cost could probably be reduced substantially.

### ○ **Treasurers Report. (Tony Leeming).**

Tony has very kindly overseen the accounts which are thereby up to date. Tony displayed the accounts for 2024 which showed income and expenditure. He compared them with the accounts for 2023. He asked if anyone had any questions about the accounts and nobody did.

**The Bradford Challenge.** With regards to *The Bradford Challenge* project, The Club and nine members donated money to the project. At the end of the project, there was some money left over (residual). The question is, what should be done with the residual?

Proportioning the residual in the same proportion as the donations: For the Club portion of the residual, the Committee should decide what to do with that. For the portion which represents the nine members donations, those members should be asked what should be done with that money? Do they want it back or do they want it to go to Club funds?

Tony proposed that all the residual money (Club + nine members) from the 2024 *Bradford Challenge* should go to the monorail project.

Proposed: Tony Leeming

Seconded: Rob Davey.

A unanimous show of hands of approval from the members present.

**Final Balance:** Going to the bottom of the financial spreadsheet, the balance of Club funds looks very healthy.

### **Questions and Answers:**

**Ted Fletcher:** In the situation that the Club 'folded', what happens with the Club funds?

**David Proctor:** According to Article 14 of the '*Articles of Association*', if the Club is wound up with any remaining capital, this should be donated to charity, another model engineering club or another worthy cause at the discretion of the Committee.

It is very important that as a part of the Club's trajectory, that that aspect of the '*Articles of Association*' is re-examined, so that the funds would be distributed for the benefit of PEEMS members, rather than others.

**Thanks:** Andy Wilson thanked Tony Leeming for his services to the Club as Treasurer.

### ○ **Subscriptions.**

As has been seen, the Club is well funded. PEEMS proposes to keep the subscriptions at the same amount for this year and next (2024/25).

Proposed: George Gibbs.

Seconded: Peter Bramley

A unanimous show of hands of approval from the members present.

○ **Election Of Club Officers For The PEEMS Committee.**

The current officers of the Committee resigned their posts in order for other members to be nominated or to nominate themselves for Committee positions. Jonathan said that this was a chance for any member to say “I want to be Chairman, or Secretary or a member of the Committee for next year”.

▪ **Election Of Club Chairman.**

Jonathan Milner resigned his post but no other member was nominated or nominated themselves as Chairman of The Club. Jonathan said he had enjoyed doing this job and was willing to stand again as Club Chairman for the coming year 2025.

Proposed: Rob Davey.

Seconded: Ted Fletcher.

A unanimous show of hands of approval from the members present.

▪ **Election Of Vice Chairman.**

Colin Bainbridge stood down from his position as Vice-Chairman. Colin was willing to stand for re-election as Vice Chairman. No other member was nominated or nominated themselves as Vice Chairman of The Club

Proposed: Jonathan Milner.

Seconded: Tony Leeming.

A unanimous show of hands of approval from the members present.

▪ **Election Of Club Secretary.**

David Proctor stood down from his position as Club Secretary. He will be moving away from Pickering in the New Year. No other member was nominated or nominated themselves as Club Secretary. Jonathan said that David was willing to remain in post as a “caretaker” until he leaves. David said this was not a good position for the Club to be in, as he does not know how long he will be here. Jonathan thanked David for his help. John Nesom said he thought that David had done a sterling job over the last few years.

▪ **Election Of Treasurer.**

The role of Treasurer is very important. Tony Leeming has retired and PEEMS does not have a Treasurer. Jonathan asked if anyone wanted to be Treasurer. . No other member was nominated or nominated themselves as Treasurer.

○ **Election Of Committee Members.**

**Election Of Newsletter Editor and Publicity.**

Neville Foster stood down from his position as Newsletter Editor (and Publicity). Neville was willing to stand for re-election for this position. No other member was nominated or nominated themselves as Newsletter Editor.

Proposed: George Gibbs.

Seconded: Dave Dobson.

A unanimous show of hands of approval from the members present.

**Election Of The Workshop Manager.**

George Gibbs stood down from his position as The Workshop Manager.

George was willing to stand for re-election for this position. No other member was nominated or nominated themselves as The Workshop Representative.

Proposed: Chris Bramley.

Seconded: Rob Davey.

A unanimous show of hands of approval from the members present.

**Other Members Of The Committee.**

Peter Bramley has also been attending Committee meetings. He stood down with the rest of the Committee but was willing to rejoin as a Committee member.

Proposed: Tony Leeming.

Seconded: Andy Wilson.

A unanimous show of hands of approval from the members present.

Andy Wilson is the latest Committee member. Jonathan said that Andy has been good on the Committee, and thanked him for his year of contributions. Andy wanted to continue.

Proposed: Jonathan Milner.

Seconded: Peter Bramley.

A unanimous show of hands of approval from the members present.

### **“Caretaker” Secretary**

Jonathan asked David Proctor, if as “caretaker” Secretary, he was willing to attend Committee meetings and David said he would do everything he has done up to now as “caretaker”. However, he is pushing very hard for the situation to be managed, so that he has a position to hand over to his successor(s). Otherwise, the nature of the Club needs to change. There are things that are done by the Secretary that “keep the ball rolling”. If we want the Club to stay as it is, those tasks have to be done. If there are no administrators to do those tasks, the Club may have to operate at a lower level, without some of the assets that the Club has been enjoying up to now.

### ○ **Incoming Chairman’s Remarks.**

It looks like you are stuck with me, Jonathan, again. I would like to thank those who come to meetings and tidy up afterwards. Thanks to the Committee and all those who have kept PEEMS going so far. I’ve learnt through life that the best way to do a job is to do it correctly and to do it once. I have made a lot of good friends in this Club. We don’t know what the future holds for the Club, but hopefully it will be good in whatever form it takes. It won’t be for the lack of trying.

### ○ **Chairman’s Award.**

Jonathan said that this was a difficult decision and he didn’t want to leave anyone out, but this year he would very much like to recognise David’s contribution to PEEMS. He thanked David for all the diligent work he has done for the Club over the years.

On behalf of PEEMS, Jonathan wished David good luck on his move, and the rest of his life down south. He said that he didn’t think we would have been as good a Club as we have been, and done what we have done, without David’s help.



Members then retired for Pie and Peas and Cake and Cheese. Jonathan thanked everyone who had worked in the kitchen for the AGM.

o **A Report From Coniston Water Speed Week and Elvington 'Straightliners' ~ Paul Windross.**

The 2024 Coniston Speed Week, was from Monday 4<sup>th</sup> to Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November. I spent three days there.



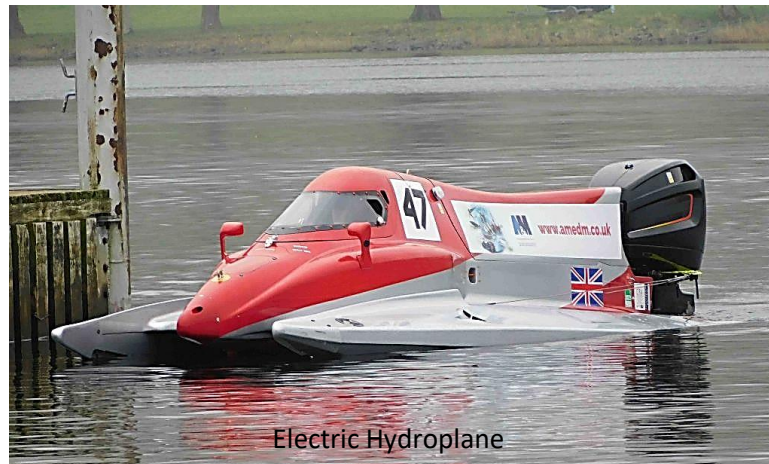
On the Monday, on the first run of the day, Thomas Mantripp broke the 250cc record with a speed of 106mph.

On Tuesday, with his two-stroke engine size increased to 350cc, and after a bit of tuning, another record was broken at 117.8mph.

I had a face full of spray when videoing a test run. It reminded me very much when I used to launch my 129.33mph model flash steam hydroplane. My helper used to get very wet with the prop wash at times.



There were many other class records broken as well.



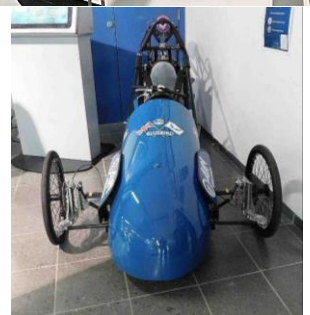
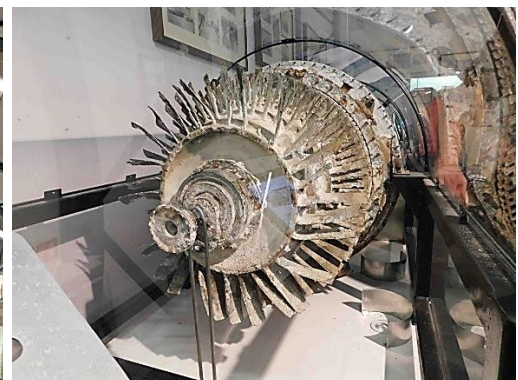
Electric Hydroplane

Wednesday was very misty, and there were no runs while I was there. At least the classic motorcycles arrived for a few hours, on their annual trip to the *Bluebird Café*.





With weather not good for record attempts, Roger Taylor took me to the *Ruskin Museum* to see Bluebird K7.





## At Elvington.

On Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2024, at a private speed attempt at Elvington, Phil Wood, riding Graham Sykes' 'Force of Nature' steam bike, did its fastest ever accelerating run. A backup run was done later to confirm the timings.

**STRAIGHTLINERS** Official Results **XHYPE** .events co.uk

STRAIGHTLINERS / UKITA  
Elvington

Number: H2O  
Name: Phil Wood  
Machine: Force of Nature

One Run Records

Standing 60 Ft	.780	Seconds
Standing 1/16 Mile	TBE	
Standing 1/8 Mile	3.407	Seconds
Standing 1/4 Mile	6.169	Seconds

Date	When	Direction	Standing 60 Ft Seconds	Standing 1/16 Mile Seconds	Standing 1/8 mile Seconds	Standing 1/4 Mile Seconds
11/11/2024	10:28	West-East	0.723	1.968	3.284	6.165
11/11/2024	16:25	West-East	0.759	1.981	3.313	6.243

Elvington		11/11/2024	10:28:28	Elvington		11/11/2024	16:25:28
rider info	run details		1	rider info	run details		2
Number:	Direction	West-East		Number:	Direction	West-East	
H2O	Standing 60ft	0.723 Seconds		H2O	Standing 60ft	0.759 Seconds	
Phil Wood	Standing 1/16 Mile	1.968 Seconds		Phil Wood	Standing 1/16 Mile	1.981 Seconds	
	Standing 1/8 Mile	3.284 Seconds			Standing 1/8 Mile	3.313 Seconds	
	Standing 1/4 Mile	6.165 Seconds			Standing 1/4 Mile	6.243 Seconds	

Get a good time? Tag us @straightliners\_events

**STRAIGHTLINERS** official timing slip

**XHYPE** THE FUTURE OF PERFORMANCE

Page 1 of 1

Elvington			11/11/2024	10:28:28	Elvington			11/11/2024	16:25:28
rider info	run details		1		rider info	run details		2	
Number:	Direction	West-East		Number:	Direction	West-East			
H2O	Standing 60ft	0.723 Seconds		H2O	Standing 60ft	0.759 Seconds			
Phil Wood	Standing 1/16 Mile	1.968 Seconds		Phil Wood	Standing 1/16 Mile	1.981 Seconds			
	Standing 1/8 Mile	3.284 Seconds			Standing 1/8 Mile	3.313 Seconds			
	Standing 1/4 Mile	6.165 Seconds			Standing 1/4 Mile	6.243 Seconds			

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**STRAIGHTLINERS** official timing slip

**XHYPE** THE FUTURE OF PERFORMANCE

**Contact:** If you would like to contribute to the Newsletter, the contact is:  
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