

NORWICH & DISTRICT SOCIETY OF MODEL ENGINEERS

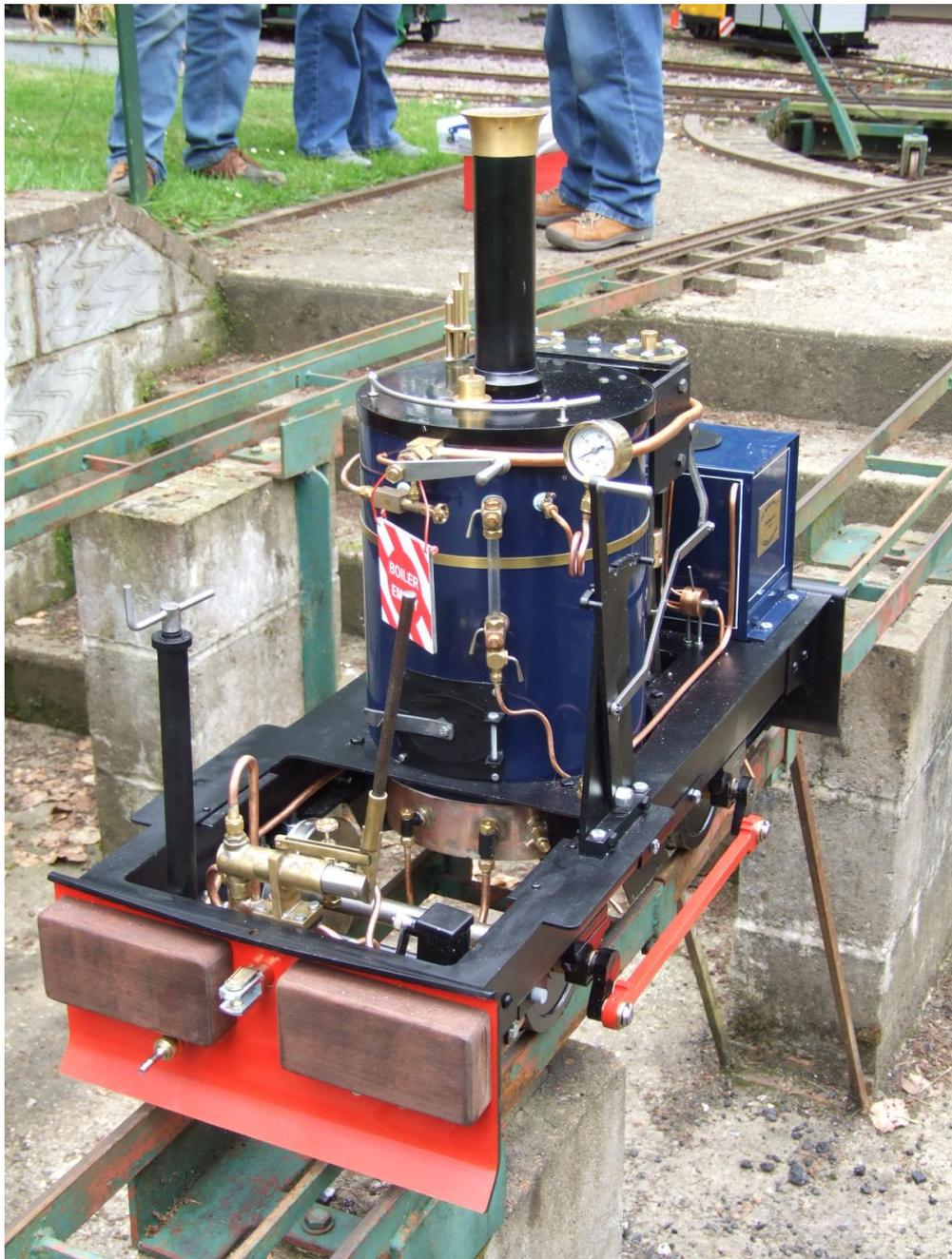
Founded 1933

Incorporated 1967

EATON PARK MINIATURE RAILWAY

eBULLETIN

June 2018



Fun in 5"

More inside.



Cover story. Maxitrak visits Eaton Park

On Saturday 9th June, a small but dedicated contingent of Maxitrakers visited ndsme for the annual Maxitrak Day. The star of the show this year was the 7¼” scale model of the De Winton vertical boiler loco. De Winton & Co (1854-1901) were engineers in [Caernarfon, Wales](#). They built [vertical boilered narrow gauge](#) locomotives for use in Welsh [slate mines](#) and other industrial settings. At least six De Winton locomotives have been preserved. But these quarry tramway locomotives, for which in the 21st century they are largely remembered, were just a small part of this company's engineering output.

The De Winton company had its origins in a small foundry built on the slate wharf at Caernarfon by Owen Thomas in the 1840s. He subsequently went into partnership with Jeffrey Parry de Winton and the firm developed as the Union Foundry. Cast iron was the wonder material of the Victorian age and manufactures included street gaslight columns and all manner of street furniture. When the Caernarvonshire Railway was being built under Castle Square, Caernarfon, the tunnel roof was supported by iron beams supplied by De Winton's and their name can still be seen at the entrance to the tunnel, which is now used as a road underpass.

The foundry was a major supplier to the Caernarfon and Liverpool ship building industry. The firm built marine engines up to 200 bhp, powered by boilers that they also made. These marine engines influenced the quarry locomotives that they made. Over 60 were produced over a 25-year period. They also built stationary steam engines and the engine preserved at Parc Glynllifon Parc near Caernarfon is the second oldest working stationary engine in Britain.

De Winton's supplied the quarry industry and made whatever might be needed. At the large and very profitable Dinorwic quarry in Llanberis in 1870, De Winton's built and equipped an entire workshop with machinery powered by overhead shafting that in its turn was driven by the largest water wheel in the United Kingdom (over 50 feet in diameter), which remained in daily use until 1925 when it was replaced by a Pelton wheel but retained as standby. The wheel is the subject of a preservation order but in fact the entire workshop complex is preserved as the National Slate Museum..

Mr Jeffrey Parry de Winton (born Wilkins 1828-1892) was Mayor of Caernarfon (1870-1872) when his company was one of the rising enterprises in the town. The Company remained in his hands and important in Caernarfon's maritime activities until about 1890. In its decline from that time it appears to have been badly managed and heavily committed to a French invention that failed and brought bankruptcy in 1901. Some of the De Winton works in St Helen's Road survives. Since 1988 it has been the home of a local Plumbing & Heating business, before that the foundry was used as a bonded warehouse and wine merchants. It stands opposite the Caernarfon station of the Welsh Highland Railway.

MACHINERY FOR MINES & SLATE QUARRIES.

SAWING, PLANING, DRESSING, & ROCK-BORING MACHINES FOR SLATE.

Water Balances, Water Wheels, Winding and Pumping Machinery, and Plant of every description for Mines or Quarries.

STEAM ENGINES, Stationary, Marine, or Locomotive.

BOILERS, AND GIRDER WORK.

SHAPING, PULLEYS, AND GENERAL MILLWORK.

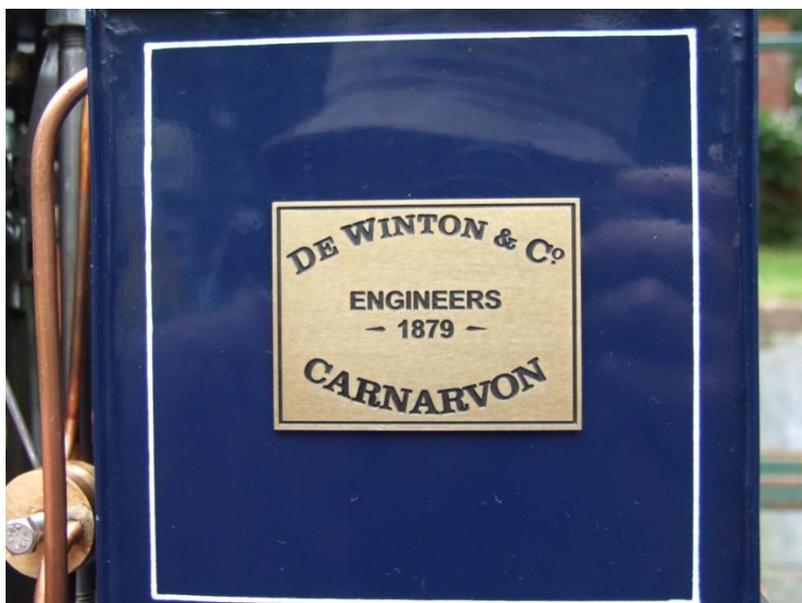
MACHINERY & GENERAL CASTINGS.

Spur and Bevel Wheels, of any diameter or pitch, Moulded by Patent Machinery.

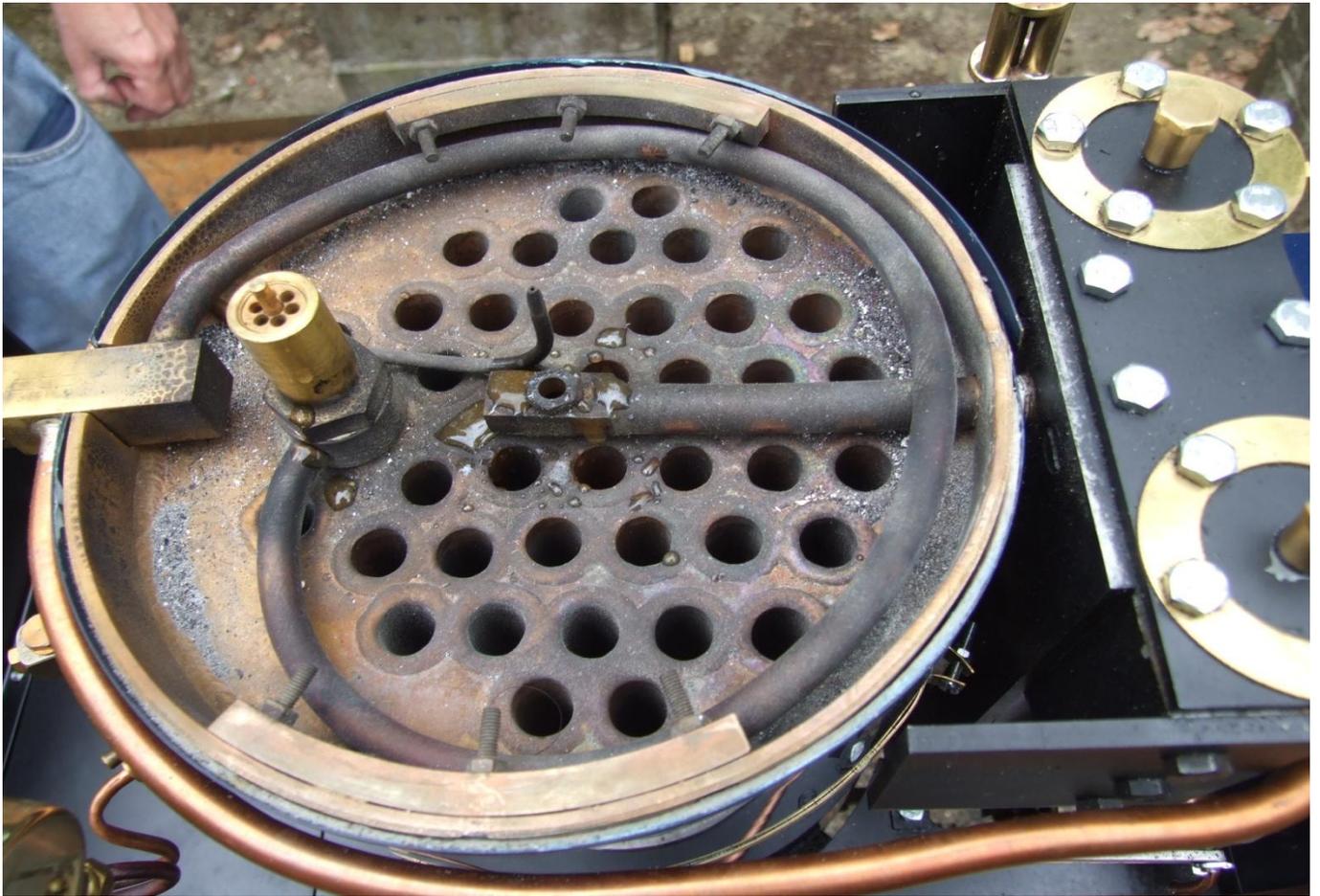
DE WINTON AND CO., UNION IRON WORKS, CARNARVON.



Left –A surviving part of De Winton's works on the quay at Caernarfon, seen from the Welsh Highland Railway station.



Right - Detail of the replica cabside plate.





Also at the Maxitrak outing were a couple of 5" Planets, of which this is one.

One for the record!

It was often said that steam drivers found it hard to make the transition to diesel and electric traction. Here is evidence that this is not always the case. Our very own *Mr Koenig* beams with delight as he contemplates a session driving a class 37 diesel.



Norfolk Tank Museum visit

June 2018

NDSME members joined the Norfolk Transport Group for a visit to the Norfolk Tank Museum recently. Owner



Steven Machaye gave us a very informative tour of the museum, explaining in great detail the workings and faults of the tanks and guns on display.

The main tank on display was the replica of the WW1 British Mark 1V female 30 tonne tank "Deborah".

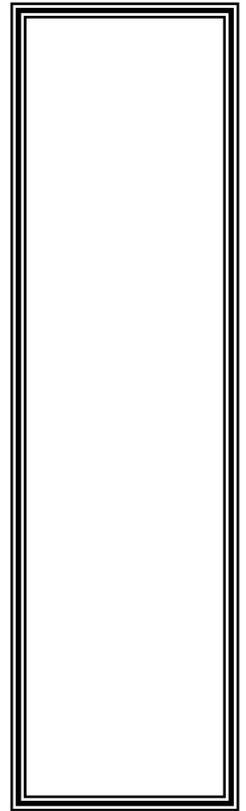
This had been constructed



for the Channel 4 documentary on which Guy Martin was the presenter.

JCB engineers constructed the main body and metal parts. Petrol engine, gearbox and drive were sourced and assembled by the Forncett St Peter Museum and during the visit the engine was started up. The difference between male & female tanks was also explained, it was in the armament, female had a small side sponson equipped with machine guns while the male had larger ones with two protruding 6 pounders. The tank crew comprised a commander, driver and six gunners.

The museum contains many other tanks including Centurion and Chieftain tanks. To find out more visit their website [here](#)



NORFOLK TANK MUSEUM



Our thanks go to Mike Fordham for arranging this very interesting visit.

Annual General Meeting – Advance Notice

Nominations for Directors (“committee”), Treasurer and Company Secretary must be received by the Company Secretary no later than 30th June 2018

Motions for discussion at the AGM must also be received by the same date.

Spotted on YouTube

HOW TO MAKE A STEAM LOCOMOTIVE

How to Make a Steam Locomotive - in more detail This is vintage film footage of the building of a Steam Locomotive at Doncaster Works in the 1930s. It is a fascinating Time Capsule of how things were done in that period of history when Britain built locos for the world.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AG3-WTGsodA>

SANTA SPECIALS 2018

These were discussed at the members meeting on Wednesday 11th April. A choice has since been made by a majority of members involved to proceed with two Sundays, the 2nd and 9th of December.

NDSME – affiliated to the Southern Federation and also the Northern Association – for the benefit of all our members.

COMEDY CORNER



A Group of Hunters

An engineer, a statistician, and a physicist are out hunting. They spot a buck, and each take turns to try and bag it.

The physicist goes first. He pulls out his lab book and quickly calculates the trajectory of the bullet, assuming it is a perfect sphere in a vacuum.

The bullet falls 20m short of the deer.

The engineer goes second. He pulls out his engineer's pad and book of projectile assumptions. After a few minutes he's ready, he takes aim, and he fires. The bullet lands 20m past the deer.

The statistician leaps in the air shouting, "We got it!"



IMPORTANT NOTICE

Please note that the NDSMEs insurance policy does NOT cover any members' locos or assets stored at Eaton Park. Members should ensure that their own insurances cover this eventuality, should they wish to store any locos, rolling stock or other items at the Society premises.

Don't leave it all to Mr Trelis!

Send us a letter or an email for inclusion in the next eBulletin!

Anything...football, religion, politics... Actually, no, not those, just model engineering, railway etc matters, ideas and suggestions – eg should we have quilted toilet roll or "return to *Bronco*"?

What are you thinking about?



Forthcoming Events

- 11 July BBQ @ EP
- 07 August Parklands Railway (Hemsby) Invitation Day
- 08 August AGM
- 12 September Visit to Ashmanhaugh Light Rly.

For other events, see the ndsme website



Do you know somewhere we could visit on one of our monthly meetings? Contact the chairman if you have any ideas and we will do our best to arrange it if possible...



NDSME directors (committee) and officers as at June 2018

President	Neville Gower	Company Sec.	Jim McDonell
Chairman	Barry Fane	Membership Sec.	Allan Shirley
Treasurer	Jim McDonell	Publicity	Mark Rhodes

Other directors: Peter King (PW), Dave Beeken, Roger Montgomery (Rolling stock), Mike Riches and Philip Moore (Estates).

Bulletin distribution, *digital* – Allan Shirley, *hard copy* – Philip Moore.

There is a number of other roles, such as meetings organiser, that need filling. Contact Barry Fane if you can help. The email is chairman@ndsme.org



Committee news - June 2018 – extract

The provision of fire extinguishers was discussed and action taken to update our stock

We will be running a school fundraiser on the afternoon of Tuesday 3rd July

A new 110v cement mixer was approved and ordered

It was noted that the tree causing problems to vehicles cannot be removed or trimmed.

Treasurer advised no tax liability this year

AGM agenda to be sent out early July. To arrive with members before 19th July

Santa Specials to be run on 2nd and 9th of December 2018

Warship is under repair . The controller is to be returned to 4QD for sorting.

The position regarding new wc's vis-a-vis the planning authority is ambiguous. Further dialogue is sought



Pete Franklin has for sale,

Hornby live steam *Rocket* 3½ “ gauge loco and tender. Comes complete with track, both in original boxes. Spare *Ronson* valve and socket spanner for fuel tank. Model runs on lighter fuel. Personal demo if required, video of loco running available. £250 ovno.

Contact Pete via pef@talktalk.net 01603 749417

Peter Lewis has for sale,

Clarke Cutter/grinder + manual + accessories. £100

Tel 01508 548273