



LANCASTER & MORECAMBE MODEL ENGINEERING SOCIETY

Secretary: David Wilson, 22 Naworth Drive, Carlisle, Cumbria, CA3 0DD

Email: secretary@lmmes.co.uk Telephone: 07721 020489



A brief history of our Society

It all began in November 1979 when a gentleman called Karl Latimer put up posters around the local area inviting like-minded people, interested in model engineering, to attend a meeting in Poulton. Approximately 20 people turned up and decided to form Lancaster & Morecambe Model Engineering Society.



Karl Latimer

For three years the founder members met monthly and had exhibitions of their models.

In 1982, the Society was offered the use of a field at Steamtown in Carnforth. Where they built a ground level miniature railway.



Track laying at Steamtown 1985

The track opened in 1985 on which the Society members could operate their own locomotives and rolling stock, allowing visitors of Steamtown the opportunity to enjoy this added attraction.

In 1995, Steamtown closed to the public when the ownership was changed and the Society was forced to abandon their site. We moved to our present location at Cinderbarrow alongside the picnic site in 1996. The site used to be a quarry and took ingenuity and great effort from about 20 of the members to get the site to the condition it is now. They set to with picks and shovels in all kinds of weather to prepare the ground ready to lay the track.

We had to bring water and electricity to the site, laying several hundred yards of underground pipes. For many months during the site's development the clubhouse was a converted chicken hut – basic but cosy.



Track Laying at Cinderbarrow

The track took 4,000 sleepers and 10,000 feet of rail to complete it. This involved an excessive amount of cutting, slotting and welding. Members also

constructed stone walls, a station area, signal box & signalling system, fences, passenger trucks and the carriage shed, to name but a few. The clubhouse shell is the only part of the site that has not been engineered by Society members!

After three years, in 1999, Cinderbarrow Miniature Railway was ready and opened to the public. Over 12,000 train rides were provided over the first six months.

The society has emerged stronger than ever with more than eighty members interested in building all manner of models, such as; steam & electric locomotives, stationary barn engines, clocks, radio controlled steam boats and sailing yachts, tanks, traction engines, motor engines and scale railway wagons and carriages.



Cinderbarrow open day 2018

In January 2018 a new Charitable Incorporated Organisation was formed and in March 2018 the Limited Company transferred all its assets to that new charity. Since then the charity has been responsible for all our activities.



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In 2019 the Society began construction of a Gauge 1 raised track (45mm gauge). This was delayed by the Covid pandemic, but completed in 2021.



Some trains running on the Gauge 1 track



The Cinderbarrow workshop

Also between 2019 and 2021 the Society built a new carriage shed based around 2 containers with cladding to match the clubhouse building.



Carriage shed under construction

Once the carriages had been moved out of the clubhouse building, the space formerly filled by rolling stock was used to construct a new workshop using equipment kindly donated by Malcolm Ford and a number of other members. This has become a great asset for the Society.

After more than 20 years of use, the main track had also deteriorated severely and in 2021 a project to replace all of it was started. Thanks to the hard work of many members, the inner track was completed in 2023.



Final adjustments are made to points for the new track

A Who's Who Guide to the Society

President: Stan Jackson

Chairman

Mark Brown

chairman@lmmes.co.uk



Vice-Chairman

Position vacant

Secretary

David Wilson

secretary@lmmes.co.uk



Treasurer

Andrew Dunn

treasurer@lmmes.co.uk



Other Trustees:

Adrian Dixon

Peter Livesley

Bevis Mulholland

David Wood

Richard Higgins

Glenn McQuire

Kevin Pearson

Society contacts

Membership Renewals	Ann Livesley (membership@lmmes.co.uk)
Boiler Inspections	Geoff Martell, Bob Sumner, Adrian Dixon, Ron Strachen and Stan Jackson
Financial Matters	Andrew Dunn (Treasurer)
Website	Andrew Dunn (admin@lmmes.co.uk)
Health & safety concerns	Mark Brown (Chairman)
Risk Assessments	David Wilson (Secretary)
Complaints	Mark Brown (Chairman)
Party Bookings	Ann Livesley (bookings@lmmes.co.uk)
Training Co-ordinator	David Wilson (Secretary)
Society Clothing	Andrew Dunn (Treasurer)
All other Matters	Mark Brown (Chairman)

Membership categories

Full Members including Partner & Young Person members have voting rights and can transport the public round the Miniature Railway after training has been completed.

Junior Members have no voting rights. They must be supervised at all times by their Guardian member. Their operating roles for the Miniature Railway are limited due to their age.

Guardian members are linked to Junior members. They may participate in Society activities with their Junior member but have no voting rights.

Honorary Members have full voting rights and can use Society facilities when they are open.

We are an equal opportunity society

Useful information

Signing In

Every visit to the Cinderbarrow site should be recorded by each member by signing the Members book in the clubhouse vestibule. All visitors must sign the Visitors book.

The Clubhouse

Our clubhouse has a small kitchen, male and female toilets, a communal area and a library, where policies, Company Rules, Company Minutes, Health and Safety and risk assessments documents are held.

Members bring their own food and milk, though tea & coffee are provided. All members are expected to clean up after themselves. The clubhouse may be used by all members at all times subject to it being unlocked.

There is a safe in the kitchen containing petty cash which can be used to purchase small items such as milk, etc. It can be opened with the correct code which is held by all Trustees. Details of all purchases must be entered on the petty cash sheet provided.

Public Running

The clubhouse is open when the railway is running for the public on Sundays & Bank Holidays and Thursday afternoons during the children's summer holidays.

Meetings

We usually have a formal meeting with a Guest Speaker once a month on the third Monday of the month. An informal meeting is held on the first Monday evening of most months. Further details are available on our website.

Working Parties

The clubhouse is open every Tuesday by our working parties who maintain the whole site and develop the railway between the hours of approximately 9.30am and 3.30pm. All help is welcomed even if it is only to put the kettle on!

Private Events

Groups who have booked the Miniature Railway for private rides on Non-public running days have exclusive use of the clubhouse.

Much more information is available on our web site and in the members' area which can be viewed after registering as a user at <http://lmmes.co.uk>.

Cinderbarrow Miniature Railway

Cinderbarrow Miniature Railway operates every Sunday and Bank Holiday from April until September. Members interested in locomotives (steam or electric) convey the public round our two tracks using their own locos or the Society electric locos. To do this safely at least five members are required to fulfil the roles involved. Members must be trained and certified for each role before operating the railway. The roles are:

1. Operating Superintendent

This person is in full control of the railway site, to ensure the smooth running of the locos, and is the first point of contact for members attending a public running day.

2. Station Master

Responsible for the safety of all passengers embarking and disembarking from the carriages.

3. Driver

Responsible for conveying the public using Steam or Electric Locomotives.

4. Guard

Responsible for the safety of all passengers when the train is in motion.

5. Crossing Keeper

Responsible for the crossing.

6. Signal Man

Controlling the steady flow of engines and trains with the use of signals.

Please refer to your membership handbook for the running and site rules for Cinderbarrow Miniature Railway.

Members are encouraged to register for access to the members' area of the website where they can see who is likely to be present at Cinderbarrow on public running days and also show their availability or otherwise to help on those days. Information about training, risk assessments and operating the railway is also available in the members' area.

Other sources of information

Our website

<http://lmmes.co.uk>

Our facebook page

<http://facebook.com/LMMES2018>

You will find much more up to date information, for example on claiming expenses and ordering Society clothing on the web site at <https://lmmes.co.uk/memberinfo/>, but you must register as a member on the web site first.