

BRANCH LIAISON SECRETARY

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Officers' Newsletter 170

(January 2019)

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Society Insurance Policy Renewal for 2019

The Insurance Policy Schedule and Public Liability Certificate for 2019 are now available and a copy of either or both can be provided on request.

The cover for portable branch equipment (eg digital projectors, laptops, PA systems) is on the basis of new for old and attracts an excess of £175.00. There is cover too, as before, under public liability for attending exhibitions and for officers' liability. Please note that the public liability cover has been increased to £5,000,000 which is in line with what some branches have been asked to provide more recently.

It is important to note that details of the policy are strictly confidential to Society Officers and should NOT be automatically distributed more widely to third parties.

Volume 3 of the British Standard Steam Locomotives

This book is now out of stock and is being removed from the website as sales are no longer possible. If any branches still hold stock of this title please let David Bird know so that he can fulfil any late orders for Volume 3 by using the remaining branch stock. Branches would have to post it out to the customer. Please contact David Bird using the details in the Officers Directory ie publications@rcts.org.uk or by telephoning 01628 823792.

Membership Packs and Updated Leaflets

These are now available and can be ordered from Bob Ballard using the usual contact details wrb.rcts@btinternet.com or 01908 562195. Please allow up to 2 weeks for delivery so if you need new packs and leaflets fairly soon do not leave your order until the last minute.

The information contained in this newsletter is for use of RCTS Officers and Members only and should not be communicated outside of the Society

Index for 2018 Newsletters and earlier Newsletters

The index for last year's newsletters is attached as Appendix 1. If you are missing any Newsletters for 2018, please ask and they can be forwarded to you. I also have access to a complete collection of earlier Newsletters dating from November 2000 which is Newsletter 1 in the present series. I do not know of a complete index for subject matter in these but one is being put together at the moment that can be made available once complete. If you would like a copy of any earlier newsletters, please ask.

Updating Branch information on the RCTS website

Please will all branches make sure that their branch information is kept up to date on the branch pages of the website – especially branch committee contact details. There has been a recent complaint that someone tried making contact only to find that the details were out of date. The good news in this case is that they did manage to make contact eventually and that specific problem has been sorted out. It is especially important to keep branch officer and branch contact details up to date for new members and those who would like to find out more about their local branch.

This is closely followed by branch activities, and reports on activities that have been completed so that members and anyone else having a look can see what we do. Branch activities, of course, includes where and when meetings take place and how to find them particularly if there is a change to the regular venue.

If you need some help with updates on the website please ask.

2017/2018 Exhibitions Return

You will find the 2017/2018 Exhibitions information, which is compiled from the branch exhibitions returns, attached as Appendix 2. This makes interesting reading and helps show the variety in branch activity throughout the Society when looking at exhibitions attended and sales figures. I know from my own branch experience how much is dependent on volunteers, exhibitions within a reasonable distance, cost of taking part, and a good display for advertising the Society and its publications, as well as book and other sales to support the branch finances. Thank you to everyone for sending in their returns, and to David Elsdon – Society Events and Exhibitions Officer, for collating and providing the information.

Kind regards

Irene

Appendix 1 – 2018 Newsletter Contents

Newsletter Number	Date	Contents
149	11-Jan-2018	Society Insurance Policy. Recruitment for 2017.
150	31-Jan-2018	Society Archive update.
151	23-Feb-2018	Officers' Conference 2017. Stationery. Regional Meetings. Accessibility of Meeting Venues. Communication. General Data Protection Regulation. Visiting the Branches. Appendices: Minutes of the OC; L&S Presentation; EMNESH Presentation.
152	5-Mar-2018	Farewell to Dick Hardy - Obituary.
153	15-Mar-2018	Annual Honorary Membership (AHL) and Summary Paper.
154	20-Mar-2018	Archive at Leatherhead Stationmaster's House - we have the keys!
155	27-Mar-2018	Promoting the RCTS is its 90th Year
156	4-Apr-2018	Regional meetings.
157	17-Apr-2018	Chairman's Report - Society AGM 28 April 2018. Recommended speaker.
158	24-Apr-2018	GDPR - Guidance for Branches, Privacy Policy and putting both into practice. Appendices: GDPR Guidance for Branches; Privacy Policy
159	27-Apr-2018	90th Anniversary Membership Offer. 'What the RCTS can offer YOU' flyer. List of branches with contact details. Appendix sent separately - coloured advertising poster to be used for the promotional offer.
160	29-Apr-2018	Regional Meetings Update. Venues. Appendix 1 - Regional Meetings 2018 Agenda and notes to with the Agenda. Appendix 2 sent separately - sample shared branch advertising poster.
161	1-May-2018	Anthony Brown - Obituary.
162	22-Jun-2018	GDPR - update. Regional Meetings update.
163	14-Aug-2018	90th Anniversary Special Membership Offer - A Reminder. How is it going so far? Website 'dates for your diary' reminder to update. Membership offer advert.
164	11-Sep-2018	90th Anniversary Special Membership Offer. GDPR compliance. RCTS Stationery. RCTS Publicity at the Severn Valley Railway Class 50 Diesel Gala. In Brief - Regional Meetings Summary document, OC invite/reminder. Press release.
165	2-Oct-2018	Officers' Conference outline and appendices. Armstrong Whitworth Books. RCTS Stationery - quick reminder. Appendices: 2018 OC agenda; 2018 OC attendance record; 2018 Regional Meetings Summary; 2018 Regional Meetings precis of Summary Document.
166	4-Oct-2018	Membership Rates for 2019. New Membership Offer for 2019. Digital Projectors.
167	16-Oct-2018	2018 Officers Conference Archive and Library Presentation
168	14-Nov-2018	Branch Order Form - publications. New publication - LMS Patriot 4-6-0s. Where to find the Trustee and MC meeting minutes on the website. Appendix sent separately as a word document - blank branch publications order form.
169	23-Dec-2018	Digital Equipment. Officers' Directory for Feb/Mar 2019. Branch AGM minutes. Index to Newsletters for 2018. OC 2018. Experience! AVR - a replacement for the former AHL. Appendix: OC minutes.

Appendix 2 - 2017/2018 Exhibition Return



2017 / 2018 EXHIBITION RETURN BASED ON BRANCH RETURNS

BRANCH	Number of Exhibitions Attended		Total cost of stand		Total Sales £		Society Publications Sold £	
	2018	2017	£	Days	2018	2017	2018	2017
Bristol	1	1	112	1	1027	864	87	52
Cambridge	6	5		6	188	66	Nil	Nil
Cheltenham	1	2	Nil	1	37	35	27	118
Chichester	Nil	Nil			Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Croydon & South London	4	5	218	5	651	695	52	150
East Midlands	12	11	314	17	2884	2375	584	398
Furness, Lakes & Lune	Nil	Nil			Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Hitchin*	5	7	465	7	883	3064	96	385
Humberside	Nil	Nil			Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ipswich	7	8	104	7	792	1365	10	80
Lancashire & North West	Nil	Nil			Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Merseyside, Cheshire & North Wales	Nil	Nil			Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Milton Keynes	2	2	20	3	335	310	81	75
Northampton	Nil	Nil			Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
North East	14	15	591	26	3971	4500	728	550
Peterborough	Nil	Nil			Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Scottish	1	1	114	2	592	672	183	152
Sheffield	Nil	Nil			Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
South East	4	4	106	7	506	771	61	192
South Essex	1	Nil	45	Nil	253	Nil	71	Nil
South Wales	2	1	25	4	297	210	Nil	Nil
Solent	3	2	90	5	1078	725	347	185
Surrey	3	4	97	7	793	1316	197	295
Sussex	Nil	Nil			Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

BRANCH	Number of Exhibitions Attended		Total cost of stand		Total Sales £		Society Publications Sold £	
	2018	2017	£	Days	2018	2017	2018	2017
Thames Valley	Nil	Nil			Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Watford	Nil	Nil			Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
West of England	1	2	70	2	982	589	Nil	Nil
West Midlands	Nil	1	70		982	137	Nil	84
Windsor & Maidenhead	1	1	50	1	189	233	197	84
West Riding	Nil	Nil			Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTALS	70	74	2445	101	15717	17927	2600	2800
			Average cost per day £24.20		Average take per day £156	Average take per day £?		

* Note: Hitchin Branch figures include the Alexandra Palace Exhibition. Due to the high costs involved recently this is the last Exhibition to be funded by the Society for the foreseeable future.

David. Elsdon
January 2019