

LEISTON WORKS RAILWAY

NEWSLETTER

**Welcome to Leiston Works Railway (LWR) 1st Newsletter
and very many thanks for becoming a member**



Our dream for the future

Number 1.....SEPTEMBER 2011

Getting started: It may seem as though not much has been happening at the LWR since our Open Public Meeting at Leiston Community Centre early in July; but over the past couple of months the Committee has been beavering away.

The main priority has been to put together a constitution. This is a formal requirement for any trust and ensures that finances are properly regulated and monitored. This task is now nearing completion and eventually copies will be available to members on request.

We are currently looking for new committee members to fill various roles, including those of Publicity Officer and Newsletter Editor. If you think you have the relevant skills - or simply the enthusiasm - and might like to join us, then do please contact **Denis Cahagan** on **01728 452267**.

Track bed clearing: On Saturday 15th October at 9 a.m. we're going to start clearing the old track-bed of all the fly-tipping and rubble - of which there is a considerable amount. Also, we'll begin cutting and clearing the huge amount of overgrown vegetation. Many hands make light work; so, if you would like to come and help, then please contact **Trevor Wrench** on **07999 668597**.

We're going to need wheel barrows, shovels, secateurs, etc. We won't need chain saws at this stage - Health & Safety!!! - but don't forget your gloves, as there are plenty of brambles and nettles to remove. Also remember to bring a flask and packed lunch, if you plan to be with us all day. We'll also have available to us a tractor and trailer to take the rubble away. However, if you know of anybody locally who could use the rubble, then please again contact Trevor.

Rails & Sleepers: We are also currently exploring various possibilities of acquiring railway line. If you have any suggestions, ideas or contacts, they'd be most welcome and we ask you to contact Trevor.

Fundraising: This is going to be a major priority for the LWR, as we already have to pay back a £5,000 loan from the Transport Trust.

This money was used - along with some very generous donations - to help buy the track bed, the overall purchase price of which was £17,500, excluding legal fees, land registration, etc.

So, if you have any suggestions as to how we might raise money, then please do phone **Stephen Ginger** on **01728 831902** who is co-ordinating our fundraising activities. To get the ball rolling, here are a couple of fundraising events already planned

LWR 1940's Dance

The LWR is pleased to announce its first fundraising event - a themed 1940's dance - which will take place at Leiston St Margaret's Football Club, Abbey Road, Leiston (opposite Jewsons) on Saturday 3rd December 2011 at 7.30 p.m. The Committee felt that something '*a little bit different*' would be a novel idea for getting things started and, thanks to members Danielle and Shaun Wilson of 'Simply Delicious' in Leiston, we have secured the services of Andy Garner. As a disc jockey using the name AV8, he plays 1940's music and likes everything from that period. Andy is determined to make the evening very special and is planning to bring his Second World War jeep (weather permitting!) and other memorabilia with him to help create a 'village hall' dance evening typical of that era. There will also be some '1940's dancers' to help people to learn the 'latest' dance moves as well as doing some of their own demonstrations. But, be warned, in order to make sure there's no trouble, the 'American Military Police' will be manning the door!

Everyone will be encouraged to dress in 1940's style dress or Allied uniforms, although this of course is optional. There will be a draw and draw prize donations will be greatly appreciated. Danielle and Shaun will be providing at reasonable prices locally sourced refreshments from a BBQ just outside the Hall with a percentage from their proceeds going towards the LWR Funds. A licensed bar will be available. It doesn't matter whether you can do 'Lindi-hop' or not; just come along for an enjoyable evening of 1940's nostalgia. Tickets are available by phoning **Stephen** on **01728 831902** (£5.00 for LWR members and £7.00 for non-members). Please note that tickets must be bought in advance.

BARN DANCE FOR THE LWR

LWR member and keen barn dancer, Jim Girling has kindly offered to organise a barn dance. This will take place next year on Saturday 10th March 2012 at St. Margaret's Football Club starting at 7.30 pm. The ever popular 'Sizewell Gap' will be the band for the evening and there will be a caller to take people through the dance steps.

Tickets (£6.00 for LWR members & £8.00 for non-members) must be bought in advance either from **Stephen** on **01728 831902** or from **Jim** on **07800 500278**. Tickets will be sold on a first come first, served basis, because the Hall has a maximum recommended capacity of 120 persons.

Everybody will be asked to bring a plate of food for the interval buffet. The licensed bar will again be available. There'll be a draw for which donations will be most welcome; we're also planning a rolling competition for a bottle of whisky!

We do hope you'll be able to make it to both of these fun events. So, dates for your diary:

1940's Dance on Saturday 3rd December 2011 at 7.30 pm

Barn Dance on Saturday 10th March 2012 at 7.30 pm



A view of part of the track bed early in 2011