

## **Kirklees Model Boat Club Steam Update**

As you I hope are all aware the Kirklees Model Boat Club is trying to get steam back onto the water at Batley and so to generate some interest in this the first Steam Convention is to be held at Wilton Park on the 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2010.

To try to help as many members as possible get their models on the water the club has put time, funds and effort into setting up the required facilities to enable testing of steam models. As the club is a member of the Southern Federation of Model Engineering Societies the rules put together by that organisation for the testing of model boilers and steam plant are to be used to classify and certify our models. It is important for all members of the Kirklees Club to note just what is required to run steam models at the park and what the club is in a position to offer to assist. The 'Blue Book' requirements as written by the Southern Federation require bi-annual pressure testing of boilers over 3 bar-litres capacity and annual steam tests are recommended for all boilers, which incorporates a calibration check of the pressure gauge and a steam test to prove the operation of the safety valve. The Kirklees Model Boat Club at this time are able to offer steam tests for all manufactured boilers and plant that fall below the 3 bar-litre limit however the club is not yet in a position to offer pressure tests for boilers over the 3 bar-litre limit. Homemade boilers of any size must be accompanied by a pressure test certificate that has been provided by an accredited body which will have incorporated an agreed series of inspections during the build process.

All manufactured boilers should be accompanied by their original manufacturers certificate to prove identity and working pressure however well known manufactured boilers below 3 bar-litres may be identifiable and therefore can be certificated with a steam test.

Any uncertificated boilers should not be operated at the park as the club insurers have stated that these boilers will not be insured in the event of a failure. Any club members operating uncertificated boilers will therefore be doing so entirely at their own risk and independently of any club organised event.

Please refer to the club website for further details of the requirements of the steam test and feel free to direct any questions to Richard Simpson either at the pond side on a Sunday morning or via [richarda\\_simpson@hotmail.com](mailto:richarda_simpson@hotmail.com)