

Rail enthusiasts are all aboard this popular Marlow club Group's on right track

By James Nadal

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THIS week we take a look at the Marlow and District Railway Society, which was founded in 1977 by a group of railway enthusiasts based in Marlow.

The group has around 55 members who meet on the third Thursday of the month (no meeting in August) at the British Red Cross Society building in Victoria Road at 8pm.

Society secretary Malcom Margetts said: "We cater for all interests in all aspects of railways historically going back to the 18th and 19th century.

"We are interested in railways throughout the world and some of our members are really very experienced travellers.

"We have speakers on a wide range of subjects and normally 30 to 40 people attend our meetings.

"We usually attract two to three non-members every meeting - they are open to anybody. Visitors are always welcome."

Expert speakers specialising in overseas travel, accidents and investigation work and historical railway development regularly attend to talk to members and show films and slides to illustrate their topics.

The society's membership comes from all surrounding areas including High Wycombe, Bourne End, Henley, Maidenhead and Twyford.

It publishes its own illustrated magazine, called the Marlow Donkey after an old steam train, and rail enthusiasts can take a look at members' photographs on a wide range of trains and locations.

A gallery page was set up in 2007 to mark the society's 30th anniversary displaying historic pictures of the Marlow branch line and the now closed Bourne End to High Wycombe line.

Two of the latest additions to the picture gallery are Hornpipe private steam railway near Windsor and The Gare de l'Est in Paris.

Mr Margetts said the society is constantly looking to expand and attract new people. He said: "Our aim is always to increase membership."



TRAIN TIMES: Members of the Marlow and District Railway Society enjoy a visit to Bletchley



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MARLOW ORGANISATIONS

For more information about the Marlow and District Railway Club and its activities visit the group's website at www.mdrs.org.uk