

Single News – the KSM Volunteers News-brief – February 2021

Covid-19 update

With the current Covid-19 lockdown still in effect volunteer working at Kempton has to remain suspended. However with infection rates dropping and a successful vaccination programme being conducted it may not be that long until we are able to return to our work there.

The situation regarding opening to the public was also discussed at the last KGES committee meeting. Not surprisingly it was agreed that an opening in March was now not possible. Careful consideration will have to be given to many aspects of our operation, such as refreshments, guided tours, numbers admitted, etc. The museum will need an extensive clean and tidy up and any government regulations that are in force will need to be understood and adhered to. In light of all of this, it was felt unlikely that we could be back in steam before June, but the committee will of course continue to monitor the situation and develop the plans required to get visitors safely back on site as soon as possible.

New signage

Red Kite continue to help us to develop our branding and have provided us with draft proposals for a range of new museum and railway signs for use across the site. Some examples of these are below.



Museum publicity

Stephen Fielding continues to develop our on-line presence with some good and interesting results. Numbers of followers on both Facebook and Instagram continue to rise and our social media presence has been ranked at 2nd place when compared with other similar organisations (behind the London Museum of Water and Steam who are ranked 1st). The Facebook page was promoted over the New Year with the aim of gaining new followers. The expenditure required for this was just £19.99!

The YouTube Mercury Arc Rectifier video has received 57,961 views and 358 comments, with viewer demographics of 97.5% male and 2.5% female – the presenter of this video obviously lacks sex appeal!

Due to the uncertainty over re-opening this year there are currently no plans to produce a 2021 brochure.

KGES Annual General Meeting

All KGES members should now have received notification of the AGM for 2020 (note that for Family memberships this notification goes only to the prime family member). A physical meeting is of course out of the question so the process will be conducted by either email or written exchange, with this being dependent upon the member communication preferences. Nominations for KGES committee positions may be made by all members with these being needed by 13th February. The opportunity to vote on the nominations will then be provided to all members with the process being concluded by end of February.

For further information on any of these items or on other things going on at Kempton please speak with your team leader, or see the minutes from the most recent KGES committee meeting located here: <http://www.kemptonsteam.org/kempton-great-engine-society-meeting-minutes/>