



STOOMCENTRUM MALDEGEM
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Press Release.
Steam Festival 2018

Next year's steam festival will be held at Maldegem, Belgium, on Saturday 5th and Sunday 6th of May, 2018.

Planning is proceeding well. The theme of the festival will be 100 years since the end of the First World War. There should be about 7 locos in steam on narrow and standard gauges including two narrow gauge locos from the UK. Kerr Stuart "Joffre" class 0-6-0t from Apedale and Kerr Stuart 0-4-0st "Peter Pan". Maldegem's own Hanomag 0-4-0wt "Yvonne" of 1906 will also be operating; this loco is believed to have been taken "POW" by the British during WW1. On the standard gauge, the last surviving Prussian class T7 0-6-0t from Train 1900 in Luxembourg should be attending as guest loco to represent the German side. Three of Maldegem's own locos will be in service; Austerity 0-6-0st "WD196", Avonside 0-4-0st "Fred" and St Leonard 0-4-0t "Yvonne" of 1893. Several WW1 themed attractions are planned including re-enactors, and a small memorial festival involving a steam loco and a large work of art featuring a poppy each day. As usual, there will be an international selection of trade stands present.

Maldegem lays about 14km from Bruges on the Belgian – Dutch border.

For groups wishing to attend from the UK, transport from Zeebrugge P&O ferries terminal (nightly sailing from Hull) or Bruges railway station can be arranged by preserved bus.

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