

A steam locomotive made a historic comeback as it reopened a model railway more than 70 years after the first time it did it.

The 'Eva May' was the same engine that reopened the track for the St Albans & District Model Engineering Society for their ribbon-breaking ceremony on 17th May.

What made it so significant was that the same train had reopened the railway when it was first opened back in 1949.



More than 70 years later, 'Eva May' marked another milestone in local history by opening the track for the 2026 steaming season.

The society's model railway accommodates both 3.5-inch and 5-inch gauge locomotives.

Welcoming live steam and electric engines alike, it is a working testament to the skill, dedication and

craftsmanship that the model engineering society members bring to their hobby as the track was revisited, the St Albans & District Model Engineering Society said.

For those inspired by the story of 'Eva May', the St Albans & District Model Engineering Society encouraged you to see the lively world of model engineering for yourself.

If you already own a live steam locomotive that is currently idle, why not consider revitalising the mini loco?

The St Albans model engineering society is ready to lend a hand.

Ribbon Cutting in 1949

For the whole family, the St Albans & District Model Engineering Society extended an invitation to the BIG St Albans Model Show 2026.



The event is scheduled to take place on Saturday, September 26 and Sunday, September 27 at Townsend Church of England School, High Oaks, St Albans.

Doors will open at 10am both days.

This year's gathering will offer a range of activities from slot car racing to Tamiya RC trucks.

Further details leading up to the event will be available via signage throughout the city or by checking the St Albans MES website.