

The monthly club  
newsletter for  
Bournemouth &  
District Society of  
Model Engineers

Secretary: Dave Finn  
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## Chairman's Thoughts

**O**ur coach trip to London Model Engineering Exhibition was well attended by over fifty members and guests. Thanks to Dave Finn for organising the trip. Unfortunately, when travelling through London with a 55 seat coach it is not easy to rectify a wrong turn, but I'm sure the driver did his best given the circumstances – better to have happened on the way home.

The Annual Dinner at The Crooked Beam Restaurant last month filled the restaurant, with 44 members attending. We all had a very enjoyable evening, the meal once again was excellent and well served by the staff. Thanks to Dick for organising the event. We have provisionally booked the restaurant for the fourth Wednesday in January 2009, so make a note in your diaries now.

The Committee is coming up with a new format for the Daily Running Log - one that all drivers of locos, even battery electrics, must fill in. It will contain some basic information for when they run on the track. I believe even the 16 mm crew will also be filling in a Running Log. Also, it is important to record that each driver's train is fit to run on the track, including checking that the driving and passenger trolleys are fit for purpose.

If you are setting up the platform please make sure that the large warning sign is placed in a position up the slope from the main footpath so that any passengers see it before they board the trains.

Forthcoming dates: Open Weekend Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> and Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2008. Our Charity Day will be on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2008. With our charity still yet to be decided, have any members got a particular charity they would like us to support?

We have also been contacted by the Bournemouth Chernobyl Group who will be bringing a party of children to Bournemouth in July and have expressed a wish to visit our track. They will be coming to us on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> July. I hope everyone can help. We may also be approached by two other local Chernobyl groups as well.

**David Martin**

## Secretary's Notes

**A**t a recent visit to another club's track, during a very pleasant running session with passengers being carried, the leading bogie of the loco on the front of the first train derailed. This was not a great problem as the train was not affected and it stopped safely within a few feet.

The driver secured the train and moved back to ensure that the driver of the following train was aware of the danger of his stopped train. Having done this, he returned to his train to sort the bogie out and then moved off.

However, the driver of the second train did not alert the driver of the third train of the danger and very nearly had the following fully loaded train parked on top of him. The Track Marshal of the Day went ballistic, rightly so.

For our own members, not only at our track, but when you visit other railways operating, as we do, on a 'line of site' basis and not signalled, you must be aware that it is your responsibility to protect your train if you need to stop for any reason, such as lack of steam, or an obstruction on the track, etc. Don't just sit there and expect the following driver to have seen you. Get off and make sure.

**Dave Finn**

## Editor's Ramblings

**F**ebruary's Tech-Chat Meeting proved to be very interesting, even though only six members attended. Most of the evening was spent discussing 16mm narrow gauge locomotives, mainly steam, but also battery powered. We also spent some time trying to solve a problem with an oriental rotary table that had the worm wheel cut with the teeth eccentric to the blank. We ended up watching a video clip of a French radio amateur making a triode valve from scratch before eating chocolate biscuits.

These meetings have no fixed agenda - what is discussed depends entirely on who turns up, what they bring with them and whatever takes everybody's fancy. It's a shame that more members don't seem to want to get involved.

**Dick Ganderton**

## Gary Garret

### Gary Garret

It was the early 1990s, while on holiday from London visiting their son Alan, that Gary and Ella Garret wandered into Kings Park one Sunday afternoon to see what the Bournemouth boys were up to and met Derek and Lena Adams. This was the start of another long friendship for the two couples. During the afternoon Ray Warren said they should go to Poole Park Railway and a few days later Gary and Ella wandered onto the station for the first time.

A member of Canvey Railway & Model Engineering Club for many years and also active in the Southern Federation, Gary could be found helping to man their stand whenever it was needed. He made a significant contribution to model engineering throughout his life. After being released from a Japanese prisoner of war camp, he returned to his fiancée, and she hardly recognised the emaciated figure before her. Slowly regaining his strength, he was eager to find work and marry his lovely Ella. He worked for a bank in the City. Gary never wanted to speak about his war experiences and even though he was to bear injuries inflicted during that terrible time for the rest of his life, never wanted to talk about it. Further, he never held a grudge and would say "that was in the past and should be left there, it does no one any good brooding on it". A great source of sadness to both Ella and Gary was the loss of their daughter Valerie, who died of cancer tragically young leaving a daughter.

When in the late 1990s Ella passed away, a big hole was left in Gary's life that could never be filled and when he suffered heart trouble while driving his car, Alan decided that his dad should move in with him. It was after the move that Gary joined the B&DSME and became a familiar sight at our gatherings. He particularly enjoyed visiting Littledown and Richard Knott's Tuesday evenings at Luscombe Valley Railway, always accompanied by Alan, who seemed happy to be there listening to technical chat that he had little comprehension of. So long as his dad was happy that was fine.

About a week before Christmas I heard that Gary had got up in the morning and made himself a cup of tea, sat down in his favourite chair and went to sleep.

I have some very pleasant memories of summer days in Poole Park shared with Ella, Gary and Ray Warren. The two fellas drove the trains while I took the fares, made tea and chatted with Ella.

Our sincere condolences to Alan on his loss.

**Brian Merrifield**



### For Sale

5" Gauge 0-4-0 Diesel Shunter  
Powered by a Sinclair C5 motor.  
12 volt battery included.  
Speedometer fitted.  
Also included is a spare, new C5 motor.  
All in good working order.

Asking price £350.00  
Contact John Trew on 01202 744640



## Annual Subscriptions

**M**ike Mortimer, our Treasurer, reminds all members that the Annual Subscriptions were due on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2008. The current rate is £20.00 for Members or £21.00 to include your partner. Payment should be sent to Mike at 18, Collwood Close, Fleetsbridge, Poole, Dorset BH15 3HF. Cheques payable to B&DSME, please.

### For Sale

Denbigh 1/2" Bench Drilling Machine  
single phase motor £40.00

Taylor Hobson floor standing  
Engraving Machine £100.00

Contact Peter Lejeune Tel: 01929 424650



Photograph Dick Ganderton

**M**olten cast iron is poured into a mould at the Swan Foundry in Banbury. This picture was taken during a recent visit to the foundry. If you are into model boats the company produces a range of 967 different bronze propellers!

### Direction of Running

Sunday	10 <sup>th</sup> February	Anticlockwise	Wednesday	13 <sup>th</sup> February	Clockwise
Sunday	17 <sup>th</sup> February	Clockwise *	Wednesday	20 <sup>th</sup> February	Anticlockwise
Sunday	24 <sup>th</sup> February	Anticlockwise	Wednesday	27 <sup>th</sup> February	Clockwise
Sunday	2 <sup>nd</sup> March	Anticlockwise *	Wednesday	5 <sup>th</sup> March	Clockwise
Sunday	9 <sup>th</sup> March	Clockwise	Wednesday	12 <sup>th</sup> March	Anticlockwise
Sunday	16 <sup>th</sup> March	Anticlockwise *	Wednesday	19 <sup>th</sup> March	Clockwise
Sunday	23 <sup>rd</sup> March	Clockwise	Wednesday	26 <sup>th</sup> March	Anticlockwise

\* denotes 16mm Garden Railway open - weather permitting.

### B&DSME Diary Dates

20 <sup>th</sup> February 2008	Monthly Meeting; 7.30 pm. Muscliff Community Centre. <i>Small-scale Foundry Work by Noel Shelly</i>
6 <sup>th</sup> March 2008	Tech-Chat (Informal Discussion Meeting); 7.00 for 7.30 pm. Gordon Miles',
19 <sup>th</sup> March 2008	Monthly Meeting; 7.30 pm. Muscliff Community Centre. <i>Plain Bearings - Cast, Sintered, Wrought &amp; Plastics by Graham Tate</i>
3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2008	Tech-Chat (Informal Discussion Meeting); 7.00 for 7.30 pm. Venue to be decided.
16 <sup>th</sup> April 2008	Monthly Meeting; 7.30 pm. Muscliff Community Centre. <i>RNLI by David Howell.</i>

### Other Events

Large Scale Model Rail  
12<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> April 2008  
The Warwickshire Exhibition Centre

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### Luscombe Valley Happenings

Here are the LVR dates for 2008

Cobweb Run	12 <sup>th</sup> - 13 <sup>th</sup> April
Steam Enthusiast Weekend	3 <sup>rd</sup> - 4 <sup>th</sup> May
Gala Weekend	26 <sup>th</sup> - 27 <sup>th</sup> July
Autumn Running Weekend	6 <sup>th</sup> - 7 <sup>th</sup> September
Steam Enthusiast Weekend	27 <sup>th</sup> - 28 <sup>th</sup> September
Humbug Day	20 <sup>th</sup> December



## Speedy News

**P**rogress on the new boiler has been slowed, partly due to the weather as Merlin has to work outside and also a painful problem with his arm has played its part. Because it would take several months before the boiler would be finished and out of his workshop, he decided to ask for assistance from his friend, Pete Carr, in Bristol.

Early in January Merlin and I travelled to Bristol in his car to have the final soldering operation done for us. This took an hour or so and three more talking and drinking tea. So we now have a complete boiler that needs pressure testing for leaks before the flags are put out. Hopefully by the time you read this we will know if there are any problems, wish us luck!

My last plea for someone to make new drive pins and re-bush the coupling and connecting rods resulted in David Boot agreeing to have a look at the job for us. Very sadly there has been a bereavement in his family and it will probably be a little while before he is back in his workshop. Our condolences to him and his wife Lorna for the loss of their daughter to cancer. David joined the Society about a year ago and has attended mostly the Tec-Chat evenings. Last October he volunteered to take on the booking of evening speakers from January this year.



The next little job to be tackled on *Speedy* after the wheels are back with me will be to machine up two eccentric straps for the axle pumps. If this is the job you have been waiting for, please give me a call and I will add you to my list of volunteers.

**Brian Merrifield 01202 683701**

## Websites Worth Visiting

**T**his month we have an 'on-line shop' stocking model engineers supplies and a couple of websites with interesting video clips showing the manufacture of unusual objects. You will need broadband to be able to download these clips.

<http://paillard.claude.free.fr/>

*This French video is a 'must view' item, showing a French radio amateur, callsign F2FO, making a batch of triode valves from scratch. How he manipulates the glass tube will make you green with envy - how many times have you succeeded in cutting off the right length of gauge glass cleanly? Scroll down the page and click on 'Fabrication d'une lampe triode' to view the video clip. Mick Baker kindly did a translation from the French for me - if you want a copy just send me an e-mail requesting 'Triode Valve'* George Wheatley

[www.jwst.nasa.gov/](http://www.jwst.nasa.gov/)

*This is the website for the James Webb Space Telescope (JWST).*

Norman Kitcher

[www.jwst.nasa.gov/resources/Fabrication.mov](http://www.jwst.nasa.gov/resources/Fabrication.mov)

*One of a large selection of video clips showing construction of the components of the JWST*

<http://www.maccmodels.co.uk/index.htm>

*Macc Model Engineers Supplies claims to sell everything a model engineer could ever need. I used their 'on-line shop' recently for some copper tube and their service was very good.* Dick Ganderton



## Newsletter By E-mail

If you want to receive your copy of the Society's monthly Newsletter as a .pdf file, attached to an e-mail, then you **must** let Dick know, by e-mail, sent from the computer you want to receive it on.