

## Chairman's Thoughts

Well, it's come to that time of year again; when all systems are go for our Santa Special on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December. Help would be appreciated on the day, food will be provided for all those that help. The scenery has been checked out and repaired, the lights sorted out and the presents wrapped. Hopefully the weather will be kind to us. We have had a few volunteers for Santa and the new Mr Claus has been contacted, thanks to all those who offered their services.

We are looking forward to seeing you all at the Christmas Party on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December. Please bring cakes, crisps, sandwiches, etc., as in past years, for the Party - sorry, no burgers this year. Prizes for the Christmas Raffle would also be very much appreciated.

The handrail alongside the ramp has been installed but not painted, due to the bad weather that we have been having. A gate is now under construction to keep unsupervised children out of the steaming bays. We do want people to take an interest, but children must be supervised by an adult when in this area - it is the responsibility of all members to keep a watchful eye on this.

The matter of mentoring new members was discussed at the last Committee Meeting and it was decided that it will be offered to all new members. It will be in the form of helpful advice on the preparation of a loco for the track, driving, cleaning down the loco after a run and finally when the driver feels confident progressing to passenger hauling. Part will consist of driving the *Shed* around the track to get a feel for braking, etc. and not having to worry about watching the fire and water level as you would on a steam loco. I wish this had been available to me when I first joined the Society, as my first few trips around the old track at Kings Park were very daunting.

The B&DSME Annual Dinner at the Crooked Beam Restaurant will take place on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2010 and I would suggest, if you wish to attend, that you get your booking into Dick as soon as possible. It is highly recommended by all members who have attended in the past and places are limited.

Diane and I wish everybody a Happy Christmas and a healthy New Year.

The next Committee Meeting is at 7.30pm, Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2010 at the Littledown Centre.

~~Polly Rally Day at Littledown Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2010~~

IMLEC 2010 at Littledown Saturday & Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> July 2010

**David Martin**



Editor  
Dick Ganderton  
'Graskop'  
76 Dewlands Road  
Verwood, Dorset  
BH31 6PN  
[dick@graskop.demon.co.uk](mailto:dick@graskop.demon.co.uk)  
Tel: (01202) 822701

Secretary  
Dave Finn  
Tel: (01202) 474599

© 2009 B&DSME. No part of this Newsletter may be reproduced without the permission of the Editor.

B&DSME is a Company Limited by Guarantee. Registered in England. Number 3351832

## Editor's Ramblings

Make a note of the Annual Dinner on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2010 at the Crooked Beam Restaurant, Jumpers, Christchurch. 7.00pm for 7.30pm. You will find the Menu with this Newsletter. Please let me have your Menu Choices and payment as soon as possible, please. Not only does it make my life easier, but the number of places are limited and will fill up very quickly.

Our youngest grandson, Harry, recently celebrated his fourth birthday in real style. He asked for his party to have a railway theme, so his mother booked the Rhyl Miniature Railway! It was a great success, so much so that three other mums booked the railway for their kids' parties. Of course, Grandad was in his element, even managing a ride in the cab of the engine. The railway is the oldest miniature railway in the UK and is 15" gauge. They even have a twice size version of our *Shed*, albeit powered by a diesel engine, and this was the engine on duty for Harry's party, being easier to prepare than one of their steamers.

**Dick Ganderton**

## Coach Outing - 2010 London Model Engineering Exhibition

A coach has been booked to the London Model Engineering Exhibition at Alexandra Palace on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2010. Leaving Littledown at 8.00 am, it will pick up at Meeting House Lane, Ringwood at 8.10 am. The coach fare will be £14.00 for adults and £7.00 for under 16s. That's the same price as for the 2009 trip!

**Mike Mortimer** is taking bookings - book your seats early.

## Model Engineering Events

11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> December 2009

Model Engineer Exhibition. Sandown Park Racecourse.

13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> February 2010

Model Railway Exhibition, Gartell Light Railway, Templecombe, Somerset.  
10.00am to 5.00pm Saturday, (4.00pm Sunday). Our 16mm NG members will be there with their *Pigeon Bottom* layout and the Gartell LR will be running a train service.

## Direction of Running

Sunday	6 <sup>th</sup> December	Anticlockwise *	Wednesday	9 <sup>th</sup> December	Clockwise
Sunday	13 <sup>th</sup> December	Clockwise	Wednesday	16 <sup>th</sup> December	Anticlockwise
Sunday	20 <sup>th</sup> December	Anticlockwise	Wednesday	23 <sup>rd</sup> December	Clockwise
Sunday	27 <sup>th</sup> December	Clockwise	Wednesday	30 <sup>th</sup> December	Anticlockwise
Sunday	3 <sup>rd</sup> January	Clockwise	Wednesday	6 <sup>th</sup> January	Anticlockwise
Sunday	10 <sup>th</sup> January	Anticlockwise	Wednesday	13 <sup>th</sup> January	Clockwise
Sunday	17 <sup>th</sup> January	Clockwise *	Wednesday	20 <sup>th</sup> January	Anticlockwise
Sunday	24 <sup>th</sup> January	Anticlockwise	Wednesday	27 <sup>th</sup> January	Clockwise

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

## B&DSME Diary Dates

13 <sup>th</sup> December 2009	Santa Run (Sunday); Littledown Miniature Railway.
16 <sup>th</sup> December 2009	Monthly Meeting; 7.30 pm. Muscliff Community Centre. <i>Annual Christmas Party.</i>
7 <sup>th</sup> January 2010	Tech-Chat (Informal Discussion Meeting); 7.00 for 7.30 pm. <i>Gordon Miles. Please let Gordon know if you are attending.</i>
20 <sup>th</sup> January 2010	Monthly Meeting; 7.30 pm. Muscliff Community Centre. <i>Kevin Patience, Underwater Salvage.</i>
27 <sup>th</sup> January 2010	Annual Society Dinner. The Crooked Beam Restaurant, 2, The Grove, Christchurch BH23 2HA. <i>Dick Ganderton.</i>
4 <sup>th</sup> February 2010	Tech-Chat (Informal Discussion Meeting); 7.00 for 7.30 pm. <i>Venue to be decided.</i>
17 <sup>th</sup> February 2010	Monthly Meeting; 7.30 pm. Muscliff Community Centre. <i>Phil Hosey, Air Safety &amp; Accident Investigation.</i>

## Luscombe Valley Happenings

[www.luscombevalleysteam.com](http://www.luscombevalleysteam.com)

Humbug Day

19<sup>th</sup> December

## Newsletter By E-mail

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

Typeset by Dick Ganderton in Gill Sans using Adobe InDesign CS v3.0.1 on an Apple Macintosh Dual 2.5GHz PowerPC G5 running Mac OS X v10.4.11 Tiger.

## 2010 Annual Subscriptions

**M**ike Mortimer will be collecting Annual Subscriptions at the December Meeting. So bring your cheque book with you. Subscriptions are still £20 or £21 for you and your partner. If you want to post your cheque, Mike's address is 18, Collwood Close, Fleetsbridge, Poole, Dorset BH15 3HF.

## Visit to Mitutoyo

The visit to Mitutoyo UK's Andover facility, arranged by David Boote just before he died, was a great success. It was disappointing that only ten members took advantage of the chance to have a look at one of the major players in the field of Metrology.

To say that the weather that evening was foul was an understatement, but we were met with a magnificent buffet meal, after which we were given a presentation on the history and ethos of the company. At the end of the presentation we were each given pencil and paper and asked to write down how many calipers Mitutoyo made, worldwide, in a month. John Hoyle guessed 230,000, Derek Higby 150,000. The correct number was 190,000 so a tiebreaker was held with John coming out the winner of a Mitutoyo 6" Digimatic Caliper. Derek had to be content with the next model down!

Next we were shown round the 'showroom'. When David Boote arranged the visit he had asked that we be shown how to measure small holes accurately. John Hoyle had brought along a 1930s petrol engine crankcase and cylinder that he was restoring and this was duly set up on one of the huge co-ordinate measuring machines more often used for high tech Rolls Royce components. It was fascinating to watch as the probe traced its way round the bore at different levels. The operator was then able to correct for a slight error in vertical alignment using the computer display and the machine then repeated the measurements.

A big thank you to Mitutoyo UK for a very interesting and instructive evening.



## 3 1/2" Gauge Open Day

I am planning an Open Day on Saturday 24th April 2010 at Littledown for 3 1/2" Gauge locomotives owned by B&DSME members.

There are many 3 1/2" Gauge engines in the Society and my hope is that this event will be well supported.

So, if you have a 3 1/2" Gauge engine, make a note in your 2010 diary.

*Richard Knott*



3rd & 4th July 2010

## The Derek Adams Video Library

Lena Adams has kindly donated Derek's collection of VHS videos to the Society to form a library.

I have catalogued the collection and the listing was sent out with the July Newsletter.

Members will be able to borrow up to four videos at a time and keep them for a maximum of four weeks. Collection, by prior arrangement, can be made at the Engine Shed on Wednesdays or most Sundays; from the monthly meetings at Muscliffe; or from my home address.

*David White*

## Santa Special Help Needed

The rosters for the forthcoming Santa Special on Sunday 13th December 2009 have been given to all those who volunteered. However, we do need members to help on the day, erecting the scenery for Santa's Grotto.

Could members offering to help please be at the track by 0900hrs. Peggy will have Bacon Rolls for early bird helpers.

As usual, we have to move smartly to be ready for the first train at 1100hrs.

Peggy would also like cakes for afternoon refreshments for the workers.

*Dave Finn*



## 16mm Update

We have mentioned in previous '16mm Updates' the growing popularity of 16mm modelling, and this was brought home to us when we met with fellow Somerset & Dorset Group members to plan next year's calendar.

During 2010 we have just ten weekends free from commitments from our own track at Littledown or member's garden running days, and this does not take into account any midweek or evening running. However, it is our aim to run at Littledown

on the first and third Sunday of every month, weather and other commitments permitting. Please note we do not intend to run on the Sunday before Christmas (20th) or the first Sunday (3rd) in the New Year.

The picture should remind our readers of the opening of the 16mm narrow gauge Garden Railway at Littledown.

We would like to wish everyone a very happy Christmas and a healthy & prosperous New Year. Happy steaming.

*David White & Gordon Miles*



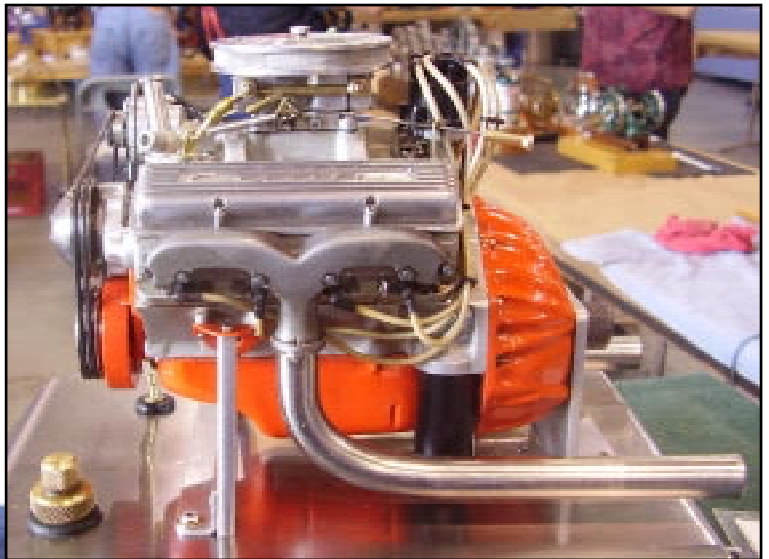


## Dick Visits GEARS 2009

### Part 2

ended last month with this year's 'Best In Show' model, so I will start this instalment with last year's 'Best In Show'. This model really took my son's fancy. Although I cannot understand what anyone sees in big, lazy V8s, Jim Moyer's 1/6 scale, 18cc, model of a 1964 Corvette 327 cu. in. (that's 5.4 litres in understandable units) V8 was most impressive. All the more so when he actually starts it up and it runs! My son, who knows a bit about such engines, reckoned that it had all the right 'bumps and lumps'. Jim was more than willing to talk about his engine and how he had built it and explained that he had measured an actual Corvette motor to ensure that his model was as accurate as possible. The heads and cylinder block were milled out of solid aluminium billets and a spark plug and con rod were on display with the engine. I recommend a look at his web site, <http://www.moyermade.com/chevyV8.html> where you will find superb pictures and videos of the engine running.

Across the aisle was a stand with more model V8s in various stages of construction. The work of Ken Hurst and Dwight Gilles, the 103cc OHV Challenger V8 was frequently demonstrated by its builders. This one was supercharged and made a noise to match!



In keeping with the building hosting the show was a 1/3 scale 1874 22 calibre Gatling Gun built by Ron Bickler from bar stock rather than castings. Guns always seem to be popular with our American cousins, so I was surprised that this was the only piece of artillery I saw at the show.

The last picture this month gives a flavour of the laid back nature of the show with a display of stationary engines of all types and visitors and exhibitors engaged in discussions around the stands.

**To be continued.**



All photographs by Dick Ganderton

