

Chairman's Thoughts

The Society's trip to Exbury Gardens as guests of the Southampton Society was well attended and the weather could not have been better. For those who walked around the gardens a pleasant stroll was had, seeing all the magnolias in bloom. Then returning to join the other members who had been treated to many different circuits of the railway behind one of their new, more powerful locos.

Teas and coffees were served in the Engine Sheds before having one last ride and watching the sun set. A good evening out was had by all who went.

We were confronted by cars everywhere at the car park at Muscliffe Community Centre, members had to park in the wooded area, on the pavement literally anywhere there was a space. It seems that the football may only be a one off and the council has promised to keep me informed if it is likely to happen again. Hopefully not too many people went away because they could not park. All the roof sheets for the new Carriage Sheds have been delivered; the steel end plates have been laser cut and the doors and associated metal work fitted. Work can now progress to the assembly of the rest of the hoops and we should soon be able to see even more progress.

I would like to thank two members of the Society for the work they have recently carried out. Firstly to Graham Osmond for carrying out the first service to the Traverser. It shows what a fine job he made of the Traverser if it only needs servicing every three years, so thanks again from me and the Committee, it really is appreciated. The other person is Carol Clay for making the teas and coffees for everybody who turns up at the track as soon as they get there and throughout the day.

I have just been told that Jean Brookes is poorly and in hospital. All our Members wish you well, Jean, and hope that you will soon be back home.



Now on to some of our forthcoming events:-

The **Gauge 0 Guild** and **MERG** will be visiting us on Wednesday evening 17th June, so I will have to get the BBQ out of moth balls for that night.

Saturday 20th & Sunday 21st June are the Society's **Open Days**, so come along and help promote our facilities.

Our **Charity Day** is on Sunday 2nd August and this year it will be in aid of the **National Association for Colitis and Crohn's Disease** (NACC). It's their 30th year, so please come along and support this event.

The next **Committee Meeting** is on Wednesday 28th May at The Littledown Centre.

David Martin

Editor
Dick Ganderton
'Graskop'
76 Dewlands Road
Verwood, Dorset
BH31 6PN

dick@graskop.demon.co.uk
Tel.: (01202) 822701

Secretary
Dave Finn
Tel.: (01202) 474599

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

Editor's Ramblings

I have left myself just enough room for only a few lines this month. The Cream Teas went down really well, thanks to Peggy and her team of ladies. I managed to get a Steam Test on my *Marie-E*, followed by something like a record breaking nine laps of the track! I persuaded Dave Finn to take it for a spin to see how it would perform in the hands of an expert, and perform it did! Dave managed four laps without incident and I completed a further five, even managing to get back to the Steaming Bays under steam and then blowing down the boiler!

Dick Ganderton

Model Engineering Events

8 th to 10 th May 2009	Harrogate Model Engineering Exhibition, The Yorkshire Event Centre, Great Yorkshire Showground, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG2 8PW.
15 th to 17 th May 2009	Southern Federation Spring Rally. Llanelli & District Model Engineers, Pembrey Country Park, Llanelli, West Wales. Further details from George Golightly on 01554 820745 or Ivan Hurst on 01252 510340. www.ldme.co.uk
17 th May 2009	Basingstoke & District Model Engineering Society Open Day, Unit 5, Viabes Craft Centre, The Harrow Way, Basingstoke RG22 4BJ. Details from Brian Hogg, 14, Fontwell Drive, Alton, Hants. GU34 2TN.
18 th to 19 th July 2009	Guildford Model Engineering Exhibition, Stoke Park, Guildford.
14 th & 15 th August 2009	Frimley Lodge Miniature Railway, Visitors' Open Days. Details from Peter Gardner on 01252 54199. www.flmr.org
18 th & 19 th August 2009	Bristol Model Engineering & Hobbies Exhibition, Thornbury Leisure Centre.
16 th to 20 th October 2009	Midlands Model Engineering Exhibition. Warwickshire Exhibition Centre, Fosse Way, Nr Leamington Spa CV31 1XN.

Direction of Running

Sunday	3 rd May	Clockwise *	Wednesday	6 th May	Anticlockwise
Sunday	10 th May	Anticlockwise	Wednesday	13 th May	Clockwise
Sunday	17 th May	Clockwise *	Wednesday	20 th May	Anticlockwise
Sunday	24 th May	Anticlockwise	Wednesday	27 th May	Clockwise
Sunday	31 st May	Clockwise	Wednesday	3 rd June	Clockwise
Sunday	7 th June	Clockwise*	Wednesday	10 th June	Anticlockwise
Sunday	14 th June	Anticlockwise	Wednesday	17 th June	Clockwise
Sunday	21 st June	Clockwise*	Wednesday	24 th June	Anticlockwise
Sunday	26 th June	Anticlockwise	Wednesday	1 st July	Clockwise

* denotes 16mm Garden Railway open - weather permitting.

B&DSME Diary Dates

7 th May 2009	Tech-Chat (Informal Discussion Meeting); 7.00 for 7.30 pm. <i>Dick Ganderton, . . . Please let Dick know if you are attending.</i>
20 th May 2009	Monthly Meeting; 7.30 pm. Muscliff Community Centre. <i>Mike Nicolas "Eddy Current Defect Detection" - Crack Testing in normal language.</i>
4 th June 2009	Tech-Chat (Informal Discussion Meeting); 7.00 for 7.30 pm. <i>Venue to be decided.</i>
17 th June 2009	Monthly Meeting; 7.00 pm. Littledown Miniature Railway. <i>Entertaining GOG and MERG members. BBQ.</i>
20 th & 21 st June 2009	Open Weekend; Littledown Miniature Railway. <i>Entertaining visitors from other Societies.</i>

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.

Luscombe Valley Happenings

www.luscombevalleysteam.com

Gala Weekend	25 th - 26 th July
Autumn Run	5 th - 6 th September
Humbug Day	19 th December

16mm Update.

Why 16mm? You may well ask! It has many advantages over both the larger scales (5" & 7.25" Gauges) and the smaller (4 & 7mm scales). When compared to the larger scales, our 16mm engines are smaller, cheaper and, most importantly, lighter. In fact most can be handled using just one hand. To prove this point one of our local group members quite often transports his models on the bus or train.

Steam powered locos have much in common with the larger scales, their construction is almost identical, apart from the boiler and weight. They need the same servicing before running (oiling, fuelling and watering), and will require the same skills when actually running on the track, particularly under radio control.

With regard to the smaller scales, yes, they are more likely to enjoy a more comfortable period of operation indoors during the winter months. They are fiddly to construct, hence most locos and rolling stock are bought in as complete items and due to greater demand are relatively cheaper than 16mm stock.

The joys of running on 16mm layouts designed to fit into the garden surrounded by miniature trees and alpine plants with like minded friends and families is great. So why not give 16mm a try? We operate the Littledown NG Garden Railway on the first and third Sundays of each month.

Dave White & Gordon Miles



Three Men On A Boat

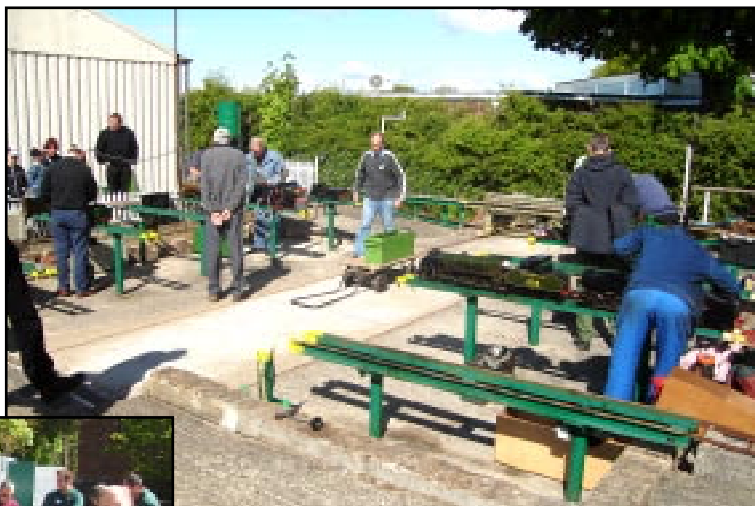
Merlin arrived nice and early on Sunday 26th April and as I had loaded the S15 in the car the day before, we set off to pick up Nick from Lymington ahead of schedule. We were booked on the IOW Ferry at 1000hrs, Nick was waiting for us, so having loaded we managed to arrive at the ferry an hour early. No problem, we got the 0900, which was hardly full!

After an extortionately priced cup of coffee, thanks Nick, we duly arrived at Yarmouth for a leisurely drive to Cowes. We arrived at the IOW Society's track before 1015 - it would have been earlier but TOMTOM doesn't seem to work too well in that foreign part of the planet!

The IOW track is at Crossfields in Cowes and is enclosed and quite compact with raised 3 1/2" and 5" track which surrounds a 5" and 7 1/4" ground level track. Within the centre of this is a Boating Pool and what I think was either a 16mm or Gauge 1 track.

A large clubhouse provided ample seating for all the guests who were, certainly in my case, over fed from the superb kitchen, but Carol's tea was sorely missed.

Several interesting models were seen including a Double Fairlie in 5" and a BR type standard 2-6-0,



albeit in a Britannia-like guise, also in 5"

Nick blasted away for most of the day with his Q1 and I tried to overtake the Fairlie, but to no avail. No passing loops!

After a cream tea and more cakes, a raffle was held and I even won a prize, which earned me some Brownie points on arrival home, as I presented it to the Boss.

All too soon it was time to pack up as we were booked on the 1730 Ferry to Lymington. However,

we arrived in time to be put on the 1700 boat, which was quite busy.

We all commented that spending the day, which was sunny and warmish, on the Island had felt more like a short break - very civilised.

Dave Finn

Speedy News

You probably have been enjoying not reading my excuses for a lack of progress on Speedy's rebuild over recent months so I have decided to put an end to that. Although progress has been slow that does not mean nothing has happened at all.

Some months ago George Wheatly passed over to me a new Gordon Smith design of safety valve that he had made for Speedy. He had tested and set it on his Polly so it merely needed screwing into the boiler. Now that is what I like - many thanks George.

Another problem needing attention was a drive pin on one of the centre wheels which had worn badly. I had the brilliant idea of conning Derek Higbee into this tricky job, with profuse praise and reassurance that he could do it. Originally he declined but finally weakened. I think he just wanted to shut me up, so agreed to take it on. The problem was that the inside end of the pin had worn to two different diameters where one was eight thou bigger than the other. I didn't want to fit a new pin and lose the valve events on that side. Derek machined the shoulder off leaving me with one constant diameter, marvellous and a big thank you from me. I will leave it to Derek to tell you how he went about it.

The next job to be done is to machine two axle pump eccentric straps and mount them to pumps provided by Arnold Bloom last year. At the moment - now here is where the excuses start, my bench is taken up with somebody else's loco and not until after it is returned to its owner will I be able to start making progress. However, I am sure there are plenty of you who would like to do a nice little job like machining some eccentric straps to help the project along?

Brian Merrifield

Boilers and CE Marking

We have just received an Information Sheet from the Southern Fed regarding the CE Marking of commercially made boilers built after 30th May 2002. This could have major implications for some of our Members and their boilers. If you have a boiler with a capacity greater than 2 litres that was made professionally after 30th May 2002 you will need to carefully check both the boiler and the paperwork supplied with the boiler.

The boiler should have been stamped with an Identification Number and the CE mark. It should also have been supplied with a document entitled 'Declaration of Conformity'. If you have a boiler that was made after the cut-off date, please check that it is stamped with the CE mark and you have the correct paperwork. If it doesn't conform then we have been instructed that the boiler should never have been tested and that if you use it any insurance policy will be void.



If you have problems in finding the mark or the paperwork give either myself or Mike Mortimer a call.

Dick Ganderton

For Sale

Fobco Star Bench Drill; 1/2" Single phase motor; excellent condition. Sought after quality British drill. £150.

Myford Swivelling Vertical Slide (68/2) with vice. Good condition in original box. £75.

Simplex 0-6-0T locomotive 5" Gauge. Well made. Excellent runner. Recent Boiler Certificate. £3,000 ono.

Contact Dick on 01202 822701
or e-mail dick@graskop.demon.co.uk
for more details and to make arrangements to view.

