



Chairman's Thoughts

IMLEC 2010 is fast approaching and as I mentioned at our last Society Meeting, we do need everybody's help on the two days. We will be coming around at the next Meeting with a list, so please offer your help.

However we still have work to be carried out before the day and there are a lot of small jobs that need doing. The gazebos need opening up and checking over and any necessary repairs carried out. The picket fencing needs painting, we seem to have a lot of fallen branches around the track and they need clearing and a general tidying up of the whole site. So please offer your services - it is a lot easier if everyone helps.

Thanks, ladies, for a smashing Cream Tea enjoyed by one and all. Once again the weather was not too bad, a bit cool but no rain. I believe Peggy is still looking for Ladies to help with the catering for IMLEC 2010, so please don't be shy with your offer of help.

Well, I am going on again, but please when off loading and loading do not leave your cars in the way on the drive. Load, unload and then move them, please. We do need to keep the turning circle clear at all times. Some people come to the track, off load and then leave their cars in such a position that other people cannot turn. So please, let's all be more considerate.

Engine Drivers, please can you pull down the platform at all times to load and off load passenger. It's most irritating if you pull up to the platform wanting water and coal but the drivers in front are not pulling forward.

The toilet area has been cleaned up and painted so let's try to keep the area clean and tidy for us all to use. The coal is now stored in a coal bunker behind the engine shed complete with coal buckets, This should enable the area to now be better used for storage.

Now on to some other forthcoming events:

On Wednesday 9th June we will be the guests of the Gauge 0 Guild at the Allendale Centre, Wimborne. Always a good evening it starts at 7.30pm in the Quarter Jack Suite.

The Gauge 0 Guild and MERG will be visiting us on Wednesday evening 16th June and I will get the BBQ out for that night.

Saturday 19th & Sunday 20th June are the Society's Open Days, so come along and help promote our facilities. Please note that the Running Direction will be **CLOCKWISE** on both days.

21st July is the Society's AGM.

Our Charity Day is on Sunday, 1st August in aid of Coping with Chaos. www.copingwithchaos.org/

The next Committee Meeting is at 7.30 pm, 2nd June 2010, at The Littledown Centre.

David Martin

Editor's Ramblings

Sunthorpe SME's Wilf Baker gave me a DVD of their Bendi Beam developments at their track. Not content with building two of these devices they have really moved into the stratosphere by motorising the first one! I must state that I have no intentions of proposing to follow their example.

The IMLEC 2010 Draw went off well and the twenty successful Entrants, together with Last Year's Winner have all been notified of their success. Those who didn't make the 'cut' have also been told and, so far, we have had no complaints.

The new all singing all dancing unloading device, Jack as Bob Devereux calls it, is making progress. In the meantime the old unloading system is still fully operational and will remain so even when the new one is fully operational - just in case. Please make sure that you prop the lid of 'Jack's House' open to ensure that it doesn't drop.

Mike Mortimer and myself attended a recent Boiler Testing Seminar at The Fosse put on by the Southern Federation and picked up a few useful pointers. One important thing that was pointed out is that, hidden away in the 'Blue Book' is the requirement to test the loco's pressure gauge against a master gauge before the Annual Steam Test is started. The Red Line, marked at the working pressure of the boiler, must be present and should be on the dial. It is proposed to organise Pressure Gauge Calibration and Red Line Marking Sessions as soon as possible. The Red Line should be marked at the point on the dial where the pointer registers the working pressure, and that's not necessarily where the scale marking suggests.

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Model Engineering Events

15th & 16th May 2010

Southern Federation of Model Engineering Societies, Spring Rally. Leeds Society of Model & Experimental Engineers, Eggborough Power Station. 5" & 3 1/2" Gauge and traction engines welcome. Open running on the Sunday. Light refreshments, Bring & Buy, Camping (tents & caravans, pre-booking by e-mail leeds.smee@virgin.net or telephone 01977 798138). For further details visit the Leeds SMEE web site at <http://sites.google.com/site/leedssmee>

Direction of Running

| | | | | | |
|--------|-----------------------|--------------------|-----------|-----------------------|---------------|
| Sunday | 9 th May | Clockwise * | Wednesday | 12 th May | Clockwise |
| Sunday | 16 th May | Clockwise | Wednesday | 19 th May | Clockwise |
| Sunday | 23 rd May | Clockwise * | Wednesday | 26 th May | Anticlockwise |
| Sunday | 30 th May | Anticlockwise | Wednesday | 2 nd June | Anticlockwise |
| Sunday | 6 th June | Anticlockwise | Wednesday | 9 th June | Clockwise |
| Sunday | 13 th June | Clockwise | Wednesday | 16 th June | Anticlockwise |
| Sunday | 20 th June | Clockwise * | Wednesday | 23 rd June | Clockwise |
| Sunday | 27 th June | Clockwise | Wednesday | 30 th June | Anticlockwise |

* denotes 16mm Garden Railway open - weather permitting.

**Please note the changes of Running Direction for Sunday 16th May and Sunday 20th June.
It is important that these changes are strictly adhered to.**

B&DSME Diary Dates

| | |
|---|---|
| 15 th May 2010 | Polly Rally, Littledown Miniature Railway. Please note that this is a Saturday. Direction of running must be clockwise. |
| 19 th May 2010 | Monthly Meeting; 7.30 pm. Muscliff Community Centre. <i>Keith Shephard, Engine Manufacturers of Wessex.</i> |
| 1 st June 2010 | Tech-Chat (Informal Discussion Meeting); 7.00 for 7.30 pm. <i>John Hoyle. Please let John know if you are attending.</i> |
| 9 th June 2010 | Visit to GOG, Wimborne. 7.30 pm. Quarter Jack Suite, Allendale Centre, Wimborne. <i>We are guests of the GOG.</i> |
| 16 th June 2010 | Monthly Meeting; 7.00 pm. Littledown Miniature Railway. <i>Entertaining GOG and MERG members. BBQ.</i> |
| 19 th & 20 th June 2009 | Open Weekend; Littledown Miniature Railway. <i>Entertaining visitors from other Societies. (Visitors with locos have precedence over B&DSME Members.) Help will be needed from our Members, please. Direction of running must be clockwise.</i> |
| 1 st July 2010 | Tech-Chat (Informal Discussion Meeting); 7.00 for 7.30 pm. <i>Venue to be advised.</i> |
| 3 rd & 4 th July 2010 | IMLEC 2010; Littledown Miniature Railway. <i>Help will be needed from as many of our Members as possible, please.</i> |
| 21 st July 2010 | Monthly Meeting; 7.30 pm. Muscliffe Community Centre. <i>AGM. Followed by Bits & Pieces.</i> |

Luscombe Valley Happenings

www.luscombevalleysteam.com

| | |
|-------------|---|
| Summer Gala | July 24 th & 25 th |
| Autumn Run | September 4 th & 5 th |
| Humbug Day | December 18 th |

You Are All Needed To Help

The Society's calendar is very crowded in June and July. Please ensure that you keep your diary free so that you can help run the events at Littledown.

Several other Societies are also running events that clash with our Open Weekend - please don't be tempted as we need your help at Littledown.

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.

Polly Rally and IMLEC 2010 Catering

IMLEC 2010. I would like to make up a rota for serving teas and coffees to Competitors and Members throughout the two days of this event. The duties involve just making teas and coffees for about one hour at a time. Competitors will come to the Engine Shed to collect their teas so no walking around will be involved. If you are able to help with this please put your name and when you would be available on the list in the Engine Shed. I would also appreciate some cakes. I would also appreciate some cakes for the Polly Rally this coming Saturday.

Peggy Ganderton

16mm Update

Last month was a rather sad one for the 16mm modelling world. Alan Walker, the co-founder of Triassic Model Works, passed away at the young age of 56. Alan's interest in 16mm started way back in the mid 1970s and latterly he was mainly responsible for the manufacture and distribution of a range of high quality laser cut 16mm and G scale kits sold under the name of Triassic Model Works.

A Memorial Gathering and Steam Up on the *Coombe Hill Railway* will be held in his memory on Sunday 6th June, organised by the Somerset and Dorset group, of which he was a member. Both David and myself will be attending, hence we will not be running at Littledown on that day.

Please note there will be no 16mm running on the Littledown Narrow Gauge Garden Railway during IMLEC 2010 on the 3rd & 4th July, but we do intend to operate the 16mm track on the third Sunday of both months and Bank Holiday Mondays.

Dave White & Gordon Miles

Lost For Words

Having just put on another superb St. George's Day Cream Tea, Peggy was lost for words when Chairman David Martin presented her with a special birthday cake and card. We will spare her blushes by not revealing just how old she is.



Photograph by Mick Baker

Milk Bottle Tops

Where in the kitchen do we put them? Milk bottle tops, I'm talking about, of course. Thank you all for collecting them. Why do we collect them? The reason is for 'Special Educational Needs' for young children who require a wheelchair.

How do they get them? Each chair is supplied following the collection of its own weight in milk bottle tops. To date twelve wheel chairs have been supplied.

Thank you again for continuing to collect plastic milk bottle tops.

Irene

3 1/2" Gauge Open Day Prize Winners



Above: Bill Nelmes receives his prize for the Best Turned Out Loco from Richard Knott.

Below: Stephen Newell from Basingstoke receives his prize for the the Best Managed Performer from Richard Knott.



Richard Knott's 3 1/2" Gauge Open Day

The beautiful day of Saturday April the 24th saw an unusual gathering of members plus guests of 3 1/2 inch gauge locomotives. I have been an advocate of the smaller scale ever since my Father purchased a *Maisie* for me in 1965 at the age of twelve. Following an extensive restoration, including a new boiler, for me last year by Brian Merrifield, I decided it would be a good idea to have a day at Littledown exclusively for the breed.

So it was that a date was set and members were cajoled and pestered into getting their locos ready for the big day. As it happens, after a slow start, we had ten members locos and one visitor from Basingstoke. The event advance publicity got into one of the model engineering magazines. The event was never envisaged to be for outside guests, though it could be in future if the Society deems it to be a good idea. In the end just one visitor turned up, Stephen Newell, with a wonderfully turned out *Juliet* with tender in black BR livery. Very smart indeed. Also invited was veteran all round steam man Gordon Howell from Andover with two locos, one being the largest 3 1/2 inch I have ever seen! It is a 4-8-4 Canadian National with a tender that's the length of an average loco alone.

Mike Baker was first on the track with his 4-6-0 to Martin Evans's *Spencer* design. All other entrants followed in due course, except for Mike Clay who decided not to steam due to the success of the event and numbers on the track. So ten out of the eleven took to the rails.

I had mentioned there would be prizes for Best Turned Out Loco and Best Managed Performer. The winner of the former was Bill Nelms with his very smart Stanier 2-6-4 tank engine to Martin Evans's *Jubilee* design. Best Managed Performer was awarded to visitor Stephen Newell with his *Juliet*, which ran immaculately, one of the first on the track and very nearly last off.

A great day all round, with a special mention to Connie (and son Melvyn) for providing an excellent buffet of sandwiches and the infamous carrot cake. Several people were seen to have more than one slice! We seem to have a secret baker in the form of Charlie Betteridge. My thanks also go to all our helpers, but especially David White and Irene Kent who were instrumental in the smooth running of the day.

Richard Knott

Entrants

| | | | | | |
|---------------|------------------|--------|----------------|-------------|--------|
| Merlin | Maisie. | 4-4-2 | Mike Clay | Maisie. | 4-4-2 |
| Jim Lee | Maisie. | 4-4-2 | Gorden Howell | Bantam Cock | 2-6-2 |
| Gordon Howell | Canadian Pacific | 4-8-4 | Nick Feast | Southern Q1 | 0-6-0 |
| Dave Finn | GWR Hall | 4-6-0 | Mike Baker | Spencer | 4-6-0T |
| Bill Nelms | Jubilee | 2-6-4T | Stephen Newell | Juliet | 0-4-0 |
| Richard Knott | Maisie | 4-4-2 | | | |



Above: Stephen Newell from Basingstoke took the prize for the Best Managed Performer with his immaculate LBSC Juliet. It looked very smart indeed with its tender in BR black livery.



Right: Bill Nelms with his LMS Stanier 2-6-4T to Martin Evans's Jubilee design was judged to be the Best Turned Out Loco.