

## Editor's Ramblings

The Myford ML2 lathe has now been installed and a lot more refurbishment work has been completed. It was decided to make the spindle nose into a standard Myford Series 7; as the screw thread was already standard Myford this was done by machining a steel collar, which was fitted to the nose with Loctite 603 to provide the register. Barry Linger ground the new register on his cylindrical grinder and we can now fit standard Myford chucks. The top of the cross slide has been surface ground and the topslide fitted in the correct manner. The drum switch has been rebuilt and fitted and the Committee has agreed to finance a 4-jaw chuck, a faceplate and other essential items. How the lathe will be used has still to be decided and any ideas would be welcomed.

The January TechChat Meeting was held at Phil Drake's house and was well attended. We were told how large factories measure the volume of gas they consume and how a frightenly complex fridge door hinge, that had failed ten days out of warranty, should work.

**Dick Ganderton**

## Merlin Meets Santa Claus

Keeping in mind Dick's plea for members to contribute to the *Newsletter*, I thought that I would give it a try. I am not going to name names as there are too many, so take it as read that the following account includes all those who took part in our annual Santa Run.

Let's start with the ladies who cooked the chicken stew, prepared and laid out all the food on the tables. They provided a very welcome supply of hot drinks, which always goes down well, together with all the cakes and trifles aimed at keeping up the morale of the troops working hard in the bitter cold to ensure that the kids had a good time with Santa. Last, but not least, there was the not so glamorous task of washing up. Incidentally, one gent took time out from his workshop to bake a cake!

The Station was transformed into Santa's Grotto where the man himself was ensconced, along with the piles of presents ready for the children. Then it was over to the Ticket Sales gazebo and from there to the Departure Platform, where a crew sorted out the passengers and seated them on the trains. After a ride around the track they were met at the Arrival Platform by another crew who helped them alight and led them in to see Father Christmas himself.



Photographs by Jean Hodgson

The engines running the service were a 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ " Gauge Indian outline tank called *Rudyard Kipling*, two Sweet Peas and the Society's *Maid of Kent*, with two BIs on standby. Three electrics also took part, one of which was the Society's *Hymek*, *Royal Engineer*.

There was only one small problem, which I caused by leaving the injector on and overfilling the *Maid's* boiler. The steam pressure dropped so low that I had to stop to get rid of the excess water and restore the pressure. I did manage to get round, albeit slowly, to deliver my passengers to see Santa. To save face, however, I asked our Chairman to offer them another ride, so all was well in the end and everyone was happy.

All in all a superb day. Even the weather was kind to us.

**Merlin**

## A Plea For Rubble

Margaret Carpenter says that Graham is making progress with his patio and has been collecting rubble and bricks from Bournemouth Freegle, but realises that he doesn't have enough. If anyone has spare rubble and bricks please get in touch with her.

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## 16mm Update

Oops!! Last month we were boasting about how hardy we 16millers are, but we have met our match! At the beginning of December we were joined at Littledown by a few hardy souls for our normal 16mm run, but the weather was so cold we had difficulty getting the gas into locomotives and an even greater difficulty in getting it to light and burn steadily. In the end we gave up and went home early to get warm. We made a further attempt later on, but the snow foiled us this time.

Most of our locos burn Butane as the preferred fuel, which boils at 0.6°C (ie. gassing off temperature) making it impossible to fire up under the conditions experienced at the time. Under low temperature conditions a Butane/Propane mixture (70/30) is preferred, but even this was not coping with the conditions. How cold it was is difficult to say, but drivers were reporting -6° to -8°C on their car thermometers.

For 2011 we hope for warmer conditions, see you at Littledown on the first and third Sundays of each month.

Happy Steaming to all in 2011.

**Gordon Miles & Dave White**

## 2011 Annual Subscriptions

**M**ike Mortimer will be collecting Annual Subscriptions at the January 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.

## Direction of Running

Sunday	16 <sup>th</sup> January	Anticlockwise *	Wednesday	19 <sup>th</sup> January	Clockwise
Sunday	23 <sup>rd</sup> January	Clockwise	Wednesday	26 <sup>th</sup> January	Anticlockwise
Sunday	30 <sup>th</sup> January	Anticlockwise	Wednesday	2 <sup>nd</sup> February	Anticlockwise
Sunday	6 <sup>th</sup> February	Anticlockwise *	Wednesday	9 <sup>th</sup> February	Clockwise
Sunday	13 <sup>th</sup> February	Clockwise	Wednesday	16 <sup>th</sup> February	Anticlockwise
Sunday	20 <sup>th</sup> February	Anticlockwise *	Wednesday	23 <sup>rd</sup> February	Clockwise
Sunday	27 <sup>th</sup> February	Clockwise	Wednesday	2 <sup>nd</sup> March	Anticlockwise

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

## B&DSME Diary Dates

19 <sup>th</sup> January 2011	Monthly Meeting; 7.30 pm. Muscliffe Community Centre. <i>Stephen Bohill-Smith. Memories of flying as a Captain on Concorde.</i>
26 <sup>th</sup> January 2011	Annual Society Dinner. The Crooked Beam Restaurant, 2, The Grove, Christchurch BH23 2HA. <i>Dick Ganderton, 01202 822701 or by e-mail: dick@graskop.demon.co.uk</i> <b>Please note that all places for the Dinner have been taken.</b>
3 <sup>rd</sup> February 2011	Tech-Chat (Informal Discussion Meeting); 7.00 for 7.30 pm. <i>John Hoyle,</i>
16 <sup>th</sup> February 2011	Monthly Meeting; 7.30 pm. Muscliffe Community Centre. <i>Richard Knott's Video Evening.</i>
3 <sup>rd</sup> March 2011	Tech-Chat (Informal Discussion Meeting); 7.00 for 7.30 pm. <i>Venue to be decided.</i>
16 <sup>th</sup> March 2011	Monthly Meeting; 7.30 pm. Muscliffe Community Centre. <i>Kevin Patience. The true story of The Bridge Over The River Kwai.</i>

## Luscombe Valley Happenings

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

Cobweb Run	April 9 <sup>th</sup> & 10 <sup>th</sup>
Summer Gala	July 30 <sup>th</sup> & 31 <sup>th</sup>
Autumn Run	September 10 <sup>th</sup> & 11 <sup>th</sup>
Humbug Day	December 24 <sup>th</sup>

## 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.

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