

Chairman's Thoughts

We have now had the first party this season of children from Chernobyl, they all enjoyed the rides and a picnic that was laid on for them. Although the rain did spoil the day for them it did clear up that evening for our visitors from the Gauge 0 guild, MERG. Again our track and the 16mm Garden Railway were well used with members from the Gauge 0 Guild running some of their own locos on the 16mm track. I was busy keeping the flames burning under the BBQ, with the aid of Dave Finn and our wives, so everybody got fed on the night. Thanks to the other ladies who kept everyone happy with cups of tea and cakes and not forgetting the washing up.

Unfortunately, the weather was not very kind to us over our Open Weekend. That did not deter the three visiting locos and members from Basingstoke on Saturday and three locos from Taunton on Sunday, from enjoying themselves. They were all well fed and watered. Thanks again to Peggy and her lady helpers for all the work you put into the catering.

July is going to be a busy month for everybody. We have a picnic for the Verwood Brownies and a BBQ for the Guides on the evening of Tuesday 12th July. We need enough steam and battery locos with drivers to run on that night. Please come forward and if interested let one of the Committee Members know.

Please do not forget that the AGM is on Wednesday 20th July, followed by 'Bits & Pieces', so bring along your latest projects to show and tell us about what you are doing in the workshop.

Our Charity Day is on Sunday 7th August and this year it will be in aid of Remap, a charity that helps local people of all ages regain lost skills and achieve new goals. They work with Occupational Therapists, Physiotherapists and other health professionals to make and/or adapt pieces of equipment designed to help people with disabilities achieve independence in some area of their lives. Each item they produce is a creative response to a challenge posed by an individual's disability. People are not charged for the equipment that is made for them, but the cost of materials has to be found, so please come along on our Charity Day and help us to raise funds for them so they can help others and continue with the good work.

One lady has come forward and offered to look after the buying of the presents for our Santa Run on Sunday 11th December. It is a bit early to start advertising this just yet, but December will soon be on us.

The next Committee Meeting will be held at The Littledown Centre at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 27th July 2011.

David Martin

Editor's Ramblings

After a couple of lean Newsletters all of a sudden I'm overwhelmed and we have a bumper issue this month with seven pages of interesting stuff from both sides of the world!

SheddonWheels has now had a brain transplant. I was able to provide a PG Drives 130A Solo drive to replace the 4QD and Neil did all the work needed to fit it. It does require re learning how to drive it as the Dead Man's Button works in a slightly different manner to the old one. Otherwise it performs better than the old drive as we have been able to program the Solo with some sensible acceleration and deceleration rates.

The picture on the right is one by Karen Adams that goes with the article from 'down under' that you will find on page 5. It's here as there wasn't enough room for it there!

Dick Ganderton



From Peggy

I would like to say "Thank You" to those members who have provided cakes in the past. We will need some more for FunLec on Friday 15th and Saturday 16th July, please.

For the August Meeting we are contemplating having a Fish & Chip Supper at Littledown. If you think that this is a good idea please let me know as soon as possible. As the Fish & Chips will need to be ordered from a local Chippie I will need to know your requirements, so I will be putting out an Order Form for you to complete and return. If this is not what you want then someone will need to come up with an alternative idea, **now**, otherwise the Meeting will be cancelled, just like it was last year!

A big "Thank You" to everyone who helps me in the kitchen. Without your help there wouldn't be the teas and coffees and all the other food that Members enjoy at our many events, like the Chernobyl Children, GOG, Charity Day and Open Weekend, that we have throughout the year.

Peggy Ganderton

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Junior Club

Planning for these two events is now well advanced and all the places have been filled. Final details, including the programme, will be sent to those involved with the events within the next week or so.

The programme will include learning to drive battery electric and steam locomotives and practical sessions, during which they will build a small project. This will be a specially designed 16mm narrow gauge covered wagon. It is hoped that they will be able to complete their wagon so that all of them can be run on the 16mm narrow gauge Garden Railway before the end of the course. Prizes will be awarded and participants will each receive Certificates at the close of the course.

Dick Ganderton

Direction of Running

Sunday	3 rd July	Clockwise *	Wednesday	6 th July	Anticlockwise
Sunday	10 th July	Anticlockwise	Wednesday	13 th July	Clockwise
Sunday	17 th July	Clockwise	Wednesday	20 th July	Anticlockwise
Sunday	24 th July	Anticlockwise	Wednesday	27 th July	Clockwise
Sunday	31 st July	Clockwise	Wednesday	3 rd August	Clockwise
Sunday	7 th August	Clockwise *	Wednesday	10 th August	Anticlockwise
Sunday	14 th August	Anticlockwise	Wednesday	17 th August	Clockwise
Sunday	21 st August	Clockwise *	Wednesday	24 th August	Anticlockwise
Sunday	28 th August	Anticlockwise	Wednesday	31 st August	Clockwise

* denotes 16mm Garden Railway open - weather permitting.

B&DSME Diary Dates

15 th & 16 th July 2010	FUNLEC 2011; Littledown Miniature Railway. <i>Help will be needed from as many of our Members as possible, please. NB: Friday & Saturday.</i>
20 th July 2011	Monthly Meeting; 7.30 pm. Muscliffe Community Centre. <i>AGM followed by Bits & Pieces. Bring your latest piece of work to show us what you are doing.</i>
4 th August 2011	Tech-Chat (Informal Discussion Meeting); 7.00 for 7.30 pm. <i>Gordon Miles.</i>
17 th August 2011	Monthly Meeting; 7.30 pm. Littledown Miniature Railway. <i>Fish & Chip Supper. More details next month.</i>
7 th September 2011	Tech-Chat (Informal Discussion Meeting); 7.00 for 7.30 pm. <i>Venue to be decided.</i>

Luscombe Valley Happenings

www.luscombevalleysteam.com

Summer Gala	July 30 th & 31 th
Autumn Run	September 10 th & 11 th
Humbug Day	December 24 th

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 CS2 v4 on an Apple Macintosh Dual 2.5GHz PowerPC G5 running Mac OS X v10.5.8 Leopard.

Chernobyl Children's Visit

Five boys and five girls, excited and a bit lively - what a joy to have! They arrived in England on the Sunday and we had them on the Wednesday; so we were their first outing.

The day started wet, but gradually brightened. Thanks to everyone who joined in, it was teamwork again. Thanks to Mike Baker for taking the photographs and a special thanks to Bob Devereux - he was in steam for nine hours, including the evening.

We were given a gift from the children, a Russian doll fridge magnet, for all to see on the kitchen fridge. Bob was very touched when he was given a gift. The children rode and rode again, then stopped to eat. "Very yummy" said one girl.

Before they left their 'thank-yous' were super and we all gave three cheers to each other, which brought a lump to my throat as I was 'The Bossy One'.

It was a lovely time to remember.

Irene Kent



Photographs by Mick Baker



A big thank you to Ankers & Rawlings Developments Ltd. of Longham for sponsoring the Chernobyl Children at the Littledown Miniature Railway.



I 6mm Update

We must start by apologising to our readers for missing our contribution to last month's *Newsletter*, we were so busy with all of our other commitments that we missed the publishing date, sorry!! Yes, we have been busy behind the scenes at Littledown and within the Somerset & Dorset I 6mm Group. Having said that, we were 'rained off' for a couple of our S&D meets due to inclement weather, no tracks were submerged but getting soaked whilst paddling around in mud does not appeal. Luckily the weather has not effected our I 6mm operations at Littledown.

We were lucky to have the Wimborne Gauge 0 Guild visit Littledown on Wednesday 15th June and they brought along some of their Gauge 0 stock to run on our track. We had expected to see some of their early Bowman and Bassett Lowke equipment, but being meths fired they are susceptible to windy conditions and were unable to run on our track, although we did see them in steam at our visit to the Allendale Centre. The oldest loco in steam dated back to 1905 and was steaming and running very well. It is interesting to note these early engines are not modelled on full sized locos of the time but are rather 'look like'. Nowadays, our engines tend to be much nearer to scaled down versions of their 12" to 1' counterparts, that is progress.

Members visiting our Littledown set-up will have noticed the poor state of the track covers. We are aware of the situation and plans are underway to replace them, another job for the autumn. There are also plans to widen our fiddle yard such is the popularity of our operating days, there is no spare room to park the rolling stock between runs which is a pity because the general public appear to have as much interest in wagons and carriages as they do in the actual running trains. The plan is to have some extra 3' x 6' tracks acting as sidings which will fold over the existing track for security at the end of operations.

Both Dave and myself will not be at Littledown on the third Sunday, 17th July, due to a long standing commitment within the S&D Group. However, this does not preclude any B&DSME member from running on that day, just set the track up, but please put all the equipment away at the end of the day and make sure all the locks are in position and secure.

Gordon Miles & David White

Speedy News

It has been a long time since my last *Speedy News* and now there are positive signs of progress perhaps it is a good time to let members know where we are with it..

Speedy now stands on my bench with its new boiler complete with smoke box and one side tank. New water valves are being made for one injector and axle pump by-pass before making up new pipe work where necessary. After that the boiler, side tanks and cab can be painted before final assembly. Then it will be finished and ready for a steam test and its first run, which will be a sweet moment.

However, before raising steam we are going to need, firing irons, blower and remote water tank, which I imagine someone has sitting on a shelf and would probably like to get out of the way. If it is you please can I have them?

I think it would be appropriate to attach a small engraved plaque to the back of the cab recording that it was bequeathed to the Society. Can I ask if anyone could confirm that it was built and bequeathed by Mr. Mates? Should he be named as Mr. Mates, Douglas Mates or Dougy Mates? Finally, when was this? I think it was in the mid 1960s, but is this correct?

My final request is please could you loan or scan any pictures you have of *Speedy* so that I can display them when it is back in action. **Brian Merrifield**

Merlin's Musings

Several visitors from Basingstoke arrived on the Saturday of our Open Weekend, but only three with engines, a *Jersey Lilly*, a *BI Springbok* and a *Simplex*, all 5" Gauge. The *Simplex* was having its first ever run, only having had its Steam Test on the Thursday before - a bit of a gamble going to a 'foreign' track for its first run!

Sunday saw just two visitors - Mike Mortimer's brother from Taunton with his highly polished 5" Gauge *Britannia Bodge of Oman* and a *Sweet Pea*. Quite a few of the usual Society members turned out to make it a good event, despite the disappointing number of visitors. The food was superb, Peggy had obviously spent a lot of time and effort preparing it and she was ably assisted on the day by Carol, Irene, Eileen, Pippa and Margaret. We had a lovely salad spread, finished off with strawberries and real cream, on the Saturday, while Sunday's delights included mixed fruit with clotted cream - what could be better?

Question: Why do clocks go *tick-tock* and not *tick-tick* or *tock-tock*? Answers for the next *Newsletter*, please.

News Item: As from 27th August, Penny Farthing Tools are stopping trading from their shop in Penny Farthing Street, Salisbury. A new venue has not yet been decided on, but apparently it won't be in Salisbury. I was given this information by the owner whilst buying some drills a couple of weeks ago, so I suggest that if you are visiting them that you ask for any further information on their future location.

Reminder: Don't forget that the July Meeting is not just the AGM, but also a Bits & Pieces evening. Let's have a good turn out of your work this time as I thought that the last one was a bit of a poor turnout. The bits that you bring do not have to be complete or to exhibition standard and can be tools, jigs or anything that you are working on.

Merlin Biddelcombe

Lena Zig-Zags in Oz

Well, it has been nine months since Lena left the UK, although in a lot of ways it really doesn't seem that long ago. So, having just returned from a holiday in the Blue Mountains where we visited the Zig Zag Steam Railway, I thought maybe this would be a good time and opportunity to send you a few photos and update you on how Lena is doing in Oz.

The week after Lena arrived in Australia we left for a holiday on the Gold Coast, Queensland, although we did have a couple of fine weather days up there, it was generally a wet week which was rather disappointing, but this turned out to be the start of a very wet season for the Queensland area which resulted in the bad floods around Christmas and the start of the New Year period which I am sure many of you would have heard and read about.

In January we moved house, deciding that the three of us would buy a property together, we now have a 4-bedroom bungalow on a modern estate overlooking open countryside. If any of you ever get to visit Australia please be sure to let us know as you would be very welcome to visit or even stay with us. Of course when we moved in January it was the middle of summer for us, and a very hot day for the actual move, at the end of it we were all exhausted and glad when it was over, apart from the unpacking of boxes of course. We just about got ourselves organised when more boxes arrived, this being Lena's furniture and belongings which had been shipped across from England, but it wasn't long before we were all straight again.

Last week we were on holiday in the Blue Mountains area of New South Wales, which is about a 3 hour drive from where we live. We started by going to a place called Dubbo and visiting their very famous zoo, where we got to drive around in golf carts, which was very different and unusual, but good fun nevertheless. We then went on to Bathurst where in October each year they have a very famous V8 Supercar race around Mount Panorama, this is a race around actual roads, which of course are shut for the period of the race, but at other times of the year are normal roads, so you are able to drive the actual raceway, which of course we had to do, although you have to abide by the road rules and cannot drive it as though you are in the race, although having witnessed some of the driving, I am sure there are people who do not understand (or want to understand) this rule.

After leaving Bathurst we drove across the mountains through snow - yes, it snows in Australia too! - where the previous afternoon the road had been closed due to heavy snowfall. As more was forecast for that day, we were more than happy to reach the other side without any problems.

We then ended up in Katoomba, in the midst of the Blue Mountains and we stayed at a B & B overlooking Echo Point, which is the viewpoint out over the very famous Three Sisters rock formation. Whilst in Katoomba we visited Scenic World where we went on the steepest incline railway in the World (as per the Guinness Book of Records). This railway is a 415 metre descent which takes you through a cliff side tunnel and ancient rainforest. The Scenic Skyway is a 720 metre journey, which suspends you 270 metres above ancient ravines and rainforest, giving you a 360 degree bird's eye view of the Three Sisters, Katoomba Falls, Mount Solitary and the Jamison Valley. The Scenic Skyway is a world first in that it has an 'Electro-Sceniglass floor', which slides back during the journey to give you breathtaking views through the floor! The Scenic Cableway is the steepest aerial cable car in the Southern Hemisphere, and this takes you on a 545 metre ride into the World Heritage listed Rainforest of the Jamison Valley. We did all of these rides, which I am sure you will agree is not bad considering that Lena is 78 years old!!



On the way back home we stopped off at the Zigzag Steam Railway, just outside of Lithgow and took a ride on the Steam Train. The Zigzag Railway is a full size, narrow gauge tourist railway. Built in the 1860s to transport people and produce from the Western Plains of NSW to Sydney, it was replaced in 1910 by a ten tunnel deviation. The trip takes you through remarkable Blue Mountains Scenery giving you sights of great sandstone viaducts. The trains, track and rolling stock are operated and maintained by volunteers. Trains run every day of the year except Christmas Day and throughout the year they run several special days such as 'Days out with Thomas' and Harry Potter 'Wizards Express' Days.

So, as you will see, there has been no time for Lena to sit still and be bored. Although she does think of all her friends back home in the UK often, she loves to hear from anybody back there with the latest bits of news, so if any of you would like to get in touch with her, she would love to hear from you.

This year, on 7th August, the Bournemouth & District Society of Model Engineers is sponsoring REMAP. Most of you will never have heard of REMAP. We are the original back room boys, getting things made and delivered without fuss; where the satisfaction is not in plaudits or public acknowledgement but in the knowledge of a useful job well done.

We are thrilled to have this sponsorship and delighted to have this opportunity to tell you about ourselves.

Clients are referred to us, in the main, by occupational therapists, OTs, the people employed by the NHS to assist disabled people to lead ordinary lives in their own homes.

People's needs vary enormously and there may not be equipment on the market that can solve an individual's problem. When this occurs, the OT will contact REMAP; we will send an engineer to visit the client (with the OT) to assess the problem; often a piece of proprietary equipment will be taken away for modification. A second visit is often required to check dimensions and to talk over the proposed solution with the client. A third visit is required to deliver and, if necessary, fit the equipment.

The range of jobs that we do is best illustrated by the following breakdown of the 155 jobs carried out in 2009-2010:

Lift/modify chairs, armchairs and settees	42
Lift/modify beds, add grab bars, book holders, etc.	18
Build permanent and portable wheelchair ramps	5
Make aids for showering and going to the toilet	24
Modify/adjust mobility aids and wheelchairs	32
Modify tables, wheelchairs, desks to enable the use of computers, phones, etc.	14
Manufacture of tools, handles, knobs & tap fittings	11
Manufacture of drinking aids, swivelling spoons, locks for fridges and various special solutions	9

Details of other cases are available at the REMAP web site <http://www.remap.org.uk/index.htm>

Jobs vary from those that require basic carpentry to those that require the use of lathes, milling machines and welding equipment; we also design and build electrical and electronic circuits.

We need more panel members, especially those with a mechanical engineering background.

At the moment there are just twelve engineers on the panel. All but one are retired - it is difficult to visit the clients with the OT outside of the normal working day - so it is necessary to make sure that we have a continuous succession of new members.

If REMAP interests you please ring Jim Phillips on 01202 885671



Left: This multi-axis drawing stand for a quadriplegic artist illustrates what can be done with simple items.

Below: The motorisation of a bowls buggy. Several other panels have asked for details of this project.

