

The committee has been re-elected for another year and I would like to thank those who have retired from their duties for all their hard work in the past. My apologies for not making more of it at the AGM.

Our Charity Day was on Sunday 5th August in aid of _____ who came along with their Information Point and even a bed! One of the helpers from New Forest Nightstop brought her Olympic Torch, which she carried in the Olympic Torch Relay. Unfortunately, it had been decommissioned as they have all had the gas canisters removed from the torches for safety reasons. It was thought this could easily be overcome with

maybe a 16mm loco gas cylinder being fitted. Society Members and the public were able to have their photo taken holding it for a small donation; it was also carried around the track on one of our trains. I would like to thank Bob and John Hoyle for getting to the track early to set things up and all the other members and drivers who helped on the day. The weather was a lot better than expected; we were lucky not to have the downpours that other parts of the country experienced. We carried a reasonable amount of passengers,



Photograph John Hoyle

but we did have competition from other events on the day; the Bournemouth Carnival Parade was on in the afternoon and, of course, the Olympics. (*What about World Superbikes at Silverstone, then. Ed.*)

One thing I did notice at the track on Charity Day was that the Loco Running Log is still not being filled in. Please fill this in _____, even if it is quiet, as it is an important record for the Society. Whether you are running a battery loco or steam, 16mm, 3 1/2", 5" or 7 1/4" gauges, it still applies.

Don't forget that this month's Meeting on 15th August is not at the Muscliffe Centre but at the _____ for a Fish & Chip Supper. If you have not yet sent in your order I am afraid you will be out of luck and have to go and get your own fish and chips, or you could take a rod and try and catch a fish in the lake and use the Society's BBQ to cook it - the chips would be a different matter, though. Perhaps some of those who have ordered will give you some of theirs.

David Martin

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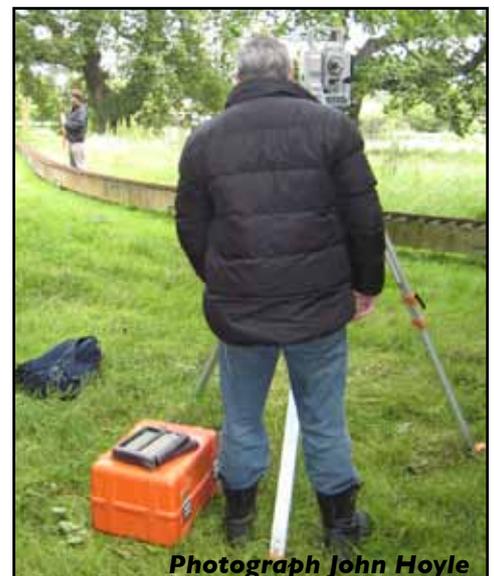
At last the track has been accurately surveyed. Imagine my surprise when I met the surveyor at Littledown to find that his name was Steve Ganderton! However, we're not related.

He set to work with his assistant and determined the position and heights of each beam end round the track relative to a datum point that he set into the concrete platform. Actually he set three steel pins into the platform. I was able to feed his data into a simple Excel program and can now determine what, if any, corrections are needed to get the vertical alignment of the concrete beams back to where they were when they were first installed almost ten years ago. This is a relatively easy operation as the means to correct for any vertical movement of the support piers was built in to the design of the track.

I have also been able to print out a gradient profile of the entire track to an accuracy of 1mm. The Bendy Beam is the highest point with the lowest point being some 880mm lower along the lakeside straight.

I would like to have the survey repeated every two or three years to see what movement, if any, is occurring.

Dick Ganderton



Photograph John Hoyle

A Mobile Phone has been installed in the Engine Shed at Littledown for the convenience of Members. It can be used for outgoing calls on Society business and in an emergency. Members who are at the track can also be contacted if required. The number, is on the 'Contacts' page of the Society's Website



Autumn Run
Humbug Day

September 8th & 9th
December 22nd

If you want to receive your copy of the Society's monthly *Newsletter* as a .pdf file, in full colour, you 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 CS5 v7.0 on an Apple Mac mini 2.3GHz Intel Core i5 running Mac OS X v10.8 Mountain Lion.

You may remember that in last month's Newsletter I mentioned that it might be an idea to have a Saturday steam up for members who would like to run engines with no public passengers involved, on the lines of Richard Knotts' 3 1/2" Gauge do. Just thought I would let you know that not one member responded to this suggestion!

The Chernobyl event on Friday 27th July was a great success. Sixteen children and their helpers, along with some students, arrived. Quite a few public appeared and were slotted in for rides by Irene and David and this resulted in almost two hours of steady running. George headed the line up with *Sheddon Wheals* and three trolleys, followed by John Hoyle and his *Sweet Pea*, *Alice* and myself with my B1.

Next on Saturday 28th July was the GWR Tank engine run organised by William. Three visitors arrived, one from the Fareham Society with a 57xx and two from Staines with a 56xx, both very nicely detailed. From our own Society was Bob with his 7 1/4" Gauge, 14xx *Dart*, William with the Society's 15xx *Speedy*, and Mike with his *Achilles* saddle tank. Glen brought a static display of a *Speedy* chassis, smoke box, pannier tanks and cab, always something to chat about. Peggy did the tea in the morning and arranged the cakes and biscuits that William supplied - the jam donuts did not last long! I did the teas and washing up in the afternoon.

Having got the dates mixed up, two more visitors from Fareham turned up on the Sunday with another 57xx Pannier Tank in London Transport colours and a 'Coffee Pot' electric loco. They, too, enjoyed the day. Dave Finn, Glen and myself looked after the visitors' needs

Merlin



Visitors to William's GWR Tank Engine Day. Top left: P. Farmer from Fareham brought his 5" Gauge 57xx Pannier Tank. Above: Dave Finn was determined to get hold of the secrets of the Pannier's valve gear. Left: This 57xx Pannier Tank in London Transport livery appeared a day late on the Sunday, together with the battery electric 'Coffee Pot'. Below: This 5" Gauge 56xx 0-6-2T came with D. Murry from Staines. Photographs by John Hancock.



The second group of Chernobyl Children visited us at Littledown to ride on the trains. They had numerous rides on the train before having a snack and going off to play on the swings and have a swim in the Littledown Centre.

Thank you to those members who gave up their time to provide the necessary engines and help look after them.



The Olympic Torch came to The Littledown Miniature Railway. Unfortunately it wasn't alight as the gas canister had been removed on health and safety grounds, but it was the genuine article and was brought along by Katie Wanjiru Mindo, the Newforest Nightstop volunteer who had carried it in the Torch Relay.

Jude Todd, Nightstop Co-ordinator, took these pictures of the Torch playing its part in raising money for this worthy cause. For a donation to New Forest Nightstop you could have your picture taken with Katie and the Torch.



Beware! *Ashly* does not carry a BSI Kite Mark so has never been tested by a 'British Standard Idiot'. You may have met a few in your time, the person who twiddles and fiddles with the knobs and buttons of a piece of equipment till they all fall off. Dave Finn, whilst dropping his ash pan, experienced the tray spring off its hooks and deposit hot ashes on himself, burning his foot. Merlin, with his magic hammer, remedied the problem by bending the hooks over. The unfortunate side effect was the tray could not then be removed from the frame. He has since bent them out so it once more can be removed. A more permanent solution would be to weld extensions onto the hooks.

An idea kept secret is only of use to one person.

I had to thread some 8 BA nuts on where there was no clearance on one side so I could not use a socket. I started with BluTack on the end of a cocktail stick, which was a fiddle. I then realised I could use a screw with a nut to lock the nut on half threaded. It worked like a dream. I realise many of you will have used this technique, but it is new to me.

John Hancock

The September Committee Meeting will be held in the Gallery Room at the Littledown Centre at 7.30pm on Wednesday 12th September 2012. Any items for the Agenda and apologies for non-attendance should be communicated to the Secretary (Tel: 01202 825307 e-mail:) before Wednesday 5th September 2012.

George Wheatley, Secretary

Members of the Verwood Salvation Army CAMEO Club spent an afternoon at The Littledown Miniature Railway and had a most enjoyable time. The letter reproduced below sums it all up. I would like to say thank you to the ladies who helped me with the Cream Teas and the Members who steamed their engines for our visitors.

Peggy Ganderton

The Salvation Army Verwood Corps

General: Linda Bond Territorial Commander: **Commissioner** André Cox

To Members,
Bournemouth & District Society of Model Engineers

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Verwood Salvation Army Cameo Club I would like to thank you all so much for the delightful time you gave us on Thursday afternoon.

First of all, the weather was perfect – something none of us have control over – and allowed us to really enjoy the many train rides we had into the cool of the trees. We were all like ‘kids’ again and had to keep having another and another ride on the different size tracks and engines!

Secondly, having greatly enjoyed the trains we were then given a lovely cream tea; it was delicious.

So what can I say except ‘thank you so much’. We will be talking about our afternoon to others and telling them about your railway and suggesting their grandchildren should pay you a visit. By the way, many of us did not know about the Littledown Park so such lovely surroundings was a surprise and enhanced our afternoon.

Yours sincerely,



Myrtle Rowland
Captain