

Chairman's Thoughts

At our last monthly meeting at Muscliff Community Centre we were able to present a cheque for £300.00 to the Youth Cancer Trust, our charity this year. Although we had a very poor turnout of members, those who attended enjoyed a presentation from the Youth Cancer Trust followed by a DVD show, courtesy of Richard Knott. Thanks, Richard, for bringing your projector at short notice and Laurel & Hardy.

A few weeks back I went to the track on a Friday with David Finn and we ran his B1 with all eight trolleys and all seven saddle bags. Dave wanted to see how the B1 would perform. He was able to pull away from the Bandy



Beam without slipping, I acted as guard on the last trolley and to add some extra loading and we then carried out a number of nonstop runs. We timed the next run as if doing IMLEC and did nine nonstop laps in 30 minutes.

After lunch we ran a few more times and gave a two lap ride to three adults and three children, giving the B1 more of a test. Dave went home feeling pleased with his loco.

The last time I ran my Polly I noticed that some members drive with the coupling bar attached to the back of the trolley please remove this and place it in the box provided in the trolley store. Should somebody go up the back of you with the coupling bar in place it would cause considerable damage to the front of a loco. Also if you do have problems on the track you can always have a push from behind back to the station if the bar is not attached.

Our Santa Special is on Sunday 15th December. If you are interested in helping on the day please put your name on the list that will be circulated at the next club night or let either David Finn or myself know by e-mail. It is very difficult to give people a job on the day if they just turn up. We will need guards, station marshals, drivers and general helpers. By knowing the number of Members who will be coming to help, Peggy can make sure that everybody is fed



David Martin

Editor's Ramblings

Having acquired a liking for driving a steam engine during the two Junior Events held at Littledown, my nine year old granddaughter, Stella, jumped at Mike Mortimer's offer to drive his *Metre Maid* recently. She drove the engine for ninety minutes, only stopping because the smoke box was full up! My not very good picture shows her confidently getting under way from the station with Mike just keeping a watchful eye on her. I think that I will have to get her to show me how to drive my *Marie-E* the next time she visits!

Littledown Castle now has the Kawasaki power plant bolted in place together with the starter motor and alternator. We have made and fitted the cooling fan shroud and air intake duct to take the cooling and engine air in from beneath the left hand running plate. The new silencer has been fitted below the right hand running plate and has proved to be remarkably quiet. During trials the main noise was from the wheels on the rails and the alternator whine.

Sheddon Wheels now has a set of new batteries fitted and the charging arrangements have been revised. Before switching the chargers off and removing the charging plug, please look at the chargers to check that the batteries are fully charged. When putting the loco away at the end of a running session please make absolutely certain the lights on the two chargers indicate that the batteries are being charged.

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Young People Driving

Members will recall that the Minutes of the July Committee Meeting drew attention to young people being encouraged to drive electric locos under supervision. It was suggested that the supervisor should be a Committee Member. As a result of submissions by Members this has been revised to be any Member (over the age of 18).

Code of Practice No 11 covers this subject. Members are urged to exercise discretion when operating under the provisions of this Code of Practice.

George Wheatley, Secretary

Committee Matters

At the September Committee Meeting, William Powell was co-opted onto the Committee to broaden the experience available for discussions.

The November Committee Meeting will be held in the Gallery Room at the Littledown Centre at 7.30pm on Wednesday 6th November 2013. The Minutes of the October Committee Meeting will be available for perusal at the September Meeting.

George Wheatley, Secretary

Direction of Running

The way in which we alternate the direction of running at the Littledown Miniature Railway has been changed. The direction of running will now be clockwise for even months and anticlockwise for odd months. So October will be clockwise and November anticlockwise.

The 16mm Narrow Gauge Garden Railway will still be running on the First and Third Sundays of each month, weather permitting. The next dates are 3rd & 17th November. The railway will not be running on 20th October as the 16mm lot will be exhibiting at the Wimborne 0 Gauge Exhibition.

Insurance & Membership Lists

The Policy for the Society has been renewed. A copy of the policy has been placed in the desk in the Engine Shed. The original documents are held by the Secretary and can be viewed by arrangement.

For Members who wish to run their locomotives at locations which require evidence of Public Liability cover there are a number of copies of the Certificate at the back of the same folder as the copy of the policy. This will need to be signed by a Committee Member on an individual basis before it becomes valid.

The success of the redesigned Application and Renewal Forms has made it possible to keep our Membership Lists up-to-date and as all the Forms were signed, details can be distributed to other members. An abbreviated list, which omits addresses, can be obtained on application to the Secretary. A copy is kept in the desk in the Engine Shed

George Wheatley, Secretary

B&DSME Diary Dates.

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| 16 th October 2013 | Monthly Meeting; 7.30 pm. Muscliff Community Centre.
<i>Stonehenge and the Stars, Bob Mizon. Also at the start of the meeting, B&DSME Clothing by John Roberts.</i> |
| 3 rd November 2013 | Tech-Chat (Informal Discussion Meeting); 7.00 for 7.30 pm.
<i>Phil Drake. Please let Phil know if you are attending.</i> |
| 18 th November 2013 | Monthly Meeting; 7.30 pm. Muscliff Community Centre.
<i>Rebuilding the Welsh Highland Railway. Charles Clarke.</i> |

Luscombe Valley Happenings

www.luscombevalleysteam.com

Humbug Day

December 21st

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 CS5 v7.0 on an Apple Mac mini 2.3GHz Intel Core i5 running Mac OS X v10.8.4 Mountain Lion.



Santa Run 2013

I had a phone call last week from the big guy in the Red Suit, reminding me that it is the time of year when the call to arms is required for the Santa Run. This year it will be run on Sunday 15th December. There will be a list at the next club night, which will also be displayed in the Engine Shed, to enable the huge numbers of volunteers to enlist by putting their names in the required spaces.

Dave Finn

Merlin's Mutterings

Some of you may remember a company in Salisbury called 'Penny Farthing Tools', which ceased trading some while ago. Well, one of the owners has now set up a shop in Wimborne. Although a little smaller than the old one in Salisbury it does have a varied selection of items such as woodworking tools of all descriptions, end mills, micrometers, dial test indicators, drills, pillar drills, etc. it is quite like an Aladdin's cave of engineering tools. He does clear workshops, etc. so the stock is varied. It is now called 'Jack of All Trades' and is located in High Street, Wimborne. Telephone 01202 888738.

Trolley Update

Small trolley No. 9 is now up and running, so can be used as a single driving trolley. However, with only one or two people aboard the lack of weight means a heavy application of the brake lever might lock the wheels and cause them to slide, so a gentle application should be used. Actually, that should apply to all brake applications. Perhaps any one using No.9 trolley could let David Finn or myself have any comments regarding same. Five new removable trolley ends have now been completed and are fully interchangeable on to any trolley, other than No.2. This, as I mentioned in the September Newsletter, will still require a special back and will still have to have its number on same. The seats for the time being still have to be fitted numbers to numbers.

Question. Can anyone tell me why Number 2 trolley is the prototype and not Number 1? First person with the answer goes to the top of the class.

That's all for this time.

Merlin

16mm Update

Firstly I (Gordon) have to apologise for spreading false information last month, I stated that the coupling centre height above rail should be 25mm. On checking with a few kit suppliers they put the centre height at 24mm, so please put your couplings at 24 and not 25mm, Sorry!

Please note that we are not likely to be operating the 16mm track at Littledown on the 20th October as most members will be operating our portable track at the Gauge 0 Guild exhibition in the Allendale Community Centre, Wimborne. You are very welcome to visit us there.

We will be back to the First and Third Sunday for November, so see you at Littledown.

Gordon Miles & Dave White



Annie B



John Hoyle has finally persuaded Annie B, his 7 1/4" Gauge Bagnal 0-4-0 ST, to come out of hiding and show her paces on the Littledown Miniature Railway.





Top left: Derek Smith, Youth Cancer Trust's Events Manager, was presented with a cheque for £300 from the Society at the September Meeting.

Above: Peter Burton married Anne recently. Young James looks very dapper in his suit, but probably was thinking that he would rather be driving their Polly, or Royal Engineer. The Society offers its congratulations to Peter and Anne and wishes them every happiness for the future.

Left: Nine-years old Stella Windsor gets a refresher course on the controls of Mike Mortimer's Metre Maid before setting off for an exciting ninety minute drive. Younger brother, Harry, shows a total lack of interest in the proceedings.

Below: Chris Bracey unearthed this photograph taken at Kings Park during the early seventies. Bill Godwood is driving his 5" Gauge GWR Dean Single. Chris thinks that it was taken during a Carnival Weekend.

