

## Chairman's Thoughts

I would like to thank everyone who helped over the two days of IMLEC 2014. Our new Dynamometer car worked well and was a credit to the team of David Finn, Merlin Biddlecombe and John Hancock, who spent many weeks constructing and perfecting it. The suppliers of the box that did all the electronic calculations were quite impressed with its performance.

My thanks also go out to our three Judges, Bernard North, John Lloyd and John Hoyle for the decisions they had to make on the two days. Not forgetting thanks to the IMLEC 2014 Committee who organised the event.

Thanks to Peggy and her band of lady helpers, who kept everybody fed over the two days and Carole for keeping everybody supplied with drinks in the Steaming Bays and also for getting the emergency provisions.

Everyone I spoke to had a very pleasant weekend and enjoyed the Saturday night running topped off with a Fish & Chip Supper, I think that all in all everyone had a good weekend, with the visiting guests leaving well pleased with the event.

The Committee has been re-elected for another year, other than Peggy, who is retiring from the Committee and Martin Cuff who is standing down, thanks to you both for all your help in the past.

Don't forget that the next meeting on 20th August will be a Fish & Chip Supper at the Track. Dick will have attached an Order Form with this *Newsletter*. The next meeting at the Muscliffe Community Centre will be on Wednesday 17th September 2014.

As I seem to have messed up on a few dates recently, please check your calendars. (Of course this is a deliberate mistake on my behalf to ensure you all read the *Newsletters*.)

**David Martin**

## Editor's Ramblings

IMLEC 2014 is now fast becoming a distant memory. But what a fantastic memory! All those spectators sitting around the track on top of the embankment made all the hard work worth while.

The new Dynamometer Car was a success - all the controlled testing certainly paid off, as did calibrating it against the Birmingham Dynamometer Car. Both cars proved to be interchangeable and, as we had calibrated the Birmingham Car against the old Bristol Dyno Car in 2010, the results obtained this year at Littledown can be related back to IMLEC 2010 at Littledown when we used the Bristol Car. I would like to thank Birmingham MES for the loan of their Dyno Car as a back-up. Fortunately we didn't need to use it.

We opted to use the old fashioned system of displaying the results on venetian blind slats - simple to operate and visible in sunlight, and the necessary information for the display was calculated quickly and easily on my iPad.

If you ever think that you are hard done by then take inspiration from the delight on the face of severely wounded Afghanistan veteran Graham from Gravesend as he drives Phil Mortimer's 5" gauge *Britannia Bodge of Oman* immediately after IMLEC 2014 had ended on Sunday afternoon.

On Saturday evening he had steamed and driven his small 5" Gauge *Scamp* 0-4-0 tank loco. Graham had built the loco himself and this was the first time that he had driven it round a real track.

**Dick Ganderton**



*Photograph by Mike Mortimer*

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## Insurance & Membership Lists

A copy of the Society's Insurance 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 wanting to run their locomotives at locations requiring evidence of Public Liability cover there are copies of the Certificate at the back of the same folder as the copy of the policy. This need to be signed by a Committee Member on an individual basis before becoming valid.

The new Application and Renewal Forms means we can keep our Membership List up-to-date. 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*

## Committee Matters

The September 2014 Committee Meeting will be held at the Littledown Centre at 7.30pm on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2014. There will be no Committee Meeting in August.

*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 August 2014 will be clockwise. September 2014 will be 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 17<sup>th</sup> August and 7<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> September 2014.

## Engine Shed Mobile Phone

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, 07879355399, is on the 'Contacts' page of the Society's Website [www.littledownrailway.co.uk](http://www.littledownrailway.co.uk)

## Fish & Chips

Don't forget to send Dick your Fish & Chip Order together with your Payment. The final date for getting it to Dick is Monday 18th August. **No Order and Payment - no Fish & Chips!**

## Boiler Testing

If you require a Boiler Test, please remember that you need to book it with one of the Boiler Testers. Also you should have all the paperwork with you - that's **all** the past Test Certificates and the *Written Scheme of Examination!* You have kept them, haven't you?

## B&DSME Diary Dates.

16 <sup>th</sup> August 2014	Open Day; 10.30 pm. Littledown Miniature Railway. <i>NB: This is a Saturday Event. Visitors have priority for running. Peggy would like some cakes, please.</i>
20 <sup>th</sup> August 2014	Monthly Meeting; 7.30 pm. <b>Littledown Miniature Railway.</b> <i>Fish &amp; Chips. Order Form on the last page of this Newsletter.</i>
4 <sup>th</sup> September 2014	Tech-Chat (Informal Discussion Meeting); 7.00 for 7.30 pm. <i>Venue to be decided.</i>
17 <sup>th</sup> September 2014	Monthly Meeting; 7.30 pm. Muscliff Community Centre. <i>Topic to be advised.</i>

## Luscombe Valley Happenings

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

Autumn Run  
Humbug Day

September 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>  
December 20<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.

Typeset by Dick Ganderton in Helvetica using Adobe InDesign CS5 v7.0 on an Apple Mac mini 2.3GHz Intel Core i5 running Mac OS X v10.9.4 Mavericks.

## 16mm Update

The past spell of fine weather has served our sixteen-millers well and our running days were well supported both by members operating their engines and the general public.

The youngsters in particular seemed to be fascinated and can get rather carried away with it all, but this presents us with a problem. Children do not generally see danger and we have to rely on parental supervision. Last Sunday we had two examples of parental control falling down. Firstly, we had a younger mother with three children and the youngest was obviously fascinated by our trains. He wandered around to our lighting up bay whilst the other two were at the top loop - one cannot keep an eye on all three. The youngest started touching the rolling stock and only shouts from members stopped him touching the hot locos. The mother was very apologetic and took her children out of the area.

Secondly, a youngster ran headlong into one of the 5" Gauge Steaming Bays and went down with a wallop, he was comforted by his father/guardian and after a short while appeared unaffected by the ordeal. In both cases the outcome could have been quite different. When the father was asked to keep hold of the child his reply was "he is only a child you cannot keep hold of him all the time". During his remaining stay in the area of the steaming bays he was not seen to hold the youngster's hand. We cannot keep an eye on all the youngsters and operate our engines at the same time. Is this a disaster waiting to happen?

Annual pressure tests; I wish to remind members operating 16mm steamers they do require valid test certificates for their engines if they wish to run them at Littledown. We do keep a copy of all previous test dates, so if your copy is lost or mislaid and you're not too sure of the re-test date, I will be pleased to check the records.

Please note we run on the First and Third Sunday each month, weather permitting.

*Gordon Miles and Dave White*

## Merlin's Mutterings

No Mutterings this month but I thought that I would share some pictures that I have taken recently. The first one is of William with his 3 1/2" Gauge *Canterbury Lamb* at the station at Southampton during their recent 3 1/2" Gauge Open Day.

The other one is of four of the Marquee Ladies at IMLEC 2014. Left to right: Val, Margaret, Barbara and Diane.

*Merlin*



## Peggy's Catering Notes

Ladies

Please may we have some cakes for the Open Day on Saturday 16th August 2014.

I would like to say thank you very much for all the work you put into IMLEC 2014 recently.

To those who made sandwiches - gentlemen included - well done. The ladies and Charlie who brought the wonderful cakes, thank you. I only managed to get two mince pies!

We all did very well and I hope that you enjoyed the weekend. At least the rain kept away, although it was very hot, especially in the marquee.

I wasn't going to mention any names, because you all worked really hard, but I feel I must say a special thank you to Carole as she kept the men and women in the Steaming Bays supplied with tea and coffee all the time.

Thank you all very much for your help and support over the years that I have been doing the catering and for the wonderful cakes you have given the Members as well.

Perhaps I will now be able to hold a longer conversation with you all.

Best wishes and thanks.

*Peggy*



## IMLEC 2014

I thought that it would be a good idea to print a few pictures and some of the comments that I have received from competitors and visitors to our recent IMLEC 2014 event.

Dick



*We would like to thank you and all your club members who were involved in putting on what was a great event last week. Please pass on thanks from all the members from Chesterfield who came down, both to run and to watch. Everyone I have spoken to really enjoyed it. We are all aware of the hardwork involved in putting on such an event, not forgetting the catering by the ladies. Once again our many many thanks which we should be pleased if you could pass on to all involved.*  
*Kind regards*  
*Roger and Christine Holland and the members from Chesterfield*

*Good Morning Dick*  
*Thank you and all of your members for a very enjoyable day yesterday. It was unfortunate that my run finished so quickly but as they say "that's the way the cookie crumbles"*  
*What I really enjoyed was being allowed to have a run after the timed runs and to give Graham, from the Gravesend club, the opportunity to have a ride and drive my Britannia. I hope he was as happy as he looked and enjoyed it.*  
*Once again thank you and all your members for making me welcome once again and staying on for my run. It is a shame Peggy is stepping down as Catering Manager because she does a super job. Her food is always excellent.*  
*Regards*  
*Phil*

*Hi Dick*  
*It was good to meet you last weekend.*  
*I enjoyed my first IMLEC driving experience and was pleased with how the Saint performed on your club track.*  
*My wife and I would like to thank you and your fellow club members for your hospitality and your kindness in storing my engine over night.*  
*Regards*  
*John Whale*



**O**ur fourth IMLEC is over, it was a superb weekend. It would be invidious to select any member for special plaudits, the Society performed as it always does, faultlessly. Every member should take pride in the outcome.

**Mick Baker**



*Above: The Grandstand.*  
*Left: Graham Osmond spent the two days sat beside his Clock.*  
*Right: Peggy contemplates another job well done!*  
*Photographs Mick Baker*



## IMLEC 2014 Results

Run	Name	Locomotive	Type	Gauge	Starting Load (Inc Driver & Observer)	Laps	Total Work Done (ft.lb)	Run Time (Minutes)	Coal Used (lbs)	Average DBHP (HP)	Coal Consumption Rate (lbs/hr)	Specific Fuel Consumption (lbs/DBHP)	Overall Thermal Efficiency (%)
16	J. Cottam	LNWR P2 'Wolf of Badenoch'	2-8-2	5"	19	10	504089	26.75	1.945	0.57	4.96	7.64	2.38
10	A. Crossfield	GWR 51xx Large Prairie Tank	2-6-2T	5"	10	9	265864	29.75	1.125	0.27	2.27	8.38	2.17
6	D. Mayall	GWR 'Speedy'	0-6-0PT	5"	15	10	290611	29.5	1.53	0.30	3.11	10.42	1.74
12	K. Midgeley	Freelance Baltic Tank	4-6-4T	5"	11	10	314030	30.75	1.95	0.31	3.80	12.30	1.48
9	L. Pritchard	LNWR B1 'Springbok'	4-6-0	5"	12	9	242922	30	1.67	0.25	3.34	13.61	1.34
4	R. Holland	LNWR A4 'Wild Swan'	4-6-2	5"	14	9	376244	27.25	2.66	0.42	5.86	14.00	1.30
20	K. Tibury	Polly V	2-6-0	5"	8	9	229093	27.3	1.65	0.25	3.63	14.26	1.27
2	C. Stephenson	BR Britannia	4-6-2	5"	12	11	365506	30.3	3	0.37	5.94	16.25	1.12
13	J. Woods	loM 'Peverill'	2-4-0T	5"	8	7	188229	31.1	1.75	0.18	3.38	18.40	0.99
7	J. Whale	GWR Saint 'Lady of Quality'	4-6-0	5"	11	9	213940	29.5	2	0.22	4.07	18.51	0.98
17	G. Winsall	Welsh Highland Rly Hunslet 'Russel'	2-6-2T	3.5"	14	9	302704	26.5	2.83	0.35	6.41	18.51	0.98
21	J. Tibury	LNWR 'Jeanie Deans' Compound	2-2-2	5"	5	9	160529	30	1.586	0.16	3.17	19.56	0.93
11	P. Pavier	Simplex	0-6-0T	5"	14	3	143962	27.6	1.68	0.16	3.65	23.11	0.79
19	D. Shephard	Polly III	0-6-0T	5"	5	8	137756	27.4	1.73	0.15	3.79	24.87	0.73
3	T. Parham	Enterprise	2-6-2T	5"	10	9	248241	26	3.3	0.29	7.62	26.32	0.69
1	D. Tompkins	NE 'Netta'	0-8-0	5"	12		Retired						
5	N. Edwards	LNWR B1 'Springbok'	4-6-0	5"	10		Retired						
8	D. Beale	LSWR Adams Radial Tank	4-4-2T	5"	7		Retired						
14	J. Bellamy	LNWR B1 'Springbok'	4-6-0	5"	8		Retired						
15	D. Kerry	BR 9F 'Evening Star'	2-10-0	5"	16		Retired						
18	P. Mortimer	BR Britannia 'Bodge of Oman'	4-6-0	5"	9		Retired						

## After IMLEC 2014

At the end of the Sunday at IMLEC 2014 I was talking to the competitors from one of the teams that had entered. They told me they could not believe how friendly and welcoming the Members of Bournemouth had been and that our ladies are something else. They never tired of running round with the refreshments and looking after everyone.

I explained they are like that all the time and when we are running look after our refreshment needs. However, I took the chance to point out the ladies are not just there providing refreshments, they run the railway as Guards, Station Masters and Drivers on our Battery Electric locos, whilst at least one, Carole, often gets behind the regulator of steam locos.

This seemed to amaze them.

They told me that their club track is around half a mile and that they charge 30p a ride, which means they have a constant queue of waiting children. They pointed out that they run every Sunday for the passengers and that the whole club is focused on the passenger haulage element.

I explained we do the passenger hauling every Sunday and Wednesday throughout the year plus Fridays in the Summer School holidays. This again seemed to amaze them that we do it so often.

They told me that their members can run at their track only on specified days and that our every day except Christmas and Fireworks Night seemed to make them very envious.

I have not mentioned which club this was, but it does make me think that how different things are in the two clubs.

I think they are right, our ladies are something special and I am sure that the Littledown Members would want me to thank them on their behalf, not just for IMLEC, but all through the year!

*Christopher Bracey*



What are Peggy and Carole doing? Answer next month.



## For Sale

**W**arco BH600 Lathe. 6" x 24" centres. Hardened & Ground Bedways. On original cabinet stand. Norton Screw-cutting Gearbox. Power Cross Feed. Taper Roller Headstock Bearings. Removable Gap Bed to give 18" Swing.

3-jaw and 4-jaw Chucks. Set of Unused Collets.

Hardly Used. Situated in an easy access garage in Bournemouth.

**£750.**

Mike Durham - Tel: 01425 619239.

## For Sale

I wonder if I can trouble you to bring the sale of the 3½" Gauge steam locos shown in the photos to the attention of your members please?

They were all built by the late Fred Whitmore, who was well known for his good workmanship and production of good runners and steamers.

I have been asked to sell them on behalf of Fred's widow, June.

The *Miss Ten to Eight* loco is not quite complete but appears to only require some plumbing to finish.

I am also selling a magnificent 3" scale Forster Traction Engine and a 4" scale *Simplicity* Steam Roller both built by Fred.

All of the above can be inspected and further information and photographs can be obtained by contacting

Paul Carpenter 07958 250533 or e-mail [pcarpenter100@btinternet.com](mailto:pcarpenter100@btinternet.com)

Thank you

Paul, Project Engineering Manager, Night Owl 4709 Project [www.4709.org.uk](http://www.4709.org.uk)

