



## Chairman's Thoughts

Our St George's Day Cream Tea Sunday has been and scone. The weather was not the best this year, however, for those who attended, the cream tea and cakes went down well. Thanks to Margery for baking all the scones and preparing the tea. Thanks for all the cakes. Not a good opening for the start of the season, but hopefully the weather will improve for our next event.

The Society now has a Facebook page but for those who are not Facebook members the site can be viewed on a computer, tablet or smartphone on the following:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Littledown-Miniature-Railway/650580295048431>

It does take some typing in but it is well worth it. Peter Burton is looking after it for the Society.

Dates for your diaries: BBQ on Wednesday 17th June, Charity Day Sunday 2nd August, Fish & Chip Supper Night Wednesday 19th August - more details of these in next month's Newsletter.

The May Meeting is a Bits & Pieces evening with the added attraction of a Sale/Auction, so if you have anything to sell, bring it along.

You may have noticed that some of the rail has now been replaced on the inside curve by the platform, Bob now has a proven method of bending and replacing the rails and would like help with the work from society members. We also have a few other projects that we need help with, the new 'coal bunker' needs assembling and a base needs to be sorted out for it stand on by the existing one at the rear of the Engine Shed. It will need the lid strengthening similar to the existing one, locks fitted and storage shelves fitted inside.

With the rain that we have had recently the grass around the track has grown well and we will need to keep it strimmed and trimmed. There are also quite a few fallen branches again that need clearing from the track side before the grass cutting can be done.

Please be aware, when operating the traverser, of other members using the Steaming Bays. Also when approaching the station drivers should slow down in good time so as not to run into the back of trains waiting in the station. Keep an eye on the signals as they indicate when the Bendy Beam is open - again a bit of care on the driver's behalf is needed.

The road works in Castle Lane West will mean that you will need to find an alternative route to the May Meeting as the road will be closed between Mallard Road and Broadway Lane. The map shows a suggested detour.

*David Martin*



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## Editor's Ramblings

This issue is late as I have suffered from hard drive failure on my computer - sorry.

*Dick Ganderton*

Editor

Dick Ganderton  
'Graskop'

76 Dewlands Road  
Verwood, Dorset  
BH31 6PN

[editor@littledownrailway.co.uk](mailto:editor@littledownrailway.co.uk)

Tel: (01202) 822701

Secretary

Littledown Railway  
Tel: 07879355399

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