



## Chairman's Thoughts

British Summer Time ends on 25<sup>th</sup> October and so it comes to that time of year again when evenings are drawing in and it's starting to get cold, but that should not deter us from still running our locos as long it stays dry.

Our Santa Special will be on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December. If you are interested in helping on the day please put your name on the list that will be circulated at the next Society Meeting or let me 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, Margery can make sure that everybody is fed. I have asked Dick to put a copy of the poster/flyer on the last page of this *Newsletter*.

Pete Burton has put it on our Facebook page, so hopefully, we will have more passengers this year.

A couple of Sundays back I had a ride round the track with my Grandson, Hugo, and what a difference the replacement of all the curved 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ " Gauge rail has made to the ride. Well done Bob and all those who helped you with the work.

Unfortunately, I was unable to attend the last Meeting at Muscliff Community Centre, but was told the turnout was very poor. Would the Members like to suggest what they would like have at the meetings? OK, the Spur Road may have deterred some Members from coming, but hopefully the traffic delay should improve in the future.

*David Martin*

## Editor's Ramblings

Those of you who didn't attend last month's Meeting at Muscliff missed a fascinating talk on Roland Emmett by Dr. Mike Walshaw. Not only did he talk about Emmett's work but he had brought along a model of Emmett's famous *Far Tottering & Oyster Creek Railway* that he is making. My pictures show him demonstrating the layout to John Hoyle as well as *Nellie* and her train in more detail.



Please read and take note of the revised parking arrangements at the track. They are no different to what was originally negotiated thirteen years ago, but the new lease now contains a more detailed clause outlining what we can and cannot do.

*Dick Ganderton*

## Car Parking

The Committee would like to remind Members that it is a condition of our Lease that they should only park their cars or motorcycles in the designated parking area. **There is to be no parking in the area around or near the Engine Shed, on the driveway or turning circle. There are no exceptions to this rule.** As soon as you have unloaded your engine and/or equipment you **must** move your vehicle to the parking area by the entrance gate. As parking spaces are limited please use the main Littledown Centre Car Park if you are not bringing a locomotive to run.

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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 needs 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 November 2015 Committee Meeting will be held in Training Room 1, The Littledown Centre at 7.30pm on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2015. The Minutes of the October 2015 Committee Meeting will be available for perusal at the October 2015 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 September 2015 will be anticlockwise. October 2015 will be clockwise.

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 18<sup>th</sup> October 2015 and 1<sup>st</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> November 2015.

## 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)

## 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

- 21<sup>st</sup> October 2015 Monthly Meeting; 7.30 pm. Muscliff Community Centre.  
*Youth Cancer Trust. Presentation of cheque for the proceeds from our Charity Day followed by a talk on the work of the Charity.*
- 12<sup>th</sup> November 2015 Tech-Chat (Informal Discussion Meeting); 7.00 for 7.30 pm.  
**Note change of date.**  
*John Hoyle. Please let John know.*
- 18<sup>th</sup> November 2015 Monthly Meeting; 7.30 pm. Muscliff Community Centre.  
*Subject to be advised.*
- 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2015 Tech-Chat (Informal Discussion Meeting); 7.00 for 7.30 pm.  
*Gordon Miles. Please let Gordon know.*

## Luscombe Valley Happenings

### Important Announcement for 2015

After nearly 25 years of running, the railway needs an extensive overhaul that will involve a complete rewire, new computer control system, rebuilding of the points and drive mechanisms to name but a few items. Therefore we are forced to close the railway for the duration of 2015. We will re-open around Easter 2016. The exact date will be posted on our website nearer the time: [www.luscombevalleysteam.com](http://www.luscombevalleysteam.com)

### 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 v10.11 El Capitan.

## 16mm Update

**W**ell, the Autumnal weather is now really here, so please start thinking about changing to a propane/butane gas mixture to ensure satisfactory burner operation as the temperature drops below 10C. Whilst a lot of 16mm folk tend to pack their engines and other equipment away once late autumn/winter approaches, we at Littledown continue throughout the year. The enhanced cold and moist air gives the steam locomotives a rather magical effect.

To encourage more Members of all ages to take up 16mm NGM we are planning to place surplus copies of *Garden Rail*, *The Narrow Gauge*, *16mm Today* and other related magazines in a wire tray adjacent to our 16mm storage area for the perusal and loan to any interested parties. We are hoping to have a positive turn over of fresh magazines as Members discard their surplus magazines.

We look forward to seeing you all on the first & third Sundays of each month weather permitting.

*Gordon Miles & Dave White*

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## B&DSME Model Engineer Magazine Library

**I** have recently added more magazines to our library, which has filled some large gaps especially in the 1950s, and I have updated the Index accordingly.

I ask all members to please use the library as it is a wonderful source of information and there are many fascinating articles within, you would not believe the self discipline required when working on the library to stop yourself just reading and not working!

Please would you sign out and sign back in, any copies or complete volumes that you borrow. The sign out sheet is fixed to the cupboard door and has to be removed from its plastic wallet to record your details.

A lot of hard work has gone into organising this collection, especially by my Wife, Anne, so please keep it as tidy as possible and treat the magazines with care, as many are very fragile due to age.

The year 1925 has been borrowed but not signed for. If you have it, please could you return it or sign it out.

*Peter Burton*

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## Firework Display

**T**he Littledown Centre Firework Display will take place on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2015.

There will probably be a short closure of our entrance during and immediately before and after the display.

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## Your Free Cloth Badge

**Y**ou may remember that John Roberts offered a free badge to each member of the Society. I now have a small number of badges available. Please contact David White at the track or at Muscliffe.

I can place further orders with John. Extra badges are available at £1.50 each.

*David White*

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## For Sale

**W**ARCO Metal Cutting 4½ inch Band Saw.

3-speeds;

Horizontal/vertical operation;

New Spare Blade;

Mitre Swivel Vice.

£30

Gordon Miles Tel: 01425 472010. e-Mail: [milescoast@hotmail.com](mailto:milescoast@hotmail.com)

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## For Sale

**M**ill by Fritz Werner.

Power operated table about 24" long; Weight is about 5cwt.

£150 - because it is now in pieces.

Graham Baseden. e-Mail: [pittsorchar@gmail.com](mailto:pittsorchar@gmail.com)

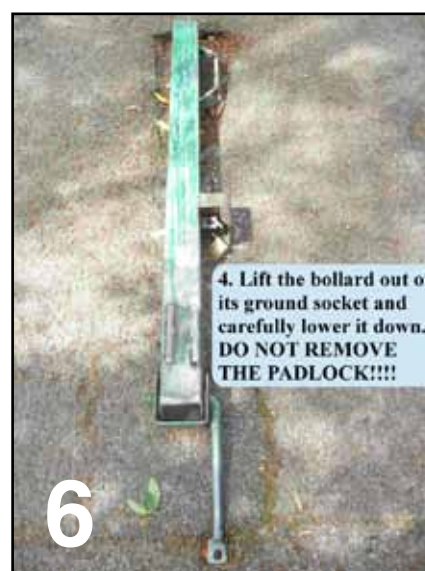


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[www.littledownrailway.co.uk](http://www.littledownrailway.co.uk)

## The Bollard

Neil Horder has spent some of his valuable time preparing this sequence of photographs explaining exactly how to unlock the Bollard at the entrance to the track at Littledown.



7. Raise the Bollard and follow the previous steps in reverse order to lock it after you have driven into the park.
8. Do not allow anyone to follow you in unless you know that they are a Member or an expected Visitor.

And finally the B&DSME "It's a Load of Bollards" quiz!

Answer the following multiple-choice question.

What should you NOT do when lowering the Bollard at the entrance to the track?

- A. Remove the padlock.
- B. Remove the padlock.
- C. Remove the padlock.
- D. Remove the padlock.
- E. Any of the above.

## Thanks for Giving on Charity Day

When I walked across the grass on Charity Day *en-route* to the Society's track, I was watching the various rides and stalls being set up. Whilst some of these were clearly commercial enterprises, some of them were volunteers running stalls for various good causes. I thought how nice for this sort of thing to be happening on the same day our Society runs trains for charity. Whilst the Society has its annual Charity Day, no doubt many of these people are raising money for the causes throughout the year giving their time to their good cause. However, it came to me that although today is special, Members of the Society are also giving all the time. No one in the B&DSME is paid, but we run trains two or three days each week, with a team of drivers, guards and platform personnel all giving their time just for the pleasure of doing so.

On other days a small team of people are giving time replacing sections of track, which of course is of benefit to the whole membership, the people who maintain the trolleys, keep the Engine Shed clean and in good order, the ladies who keep us in refreshments, those involved in building *Littledown Castle* for the benefit of the Society and those who run their locomotives on passenger days allowing our regulars a chance to ride around the park. The Members who cut the grass, clear the rubbish, trim the trees and look after the flowers - not one of them is paid a penny!

The B&DSME is not a charity or indeed a business, it is just what it says on the tin, **a Society!** But it is the giving of all these people, not just now but over the years, that has resulted in what we have today - so a BIG THANK YOU to all those who have given over the years.

Back to 2015 and with Littledown Park hosting an event, we were expecting a busy day. However, I do not think anyone could have predicted just how busy it would be! I spoke to many passengers who rode on the trains and many told me that they did not know we were there; on this occasion many told me they did not even know the park was there! So on top of our nominated charity, the Youth Cancer Trust, who will benefit from the day, the railway I guess has been introduced to many new people. We ran three trains all day, with two 3-coach trains hauled by Bob's Indian loco *Rudyard Kipling* and Petrol-Electric *Littledown Castle* and a single trolley train hauled by *Royal Engineer*, while the batteries lasted and then *Sheddon Wheals*. Pete drove the *Hymek* and brought along *Maid of Kent* and *Polly 1924* as exhibits, but a midday start at work prevented him steaming them. All three trains ran continuously with Bob running from 10.15 in the morning until late afternoon.

The question is, where were the other steam locos? I know we would have had at least one more, but the owner has kindly agreed not to run his heavy 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ " Gauge loco whilst some tests take place on the track, this might have affected a second loco, but where are all the others? In the short time I have been with the Society, Charity Day has always brought out lots of engines. This was a big opportunity to show off what we do. The 16mm NG Garden Railway Members put up a good show with many of them also popping across to help with the passenger haulage and at the end of the day I think everyone had a good time, if perhaps a little giddy through going round and round continuously. Another great idea - William brought along his miniature traction engine to show another aspect of the Society.

I hope this event in the park becomes regular as this will make the excellent facilities that the park offers better used. I went home with the thought I had earlier that it is only through what the Members have given that makes this all possible today!



Chris Bracey

Merlin Biddlecombe's 5" Gauge *Springbok* on the Steaming Bays at Littledown Miniature Railway.



**Come and meet Santa**  
**On Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December at**  
**Littledown Miniature Railway**  
**The Littledown Centre**



**10.30am – 2.30pm £5.00 per child**

Children will receive a gift. Mince Pies for Mum & Dad

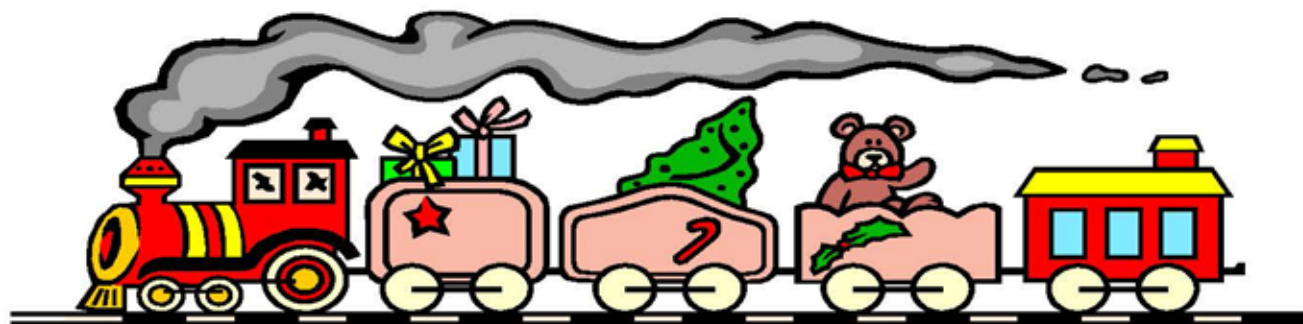
Advanced bookings recommended

Payment in advance

No Credit Cards

**For details call 01425 620749**

**07879 355399**



**Bournemouth & District Society of Model Engineers**