



## The Chairman's Ramblings

With the better weather approaching thoughts turn to getting out and about, enjoying our hobby and having some fun. I hope that 2017 will see some positive changes for our Society.

Those of you that have been into the Engine Shed at Littledown recently will have noticed some changes. We are trying to create an enclosed workshop area that will be easy to heat in the winter and where the Lathe Courses can continue in some comfort. As part of the process of moving things around I would like to see those items that have been stored for many years and never used either disposed of or stored in a different location. That way we can create more space for Members and visitors to sit and chat.

There is an exhibition run by the Association of Larger Scale Railway Modellers at Reading on 6<sup>th</sup> May. George Wheatley and Brian Williams are trying to arrange a coach party to visit so if you enjoy Gauge 0 up to Gauge 3 and including 16mm NG, please contact George or Brian for more information.

Your Committee have also agreed dates for a number of events this year, so get your diaries out and make a note of these dates:

Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April	Our usual St. George's Day Cream Tea. Margery will wave her magic wand and produce a wonderful cream tea. Would some Members like to produce some cakes, please.
Saturday 20 <sup>th</sup> May	The Polly Owners Group will hold their Spring Rally at our track. Could some Members volunteer to help on the day (e-mail me, please, at: <a href="mailto:chairmanbdsme@hotmail.com">chairmanbdsme@hotmail.com</a> ) <b>ALL Members are invited to join the party from around 4pm when we will have a BBQ for Members and our POG visitors.</b>
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> June	We are invited to visit the Wimborne Gauge O Guild at the Allendale Centre, Wimborne. More details nearer the time.
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> June	The return visit to Littledown by the Wimborne Gauge O Guild and G1MRA. It's BBQ time again at 7pm. Hooray!!
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	AGM time again at Littledown. Food available again.
Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> August	Charity Day at our track, The Jon Egging Trust - take a look: <b><a href="http://www.joneggingtrust.org.uk">www.joneggingtrust.org.uk</a></b>
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> August	Another evening when you enjoy your dinner with good company - Fish & Chips at our usual August meeting.
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	Father Christmas comes to play - it's our Santa Trains.
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Balloons & Cracker time - Christmas Party at Muscliff.

The two events that come up first - 23<sup>rd</sup> April and 20<sup>th</sup> May are being organised now. If you can help on the POG Rally, please let me know. It would be REALLY good to have the 16mm railway up and running on the Polly Day - I realise that this might mean two days in a row for you, but it's Spring - time to play! Can you guys do this for us? Let me know, please.

That's it for this month. Lots going on, so let's see as many of you as possible down at the track on a Wednesday, Sunday or Bank Holiday for a chat and a cuppa - whether you play trains or not. Just come down and say hello.

*John Roberts*

### B&DSME Diary Dates

15 <sup>th</sup> March 2017	Monthly Meeting; 7.30 pm Muscliff Community Centre, Shillingstone Drive, Bourne Mouth BH9 3LR. <i>Richard Knott's Annual Video Show. Always a good evening.</i>
6 <sup>th</sup> April 2017	Tech-Chat (Informal Discussion Meeting); 7.00 for 7.30 pm. <i>John Hoyle. Please let John know.</i>

Editor  
Dick Ganderton  
'Graskop'  
76 Dewlands Road  
Verwood, Dorset  
BH31 6PN  
[editor.bdsme@gmail.com](mailto:editor.bdsme@gmail.com)  
Tel: (01202) 822701

Secretary  
Ron Barson  
[secretary.bdsme@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.bdsme@gmail.com)

Littledown Railway  
Tel: 07879355399

© 2017 B&DSME. No part of this Newsletter may be reproduced without the permission of the Editor.

B&DSME is a Not For Profit Company Limited by Guarantee. It has no Employees and the Directors receive no remuneration. Registered in England. Number 03351832

## 16mm Update

### *Boiler Testing - please read on*

**A**s Boiler Testers for the B&DSME 16mm members we would like to remind owners of < 3 barlitre locos that their existing certificates will be due for renewal during March 2017.

As we have over 40 locos to test and so far only 24 have been completed, please help us to comply with these regulations. We should be available on most Wednesdays and Sundays prior to the end of March.

We, too, enjoy running our locos, which we cannot do if we are on testing duties, so please help. We put aside the whole of February and March to enable us to run our locos uninterrupted for the rest of the year.

We do accept there will be circumstances when these conditions cannot be met, in which case prior notification to one of the Testers will be required.

Do not forget that we run the Garden Railway on the first and third Sunday every month, weather permitting, of course. The next dates are 19<sup>th</sup> March 2017 and 2<sup>nd</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> April 2017.

*Gordon Miles and Glyn Tandy*

---

## Subscriptions

**S**ubscriptions were due on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2017 and a good proportion of our Members have renewed before the deadline of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017. Thank you very much.

The Membership Secretary will be at the track on all running days and at Muscliff on meeting evenings. The Renewal Form was attached to the November 2016 *Newsletter* and a copy can be obtained from the Membership Secretary.

If you do not intend to renew it would be a great help if you could inform the Membership Secretary as soon as possible.

It is written in the Company Articles that Membership will cease if subscriptions are not paid by the due date. The Insurance cover for those Members will also cease on that date.

If you have any problems with paying please contact the Membership Secretary as soon as possible.

**George Wheatley. B&DSME Membership Secretary**

---

## Joel's Battery Loco

**O**ne of our younger Members, Joel Keen, arrived at Littledown recently with both his parents and three younger sisters to try out his newly constructed electric loco. It ran for several laps pulling up to four persons at about 4 - 5 mph, even on the little battery he had brought with it. This was a remarkable effort for a 15 year old, all done working by himself.



Talking to his parents I found out that he is currently applying for an apprenticeship with Rolls Royce, which, if successful will start in the Autumn. He has undertaken some aptitude tests, the results of which he will know in a few weeks and if successful will then go for an interview. We all wish him every success.

**John Hoyle**

Typeset by Dick Ganderton in Helvetica using Adobe InDesign CS5 v7.0 on an Apple Mac mini 2.3GHz Intel Core i5 running MacOS Sierra v10.12.3.

## Lathe Courses Update

The Society's new lathe, a Warco WM 250 with stand and accessories, has now been delivered and John Hoyle's photographs show it arriving at my workshop, where it is being stored until its new home in the Engine Shed at Littledown is ready.

Plans are being made to re-organise the Engine Shed so as to make a workshop area behind the kitchen. This will help to keep this working area snug and our equipment in good order. The new lathe will be moved to the Engine Shed as soon as preparations are complete.

The Lathe Courses continue, a little slow in February due to Members' personal commitments, but will pick up again in March.

Any Member who gave me their name but has not yet started a course will be contacted – no, you haven't been forgotten!

The team, Gordon, John and myself are currently running four courses and we will start more as soon as possible.

We plan to run another Basic Lathe Course starting shortly and have one place spare. Please let me know, ASAP, if you are interested.

*Barry Linger*



 Find us on  
**Facebook**

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



**Free  
To a Good Home**

**T**he Belling oven and hob that formerly resided in the Engine Shed kitchen at Littledown is now no longer needed.  
It is in working order and all you need to do is take it away. If nobody removes it it will depart to the tip!



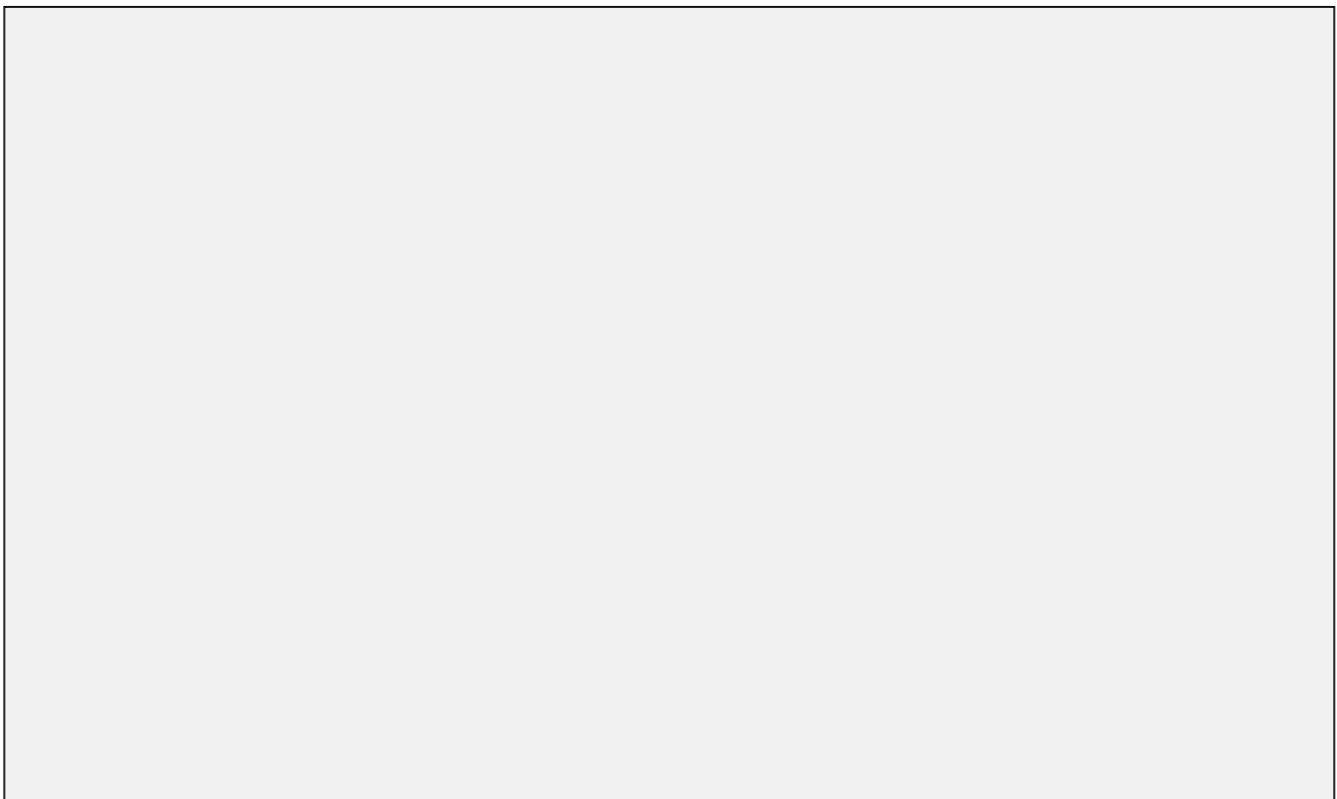
---

**Editor's Ramblings**

**T**his month's *Newsletter* is a bit of a better read than last month's one.  
Steve Robson's talk at the February Meeting proved to be very interesting. I certainly didn't realise that so many of the top brass in the RAF before WWII had fought in the Boer War!  
Please take note of the Membership Secretary's piece on page 2. If you haven't renewed your subscription by the end of March, George will terminate you. You have been warned.  
If your steam loco needs a boiler test then don't forget to book your test with one of the Boiler Testers in advance. Please don't just turn up and expect to get a test done on spec.  
The 16mm lot have a different system in place - Gordon and Glyn only carry out Boiler Tests for the 'under 3 barlitre brigade' during February and March. Please help them by presenting your locos for test before the end of the month.  
Richard Knott will be presenting his popular video show at the March Meeting. He always has a good variety of films of interest to model engineers as well as a Laurel & Hardy one to keep at least one lady member happy. Personally I prefer Buster Keaton!  
Malcolm Smith is the Member looking after organising the 'entertainment' at our monthly meetings at Muscliff. He has let me know that for the April Meeting John England will give an illustrated talk entitled 'Acorns Urgently Needed'. This is about the industrial history of the Royal Navy Cordite Factory at Holton Heath.

If you have read the Minutes of the February Committee Meeting you will have seen that we are being asked by the local Gauge 1 fraternity if we would consider building a Gauge 1 track at Littledown. If you are interested in this project then please talk to me. There could also be the possibility of adding Gauge 3 and 0 Gauge tracks to it, increasing its appeal to an even wider membership.

**Dick Ganderton**



## IMPORTANT

This page contains notices that do not change throughout the year. They will only be printed out with the January *Newsletter*. If you receive your *Newsletter* by post this will be the only time that you will get this page. It is, therefore, important that you **keep this page for reference**.

### 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.

*Ron Barson, Secretary*

---

### 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?

If you are presenting your loco for its 4-yearly Hydraulic Test please note that you cannot expect the Boiler Tester to provide the necessary blanking plugs. You should have a complete set of blanking plugs for each of your locos, one of which must have a **male** 1/4" x 40TPI fitting to allow the connection of the test pump and gauge. The threaded portion of this should be at least 3/8" (10mm) long with a 60 degree countersink to take a standard nipple.

Please pump the boiler up at home to check that there are no leaks.

#### *Boiler Testers*

Dick Ganderton [dick.ganderton@me.com](mailto:dick.ganderton@me.com)

Bob Devereux

Mike Mortimer

Barry Linger

Gordon Miles (16mm locos only)

Glyn Tandy (16mm locos only)

---

### IMPORTANT - PLEASE READ

The Committee would like to remind Members that it is a condition of our Lease that they must 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.

---

### B&DSME *Model Engineer* Magazine Library

Please use the library as it is a wonderful source of information and there are many fascinating articles within. Please remember when borrowing a magazine from the Society's library, to complete the sign out sheet, which is attached to the storage cupboard door. The *Model Engineer* library is fully up to date.

Please treat the magazines with care as many are fragile due to their age.

*Peter Burton*

---

### 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.



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