



30 June 2003

**South Hampshire 16mm & G Scale Railway Group.  
Incorporating "Southdown Railway Co."**

(Associate members of Fareham & District Model Railway Club.)

It has been a very busy month, a quick trip to the Whitepass, returning just in time to take Southdown to the Chatham show followed by the Hollycombe weekend and then David and Susan's open day yesterday. We were very lucky with the weather for all 3 events and our trains ran a lot of miles.

Chatham, a new event for us was a resounding success despite some initial problems with electrical power supplies for the operation of the ancillary Southdown equipment. David came to the rescue by supplying standby power from his battery loco ( he thought it was on charge but when the mains power failed the loco battery powered the layout).

Hollycombe being local was very well supported and we had a greater variety of trains on the 32 mm line. Some interesting running on the uneven shed floor was experienced but luckily without major incident.

Thanks to all of you that came and helped with both shows especially where a degree of travel was involved. I should also thank Eddie and Don who loaned 32 mm coaches and locos that have been the mainstay of 32mm running to date. I don't think Eddie's coaches stopped rolling the whole weekend at Chatham and Phurcombe Hall continued to entertain with it's steady and reliable chuffing round and round.

Yesterday David and Susan opened their home and wonderfully scenic railway to us and a number of invited guests at one stage some 40 spectators enjoyed Susan's hospitality. A variety of steam trains entertained all afternoon and money was raised for the Wessex Heartbeat Foundation, anyone that was unable to contribute on Sunday can make donations to David or Susan next time they see them. Thank you David and Susan for another lovely day.

We have been invited to more gardens this summer (see list below) including Bill Layton's, a friend of David Dowson Bill Lives up near Tring but I am assured that the travel will be worth while as he has an extensive 45mm track.

Next stop Amberley weekend.. Running slots fully booked. Remember if you plan to visit anyone's open day please give you host a quick call to let them know who and how many to expect.

Events for 2003

12/13 July.....Amberley (Southdown)  
3 August.....David & Sue Daw open day (45mm running)  
17 August.....Bill Layton's open day, (45mm running)  
25 August.....Marguerite & William's open day (45mm)  
(as long as their neighbours finish their overdue building works!)  
7 September.....Model World Romsey (Southdown)  
14 September.....David & Susan Dowson's open day (45mm running)  
18 October.....Chichester (Southdown)  
1 November.....Exeter Southdown)

Remember book your running slots early so that I can advise exhibition organisers of numbers and what locos for insurance purposes. See you at Amberley.

Friday dates are;

11 July (travel to Amberley for set up)  
8 August..  
12 September.  
10 October.

*Reed.*