

Hampshire area Garden Railway Group

(incorporating the Hampshire area of the Association of 16mm Narrow Gauge Modellers, and the Southdown Railway Co.)

Associate members of Fareham & District Model Railway Club



August 2007

Hello Again,

I make no apologies for including a picture this time, of something that is not narrow gauge, or even a model, but I like it, so there! I had to wait around for "Tangmere" to arrive as it was 50 minutes late, but it was worth it. There is a group connection, as Geoff Hebditch had some involvement with it whilst it was still in Barry scrapyard, and a colleague of his was in the process of purchasing it. This is the time to mention that Geoff is currently in the workshops for replacement of part of his valvegear, which has successfully been done, and he is now on the mend in Southampton General Hospital. He's now part Caprotti, part piston valve....

The other picture is of one of my current projects (I've got too many on the go, and all of them are behind schedule) which is a steam tram loco. I've taken the chassis for "show and tell" at Portchester, but here is the boiler proving it can raise steam, despite being built by me, including the burner. Next month I'd better show someone else's work, probably David Fleetwood's latest massive epic. (and I do mean massive.....)

Rod and Paul have been making trackwork progress, and I've been abusing innocent pieces of copper into bits of more boilers, for Paul's latest epic, and my ongoing Bagnall.

Bob Petch is selling his rather wonderful bridge from the Little Corris railway, as he's getting an even more wonderful one! The bridge is 89 inches long and about 5.5 inches wide at its narrowest point (6" normal width) on 20mm hardwood with 32mm track in place. Contact Bob on 023 8077 8108 for more details. Its quite a bridge, so he's looking for around £100 for it.

I won't be there this Friday, I'm off to Sheffield for a show planning meeting! I won't be there the following month either, as Marguerite and I are off to see our friend Pascal, in France, and will conveniently manage to take in a couple of rather scenic narrow gauge railways too.

Please send me details of any running sessions you'll be having! Advance notice of one session - Paul and Pippa Gander are having another running day on their interesting 45mm gauge railway in Totton on 22nd September. Contact them on 02380 873307 for details. Adam, that means you!

A handwritten signature in green ink, which appears to read "William Bickers-Jones". The signature is stylized and written in a cursive hand.

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PORTCHESTER Friday meetings: 10th August, 14th September, 12th October, 9th November