

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 2008

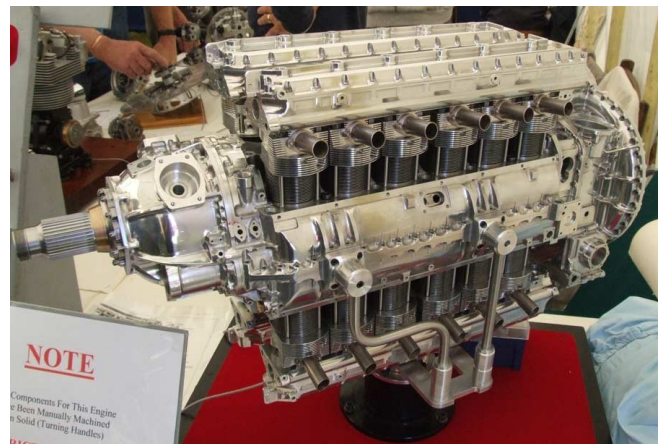
Hello yet again,

A bit of a rushed one again this month, as I've spent too long doing either boring domestic tasks like stripping Artex, or trying to finish off another set of replica nameplates for Monarch, which is an extremely long winded process, which also results in a side effect of losing my fingerprints on my left hand, which makes it rather tricky to fire up my PDA, which uses fingerprint recognition!

I have been off to a garden meeting in Nottinghamshire last month... Only one quarry Hunslet this time, but a brand new coal fired SAR NG15, and a recently built coal fired NGG16 Garratt, and a brand new unpainted "Edward Thomas" which was rather lovely, its new owner being rather pleased its first run (made in public) was totally successful. Also seen was fellow director Brian Dominic's cardboard diesel loco, which he insisted was grey, but I knew damn well was lilac! This meeting was the fun addendum to a rather long and arduous meeting to plan your next year's Stoneleigh garden railway show. A bit of a long way to go for a garden meeting, but it was worth the 4 hour train journey and 2 nights accommodation (that didn't cost me anything!)

Mike Dunckley has a few spaces left in his garden for his open day on 9th August. He's got quite a few folk definitely coming already, and garden space is limited if chaos is to be avoided (and its not nice for Jack, Mike's lovely but deaf dog, to have too many people clogging up HIS garden!) so, if you'd like to go along, please give Mike a call on 023 9246 5443. His 32mm railway is in Hayling Island, by the way. From memory, clearances may be a bit tight if you have a VoR 2-6-2T loco, but fine for the great majority of 32mm gauge stock, including ours.

David and Susan Fleetwood will be hosting the next Western meeting on Friday 29th August, which may well feature the latest incarnation of his diesel electric test rig, seen (and it must be said, heard...) at the last western meeting at Rod's. The picture



alongside is my suggestion for a better power unit for it. More Cylinders, David! (Its a Napier Dagger 24 cylinder aero engine by the way, and I hear the builder will soon be released from the secure mental health unit where he was taken after completing it)

At that last western meeting we were also treated to the sight of Rod's latest G1 Regner loco, an unusual and interesting device, that to the untutored eye, looks as if a wheelset is missing. It runs nicely, though.

Bob Petch reminds us that he is having his open day on bank holiday Monday, 25th August, so remember to give him a call if you want to visit. We'll be going, which may or may not be a plus point, of course... Next year we'll have a more suitable loco for visiting his quarry.

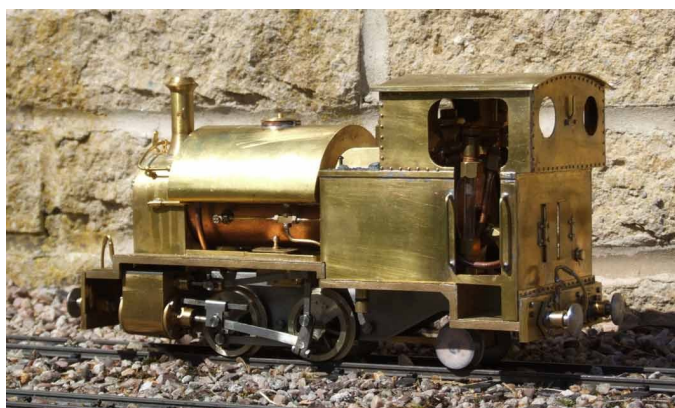


We have another of Tony Lee's operating sessions, as per the list published earlier, also on 9th August, so there is plenty of "Garden action" for you to enjoy. Just not much of it in my garden!

Ah, there is more news from Mike Dunckley, in that the 32mm line at Fareham and District Model Engineers (at Titchfield) is now complete, so its probably best to find out more from Mike on that one. I do know that Dave Shotter and helpers are getting on very well with rebuilding Crumblin (so its not

Crumblin any more?) and it will be making a showing at the Fareham & District MRC event in October, at Wickham community centre (same place as the G scale show held on the same weekend as the Exeter show). I'd like to think that we can help out at that event, as some sign of solidarity with the club that provides our meeting facilities at such a low price. If we can rustle up a stand with 16mm association details, and a display of locos and stock, that would give people a flavour of our hobby. Lets have a quick chat about that on Friday at Portchester. I'm also on the lookout for people to help out for an hour or two at the 2009 Stoneleigh Show. I do have one or two local volunteers, but compared to many other areas, we don't do too well on the stewarding front.

If anyone has any news of running sessions, or events, **please** let me know, and I'll add them to the next newsletter. Always remember to phone before visiting an open day, please, and always ask if you wish to take (well behaved) children, as not all gardens (or owners) are child friendly. If anyone who doesn't have access to a computer, wants a printed copy of the Hampshire section of the current membership list, just ask me at Portchester, its free to anyone who has paid for their newsletter (so I'm on fairly safe ground there...)



See you Friday!

A handwritten signature in green ink, which appears to read "William Bickers-Jones". The signature is fluid and stylized, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

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PORTCHESTER Friday meetings: 8th August, 12th September, 10th October, 16th November, 12th December.

Details of Southdown's show attendances are here: <http://www.cslr.co.uk/southdownshows.htm>
Thanks to Paul Betts for hosting that.