

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



October 2009

Hello yet again,

Well we have a little progress to report from home this month, but I'd prefer to hear of your progress, rather than inflict mine on you again....

Mne has been that I have at last received the remaining shipment of a point, rail and sleeper bases from Sunset Valley Railroad in the USA, to enable me to complete the dual gauge section of our railway. I would have got most of it laid by now, apart from the fact that we have been staffing Crumblyn at the Wickham show, almost alone Saturday, apart from a happily unexpected arrival of one of our number, Nigel, with his sinister black petrol loco built from a Worsley etch and Essel chassis. Sunday thankfully revealed a little more help, with Paul, Chris, Nigel, Sean and Harry, and Paul arriving at various times. The event seems to have been a success for F&DMRC.

I do need to get my railway back in action soon, as it seems we have yet another loco expected sometime in the next few months, and I am well overdue for hosting a running session. This is not helped of course, by recalcitrant bricklayers who don't actually turn up to do the work requested.

A reminder not to forget the list of Tony Lee's open days mentioned before, and also the Reading area open days, and the G scale Society's open days as well. Further details from me, by email or 023 9226 3462. I have at last actually met our local G scale society organiser, Jack Nisbet, at Wickham today, and it is more than likely we will be asked to do a 16mm scale related display at their forthcoming show held at Wickham Community Centre on 31st October. There will, as last year, be representation from the 16mm Association there; this year it is provided by the Ridgemont layout. So lets go along and show the 16mm flag, and have some joint railway enjoyment with our near neighbours...



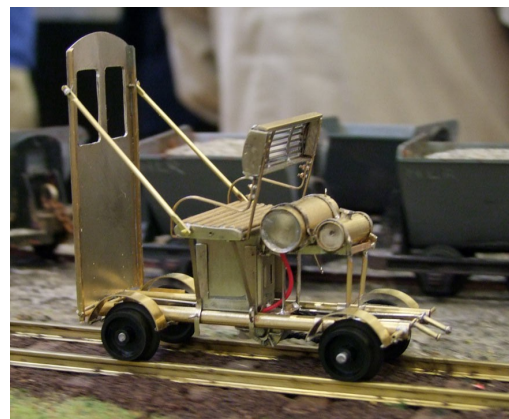
I have included a couple of picture of prototype action again this month, firstly of ex SLR no85 simmering at Llanfair Caereinion during the recent W&LLR Gala, at which we had a thoroughly good time. Apart form being on the first passenger train on the W&LLR to carry paying first class passengers since 1930-odd, we seem to have somehow or other ordered an Accucraft Earl, an example of which is seen below. This particular example was encountered on the Butterly area group track, at the Midland Railway Centre, where we called in on our way to our recent Derbyshire holiday.



I am keen to follow up on Paul's suggestion to produce an article for Sixteen Mil Today, on the Hampshire area, and what we get up to. So, please consider writing a bit for our magazine, and collecting some photos of our gatherings, and getting our area featured?

A couple more relevant photos here, are of Geoff's latest

creation under construction, seen at this weekend's Wickham show, trundling gently along, with its chain drive powered by a single LR1 battery. For those with a thirst for knowledge it is a Federated Malay States railway inspection trolley, built by Baguley, the very same company who has recently rebuilt the Klein Lindner axles of the W&LLR's Resita loco after its misfortune last year. The bottom photo is there because it is a historically significant photo for me, the full blown "African Train" on the W&LLR, with No85 in proper SLR black, with its recently restored coaches. Those first class seats really are well worth paying the supplemental fare for!



One final word, a big thanks to Ken Warren for spotting the book on the construction of the GCR, at Wickham on Saturday. I've been looking for that one!

For those who have not visited our Portchester venue, and wish to, feel free to contact me preferably by email, or by phone, for the precise location (its at the Eastern extremity of Harbour View).



William

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PORTCHESTER Friday meetings: 9th October, 13th November, 11th December etc., on the second Friday of each month, from around 8pm.

Details of Southdown's show attendances are here: <http://www.cslr.co.uk/southdownshows.htm>

Thanks to Paul Betts for hosting that information.