

# 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



September 2011

Here we go yet again,

First bit of news to get sorted is that hot on the heels of having Portchester meetings not at Portchester, we've decided to have a Friday meeting on a Saturday..... its excessively normal having a Friday Portchester meeting in Portchester on a Friday. Its at Mike Hanks small-ish 32mm gauge railway in Whiteley, from about 4-30pm on SATURDAY 10<sup>th</sup> September. Further details on the separate sheet attached. The following meeting may well be at my place in Purbrook with its dual 32/45mm gauge railway with fairly large radii, and that may well be on a Saturday too. Chasing around after trains in the dark begins to lose its appeal when you really can't find them! Please let me know what you think of the idea of shifting to doing it on a saturday afternoon in someone's garden, whether you are in favour, or bitterly opposed. Basically, if you have a better idea, lets hear it!



One of the unmissable local events in the summer season is of course a visit to the Little Corris, at Bob and Susan Petch's home, and we had a thoroughly good time there on 29<sup>th</sup>, in our case running Lilian and Aristide, and also having a crafty drive of Ken's lovely "Argyll" featured above. I know Rod was particularly taken with the last vehicle in the train, as the colour scheme seems to hold a fascination for him! I suspect we will see Gauge 1

vehicles in that LSWR colour scheme on Rod's railway before long.

We've had a couple of suggestions of "seminars" to help us do more stuff, one of them on figures, from a chap who is not a member of our group but is a whizz on figures, but I'm also keen to get a situation where our prize winning member Bob Wilbur can show us a bit more of how he does things, particularly as every time I see him, he comes along with some other wonder he's created. Last time at Sean's it was post boxes in incredible detail considering they



were concrete, curved stone walls to go with his previous straight ones, and for me, the absolute clincher was sectional water tanks, something I've been trying to sort out for years! Bob, as soon as I've found the photos of my Sierra Leone ones, I'll be placing an order.

On the subject of craftsmanship, above is a view of Bob Petch's lovely Welsh village scene on the Little Corris, surely to be the subject of yet another magazine article? On the subject of Magazine articles, I am trying to gather enough photos of us lot in our gardens to do a little Hampshire area feature in SMT, there's enough of folk in the Northern parts of our country in it, so lets have a bit about Hampshire!

The great Accucraft wheel swap is over! Yes, Gordon, I've entirely forgotten to tell you this, but there's a big bag of 45mm gauge wheels at my place! My only excuse for not telling you is that things have been a trifle hectic lately, with my nice easy job as an assistant to a post equivalent to my previous one has gone a bit odd as the boss has broken her ankle... Our previous deal on divvying out the weekend events has gone a bit astray!

Don't forget we do have info on meetings of the Reading Area Group, The Solent G scale Group, and also Tony Lee's running sessions. Ask me for more details about all of these. Always remember to phone anyone before attending one of their running sessions, and remember that most are not child inclusive, unless specifically stated that they are.

Photo to the right is what I'm off to see Friday morning, as its W&LLR Gala time again (and have you seen the weather forecast?) so we're off on a pilgrimage to see Joan in steam (for the first time ever in my case, as she hasn't run since about 1991) and maybe sneak along to Port Penrhyn to measure a circular toilet for another mad modelling project. Hopefully I will manage to avoid filling an entire 8Gb memory card with photos this time....



We have some "for sale" stuff this month:

Rod has what amounts to a Roundhouse 0-6-0 tender loco kit, with Sandy River and Rangely Lakes "bodywork", basically a set of easy to assemble parts to be used as you wish to create a Roundhouse loco they never built. £400, and you'd be hard pressed to get anything you could ever get running for less than that! Contact Rod, or me if you have lost his contact info, for more info.

Rod is also acting as "Agent" for Hartmut of Miha Modell fame (well, he must be famous, I've got loads of his track and pointwork) is selling a Regner Vincent loco, brand new boxed, unopened, for €550 or £490.

I'm still trying to dispose of a couple of loco boxes, one wooden one handcrafted by me that has loco space below, and gas and running equipment space above, for a fiver, and a largish (easily fits Joan) plastic loco/toolbox that is not (unlike nearly all others) made in a country that loves invading others and pinching their land. That one's a fiver too.

[william.bickers-jones@ntlworld.com](mailto:william.bickers-jones@ntlworld.com)

**"PORTCHESTER" "Friday" meetings: SATURDAY September 10<sup>th</sup> this time, but the general rule is on the second Friday of each month, from around 8pm.** These days they seem mostly not to be at Portchester, but in people's gardens, but come the colder darker evenings, we shall see...