



1 November 2004

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

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

The last two outings for Southdown in 2004 completed satisfactorily with two great displays of live steam at both Chichester and Exeter. Thanks once again to those that supported the shows and the early risers for Chichester setting up, we had to be on site at 07:15. The usual weekend away in Exeter was different this year as we held a little "Retirement" party on the Friday evening in the Exeter Arms hotel. I retire from IBM this week after 30 years. So I hope to be able to attend all those mid week garden railway days next year !!

I am still hoping to have an impromptu steam up one weekend in the next month if we get some decent weather. Pencil in Sunday 14 November and then if the weather is ok we can handle last minute ok over the phone. Please let me know if you are interested in coming to Totton that day. Remember I have limited space so car sharing would be recommended. Plans for my line extension are progressing with track purchase and ground clearance. I have a new Accucraft Mogul which some of you saw at our last Fareham evening. I have now also found out how to tune/adjust the Accucraft piston valve timing. It is not difficult but one has to be very patient as it takes a while with lots of trial and error running the engine on compressed air.

Next year we are already booked for a show in Lincoln at the end of February and G-Rail in Rugby for April. We have also been approached with regard to going to Redhill next May but that is not confirmed yet. I could be away for a couple of the summer months so there may be a Southdown blackout during June – July -August. Nothing confirmed there either yet.

Susan has been very busy producing a Southdown Railway calendar for 2005, some we sold at the Chichester and Exeter shows, and you will have the opportunity to buy or order a copy at the Friday meeting. I think the price is only £3.00p so please bring your cash. Proceeds to Southdown Railway Company.

For those of you with email, please note from now on my email address is;  
rodblakeman@tiscali.co.uk

**Southdown bookings for 2005**

Lincoln	26/27 February.
Rugby	23 April.
Redhill	14/15 May, not yet confirmed.!

Thanks again for all your help and support.  
See you soon.

*Rod*

Friday dates are;

12 November  
10 December