

# 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



December 2008

Hello yet again,

Not much from me this time, as my monster domestic extravaganza has only just staggered to its conclusion so at last I can get back to modelling (well, at least when I've sorted the layouts for the Stoneleigh show next April, and mastered the members DVD...) so its mostly stuff from others this time, including Paul and Karen's recent gathering, during which, if this photo is to be believed, an alien incursion took place...

Rod Blakeman says:

Can you please add to your December N/L that the next Western meeting will be Tuesday afternoon 23 December. The track will be available for 45mm running despite the steaming bay area currently having restricted access. This prestigious event will run from 14:30 in the afternoon and please let Rod know well in advance if attending so that he can get the catering sorted out. (what he means is that he will grovel to assorted ladies with extensive culinary skills and persuade them to provide the usual home-made delights!)

Member John Tomlin tells us:

I've had a number of Railway books passed to me, which may be of interest to modellers. They are free , just need to call me! John is on 023 8047 2129, and his location, which is in West End, can be found on the Association members list.

The books are:

The West Highland Railway by John Thomas

The Highland Railway by H A Vallance

The Callander and Oban Railway by John Thomas

The Caledonian Railway by O S Nock

The Illustrated Guide to the Great Western Railway 1852 by George Measom

Eastleigh, a Railway Town by Kevin Robertson

A visitors guide to the Dart Valley & Torbay Steam railways

A Guide for passengers on the Vale of Rheidol

All the books are old and usually a reproduction of an earlier book.

They are no use to me, hence the offer. There are few coloured photos, mainly black!

I don't recall hearing much response to Rod's request for clarification as to whether folk prefer Friday evenings or weekends, for "western" meetings. So can you all voice an opinion, please?

There is some very bad news, that some of us might not know about, and that is that our great friend, and all round helpful person, Colin Binnie, is gravely ill in hospital in Brussels, after having a heart attack whilst having a weekend away to take his mind off the recent death of his wife of 52 years, Marjorie. I think you will all share my concern and best wishes for his recovery. Several of us have benefitted in person, from his skills and generosity, the most recent among us being Geoff, who has hopefully just taken delivery of a shipment of components from Colin.

Sean has been doing some "proper" modelling, and has been constructing two new carriages for kits, but the kits have needed quite a bit of tittivating to get them up to Sean's standards, so I'll let you see for yourself what they look like in this picture below.



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, I intend to have a few with me on Friday, as long as I remember.

See you Friday!

A handwritten signature in green ink that reads "William Bickers-Jones".

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**PORTCHESTER Friday meetings:** 12<sup>th</sup> December, 9<sup>th</sup> January 2009, 13<sup>th</sup> February, 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.