

# 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



November 2007

Hello,

I actually made a rare appearance with Southdown at the Chichester show and as usual it all went very smoothly, with the the only embarrassing bit being my own poor boiler management letting me down just as Adam was arriving for his first go at exhibition running! That said, I claim the excuse that I do seem to be having trouble getting gas into my Caradoc when its hot, so I think a bit of engineering is called for there. Adam did very well indeed for his first public effort, and I think we'll all try a bit harder to get him along to garden sessions to get more practice on different railways.

Yet again, I'm away for the Portchester meeting, but I reckon I've got a valid excuse, as I'm on a working weekend on the W&LLR's Bagnall articulated loco "Monarch".

Quite a few of us went along to the first meeting of the "western folk" (must think of another name there...) at Rod's house recently, and some of us ran our trains, while others sat around watched videos and drank tea.... I proved that my re-springing of the pony trucks n my SLR Hunslet does seemed to have cured its lifelong objection to one of Rod's points, so it was a useful visit for me. We were all forcibly issued with books from Rod's collection, whether we wanted them or not, so his collection still exists, just not in Rod's house!

The next Western meeting is on Friday November 23<sup>rd</sup>, at David and Susan's, so contact them on 01425 611372 for details.

Now some "for sale's"

Rod has: One unused boxed set of LGB Logging Disconnects, 3 pairs of wagons, ( carries 3 logs). Any sensible offer considered.

Mike Dunckley announces that the DVD he gave us all at Portchester a preview of last time, is now available, so if you ordered one last time, or if you fancy a copy and didn't order one, make sure you catch up with Mike this time, or phone him if you can't make it along to Portchester. The initial order is £10 a go, but it will later on, be available at around £12-50 plus P+P via Garden Rail (colloquially known as "GortonRail" among the cognoscenti...) I hope I've got those prices right, but if in any doubt, contact Mike on 02392 465443 to confirm details. This excellent DVD is done in commemoration of the late Don Jones, who many of us knew well, and was heavily involved in the early days of 16mm modelling. A bit of a whizz at weathering, was our Don! Its thanks to Don that my collection of early "Sixteen Mil Today's" is almost complete, so if any locals need to consult back issues before their membership started, I've got most of them!

The suggestion of a minibus or coach trip to the Association annual show at Stoneleigh next March 29<sup>th</sup> has caused a limited amount of discussion, but we need to get a clear idea of your feelings on this if it is to happen. Current favourite seems to be a minibus either hired with driver, or driven by "one of us" to go there and back on the day. It certainly won't be me driving it, as I'll be there working from the Friday morning. Please can everybody get together to decide what they want to do, or nothing will happen at all! It is feasible to have a minibus hired with driver, that can then go on a shopping trip to a nearby town during the day, if members wives fancy that sort of thing. Alternatively, members wives can come to the show, and see that it really is a family activity. It is not a solely male preserve, with a variety of stewards, layout operators and traders of both genders!

Regarding the Stoneleigh show, it is in Hall 2 at Stoneleigh, that's the biggest one there, about 40% bigger than last year's venue, which was itself about 25% bigger than the previous venue. There are 10 layouts attending, and about 60 traders at the last count, and there will even be a real 12" to the foot scale industrial train there.

Southdown are attending the huge Warley show on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> December, so book your tickets for that, if you fancy going. Details of Southdown's show attendances are here: <http://www.cslr.co.uk/southdownshows.htm>

So, have a good time at Portchester, while I'm off getting covered in dirt at Llanfair Caereinion (actually by then I'll probably be in the Goat having a pint!)

As I've made it into 2 pages, here's another pic of Rod, at the Chichester show, explaining quite how big his other loco is, to Paul. At least I hope that's what he's explaining.....



*William*

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**PORTCHESTER Friday meetings:** 9<sup>th</sup> November, 14<sup>th</sup> December, 11<sup>th</sup> January 2008.