

# 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 2008

Hello yet again,

A rather experimental effort this time, as its the first document I've ever created since I loaded windows Vista onto my PC this morning.... fingers very firmly crossed indeed. Its a bit of a thin effort, as time is running short once again.



I should actually make it to the meeting this time, and will have some laser cut sheets for one of us, for the Brian Wilson "Eric" design. Sean and I, as well as Brian Parks, are intending to try building this loco as described in the very well received book from t'other side of the world.

I think most of us have managed to have some sort of discussion about whether or not we feel the New Milton "Rails" group is a viable option for us. At the "Western meeting" at Rod's a week or so ago, the feeling was that it wasn't viable for us, and we undertook to investigate alternative venues including Bursledon Brickworks. I believe David Daw has some serious progress on that, and I look forward to hearing more about it. This does yet again raise the subject of a test track, we need more than the current 2 people to be actively interested, if its going to happen.

To repeat something in last month's effort, so we are sure everyone has "heard", we were wondering if the Friday evening Western meetings were too hard to get to and would you find a weekend monthly steam up/meeting easier. Either a Saturday afternoon or a Sunday? Can you all voice an opinion, please?

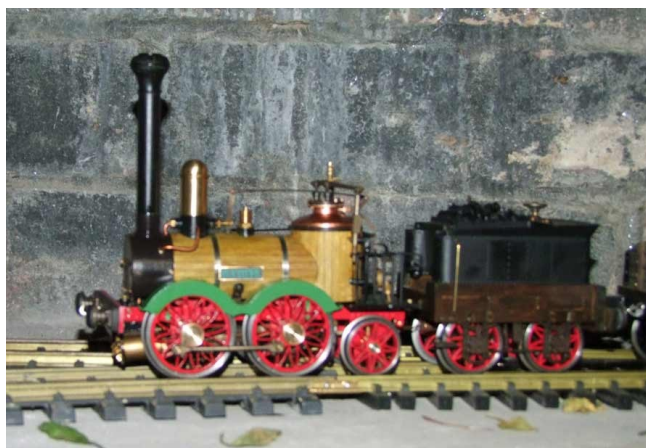
This weekend saw the Fareham & District MRC show at Wickham, and I know a few of us made it there. I spent Saturday in London at a 16mm Assoc board meeting, which was hard going, to say the least, and Sunday was spent fighting the PC, writing this, and drinking champagne! (It was a belated effort in celebration of our wedding anniversary, which occurred while we were away in Derbyshire.)

The pictures in this effort are of our recent visit to Bob and Sue Petch's open day on August bank holiday, when the weather actually did hold off, despite appearances. Some interesting locos were seen, and a good time was had by all, as is usual at Bob and Sue's.



On a personal note, I have made absolutely no practical progress on my line, although I do at last now have my brass code 250 rail, and many thanks to Dave Shotter for picking it up for me, at the Welshpool Gala show. I therefore have little excuse for not getting on with the dual gauge section of my line, just as long as I don't neglect the decorating, and heavy joinery work that is required in our dining room.

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, just ask me at Portchester, its free to anyone who has paid for their newsletter (so I'm on fairly safe ground there...)



This picture is of Rod's Saxonia loco, running at the Western meeting, in the dark, and therefore doesn't really show what a delicately proportioned work of art this loco is.

I'm also on the lookout for people to help out for an hour or two at the 2009 Stoneleigh Show. I do have one or two local volunteers, but compared to many other areas, we don't do too well on the stewarding front. Paul and Sean are effectively signed up for next year, so how about a few more of you? Don't forget, you get in free!

See you Friday!

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**PORTCHESTER Friday meetings:** 10<sup>th</sup> October, 16<sup>th</sup> November, 12<sup>th</sup> December.

Details of Southdown's show attendances are here: <http://www.cslr.co.uk/southdownshows.htm>  
Thanks to Paul Betts for hosting that.