

Chairman's Thoughts

At our last Meeting I thanked Brian Merrifield and his team of helpers for spending many hours on the rebuilding and overhauling of *Speedy*. The photograph shows Brian and Merlin during the first steaming back in August. More pictures appear on Page ?

Brian has asked that a brass plaque be fitted to the cab with the words "Bequeathed to B&DSME by Dougie Mates c1965", which the Committee has now agreed to do. I was able to have a ride on *Speedy* a few Saturdays ago at Luscombe Valley and was very impressed by how it performed. It should give many years of service.

Our Santa Special will soon be here and at our last Meeting we agreed a date of Sunday 11th December. If you are interested in helping on the day please put your name on the list that will be circulated at the next Meeting or let either David Finn or myself know by e-mail. It is very difficult to give people a job on the day if they just turn up. We will need guards, station marshals, drivers and general helpers. By knowing the number of members who will be coming to help, Peggy can ensure that everybody is fed.

Hopefully, a member from REMAP (our charity this year) will be able to collect their cheque at our next Meeting, as the Committee has agreed the final donation sum.



David Martin

Editor's Ramblings

The Heavy Gang have been hard at work again during the recent spell of good weather, augering holes, planting steel uprights and welding steel bar together to construct the new storage facility for *Sheddon Wheels* and the new pipe dream, *Littledown Castle*.

Ever since it was completed, *Sheddon Wheels* has been labouriously and sometimes precariously, maneuvered from the traverser to the Engine Shed on an hydraulic lifting trolley. As part of the ongoing investigations into the possibility of constructing a new passenger hauling engine to help relieve the load on *Sheddon Wheels*, it was decided to try to improve the handling and storage of both engines.

After much deliberation and investigation of alternative ideas, it was decided to add an offloading road between the two 7'1/4" steaming bays and cut a hole in the brick wall of the Loo end of the Engine Shed to enable the engines to be easily stored out of the way with the minimum of manhandling needed.

John Hoyle's pictures show, on the right, John Hancock in typical pose about to wield the big angle grinder and separate some steel box section, donated some years ago by Richard Knott, into suitable lengths for the uprights.



In the other picture Barry Linger is welding the steel bar to the uprights for the rails. The rails are now resplendent in red oxide primer and the next stage is to replace the concrete slabs around the uprights and then build the steel framed access door before moving inside to build and fit the storage racking.

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Merlin's Musings

On the 5th of October a group from the Bournemouth U3A (University of the Third Age) arrived at Littledown to photograph anything and everything to do with our track. This had been arranged by Dave White.

Bob with his Indian loco, *Rudyard Kipling* and Jean and Alan with Jean's *Santa Fe* diesel provided the trains on the track and I had the B1 static on the steaming bays to give them access to a steam loco without the danger of getting burnt. The 16 mm NG Garden Railway was operated by Carol and Mike, Gordon and Peter Burton. Also the crew were working on the track for the new locomotive storage system for *Sheddon Wheals*.

All this created quite a lot of interest and at one point I noticed they were enjoying rides around the track. Lots of photos and nattering were the order of the day.

Merlin Biddelcombe

Castlepoint Fun Run

The Castlepoint Fun Run is being held at Littledown on Sunday 16th October 2011. We have been asked by the organisers to keep our entrance clear between 11.30 am and 2.00 pm. **Please do not use the entrance between those times to avoid obstructing the runners.**

Direction of Running

Sunday	16 th October	Clockwise *	Wednesday	19 th October	Anticlockwise
Sunday	23 rd October	Anticlockwise	Wednesday	26 th October	Clockwise
Sunday	30 th October	Clockwise	Wednesday	2 nd November	Clockwise
Sunday	6 th November	Clockwise *	Wednesday	9 th November	Anticlockwise
Sunday	13 th November	Anticlockwise	Wednesday	16 th November	Clockwise
Sunday	20 th November	Clockwise *	Wednesday	23 rd November	Anticlockwise
Sunday	27 th November	Anticlockwise	Wednesday	30 th November	Clockwise
Sunday	4 th December	Clockwise	Wednesday	7 th December	Anticlockwise

* denotes 16mm Garden Railway open - weather permitting.

B&DSME Diary Dates

19 th October 2011	Monthly Meeting; 7.30 pm. Muscliffe Community Centre. <i>'Tram Restoration' by Nigel Smith.</i>
3 rd November 2011	Tech-Chat (Informal Discussion Meeting); 7.00 for 7.30 pm. <i>John Hoyle. Please let John know if you are attending. 01202 397561.</i>
16 th November 2011	Monthly Meeting; 7.30 pm. Muscliffe Community Centre. <i>'Full Size and Model Engines' by Barry Edden.</i>
1 st December 2011	Tech-Chat (Informal Discussion Meeting); 7.00 for 7.30 pm. <i>Venue to be decided.</i>
11 th December 2011	Santa Special; Littledown Miniature Railway. <i>Volunteers required. This is a Sunday event.</i>
21 st December 2011	Monthly Meeting; 7.30 pm. Muscliffe Community Centre. <i>Annual Christmas Party. Please bring seasonal food and cakes.</i>
5 th January 2012	Tech-Chat (Informal Discussion Meeting); 7.00 for 7.30 pm. <i>Venue to be decided.</i>

Luscombe Valley Happenings

www.luscombevalleysteam.com

Humbug Day

December 24th

Newsletter By E-mail

If you want to receive your copy of the Society's monthly Newsletter as a .pdf file, in full colour, you **must** let Dick know, by e-mail, sent from the computer you want to receive it on.

Typeset by Dick Ganderton in Gill Sans using Adobe InDesign CS2 v4 on an Apple Macintosh Dual 2.5GHz PowerPC G5 running Mac OS X v10.5.8 Leopard.

For Sale or Exchange

3 1/2" Gauge, part built, Southern Railway *King Arthur* 4-6-0 Locomotive.
Chassis part assembled.
Professionally built boiler.
Complete set of drawings.
Set of castings.

I would like to swap or part exchange for a 5" or 7 1/4" electric loco for my son to drive at the track.

Please contact: Peter Burton. Tel: 01202 840083 or 07776 444547.

E-mail: burton.pete1@googlemail.com



16mm Up Date

The Junior Project 2011 finished with a flourish, even if the weather was rather against us. The competition for the best constructed and painted wagon made during the Project was judged by our President, Dick Mantle and his wife, Val. The prizes were kindly donated by Raif Copley (Sixteen Thirty Two Models) the Course Tutor.

First prize of a Brake Van kit went to Miles Alton, second prize of a covered wagon kit to Ben Collins and third prize, a high sided wagon kit, to Joseph Miles. In fact, all the wagons presented for judging were considered to be of such a high standard and were, accordingly, judged as Runners Up and awarded flat wagon kits. We hope in the not too distant future to see all these kits made up and running on our 16mm track at Littledown.

At the beginning of October, B&DSME hosted a visit from Bournemouth U3A (University of the 3rd Age) Photographic Group, their project was Action in the Park. The 16mm track was put into operation, together with the 5" & 7 1/4" inch passenger carrying track. They were fascinated by the operations on both tracks and the camera shutters were working on overtime. Kodak would have been very pleased had they been using film, but to a man/woman digital cameras were in use, some being very expensive. They were also keen to understand the history and workings of the engines and track, but again we hear the same old story, "I didn't know you were here". Apparently they make DVDs for discussions within the Group and it was suggested by various B&DSME members that we could invite them back to an evening at Muscliff Hall to view their efforts at Littledown.

In the meantime we would be pleased to see you at Littledown 16mm track on the first and third Sunday of the month.

Gordon Miles and Dave White

Secretary's Request

Due to unforeseen circumstances requiring me to be in, hopefully, a much warmer climate at the time of the Santa Run, I am looking for someone to organise the Drivers and Locomotives, Guards and Station Staff Rosters for the event.

I can let the person/persons who volunteer have last years notes, which I think will be helpful.

If anyone is interested in undertaking the task, **please contact Dave Finn as soon as possible.**

Coach Trip To Warley National Model Railway Exhibition

Wimborne Railway Society are organising a coach to the Warley National Model Railway Exhibition on Saturday 19th November 2011. Departs Bournemouth, Poole and Wimborne from 6.00 am onwards. £25 inc. entry to the show! Contact Graham Bevan 01202 673246. e-mail: nakuru@postmaster.co.uk B&DSME members are welcome.

Social Secretary Needed Urgently

We are still looking for a Social Secretary to organise the speakers for our monthly Meetings.

My experience has been that at least one has been recommended by a member, another has already been to us before and is willing to speak on another subject. The others are found by talking to people in the normal way and asking if they would come and speak to us, in most cases they have agreed and enjoy the experience. The other way of finding people is to contact organisations such as Swanage Railway, who will almost certainly produce a willing volunteer.

What is required? As you go about your normal activities, speaking to fellow members or someone at a show. If you think they are interesting, then so will the rest of us. You would probably be surprised at how easy it can be to get people to agree to come and speak once they have had a few minutes to impress you with their knowledge. It is only later the truth dawns on just how much work is required to put together a reasonable presentation, but that is not your problem. I have found that most speakers thoroughly enjoy the challenge and freely admit it – at the end of the evening.

Speakers have been booked until the end of 2011. All that will be required is to make contact a couple of weeks before the evening to check they are still coming and make sure they know where we meet. Therefore, you have plenty of time to find people to fill the seven spaces in 2012.

Dave Martin made a valid point when he pointed out that our Meetings are interesting and vibrant because so many members regularly attend them. It would be a shame if attendance fell because the Meetings were no longer interesting.

Brian Merrifield

Waving the Flag at Southampton

On September 18th The Three Amigos, aka. Barry Linger, Merlin and myself, visited the Southampton track at Riverside Park with the Society's *Maid of Kent* and my B1. We were made extremely welcome by all the members there.

The two locos were steamed and both coupled to two-trolley trains. The following two to three hours were spent pulling passengers and dodging the very heavy showers that were roaming the skies that day. It was good fun especially drinking the copious quantities of tea whilst sheltering under the trees with Odin above moving his furniture about.

All too soon it was time to pack up and we made our ways back home.

The Southampton Chairman expressed his thanks to us for our efforts and hoped we could do it again.

Dave Finn

Bullet Points from the September Committee Meeting.

- It was decided, following an incident at the track that could have been avoided if the guard had had a whistle/audible warning device, that any train having a guard, then the guard must have an audible warning device. This will be provided by the Society.
- It was agreed that the Treasurer would open an internet banking account.
- A name has been agreed for the new Society Locomotive project, as referring to it as the 'New Shed' was too confusing. The name chosen is *Littledown Castle*.
- The Junior Events were deemed to have been successful. Further such events will be organised for 2012.

Dave Finn

Speedy Reborn

These pictures, taken by Alan Hodgson and Dave Finn show the successful Steam Test and subsequent run of Speedy following its lengthy rebuild by Brian Merrifield.

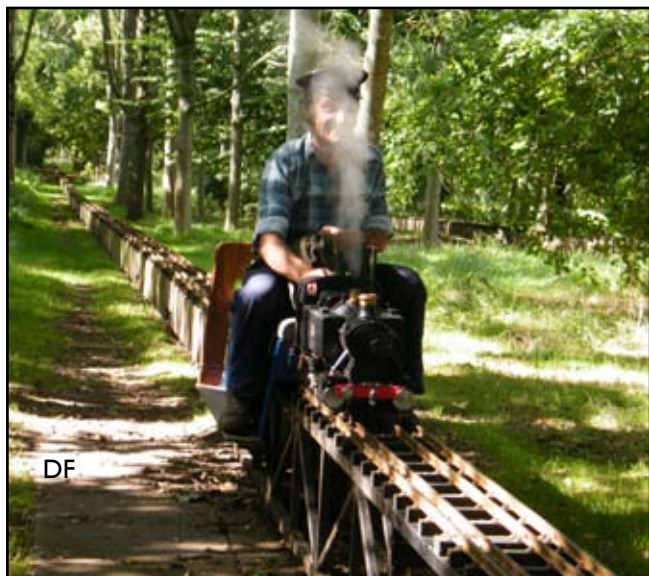


Brian, Mike Mortimer and Merlin during Speedy's successful Steam Test at Littledown. More pictures on page 5.



Speedy Reborn

More pictures, taken by Alan Hodgson and Dave Finn, of the successful Steam Test and subsequent run of Speedy following its lengthy rebuild by Brian Merrifield.



Clockwise, from top left: Brian gets Speedy under way for the first time. Merlin is a compulsive tinkerer. Steam to spare! At the end of a successful day. Merlin holds up proceedings yet again. Brian on another non-stop run through the station.

