

The Whistleblower

October 2011

CLUB EXHIBITION

The club annual exhibition will be held on 8-9 October at The Connaught Leisure Centre, Aldershot. Public opening hours are 10.00 -5.00 on Saturday and 10.00 - 4.30 on Sunday.

Briefing: There will be a briefing in the clubrooms on Wednesday 5 Oct at 8.00pm - we would like all club members to attend this. There will be a list of jobs available for people to do - if you can't get to the Wednesday meeting but are able to help let the Exhibition Manager know. We need hall stewards for each hall responsible for the traders and layouts.

Helping out: All members are requested to help on Friday (7th Oct) afternoon/evening to mark out the halls and get layouts/equipment ferried from the clubrooms. Loading of the van at the clubroom will start at 15.30. Access to the Leisure centre for marking out starts at 17.00 - the Exhibition Manager will be there at 16.00. Also, help after the exhibition closes on Sunday getting everyone and everything out is essential. Some of the layouts and traders may be short-handed and appreciate occasional relief (hall steward responsibility) - in general, if someone is struggling please help.

Club Corner: Chris Webster will be overseeing this so is looking for potential demonstrators to do a stint or two talking to the visitors about the club, it's activities, etc, whilst thrusting an open day leaflet into their hand. You don't need to be an "expert" (knowing the difference between N and O gauge is sufficient) and it's probably not the best place to be assembling intricate model as you will be interrupted. If you are interested please let Chris know at briefing.

The 2mm Scale Association: The 2mm SA will be holding its AGM on Saturday in the Music Room (adjacent to the Leisure Centre entrance) starting at 2.00pm. The Association has paid for it's members to get entry to the exhibition - the 2mm SA should go to the Music Room to register and get a ticket rather than going to the exhibition main entrance. Other exhibition visitors will not be allowed into this room

Special offer: This year, on Sunday only, up to 2 children will be allowed free entry with each full adult ticket (OAPs need to pay adult rate to take children in). This is designed to help large families afford the entrance charge and also encourage people to attend on the Sunday which is usually quieter.

Parking at The Connaught Centre: If you intend to park at the centre please park on the far left as you come in the gates nose to tail. If you want to get out before the end of the day, please park at Aldershot Lido and walk to the centre. All main car parks are allocated to the paying public.

There will be a short party in the exhibitor's room when the "Most Appealing Layout" award will be presented after the show closes on Saturday.

COMMITTEE FEEDBACK

- The committee approved in principle the construction of two new layouts. Wickwar, a 12' long N gauge layout and Spitfields, a 16' long O gauge layout. Both of these layout have been allocated storage space. The building of the layouts is subject to club funds allocation to be decided after the exhibition.
- We have now started the process of improving the website, Dave Arkley is due to report back with his prototype soon.
- New layout leaders are required for the OO & O gauge groups for the forthcoming year. We urge the groups to select these before the AGM in December. These are your representatives on the committee so please get engaged.
- Thank you to everyone who helped to make the Wellington Centre event successful (see OO group report).
- The next committee meeting is on 9th Nov.

PROGRAMME FOR OCT - DEC

Date	Group Rota	Event	Subject
October			
Wed 5	N	Briefing for exhibition	Attendance of all members requested @ 8pm
Fri 7		Exhibition set up	Loading at starts @ 3.30pm. Hall available @ 5.00pm
Sat 8 / Sun 9		Club exhibition	Attendance of all members requested to help
Wed 12	OO	Presentation	Modification of proprietary items - Robin Baker
Wed 19	P4	00 gauge running night	
Wed 26	O		
Saturday 29		Open day set up	Starts @ 1.00pm
Sunday 30		Club open day	Members attendance from 8.00 – 17.00hrs
November			
2011/12 subs due			
Wed 2	N	0 gauge running night	
Wed 9	OO	Competition	Photography competition at Liphook MRCs (Bohunt school)
Wed 16	P4	Presentation	Chris Webster slide show
Wed 23	O	00 gauge running night	
Wed 30	N	0 gauge running night	
December			
Wed 7		Annual General Mtg	Attendance of all members requested to participate
Wed 14	OO	Presentation	
Wed 21	P4	Mince Pie night	Social evening before Christmas. All running tracks up
Wed 28		Club closed	

Reminder: 2011/12 club subscriptions are due on 1st Nov 2011

PTO

EXHIBITON DIARY

8/9th October - Weydon Rd & Brixcombe at the Club exhibition

30th October - Greenfield Sidings & Basingstoke at the Club Open Day

5/6th November - Greenfield Sidings at IOW

19/20th November - Weydon Rd at the NEC

MODELLING COMPETITION

The modelling competition held on the 21st Sept was very successful. We had 22 entries in the judging categories and more entries in the "Loan" category. The standard of the modelling was excellent. Winners were:

- 2mm - Chris Webster with a SR bogie scenery van
- 4mm - Jim Wheaton with a P4 Armstrong single + train
- 7mm - Ron Patterson with a dirty L&BSCR C2X
- Other scales - Jim Wheaton with a dirty Z class + steamroller on Lowmac
- Scenic - David Harrington with an excellent 2mm diorama (last minute entry)

The "Best in Show" was Jim Wheaton tying with himself on both 4mm and other categories - truly the overall winner. Well done Jim - I hope you enjoyed the wine.

ANNUAL EVENTS

- The Club Open Day. To be held on Sunday 30th October - the club layouts being erected will be Greenfield Sidings (OO) and Basingstoke (N). David Harrington is co-ordinating activities to ensure the day is a success. Please note: this year we will be charging £1 entrance fee to cover the hall hire cost.
- The photographic competition. This year the competition will be organised by the Liphook MRC and be held on held Nov 16th at Bohunt School, Liphook. Entry information is on the notice board - print size is maximum 8" x 5", maximum entry of 5 prints per member and the closing date is 19th October (entries to Ron Patterson). Directions to Bohunt School will be posted on the notice board.
- The Club AGM. This will be held on Wednesday 7th December 2011 - a calling notice will be posted 4 wks before as per the club constitution.

LAYOUT AND CLUB ACTIVITY

N gauge group - Basingstoke's visit to the Taunton show is unfortunately now confirmed as "OFF" so its next public appearance will be at our open day. On the plus side however we have now had our attendance at the Stafford show in February 2012 confirmed. You will have noticed the appearance of many of its boards on Wednesday nights, usually accompanied by the sound of heads being scratched as our electrical wizards are working their way through the associated fault finding with the new panels and wiring that have been introduced. The frequent moving of the boards has also led to another casualty in the form of the station canopies which were in a dubious state anyway, we will have to look seriously at whether we can replace these before Stafford.

With Basingstoke taking up quite a bit of our time, progress on developing Wickwar has slowed slightly but a fully developed and costed proposal was put in front of the last committee meeting and approval given, subject to the usual budgetary constraints.

OO gauge group - The main event for Greenfield Sidings was a weekend mini showing at the Wellington Centre, Aldershot in order to advertise the club exhibition. This attracted a great deal of interest from family groups both local and the Ghurkha population so much so that we have been invited back next year. Buckets were gently shaken and a total of £185 was collected for Help the Hero's. Many fliers were distributed so hopefully there will be record crowds at the Connaught Centre.

Greenfields Sidings is next up in front of the public on the club open day. The following weekend we are "overseas" on the Isle of Wight.

P4 gauge group: No report

O gauge group: The group have had a massive weathering session on 'Weydon Road' in preparation for the Club Exhibition and Warley. The Lighting Fascia has been painted and we've moved the Exhibition badges from the Turntable Entry Boards, they were getting scratched. There is still a fair amount of work to do before the exhibition. The October Railway Modeller has 'Weydon Road' as Railway of the Month and the adverts for Warley include a view of the layout.

'Round the Bend' loops are almost completed but not wired and tested as yet.

Don't forget that we need to elect a new Committee Member before the AGM so volunteer or be pressed. It's not a difficult job.

CLUB OPEN DAY

SALES CORNER (open from 8.30am)

This is an opportunity to convert into cash some unwanted items or the chance to purchase a bargain. Sales will be 'as seen' with any faults stated. Please mark up your prices in multiples of £1's & 50p's [to help change & the maths]. Please note: 10% of sales commission to the club.

If you are unable to be with us on the day, but have some items you would like to sell, they can be left at the club with a note stating your name and the price you would like to sell the items for. If faulty, please state the fault. Let David Taylor know they are there so that they don't get overlooked! David Taylor - ditaylor80@btinternet.com or 01252 714111

David Harrington asks that N and OO Group Leaders check their operating schedules for Open Day and make any necessary changes well ahead of the event. Also, please would Task leaders revisit their allocated tasks and ensure that nothing has been omitted. A copy of the Open Day Schedule is on the Clubroom door - all club members are asked to take a look at the schedule and let your Group leader know if you're unable (or unwilling!) to take part.