

The Whistleblower

October 2013

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LAST WARNING

There are 2 committee appointments to be made at the AGM in December - Chairman and Secretary.

For those of you that are not aware, the club constitution states that executive committee positions (Chairman, Secretary & Treasurer) can only be held for 3 years and then the incumbents must stand down and be replaced. Both Ron Patterson (Chairman) and Richard Puddephatt (Secretary) are standing down in this year having done their turn in these positions.

It is therefore imperative that volunteers from the club membership come forward to stand for these positions. If you are thinking of standing and want to know more, please contact the current officers to find out what this entails. Nominees must be received before the AGM.

No nominees, no functioning club I am afraid.

COMMITTEE FEEDBACK

- A committee meeting was held on 18th Sept. All committee members attended.
- The committee formally sanctioned the extensions to the 2012/3 budgets for N, OO and O layout groups. This means that all expenditure in excess of the budgets has been paid by the Treasurer.
- The Exhibition planning is on track with changes to advertising to gain better value. See separate section on organization requirements.
- Having reviewed the Old Kiln Light Railway, Tilford's accounts, it transpires that the net profit is around £300 each year. The proposal was for F&DMRC to share the profits on a 50:50 basis. The Committee did not think that the return on the effort needed to organize the event was viable therefore we have written to OKLR to declining the offer. This item is now closed.
- New budgets for the financial year 2013/4 have been requested from each layout group for approval at the next committee meeting. Please talk to your layout representative with your inputs.
- David Harrington presented the organization plan for the club open day on Sunday 27th October. All members should now have been allocated a job to make this a success.

PROGRAMME FOR 2013

October			
Wed 2	N	0 gauge running night	
Wed 9	OO	Exhibition briefing	Members attendance @ 8pm
Friday 11	-	Exhibition set up	Loading 3.00pm. Hall 5.00pm
Sat 12 / Sun 13	-	Club exhibition	Attendance of all members req'd
Wed 16	P4	N gauge running night	
Wed 23	O		
Sun 27		Club open day	Organised by Dave Harrington.
Wed 30	N	00 gauge running night	
November - 2012/13 subscriptions due			
Wed 6	OO	0 gauge running night	
Wed 13	O	Competition	Photography comp @ F&DMRC
Wed 20	N	N gauge running night	
Wed 27	P4	00 gauge running night	
December			
Wed 4			
Wed 11	OO	Annual General Mtg	Members attendance @ 8pm
Wed 18	O	Social event	Christmas dinner
Wed 25	-	Club closed	

MODELLING COMPETITION - RESULTS

- 2mm scale - Robin Baker with a GWR diesel railcar.
- 4mm scale - David Taylor with a Class 1 diesel.
- 7mm scale - Ron Patterson with a Southern dock shunter.
- "Other" scale - Wilf Pateman with a P4 loco and train.

EXHIBITION COUNTDOWN - URGENT!

The club 39th annual exhibition will be held on 12/13th 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 9th 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 particularly need hall stewards, front desk manning, etc.

Helping out: All members are requested to help on Friday 11th 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 15.00. 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/traders may be short-handed and appreciate occasional relief (hall steward responsibility) - if someone is struggling please help.

Club Corner: Ron Patterson will be overseeing club corner. He is looking for members to man the club display stand 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). If you are interested please let him know at the briefing.

Parking at The Connaught Centre: This year building work is taking place at the Centre so the first section of parking (first left from the entrance) will be fenced off. However, we are advised that this area can be accessed by club members only as long as we park around the plant vehicles. If you intend to park at the centre please park in this section 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.

Saturday Night: There will be a short party starting at 5.30 pm in the exhibitor's mess room when the "Most Appealing Layout" award will be presented after the show closes. Drinks are on the house.

Lunch: Don't forget, if you want lunch over the exhibition weekend please let Mike Brown's know - please don't leave it to the last minute. This measure is to reduce overspending on unused food and hence save the club money.

Traders: If there are things you are thinking of purchasing that are likely to be on sale from a trader at our exhibition, could you try to buy them at the exhibition please? It increases the trader's turnover and the likelihood of them wanting to come back next year. If you are wearing a club shirt many will give you a discount.

Please remember that the annual exhibition funds the club layouts so will all members please contribute to making this a success - Thank you.

EXHIBITION DIARY

Club layouts

- 9/10th Nov - Weydon Road @ Tolworth

Exhibitions of interest

- 5/6th Oct - Manchester MRS
- 5/6th Oct - Fareham MRC
- 18-20th - Midlands Model Engineering Ex
- 20th Oct - Guildford O Gauge open day
- 26th Oct - Beckenham MRC
- 2/3rd Nov - Wimbledon MRC
- 9/10th Nov - Hampton Court MRS

ANNUAL EVENTS IN 2013

Diary dates for members, here are the club events to be held throughout the year.

- The Club Exhibition. To be held on the weekend of 12th/13th October at The Connaught Centre, Aldershot. Greenfield Sidings will be attending. All members are requested to make themselves available for this. Briefing on jobs to be carried out to be held on 9th Oct.
- The Club Open Day. To be held on Sunday 27th October. The club layouts being erected will be Basingstoke, Brixcombe and 2 private OO layouts. David Harrington has issued jobs to all members to help.
- The photographic competition. This will be organised by F&DMRC and held in our club rooms on Wednesday 13th November. Entry instructions to be published are shown in a separate section
- Club AGM. This will be held on Wednesday 11th December in the club room - an agenda and calling notice will be posted 28 days before the meeting. All members are encouraged to attend and take part in this very important meeting.

ARTICLES FOR THE NEWSLETTER

No railway articles this month as not received any since my last appeal. Please keep them coming as we don't want the newsletter just to be a newsheet. Why not write something for the newsletter - It can be about anything around railways and if you have pictures as well then that's fantastic. Any electronic delivery method is acceptable.

Thanks
The Editor

LAYOUT REPORTS

N gauge group: No report

OO gauge group: The wiring for the modifications to the fiddle yard point work has progressed slowly but surely thanks to Ian Gordon putting in many hours on the underside of the boards working both in the clubroom and at home. Alan, Ron and Richard have also adding their share by wiring up the inter-board jumper leads. Running night on Wednesday 25th Sept saw Greenfield's Sidings erected for proving the wiring, trains are running but we are still trying to resolve the operation of the points.

So, those of you who have trains to run, sort out your stock, clean the wheels and we will see what the new fiddle yard will produce (e.g. longer trains).

P4 gauge group: Activity of late has consisted of adding a few scenic tweaks and refining the operation of the turntable. It now looks as if we can set a turn in motion and expect, after half a minute or so, to find the loco turned and the table aligned ready for departure to next duty. The dead section beyond the turntable has now returned to use and we are finalising work to make this a regular feature of our timetable. We have also started planning a number of operational improvements whose implementation will be attempted after we have appeared at the club exhibition.

O gauge group: The new layout is now pushing ahead at some pace, The three sections fit together well and stands firmly on the supports. Cork is starting to be laid on the track bed on boards 1 & 2, cable interconnection points have been put into place wired to terminal strips. Track making is now a priority, laying track will enable some of the scenic components to be put into place. allowing the placement of tracks to be adjusted if required. We do need more of the group to get involved in track making, some of the jobs are small but time consuming, i.e. shoes on rails etc. but it all must be done , with much of the track laid we can start putting the wiring in place.

PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION - WEDNESDAY 13TH NOVEMBER

It is the F&DMRC's turn to organise the photography competition this year. This will be held on Wednesday 13th November in our club room.

We will use the same format as in previous years which is as follows:-

- The evening is a light hearted competition between Astolat, Liphook and Farnham clubs.
- Photographs are to be of any railway related topic.
- All entries are to be prints, either black & white or colour, of either 6" x 4" or 7" x 5" in size. Digital users are free to enhance their photos as they wish. If possible, could entrants also supply digital copies of their photographs as this would help displaying the images on the night of the competition.
- Each person can submit up to 5 entries marked with their name on the back of each photo. All entries are to be submitted to the Chairman of the Farnham & District MRC by Friday 1st November 2013.
- Entries are only permitted from full members of Liphook Modellers, Farnham & District MRC and Astolat MRC. Entries must not have been previously used in this competition previously.
- Tony Radnor of the Farnham U3A Photography Group has kindly agreed to judge the submitted photos. He and a colleague will review all entries, select 3rd, 2nd and 1st places and explain their choices at the competition evening. Small prizes will be awarded accordingly.
- Please arrive from 7.30 pm for a prompt start at 8.00 pm. Light refreshments will be available during the evening free of charge.

An entry form is attached to the newsletter which must be used . Also, a copy of these instructions and entry forms are pinned to the club notice board.

Good luck and have fun.

PICTURES FROM THE MODELLING COMPETITON

By Richard Harris

