

WHISTLEBLOWER

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE FARNHAM & DISTRICT MODEL RAILWAY CLUB

October 2019 Edition

EDITORIAL

This edition concentrates on the forthcoming Annual Exhibition and the results of the recent modelling competition.

I make no apology for resending the Chairman's recent message as the show is so important to us. To outline all that needs doing I also include a modified version of an article by David Harrington published a couple of years ago.

All hands on deck!

Julian Evison (Editor)

ANNUAL CLUB EXHIBITION – Richard Puddephat

This will be held on the weekend of Saturday & Sunday October 12th and 13th at the usual venue of the Alderwood Leisure Centre, Tongham Road, Aldershot GU12 4AS. This is the one event where we put on a “three line whip” for all members for their support across the weekend. We will also need as many members as possible to help with setting up the show on the Friday evening of October 11th. Noel will give a briefing on the Wednesday prior to the show, October 9th, at 7.30 pm. Please try and be there for that as well as the show. This is the occasion when we make much of the money which is then available to us to build layouts and play trains – the main objective of the Club!! So do please give it your full support.

THE BURDEN OF PUTTING ON AN ANNUAL EXHIBITION – David Harrington

What starts a couple of weeks after our annual show ends? You've got it – it's the planning process for the next one.

And what's a never-ending task that runs throughout the year, every year? You might not have got that one – it's searching far and wide for top quality layouts for two and three years downstream and issuing invitations to them. That's the proactive bit. On top of that there's the reactive task of assessing requests from would-be exhibitors who are keen to bring their (sometimes not-quite-so-good) layouts to us.

Sounds easy? It's not. And the success of this year's show (which determines if the punters will return next year) and thus the long-term financial health of our club, depends on getting it right. Year-in, year out.

Just for the record (and to ensure that none of us takes our show for granted, or isn't aware of the blood, sweat and tears that makes it happen) here's a rough guide to the key responsibilities. You can probably put names to tasks – I deliberately haven't done so.

Exhibition Manager – Has ultimate responsibility for all elements. Pulls together all parts of the team. Liaises with venue on issues that include Health and Safety and security; arranges First Aid cover. Allocates essential duties such as room stewards, door guardians, car park attendants. Decides on layouts to be invited and liaises with other clubs on logistics. Ensures show is advertised in hobby media. Acquires layout descriptions for show guide. Liaises with Hart Lions on catering. Proposes entry price. Arranges "most appealing layout" voting. Books venue for next year. Arranges for "staff photographer". Ensures enough barriers for layouts. Sets show budget and reports to Club Committee

Deputy Exhibition Manager Supports Exhibition Manager and has special responsibility for securing trader support for and attendance at the show. Gets text for inclusion in show guide. Liaises with Treasurer on invoicing traders.

Hall Management. Gets details of tables/chairs/badges/lunches needed, and puts together packs for stands and informs Leisure Centre.

Power supplies – ensures every trader and exhibitor has access to a power outlet according to the layout plan. Obtains and PAT tests enough extension cables, cable protectors on the floor, installs them before the day, responds to ad hoc requests during the show and recovers club property afterwards.

Layout Plan – Critical task. Takes information from Exhibition Manager. Converts that to a floor plan, with dimensions. Several iterations over many months.

Treasurer– Liaises with Exhibition Manager on layout expected expenses and arranges insurance cover. Provides floats, door tickets, cash boxes and night safe. Collects cash from admission points and other club income sources (such as Used Sales stand). Real-time control of accounting activities during show. Produces final analysis of show P&L. Reports to Club Committee.

Show Guide Manager – accepts exhibitors' and traders' text. Designs guide layout around text and ads. Monitors sales of advertising. Liaises with printer on costs and design. Produces artwork for flyer for next year and arranges print.

Arranging accommodation for visiting layout operators – a hassle-rich job

Local area publicity – provides pictures and text to local papers. Purchases ads as required.

Green Room management. Staffs and manages room throughout show. Orders beer and urns, coffee and tea. Liaises with Hart Lions for exhibitor food..

Club Stand. Ensures Stand is serviceable and pictures intact; stocks of leaflets on future events and membership forms. Produces list of potential members for post-show follow-up. Staffs Stand at show. Manages display of members' models.

Used Items Stall Proposes selling criteria. Assembles and catalogues donated items throughout year. Crews stall. Liaises with Treasurer on distribution of proceeds to Club and original owners.

Van hire and drive Depends on finding a willing and able driver among Club members.

Signage – AA and private venture. Critically important to “first impressions” by visitors. This aspect is by far the most frequently commented on after the show.

Car park stewards. Especially important during the first few confusing hours of Friday night and Saturday morning.

Web Update. Posts details of layouts and traders for the next exhibition, and puts up photos from the exhibition.

Finally – you might have noticed that there are 16 primary tasks listed above. That's over a third of the Club's active membership. If you then take into account that several of these tasks involve more than one member (e.g.: Used Sales Stand, door guardians), and that other members will be on a layout operating roster, it illustrates just how important it is that every one of us not directly tasked pitches in to help – not just on the day but throughout the year. We did exceptionally well in 2018. The challenge is to match that in 2019.

CLUB MODELLING COMPETITION – RESULTS

Here are the results of the Club Modelling Competition which took place on Wednesday 2nd October, with photos of the winning models taken by Richard Harris.

Scenic/Trackside

Runner up was Paul Huxford with his model of a bridge.

Winner was Mike Le Marie with Yr Elen shed:



2mm Scale

Runner up was Noel Lever with SR and BR wagons.

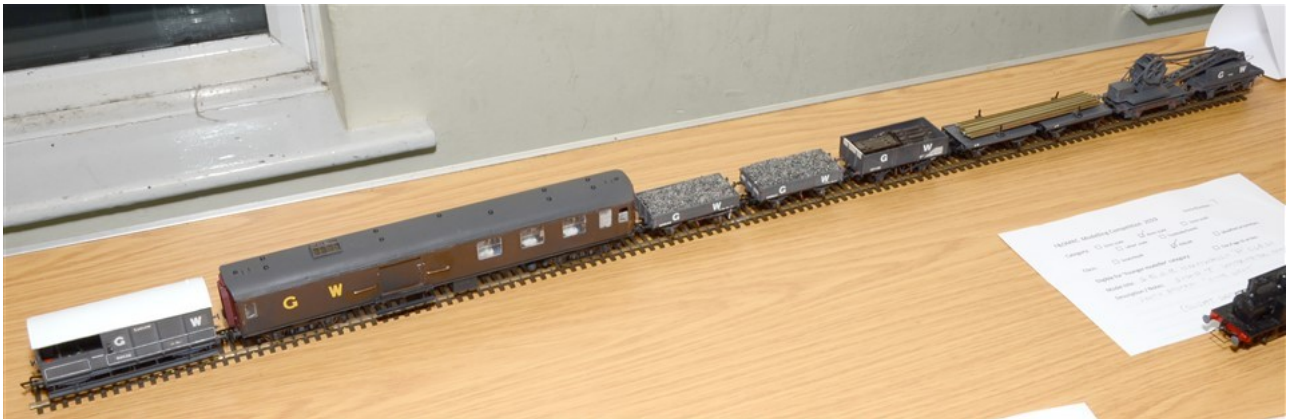
Winner was Mike Le Marie with BR and LMS vans.



4mm Scale

Runner up was Alexander Holt with SECR coaches.

Winner was Chris Roberts with a GWR Permanent Way train.



7mm Scale

Winner was Robin Baker with a GWR Milk Brake Van



Other Scales

Runner up was Chris Webster with his War Department wagons

Winner was Wilf Pateman with a BR liveried Black Five. This model also won the **Best in Show** prize.



Younger Modeller

Winner was Alexander Holt for a rake of SECR coaches.



Modified Model

Winner was Alexander Holt for his ex-LNER A2/1 Pacific.



CLUB DIARY – Andrew Wrobel

Recent changes in **yellow**. Running starts at **14:00** in the Hall. 'Run'g pm' = Priority for use of Hall AND tidy/vacuum Club Room + Lock-Up

DIARY 2019		
<i>Date</i>	<i>Run'g pm</i>	<i>Event / Layout at Exhibition/Show</i>
Sat 05 & Sun 06 Oct	--	St.Mary's (7mm NG) [J.Evison's layout]: Fareham MRC Exhibition, Fareham Leisure Centre, PO16 7JU
Wed 09 Oct 7pm	N	Annual Club Show BRIEFING [Noel]
Fri 11 Oct evening	ALL	Prepare the Club Show
Sat 12 & Sun 13 Oct	ALL	F&DMRC Annual Club Show, Aldershot; Wickwar (N); Brixcombe (P4); some 009 modules.
Wed 16 Oct	P4/009	
Wed 23 Oct	00	
Sat 26 Oct	--	St.Mary's (7mm NG) [J.Evison's layout]: Expo Narrow Gauge, White Oaks Leisure Centre, Swanley, BR8 7BT
Mon 28 Oct	--	O gauge photo-shoot for Railway Modeller [with Steve Flint]
Wed 30 Oct	Any	TALK: Full Layout Automation 7pm by guest Ian Morrison
Sat 02 & Sun 03 Nov	--	Haydon Sq. E.1(0): Spalding MRC, Springfields Events Centre, PE12 6ET
Wed 06 Nov	0	
Wed 13 Nov	N	
Sat 16 Nov	--	Wickwar (N): South Hants MRC, Admiral Lord Nelson School, Dundas Lane, Portsmouth, PO3 5XT
Sat 16 Nov	ALL	Club Open Day set-up 3pm - 5pm [Dance Club before 3pm]
Sun 17 Nov	ALL	Club Open Day 8:30am: Public 10am to 4pm [Layouts: Greenfields, Haydon Sq., some 009 modules, Test tracks: 'N' & poss.'00']
Wed 20 Nov	P4/009	
Sat 23 & Sun 24 Nov	--	For Info'n: Warley Show
Wed 27 Nov	00	
Wed 04 Dec	0	AGM
Wed 11 Dec	N	
Wed 18 Dec	P4/009	Last Club Day of the Year
TBA	--	Christmas Club Dinner (optional)