

“WHISTLEBLOWER”

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE FARNHAM & DISTRICT MODEL RAILWAY CLUB

30 May 2021 – Edition No 11/21

EDITORIAL – Jon Faulconer

At last, the Clubroom has been reopened and the Wrecclesham Community Centre Main Hall has been available on Wednesday afternoons. Whilst all groups have had at least one turn allocated for the Clubroom, the N Gauge and the P4 Groups have also enjoyed the opportunity to use the Main Hall on a Wednesday. The N Gauge Group used their opportunity in the Hall to break out the running track and continue the extension work that had started before the lockdown. I have to own up to my failure to take any pictures of the gathering, despite my plea for Groups to do so and share their experiences. On the other hand, the P4 Group have done just as asked with their article below – thank you Richard. This week, it is the OO9's turn in the Hall with the OO Group the week following, as per the Admission Rota attached.

Following what has been a very wet May, looks like we should be able to look forward to some good weather which is unusual given that Monday is a Bank Holiday. Importantly, we await decisions on further relaxation of the Government's COVID measures scheduled for 21 June. That said, the next Edition of Whistleblower will be due out Sunday 13 June 2021, so please let me have your articles by Saturday 12 June 2021.

DRAWINGS

While doing the final stages of tidying up the clubroom, we found a large folder of railway drawings, perhaps 200 of them. They cover all sorts of subjects, but the large majority are the kind of outline drawings of locomotives, coaches and wagons which are just right for modelling. This is quite a treasure trove, but to make them useful to members they need cataloguing - otherwise they will probably go in the bin.

I propose to do the cataloguing in a simple way using a spreadsheet with simple details which, when finished, can reside on the club website. This won't happen unless a team of us (five, at least) split up the task in to manageable chunks. If you are willing to join me in doing this, please contact me, Julian Evison on gbjev1 (at) btconnect (dot) com.

FROM THE PHOTO ALBUM

During the recent refurbishment of the Clubroom, the photo album came out. Below are pictures of Club displays beneath Concorde at the Fleet Air Arm Museum at Yeovilton.



Weydon Road



Basingstoke



P4 GROUP MEET – Richard Harris

On Wednesday the P4 Group met in the flesh for the first time since early March last year. Brixcombe was retrieved from the basement and, when we had refreshed memories of what plugs in where, we enjoyed a successful running session. The layout seemed to have survived the last 15 months well, and with the exception of a small electrical niggles performed perfectly. Members' stock that had been worked on during the lockdown had its first exercise on the layout.

Amongst the several items that were 'passed out' for operation was the model pictured of Great Western mixed traffic 2-8-0 number 4707. Thought of as Churchward's last masterpiece, and nicknamed Night Owls, the class was introduced in 1919 for handling fast fitted freight. Powerful and sure-footed, they were often assigned to lengthy trains full to the brim with holidaymakers during the summer period. Our excuse for a 47xx at Brixcombe is that it is taking forward the leading 5 coach Brixcombe portion of such a train! The class remained in service up until almost the end of Western steam. None survive, but a replica is under construction. Frames, wheels and cylinders are now available as are other smaller standard GWR parts. The big challenge will be the finance and construction of a new No.7 boiler, unique to the class. If you want to see the model keep your eyes on Brixcombe when we operate it. If you want to see the real thing then look at www.4709.org.uk for progress reports and information on how to support the build.



F&DMRC DIARY

Recent changes. See also: **['Daily Admission Rota' for Mon-Fri Clubroom usage]**

Clubroom available from ~09:00 [use rear entrance].

Wednesday running starts at **14:00** in Wrecclesham Community Centre Hall.

'Run'g' = Priority use of Hall; ALSO Tidy/vacuum Club Room AND Lock up

Runn'g Sequence: O, N, P4, 009 and OO

DIARY 2021 – ALL are subject to change / cancellation		
Date	Run'g	Event / Layout at Exhibition/Show
<i>The following are known about events / Shows – all subject to change</i>		
Wed 26 May	P4	3 rd probable Rule-of-6 Clubroom then Hall at 14:00
Mon 31 May		Spring Bank Holiday – usually a Group Open Day – TBA
Wed 02 Jun	OO9	3 rd probable Rule-of-6 Clubroom then Hall at 14:00
Wed 09 Jun	OO	4 th probable Rule-of-6 Clubroom then Hall at 14:00
Wed 16 Jun	O	5 th probable Rule-of-6 Clubroom then Hall at 14:00
Wed 23 Jun	N	Possible all groups use of Clubroom then Hall at 14:00; Wickwar & Running-track
Wed 30 Jun	P4	Brixcombe
Wed 07 Jul	OO9	
		<more dates once Gov't restrictions definitely removed>
Sat 14 Aug		Evening preparation for Farnham OO9 Show
Sun 15 Aug		Farnham OO9 Open Day (OO9 Society & others): WCC Hall
Sat 11 & Sun 12 Sep		TINGS (The International N Gauge Show), Warwickshire Event Centre, CV31 1XN [As at 26-Feb: Advance tickets not yet avail.]
Wed 06 Oct	ALL	Briefing for Show 18:30 in Clubroom/Hall
Fri 08 Oct	ALL	Set-up Club Show – from late afternoon
Sat 09 & Sun 10 Oct	ALL	F&DMRC Annual Club Show , Aldershot [Most of the layouts that were invited for 2020 will be attending.]
Sat 27 & Sun 28 Nov		Model Railway Show: Warley
Wed 08 Dec		19:15 for 19:30 start - AGM (details to follow) [within 2 months of Club's year-end; voting only for paid-up 'Full' members].
Sat 11 & 12 Dec		Wickwar (N): Manchester MRC , Barnes Wallis building, Manchester, M1 7JA Decision by MMRS mid-July earliest
Wed 15 Dec		Dinner (optional) 18:30 for 19:00 @ The Mill House, Odiham
Wed 22 Dec		Last Club Day of the year

DIARY 2022 – ALL are subject to change / cancellation		
Date	Run'g	Event / Layout at Exhibition/Show
Sat 05 & Sun 06 Feb	--	Wickwar (N) and Brixcombe (P4): FEBEX , Alton
Sat 25 & Sun 26 Jun	--	Wickwar (N): Perth Show
Sat 10 & Sun 11 Sep	--	REC (Railway Enthusiasts Club), Woking Leisure Centre
Fri 07 Oct	ALL	Set-up Show – from late afternoon
Sat 08 & Sun 09 Oct	ALL	F&DMRC Annual Club Show , Aldershot [Wickwar and ??]

F&DMRC CLUB ADMISSION ROTA

Gov't STEP-3 : min 2, max. 6 members on the premises at any one time

The Club's Constitution [chap. 9.1], Handbook [chap. 6.1] and 'Health & Safety Policy' all refer to the safety and well-being of members. In re-opening the Club's activities, remember:

- the Club reserves the right to refuse membership or otherwise restrict attendance where the safety of other members appears likely to be compromised through wilful or accidental neglect of Government Infectious Diseases' guidelines, rules or regulations;
- **each Group Leader** will decide their own way of controlling numbers and ensuring fairness of occupancy;
- until further notice, an 'Attendance Log' **must** be completed by all attendees;
- in the event of a member testing Covid-19 'positive' at any time, the Club's Secretary and Chair **must** immediately be informed by phone or e-mail:
Chairman@farnhamrc.org.uk and Secretary@farnhamrc.org.uk ;
- there is no pressure to attend, it is each member's choice as to when comfortable to come.

<i>Week</i>	<i>Day & Date</i>	<i>Group</i>	<i>Club-room</i>	<i>Main Hall</i>	<i>Hall in use by other body</i>
31-May	Mon	O	Yes	Not available	??
	Tue	OO	Yes	Not available	??
	Wed 02-Jun	OO9	Yes	Yes after 2 pm	??
	Thu	P4	Yes	Not available	??
	Fri	N	Yes	Not available	??
07-Jun	Mon	N	Yes	Not available	??
	Tue	O	Yes	Not available	??
	Wed 09-Jun	OO	Yes	Yes after 2 pm	??
	Thu	OO9	Yes	Not available	??
	Fri	P4	Yes	Not available	??
14-Jun	Mon	P4	Yes	Not available	??
	Tue	N	Yes	Not available	??
	Wed 16-Jun	O	Yes	Yes after 2 pm	??
	Thu	OO	Yes	Not available	??
	Fri	OO9	Yes	Not available	??
Mon-21-Jun is planned Gov't STEP-4 : We await Covid progress and new Gov't Rules.					

Sat & Sun: To be booked via the Secretary on a first come, first served basis. NB. There was little use in 2020, so most requests should be OK.

If the Main Hall is occupied use only the Basement entrance and the Clubroom. The keyholder to place 'Notice of Railway Club presence' on alarm console.

Wipe: door handles, light switches, etc. when leaving the Clubroom.

If the Keyholder needs to access the Main Entrance, wipe the touched door handles, light switches and alarm system; also place the 'Railway Club are on-site' notice on alarm console.

Toilets must be Dettol sprayed after use.