

# “WHISTLEBLOWER”

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE FARNHAM & DISTRICT MODEL RAILWAY CLUB

11 July 2021 – Edition No 14/21

## FROM THE CHAIRMAN – Mike Le Marie

Despite rising numbers of people catching the D variant of Covid it seems that freedom from restrictions will go ahead on the 19<sup>th</sup> of July. As far as the Club is concerned, normal Wednesday activities will resume with no limit on numbers attending, subject to any rules imposed by the Community Centre. We will also continue to practice basic precautions such as adequate ventilation, surface cleaning and maintaining a register of those attending. It has been left to individual members to decide whether or not they wish to attend and whether or not to wear a facemask.

Freedom also means that the 009 Group can go ahead with Their Open Day on Sunday August 15<sup>th</sup>. In order for the event to be a success there is a need for some help from other Groups to assist with stewarding, parking, catering etc. Jon Faulconer has agreed to be Chief Steward; please contact Jon if you are willing to help and enjoy a good selection of 009 layouts.

## EDITORIAL – Jon Faulconer

I fully intend to get this edition out early on Sunday to allow Members a chance to read it before getting embroiled in the Euro Final this evening. Obviously, fingers crossed that the result goes for the home team, so good luck England.

Additionally, Monday 19<sup>th</sup> is a key date as mentioned above by the Chairman. This next step further reduces COVID restrictions and allows us to resume Club activities, albeit with some sensible precautions.

**Missing Loco.** About two weeks ago Pete Tigg repaired a donated Roco HOe loco Model 33241, Number 994311. The repaired loco was placed, in its box, on the OO9 shelf in the basement. The empty box was retrieved on Wednesday 7 July – but the loco was missing. Would the person who removed the loco please either return it or notify the Secretary of its whereabouts.

The next Edition of Whistleblower will be Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> July, grateful for inputs of articles and photos on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> July.

## FDMRC OO9 GROUP OPEN DAY – SUNDAY 15<sup>th</sup> AUGUST

Although the Club's Early May Bank Holiday Open Day was unable to take place this year, the further relaxation of the COVID restrictions does mean that the Club can continue with the OO9 Group's Open Day on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> August. This is a Club event that has been listed in the Diary for some time, as well as being advertised in Railway Modeller. More information will be published nearer the time; however, at this stage there are some areas that need to be raised:

**Volunteers.** Whilst David Harrington and the OO9 Group have organised the show, they will be very much committed to operating their displays on the day. Therefore, some assistance from other Club Members will be required to ensure the event will be a success. In particular, volunteers are required to control the parking for Visitors, as well collecting the entrance fees on the door. The intent is to share the duties around, so that everyone gets to enjoy the displays and not have just a couple of people carrying the load. Grateful if volunteers contact me by email or on 07437-179959

**Exhibition Signage.** For the OO9 Open Day, we're going to need some signage for the Community Centre and for use on local roads. There used to be some bespoke signage in the basement that we used for Club Open Days, but the Secretary says he didn't see any during the recent clear-out. Does anyone know where our direction signs might be? If so, please contact David Harrington on 01256-703819 asap.

## BLACK FIVE 45025 – Ian George

It was good to read in the recent railway magazines that Black Five 45025 has been returned to steam on the Strathspey Railway at Aviemore for the first time since 1994.



45025 was the number I chose for my San Cheng Black Five.

There were several reasons why I chose 45025. It was one of the first batch of Black Fives, built in 1934 at Vulcan Foundry near my home town of Warrington, and is the oldest preserved Black Five, pre-dating 45000, the Crewe-built National Collection engine by 6 months. In its last years 45025 was shedded at



Carnforth and was a regular sight around the north-west. In steam's last months it was reportedly clocked at over 80mph heading a Manchester express.

However, 45025's main claim to fame is that on 5th May 1968 it was chosen to haul BR's last steam hauled named express train, when it headed the "Belfast Boat Express" from Heysham harbour to Manchester Victoria, carrying passengers off the overnight boat from Belfast.



Complete with red headboard, 45025 heads the last steam -hauled "Belfast Boat Express" through Bare Lane station on the branch from Morecambe and Heysham and is about fork right to

join the West Coast mainline heading for Manchester Victoria. Note the blue and grey coaches in use by this date.

End of the journey at Manchester Victoria platform 15, just after 8 am, specially cleaned 45025 stands alongside a Black Five in more typical condition.

Victoria station displays evidence of its extensive re-design by the Luftwaffe in December 1941 when several bomb direct hits demolished a substantial part of the station's overall roof. Until its redevelopment as part of the Manchester Arena Victoria was regularly voted the accolade of "Britain's worst big city station".



45025 and its crew would not have long to celebrate their history- making arrival at Victoria as they were only half-way through their day's duty, which required them to take the empty carriage stock to nearby Red Bank carriage sidings, turn 45025 on the turntable, couple up to a fresh set of carriages, then return to Victoria ready for the 09.50 am departure to Barrow,

Whitehaven and Workington, which the crew would work as far as Carnforth and 45025 would work as far as Barrow.

45025 survived until the end of steam on BR in August 1968, including taking part in the final weekend “end of steam” specials. On the 4<sup>th</sup> August it hauled one of the LCGB “Farewell to Steam” specials around the north west before being withdrawn and sold directly into preservation and the start of its new career.

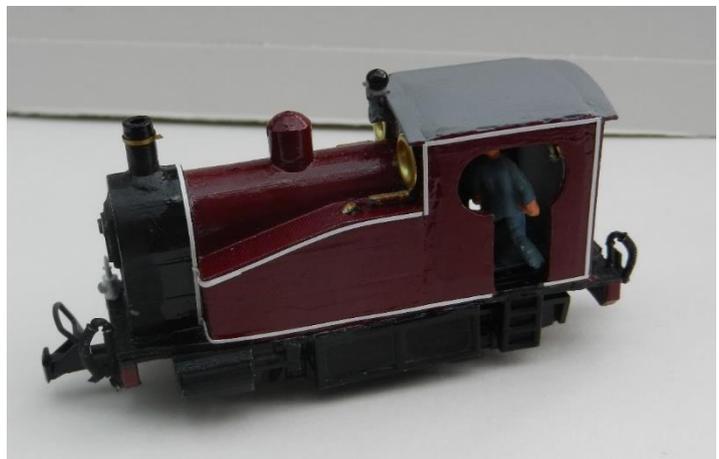
## **GUNTER, BUNTER, BODGER and TITCH – David Harrington**

This saga is aimed at people like me, who’ve often wondered if they can assemble, paint and run a 3D print and then lie back and admire their handiwork.

My “journey” (to use the fashionable term) began during a visit to a show where the OO9 Society second hand stall was set up. There I met Gunter, an 0-4-0 side tank potterer. He’s a fetching shade of red, with black and gold trimmings, lamps and brake hoses, name plates and a crew. He’d obviously been put together by a Master Modeller, because he seemed faultless and ran like a dream on his Kato chassis. He was going for fifty quid. Who could resist? Fifty quid for a loco not much different from a commercial RTR model at three times the price. Gunter came home with me and sparked a hunger for more like him - if this was what a 3D print could look like, how difficult could it be?



Next up was Bodger, another side tank. First attempt: first mistake. I bought this raw print for £12.50 and the price should have warned me about its quality. No instructions, print lines on every surface, poorly moulded small parts and badly fitting sub-assemblies. I attacked the print lines with files and sandpaper, to limited effect. I filed off the mould lines and flash so that the fitting was improved, although gaps remained. Eventually, after gluing everything together that should be glued together, I filled in the holes and corners with Milliput and sanded down again. Then more Milliput, followed by a light spray of Halfords Grey Primer, followed by more sanding and filling. The result was a scruffy model that was probably as much filler as it was plastic. I thought about the pro approach to painting the finished bodge with a spray gun –and rejected it - but



which, wisely as it turned out, was a good decision. You can get a pretty good finish at this scale with hand painting. So, I followed Gunter's livery of red and black with gold fittings and white trim (sold as "Trimline"). I don't trust my unsteady hand to line out. I used dress-maker's brass eyelets for the front and rear spectacles. They have over-large flanges but are a press-fit in the (reamed out) holes. Some Springside lamps and brake hoses completed the body. The supplier's ad on the web affirmed that a Kato 109 chassis would fit. Not on my model it wouldn't until I'd used a burr on a whizzer to grind away half the cylinders and then applied a lot of tacky-wax to get it to stay in place.



Up next was Titch. In his £25 raw state he was a thousand percent improvement on Bodger. I built him specifically for my "Whimsy" layout with its tight curves and his Kato 103 chassis performs as well now as it did when new. His build process was much the same as that for Bodger, but without the hassles. You get what you pay for and I rewarded him by painting him in the same livery as Gunter and Bodger. The only difference is that he carries a large "WR" logo on his tank sides, in recognition of his leading role on Whimsy Railways.

So far all three locos are side tanks and I wanted a saddle tank to complete the four. Enter Bunter, sporting a bulbous tank that reminds of the eponymous schoolboy. Unclothed he cost £20 from "TinWeb" and his quality is superb. All parts clip together without gaps, there's a nicely moulded and detailed back head and the 109 chassis just clicks smartly in place and stays put. Just a word on Kato chassis – I bought mine direct from Plaza Japan at less than £25 each (inc postage) and they arrived ten days later. They come ready-fitted with N-Gauge Elsie couplings. To remove the couplings, press gently downwards and they snap out of their housings, leaving a hole that will accept, with minimum fiddling and a spot of glue, a PECO 102/103 combination OO9 coupling that, if you're lucky, is at the right height for hooking up to rolling stock. Oh – and before you ask, nameplates are on order from Narrow Planet – a production delay of 8 weeks. Needless to say, I'm finding it hard to keep my hands off assembling Titch while there are more pressing things to do in preparation for our Open Day on 15 August!



## 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;
- **Group Leaders** will **continue to be responsible for** controlling numbers and ensuring fairness of occupancy;
- **until further notice**, the 'Attendance Log' **must continue to be** completed by all attendees;
- in the event of a member testing Covid-19 'positive' at any time, the Club's Secretary [0777-915-0008] and Chair **must** immediately be informed by phone or e-mail: [Chairman@farnhammrc.org.uk](mailto:Chairman@farnhammrc.org.uk) and [Secretary@farnhammrc.org.uk](mailto:Secretary@farnhammrc.org.uk) ;
- there **will continue to be** no pressure to attend, it is each member's choice as to when comfortable to come.

<i>Week</i>	<i>Day &amp; Date</i>	<i>Group</i>	<i>Club-room</i>	<i>Main Hall</i>	<i>Hall in use by other body</i>
12-Jul	Mon	N	Yes	Not available	am: Mother & Baby Group
	Tue	O	Yes	Not available	??
	<b>Wed 14-Jul</b>	<b>OO</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes after 2 pm</b>	??
	Thu	OO9	Yes	Not available	??
	Fri	P4	Yes	Not available	??

#### **Mon-19-Jul is planned Gov't revised STEP-4**

It is Club H&S policy that a Keyholder and one other person be present when using the Clubroom.

Use of the Clubroom is henceforth open Mon-Sunday inclusive; so, contact your Group Leader re. date & time to use it – of course, others may already be there ! Sole group use is over !!!

When **Main Hall** is NOT in-use by another organisation, the Kitchen **will now be available**.

Be aware of any WCC Notice re. **continue to wipe**: Door handles, Light switches, etc.

**If the Main Hall is occupied** use **only** the Basement entrance, the Clubroom and Toilet. The keyholder to place notice '**Railway Clubroom in-use, do NOT set Alarm**' on alarm console.

When leaving the Clubroom, **please continue to wipe**: Door handles, Light switches, etc. – if the Hall is still in-use you **MUST** use the back entrance.

If the Keyholder needs to access the Main Entrance, wipe the touched door handles, light switches and alarm system; also place the '**Railway Club NOT on-site, set Alarm**' notice on alarm console.

Toilets must **continue to** be Dettol sprayed after use, we have supplies in Clubroom.

# F&DMRC DIARY

See also: ['Daily Admission Rota' for Mon-Fri Clubroom usage]

Clubroom available from ~09:00 [ **Un-set Alarm, then use rear entrance, i.e. avoid Hall** ]

If someone else is using the Hall, members **MUST NOT** enter Hall or Kitchen before 14:00.

Wednesday running (Hall usage) starts at **14:00**.

**'Run'g' = Priority use of Hall; ALSO tidy/vacuum Clubroom 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 14 Jul	<b>OO</b>	
Fri 16 – Mon 19 Jul	<b>N</b>	<b>N-Gauge Forum:</b> Free virtual event of pre-recorded presentations of ~25 layouts. Q&A sessions with Steve Flint and Ben Arnold. Join any time at <a href="http://www.ngfshow21.weebly.com">www.ngfshow21.weebly.com</a>
Wed 21 Jul	<b>O</b>	This <b>should</b> be when the Clubroom & Hall are not 'Rule-of-6'. If numbers are large, windows & doors will be opened (so may need to wear warm clothes); also if 2m spacing is not possible, masks are advised; mandatory if you have minor sniffle, etc. !! 12:00 ' <b>Bat &amp; Ball</b> ' lunch session resumes, Until advised unnecessary, please advise Secretary by Mon-18:00 re. numbers for Booking on this & every Wed. 'N' group will be doing 'Next Layout' Planning in Hall or side room.
Wed 28 Jul	<b>N</b>	'Next Layout' Planning in Hall – this will continue every Wed in whatever space avail. OO9 may ask to set-up & practice.
<b>Wed 04 Aug</b>	<b>P4 &amp; OO9</b>	[P4 may still be temporarily standing-down]. OO9 added in case of set-up & practice.
<b>Wed 11 Aug</b>	<b>OO</b>	<detail of activity to follow>
Sat 14 Aug		Evening preparation for <b>Farnham OO9 Show</b>
Sun 15 Aug		<b>Farnham OO9 Open Day</b> (OO9 Society & others): WCC Hall
<b>Wed 18 Aug</b>	<b>O</b>	<detail of activity to follow>
<b>Wed 25 Aug</b>	<b>N</b>	'Next Layout' Planning in Hall.
		<more dates to follow>
Sat 11 & Sun 12 Sep		<b>TINGS</b> (The International N Gauge Show), Warwickshire Event Centre, CV31 1XN [Advance tickets <b>required</b> and now available] Please advise Secretary re. numbers for Car(s) Transport & Day.
Wed 06 Oct	<b>ALL</b>	<b>Briefing for Show 18:30</b> in Clubroom/Hall
Fri 08 Oct	<b>ALL</b>	<b>Set-up Club Show</b> – from late afternoon
Sat 09 & Sun 10 Oct	<b>ALL</b>	<b>F&amp;DMRC Annual Club Show</b> , Aldershot [Most of the layouts that were invited for 2020 will be attending.]
Sat 27 & Sun 28 Nov		<b>Model Railway Show: Warley</b>
Wed 08 Dec		<b>19:15 for 19:30 start - AGM</b> (details to follow) [must be within 2 months of Club's year-end; voting only paid-up 'Full' members].
Sat 11 & 12 Dec		<b>Wickwar</b> (N): Manchester MRC, <del>Barnes Wallis building, M1 7JA</del> <b>Venue change:</b> Sugden Centre, Central Manchester, M1 7HL. <b>Decision by MMRS mid-July still awaited</b>
Wed 15 Dec		Dinner (optional) 18:30 for 19:00 @ <b>TBA</b> [possibly The Mill House, Odiham]
Wed 22 Dec		<b>Last Club Day of the year</b>

DIARY 2022 – ALL are subject to change / cancellation		
Date	Run'g	Event / Layout at Exhibition/Show
Sun 16 Jan		<b>Astolat show:</b> Julian's 16.5mm layout; poss'y OO9 members' layout 'Straight & Narrow'. Richard Meyjes Rd, Guildford, GU2 7AD
Sat 05 & Sun 06 Feb	--	<b>Wickwar (N)</b> and <b>Brixcombe (P4):</b> FEBEX, Alton
Sat 25 & Sun 26 Jun	--	<b>Wickwar (N):</b> Perth Show
Sat 10 & Sun 11 Sep	--	<b>REC (Railway Enthusiasts Club),</b> Woking Leisure Centre
Fri 07 Oct	<b>ALL</b>	<b>Set-up Show – from late afternoon</b>
Sat 08 & Sun 09 Oct	<b>ALL</b>	<b>F&amp;DMRC Annual Club Show,</b> Aldershot [Wickwar and ??]

Tried to buy a England flag for Sunday, couldn't find one anywhere, so brought a French one and painted a red cross on it 🤪

