



G SCALE SOCIETY KENT

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The sun appeared for a while in March which meant that trains might start running again in the gardens of Kent and it was about time for another Newsletter. Then it went cold and wet again and only the hardiest of you stayed out, but no progress was made on the Newsletter until it was realised that Easter was just round the corner.

TEYNHAM MEET

This proved to be a very successful day with a reasonable turn out and a great day of interaction and chatter, with half the membership attending and a slightly larger number of visitors making a total of 85 – although some others may have slipped by the signing in system! Two new tracks to us attended and proved an added attraction and our thanks were expressed to their owners for making the trip to Teynham. Roger Allen coordinated the Meet and all his hard work meant everything ran smoothly and our ladies in the canteen kept us all well refreshed. Thanks to all those who turned up early and stayed late to help with the various tasks that needed doing.

As far as numbers attending is concerned, a Newsletter from a neighbouring group arrived recently and they had experienced a similar situation with an attendance similar to ours, with Members only accounting for about 40%. Committees work for the Members and it would be nice to see more of you at the events.

AGM

This was held prior to the Teynham Meet and attendance was disappointing in that only 15 out of 83 Members attended – although 4 others were in the hall setting up. There was the important decision to be made regarding the Constitution, which was sent to all members in December along with the Notice of Meeting. Those attending agreed the changes and a copy is enclosed for Kent Members. The Committee were also re-elected.

KENT'S GARDEN RAILWAY SHOW

This annual event in Faversham was outlined in the December Newsletter and the plans are now being pulled together to put on this enlarged show covering many of the scale and gauges run in gardens. The date is **SATURDAY 25 JULY** and for us to pull off a show we can be proud of and one that is seen to be of benefit to the Swale Festival, then we do need help. Despite the financial difficulties being experienced by all local Councils, Swale Borough Council is supporting this event again this year. If you feel able to offer some of your time on either the Show day or the set up day – Friday 24 July, then please make contact – a couple of hours would be a great help. The Committee meet at the end of April when many of the arrangements will be finalised, so that tracks and other stalls can be confirmed. In the past it is this show which has kept our finances healthy and allows us to put on other activities without cost to the members. The plans will be circulated to all as soon as they are confirmed.

WEB SITE

Those of you who visit this regularly will have noticed that each month the picture on the Home Page changes. We believe that this keeps it fresh, but Charles would be grateful for more photographs in order to be able to 'ring the changes'. If you have any that are of your track or any others you may have visited and you are willing for us to use them, please email to Charles – charles@darleys.co.uk. If you have prints then these can be sent to Andrew – address at the top – and can be scanned and returned.

EVENTS PROGRAMME

We had to cancel the proposed Meet at Bexley in March and this led the Committee to look at all the commitments in a year, and plan which should be organised or attended, in the light of the help available. As the Kent County Show is just one week before our Faversham Show it was decided that we should give this one a miss. Although it has been great fun for the last two years, it is a four, long days commitment, and has only worked in the past because two members and their wives were prepared to camp at Detling for the duration.

The following are the commitments that are felt to be essential, with any others being fitted in if and when there is enough help:

Teynham Winter Meet in January, with consideration being given to a move to February or March

Bexley Meet – if Teynham moves then consider in September/October

Garden Meets over Easter – this is very much up to the owners but we welcome their input

Kent's Garden Railway Show in July – dependant on the availability of the Centre and Swale BC

Expo Narrow Gauge at Swanley in October – we have waved the G Scale flag here for a few years

Christmas Meet at Pratts Bottom in December

Garden Meets – we welcome anyone who wishes to share their railway with members and will publicise dates, if we are informed

If you have any thoughts on this, then do please let the Committee know.

WELCOME

Since the last Newsletter we welcome one new Member to the group – Julian Smith from Westbrook near Margate and look forward to meeting up with him in due course.

BREDGAR & WORMSHILL LIGHT RAILWAY

Following the success of our visit last year to this delightful railway - probable "the best garden railway in the County" - we have arranged another trip for this year on **SUNDAY 7 JUNE**. Gates open at 10.30am with the first train at 11 o'clock. For the entry fee you can have as many rides as you wish, enjoy the museum, G Scale Railway and the grounds – bring a rug and a picnic and sit on the grass bank and watch the trains go by. The day makes very enjoyable social event and all we need to hope for, is that the weather is kind to us. Please book in at our Gazebo near the Tea Rooms. Details of the Railway can be found at www.bwlr.co.uk. Hope to see you there and it is a great place for children.