



**KENT GROUP**

# NEWSLETTER

December 2024

Newsletter 39

## Inside this issue

Chairpersons annual roundup –

Page 3

Group Winter Meeting and AGM  
(Looking Forward) – Page 4

Did you know – Technical manual –  
page 4

Train mad grandad – Page 6

Coping Tips – Page 9

Members Sales Stand – Pages 11  
& 12



To see what events the Group is  
hosting or attending scan or click on  
the following QR Code to visit the  
Events Diary on the website:



There is a basic table of what  
events there is on page 4

## Contact Us

To contact the committee in general  
please email:

[secretarykentgscale@gmail.com](mailto:secretarykentgscale@gmail.com)

To submit an article for the website  
or Newsletter email:

[socialwebkentgscale@gmail.com](mailto:socialwebkentgscale@gmail.com)

Editor: Wayne Evans-Addy



## KENT GROUP AUTUMN INDOOR RUNNING EVENT – SATURDAY 19 OCTOBER 2024

The Group held its Autumn Indoor running event on Saturday 19 October 2024 at Christ Church & Hall, Luton, Chatham ME4 5BT. Doors opened to the public slightly early as there were people turning up early and had travelled on local buses. This event was free for members of the group and wider society; however, donations are always welcome.

This was the largest venue the group has hired and display space was over two floors. We had both Kent Garden Railways (KGR) and Chalk Garden Rail as the Traders at the event along with Off\_The\_Rails who we first met at the K&ESR 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala weekend who sells printed items.





## **KENT GROUP AUTUMN INDOOR RUNNING EVENT – SATURDAY 19 OCTOBER 2024 –** **Cont'd**

The total of Non-members attending this event were not as many as expected, but this was possibly due to two other model railway shows taking place on the same day not too far away. That said the attending numbers were several times more than the last few Autumn Indoor meets the group has held at Pratts Bottom. A good day was had by those attending and welcome to those who joined the society over the weekend. These events are primarily for members to come along, meet up, run their trains and have a chat. Having non-members attend helps finance the event paying for the venue hire etc.



This was the first time the Lemann(LGB) Bachmann & Lego(LB&L) line has been to one of the group events. The station platform amongst other things had a working departure board similar to what you see on the national network. Very clever and impressive to see! (I thought so at least).

Also Rainbow Rock layout attended and looked good in the hall, sadly it cannot attend our winter indoor meet & AGM at Teynham on Sunday 26 January 2025, however the LB&L line will be there so members attending can see and enquire how it works.



## **GROUP CHAIRMANS ANNUAL ROUND UP – Jeffery Fray**

This is my first year as your chairman or should I say Chairperson, and I would first like to say a big thank you to Roger Allen our fantastic previous Chairman for all the years of hard work he has put in to keep the Kent Group going as well as covering a number of positions at the same time and also for the help he gave me as your previous Treasurer.

Many of you would not know that the group had been close to being wound up due to the lack of support in the area of positions on the committee. The group after covid lost a number of good working committee members and this being people moving home (Martin Piper) and some others resigning after years of hard work that left us in a position that we would not be able to continue as a functioning group.

The good news was at the 2023 AGM a number of people came forward and this kept the group alive and with that we were also able to recruit a number of new members that came forward to make up a full committee by the middle of 2024. In regards to this I would like to thank all the committee members standing on the Kent G Scale committee for all the hard work that has been carried out this year in the running, promotion of our group and hobby.

During 2024 the group attended a number of model railway shows including at Ashford and Chatham Dockyard Model Railway 2-day events and again thank you to all those that helped at the other smaller shows around Kent. On these occasions this has attracted a response from the public to join the G Scale Society as well as people looking at taking up the hobby, questions about garden railways, the operation and care required could be answered.

I would like to thank Wayne on the committee for all his work in the design and production of banners and flyers to hand out and advertise Kent G Scale plus the National Garden Railway Society across Kent. We should also thank him for our newsletter that provides us with all the information of what's going on and for you the members to join in.

### **Disappointments for me**

The committee works hard to help you as a member to have access to meetings, shows and to talking about our hobby, in the past years the Kent Group has run two winter meetings so you as members can come along and run trains and meet up during the winter months when it may not be possible due to the weather to run trains. At Pratts Bottom in November 2023, we had only 12 people attend and a third was the public and this was disappointing, we were thinking maybe the London Mayor Road charging scheme may have put members off? But at Teynham's winter meeting again not many Kent Members turned out. The committee this year moved the Pratts Bottom winter meeting to Chatham to avoid the problem of road charges and it was not quite as bad concerning members coming along due to having more members running layouts, the only thing that saved us from losing money was non-members turning up. We had 3 members from Sussex, 1 from Wiltshire and the vice Chairman from the National G Scale society turn up, we thank them for their support.

I will be putting it forward at the AGM at Teynham on the 26th January that the winter meetings will stop and we just have Model Railway shows for those of us that are interested in meeting up and enjoying a day out, it's hard work but it fun.



## **GROUP CHAIRMANS ANNUAL ROUND UP - Continued**

As for the AGM at Teynham we have over the year only had less than 8 members attending and it is still a standing joke, so maybe in the future we could arrange this in a different way. Maybe a pub somewhere, With a drink afterwards? What do you members think Replies to Chairman LOL

It may be covid I don't know but since 2021 people are not going out and it's not just our group having spoken to others that run clubs and events it seems the same.

Wishing all members all the very best for the year ahead!

Regards

Jeff Fray  
Chairman



## **LOOKING FORWARD**

Further in the Newsletter is the list of events that either the Kent Group will be attending with the Garden of England Railway (GER) or members attending with either an exhibit, display or their own layout(s), (There is also another list of other area Groups events.)

The first of which the Group will be attending is the Maidstone & Mid Kent Model Railway Exhibition at Lockmeadow Market Hall in Maidstone over the weekend 28 & 29 December 2024. (The event poster is on page 5 for more details). So if you are in need over the festive period for a model railway fix why not come along. Or why not volunteer to assist with the GER and gain free admission to the event. Andy at Kent Garden Railways will also be attending and may have something for sale which grabs your fancy.

At the Groups Winter Indoor meet at Teynham on Sunday 26 January 2025 we shall have Chalk Garden Rail as trader and there is a member's sales stall. Although cash is preferred, we will be able to accept credit/debit cards. Amongst other layouts Chris Worby will be attending with 'Sagor' the Indian variant of Crib Lane. If you intend on bringing any item(s) to sell, to save time the form that will require completing as required is attached along with the terms & conditions to this Newsletter on Pages 11 & 12. There will be the forms present on the day for items that do not have a pre printed form.

## **DID YOU KNOW – TECHNICAL MANUAL**

Did you know in the members page of the "Your membership" page of the G Scale Society website there is Members page option as you scroll down the screen with a view button on the right. Clicking on this opens the members home page and there is a few documents listed including a "Technical Manual" which some members may find of great use.

It was initially compiled in 2000 and recompiled in 2008. It consists of 163 pages which you may find it informative and of some use. Why not check it out.





## **KENT GROUP ATTENDING EVENTS**

The following events are where the group is attending with GER unless otherwise indicated. Details are correct at time of publication:

| Date          | Event                                                          | Times      | Venue/Additional comments                                            |
|---------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sat 28 Dec 24 | Maidstone & Mid Kent Model Railway Exhibition                  | 10:00-5:00 | Lockmeadow Market Hall, ME16 8LW                                     |
| Sun 29 Dec 24 | Maidstone & Mid Kent Model Railway Exhibition                  | 10:00-4:00 | Lockmeadow Market Hall, ME16 8LW                                     |
| Sun 26 Jan 25 | Winter Indoor Meet & AGM                                       | 10:30-4:00 | Teynham Village Hall ME6 9TU                                         |
| Sat 22 Feb 25 | Tenterden Model Railway Show                                   | 10:00-5:00 | Homewood School, TN30 6LT                                            |
| Sun 23 Feb 25 | Tenterden Model Railway Show                                   | 10:00-4:00 | Homewood School, TN30 6LT                                            |
| Sat 19 Jul 25 | Chatham & District Model Railway Club<br>Chatham Dockyard Show | 10:00-5:00 | The Historic Dockyard Chatham, ME4 4TY                               |
| Sun 20 Jul 25 | Chatham & District Model Railway Club<br>Chatham Dockyard Show | 10:00-4:00 | The Historic Dockyard Chatham, ME4 4TY                               |
| Sat 20 Sep 25 | Spa Valley Railway Model Railway Weekend                       | 10:00-5:00 | Spa Valley Railway- LB&L Railway layout will be attending this event |
| Sun 21 Sep 25 | Spa Valley Railway Model Railway Weekend                       | 10:00-5:00 | Spa Valley Railway- LB&L Railway layout will be attending this event |

## **EVENT ASSISTANCE REQUEST**

As usual here is the call for assistance to help at the Groups Winter Indoor Meet on Sunday 26 January 2025. Help is needed not only to help run the GER layout but also running the event.

Within the newsletter there is the event poster for a two multi-day event, between Christmas and the New Year at the Maidstone & Mid Kent Model Railway Exhibition. For this event assistance is required to help set up, operate and take down the Garden of England Railway layout during the event.

If you require further details or are able to assist at either or both of these events, please contact Wayne at [events@scalekent@gmail.com](mailto:events@scalekent@gmail.com)





## **TRAIN MAD GRANDAD**

We have been contacted from a newish website [www.trainmadgrandad.uk](http://www.trainmadgrandad.uk)  
Designed by a 72 year old quarter decent railway modeller, trainspotter and ex-Guard on the Kent & East Sussex Railway. Their website has a light hearted approach with stories, photos albums of railway visits, homemade quizzes and much much more!



## **KENT G SCALE SOCIETY GROUP ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – SUNDAY 26 JANUARY 2025**

The Groups Annual General Meeting (AGM) will take place during the Winter Indoor Meet within Teynham Village Hall. A calling notice will be sent out to Group members separately.

**MAIDSTONE & MID KENT  
MODEL  
RAILWAY EXHIBITION**  
Plus trade support



at  
Lockmeadow Market Hall  
Barker Road  
Maidstone, Kent ME16 8LW

**Saturday 28 December 2024  
10am-5pm &  
Sunday 29 December 2024  
10am-4pm**  
Admission: Adults: £7 Children: £2  
Family: £18



  
**Teynham  
Model Railway Show  
and  
G Scale Society Kent AGM**  
**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2025  
10:30am-4:00pm**  
**Teynham Village Hall  
Belle Friday Close  
Teynham, Kent  
ME9 9TU**  
Car Park entrance –  
What3Words dock.quoted.madder  
Various layouts  
(including an interactive layout)  
Refreshments  
Members Sales Stall  
Chalk Garden Rail will be attending as Sole Trader  
Admission: Adults £5, Children £1,  
Family: (2A+2C) £10,  
G Scale Society Members: Free



**KENT GROUP**

***“Garden Railways in the Garden of England”***



## UPCOMING KNOWN OTHER AREA GROUP EVENTS

The G Scale Society Website events page only goes as far as 05 Jan 2024. The following events are correct at time of publication with information provided:

*(It is to be noted at the time of going to press that the East Sussex group has suspended charging but the duration of the suspension is unknown)*

| Date          | Event                                   | Times      | Venue/Additional comments                                                    |
|---------------|-----------------------------------------|------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sun 01 Dec 24 | East Midlands Area Group Indoor Meeting | 11:30-4:00 | For further details telephone Trevor Songhurst 07534 273584                  |
| Sat 07 Dec 24 | East Sussex Group Meet Redcoats Orchard | 10:00-4:00 | Redcoats Orchard, Battle TN33 9DU £3                                         |
| Sat 14 Dec 24 | Steam at Lapworth                       | 08:00-5:00 | Lapworth Village Hall<br>Old Warwick Road<br>Lapworth, Warwickshire B94 6LD  |
| Mon 16 Dec 24 | East Sussex Group Meet Redcoats Orchard | 10:00-4:00 | Redcoats Orchard, Battle TN33 9DU £3                                         |
| Sat 21 Dec 24 | West Midlands Area Group Indoor Meet    | 11:00-4:00 | St Mary's Church Hall<br>Hobs Meadow<br>Solihull, West Midlands B92 8PN (£5) |
| Sat 28 Dec 24 | East Sussex Group Meet Redcoats Orchard | 10:00-4:00 | Redcoats Orchard, Battle TN33 9DU £3                                         |
| Sat 04 Jan 24 | East Sussex Group Meet Redcoats Orchard | 10:00-4:00 | Redcoats Orchard, Battle TN33 9DU £3                                         |
| Sun 05 Jan 25 | East Midlands Area Group Indoor Meet    | 11:30-4:00 | For further details telephone Trevor Songhurst 07534 273584                  |
| Mon 13 Jan 25 | East Sussex Group Meet Redcoats Orchard | 10:00-4:00 | Redcoats Orchard, Battle TN33 9DU £3                                         |
| Wed 22 Jan 25 | East Sussex Group Meet Redcoats Orchard | 10:00-4:00 | Redcoats Orchard, Battle TN33 9DU £3                                         |
| Sat 01 Feb 25 | East Sussex Group Meet Redcoats Orchard | 10:00-4:00 | Redcoats Orchard, Battle TN33 9DU £3                                         |
| Mon 10 Feb 25 | East Sussex Group Meet Redcoats Orchard | 10:00-4:00 | Redcoats Orchard, Battle TN33 9DU £3                                         |
| Wed 19 Feb    | East Sussex Group Meet Redcoats Orchard | 10:00-4:00 | Redcoats Orchard, Battle TN33 9DU £3                                         |
| Sat 01 Mar 25 | East Sussex Group Meet Redcoats Orchard | 10:00-4:00 | Redcoats Orchard, Battle TN33 9DU £3                                         |
| Sun 09 Mar 25 | Surrey Group East Horsley Indoor Meet   | TBA        | East Horsley Village Hall,<br>Kingston Avenue,<br>East Horsley KT24 6QT      |
| Mon 10 Mar 25 | East Sussex Group Meet Redcoats Orchard | 10:00-4:00 | Redcoats Orchard, Battle TN33 9DU £3                                         |
| Wed 19 Mar 25 | East Sussex Group Meet Redcoats Orchard | 10:00-4:00 | Redcoats Orchard, Battle TN33 9DU £3                                         |
| Sat 29 Mar 25 | East Sussex Group Meet Redcoats Orchard | 10:00-4:00 | Redcoats Orchard, Battle TN33 9DU £3                                         |



**KENT GROUP**

***"Garden Railways in the Garden of England"***





## **IT'S A CRACKER – CRACKER STYLE JOKES**

The following are some Cracker style jokes we have seen which may bring a smirk, smile or laughter or a groan! I apologise in advance

Q. What do you give a train driver as a present?

A. Platform Shoes.

Q. What do you call a train full with toffee?

A. Choo Choo Train.

Q. Why was the train late for Dinner?

A. It kept getting side tracked.

Q. Why was the locomotive humming?

A. It didn't know the words.



## **KENTISH G SCALE RETAILERS – NEW & PRE-LOVED**

Where do members purchase their items located within the county if anywhere? The editor is aware of the following establishments that sell G Scale items new and/or old within Kent, which appear on the weblink page of the website, however, not everyone is aware of them or may know of other outlets that could do with support from a wider audience:

| <i>Retailers listed in alphabetical order</i> |                                         |                              |                                                                          |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Trader</b>                                 | <b>Address</b>                          | <b>Telephone No</b>          | <b>Website</b>                                                           |
| <b>Chalk Garden Rail</b>                      | 4 Brewhouse Yard<br>Gravesend DA12 2EJ  | 01474 351672                 | <a href="http://chalkgardenrail.co.uk">chalkgardenrail.co.uk</a>         |
| <b>Dream Steam Ltd</b>                        | Unit 9 Lake Road<br>Aylesford ME20 7TQ  | 01622 793700                 | <a href="http://dreamsteam.co.uk">dreamsteam.co.uk</a>                   |
| <b>Kent Garden Railways (KGR)</b>             | 68 High Street<br>St Marys Cray BR5 3NH | 01689 891668                 | <a href="http://kgmodels.com">kgmodels.com</a>                           |
| <b>Kent Model Exchange</b>                    | 106 High Street<br>Hythe CT21 5LE       | 01303 762456                 |                                                                          |
| <b>Southern Scale Models</b>                  | Online – Ebay<br>Online – Facebook      | 07999 715887<br>07875 563507 | <a href="http://SouthernScaleModels.co.uk">SouthernScaleModels.co.uk</a> |

If you know of a different outlet why not let others know by letting us know so the website can be updated and members reminded periodically through the newsletter. We do not receive payment for this but like to support local businesses where practical.





## **COPING TIPS DURING CHRISTMAS**

Despite all that we are led to believe in that Christmas time having to be perfect, a happy and jolly joyful time of the year, for some people for different reasons it can be a sad lonely, difficult and/or stressful time of year.

Different things can help us at different times depending on our situation and how we are feeling.

Be gentle and patient with yourself, it might help to think what is best for your wellbeing during the Christmas, and prioritise what you need.

Remind yourself that it won't last forever. You could set a start and finish time for what you count as Christmas.

Try and say No to things that aren't helpful to you.

## **Getting Support**

If you're struggling over the Christmas period or any other time of year, you may want to find support for your mental health. There are a few ways that you can do this:

Call Samaritans on 116 123 (Freephone). Their English language line is always open.

Text SHOUT to 85258 This is a free 24/7 Crisis text service run by Shout.

Visit Mind UK Useful contacts page for a list of organisations who can support your mental health or help with practical problems. If viewing this online or on a smartphone/tablet double click within this article to be taken to the Mind UK Contacts page. Alternatively search online 'Mind and mental health'



# SAMARITANS

## **2025 NEWSLETTERS**

In 2025 it is intended to publish the Kent Group Newsletters in the months of:  
February, April, June, August, October, December

If you have something you would like others to see regarding our hobby why not send it to  
[socialwebkentgscale@gmail.com](mailto:socialwebkentgscale@gmail.com)



**KENT GROUP**

***"Garden Railways in the Garden of England"***





## THE HOME OF GARDEN RAILWAYS

### SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Until a few years ago membership of the G Scale Society ran January to December instead of how it is now when it runs for twelve months from the date you joined.

For those members who were members before the change came in, your membership will be due for renewal. This can be done online by visiting the society website [gscalesociety.com](http://gscalesociety.com) and clicking on the membership tab. Current prices are listed on that page as well.

The G Scale Society is one of the UK's large communities dedicated to G Scale Model Railways – be they indoor or outdoor.

Members receive 4 high-quality [journals](#) each year filled with articles, tips, advice and news about the G Scale hobby.

Alongside the journal, our members have access to any of our [more than 25 local area groups](#) – regional communities running regular meets to share expertise and run trains.

All new members receive a membership card and enamel pin

**Wishing all members of the  
group all the very best for**

**2025**

**G Scale Society - Local Area Group**  
**Members' Sales Stand**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

G Scale Number and Area Group \_\_\_\_\_

| Item Description     | Lot No.  | Price £ | Sold Tick | Sold £ If Different | Card |
|----------------------|----------|---------|-----------|---------------------|------|
|                      | 1        |         |           |                     |      |
|                      | 2        |         |           |                     |      |
|                      | 3        |         |           |                     |      |
|                      | 4        |         |           |                     |      |
|                      | 5        |         |           |                     |      |
|                      | 6        |         |           |                     |      |
|                      | 7        |         |           |                     |      |
|                      | 8        |         |           |                     |      |
|                      | 9        |         |           |                     |      |
|                      | 10       |         |           |                     |      |
| Monies received      | Total    |         |           |                     |      |
| Minus Commission     | Less 10% |         |           |                     |      |
| Monies due to vendor |          |         |           |                     |      |

The above items are my property and are offered for sale in accordance with the conditions laid out overleaf. All items are displayed, handled and offered for sale at the owner's risk.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Willing to receive cheques YES / NO

Any stipulation (G Scale number, address, etc.)

=====

Unsold items returned and cash due received

Signed \_\_\_\_\_



## **Members' Sales Stand - Rules and Instructions**

1. Selling items on the Members' Sales stand is a service provided only to G Scale Members. Members may be asked to produce membership cards when booking items in.
2. The Members' Sales stand is for private sales only, and not for use by traders.
3. Items will be accepted for sale at the discretion of the stand manager. Bulky, low value items, such as spare parts or magazines may only be accepted once there is more room on the stand or may be placed at the back.
4. The stewards on the stand will take every reasonable care, but all items are displayed, handled and offered for sale at the owner's risk.
5. It is the vendor's responsibility to double check that each item for sale has a label securely attached, showing the name, item number and the price. A variety of label types are available on the stand.
6. Items for sale must be listed on this form, using a separate line for each lot, e.g. if you are selling five identical items you should specify each item separately, unless you are selling them as a set of five when they should be listed as a single item.
7. It is the seller's responsibility to identify any items that are incomplete, damaged or not in running order.
8. Please complete columns 1 and 3 overleaf for each lot. Please do not enter anything into the shaded columns overleaf as these are for administrative use.
9. 10% of the sale price of all items sold by the member will be taken as commission and donated to the Local Area Group. Commission will be deducted before payment is made to the vendor.
10. Buyers may pay by cash or credit/debit card. Cheque payments will only be accepted if the vendor so indicates on the front of the form. Where payments are made by card the vendor may not receive payment of their sales proceeds until after the event, such payment being made by Cheque from the Group account or by bank transfer if the vendor is content to provide their bank details.
11. Sale proceeds in cash must be collected at the latest by 4pm together with any unsold items. Any uncollected items may be disposed of for the benefit of the G Scale Local Area Group.
12. Completion of the form overleaf and offering the goods for sale is taken as acceptance of the above conditions.