



KENT NEWSLETTER

Newsletter 10

Spring 2020

This is a strange time for everybody with the essential health advice being to stay at home but if out to keep your distance. In the main we are a social bunch at heart and thus it is fortunate that there are many methods of communication besides face to contact. Whether it is the simple telephone or more modern forms such as the internet, email, text or the varieties of social media, do try and keep in contact with one another. One possible advantage of the current situation is that we might have more time for our hobby, be it in the garden with the longer days or some indoor project. With the theme of keeping in contact, we would like to suggest that one way of telling other members what you are up to on the G scale front is to send some pictures and words to the editor. A good response will provide the basis of the next Newsletter.

TEYNHAM SHOW 2020

We had a great start to the year with another successful show at Teynham, this meeting has been growing year by year and again a great turnout from both the members and the public. Total of -Adults-139 -Children-14 giving a grand total of 153, up on last year. I would like to thank the other groups that turned out for us in support that being Hopfields 16mm, + three G scale layouts, from Middlesex Trumper's Halt; from Surrey Kevin Kircher's Fentilly Railway; and Chris Worby from Essex with his new layout Crib Lane (BR depot) with some fantastic G Scale engines converted to British outline. Also, a large thank you to all those members who turnout to help putting up GER and all the ladies in the kitchen supplying food and drinks all day from start to finish.



Teynham Hall full of visitors



16mm Group giving out information on live steam



Three great examples of work undertaken by Chris from Essex transforming LGB & Bachmann locos

The AGM took place and the same people are working again to keep the Kent group alive and open. Despite the small number attending there were some good ideas put forward for the coming year, which the committee will be looking into. Again, thank you to those who attended. One suggestion is for a coffee morning for members to get together and get to know each other. And also, to invite any members to one of the 3 committee meetings held during the year to see how we run the group. If you are interested do get in contact.

WINTER DAY OUT FOR GER

Winter day out for GER started with the trailer going for its first service since it was purchased by the Group. Lucky we did as it turned out that the spare wheel was the wrong size and also after standing out in the open for the winter the trailer needed some work on the roof. We are looking at buying a cover for it as after the service the report said it was in good order and would do its job for years to come. A big thank you to Mrs Niki Cook for towing the trailer to Maidstone Trident Trailers workshop and for also taking it to East Horsley the following week to support the Surrey group for their winter meeting. Considering the amount of rain, we had this month our luck was in as the sun was out and the M25 was clear both going and returning home. The number of helpers was down but the members that did turnout managed to erect GER in time for the start of the show, which is always well supported. With its main hall and a large number of side rooms these being large enough to accommodate group tracks and stalls there was a good variety to look at and talk about the different modelling and control methods.

Andrew, Roger and Martin in deep discussion

I am sure a put those points in the right position!



We are looking to do some maintenance to GER in the summer and we are looking for group members that would be interested in helping with some modelling and cleaning to bring it up to a standard we would like. This work will include the construction of a steam shed and some P Way work to add to what we have done over the last year or so.

At the show Eric Upton the chairman of G Scale was talking to members and the public and demonstrating his support for garden railways, I must say like the previous Chairman the time put in is something to admire. The following day, Monday he was going down to see the East Sussex indoor layout at Redcoat Orchard.

Hayes Valley Railroad - 1st September 2019

The timing of the last Newsletter meant that Roger Allen's report had to held over to this edition. However, the cancellation of Jason Workman's garden event on 11th April due to the current National lock-down means that we can at least enjoy a "virtual" garden. On a lovely late summer's afternoon Jason, with help from Ann, organised his last garden opening of the 2019 season. There was good turn out from friends and neighbours but few G Scale members. The weather was just as one would want neither too hot nor too cold. On the railway front there is an American theme as will be seen from the accompanying two pictures. The first shows a general view of the station area with an LGB New York Street car on the right-hand track and the "Tardis" in the background. The second has a close-up of the typical wooden water tower with LGB Southern switcher #281 in the foreground. The pictures were taken late in the afternoon and with typical shadows for that time of day, the sunny spots are well emphasised. For those of you who have visited before, you will be aware that a rival attraction to the railroad is Jason's collection of working telephone equipment, hence police telephone box.

Thank you for an enjoyable visit and let's all hope that another event can be held before too



National Annual General Meeting

As you may already know the AGM was to be have held on Sunday 9th May at Reading but due to current circumstances has now been cancelled, as has the ALSRM Show. Further information will be published by the Society once considerations have been made of the best way forward.