

Lancashire & District Section



August 2000



New Line in Accrington

Wednesday evening's meeting on the 12 July saw the opening of Mark Haydock's new garden line in Accrington.

Although areas of Mark's garden gave some of the members more used to the plains of Cheshire a severe bout of vertigo, he had managed to construct an excellent large (and level) oval, with numerous long sidings, all in his front garden! If this task wasn't enough, the line was fully scenic, including stations and viaducts.

Certainly if the response was anything to go by from the assembled LADS (*pictured below, Neil Munro; Dave Wilding; Mike Ousby; Peter Harling behind Sheila Munro; Steve Colling; Sheila Harling; Mark Smith; and then the man himself, Mark Haydock*) then everyone thought the railway to be excellent. The spectacular views from the house looking over Lancashire to the Yorkshire border made the ideal setting for raising steam in front of little buildings.

After a buffet washed down with plenty of tea, Mark was already discussing plans of how to expand the layout. Top picture shows Neil Munro's 'Harlech Castle' pulling out of the station.



A Loco formerly known as Sam

In the 2nd newsletter there was a report on Chris MacKenzie taking his layout 'Open Day at Timpdon Sheds' to the West Lanc's Railway.

In the report it was asked about the loco Phil Pacey was running. Phil supplied further information:-

In the late 1970's / early 1980's, John Turner of Whitefield, Manchester, designed and part built two 16mm loco kits for Lindale Models of Rochdale. One, possibly an 0-6-0, was 'Caledonia', whilst the other was an 0-4-0 called 'Sam'. Both kits were designed for easy assembly, being nut and bolt construction throughout.

Phil's loco started life as a 'Sam'. He bought it second-hand, but still unpainted, at a 16mm AGM. Along with the original instructions was some correspondence between John Turner and the previous owner, a Mr Hillman.

The 'Sam' design was not based on a specific prototype, but on the many shunting locomotives used at coal mines, power stations and other industrial units though out the UK. It is externally meths fired, with a slide valve outside cylinder on one side only - the other cylinder being a dummy. The valve gear is slip eccentric. A feature of the design is the provision of both a regulator in the cab, and an exhaust regulator.

The Pacey Workshops painted and assembled their Sam, but finding it unsatisfactory in operation, got in touch with John Turner. He was extremely helpful, and the loco was left with him for some modifications. These included adding a second working cylinder and replacing the rather brittle alloy motion gear. The performance of the loco was transformed.

Phil now says that the "simplicity and ease of operation of the loco suits me perfectly. It will happily run on one boiler fill for at least 45 minutes. Notwithstanding the imperfections of the original kits, there is no doubt that John Turner is a brilliant model engineer."

After the failure of Lindale Models, John retailed his own single and twin cylinder loco kits and finished locos for a while. He also built locos to order, and several are owned by members of the Cheshire Group.

Phil further added " I haven't met John or heard news of him for a few years now. When he worked on our loco he had been ill and was spending less and less time in his workshop. He did a fine job for us, and I'm proud to own one of his locos."

New Roundhouse Loco!

A bit of a scoop for the LADS here, as you are probably not yet aware that Roundhouse are starting to make a new locomotive, 'Bertie'.

Bertie is the third of the 'Basic Series' loco, following the successful "Millie" and "Samie".

Bertie is typical of the saddle tank, the most common type of small locomotive found on British narrow gauge railways. It can easily be personalised to your own requirements with the additional parts and accessories available.

Specification for the basic model is :-



- 0-4-0 inside framed chassis with double acting slide valve cylinders operated by slip eccentric valve gear
- Internal gas firing.
- Standard controls are steam regulator, safety valve, displacement lubricator and gas regulator.
- Size:-
L280mm, W118mm, H145mm, weight 2.1kg (their 'Katie' is: L290mm, W124mm H153mm whilst John Prescott's Robin' is: L185mm W90mm H140mm)
- Colours are tan or green.
- 32mm or 45mm gauge (non adjustable)

To further enhance your 'Bertie', accessory packs are available. These include a Pressure gauge with syphon; Water top up system (& water gauge); R/c fittings kit; Brass dome; and a Brass chimney cap.

Dear Sir...

Dear Sir,

Whereas I am very much in favour of our local newsletter, I feel I must object to the title of this journal. I am not male, but female and very proud of it. Although I am a working wife, I am also a 16mm modeller and engineer - I even drive live steam engines!

Why then are we now referred to as a "LADS" (Lancashire And District Section)? This surely blatant example of sexism is not reflecting equal opportunities, but promoting sexist labelling of predefined notions. So to rectify this situation and promote our sisters to the hobby, can I formally suggest that we are known as "LASS" (Lancashire Area Section Society), or even "GiRLS" (Garden Railways Lancashire Section). However, I much prefer "LADIES" (Lancashire And District Incidental Engineers Society).

Yours anonymously, Millie Tant

Dear Millie,

As the person responsible for producing most of this Chris's Railway Advisory Page, I think I can say that you can be an honorary "LAD". As to the rest of your comments, they justify changing the title to Bolton And Lancs Lines Society.

Did you Know?

Andrew Armstrong, of the Blackhead Light Rly, Kirkham, had a bouncy baby daughter on the 19 May (his wife Carol possibly had a bit to do with it as well). Andrew reports that Philippa is definitely narrow gauge, having weighed in at only 5lb 14oz Gross Laden Weight! Hopefully it won't be long before she's accompanying her brother Peter (10) and Dad to our meetings.

I think you is bang out of order having a go in the last newsletter at us Games Teachers. We is properly trained teachers like what other teachers is. Knock it off or you'll be the last to be picked for the team again.

Yours anonymously
Not Saying, Dynamo Digby

Dear Dynamo, Sorry. - Ed.

Colling on Steve!

Steve "Commander" Colling's event, on Sunday 9 July, was a great success.

There was only one rain shower, and that failed to dampen anyone's enthusiasm. It certainly didn't inhibit attendance either, as several new & regular (I got told off for saying "old") faces were seen.

Gerald Grimshaw made his first group appearance and brought us some unbelievably well made stone model buildings (yes, from real stone!). Some of his models were miniatures of actual buildings, made from the same stone. I intend to print details & pictures over Winter when we aren't covering as many events.

A beautiful railway and garden landscaping, topped with excellent views over Blackburn and the canal, made this a superb afternoon. Thanks Steve.

Dear Diary...

"Bring-an-Engine" Events:-

Sun 30 July 1pm - Cliff Robinson's Garden - 01925 762455 (Culcheth) (32mm)

Sat 12 & Sun 13 Aug - 10-5pm - **Pateley Bridge Steam Show**, Memorial Hall, Pateley Bridge (this side of Harrogate) Organised by the Yorkshire Group. See SMT Magazine for details, if needed.

Wed 16 Aug 6pm - Andy Leather's Garden - 01772 713849 (Fulwood, Preston) (32mm)

Sat 19 & Sun 20 Aug 10-5pm - Open weekend of the Butterley Garden Railway Association (16mm) at Butterley Station, Ripley, Derbyshire. Trade Support. Don't forget there is a full size NG railway!

Sun 20 Aug 1pm - Ian Lowcock's Garden - 01282 812842 (Barnoldswick) (32mm)

Sun 27 Aug 1pm - Dave Wilding's Garden - 01257 416294 (Chorley) (32mm)
CHANGED FROM CHRIS' EVENT

Wed 6 Sept 6pm - Venue not yet known

Other Events of Interest:-

Sat 5 & Sun 6 Aug 10-5pm - Carlisle, **Model Railway Exhibition**. The Sands Centre, Carlisle, Cumbria. (All scales, not necessarily 16mm)

Sat 5 & Sun 6 Aug 10-6pm - Lytham St Annes, **Model Railway Exhibition**. Lowther Gardens Pavilion. (All scales, not necessarily 16mm)

Wed 16 Aug 7-9pm **Swapmeet** Alma Lodge Hotel, Stockport
All scales & cars - not necessarily 16mm

Sat 19 Aug 11-4pm **Swapmeet** MEN Arena, Manchester City
All scales & cars - not necessarily 16mm

Sun 20 Aug 11-3.30pm **Swapmeet** Royal Clifton Hotel, Southport
All scales & cars - not necessarily 16mm

Sat 26, Sun 27 & Mon 28 Aug 10-5pm - Skipton, North Yorks, **Large Model Railway Exhibition**. Grammar School, Gargrave Rd, Skipton (All scales, not necessarily 16mm)

Mon 28 Aug 10-4pm - Harrogate, **Model Railway, Trams & Dolls House Ex.** Bilton United Reform Church, Skipton Rd, (All scales, not necessarily 16mm)

Select
Gear



FOR SALE:- Roundhouse Argyle loco Red, Radio Control, 500 mls steam oil. £750. Tel David Rotheram on 01704 895168.

WANTED:- Chris MacKenzie is after some Roundhouse whitmetal lampposts, working or not. Contact him on 0161 980 7804