

Lancashire & District Section



October 2000

Merseyside On Line!

"Another successful mid-week event"

Wednesday 6 September

A dull, damp, windy day cleared in the evening to give ideal conditions for Derek and Philip Eaton to host their first event.

This is a new garden railway and they must have spent a lot of time, thought and effort getting it right.

Track from the Steaming Area (in a small shed) runs on to a choice of longer or shorter circuits with a further loop around a small lake and quarry.

Reliable running was enjoyed by Dave and Daniel Wilding, Bill Cook, Alex Milne, Michael Barwise, Eddie Higham and of course Derek & Philip Eaton.

As dusk came Derek & Philip switched on their lights around the track so we could all see where are trains were. Bill could have managed though, as his railcar has its own lights!

Unfortunately we do not have any pictures available of the event. However, we hope that this will be the first of many events on this line (in fact we're all insisting on it!) so this photo opportunity won't be entirely missed.

A most enjoyable evening, topped out with some great food - thanks to Mrs Eaton [I must make a mental note to write down wife's names].

A Chorley Good Show



Old Boiler Testing Service

Is the old boiler constantly blowing off under pressure, or unable to keep up with today's hectic life style? Then Mike Ousby may have the cure. He's more than willing to test your old boiler.

In the interests of appropriate language (not to mention getting beaten up by some members' wives) I won't make any more jokes about the above headline. However, I will explain that we're talking boiler pressure testing.

Mike has been ~~press-ganged~~ volunteered to be the LADS official boiler tester - and now has in his possession the area 16mm Association pressure testing kit. Yes!, it's not a rumour we do possess one!

He intends to bring the kit along to most LADS meetings and if anybody wants their safety valves checking and resetting, please ask him.

Although we do not insist on boiler test certificates, they are required by some other groups such as, "Them lot oo'er t'other side o' Pennines". So if you want to go a visiting we will soon be able to test and certify your boilers as Tyke friendly.

Upon receiving his Tramway & Light Railway Society Newsletter listing future events, Mike Ousby was rather puzzled to read about a meeting entitled "Liverpool Day" and that attendees will learn all about, "The Green Bogie Era"!!

Being a much more sophisticated bunch, I'm sure that the LADS are all into personal hygiene and are currently having no problems using far more sanitary means of clearing their nasal passages!!

Dave Wilding with his "pocket size" remote control for the electric points.

Contributions?

Send to Chris at 2 Curzon Drive, Timperley, Altrincham, Cheshire, WA15 7SY - 0161 980 7804, or e:mail at narrow.gauge@btinternet.com

Obviously everyone remembered that Dave Wilding and Chris MacKenzie had swopped the dates of their Open Days, because the crowds really turned out for Dave's event.

I often wonder if Nick Parks, the creator of remote control unit suspended from a gantry so Wallace & Grommet ever knew David. If not, he could change them whilst in the garden away there are some pretty strong coincidences going on. David's house and railway is just full of gadgets and inventions. Consider the control of the points. Anyone else would be immensely proud of the way they are all electrically controlled - not David! He had to create a special

All this, aided by the smell from a real coal fire (curtesy of a neighbour) all helped the atmosphere on a fantastic Sunday afternoon.

Thanks David - an educational & enjoyable time!

Advanced Warning: Grand Opening

John Angell is "all steam ahead" for the grand opening of his new line, the Ashton Forest Light Railway.

For family reasons, John and Launa have had to delay the inaugural steamup of the line from Sunday 29 October 2000 to Sunday 12th November.

The Ashton Forest Lt. Rly. is an end to end line, with the terminus and fiddle yard on opposite sides of the same operating pit. There is a passing loop part way round. The line is 32mm gauge, with easy curves and no (intentional) gradients, as it is intended to be suitable for manual control of live steam locos.

A full map and directions will be reproduced in the next issue - due out end of October.

Oh! Almost forgot! In a moment of extreme naivety and misunderstanding of the "gutter press", John has asked me not to tell anyone that it will be his 60th birthday the day after the event - Monday 30 October. So "Shhh!" - don't tell anyone!

Leyland Model Rail Exhibition

Sorry,

This picture was physically
pasted in on the photostat machine

Sat 2 Sept saw Chris's indoor layout at the Leyland Model Rail Exhibition, Leyland Cross.

Mike Ousby, assisted by Derek & Philip Eaton, worked the layout all day and even made the Lancs Evening Post (picture reproduced curtesy of the "proper press").

Dear Sir...

Dear Sir,

I write to express my strong feelings about previous comments by your editorial staff using the phrase "old ones".

I reject the inference that we more mature members of the group are somehow set in our ways and live in the past. [Dammit it four o'clock already; where's the bearer with my G&T and tiffin?]

Yours faithfully,
Colonel Ponsonby-Smythe,
Chairman of the Board and Patron to the National Steam Tram Museum

At the time of going to press, it looks like the 16mm Association's AGM at Stoneleigh is on **Saturday 7th April** - NOT Saturday 31st March as previously discussed.

Dear Sir,

Well done with the first couple of issues of the LADS mag. Good to see that you are all having fun and indulging in the hobby. At the East Surrey 16mm group we have been running 'Oily Rag' for about four years now which goes out to our 150 or so members and similar to yours, advertises garden meetings and points of interest.

I must say that Dave Wilding's line looked intriguing on the front of the June issue; any chance of getting him to send in some pix for SMT with a little write up??

I also had the pleasure of looking through the MOTY pix and seeing the two trams from Mike Ousby... ..now wouldn't they look good gracing a colour page of the journal!

Best wishes to you all,
Dudley Hubbard, Editor SMT

(PS: it's Merst-ham!!)

Dear Diary...

Sun 24 Sept 1pm - Bill Cook's Garden
- 01704 535170 (Southport) (32mm)
Bring an engine & have a run

Sat 30 & Sun 1 Oct Elsecar, Barnsley
The 16mm Association Autumn Convention.
The one not to miss!

Chris MacKenzie's 16mm indoor layout "Open Day at Timpdon Sheds" will be exhibiting. Call him to pre-book a run.

Sat 14 & Sun 15 Oct 10-5pm Todmorden
Todmorden Town Hall
(Small show - all scales, not nec. 16mm)

Fri 20, Sat 21 & Sun 22 Oct Blackburn
5-9pm, 10-8pm & 10-5pm
King George's Hall, Northgate, Blackburn
Large Model Railway Exhibition.
(All scales, not necessarily 16mm)

Sun 22 Oct (Sun only) 11-3.30pm Wigan
Mill-At-The Pier, Wigan Pier, Wigan
(55 stand swapmeet - cars, dolls, railways)

Sat 28 & Sun 29 Oct Bury 10-5pm
Holy Cross College, M/cr Road, Bury
Large Model Railway Exhibition.
Chris MacKenzie's 16mm indoor layout "Open Day at Timpdon Sheds" will be exhibiting. Call him to pre-book a run.

Sat 28 & Sun 29 Oct - Leeds, 10-5pm
Armley Sports Centre, Carr Crofts, Leeds
Large Model Railway Exhibition.
(All scales, not necessarily 16mm)

Sat 28 & Sun 29 Oct Hazel Grove, Stockport
10-6pm & 10-4pm Jacksons Lane
Large Model Railway Exhibition.
(All scales, not necessarily 16mm)

Sun 29 Oct - CANCELLATION

John Angell's Garden event has moved to
Sun 12 Nov - see below

Sun 29 Oct (Sun only) 11-3.30pm Haydock
Tote Halls, Haydock Racecourse
(100 stand swapmeet - cars, dolls, railways)

Sun 12 Nov 1pm - John Angel's Garden

Yes! John Angell's Grand Opening!
See article for full details & map.
- 01772 725308 (Preston) (32mm)
Bring an engine & have a run

Sat 18 Nov (Sat only) 10.30-4pm Lymm
Lymm Leisure Centre (just off A56)
(Swapmeet - just Trains - all scales)

Sun 26 Nov 1pm - Chris MacKenzie's Garden - 0161 980 7804 (Altrincham)
Bring an engine & have a run
- Indoor running if raining

FOR SALE:- Roundhouse Dylan

Repainted by Roundhouse this year - new boiler 2 or 3 years ago. Meths fired. Radio Control. £475 ONO - Must sell at the Elsecar Show. Contact Chris MacKenzie - 0161 980 7804