

THE GRAIL

The newsletter of the Mid Wales
and Marches Group of the
G Scale Society

April 2018



Fig. 1 Seen in Llanfair Caereinion Hall, April 2018

Update Report - April 2018

Hello everybody:

As you may know by now, due to ill health, Dave Dowling has had to stand down as Group Leader and Regional Society co-ordinator.

At the March indoor running session in Llanfair Caereinion a meeting was called of those present. After discussion and recognising the vast amount of work Dave does on behalf of the Mid Wales and Marches Group, it was decided that dividing Dave's role into "manageable chunks" and forming a 'Loose' Committee is the best way for us to continue to run the Group to a standard which Dave would approve.

Volunteers to take on the various roles came forward and accepted. The list of volunteer officers and their roles is shown on the next page.

The new “Loose” Committee

Name	Responsibilities	Contact Details
Mike Thornhill	Group Leader	
Tony Sydenham	Treasurer Village Hall Co-Ordinator Supply milk for refreshment	
Marion Turner	Catering Supplies etc.	
Ian Payne	Webmaster	
Steve Thornhill	G Scale Society Co-Ordinator	
Roy Crofton-Mann	Publish the Grail & Area Report to the G Scale Society	
Hugh Brightwell	Publish the Grail & Area Report to the G Scale Society	

Winter Season 2018/2019

We have just had our last 'Winter Run' at the Castle Caereinion Community Hall and here are some pictures to give those of you who haven't been an idea of what goes on.



Fig. 2 General view of Group Layout



Fig.3 An informal chat on recent changes

Plans are already in hand to continue this activity next winter, here are the proposed dates for 2018 / 19.

Please note, these dates are subject to confirmation but are unlikely to be changed.

October 13th
November 10th
December 8th
January 12th
February 9th
March 13th
April 13th

2018 Garden Visits

At this time only two are booked. If anyone is prepared to open their railway for area/club meetings then please advise Mike Thornhill at metkvlr@gmail.com or 01588 614336 asap with dates and contact details. The members can then be informed.

Sunday 8th July, 11a.m. onwards, Plynlimon and Hafan Light Railway, Alan Millichamp, Llandre, Nr Aberystwyth,

Sunday 22nd July 11 a.m. onwards Salisbury Hill Railway, Tony Hayward, Market Drayton,

G Rail 2018

The G Scale Society National Event & AGM
Harvey Hadden Sports Village, Wigman Road, Nottingham NG8 4PB

Sunday 13 May 2018

Show : 10.00am to 5.00pm

A.G.M. : 2.00pm

Entry – £6.00 (members £4.00) accompanied children / carers, free.
Traders, Layouts, Modelling competition, Refreshments, Free Parking

Treasurers Report

G Scale Society Mid Wales & Marches Account 2018

Position at 16th March 2018

Webmaster's Report

As you are all aware the group has a website that has been up and running for some time now.

<http://gscalesociety-mwmgroup.co.uk/>

It's there for MW&M group members to use as they wish to promote the G Scale cause and our group.

At the moment it just describes what we are and what we do plus a couple of layout & project descriptions. We really need to expand on the content - this is where you could help greatly.

We need more content on the site. This can be anything on the subject such as photos (with descriptions), articles about railways, railway tours or construction, ideas for railways, stock modifications, advice or experiences on any related subject etc. The possibilities are limitless.

In the past a "For Sale" page has been suggested - would any of you be interested in that?

The site can be easily expanded to accommodate anything you would like to see included or offer for publication.

If there is anyone who wants to have a complete site dedicated to them and their railway that's possible within the site as well.

Any submissions or ideas for expanding and improving the site will be gratefully accepted. Feel free to comment on what's there already as well – It's your site.

Submissions in any format can be used. If you need any assistance getting material ready just ask. Please don't include personal details such as phone numbers or addresses. Use the site email address and any messages can be forwarded to you.

Alternatively, a new email address can be easily created for your personal use.

Ian Payne is the coordinator and can be contacted from the website or dire

Contact details- IMPORTANT

We currently do not have access to Dave Dowling's files of members' contact details and believe that the information we are using may not be complete or correct in all details. In addition, data protection laws are changing, therefore we feel this an appropriate time to ask **ALL** of you who wish to continue to receive communications from the Mid Wales & Marches group to confirm that that we have both your permission to do this and the correct contact details.

By email please send confirmation to Mike Thornhill at :

If you wish to receive communications by surface mail please phone Mike Thornhill on _____ to discuss.

Paper copies of the GRAIL

We ask that those of you who wish to continue receive The Grail through by surfacemail contribute to the costs of printing and postage. Please phone Mike Thornhill on to discuss.

Glad to say goodbye to Winter ?



Figs. 4 & 5 No trains running on this snowy winters day in Mike Thornhill's garden.



Cyril Aspray was less lucky.



Figs. 6 & 7

Pictures of the damage caused to Cyril's railway when the roof of a neighbour's garden building was blown into Cyril's garden during a storm. The damage is repaired now and Cyril is hoping to host an Open Day before long.

For Sale and Wanted

Members can advertise Items for Sale or Wanted here or on the Group website, or both, free of charge. Please contact Ian Payne or Mike Thornhill on

Previous editions of GRAIL

There are previous editions of The GRAIL available on the website. These date back as far as Nov 2016 and can be found at :

<http://gscalesociety-mwmgroup.co.uk/about-us/newsletters/>

Something on a Slightly Larger Scale



Fig 8

Recently Steve Thornhill visited Cyngordy Viaduct near Llandovery on the Central Wales line. The viaduct, which is Grade II* listed, is an impressive curved structure 109ft high with 18 arches. Network Rail has recently spent £3.5 million to strengthen the structure and to reduce long-term maintenance costs.



Fig 9

Two groups were taken by bus up the line and were then taken up the track by Network rail line crew.



Fig 10

It was noticed that distance markers are still measured in Chains!



Fig. 11

An impressive view of the viaduct and surrounding area from rail level.