

THE GRAIL

The Newsletter of the Mid Wales
and Marches Group of
`G` Scale Society
July 2012



A busy scene on the Kenwater Valley Railway

2012 Open Days in the Mid Wales & Marches Area

Sunday 22 nd July	11am – 5pm	Plynlimon & Hafan Light Railway Llandre Aberystwyth
Sunday 5 th August	11am -5pm	Dow Valley Light Railway Llanfair Caereinion
Sunday 19 th August	11am – 5pm	Salisbury Hill Railway Market Drayton
Saturday 25 th August	10am – 5pm	Colwyn Garden Railway Colwyn Bay
Friday 31 st August	12noon onwards	Dow Valley Light Railway Llanfair Caereinion
Sunday 9 th September	2pm onwards	Stoke Edith Garden Railway Stoke Edith Herefordshire

If you intend to visit any of the above open days please make sure that you let the appropriate Fat Controller know beforehand so that they can have some idea of numbers.

Other important dates

Sunday 15 th July	Telford Garden Railway Show
Sat/Sun 1 st /2 nd Sept	Garden Railway Show Llanfair Caereinion
Sunday 28 th October	British Summer Time ends
Saturday 3 rd November	Rodington Garden Railway Show
Sunday 2 nd December	Steam & Mince Pies Special Telford

OPEN DAYS

If you intend to host an open day and your date is not shown above please let Dave Dowling know as soon as possible so that he can let everyone else know. Articles, letters, items for sale or wanted etc.. are eagerly awaited and if you have a tale to tell please let Dave Dowling know so that he can put it in the next issue of the Grail.

Dave Dowling

G Scale Society 25th Anniversary show – Stafford Showground

The show was a great success as those of you who went are well aware. Next year we are back at Stafford on Sunday 24rd March 2013 – note the date. It should be an even better show as the committee have time to iron out the few gremlins that appeared this year.

Picture Gallery

I wonder which engine this controls



Let`s have a cup of tea



Shouldn't I be on holiday in the Isle of man



Busy in the yard



An Update on the Clwyd and Dee Light Railway by John Wenlock

Thought that I would send an up-date on the "progress" (or lack of it) made on the 45mm section of the Clwyd and Dee.

Back at the end of last year, up to the early spring there was only another 20 yards, or so to go before a fully joined up state of railway. What could be easier? Exactly - so far so good.

May came and the route was marked out and turf was cut. Soil and clay was excavated to make a rather large trench and then the rain came. I now had the Clwyd and Dee canal system. It was suggested that I might recreate the Queen's Jubilee Flotilla with "pop-pop" boats, or grow water cress, but I waited for the waters to part recede and I was now re-excavating wheel barrow loads of thick sticky clay. Actually, the water at the bottom of the formation helped me level the trench and level the breeze blocks left over from demolition the old garage. Water could now drain out and along to flood the green-houses. At least watering the tomatoes might be easier.

The trench was further filled up with broken breeze blocks and gravel and such to formation level. Meanwhile the two ends of the existing line were beginning to grow! By two yards at the north end and one yard at the south end. Not much, I know, but it is progress. More concrete was mixed and laid. To create a boundary between trackbed and lawn, stones were set in a 4:1 mortar mix laid atop the concrete. Planting out continued with various small rhododendrons and the like.

More track has been built using second-hand Tenmille FB rail from Rob Bennett's 45mm. 7/8ths scale "Weston Tramway" (now long closed).

Sleepers were cut from second-hand pallet wood. Every expense spared, you know. Of course, when setting out to build the required track, I just could not find my track gauge. Having spent a good hour looking unsuccessfully, I realised that it was quicker to make a new one. Just took five minutes on the lathe, but that didn't include the time taken to locate some suitable brass bar.

Once "Joined Up Day" happens, then I shall electrify along the entire length. The electrical equipment will not be this fancy electronic stuff; basic 20 - 30 volt and "heritage" rheostat controllers. Battery and steam will still be used, of course.



AREA GROUP LEADERS MEETING
21st APRIL 2012
STAFFORD COUNTY SHOWGROUND
NOTES FROM THE MEETING

Attendees

	Jack Nisbet, Solent
Paul Felton, Chairman	Tessa Williams, South East Wales
Peter Deacon, Secretary	David Williams, South East Wales
Dave Dowling, Treasurer	David Buckingham(pp), South West
Peter Jackson, Membership Secretary	Andy Saulter, Surrey
Angela Darby, Journal Co-ordinator	Mike Wakeling, Sussex
Roy Pedder, Publicity Officer	Matthew Edwards, Thames Valley/Chilterns
Gerry Pedder, Publicity Officer	Martin Eady, West London
Nigel Cooper, Committee Member	Paul Blake, West Midlands
Mike Duffy, Committee Member	Chris Long, West Wales
Keith Edwards, Webmaster	John Steer, Wiltshire
Alan Wright, Devon & Cornwall	Paul Howson, Yorkshire Coast
John Bevan, East Midlands	Apologies
Gordon Compton, Essex	Bob Bowden, South Staffs
Julia Hudson-Morgan, Kent	Norman Cooper, South Staffs
Steve Wilders, North Anglia	Mike Brown, South West
Stephen Dawson, North East/Yorkshire	Margaret Brown, South West

Peter Dawson, North East/Yorkshire

John Davidson, Three Counties

Dennis Norman, North West

Grant Muddiman, West Anglia

Fraser Neilson, Scotland

Jean Muddiman, West Anglia

Andrew Moorhouse, Scotland

1. G Scale Society constitution in relation to the area group element (clause 3.10)

2. Notification of local events to the committee (insurance purposes)

3. Presentation by Keith Edwards on new membership database.

4. G Scale members' corporate clothing. Availability, new badges & wear for lady members.

5. The role of area group organizers, particularly in regard to encouraging people to become new members

