

THE GRAIL

The Newsletter of the Mid Wales
and Marches Group of
'G' Scale Society
June 2016



A quiet country scene somewhere in Mid Wales

2016 Open Days

So far we have had one at John Wenlock's one at Dave Dowling's and one at Alan Millichamp's. It poured down during John's open day but despite the awful weather we still managed to run trains on both the 32mm run and the 45mm run throughout the day. Fortunately the sun shone on both Dave and Alan's open days and all the trains ran well. Dave Dowling did have a problem with his Aristocraft walk round controller when first the receiver then the hand control gave trouble but thanks to Alan Millichamp and Cyril Asprey the system should be back in full working order for his next open day on 24th July.

The new separately controlled loop on Alan Millichamp's Plynlimon and Hafan Railway proved to be a very useful area where steam locos with non insulated wheels could be run without upsetting the electrics on the main line. Alan ran 'Victoria' the Regner model of the tram loco which ran on the original Plynlimon and Hafan railway and on whose trackbed his garden is situated. 'Victoria' has recently been fitted with a new boiler and we were all pleased to see how well she ran. Colin Clinton-Carter turned up (looking well after his recent hospital stay) and surprised us all by producing a brand new Mallett which he has converted to battery power. Only a few weeks ago he was selling all his stock off yet there he was with another new engine – it just goes to show how hard it is to get the hobby out of the system.

Ivan Byng is suffering with his vision and is finding close work very difficult so Pat is now doing all of the close work on their railway in anticipation of their open day on 26th June. To make matters worse they suffered awful problems with their railway as a result of the bad weather over the winter particularly around the pond area but I was pleased when Ivan told me recently that he and Pat had managed to get the whole area looking nice again.

Tony Hayward is another whose garden suffered during the winter but he assures me that with help from his friend Carol he will be up and running in good time for his open day on 7th August. However before Tony's open day and before Ivan's open day we will be visiting Mike Thornhill in Leominster for his open day on Sunday 12th June and I have not heard Mike complaining about the winter ravaging his railway so hopefully his beautiful garden in Leominster will be looking at it's absolute best.

Sunday 12th June 2.30pm onwards Mike Thornhill Leominster

Sunday 26th June 1pm to 5pm Ivan Byng Newbridge on Wye

Sunday 24th July 11am onwards Dave Dowling Llanfair Caereinion

Sunday 7th August 11am onwards Tony Hayward Market Drayton

If any one else would like to hold an open day this year can you please let Dave Dowling know so that he can include the date in the Calendar for everyone to see.

Group Running Sessions in Castle Caereinion Community Hall

We had our last running session in the Hall in Castle Caereinion in April and it was so good to see Laurie Weeks who despite being confined to a wheelchair managed to arrange for someone to bring him from his residential home in Leominster to the Hall so that he could meet up with old friends and watch the trains running.

We will be starting running again in the Hall on Saturday 8th October. We will then run on the second Saturday in every month up to and including April 2017.

Castle Caereinion Village Fete

The Chairman of Castle Caereinion Community Hall Committee approached us recently to ask if we would be willing to put our layout up in the Hall on Bank Holiday Monday August 29th as an extra attraction at the Village Fete. We would need at least 4 people willing to come along, put up the layout and run trains from around 1pm until around 4pm. If you would like to help can you please let Dave Dowling know.

Summer – You can't beat it !



If you have an article, some photos, a story, something to sell – in fact if you have anything which can go into future copies of 'The Grail' please let Dave Dowling know

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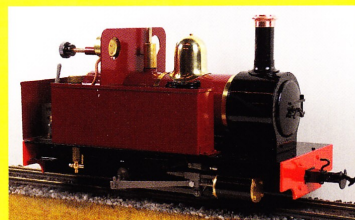
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