

Solent Area Group December 2017 Newsletter



Upcoming events you may be interested in getting out and visiting...

Watercress Line 'Christmas Leave' 26/27th December -
Period festivity on the line. (We may go on the 27th)

Watercress Line Standard 2 train service' 28th Dec- 1st Jan

Mid January - date to be confirmed subject to the weather etc....
Live Steam, Mince Pies and warming drinks etc with Kevin, Phil and Lin

Mid February - Saturday 17th February - The Swan Hotel, Alresford
Booking made for 'lunch': 2 or 3 courses selected individually

** New year menu not yet available **

If interested in attending please send an email to Solent@fillin.co.uk

Lin will send out further details once we have received them

Downloadable from the Website
www.fillin.co.uk

Distributed to FORUM members and SOLENT AREA GROUP as per the National Database 9th Dec in 2 PARTS to keep download size below the limits of some networks
Images Zoomable to Full Screen

Late February - Eurotrack Model Railway Show 24/25th February - Lords Hill S016

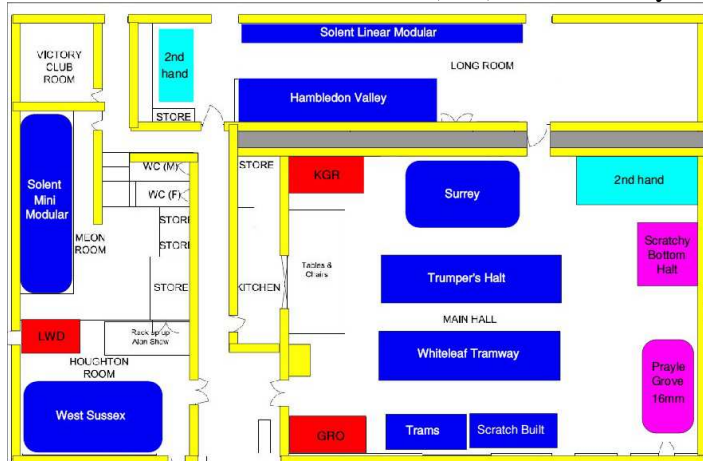
Sunday 4th March - Surrey Group - East Horsley Indoor Meet

- inc KGR and members sales...

A Clockwise Tour Around our Wickham Show - November 4th 2017 (next 2019)

All Photos by Keith Whitcomb (W.Sussex), Kevin Kidney, Keith Lambert and Lin Spiegelhalter (Solent)

The Show was organised by the members of our Show Committee: Peter Foxwell, Mark Munday and Ray Harcourt with catering organised by Genevieve Foxwell and Kath Harcourt with additional volunteers from the membership . Accounts settled by Jack Nisbet as Treasurer. Made possible through the legacy of Harry Pitt which provides the financial reserve behind the commitments. The Non-Profit Event swung into a small loss this year, but costs also included additional insurance cover above that of the G_Scale Society's Policy covering meetings. A decision has therefore been made to continue the event and book the same hall for (Oct) 2019. Next year it is West Sussex's turn to host their event in Henfield.



Trade Support was provided by **KGR Kent Garden Railways 01689 891668**,
GRO Garden Rail Outlet 023 8084 0834 and **Classic Ladies: Miniatures and Figures**.
There is still time to place an order with them all before Christmas.



Scratchy Bottom Halt

Inspired by Cartoonist Rowland Emmet. "Scratchy Bottom Halt" represents a small part of Rowland Emmet's railway world, using Smallbrook Studio's cast resin kits. The aim was to re-create in model form some of Emmet's railway cartoons, displaying the cartoons that they represent. A running slide show of Emmet's cartoons complemented the operation of the railway. The name of the layout is typical of those found in Emmet's cartoons, such as 'Little Figment' and 'Stygian Halt', but is based upon a real place name in Dorset near Lulworth Cove. "Scratchy" comes from the difficulty of scratching a living from the poor soil and "Bottom" is often used in the name of a valley.



Rackem Up

Local member Alan Shaw presented a rack railway with additional shuttle automation using Massoth DCC.



West Sussex Area Group

Our neighbours from West Sussex brought their new portable layout with American buildings by Syd Bunker. It made its debut at Summers Ponds and Syd's buildings also came to Hollycombe Model Weekend.



Solent Mini-Modular - The more-portable modular system designed by our Ray Harcourt - with 1.2m boards



Modules are available in small and large radii, single and double track - We take the small oval to G_Rail
The buildings on the layout belong to Matthew Wheeler; taken from his garden line and are built by Charlie.
Modules can be obtained from Ray, and being only 1.2m long (matching a long straight from LGB) are easy to complete. Corner Modules match the appropriate LGB Curves. Trackless Scenery Modules can be added alongside the running tracks, and they can be connected to the original door-based modular layout (which is how they were originally shown. Running Analogue, Digital, Live Steam and Radio Control as required.

Member's Second Hand Sales were run by Adrian and Trish Knight. and the Estate Sale by Phil and Lin.

Solent 14m Linear Modular - Phil and Lin's 'no carpentry' original Modular using cheap internal doors with an XPS foam top to shape some 3D scenery - Developed from the original 'Bruksbanen' shunting puzzle (now at Mk3/4) which was followed by the Passing Loop Station (with Train Ferry) and then 4-door 'Malmsbanan' - parts of which, in true modular fashion, are connected together to create this 3-station 14m linear run. Operated by DCC (Roco Multimaus / Z21 or Massoth Dimax/Navigator) it also has R/C Live steam from Kevin running trains and using the Shunting yard in the centre. Inter-operable with the Mini Modular System.



Hambleden Valley Railway from local member Steve Howard.

This is not the average G scale layout often seen at exhibitions, but a highly scenic layout more akin to those in the smaller scales. Although track powered locos can be run, the layout is normally operated using live steam radio controlled locos. These have been fitted with inertia devices that make them very controllable and enable realistic slow speed running and shunting operations.





Chopper couplings are used to enable auto uncoupling using track magnets. The layout is a narrow gauge, end to end, small terminus to fiddle yard: 4ft wide by 34ft long including 7 track sliding traverser fiddle yard.



Scratch Built Locos

John Webb with a selection of his scratch built locos.



Prayle Grove

Carol East & live steam on 16mm: 32 & 45mm gauges



Heritage Tramway

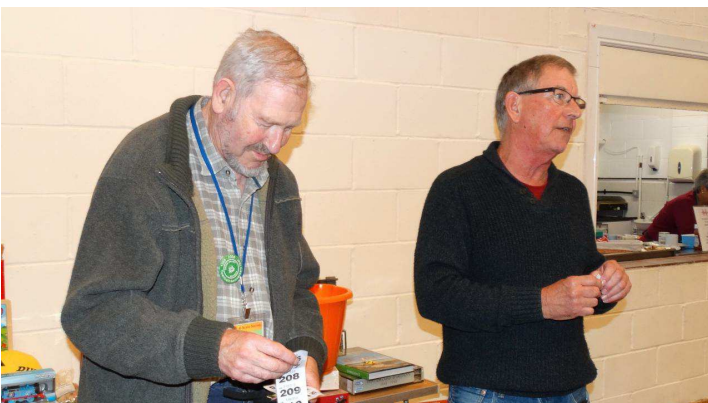


Solent member Keith Lambert displayed his automated tram layout and fleet of hand-built trams.

The layout also displayed Peter Foxwell's fine buildings, which are also hand made.



The Raffle was organised by Peter Foxwell - acting as MC on the day.



Catering during the event was organised by Genevieve Foxwell & Kath Harcourt assisted by their team. Further volunteers assisted during the day with the Signing-In (an insurance requirement), the raffle, et al.

Whiteleaf Tramway

The Whiteleaf Tramway shows, in an indoor setting, what might be achieved in a typical urban garden. The layout is owned by the Buckinghamshire Garden Railway Society and the rolling stock is provided by members. It portrays a electric railway / tramway that runs through the streets and then off through the countryside to surrounding villages. Steam and diesel traction brings trains in from outlying sections that are not equipped with overhead wire. It is also modular in its design and expandable into larger spaces or shapes.



Trumpers Halt

Colin Barnett and friends ("81C MRC") returned for another welcome appearance. Loads of G Scale action.



Surrey with their indoor layout and members stock

Next Newsletter due in January - The FORUM may have more announcements meantime - JoinNow



The 'Emett Style' Scratchy Bottom Holt Railway from Michael Walshaw.

Scratchy Bottom Holt Inspired by Cartoonist Rowland Emett represents a small part of Rowland Emett's railway world, using Smallbrook Studio's cast resin kits.

The aim is to re-create in model form some of Emett's railway cartoons, displaying the cartoons that they represent.

A running slide show of Emett's cartoons complements the operation of the railway. The name of the layout is typical of those found in Emett's cartoons, such as 'Little Figment' and 'Stygian Halt', but is based upon a real place name in Dorset near Lulworth Cove. "Scratchy" comes from the difficulty of scratching a living from the poor soil and "Bottom" is often used in the name of a valley.

It currently has four invitations for 2018; with the first opportunity to see it at Epsom in April 2018. SWING at Littlehampton in May MAY be next.

Steve Howard's Hambledon Valley

Hambleden Valley Railway

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enables realistic slow speed running and shunting operations. Chopper couplings are used to enable auto uncoupling using track magnets. The layout is a narrow gauge, end to end, small terminus to fiddle yard layout and is approx. 4ft wide and 34ft long including a 7 track sliding traverser fiddle yard.

Hambleden Vally is scheduled to appear at the following shows:

Chiltern Model Railway Assoc. Leisure Centre, Stevenage, Herts. Sat/Sun
13th/14th Jan 2018 <http://www.cmra.org.uk/exhibition.html>

Alton MRC, Eggars School, Alton, Hants. Sat/Sun 3rd/4th Feb 2018
<http://www.altonmrg.co.uk/category/febex/>
(We must ensure this doesn't clash with any winter meet event - but it is 2 days)

16mm Assoc National Show, E of England Showground, Peterborough. Sat 7th
April 2018 <https://www.nationalgardenrailwayshow.org.uk/>

ALSRM Rivermead Leisure Centre, Reading. Sat 12th May 2018
<https://www.alsrm-events.co.uk/reading-show>

Short video of Katie at the Wickham show: Katie at Wickham
<<https://youtu.be/NQc7-t3ju0A>>

rgds
Phil and Lin
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G Scale Society

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