

# Surrey G-Scale Society

<http://www.surreygscale.co.uk>

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## AUTUMN NEWSLETTER

Hope you had a good Summer, with plenty of running. We had a good programme of garden meets, despite the indifferent weather during August. Most open days had an attendance of around a dozen or so people; it's a shame more of you couldn't make it. These events are an ideal chance to see how other people have tackled the integration of the railway and other garden activities (yes, a few people do like to use the garden for something else!) and share with others their successes and things they would have done differently if they were starting again.

### REPORTING BACK – Garden meets

**Catmint Line:** Andy and Josie Saulter

We started off the open day season with an excellent turnout of over 20 people and a warm and sunny June afternoon. The station area has been enlarged to provide an extra passing loop and two additional train length sidings. Also spotted on the line for the first time were two buildings (Thanks to the Merstham show members' sales stand)!! Fox activity means that we cannot have any permanent buildings on the line. We had a wide range of stock running on both lines, including Steve Riley's very impressive Sumpter Valley Mallet with sound. People stayed till around 6pm, so we think they were having fun!



**Stone Valley Railway: Derek and Anne Stone**

A wet morning fortunately gave way to mostly dry afternoon for Derek and Anne's open day. Trains ran to an accompaniment of distant thunder and included a Hunslet, ICE, RhB box cab and Alan Damen's Selsey Tramway loco as seen at G Rail. The point work has been simplified so there was smooth running, apart from the need to chip away at a rock to make room for the ICE! We had all no sooner got into our cars and on our way home than there was an enormous downpour – so we were all lucky not to have been soaked.



**Richard and Chris Atkinson**

This was the first open day for this line in New Malden and considerable work in poor weather had been undertaken to get the track ready. The running track took in the whole garden giving something like a 300 foot run. Steve Riley ran his Lionel Atlantic which he had refurbished mechanically. Richard showed us the large amount of Playmobil (locos, rolling stock, track and buildings) that had been found in a local Oxfam shop for £25 (what a bargain). A heavy shower had us running for cover, in a shed shared by a number of giant rabbits!



### **Tim and Emma Duke**

The final open day of the Surrey season was in Banstead in early September. The line is really impressive with MTS controlling running, points and signals. As well as double track around all the garden, there is some lovely scenery (Emma has been busy with the scissors keeping the trees in scale). Steve Riley used the opportunity to run his Southern Daylight Mikado (sound – wonderful whistle and airpump) with over 20 boxcars and Paul Herold had his live steam Shay in action.



**A big thank you to everyone who held an open day. Their efforts in track preparation and providing refreshments is much appreciated.**

### **SURREY NEWS**

#### **Derek and Anne Stone**

As some of you may know, Derek and Anne, stalwarts of the Surrey Area Group, will be leaving these shores to relocate in Spain next summer – we wish them all the very best in their retirement and thank them for all the work they have done for the Surrey group.

From our very first East Horsley event, Derek and Anne have been prominent helpers. With the formation of the Surrey Group, Derek volunteered to be East Horsley Organiser and during his time in office, East Horsley has gone from strength to strength. Anne has done sterling work on the catering front (not to mention being the current National G Scale Treasurer!).

**We would like a volunteer (or two) to come forward to shadow Derek at East Horsley in March 2007 and then take over the information and know how to organise the East Horsley in future years.**

***What is involved?*** Liaising with the hall to book the event, deciding which layouts can be fitted in the hall, booking layouts and the trader. On the day: helping out setting up, ensuring there are sufficient helpers for door and raffle duties, helping clear away and making sure the hall is in good order to hand over to the caretaker. There are usually plenty of helpers on the day, but we need an organiser to take charge. **Don't be shy – your group need you!**

## NEXT EVENT

### **Solent Winter Meet – Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> October**

This will be the second Solent indoor event. Last year's was very good with 4 layouts in attendance. This year, the event will be in a bigger hall, with six layouts. Jack Nisbet has asked us to provide 'Katz Bahn' again – track set up on tables to provide MTS and analogue running. **Josie and I would be very pleased to have some volunteers to help us set up, run and dismantle the layout** (please give us a ring or email if you can help us out).

Quite a few Surrey members belong to the Solent group and Solent have provided a layout at East Horsley for the last three years, so it would be great if a good number of you could support their event. KGR will be providing a trade stand and there will be a members' bring and buy (run by Adrian Knight), plus excellent refreshments (there's nothing like being pressed to indulge in a bacon roll whilst getting your layout set up!).

## WINTER CALENDAR

**Winter meets are always a good opportunity to run your stock on the layouts. Meets open to G Scale members and their families only – not to the general public.**

### **Saturday October 14**

Twickenham & District MRC G scale Open day (10.30am to 4.00pm)  
Kerswell Hall, Wills Crescent, Hounslow TW3 2JF

### **Sunday 29 October**

Solent Indoor Meet (12-5) [NB Later start time to avoid church times]  
Christ Church Parish Hall, London Road, Widley, near Portsmouth  
[Just North of Portsdown Hill – contact Andy for a map or more details]

### **Sunday 26 November**

Sussex Indoor Meet (11-4)  
Herstmonceux Village Hall, Hailsham Road, Herstmonceux, Sussex, BN27 4JX

### **Sunday 10 December**

Kent Xmas Meet (11-4)  
Keston Village Hall, Keston Village Hall, Heathfield Road, Keston, BR2 6BA

### **Saturday 20 January 2007**

Kent Winter Meet (11-4)  
Teynham Village Hall, Belle Friday Close, Teynham, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME9 9TU

### **SUNDAY 4 MARCH 2007**

#### **SURREY Indoor Meet (11-4) Helpers 9-5**

East Horsley Village Hall, Kingston Avenue, East Horsley, KT24 6QT

**Make sure this date is in your 2007 diary – more details in next newsletter.**

#### **Email is our preferred distribution method.**

If you can receive email, please email Martyn Dix and request email newsletters – you will get the benefit of the colour photos!

If you have received both email and postal newsletters, please let Josie know so that she can remove your address from the postal labels file and we can save on postage. **Please let us know if you move or change email/phone details.**