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TRAFFIC

Yorkshire Dales
G Scale Group

Issue 12. 04/01/2010

Dear member

Welcome to the Twelfth issue of Traffic, the newsletter devoted to information regarding Yorkshire Dales G Scale Group. You will be able to read some interesting articles from our current members, find out about the forth coming events. If you require any further information please contact any of the members below:

Chairman	M Humphris
Treasurer	M Cadamarteri
Minutes (MTS)	R Metcalfe
Publicity	P Inman
Technical (non MTS)	T Parkinson
Artistic Design	J Jennings
Show Coordinator	David Newsham

Visit the site. www.ydgs.co.uk (updates have been added including new photographs and the newsletters)

CONDOLENCES. We are very sorry to hear of the passing of David Nesom from Pickering, he will be sadly missed.

We would also like to welcome our new members as the group continues to grow from strength to strength each month.

Feel free to send articles that you would like including in the Newsletter, it is what you make it so get those computers fired up and send me what you can (nicely formatted please).

Philip Inman.

NOTICE FROM CHAIRMAN

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Well another year and its running season has passed by, unfortunately no railway track has appeared in my garden; however a medium sized pine tree has been pruned heavily, making space to lay a circle of track at least. As I write this report after finishing of the last piece of a homemade Christmas pudding, I feel that I should take my dog and walk, at least the packed ice has nearly melted. I have a new Collie called Robbie he is just over seven months old, and a rather demanding of my time; an active young dog, very fit, unlike me. Any tips on ensuring that I find time to continue my model railway hobby, as well as walking the dog would be most welcome. (Shorter walks are not an option, says Robbie.) My thanks go out to Rod for organizing the excellent group's annual Christmas meal, a growing success like my post Christmas waist line.

This year I am to continue my academic studies, so in the coming four months I will be undertaking five study modules which includes including a module on Shakespearian tragedies; I do not wish to see the G scale groups future turn into a tragedy, so I call on all members to assist in the continuance of our group. Please rally round and lend your support to the Yorkshire Dales G scale group in the coming year. Plus the Keighley based G scale layout also needs new input, to ensure its future , it's over to you the membership to make sure the layout develops further; I know Phil is trying hard with the groups journal, let us match his effort in our support of the groups layout. 'So to the group's annual meeting', to confirm our next steering committee, this takes place each year in January, this year hopefully on Saturday the 23rd, weather permitting. I hope to see you all that afternoon, at our Keighley club rooms, starting at 1pm. Please phone me if you have any queries, Mike.

MIKE HUMPHRIS.

Tel 01756 799358

P.S. My English tutor says that I should not start sentences with, so. So what you say.

ARTICLE 1

TREASURER'S REPORT

The end of another year.

On behalf of all the committee I hope you had a Merry Christmas and we wish you a happy New Year.

We remain solvent and the annual subscription to our group remains at £20.00. The subscription pays for our insurance, printing and postage of our group newsletter. Any surplus from the subscriptions is used towards the layout costs.

I have yet to prepare our accounts for the year in readiness for our AGM. However, during the year the group has been able to buy the track which had previously been provided on long term loan. In addition, some further track was purchased in preparation for this coming winter's development. The total cost of this was 750.20, funded largely by donations. This leaves us with cash of approximately £51 and cash at the bank of £26.83. We have had 23 members during the year which is approximately 10% lower than in previous years. Perhaps resulting from our lack of attendance at exhibitions.

If you are going to be unable to attend the AGM and would like to renew your membership to the group please send your cheque for £20.00 made payable to:
Yorkshire Dales G Scale Group to my home address 257 Fell Lane, Keighley BD22 6DE

I look forward to seeing you soon.

Mike Cadamarteri

ARTICLE 2

OPEN DAY'S IN DURHAM

Planning to have a weekend of G Scale running in the garden in this country, especially here in the frozen wastes of the North East, is always a lottery. So it was on the weekend of the 6th and 7th June we looked out onto the rain bouncing off the patio on the Saturday morning and thought, "please let it fair up before 1pm".

We had decided to have a weekend G scale event to raise funds for Masite Nek Primary School in Lesotho in Southern Africa. Jean and I have supported this school since 1999, assisting with new buildings, water supply, and sponsorship for the many orphans who attend there.

Jean baked and bought "the pies", which have become a trade mark of our last three open days, to give to folk who were brave enough or foolhardy to make the journey "up North".

By 1pm the wet weather had gone and whilst still not tropical it was dry enough for some serious running. Having been in hospital during May and still not 100% Phil and Dorothy Inman were kind enough to come up and help us out from the Friday. Thank you both so much.

Our many friends and other YDGS members gave us their support over the two days and to them Jean and I send our grateful thanks. We managed to raise £150 that weekend and this amount will educate a child for a year in Lesotho.

To you all in the YDGS thank you.
Alan and Jean Gardner.

ARTICLE 3

A LETTER FROM BIRMINGHAM

The other night I was sitting at home, at peace with the world, when the phone rang, it was our beloved chairman. Various topics were discussed until we came to the subject of railways and my visit to the Evesham Light Railway last August, I was told to write a report for the news letter, so here goes. It came to pass on a Sunday in August that I and a lad down the road set out as usual 20 minutes late for Evesham, we do not worship the great deity stat-nav, but we found the place ok. Thank heavens for the brown coloured Evesham Country Park sign on the A 46 is all I can say!

The E.V.L.R is a 15inch gauge line with 5 steam locomotives and 3 diesels; Boarding a service train we leave the main station on a right hand curve, then proceed on a falling gradient of 1.75, arriving at the point where the line divided we turn to the right curving round on a lower level, with extensive views of the local countryside, hills abound. The loco gives a sharp whistle and begins to work rather hard, climbing a rising gradient though a deep cutting and on towards a tunnel, though a left hand curve and out into the smaller station on the line. We wait for a few minutes, then leave on another left hand curve and continue climb via two further steep gradients to the main station.

The locomotive is uncoupled and proceeds to the turntable, where it is turned and watered, in readiness for the next service. I found the staff very courteous and helpful; they even allowed me to look inside the engine shed. The locomotives and carriages were very clean and well turned out; the whole line appeared well maintained. There were several good photographic locations, needless to say my trusty and reliable film camera was well used, all in all I and my companion had a most enjoyable afternoon.

Bill



ARTICLE 4

EBAY HINTS AND TIPS.

Started selling and buying on E/Bay in June 2004. If you are selling any item the first thing to do is to take a picture of the item. The picture must be of good quality, a lot of pictures on E/Bay are of a poor quality, a lot of people try and sell without a picture and get nowhere.

Start at a reasonable price, you can sell over a 7 day period to a 10 day period, or even longer if you have a shop on E/Bay. Most sellers are private people selling off things that they do not require any more. I sell toys Trains books etc.

The best time to bid on a item that you want is about ten minutes before the auction ends, and then again in the last minute. 90% of the time you win the bid. Also set a limit, you can easily get carried away in the excitement and pay £50.00 to £100.00 over the odds. The Buy It Now auction is straight forward. You see You buy You pay. Job done. Do not overcharge on Postage, a lot of sellers charge way over the top, if you have charged too much give them a refund. You have 90 days in which to do this. If something goes wrong talk to the buyer or seller before going to E/Bay with your problem. Doing this usually resolves the problem.

There is now a new G Scale Site on the Internet.

It used to be called G Scale Mad. That Site closed down on the 1st of November 2009. The new Site is G Scale Central

www.gscalecentral.co.uk

This site is run by a Lady from Rossendale. Everything one needs to know about G Scale is here. Type in the Site from your browser and look for the Log In button. Follow the on screen instructions and away you go. The site is very informative on anything G. Scale. The members are very helpful and they love pictures of your railway, anything kit built. MTS.DCC. Live Steam. There is no fee to join. You can also send a private PM, if you want to purchase anything of any of the members. Also you can set up one's own profile page, and download your own Garden Railway pictures. I Find the site very good and also very helpful. The Lady who owns the Website can be seen at The North West Area Group Meetings in Altrincham on the third Sat of every month. See Web Site North West Group.

Regards.
Hans.

ARTICLE 5

EUROSPoor 2009

Having visited Eurospoor in 2008 and thoroughly enjoyed the exhibition, I decided that a return visit in 2009 was a must. The exhibition is an annual event usually held in October and this year was from 23rd of October to 25th October. It is in Holland in the town of Utrecht and held in Jaarbeurs a large exhibition centre not unlike the NEC here in England. Located in the centre of Utrecht and 5 minutes walk from the bus and railway stations it is ideally placed.

The previous year Jean and I had attended on our own, but this year Brian Pearson and his wife Jean had shown interest in attending and so we arranged to travel there together. Arrangements were made for us to stay at a self catering farmhouse in Ouderwater, about thirty minutes from Utrecht by bus. Jean and I had stayed there previously and found it ideal to get into Utrecht and also to visit Amsterdam and Gouda. We used Brian's car and travelled from Hull to Rotterdam on an overnight ferry, "The Pride of Hull". We had a very comfortable and smooth crossing and arrived into Rotterdam about breakfast time. A slow gentle ride through the outskirts of Rotterdam and then onto our accommodation went without incident. We had caught the Tuesday night ferry and were staying until the following Wednesday so this gave us plenty of time to attend the exhibition which was held Friday, Saturday and Sunday. We had chosen to attend on the Friday and Sunday as this would leave Saturday free for the ladies to choose where they wished to go.

The Euro exchange rate was quite low and we found that items such as food and the odd coffee were quite expensive. Also entrance into the Exhibition was 14 Euros per person with no concessions for 'us seniors' or cheaper rates on the three days it was held. Still, once inside it was worth it. The quality of the layouts from Z to G was exceptional. Row after row of sellers and stalls made it very difficult to remember what we had seen and where in the hall it was. Impossible to see everything in the first day, we returned on the Friday evening to our digs foot sore and weary and talked about what we had seen and tried our best to compare prices to those in England.

Returning on the Sunday I made a bee -line for a stall that was selling a Pola sawmill/timber yard. I thought it would fit in nicely with my spur that has stood empty for a while. I managed to get the guy down a few Euros (lessons from Hans are needed for future transactions!!) and came away with a smaller lumber kit that would go alongside it. Brian got some lengths of track and I also purchased a really nice radius three, second-hand point, that had only been used indoors. There were many other items that we fancied but we thought were a little overpriced. Jean and I thought the numbers attending were down on the previous year. Maybe the recession had something to do with it.

However we all thoroughly enjoyed our visit. The highlight for me and Brian was the show. For Brian's wife Jean visiting the red light district in Amsterdam is a "must do it again trip!!" Hopefully she will keep her eyes open the next time.

Alan Gardner.

ARTICLE 6

LETTERS FROM BIRMINGHAM

Bill writes, that we all have our dreams, and that ever since the building of the A1 locomotive was announced, that one of his dreams was to see the new locomotive working on the Settle and Carlisle line. He had mentioned this to several club members the last time he visited the Keighley club rooms in the summer of 2009, well the dream came true for him on the Saturday the 3rd of October 2009.

He booked his accommodation and duly arrived in Skipton, to be greeted with typical October Settle and Carlisle, the weather was varied to say the least, low cloud, drizzle, rain, gales, sunshine and blue sky. Mike, myself, and his dog Robbie, and the trusty Land rover duly set off from Skipton, in blustery winds and heavily rain, not a good start; we arrived at Horton in Ribblesdale railway station to find it almost deserted. Two gents sat in the station shelter they thought that the running times of Tornado had been changed, but had no idea by how much. As the rain and cold windy conditions were continuing, we decided to push on up to the Station Inn at Ribblesdale Viaduct, the low cloud, rain and dull light followed in our wake.

The rain if anything became heavier and the day light dimmed to a mousy even lurid yellow, as we rounded a corner in this bleached landscape a ghostly spectre confronted us, a row of wind turbines minus their blades and head gear; horror of horrors in the valley of the viaduct, wind turbines! A deep fear arose in our hearts, the valley despoiled? Fear not dear reader, for all was revealed as a wan shaft of light broke the fallow murk we realized that the spectre before us was none other than the viaduct itself, with its upper deck hidden in the jaundiced mist of cloud and drizzle. We retired to the Station Inn for a very welcome pot of tea, and joined the gathering throng of moorland walkers who had been driven off the hills by the inclement weather. We ourselves also being still shaken by that ghostly spectre of a possible future, when a viaduct might be replaced by a row of wind turbines, god forbid; after warming ourselves in front of a roaring fire we headed back out into the mist and rain hidden landscape and our trusty Landrover.

With a backwards look at the viaduct we set out once again for the station at Horton in Ribblesdale, as weak shafts of sun light tried to break through and lighten the hidden dales. We arrived at Horton to find a small crowd waiting Tornado, as the sun light finally broke through to bring a cheer to the scene. Our patience was rewarded as Tornado came into view like a Bat out of Hell; we estimated she was doing 60 to 65 miles an hour with 13 coaches fully loaded, so she had maybe 520 tons on the draw bar. With a clean fire, she was passed in a flash.



We adjourned back to the Station Inn, at Ribbleshead, where we enjoyed an excellent dinner, and perhaps a pint or two, not for Robbie you understand. That evening Bill went to Skipton station, and Tornado made a triumph and very fine sight, as she coasted to a halt on platform 2. He writes that he realized a further dream that of a night time departure of Tornado from Skipton station, no slippage, just a nice steady departure. It was noticeable that the whistle seems more mellower now, instead of the scream of an earlier time, as if the lady herself has proved herself on one of the world's finest runs.

Mike and Bill.

EVENT 2010

Event / Location.	Date
Yorkshire Dales G Scale Group AGM	DATE: TO BE CONFIRMED
<p>The group holds winter running sessions, indoors on the third Saturday of each month throughout the winter and early spring months at the Keighley Club Room. Come along and join in</p>	
KMRC Exhibition Victoria Hall Keighley	March 20 th & 21 st
Narrow Gauge North Leeds	March 20 th & 21 st
G-Rail Nottingham	Saturday April 24 th
Knowle Green Show Day	Sunday May ??
KMRC Open Day	Sunday May 16 th
Bob Gledhill Open Day	Sunday May 16 th 01422 354050
KMRC Open Day	Sunday June 6 th
Alan Gardner Open Day	Sat & Sun 5 th 6 th June 01388 605969
Phil Inman Open Day	Sunday 4 th July 01274 560551
David Newsham Open Day	Sunday 18 th July 01535 605662
Tim Parkinson Open Day	Sunday 5 ^h September 01535 656188
Elsecar Show	Sat & Sun September ??
KMRC 7mm Show	Sunday 10 ^h October
KMRC Open Day	28 December 2010

Most dates are proposed dates

Keep looking for new dates

If you are having an open day and would like it to be listed please contact me

Phil