



Dear All,

15th October 2015

G Scale Society - Solent Local Area Group
An Update on the Wickham Show - October 31st 2015

I thought it a good idea to update everyone on some of the planning and preparations for our show which are now are progressing very nicely.

Help on the day: As always we'll need all the help possible on the day - I know that as always I can rely on a good number 'just turning up' - please do so again. Especially at the start, but equally at any time through the day, if you'd like to help just kindly come and see me when you arrive at the Hall. I will allocate tasks as mutually agreeable and we'll take it from there. None is too demanding - but the main tasks must be covered:

Helping exhibitors to set up/take down;

Putting up signs;

Manning the entrance desk;

Helping Genevieve with catering;

Helping with the raffle; etc

I suggest that you might team up with friends to take it in turns for the on-going tasks, such as the manning the entrance desk.

Layouts attending: We have the largest number of layouts ever this year, 15 in all: some exciting newcomers, some welcome re-appearances after a while away - and of course many old friends:

Solent Maxi Modular Layout - Phil Spiegelhalter & Solent Group members

Solent Mini Modular Layout - Ray Harcourt & Solent Group members

Keith Lambert - automated line - Keith's lovely hand-built trams

Hambleden Valley Railway - first appearance of this superb layout at Wickham - Steve Howard & friends

Timpdon Lake Railway. 16mm - welcome return of this wonderful action-packed line - Chris McKenzie & friends

Kleinbach - Roger & Gill Allen's lovely lokalbahn, full of Germanic atmosphere.

Trumper's Halt ("81C MRC") - an old favourite - Colin Barnett & friends

Trumpers Vale - narrow gauge N - a contrast to the Halt - Ian Skull

Fentille Railroad - another old favourite returns - Kevin Kercher and John Budd

Whiteleaf Tramway (BGRS) - more tramway action - Adrian Nicholes & friends

Sussex Light Railway Test Layout - visiting stock welcome!

Katzbahn - Andy Saulter & friends

Chalfont - a bit of class from Gauge 3 - Roger Salisbury

Victoria Ridge - first appearance of Ryan Lamb's new tram layout.

Children's Corner - OO - We are delighted that our friends from the Fareham & District Model Railway Club will be bringing their children's layout - really for children, but please let's all have a go! All their takings go to the Hampshire & IOW Air Ambulance

Kent Garden Rail - Andy Cottenham

Massoth Equipment - Mark Munday

Classic Ladies - miniature figures, furniture etc - Pat Maslin

Bring & Buy - Adrian & Trish Knight - 10% of sales goes to Group funds

Stock weathering demonstration - Clive Tucker

Costs: Costs have, not surprisingly, risen quite a bit since our last show two years ago. Once again we are not charging a fixed entry charge, simply asking for donations. Please be very *persuasive* if you are taking donations or selling raffle tickets! Please be very *generous* if you are making donations yourself!

I doubt if we will break even this year, but our group finances are very healthy (around £3,100 in credit) and I'm sure you would agree with me that to use just a small percentage of this to subsidise our shows would be applauded by our late colleague Harry Pitt. Harry died in 2005. His legacy gave us the financial confidence to run these shows.

Bring & Buy: please label all your items (or bundles of items) in advance with your asking price, give them to Adrian at the stand. He will log them and at the close of show (or when you leave) either return them to you unsold (no charge) or give you the sale money less ten per cent (which goes to group funds). Adrian has set no real limit on the number of items - but you must label them with your asking price before giving them to Adrian. (This is to avoid congestion at the stand on the day)

Raffle: some quite splendid top prizes - most generously sponsored once again by Kent Garden Rail - thanks Andy!

Local accommodation: "The Old House", The Square" Wickham (PO17 5JG www.bb-wickham.com) offers bed & breakfast at around £120 for a double room, ie £60 per person, or around £80 for a single room. A charming old style hotel, just a five minute walk from the Hall. Easy

overnight parking in The Square (I have no financial interest in The Old House!)

Bachmann model: - I've visited several model shops locally asking to have flyers displayed - all welcomed the opportunity. Our thanks to them. At the Fratton Model Centre (171-173 Fratton Road 023-92-827117) last Saturday I spotted a brand-new Bachmann Spectrum 2-truck Heisler "Oregon Lumber Co" 81794 - "DCC ready", c£550. I believe this might be a fairly rare item which might appeal to the specialist collector. (Nothing in it for me!)

Finally - if you have any questions to ask or suggestions to make - do please contact me as soon as you can - preferably by e-mail. But most important of all - **COME IF YOU POSSIBLY CAN - AND BRING YOUR FRIENDS TOO!**

All the Very Best for now, ***Jack Nisbet*** (SLAG organiser)