

Sussex Miniature Locomotive Society



Wharfedale News. Issue 2

2nd April 2020

Dear all

Hope you and your families are all well. I guess we are all doing the sensible thing and staying indoors. Hopefully you are all getting provisions, we are doing ok because Lorema is listed by the government as a vulnerable person! We are getting the option of a weekly delivery of food, not always as ordered, but thankfully usually something comes as an alternative.

Lorema and I, like most, have now been on lockdown for 10 days and beginning to get ourselves organized for the long haul of isolation.

I guess we are all the same, a list of to do's but never find time to do them. Now's the time. Our list includes sorting out photos, my Grandads post cards sent home during his 25 years in the Royal Navy, boxes of memorabilia and my shed to name but a few.

I have spoken with Mike Porter this week and he is well and back in town having had to cut his tour short and spending several hours getting all his fellow travellers on an early plane. See his article below.

As I had called the weekly news Wharfedale News, I thought I had better try and do a series of articles about the History of Wharfedale for those who are new to the club.

I emailed Steve Turner to see what was available and I now, thanks to Steve's efficient history records, have huge number of files to trawl thru to produce the articles. (See below my Article 1)

Keep Safe

Mike W

Brief club house NEWS

As expected very little to report this week.

Many thanks to our trusty team of Andy S, Andy B and Tom for doing the Security checks.

They also have reported that there was a considerable team of gardeners up there cutting grass and getting the park ready for Easter!

Wharfedale Article 1.



WHARFEDALE PRESENTED

I mentioned here on July 28 the presentation by Mrs Hebblethwaite of her husband's 4-6-4 Halton-type tank locomotive to the Sussex Miniature Locomotive Society. In the pictures below Mrs Hebblethwaite is presenting *Wharfedale*, to the vice-chairman of the society, Mr A. E. Aycliffe, and Mr L. Whittington, chairman of the society, is handing Mrs Hebblethwaite the silver medal which the locomotive won at the 1958 Model Engineer Exhibition.

Secretary Mr S. R. Bostel, 8 Cranbourne Street, Brighton, Sussex.

1960-07-03 - Wharfedale Presentation (12) - ME Vol 123 iss 3083

Loco Gift to Beech Hurst

8th July 1960

South West News (Press Cutting)

LOCO GIFT TO BEECH HURST

MADE by the late Mr. W. M. Hebblethwaite, of Ringmer it took 10 years in the making a beautiful 4-6-4 5in. gauge model Halton tank locomotive was on Sunday presented by his widow, Mrs. May C. Hebblethwaite, now of Yorkshire, to the Sussex Miniature Locomotive Society at their track at Beech Hurst, Haywards Heath.

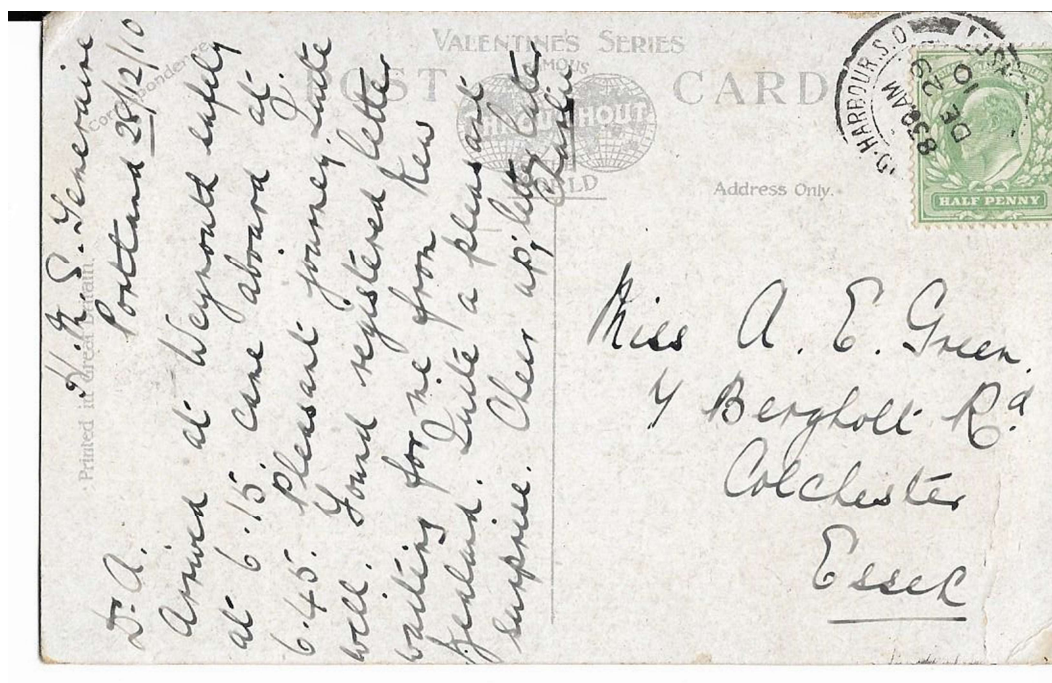
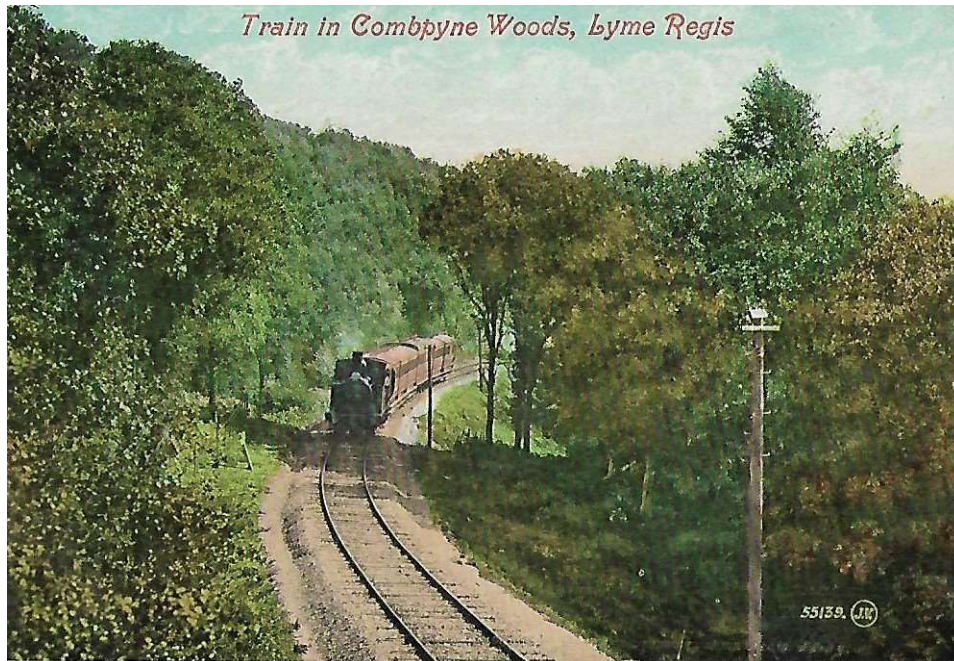
It was Mr. Hebblethwaite's great wish that his engine should run on the society's track, and his widow promised it to the society if the members would finish it, paint it, and give it the name "Wharfedale."

This done, the society first entered it in the Model Engineering Exhibition in London, and the silver medal which was then awarded it was on Sunday handed to Mrs. Hebblethwaite, who was made an honorary member of the society, and with her daughter and grand-daughter, Mrs. Kitcher and Margaret, became the first to ride behind the engine. It was driven by Mr. H. Lovell, of Burgess Hill.

In the absence of the president, the Earl of Northesk, the locomotive was received on behalf of the society by vice-president Mr. A. E. Ayliffe.

Closed Line.

Found while sorting through my Grandfathers post cards



This was sent in 1910 by my Grandfather Charlie Wakeling to his girlfriend who subsequently became my Grandmother.

I have done a bit of research on this and I think it is a Terrier Tank on the line

between Axminster and Lyme Regis which opened in 1903.

The original locos used were 734 & 735 Terrier Tanks from LBSCR so it should be one of these.

The Terriers were used until 1913 when the line acquired some Adams 'Radial' tank 4-4-2T locomotives to handle the traffic. This line did become a steam enthusiast's mecca in its later years as the Adams Class engine class survived on this line long after the Adams type had been superseded in its original area of use in the London suburbs.

The 6 mile line was originally applied for by The Lyme Regis Railway Company it went through some tough years before it was finally supported by the London and South Western Railway. It started its build in 1900 and again met some challenges along the line which included the Cannington viaduct which during its final build stages one of the piers slipped badly delaying its opening. The opening of the line had been delayed about 12 months but it finally opened on 24th August 1903.

The Lyme Regis Station was unfortunately sited out of town and anyone who has been to Lyme Regis will know how steep the hillside is there.

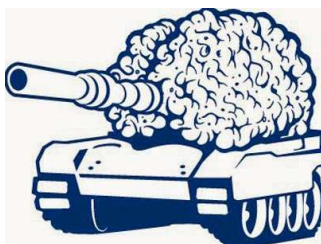
Because of this inconvenient location of the station the traffic was not as good as anticipated and the line was totally absorbed by LSWR. In 1907.

Steam trains finished service in November 1963 and Diesel took over. There was a spell steam returned due to diesel locomotive shortage but it soon returned to Diesel and they stayed until its closing down.

Life ticked over for several years until dear old 'Beeching' came along with his proposed "Reshaping of British Railways" in 1963 when he recommended its closure. Final trains ran on Saturday 27th November 1965.

The Lyme Regis Station stayed on site until 1979 when it was dismantled and re-erected on the Watercress Line at Alresford.

Think Tank



Feed us with your ideas for the club.



ITEMS FOR SALE

Most of last weeks items are still available



Steel toolbox £2.00



Composite toolbox. £2.00



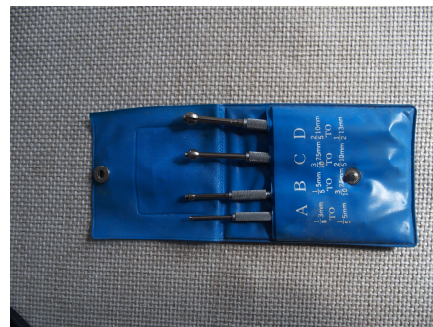
Stanley plane £5.00



Moore and Wright Bore gauges £15.00



Metric 0-25 Micrometer £3.00



Small bore gauges .125 to .500 £3.00

Mike P's Musings.

This is Mike W's 2nd newsletter and I would like to say I think it is a good idea. Mike sees it as a partial replacement for the hours spent around the club table, reminiscing, "chewing the rag" (younger members can "google" this one), or just generally putting the world to rights, and the best way to keep all members in touch in these challenging times. So, with this in mind, I will add my small contribution.

Firstly, thanks to everyone who has given me a call, or messaged in the last week, to see I'm ok, and not camping out on an Asian street eating stir fried rice! I managed to get myself and group back to the UK on the last Emirates flight into Gatwick on Tuesday night. It was the Gulf States who had ordered the rapid shutdown with only 2 days' notice. On board the flight were many Germans, Italians, and French people, not ideal travelling companions at this time, but what shocked me most is that no one was wearing a mask. All Asians are masked to stop virus particles flying around too much if they sneeze or cough. Anyway, I had my mask and was bathed in sanitizer gel (anyone remember the "brut" advert?...splash it on all over!.) and so far I have survived. Keep taking the vitamin C, I think it's a vital virus infection reducer in winter (usual disclaimer).

On the railway front, I'm busy having a big sort out at home of stock and tools...why do we keep so much, and does it ever really come in handy? My flat has never been so clean and tidy thanks to a week's quarantine. I'm not sure what's on the agenda for next week, but writing this is keeping me amused today!

During last week Steve T. kindly rang to see if I'd "had a good holiday". It's ok, I know him now!

One of the reasons he rang me, apart from checking my wellbeing, was to discuss some ideas about content for Mike's news. For those of you who don't know, Steve T. is our "de facto" (google again!) club historian. Steve has on file, masses of old photos, minutes, newsletters etc. associated with club history.

A couple of years back, I had approached Steve about helping me find some material with a view to writing some biographies of club members, but life was busy back then and it never happened. After Mike started this news, Steve said how about doing it now? Unable to think quickly enough of anything that appeared important to be doing right now, whilst confined to the monkey house, I said okay.

So, Steve has sent me (nay, deluged me) with material (thanks Steve) regarding a very important character in our club's history. I will put some lines together, and Steve will collate with photos, and then pass it through to Mike, hopefully for publication in news No.3. Some of the older members will have fond memories of this person, but if you are a recent member, i.e. joined within the last 35 years, then like me you should "know your history!".

So, don't miss next week's exciting episode!

Carry on cleaning, and "keep your stick on the ice!" (Google?)

Stay well, Mike P.

Did you Know?

Lorema and I were getting fed up with our potatoes sprouting within days of purchase since we had moved to the new house so we started asking questions.

It turns out it was because we were storing our onions below them. Potatoes love the gas given off by onions and start growing but if you take them away and store apples instead the ethylene gas given off by them will retard the potatoes sprouting.

Got one to tell let us know?

Puzzle Corner.

Last week's possible solution.

D	W	A	R	F					W			W
R			E	E	L		W	E	E	D		H
A		D		E			H		L			E
W	A	R	D		W	E	A	L	D			R
L		A			A		L				H	E
		W	H	A	R	F	E	D	A	L	E	
			A		H			R			R	
W			R		E		W	E	E		A	
H	E	A	D		A			A		A	L	E
A					D	E	E	D			D	
R	A	W				W						
F		E	A	R		E	L	D	E	R		

Andy Brock Challenge



On my travels for work I often come across some really interesting assets at the many beautiful railway stations the UK has to offer. On one such trip back in 2017 I was working at a station, only to discover the most bizarre vending machine I have ever seen! I am used to seeing certain types of machine but never one which dispenses hen's eggs! Sure enough it was operational and at £1.80 per dozen was very good value too! Unless you've been there I would not expect any one to guess the station but if you want to have a go (and without using Google) then it is the only railway station in this English county. Best of luck..."

Andy B

Lorema's Challenge This week a word search.

Find the names listed Backwards forwards up down at angle
But always in a straight line.

X	L	Y	D	T	R	V	D	I	N	E
O	P	I	B	O	C	Z	U	A	L	T
N	S	T	N	F	R	A	S	E	R	R
X	I	Y	A	D	N	M	S	C	C	Z
Z	A	X	D	D	A	T	W	H	X	Y
G	F	S	Y	H	E	A	R	P	T	L
N	U	E	A	P	S	I	M	R	O	Y
A	P	R	H	D	S	T	X	R	M	X
M	G	E	W	R	A	Y	E	H	J	W
R	N	L	N	S	A	M	K	V	A	L
O	L	I	S	H	A	R	O	N	E	Y
N	C	X	E	D	K	N	H	O	J	U
K	Z	K	L	D	I	V	A	D	O	D
O	G	I	Q	H	A	R	R	Y	S	S
M	A	R	C	T	N	W	Z	Q	H	H

VAL	ANDY	HARRY	NORMAN
JOSH	MARC	DAVID	SHARON
ROY	SAM	TOM	STEPHEN
RAY	MIKE	LINDA	GRAHAM
DAN	ENID	LOREMA	GAYNOR
IAN	ADAM	NICK	
CHRIS	JOHN	FRASER	

Have something for the NEWS please contact me

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