



# Railway Gala Weekend



**Saturday and Sunday  
23/24 July 2022**



## Peter returns to service

The focus of Gala Weekend this year is undoubtedly the return to steam of Bagnall 0-4-0ST locomotive, Peter (WB2067/1918) after a comprehensive boiler rebuild and a thorough mechanical overhaul. Peter last ran in service in December 2018. The boiler was repaired by Andy Bennett, of Bennett Boilers, in their workshops in Highbridge, Somerset. Other specialist jobs were carried out by local engineering companies but much of the work was completed in our own workshops.

On Saturday afternoon please gather at Brockham Station at 14:30 (2:30pm) when Peter will be officially welcomed back with a short speech from Brian Johnson, Chairman of the Amberley Museum Trust, after which Peter will be ceremonially driven through a banner to mark the occasion.

## RAF Fauld Bogie Coach refurbishment



Earlier this year, new wheelsets were supplied, by Alan Keef Ltd of Ross on Wye, for the Fauld bogie coach which is our main means of carrying wheel chairs. While it has been out of service, it has been missed. The costs of the new wheelsets, as well as the external repaint were all covered by a generous donation from the Sussex Industrial Archaeology Society (SIAS). On Saturday, to mark this, a plaque inside the coach will be unveiled in a short ceremony on Brockham Station by Alan Green, standing in for SIAS Chairman John Blackwell, who is unable to be present today, commencing at 11:30. After this, the coach will be attached to the train and will continue in passenger service for the rest of the weekend.

## Polar Bear: WB1781/1905

The other passenger train will be hauled by Polar Bear which is also a locomotive built by W G Bagnall of Stafford and was constructed in 1905 for the Groudle Glen Railway on the Isle of Man. The coaches are rebuilds and replicas of the original coaches built for that line, the oldest dating from 1896. Polar Bear's boiler ticket runs out at the end of this year and work similar to that recently carried out on Peter will be required. This weekend will be the only Gala event when both Peter and Polar Bear will be seen together for a couple of years.





### **Train Services**

A frequent service of passenger trains will operate all day between Amberley, Brockham and Cragside. Both trains are wheelchair accessible. The passenger service will operate from 10:30 until about 16:15. The Museum closes at 16:30.

We make no charge for travel on the Amberley Narrow Gauge Railway. If you appreciate what we are achieving, and hope to go on achieving, please consider assisting us by making a donation. Whatever amount you feel able to give, you can be assured of our thanks and appreciation. If you are a UK tax payer, any donation may be enhanced using Gift Aid - details on how to do this may be obtained from the Museum Office.

### **Brockham Station**

If you need to cross the line at Brockham Station, please use the foot crossing. Please do not walk across the tracks in the station.

### **Contractor's Monorail**

The Road Machines contractors' monorail, which is located along the path by Brockham Station, will be in demonstrated at 11:00, 12:00, 14:00 and 16:00.

Please ask if you would like more information on this Exhibit



### **Locomotive Cavalcade**

On both days we will continue our time honoured tradition and will display the locomotives in a cavalcade around the triangle at 15:00. To enable everyone to see and photograph everything no one will be permitted to stand within the triangle which will be cordoned off before the event commences. The cavalcade will be accompanied by a commentary so that you will not only be able to see the locomotives but also find out what you are actually seeing. Please comply with any instructions or requests made to you by event marshals.



### **Model Railway Exhibition – Exhibitors and Traders**

All layouts and stands are in the main exhibition hall or the Hove Ticket Office on Brockham Station apart from the West Sussex G Scale exhibit which you will find in Humphrey's Barn adjacent to Amberley (NG) Station.

### **West Sussex N Gauge MRC Club Shop. Shop Manager: Mark George**

Our club shop selling good quality second hand N gauge rolling stock from standard DC to DCC Locomotives plus coaches and wagons. We also sell second hand buildings and scenery material. We will be willing to test any locomotives you purchase so you are happy with your purchase.

### **Sillean Dinosaur Valley**

Layout size 12ftx 30ins. Owner:- Neil Ellis

Dinosaur Valley has a rising helix at both ends of the board. The layout size is 12 feet long x 30 inches wide. There is NO set location, NO set period just to enjoy running trains, from Thomas the tank engine, to steam and diesel loco's with which to entertain the public/visitors. Each board has its own imaginative scene, with dinosaurs and humans living together. A cable car takes visitors from one side of dinosaur valley to the other. All the chalet buildings are lit up with different colour lights. A helicopter pad with an air ambulance on the heli-pad.

There is a lightshow inside the right hand helix featuring dinosaurs in a thunderstorm.

### **NE Where**

Layout size 19ft x 7ft L Shape. Club Members Boards

We use the modular system, which means each member builds and owns their own boards that are joined together to form a bigger layout. Modules are made up of 4ft x 2ft or 2ft x 2ft straight board and 3ft and 2ft Corners. It can be set anywhere in the world from Japan to the UK or from desert scene to snow scene. It can just have three lines running through with no points or have a massive goods yard with lots of points. It can be an urban scene or rural scene. Our aim during exhibitions is to entertain the public young and old alike. We do this by



making sure there is always something moving somewhere on the layout. We don't run to any timetable but whatever we do we always keep the trains moving. We do have and accommodate requests from the public and sometimes we even let children run the trains. We are always willing to talk so if you have a question just ask.

#### **Hillside Park**

Layout size 8ft X 3ft. Owner:- Nigel Appleton

This layout has been renamed from Rixtmin to Hillside. This renamed layout now has an high level town scene with a main road, multi-storey car park, petrol station and many other buildings. The layout has a steam and diesel depot .The layout is operated using DCC controllers and measures 8 feet by 3 feet. There is a plan to add a new fiddle yard that would take it to 8 feet square. This layout is available for exhibitions as a standalone layout. It is built to be part of the WSWG modular layout. It is designed as a two operator layout, but can be operated solo.

#### **Wheels of Southsea**

Trade stand

#### **Eric Bobby**

Artist.

#### **009 Society – Sussex Downs Group**

As usual the group are offering a demonstration stand at his year's Gala, but with the addition of their new and as yet, unfinished layout. It was given a name, but owing to delays from Covid etc., that was so long ago we've forgotten what we decided! Nonamer Junction, perhaps? Members will be working on various aspects of 009 modelling, and the showcase contains examples of their work. Some of their efforts should be running on the layout.

Do please stop and ask questions on any aspect of 009 modelling. We're always happy to chat Narrow Gauge.

#### **The Lynton and Barnstaple Railway Trust, Surrey Supporters Group**

Souvenirs, information and memorabilia from the Lynton & Barnstaple Railway. The much loved Devon railway was reopened to the public in 2004 and has successfully operated the current stretch of line on the original track from their base at Woody Bay Station.

The L&B Trust has submitted applications to extend the railway to Blackmoor Gate and Wistlandpond Reservoir. These have now all been approved by the local authorities. Exmoor National Park and North Devon Council. Funds raised at this event will help make these ambitions come true.

#### **Industrial Railway Society**

The Industrial Railway Society was founded in 1949 and is now the leading organisation in the U.K. devoted to the study of all aspects, and all gauges, of privately owned industrial railways and locomotives both at home and overseas.

#### **Invicta Models**

Trade Stand

#### **Largarand Lime Works**

Layout

#### **Webb Locos**

Society stand

#### **The Fenchurch Fund**

The Fenchurch Fund was originally formed to honour the passing of a young fireman on the Bluebell who died following an asthma attack at the age of 23. We raised money and sponsored part of the overhaul of LBSCR Terrier No 72 Fenchurch, hence the name of the fund.

When Fenchurch entered traffic we decided to raise funds for the restoration of small locos on the Bluebell Railway starting with SECR P Class loco No.27. So far we have raised funds to pay for a new set of frames and a new set of cylinders as well as some of the smaller items. Our next big push is to get the loco to a "rolling chassis" which it is hoped to do later this year. The biggest hurdle is still to come, however, as we will need to build one boiler from the existing one plus a spare boiler, both of which are life expired, but with useable parts in both. The missing parts will be manufactured new. This is likely to cost in the region of £90,000, give or take. Being a totally self funded restoration we need to raise every penny spent on the loco from sales and donations. On our stand you will find an eclectic selection of items ranging from hats and tee shirts to jam and marmalade with plenty of other bits and bobs! For more information please go to Project 27: 2022 .(wainrightsfinessecr27 .blog\$Rot.com). where there is a selection of restoration news and P class related articles.

#### **Amberley Museum RailGroup**

Information and Sales Stand for the volunteer group at Amberley. Books and DVDs, model railways, mostly pre-owned. Funds raised will be used to further the restoration projects and maintenance of the railway at Amberley. Bargain prices. The stand will be located in the "brown shed" near the Guinness exhibit.



