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TRAFFIC

Yorkshire Dales
G Scale Group

Issue 14. 06/12/2010

Dear member

Welcome to the Fourteenth 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
Show Coordinator	David Newsham

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

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.

CHAIRMANS REPORT

First may I wish you all a happy Christmas and an active new years running season. Let's hope for an early return of a dry and warm spring like weather to tempt a return into the garden environment, be it for the pleasure of running a New Year service to a far flung community, or a bit of spring pruning. Here in Skipton at present the snow is about four inches deep, no railway track is to be seen but a house under construction (with timber purloins only and no doors or windows) peers cheerfully through the snow, next door to it a much older wooden structure sits half covered with the white stuff; the builders have gone home, what's that I hear you say to true, only an English man would go out in the mid day snow and lay G scale slates in the snow.

Now to matters at the Keighley based groups G scale layout, first I would like to take this opportunity to thank the team working at rebuilding of the old Trolenburg Heights layout; an interesting layout is developing true to its old names sake with the interesting up and over section. Sterling effort has been put in to ensure a new interactive track plan, which has already been tested and almost completely rewired. Scenery is under development: next we hope to see signalling and the associated interlocking, to ensure correct and safe operation of the layout and the railway stock.

The Keighley club rooms will be open on Tuesday 28th of December 10am to 4pm (weather permitting) for the annual Christmas open day event: this is an opportunity to visit and run! Yes we will be pleased to see you at this event; and in the following month of January 2011, if you can make it, to the group's annual general meeting where a guiding committee will be elected to steer the activities of 2011 as well as to oversee the group's activities at the Keighley club rooms, please join us and guide or assist the group to develop in 2011.

Mike Humphris.

TREASURES' REPORT

Seasons greetings to all our readers!

It's Monday 6th and I'm looking forward to our annual meal on Friday evening and the banter with friends.

As regards our finances the good news is that thanks to donations the work to date on changing the layout has not drained our resources.

At present we have cash in the bank, I have requested a statement, and I'm holding £190.00.

We shall have to wait to see what further costs we have, on the layout, over the next twelve months. However, our insurance renewal is imminent, although I anticipate that this will be around £80.00. I have yet to hear from Phil regarding the cost of our website, newsletter and postage.

For all these reasons I feel that our annual subscription should remain at £20.00 for the coming year.

Membership subscriptions are due 1st January but these can be paid at the AGM on 22 January or sent to me in the post. I suggest that nothing is sent in the Christmas post but left until after the New Year.

Best Wishes to all
Mike C

ARTICLE 1

THE GHOST OF A ZIG ZAG

As you read this the Zig Zag should be no more; it served its purpose and went into honourable retirement, by now it should have disappeared into the ether. However on November the 6th a phoenix was born out of the ashes of the Zig Zag. I with the help of Hans Riley were present, at Padiham Unitarian Chapel; this annual one day event with its eclectic and interesting mix of exhibits saw the birth of an unnamed G scale shunting yard. (Trolenburg Brewery?)

This so far un-christen child was well received, welcoming comments were forth coming, and a request for more appearances made. Many local children tried their hand at the skills of wagon shunting and the interchange of the yard wagon stock; or should that be the safe removal of safety pins. Memories of Terry Nappies!

Back to facts and not fiction, Hans brought along a LGB diesel shunter with automatic uncoupling, very useful it was to, and a enjoyable day was had, including food and tea provided by the chapel.

As you read this report the base boards of the old Zig Zag may-be available to transport this new baby; and several venues await the sight of a developing railway child, or should that be a light and portable exhibition layout.

This is an opportunity to be taken and to be in at the start, your local group needs you, and the circuit awaits the child phoenix.

Contact Mike Humphris on 01756 799358 for more information.

ARTICLE 2

DARK CREEK SAWMILL

The construction of Dark Creek sawmill came about after I purchased a Pola kit at the Eurospoor Railway exhibition in Utrecht in October last year. A spur already existed which was intended to bring the rolling stock into the garage for protection and security but this never materialised and so I thought I would utilise the track work for the sawmill.



Foundations being marked out

Brian Pearson already had some fake stone blocks which he said I could use and with twelve of these I set about creating a retaining wall around the area of the mill.



Foundations dug out.

I bought some capping stones and laid them on top of the blocks and then with weed blanket in place covered the area with pea gravel.



Bridge in place.

A small open wooden bridge was built to link the existing track work to the mill area and then a short section of track with isolating rails was put in place. I intended this to have a shuttle operating from the saw mill along 50ft of track to the station area. So whilst at Bob's open day I happened to mention to that "doyen" of E bay, Hans, what I was after and of course he said, "I have one of those". It always worries me a little when I get into financial dealings with Hans but to his credit a deal was reached and I had the shuttle unit within two days and at a very reasonable price. Thanks Hans! The isolators were fitted with diodes and placed at each end of the track work. An LGB 1amp controller was set up and "Hey Presto" the shuttle was running.



Completed sawmill yard.

I had seen in the Garden Railway Magazine of America, rail sounds advertised by Innovative Train Technology Co. (ITTC). One of their products was a sawmill sound so I purchased one along with some honkey tonk music for a saloon. I am very pleased with both the units. On my open days Phil linked the units into the track work which produced 12 volts much better than the 9volt battery system I had intended. So the DARK CREEK LUMBER CO. is in production. Scale sawdust anyone?

Alan Gardner.