

SMOKEBOX – MAY 2009

New Club Room

Welcome to our second meeting at Eaton Bray, judging by the feedback from members they are pleased with the new Hall and the under stage storage seems to work very well. We will continue to push for an earlier start but we will have to wait and see how things work out. As I explained last month we are dependent on the Sunday School clearing the Hall by 11.00am. In the meantime we will start the breakdown at 4.30 to be clear of the Hall by 5.00pm.

If you missed last month Smokebox, the dates for this year's meetings are as follows, note Prayle Grove will not be at the Club Meetings marked with *:

3 May	31 May *
5 July	6 September *
4 October	8 November
20 December	

As yet we have not managed to fix a date for Steam in Beds 2009, because of the time limitation on Sundays we are hoping to be able to fix it for a Saturday in October/November/December. We will keep you updated via the Smokebox and our Web Site.

Exhibitions – 2009

In the past month Ridgmont has attended both the Large Scale Show near Leamington Spa and the G-Scale Society Show at Nottingham. We put on a very good display at both, thanks to everyone who helped with the loading and unloading at Eaton Bray and those members who travelled to the shows to support Ridgmont. Thanks also to Ray and Mark for bringing along all the extra scenic treatment for the G-Scale show, Ridgmont was looking its very best.

I have received a letter from Nigel Town asking me to pass on his thanks to all those involved with Ridgmont for flying the flag on behalf of the 16mm Association at the G-Scale Show, he has had some very positive feedback from G Scale members and the show organisers about 16mm in general and Ridgmont in particular, so his thanks to all those involved.

I have received final confirmation of our invitation to the Soar Valley Exhibition on the 26 and 27 September 2009. As reported last month we will be taking Ridgmont to the Kew Steam Show on the 14/15 November. Make sure you book those dates in your diary.

Forthcoming Exhibitions and Shows

Prayle Grove will be attending the following shows:

16/17 May	Merstham Show
23/24 May	Cambridge Garden Railway Show
6/7 June	Hollycombe, Hunslet Weekend
18/19 July	GMES Rally, Contact Roger Haywood
24 October	Brandon

Any members interested in running at any of the above please contact Carol on 07800 798509. Please note that running for the Merstham show is for the Sunday only.

Other Railway Exhibitions

9 May	Ely & District Model Railway Club	
16 May	Loddon Vale Model Railway Club, Wokingham	
26/27 September	Soar Valley Exhibition	Ridgmont will be attending
14/15 November	Kew Steam Show	Ridgmont will be attending

Model Engineering Shows

16 May	Llanelli & District Model Engineering, Spring Rally Contact: George Golightly 01554 820745
6/7 June	19 th Welsh National Locomotive Rally Contact: Don Norman 01656 784530
13/14 June) 29/31 August)	Harrow & Wembley Model Engineering Open Days Contact: Brian Tilbury 020 8248 0442
11 July	Chiltern Model Railway Association Interactive Modelling Event Westfield Community College West Watford

Wags Wharf

As reported last month Wags Wharf now has a permanent site at the Pitstone & Ivinghoe Museum, Easter Monday was the first open day of the season. Attendance for the day was close to 500 which is a record for an Easter Monday. Do please come along to see Wags and the other displays including 3 other model railways.

The open days scheduled for this year are as follows:

4 & 25 May	May Day & Spring Bank Holiday
14 June	Sunday
12 July	Sunday
9 August	Sunday
31 August	Summer Bank Holiday
13 September	Sunday

Please pick up a leaflet for the Museum's 2009 season.

Chris Pretty
Club Secretary