



Welcome to the June Smokebox

I am at a bit of a loss to know how to kick off the June issue of Smokebox, after our very busy April with the National Garden Railway Show with the G1MRA show hot on its heels May has seemed quite tame in comparison.

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**Members News**

**Roy Sterry Needs Help**

I already told you about Roy's plan to bring his garden railway back into use and asking for volunteers to help bring it up to scratch. I am grateful to a number of members who offered help with his project. I have now agreed with Roy a couple of dates to make a start on the project, 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> July they are both a Wednesday. Roy has suggested a 10:00 am start he will provide Tea, Coffee and Biscuits. Depending on how long you can stay and the weather you may want to bring along something for lunch. If you could let me know which dates you can do and whether you can do morning, afternoon or all day it will help Roy to plan the day. Naturally I won't publish Roy's address in an open email, once a member has confirmed they can help on the agreed date I will confirm his address via a personal email. Once the railway is operational again Roy will be hosting an open day where BAGs members will be welcome. In the meantime many thanks for supporting Roy with his project.

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Martin Shrubsole Writes

"The major re-construction of Somesay island Railway is now largely complete. [The attached Schematic shows the general layout]. The long dog-bone from Quai Sera to the loop behind Rock Bottom gives, for steaming purposes, a continuous run of approx 300ft, virtually level, minimum radius 3 ft (with transitional curves), and very few facing points. For those who like a challenge the line to Monks Bay has significant gradients and tunnels with fairly tight clearances (my Fowler and "Lyd" will both pass in both directions but only when running chimney first).

I would be happy to entertain any BAG members who might like to visit on either Sat 8th June or Sunday 9th between 14:00 and 18:30. I know there are a lot of other NG attractions on this weekend but I would be happy for any visitors able to come and help run the new line in.

Layout is in Wing, LU7 0RD. Anyone interested please contact via welaws@aol.com, at least 24 hours before the day you want to come; we like to provide at least light refreshments.

Martin Shrubsole"

New Member

I am pleased to welcome a new member to Bedfordshire Group, Colin Saville. He will be made most welcome at our monthly meeting and offered any assistance he may want with developing his knowledge of 16mm.

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**Andrew Neal** has a new layout called "Aberwyn" it is suitable for small battery powered locos and live steam locos such as the Roundhouse Bertie. He will be taking it to the following shows later in the year.

**BRESSINGHAM SHOW IS SATURDAY 10TH AUGUST**  
**EXETER GARDEN RAILWAY SHOW IS SATURDAY 26TH OCTOBER**

I am pleased to say Andrew has also agreed to bring "Aberwyn" to Steam in Beds in November. If you are interested in helping Andrew to run "Aberwyn" at any of his other shows again contact Andrew via his email [a.neal686@btinternet.com](mailto:a.neal686@btinternet.com)

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Group Meeting Dates – 2019

All meetings commence at 10:30 am and close at 4:00 pm.

2nd June 7th July 4th August
1st September 6th October 3rd November

Steam in Beds will be on Saturday 30th November

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**Eaton Downs Project – Update**

During our May Committee meeting Ted Robinson presented his report on the final 3 options for possible improvements to Eaton Downs. After much discussion on the merits of the 3 options on offer the Committee finally settled on Fig. 16 (copy attached). This preserves the current SM32 configuration but introduces an additional full circuit of 45mm track with crossovers. It was also agreed that the corner baseboards should be rebuilt to accommodate the changes to the track and make handling and assembling the layout easier. Attached is a view of the new baseboard configuration, Fig 14.

**National Festival of Railway Modelling**

*7 & 8<sup>th</sup> December 2019 Peterborough Arena*

There have been no more developments regarding the above event, as soon as more details are released I will let you know. It goes without saying we will put on a great show for the many visitors who may not have experienced Live Steam in 16mm.

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Wags Wharf at Pitstone Museum

Apart from Wags Wharf, there are plenty of other exhibits of interest to see whether a railway enthusiast or not. There are many interesting items that show the developments that have changed how we do things around the Home, Farming, Technology and Engineering, things we take for granted today.

Take a look at their web site at <http://www.pitstonemuseum.co.uk/>

The open days for 2019 are as follows:

Sunday	9 th June
Sunday	14 th July
Sunday	11 th August
Bank Holiday Monday	26 th August
Sunday	8 th September
Sunday	13 th October

Chris

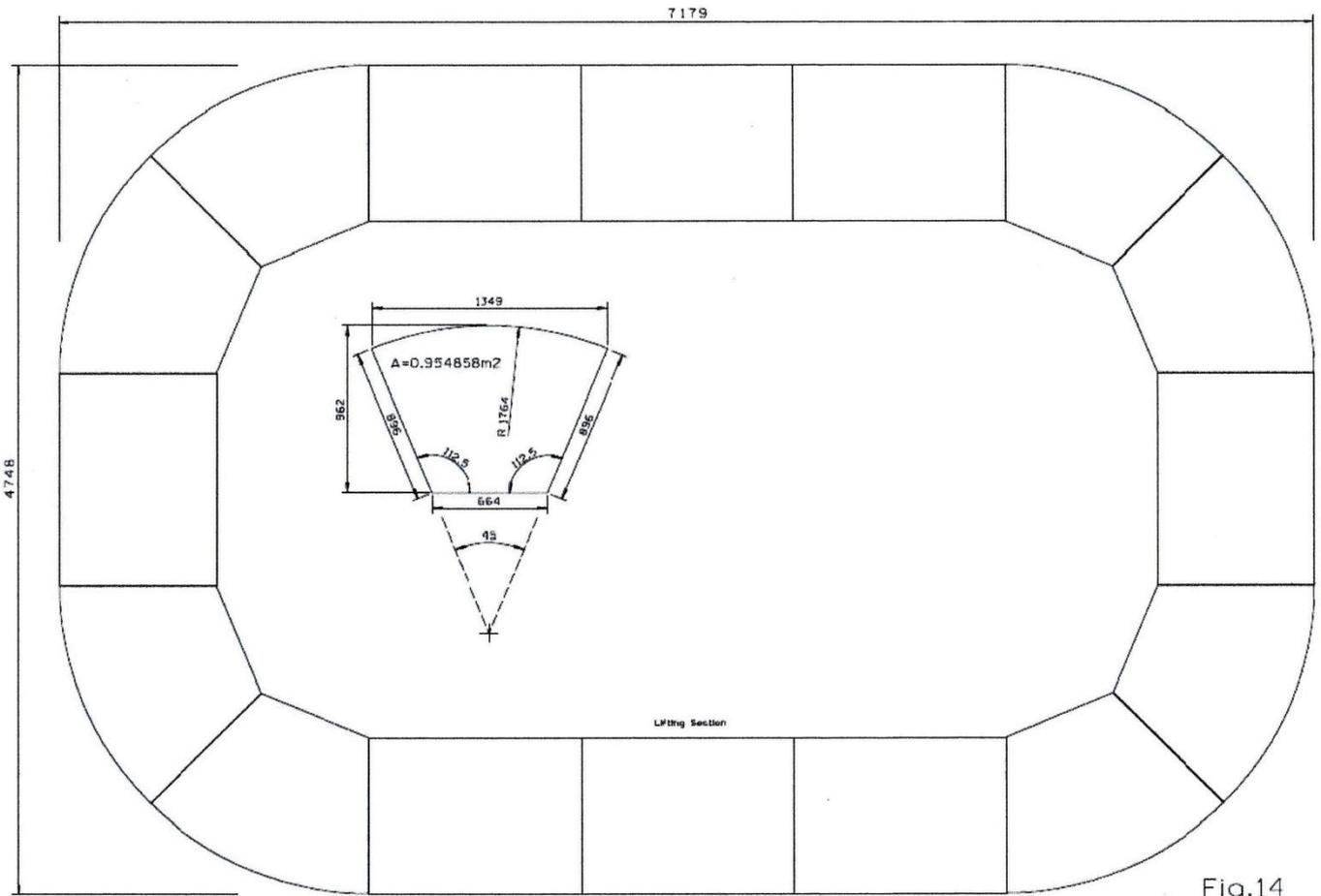


Fig.14

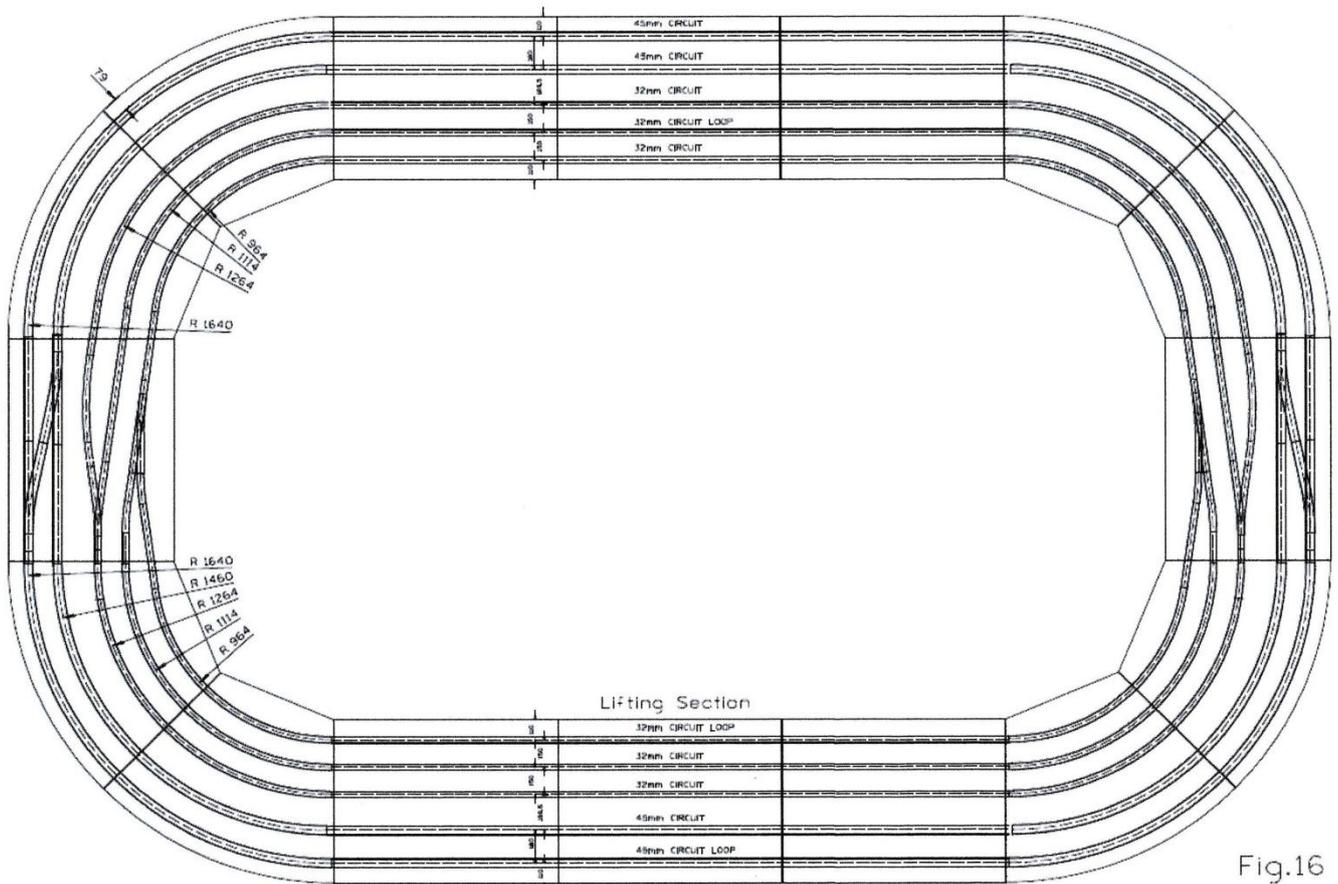


Fig.16