

Well its almost June already and we are still in lockdown, but that has not stopped members working on their layouts and non-members in Cumbria offering the club a quantity of Railway books on their next visit to Wiltshire- whenever that is.

Ray Pattinson has decided to catalogue all his railway stock but is unsure of the best way. Do any of you have you stock on the computer via an app or via a programme? If you do please can you email Ray Pattinson direct (rpattinson@hotmail.co.uk).

Ray Pattinson has been spending money (again) this time on a Midland 4f. Having learned from Ian's work on locos, Ray has added a crew and also Beamish Coal (claims it runs better than on plastic coal). His new loco cost £60 from TMC and he says "It runs well and I am chuffed"



Ian has also been hard at work. His first project was to get all the sheep to market. The dog provided the right encouragement for the sheep to head for the pens.



The next project was the coaling tower. The first photograph shows the positioning of the rails and the man sweeping up the overspilt coal.



The next picture shows the hopper in use and Beamish coal being brought up to fill the hopper with the workman on the top controlling everything, including the belt driven motor.



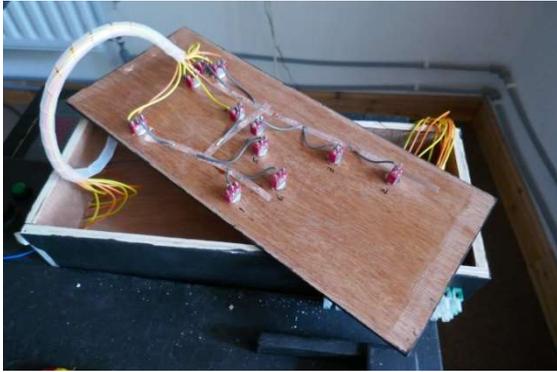
Just visible in his left hand is a bucket



Two different signal boxes add to Ian's property portfolio along with the large garage with double folding doors. One further

property with its portacabin offices completes the selection so far.

In the last newsletter I talked about wiring the points. I have started work on this. Below is the control panel – half wired.



It has not been as easy as I first thought. The points for the second half of the board had been used several times before on different layouts and whilst the wiring appeared to be OK and even metered correctly, I soon found that one or two had decided to be unreliable and as no one had any to sell, I resorted to repairing a couple. One was beyond repair, but a search in an old box produced one point motor that was actually brand new. Just one of those items that have appeared when you decide to sort out the drawers of “stuff” you kept, just in case.

Corona

I remember the time when the word meant something quite different!



It would appear that clubs and groups like ours are likely to be the last to be set free long after pubs and restaurants. There will still need to be restrictions and I am working my way through yet another tranche of guidelines to identify what we must or what we cannot

do. For some time we will have to strictly limit the numbers attending and this will probably mean that you have to advance book your attendance. We can add extra opening days, but I will send out detailed instructions when I know more (and after the Committee have accepted them).

Other Jobs

It has been decreed that this year the exterior of the house was in need of painting, so I have spent this week and probably part of next week putting on 20 litres of Sandtex. To be helpful Sandtex have dropped their original colour so it was a 100% repaint. Part of the work was off a ladder, part off a low level platform and part off a 4.6 metre high platform. Working is easy but putting up the platform and taking it down again was not much fun, especially as it needed a 9ft long platform (see picture).



More next month! In the meantime enjoy the nice weather.

Does anyone with other items of interest for the next newsletter? RLP 30/5/2020