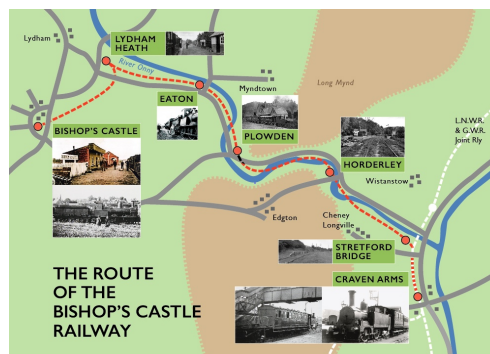


# B.C.R.S. October 2021 NEWS No. 58

The Monthly Newsletter of The  
Bishop's Castle Railway Society



THE ROUTE  
OF THE  
BISHOP'S CASTLE  
RAILWAY

## Weighbridge Update

The recent open day on what was officially "Not the Michaelmas Fair day" was a huge success. Bishop's Castle did its usual thing with pop up events, including steam engines, tractors and music. We were busy all day long with visitors, finally closing the gate just before 6pm. Once again the refreshments were particularly popular, with some people returning later in the afternoon for a second helping. A total of just over £500 was taken during the day and the volunteers went home tired but happy !



Emmanuel Beddoes greets visitors at the entrance



On the weighbridge, a Massey Harris 12-20 petrol/TVO tractor built in America in 1928, was brand new when it arrived on the Bishop's Castle Railway, then spent its working life at Mellington Hall and local farms and was restored in 2009 by Alistair Evans.



A final look at the vintage tractor before it was time to tow it home.



## The restoration of the Banana Van has begun

The scaffolding went up and the protective corrugated sheeting was removed from the roof to reveal a nice surprise. The original roof is in a far better condition than expected.

Richard Newcombe spent several hours removing all the nails, which he is convinced amounted to 300 and would like to speak to the person that put them all there!

There is now a tarpaulin covering the roof while the end iron work is removed, cleaned up and replaced. A new covering will then be applied to the roof, hopefully all done before the winter weather arrives.



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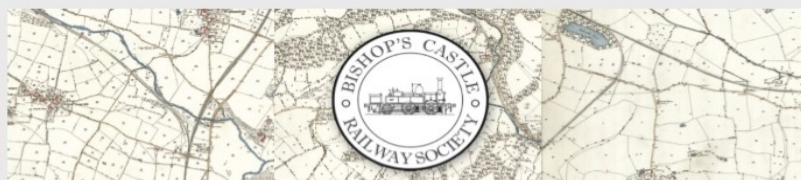
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## 2022 CALENDAR

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JANUARY 2022							BISHOP'S CASTLE							NOVEMBER 2022							MAIN LINE						
SUNDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	SUNDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	SUNDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21							
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10								



## B.C.R.S.M.G. update

Stuart would be pleased to hear from anyone who would like to join the group. He can be contacted at: [satalt17@gmail.com](mailto:satalt17@gmail.com)

The BCRSMG held its second meeting in the weighbridge on Tuesday evening 5th October.

Those members who attended brought along examples of their models and explained their history and how they were built. The MG members spent a most enjoyable couple of hours inspecting the impressive models at close quarters.

For the 0 gauge modellers there was a GWR 14xx 0-4-2 tank built from a CCW whitemetal kit and a Ivatt LNER N1 0-6-2 tank built from an Ace Models etched brass kit.

For the 00 gauge modellers to admire there was a scratch built GWR "beam" bridge (have I got this right? - please correct if not) with three variations of autococh under construction adapted from ready to run models and various GWR wagons;

Another MG member brought along an engineers ballast train again adapted from ready to run wagons with extra/replacement detailing and various 16 ton mineral wagons and BR brake vans either kit built or modified. Last but not least there were two exquisite limited edition Pullman coaches including the Devon Belle observation coach.

For the forthcoming BCRS open day on Dec 4th coinciding with the Bishops Castle Christmas lights switch on, the MG members will endeavour, in conjunction with Lin, to display 3 or 4 small (3ft square) layouts/dioramas hopefully with a Christmas theme. Anyone who is not a member of the model group is also welcome to exhibit a small layout.

Many MG members have expressed a preference for MG meetings to take place during the day to avoid travelling in the dark during the winter months. Consequently it was decided that the next few MG meetings would take place in the afternoon on the 1st or 3rd Tuesday of the month, the next possible meeting date being Tues 2nd Nov at 2pm. Stuart Taylor will confirm this in an email to MG members in due course.

## Of mice and mini-layouts by David Hemsley

Some of you may remember a mention in this newsletter (and those involved may prefer to forget) that in the end months of last year a small plan was hatched between friends to create a series of interlinking 'shoebox' layouts. The idea being to create a diorama, of any style, to be contained within the footprint of a shoebox. The basic rules were that the dioramas had to be in 00 and be capable of being plugged together, using a bridge of track from at least one edge. Deadline was to be Christmas, ish. Nothing complicated, and not meant to be exhibited or operated in any meaningful way.

During the summer just past, we were able to connect up the dioramas, and a procession of



small locos were sent from one end to another. You can see from the photo that there was zero coordination of style, as intended: the bridges were Peco setrack, and the power was from an ancient H&M controller. The intention was just to create something, and I hope you'll agree that we succeeded. Would we do it again? I'm sure we would.

**Does anyone else want to join in?**

# Klettendorf Feldbahnhof and Klettendorf Hauptbahnhof *by Mark Cudworth*

Along with the rest of you over the last year or so I found myself with a lot of time on my hands at home. So, by chance I started the building of my railway empire. It began with building somewhere to sit in the garden and ended up as a railway platform.

Once completed, I found myself bored again, so a plan emerged to build a new shed to house clutter and a model railway that had been languishing in the loft. Initially the idea was to build it to look like a station. Built from scratch by two dear friends, Adrian and Matt, with me labouring and on tea-making duties. It still needs finishing touches as it looks more like Swedish sauna. It was named Hemsbach after Susanne's hometown.

There is a lot crammed into Klettendorf: a harbour, an old town and new town, as well as a few factories and a mountain with a castle. What I've enjoyed a lot is bringing scenes to life, like making the outdoor stage from the scrap box – a blatant rip-off of the Bishops Castle Michaelmas Fair stage. (Photo left). There's a cinema premiere and a whole host of silly things going on if you look closely enough.

The layout of Klettendorf Hauptbahnhof is very simple. Two continuous loops run with storage sidings forming lines through the station, which has six platforms. The loops are disguised by a town built over them with its own tramline (with far too many stations on it; but I like stations so that's my excuse).

Finally, I built a roundhouse (photo below) running on a separate controller. So, the whole layout runs on four controllers and eight wires – that's me avoiding electronics. Peco track used throughout with isolating points, which I think are a godsend.



The scenic side of things uses insulation foam and wood leftover from building the shed. The baseboard (constructed by Adrian) incorporates a drinks cabinet, which I think every railway room should have (photo top of page).

Now for the end credits: for building skills, Adrian and Matt. Big thank you to Sandra and Nigel for servicing and resurrecting locos that had languished in a loft for 15 years. Credit to Susanne Kohler for building and painting all the structures as well as white lining the roads. Also, many thanks to David Hemsley for help advice and encouragement.





## Society meetings have returned.....

David Coleman`s recent talk about the Corris Railway past and present was well received by members, and a few non members who paid for the privilege of joining us. Our first meeting at the new venue of The Church Barn proved very successful. The high ceilings and hall layout allowed for social distancing in an open and airy atmosphere. The tea/coffee and cake in the interval also went down well.

The next meeting has been booked for Friday December 3rd, when there will be a talk by Jenny Mallin entitled "My British Raj Ancestors and their Professions".

Jenny`s British ancestors were in India for over two hundred years during the British Raj and worked on the Indian Railways as both engine drivers and permanent way inspectors .

It will be the first time we have had a talk delivered via Zoom directly onto the screen in the hall, giving us the best of both worlds, a sociable gathering, watching an interesting presentation, that we would have been unlikely to see otherwise.

More details in next month`s newsletter.



## Jim`s monthly selection of videos.....

Here`s some very good footage of visits to Edge Hill and Speke steam depots at Liverpool in 1968 as steam was being phased out. It`s in colour and sound. Running time 10:41

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_IXm80O47cQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_IXm80O47cQ)

A mixture of steam and diesel locomotives on the preserved Mid Hants Railway running for 22:06 and quite watchable

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s\\_iZWrevOEE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s_iZWrevOEE)

This video link explains the "Inglenook Shunting Puzzle". The idea is that you have to make up a train by shunting various wagons scattered around a model railway layout. It`s not easy. Running time 11:18

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dmjDgiGwpCE>



# What I did on my holidays..... No surprises..... Visited Heritage Railways of course!

Stuart Taylor visited the Swanage railway - here's a picture right of 'Eddystone' being towed dead by a diesel shunter.



David O'Neill visited the Ravenglass and Eskdale railway



Photos above RIVER IRT

Photos below RIVER MITE



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