

NARROW GAUGE EFFICIENCY COMPETITION 2009

The Narrow Gauge Efficiency Competition was held this year at the track site of the Erewash Valley Model Engineering Society a few miles north of Borrowash in Derbyshire. The club has done a lot of work in recent years including the construction of a brand new ground level track and the installation of a generator, the club having no mains electricity or water supplies. Water is collected from the clubhouse roof, and leaves boilers completely free of lime scale after years of steaming!

The date this year was moved from the traditional end of June to the beginning, which meant that your editor was very disappointed to be unable to attend, having already booked a trip to Alaska on the assumption that the event would be conducted at the usual time. However, the host club has come to the rescue and we are grateful to Bill Morrison, newsletter editor of the host club, for permission to use material from his newsletter and for the supply of colour photographs.

Winner of the competition was Neil Mortimer for the second year running, and we were pleased to see that the suggestion in our report of last year's event that he might try the big IMLEC was in fact taken up, and he won that too, also with his Polly 3, at Bristol! We don't have a picture of him this year unfortunately. Neil won with a reported efficiency figure of 0.345%, an exceedingly low figure for the event and of course all the other results were ranged below that down to 0.04%. Neil achieved 1.45% last year. One wonders what gave rise to such low figures, and one hopes that the results were at least internally consistent, even if out of line with expectations. We understand that the Birmingham dynamometer car was used, and that the weather was fine.



Dave Roberts drives his 5" gauge Beyer Peacock 0-6-2 loco of the La Guarera Y Caracas Railway of Venezuela.



David Dick's Sweet Pea 'Millhouse' rounds Storehouse Curve.



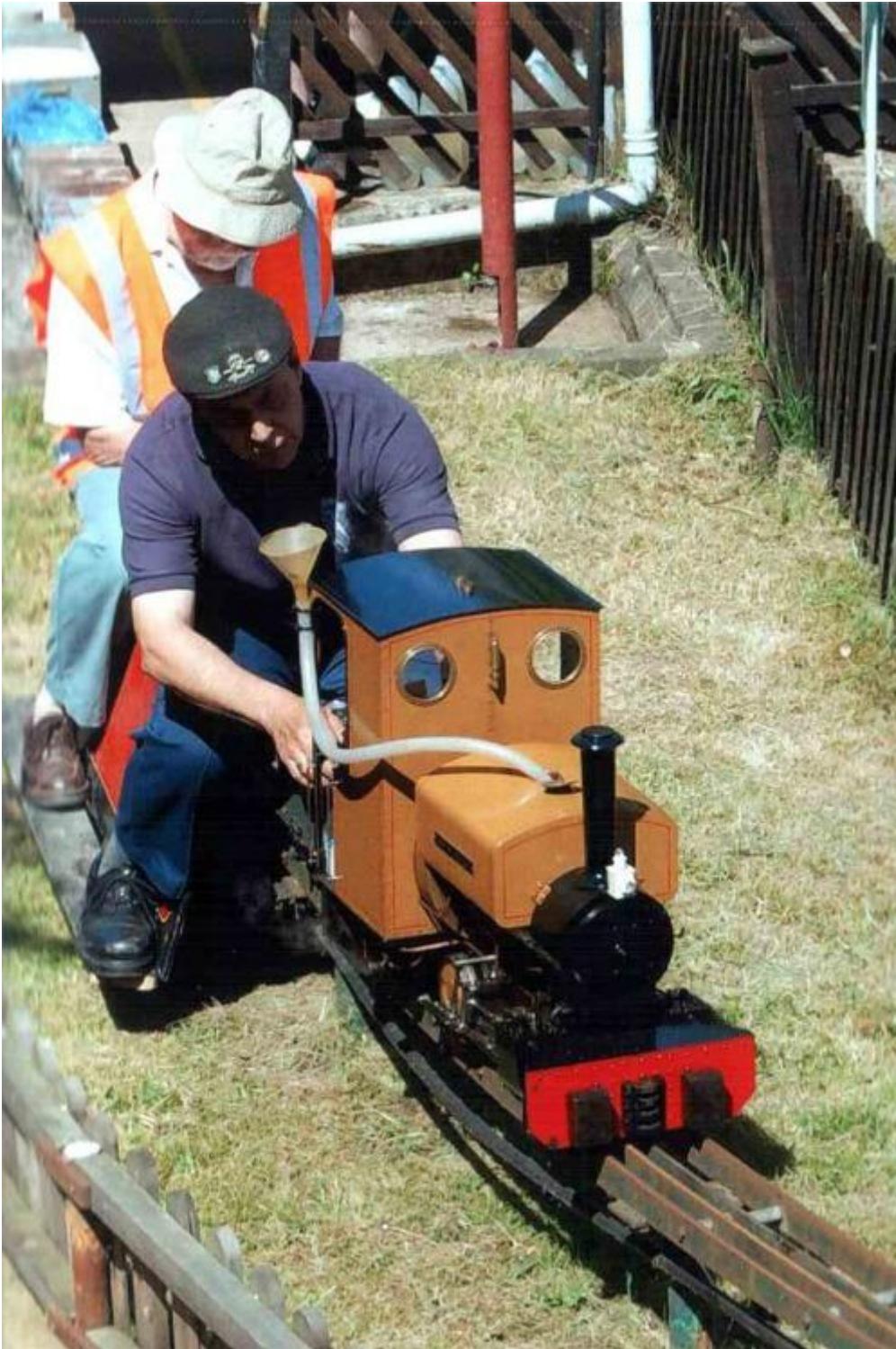
FAJ Colin begins his run behind his Tich/Juliet hybrid.



IMLEC competitor Brian Holland gallops up the 1 in 200 straight hauling 21 loaded slate trucks.



Polly model 'Orenstein and Koppel' demonstrator 'Caroline' on the G.L. track, Mike Shaw at the regulator.



Brian Remnant leaves Erewash H.L. with his yellow Sweet Pea at the start of his run.

N.A.M.E. NARROW GAUGE IMLEC 2009

Saturday 30th May

Run No.	Engine	Driver	Club	Distance Travelled (Feet)	Laps Run	Work Done (Ft/lbs)	Fuel Used (ounces)	Efficiency (%)	* Position
1	Metre Maid	Brian Holland	Oxford MEC	6282	11	13780	40	0.052	15
2	Modified Sweet Pea	Brian Remnant	Romney Marsh	12555	22	38027	22	0.263	2
3	0-4-0 5"G Tich/Juliet Hybrid	FAJ Collins	Rochdale	9703	17	8010	22	0.055	14
4	Sweet Pea	Tim Jenkins	Southport MES	9147	16	16357	27	0.092	9
5	Sweet Pea	Marcus Peel	Southport MES	8571	15	17503	15	0.178	4
6	Sweet Pea	Dave Dick	Urmston	9706	17	13757	52	0.04	16
7	Beyer Peacock 6-2	0-Dave Roberts	Urmston	10853	19	32347	32	0.154	6
8	Polly 3	Neil Mortimer	Ickenham & District	12005	21	31669	14	0.345	1
9	Sweet Pea	John Ollerenshaw	Erewash Valley	6856	12	12336	16	0.117	7

Sunday 31st May

10	Conway	Frances Mayall	Bracknell	10277	18	7936	19	0.064	12
11	Conway	John Chambers	Erewash Valley	9703	17	7273	11	0.101	8
12	Alice Class Hunslet	Joe Holdsworth	Wrexham	10280	18	31525	56	0.086	10
13	Sentinel	Mike Barnett	North Staffs.	10278	18	23959	14	0.261	3
14	Dolgoch	Terry Vaughn	Wrexham	4206	7	-	-	DNF	17
15	Polly 3	James Tilbury	Urmston	10284	18	25377	23	0.168	5
16	Modified Sweet Pea	Roy Holt	Rochdale	6289	11	12948	24	0.082	11
17	Conway	Marcus Peel	Southport MES	8574	15	7360	20	0.056	13

* Calculated on an assumed calorific value of coal of 13500 BTU/lb.

'Promoting the King of Hobbies'