

# Perspective – November 2012

## The Newsletter of the IBM Hursley Retirees' Club

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### EX CATHEDRA

What a lousy Summer!

And yet, for members of the Hursley Retirees Club, many of the events that have taken place have been among the highlights of the year. I say this not only in recognition of the work of your Committee Members but also in thanks to those Members who have taken time to express their appreciation of the teams efforts.

At the AGM in March, we'll announce another series of events and visits for 2013 which we hope will interest you and encourage you to take part.

A few weeks ago, I sat with Harry Helyar and Ingrid Bond helping process the applications for the theatre visits. I would have thought that "NO STAPLES" was incapable of misunderstanding! After the third attempt to remove a particularly recalcitrant sliver of steel, I decided to repeat the injunction in this message, if only to reduce the burden upon our already overloaded A&E Department! And, by the way, let's standardise on "SELF-ADHESIVE" envelopes. When one has licked the first dozen flaps, whatever "high" there might have been rapidly disappears.

Every Committee, no matter how willing, hard working and efficient, needs renewal as we get older, move away or feel that it's time for a change. The Hursley Retirees Club is no different and we all want to effect that seamless and gradual change whilst delivering events which attract existing and new Members.

As usual, therefore, I invite any interested and willing Member to get in touch with Harry or me. The approach we favour is that we co-opt for the year and see how the arrangement works, prior to placing a nomination before the following AGM.

Hope I didn't oversell the idea!

A Merry Christmas to all our readers.

*Martin Hughes - Chairman*

### Officers

CHAIRMAN	SECRETARY	TREASURER	e BUSINESS	WEB Coord
Martin Hughes 01962 868 900	Harry Helyar 01962 889276	John Jones 02380 265 316	Merv Quick 01794 390 678	Ron Wilks 02380 766 213
Tony Compton 02380 265 432	John Faller 02380 462 822	Ingrid Bond 01962 883861	Harry Keeling 01962 712 914	Jim Woodland 02380 323 204
Richard Walker 01983 531967	Roger Clark 02380 253 600	Pauline Bell 02380 261659		

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## FAQ's for trips

### Notification

For those trips that you are requested to supply a stamped addressed envelope, you will receive notification of whether you have been successful in your application for that trip. For all others, just turn up to Hursley, follow the signs to Retiree Parking, park, join a coach, and enjoy the day

### Cancellation

None of us is getting younger, and the gremlins come and attack us from time to time. If you have booked on a trip and find that you can't go, please phone Harry Helyar. If Harry does not answer the phone, just leave a clear message. What many do not realise is that Harry has a deputy plan in place for when he away from home, so messages do get listened to, and Harry is made aware.

By cancelling, you may help us to save money by reducing the number of coaches we have booked, or allow someone else who is on a waiting list to go in your place. Of course, if you cancel then your cheque is torn up, another benefit.

Even on the day you can help us by cancelling, just call the club's mobile telephone.

### Emergency

Should an emergency arise while on a trip you should call the club's mobile telephone **07505-094887** which will be carried, unless you have been otherwise advised, by the trip organiser.

### Leaving on time

Please do make sure you arrive at Hursley before the planned departure time, and also be back at the coach at the stated times. The coaches need to depart within minutes of the stated time. If you have a last minute problem, call the club's mobile. They will leave without you if you are not there.

## Remaining 2012 Trips

### November

#### *London Free Time*

#### *9:30am, 28<sup>th</sup> November*

Must be time to do the Christmas shopping. If not shopping, then a visit to one of the many museums may be the order of the day. Maybe the photographers among us will be looking out for those special pictures of London that are only available when the Christmas lights are on and bringing joy and happiness. By leaving Hursley at 9:30am we hopefully will miss a lot of the traffic congestion. Similarly, we plan to leave London at 6:00pm, which should ease our travel out of London on the return journey.



## New Trips/Theatre Visits

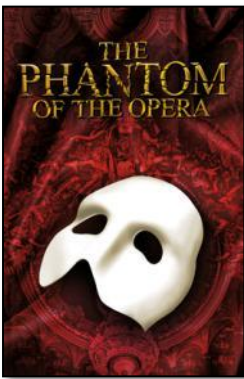
### Top Hat, Aldwych Theatre, 11 December 2012



On the 11 December, leaving Hursley at 9:30am, we will be heading up to London to see a matinee performance of TOP HAT. It was over 75 years ago that Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers lit up the silver screen with one of the greatest dance musicals of all time. You now have the chance to see that musical on stage at the Aldwych. The show stars Tom Chambers (of Holby and Strickly fame) and Summer Strallen.

Packed full of Irving Berlin's greatest hits, this could be a wonderful way to get you in the spirit for Christmas.

### Phantom of the Opera, Mayflower Theatre, 5 February 2013



Having graced the stages of theatres in 145 cities across 27 countries, Andrew Lloyd Webber's fabulous stage musical Phantom of the Opera comes to the Mayflower Theatre in Southampton.

Tickets have been booked for evening performance on 5 February next year, and must be collected from committee members who will be in front of the Mayflower Theatre between 6:45pm and 7:15pm. Don't be late collecting your tickets as those handing out the envelopes containing the tickets also want to see the show which commences at 7:30pm. Tickets not collected by 7:15pm will be given away.

As with all shows, if the number wishing to see the show exceeds the number of tickets we have been able to purchase then there will be a ballot to identify the lucky people.

### Mini-break to the Eden Project, Lost Gardens of Heligan



The committee are planning a mini-break to Cornwall to visit the Eden Project, Lost Gardens of Heligan, and Trelisick Gardens. It will be a 4-day/3-night trip leaving on 9<sup>th</sup> September. Accommodation will be in a 4-star hotel in Newquay, and the price will include entrance to attractions, dinner, bed, and full English breakfast. Full details are yet to be finalised, but if you are interested in this trip do send back the 'interest form' that was sent with the AGM/Trip information sent out recently. You will be contacted with full details and a booking form; there is no commitment in returning the 'interest form', it has been sent out because our next bulk mailing is not until next March. Cost: the expected cost will be about £300 per person.

To see what you will be missing if you don't come on the trip, take a [Walk with Google through the Eden Domes](#) (click this link).



## Hursley Retiree Club AGM – 12 March 2013

Are you planning to come to the Club AGM in 2013, if so please make a note in your diary and return your form to Harry Helyar as requested in the recent bulk mailing. With the cost we have to pay for each meal, we have no desire to waste money ordering food not taken. If you need to cancel, please do call Harry as one would if cancelling a trip so that we may reduce the number of meals ordered.

As always, in addition to being able to meet up with old work colleagues, there will be presentations on the work of the laboratory, pensions, and of course the announcement of the winner of the Photographer of the Year award!

As Martin mentioned in his EX CATHEDRA, we are always looking for fresh blood on the committee. With 2 meetings a year, and helping to organise an event or two, it is not an arduous task. You can, on occasions, also guarantee a front seat on the coach! Our current treasurer would also like to identify his successor. If you are willing to take on this role, please do volunteer. Our current treasurer is in place and able to give advice and mentoring to get you up to speed.

## Some more of the highlights of 2012

### Highclere Castle



It's behind you Harry

It was a sunny day with a cold wind when 3 coaches left Hursley for the visit to Highclere Castle. First stop was at Newbury for a couple of hours free time and coffee/lunch before the short journey across to Highclere Castle.

Many will know Highclere as the location at which the very popular television series, Downton Abbey, was filmed.

On arrival we were met at by a guide who gave an introduction to Highclere and advice on how best to plan one's visit, all excellent detail. The house is beautiful, and one can only be envious of those

that lived 'upstairs' in style. The gardens were mainly informal, and there was a considerable Egyptian exhibition in the cellars. Around 100 years ago, the Castle was the seat of the 5th Earl of Carnarvon, who famously discovered the Tomb of the Egyptian Boy Pharaoh, Tutankhamun, in 1922 with his archaeological colleague, Howard Carter.

Overall, an enjoyable September day out.



## Goodwood Revival



With all the rain this summer, surprisingly the weather that we experienced for the trip to the Goodwood Revival festival was perfect. Around 8:15am, a little later than planned to allow some to locate where the coach was parked, we left for an exciting day out; many were dressed in period costume to enter in to the spirit of the day. The excitement grew as we spotted many vintage cars en-route.

As one would expect, there were loads of things to capture ones interest and entertain throughout the day. The car races, motor bike races and the air displays were all excellent.

To take a break from the activity, there was plenty of opportunity to go 'people watching' and be envious at the quality of some of the picnics. The Beer Tent was also excellent, while the Champagne Bar was certainly lively with music and dancing.



And the highlight of the day. It has to be the vintage car race with the Austin A40 beating the pants off the Jags!

## Photographic Competition 2012

Are you going to enter this year's club photographic competition?

The rules are very simple, it is open to retiree club members, no more than three entries may be submitted, and the photographs must have been taken on a club trip during 2012.

The prize? In addition to being recognised as the IBM Hursley Retiree Club Photographer of the Year, you will also be able to travel on the summer seaside outing for free. How could you turn down the opportunity of winning such prizes! The winner will be announced at the AGM.

Please ensure that all entries are sent to [news@hurrec.org.uk](mailto:news@hurrec.org.uk) by 7 January 2013.

## Hursley Museum Services – Autumn 2012 update

We continue to receive some very useful donations, and have uncovered a couple of small enclaves of old equipment around the Hursley site. Two old Customer Engineering toolkits in varying states of repair and completeness have been donated by ex-CEs. We have also received an Aptiva, a Proprinter, some early PC

software, part of a honeycomb from the Mass Storage Unit, a PC Convertible complete with carrying bag and a TCM (Thermal Conduction Module).



CE Tools



Aptiva, Software

We are planning Customer Engineering display, and have started to label a host of tools, many specials made for specific machines in preparation.



CE Tools



CE Tools

From around the Hursley site, we have been offered a 3174 controller and 3268 printer, once part of the CICS testing programme and long since redundant. These will be transferred to the museum shortly. We've also come across a series of three rooms with a multitude of potential artefacts, and we hope to be able to sort through this in the coming weeks.

If anyone is aware of, or suspects the existence of rooms around the site that might contain old and no longer used equipment, please get in touch via Hursley Events - <mailto:hurseve@uk.ibm.com>!

We have now started the process of setting up visits to Hursley by representatives of the Computer Conservation Society (BCS and the Science Museum) and the National Museum of Computing (Bletchley Park). We hope that this will lead to productive liaison with both organisations to our mutual benefit.

Web Site: <http://hursley.slx-online.biz/>

## IBM Hursley Club



The following information relates to activities and events organised by the Hursley Club. Note: this is a totally separate entity to the Hursley Retirees Club and all communications regarding any item listed here must be made through the club office.

**Club Office 01962 815933 - Bar & Catering 01962 816540**

Website [www.ibmhursleyclub.org.uk](http://www.ibmhursleyclub.org.uk) - e:mail [office@ibmhursleyclub.org.uk](mailto:office@ibmhursleyclub.org.uk)

### The next Cinema Presentation will be held on Friday 9 November.

The film will be Avengers Assemble, please refer to the club website for further details. Regular film nights are held on the second Friday of each month.

### Estee Lauder Shop Visit - Saturday 3 November 2012

Once again Hursley Club Members are invited to an Open Day at their Fareham Employee Store. This store has been established for the sole use of Estee Lauder Companies Personnel, however, on this occasion, they are happy to extend this facility to Hursley Club Members.

Members are entitled to one ticket each (not including children as they cannot participate in this offer, neither are they allowed entry to the store).

### London Free Time Coach & Lord Mayor's Show Saturday 10 November

The coach for this trip will leave the Clubhouse promptly at 9.00 am and arrive in London by approx. 11.am. The coach will travel to London via Knightsbridge and terminate in Central London. The coach leaves London at 7.00 pm to return back to Hursley at approx. 9.00 pm.

Tickets are £12.00 for adults and £8.00 for children.

### Newbury Races – Friday 30 November 2012

Special rate tickets for the Premier Enclosure £25.00 including coach or £10.00 entry only. The coach leaves the Clubhouse at 10.30 am. And Newbury Races at approx. 5.00 pm as the last race is at 3.40 pm.

### Keep Fit Olympic Legacy

Have the Olympics and Para-Olympics inspired you to get a bit fitter ?

We can help you to get fit or keep fit ! Come and have a **free trial session** with us. Our circuit sessions, led by an instructor, are suitable for both men and women and take place every Wednesday evening in the Sports Hall from 5.30 to 6.30pm. The cost is very reasonable, **especially for club members.**

Don't forget – The key to getting fit is **getting started !**

For more information, contact David Clayton 37247211 ([david\\_clayton@uk.ibm.com](mailto:david_clayton@uk.ibm.com)) or

Alan Gordon 01962 868616 ([acgordon.acg@googlemail.com](mailto:acgordon.acg@googlemail.com)) for more details.



## Restoring a PS/1 PC

Can anyone help out Roger Gardner. Roger is trying to restore an old PS/1 and is desperately looking for a working 129mb hard disk drive. If you have one in the attic and can help out Roger, please send him an email on: [gardner\\_roger@yahoo.com](mailto:gardner_roger@yahoo.com)

(Please do not show this request to your children, grandchildren. I really don't want to admit that we used to manage our data on what we classed as a large hard disk of 129mb. Second thought, why wasn't it 128mb!)

## Hiltingbury Community Centre

### A Stroll through the Axis of Evil

with

**John Pilkington**



Hampshire's own Explorer and Broadcaster tells the story of his six- month Middle East journey, illustrated with stunning slides

**Friday November 16<sup>th</sup> 2012**

**Tickets £8.00**

**Doors open at 7:00pm – Starts 7:30pm**

**Licensed Bar**

Advance Booking:- Roger Clark 02380 253600 or [tickets@theHilt.org.uk](mailto:tickets@theHilt.org.uk)

## Southampton Model Railway Society

*The following article was supplied by Derek Gillkerson*

I am a member of the Southampton Model Railway Society whose premises are on the Millbrook Industrial Estate Southampton. Also I am a member of the German Railway Society.

I currently have three layouts in various scales/gauges, they are:- ZWIESBODEN (HO) BODEN-AM-SEE (Continental "N") NEW STANTON LEES (British "OO").

All three of layouts have /are on the Exhibition circuit, the most distance place I have exhibited is the Bakewell/Cromford area of Derbyshire.



**The ZWIESBODEN** layout based on a branch line in Eastern Bavaria, you might ask why such an obscure place, it was because 2000-2008 with my Wife and about 26 others we went there by Eassons Coach company because the Driver so liked the place he treated like a holiday! The place so clean, tidy, NO graffiti, very little English spoken but we got by.

Of course a lot of modellers license has had to be used to transfer the real into a model. However, from all the good comments I have received over the years of exhibiting the layout was not a bad job.

This layout will be featuring in the "Continental Modeller Magazine"

to coincide with the annual Model Railway Exhibition held by the Southampton Model Railway Society at the BARTON PEVERIL COLLEGE, Eastleigh. (More details later for this event).



**The NEW STANTON LEES** Layout is a fictional layout that has grown from being four foot long by one foot wide to twelve feet long and still a foot wide! It is used for "Modern Image" rolling stock, mainly Diesel Multiple Units (DMU's) and Diesel Locomotives and various types of present day rolling stock. In the layouts early days it was the first layout to travel the long distance to Derbyshire. Why?? Derbyshire, because with my Wife we stayed at a B&B way up in the hills of the Peak District at a hamlet by the name of STANTON LEES!! (I am carrying on the tradition of staying at the B&B unbroken over the last eighteen years. I now visit alone as my Wife passed away two years ago, but I am now treated as one of the B&B family).

**BODEN-AM-SEE** Layout. This layout in "Continental" "N" is a complete step change going from "HO/OO" gauges down to this gauge. Again this layout is fictional, it has rolling stock from the German and Swiss Railways. It is a metre square, is a preformed base giving hills, lake, and plenty of room for inspiration regarding infrastructure and roads. I thought that this "N" would be hard to populate with figures and all the rest, but no, with the help of a friend he came up with the "Goodies", also items were purchased from some of the major British companies and also some purchases were made from several German sources using the internet (NOT EBay)!

This layout will be exhibited at the “Eurotrack” Exhibition at Fleming Park Leisure Centre Eastleigh. (More details later) Also this layout will appear in the “Continental Modeller Magazine” to coincide with the “Eurotrack” Exhibition.

If any reader should be interested in joining the SOUTHAMPTON MODEL RAILWAY SOCIETY then please use this contact:- [binns.andy@gmail.com](mailto:binns.andy@gmail.com) this will go to the Society Hon. Sec. who will hopefully answer any questions one might have re the Society.

I have been a member of the SMRS for over twenty five years except for illness and the loss of my wife, I did give up the SMRS for a few years as both of us were ill, however, a colleague suggested that I go back to the SMRS which I have done and have been reunited with many friends in the SMRS and the Exhibition circuit.

NOTE:- SMRS = SOUTHAMPTON MODEL RAILWAY SOCIETY.

DETAILS for the SOUTHAMPTON MODEL RAILWAY SOCIETY EXHIBITION ON THE 26-27 January 2013.

Venue:- Barton Peveril College, Chestnut Avenue, Eastleigh. Sat Nav. S050 5BX

Saturday 10.00-17.00 hrs.

Sunday 10.00-16.30 hrs.

Admission Prices:- Adults £6.00. Senior Citizens £5.00. Children (5-15)£3.00. Family Tickets (2+2) £15.00.

Hot & Cold Refreshments available.

Location “AA” signposted from either junction 5 of the M27 or Junction 13 of the M3.

More than 20 layouts and well-known traders from around the country.

“EUROTRACK” is held at the “Fleming Park Leisure Centre,” Passfield Avenue, Eastleigh. S050 9NL over the weekend of 23-24 FEBRUARY 2013. No further details are to hand at the time of writing this article.

**NEW STANTON LEES** layout is booked to appear at the ALTON MODEL RAILWAY GROUP EXHIBITION on the 2-3 February 2013. (No further details are to hand at the time of writing this article.)

Scales/Gauges:- “OO” 1.76” 16.5mm track. (British).

“HO” 1.87. 16.5 mm track (Continental).

“N” 1.148. 9mm track. (British).

“N” 1.160. 9mm track. (Continental).