

## Club Information

### Committee Members

Les Pace (Chair Person)  
Colin Tarry (Treasurer / Newsletter Editor)  
Richard Deacon (Secretary)  
Bert Dewdney (Exhibition Manager)  
Stephen Lloyd (Publicity)  
Michael Castledine  
Roger Whiffin  
Ralph Morbey

Web site: [www.ndmrc.org](http://www.ndmrc.org)  
Email: [feedback@ndmrc.org](mailto:feedback@ndmrc.org)  
Club Night: Wednesday  
Meeting Time: 19:30—22:00  
Venue: Kingsthorpe  
Community Centre,  
Thornton Hall Close, Kingsthorpe,  
Northampton, NN2 6PT



Secretary: tel: 01604 890275  
email: [rjd156@btinternet.com](mailto:rjd156@btinternet.com)

### Newsletter Editor

Colin Tarry email: [ndmrc@cjbv.org.uk](mailto:ndmrc@cjbv.org.uk)

### Club Subscription Rates

Club membership runs from the first Wednesday in August or part of the calendar year, and ALL expire on the last calendar day of July, becoming due for renewal on the first Wednesday in August. Membership £35 per year (with reduced rates on a pro rata basis if joining in or after November. Additionally there are reduced rates for junior and senior citizen members).

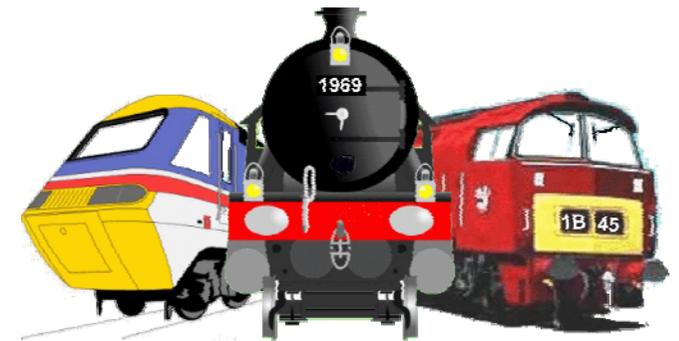
### **DISCLAIMER**

Any views expressed in this newsletter are those of the individual contributors and not necessarily those of the Northampton and District Model Railway Club, its Officials or Members unless so stated.

*Between the Lines*



# Newsletter



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### Rules for Club Night Attendance

- Please park your vehicle with consideration for the flat occupants when parking outside the Kingsthorpe Community Centre.
- If you make a drink, please wash your cup/spoon up afterwards. Please wipe up any spillages.
- Don't create congestion in the kitchen. Please get your drink and return to the main hall.
- Have you paid your subs? The money is mainly used to pay our Wednesday night hall rental, plus the cost of drinks and biscuits. £1 per person please.
- Please put away any tools, layouts, tables and chairs you've used at the end of the evening.
- A clear passage way **MUST** be maintained in the entrance lobby area as an emergency exit. Also please keep ALL other emergency exits accessible at ALL times.
- Please sign in at each attendance. This ensures we know who to account for in the event of an emergency evacuation.

Current membership :	7	Junior Members
(correct at time of going to press)	27	Members

## NOTICE BOARD



### Christmas Closing

The Kingsthorpe Community Centre will close for Christmas at 17:00 on Tuesday December 24th 2013 and re-open at 08:30 on Thursday 2nd January 2014.



The last meeting of 2013 for the N&DMRC will be on Wednesday 18th December . Our first meeting of 2014 will be on Wednesday 8th January.

### CLEAR OUT TIME AGAIN

The Kingsthorpe Community Centre has been booked for 2nd November from 13:00 until 16:00.

The purpose of this meet is to clear out the Club cupboard and either take unwanted stuff to the Club garage or down the tip.

We will be grateful to anyone who can come along and help.

**IF  
YOU  
CHANGE  
NOTHING  
NOTHING  
WILL  
CHANGE**

If you're a signalman please ignore this notice else there may be a crash!

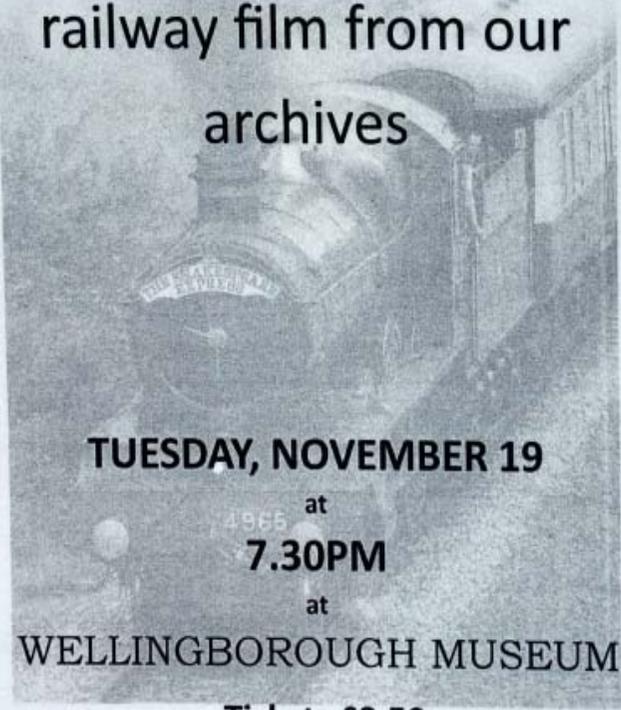
THE  
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE  
FILM ARCHIVE TRUST  
Registered Charity No. 298527



present

# ON THE RAILS

An evening of steam  
railway film from our  
archives



TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19  
at  
7.30PM  
at  
WELLINGBOROUGH MUSEUM

Tickets £3.50  
from  
Wellingborough Museum, Dulley's Baths, 12 Castle Way, Wellingborough, NN8 1XB  
or call 01933 276838



Following on from the first Homework section in last months newsletter, I was asked if Club members can contribute to this section. The answer is of course YES.



Towards the back of the newsletter I've done an article on how to re-use any surplus PC power supplies you might have lying around. *Colin*

## Club News

### 2014 Exhibition Advertising

Flyers and A4 posters have now been printed. Please take some to any shows/exhibitions you attend. However please liaise with each other to avoid duplication waste as printing is expensive.

### Membership Renewals

All members whose memberships were still outstanding have now been sent a reminder along with a renewal application form. If you are still one of those yet to renew then please be advised that this will be the last newsletter you will be emailed. No further reminders will be sent.

### Date of next Committee Meeting

This will be on Monday 18th November. If there are any items for the agenda, please let Richard have them ASAP. Email: rjd156@btinternet.com

### Club Night Test Track

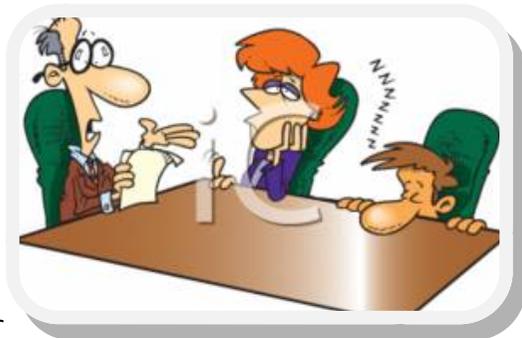
This will be operational on the following dates:

9th and 30th October, 20th November, 11th December.

**ALL DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE**



## Notes from the Committee Meeting held on Monday 7th October 2013.



### Exhibition 2014

The Northampton High School has been booked for 19<sup>th</sup> July. An additional hour on the preceding Friday from 4 -8pm to allow for extra time for set up. S & M Tools of Leather Lane, Hatton Garden will be attending as a substitute tool trader for Squires. Skytrex in its new guise will be attending and 4 layouts which couldn't come this year [and new to the Show] are booked. Members need to seek out new layouts when visiting other Shows. The ride on train is booked. We will be seeking help from the Air Cadets to marshal car parking.

### Junior Layout

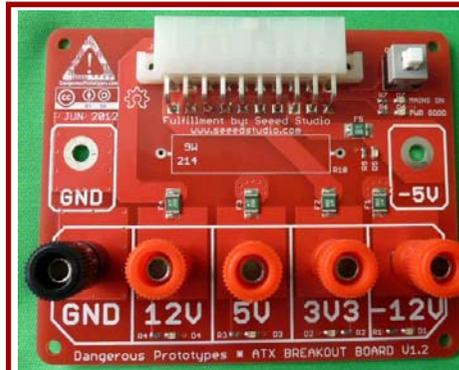
The Juniors had requested that they would like to build their own layout but wanted help building a baseboard. The Club will finance the build.

### Club Website

NOGies (that's the O gauge modellers) have updated their information on the web site, with further additions planned by the end November.

### Greenford Central

Agreed that Greenford should be wired up. There was a desire to turn Greenford into a 'continuous run' layout. Advantages would be :- easier to operate on Show days, more variety of traffic and locos, including freights.



*Above Left*—The SeedStudio Breakout Board.

*Above*—Peeling back the protective paper on one part of the acrylic casing.

*Below*—end on plug view



*Above*—The SeedStudio Breakout Board in its acrylic case.

*Right*—The ATX PSU plugged into the Breakout Board. The other wires/plugs need tidying up out of the way.



When you buy the Breakout Board you do get a 5 Watt 10 Ohm power resistor. This is for use with older ATX units that need a load on the 5 volt pin to stabilise the voltage. You are advised not to fit this unless needed. When running the resistor gets hot and therefore increases the risk of fire. All the output rails are protected by automatic resetting poly fuses.

When you plug the ATX plug into the Breakout Board and switch the ATX PSU on a yellow LED will light on the board (Mains On). When you then depress the On/Off switch on the board a second LED illuminates (Power Good). Additionally a LED then lights against each power output rail indicating voltage is available. In the event of a short circuit on a rail, the LED on that effected power rail will extinguish and the poly fuse will cut in to protect the ATX PSU. This way nothings gets fried. When the short circuit is removed the poly fuse resets its self.

Apart from the wires that extrude from the ATX PSU with the 20 pin multi-plug there are various other connector plugs . These just need to be tidied up and kept out the way. You can, if you are certain you will not need them for anything else, disconnect them from within the power supply casing. If you go into the casing heed the WARNING on the previous page.

You are now ready to use the power supply to power accessories on your model railway such as signals, DC operated point motors and other lighting effects etc.

Incidentally when I purchased the Breakout Board, I also bought the acrylic case to house it in. This comes protected in peel-off paper and creates a sandwich for the board.

Overleaf are a few photos showing the Breakout board.

Visit their web site: [www.seeedstudio.com](http://www.seeedstudio.com)

### Greenford Central cont'd

Les mentioned that at some Clubs, Members each look after a baseboard at home ,bringing the parts together on Club nights or shows- making transport easier. This would assist in finding storage space for the extra boards/legs at the Club if the extension was kept at a members home.

### Additional Club Meeting Time

The Club should look into the possibility of hiring Kingstrophe Community Centre on Thursday afternoons, once a month perhaps. This would rapidly progress the Club layouts. They look to be free and would be cheaper than weekends which are generally booked anyway.

**Richard Deacon**

**Club Secretary**

## **NEW ADDITIONAL CLUB MEETING TIME**

After a successful application to the Northampton Community Spaces for use of the Kingstrophe Community Centre on certain Thursday afternoons, we can confirm that the Northampton & District Model Railway Club will now meet, in addition to the normal Wednesday evenings, on the second Thursday of each month from 14:00 until 17:00. Attendance at these additional times will still require attendees to contribute £1 per person toward costs of room hire and refreshments. The new meet times start from Thursday 14th November.

Thursday meet dates:

14 November and 12 December 2013

2014 Dates

9 Jan, 13 Feb, 13 Mar, 10 Apr, 8 May, 12 Jun, 10 Jul, 14 Aug, 11 Sep, 9 Oct, 13 Nov and 11 Dec 2014.

# HOMWORK

## Last Month



Last months, first task, was to find out what this current track side sign means. Just to make it a bit more challenging any text had been removed. You are probably familiar with the red and white version.



This is the answer. As you can see the blue version is very similar to the red one except it states that there are no refuges.

The red version for those not in the know is Caution Limited Clearance.

## This Month

This months homework is:

Which diesel locomotive types or loco names or classes that ran on British Railways/British Rail were **officially** capable of 100 mph or more?



As found on the South Devon Railway.

Funny but worrying

# Using a PC ATX Power Supply as an Supplementary Model Railway Power Supply

by Colin Tarry

## WARNING

**Within an ATX power supply there are some very large capacitors capable of delivering some high currents and for quite some time after the mains has been switched off. Before working with an ATX power supply, you should unplug it from the mains supply, and leave it for 3/4 days for the capacitors to discharge.**

On the net there are numerous web sites showing you how to make a PC ATX power supply unit (PSU) into a bench power supply. But this method is one of the simplest. It basically involves plugging the 20 pin multi-pin plug into an adapter circuit called a Breakout Board. It is made by Sseed Studios in America. There is a bit of work to do in tidying up some of the wiring that protrudes from the ATX PSU as many of them will be surplus to normal requirements. I decided to send for one and it cost about £22.

The Breakout Board will give the following voltages: -  
+3.3VDC ( $\pm 0.165$  V) @ 20 amp  
+5.0VDC ( $\pm 0.25$  V) @ 30 amp  
+12VDC ( $\pm 0.60$  V) @ 20 amp  
--12 VDC ( $\pm 1.2$  V) @ 0.8 amp

As you can see although the delivered voltages are fairly low, 12 volt being the highest, the deliverable current is HIGH.