

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
Email: 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

Newsletter Editor

Colin Tarry email: 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).

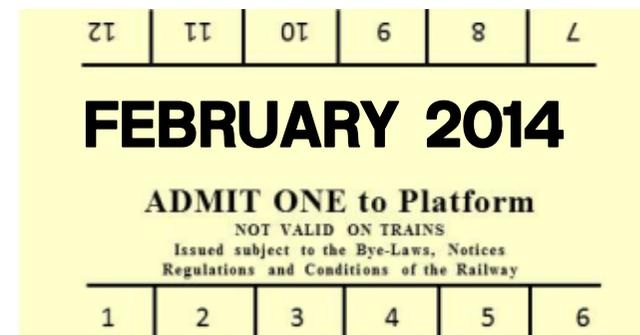
DISCLAIMER

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 : 8 Junior Members
(correct at time of going to press) 30 Members

NOTICE BOARD



Northampton Model Railway Show

by the

St James Church & Northants Group 3mm Society

Saturday 22nd February 2014

at

St James Church, St James Road, Northampton NN5 5LE

10.00 until 16.00

Adult £3.00 Children £2.00 Under 5s Free

Selection of layouts in various gauges, trade support and refreshments plus disabled access.

TOMBOLA

Will members please bring in a small prize gift each month for the Club's Exhibition Tombola. Keep an eye out for any supermarket special offers for example. A prize should be worth at least £1, be new or in very good condition and if perishable be 'in-date' by the end of July 2014.

There will be a plastic crate in our Club cupboard for tombola items to be collected and stored in.

We also need a volunteer to co-ordinate the sticking of cloakroom ticket numbers on the items and fold up matching numbers. But this does not need to be done until nearer the time. If you would like to actually do this for us then please let us know ASAP.

Northampton Bridge Street for Sale

The Club has been contacted by a gentleman, via our web site, who has a partially complete N gauge layout for sale that he has been building of the former Northampton Bridge Street station and its associated sidings etc. As this is a layout of local interest we've decided to offer it to any Club member before it goes for sale wider a field. Below are some photos of the layout. The baseboard is constructed from planed 45mm x 20mm timber with plywood top, black track underlay. Layout dimensions— 2985mm long x 580mm deep – 200 high. The baseboard is mounted on slides to access the underside wiring. There are 3 purpose made Perspex covers over the model which can be lifted off easily.

All enquires to John Tyrell—email 'j.tyrell-tfhs@sky.com' or tel 01604 763738.



From the Editors **Cab Window**

Like 2013, 2014 has its share of railway related anniversaries. This time many are local. See pages 7 & 8 for details.



If you need Club regalia please read page 4. We hope to submit orders to our suppliers in March.

Colin

Club News

Next Thursday P.M. Club Meeting

This will be on Thursday 13th February from 14:00—17:00

Date of next Committee Meeting

This will be on Monday 24th February. If there are any items for the agenda, please let Richard have them ASAP.
Email: rjd156@btinternet.com

Club Night Test Track Dates

2014

19th February, 12th March, 2nd & 23rd April,
14th May, 4th & 25th June,
16th July (this may be cancelled for exhibition activities), 6th & 27th August, 17th September,
8th & 29th October, 19th November and 10th December.



ALL DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Railway Photographic & Film Evening

On Wednesday the 19th March the Club is running another railway film evening. Our last one was on Dec 15th 2010, despite this it only seems like yesterday. This has been organised by our secretary, Richard Deacon. **On this evening there will be NO model activities.**



We intend to show various railway related video footage, some transferred from its original Cine film format onto digital media. One of the videos we hope to show is "Steam in the East Midlands" taken by the late Ian Lyman.

We are listing this event as both photographic and film at this stage until our programme for the evening is finalised. What do you want to see? Blue Diesels? 1950s railway bashes? Let Richard know.



Web Site of the Month



This month's web site informs you where you can go to observe train movements on the main rail network & other railways WITHOUT trespassing on railway property. The easiest way of finding somewhere is to select 'List all the locations' from the main home page. This is about half way down in the left hand column. The site gives details on the location you select such as access, parking and amenities etc.

Web site address is:

<http://www.trainspots.co.uk>

50 years Closed

by Richard Deacon

It is incredible that 50 years have passed since the Northampton to Peterborough railway line closed to passengers in May 1964.

As someone who spent his early life living within a quarter of a mile from the line at Little Houghton, hanging on the fences watching the trains, and whose garden now backs on to the route of the line at Cogenhoe, I have strongly felt that this event 50 years ago should not go unmarked.

The railway, built as branch off the newly opened London and Birmingham Railway at Blisworth, was completed in 1845 shortly before the formation of the London and North Western Railway, becoming part of the LMS in 1923. Northampton's first railway station was at Bridge St on this railway and the first station out of the town was Billing, originally, more appropriately called Billing Road, as it was nowhere near Billing, Great or Little or any other village for that matter. Cogenhoe was marginally the nearest, although at the time the village based around the church, was still well over a mile away. The station closed in 1952 but the goods yard closed when passenger services ended although the track was not lifted until 1968. Most people would never know there was ever a station or railway on the site now.

I have been gathering a collection of photographs of the line concentrating on the Northampton end as far as Castle Ashby and intend to put on an exhibition at any event that is interested - village fetes, our Show, museums etc. In addition I am building a OO scale model of Billing Station and the Goods Yard. Construction is under way and I want to have it completed by May this year. Part of the passenger service was a two coach push pull to Wellingborough, coupled to an Ivatt 2-6-2T and I have renumbered one of my Bachmann Ivatts, 41219, one of the regular performers, shedded at Northampton 2E.

Anyone who has any photos of the line, trains on it, or buildings I would love to hear from you. It is not too late.

More on this soon!

1964—Fifty Years Ago

by Colin Tarry

2014 sees yet more railway event anniversaries thrown up, but not for any good reasons; in fact its depressing reading. We don't need to be Einstein to deduce that 1964 followed 1963, but its what happened in 1963 with Dr Beeching publishing his infamous report "The Reshaping of British Railways", that made 1964 a bad time for the railways. Northamptonshire copped it like so many other places.

Here's a brief synopsis of the bad news that I have found: -

On 4th May 1964 **Wellingborough London Road station** closed along with passenger services from **Northampton Castle station to Peterborough East station**.

Road station closed on the 7th September 1964 along with passenger services from **Buckingham to Verney Junction**. The line closed completely on 5th December 1966.

The line beyond **Piddington to Oakley Junction** near Bedford was closed on 20th January 1964 after branch goods traffic ceased on the 6th January. Last year (2013) saw the track south of Northampton to Brackmills Industrial Estate lifted. Passenger services between **Northampton to Bedford** were actually withdrawn on 5th March 1962.

February 1964 saw the closure of the last remaining part of the Stratford-Upon-Avon and Midland Junction Railway from **Woodford West Junction to Blisworth** (which was only used for goods by this time).

"Knowledge is knowing that a tomato is a fruit. Wisdom is knowing that a tomato doesn't belong in a fruit salad."¹ the late Miles Kington



Club Regalia

Since we last ordered any Club regalia (polo & sweat shirts) several new members have joined the Club.

In view of this a regalia request form is now available for you to order your requirements. The form you will find out on Wednesday Club nights for completion on the kitchen bar counter. I have now had a reply from our shirt suppliers and the respective costs are:

Polo shirt £18 each

Sweat shirt £24 each

A £5 deposit will be required per item ordered

Two members wearing Club regalia— the Sweat Shirt (left) and the Polo shirt (right). This photo was taken from a point of safety, just in case they hadn't been fed.



Notes from the Committee Meeting held on Monday 27th January 2014



2013 Christmas Dinner

The Christmas Meal proved disappointing despite the pleasant venue. It was very unfortunate that ownership had changed only days before and it was clear that despite having notice of a large booking, they couldn't cope despite the valiant efforts of the young staff. Stories of cold vegetables and the wrong dessert were recalled and your Secretary, being the last to get served, clearly had the scrapings off the turkey bones, whereas the Chairman's wife was served with several thick slices. The search will be on for a good location for this Christmas. Please let Committee Members know of good recommendations in good time please.

2014 Exhibition

20 layouts are now booked to attend the Exhibition on Saturday 19th July 2014. We need to draw up a plan of the hall and see if any more can be accommodated.

Club Finances

The recent hike in hall hire fees, the club nightly subs do not cover the costs of hall hire and refreshments. Would Members prefer to pay more than £1 a night and /or pay a higher annual subscription? Bear in mind that that full paying Members are outnumbered 2 to 1 by Concession members reflecting the age of the Membership- a cause for concern. Junior Members don't worry.

Film Night

The requested film Night will be on the 19 March. (See page 3)

PAT Testing

The relatively new chestnut of PAT testing all electrical equipment brought to our Show was raised again with seemingly no definitive answer by anyone. Does the wider Membership have any information or know anyone who does?

Richard Deacon Club Secretary

HOMework

Last Month



What is the heaviest train ever moved in Britain? What type of train, what hauled it, where and when?

Unless anybody know anything different, then the answer is this as stated in Rail Enthusiast Magazine, the April 1987 edition.

Total train weight: 4,639 tonnes

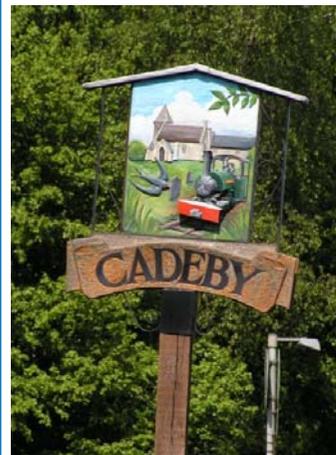
Type of train: 42 stone hopper wagons (PTA & PXA), two dead class 56s (56033 & 56049) plus dead class 59 (59004 as standby)

Hauling locomotive: Class 59 no 59001

Location: Savernake bank from Woodborough (Berks & Hants line) This included a stop and restart on the 1-in-156 incline between Westbury and Acton.

When: 16th February 1987

This Month



The village of Cadeby is in north Leicestershire. Why does the village sign have the image of a narrow gauge locomotive carved into the sign?