

**NORTHAMPTON & DISTRICT
MODEL RAILWAY CLUB**

Newsletter

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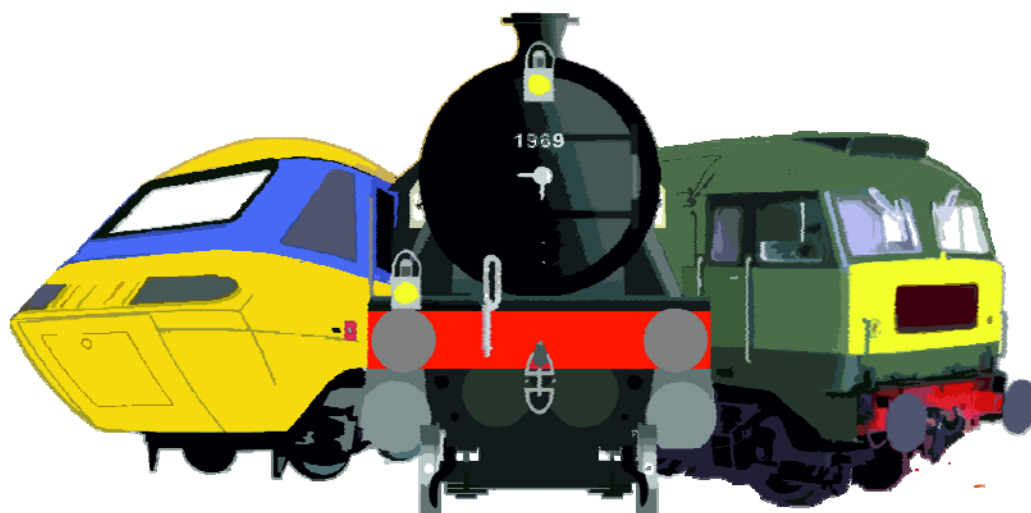
MAY 2018

ADMIT ONE to Platform

NOT VALID ON TRAINS

Issued subject to the Bye-Laws, Notices
Regulations and Conditions of the Railway

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Rules for Club Night Attendance At Hardingstone

- 1) If you make a drink, please wash your cup/spoon up afterwards. Please wipe up any spillages. Cups to be returned to the kitchen.
- 2) Don't create congestion in the kitchen. Please get your drink and return to the main hall.
- 3) Have you paid your subs? The money is mainly used to pay our Friday night hall rental, plus the cost of drinks. £2 per person please.
- 4) Please put away any tools, layouts, tables and chairs when you've finished using them. The shed will be unlocked on request.
- 5) A clear passage way **MUST** be maintained in the entrance foyer as they are emergency exits. Also please keep **ALL** other doors & exits accessible at **ALL** times.
- 6) The internal cupboard is to store small & valuable items only as space & access is restricted.
- 7) Please sign in at each attendance. This may assist us in knowing who to account for in the event of an emergency evacuation.
- 8) Car Parking—If you have to block someone in then please be ready to move your vehicle in order to let someone else out.

From the Editors **Cab**

Here we are in May already, and with May the new General Data Protection Regulations. Please see the note on page 10 and act NOW if you haven't already done so.



In this newsletter we start the ball rolling for our 50th anniversary celebrations in 2019. Please see page 11 for details.

Colin

CLUB TORQUE

Date of next Committee Meeting

A date for the next committee is Monday 4th June 2018. If there are any items for the next agenda, please let Richard have them ASAP.

Email: rjd156@btinternet.com

Club Night Test Track Dates 2018

25th May.

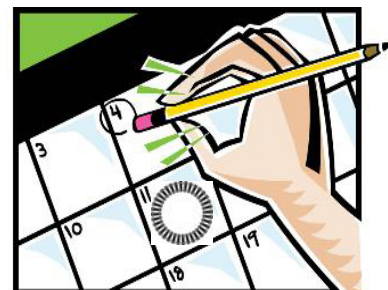
There will be No Test Track on June 15th as we will be at Quorn.

6th & 27th July (this will be test for the next day—Village Hall Fund Raising Day).

17th August—No club meeting

7th September AGM—no Test Track

28th September, 19th October, 9th November.



**All dates are
subject to
change**

Chairman's Ramblings

Hi All Club members,

After what seems a long dark time, at last, Spring is finally with us.

Along with lighter evenings, better weather, and easier access to our storage shed it is now a time to look forward to a great summer of playing trains.

At last we seem to be seeing the light at the end of the tunnel this year and hopefully it is not a train coming our way!

However, it is not all good news. It is sad to say that our two honorary members namely Ralph Moreby and Len Snelling are in hospital at present, but hopefully they both will make a speedy recovery. Our thoughts are surely with them and their families at this difficult time.

We have a few events coming up this year so we are currently refurbishing the club's layouts for them. Please see page 5 for further details.

The 00 gauge layout "Four Oakes Junction" has just had some new boards constructed and track laid. We now need to tie in this new track with the existing, and then all the point motors and the rest of the electrical connections replaced, so members are needed to assist if possible.

The O gauge layout "Kingsthorpe" is currently being worked on and will hopefully be ready for the open day at the hall and our exhibition. A new pair of trolleys are due to be constructed by John Walker which should make the layout boards easier to transport from the shed to the hall when required.

We wish to welcome all the new members to our club and hope they will enjoy what the club has to offer.

Please note that we are still looking for a fridge to store sandwiches and drinks at our show at Cogenhoe and if you have, or know of one, then please let us know.

The test track is due once again to be at the The Great Central Railway Model Event at Quorn again this year and support by members at this show is requested as it is a three day show and definitely promotes the club to other model railway enthusiasts, clubs and other organisations. Also, free trips on the railway are a bonus to attendance.

This summer we have agreed to also assist the Hardington Village Hall by holding a club open day at which we may be able to run one of our layouts outdoors (weather permitting) as well as showing the general public what we do, and hopefully attract more members.

I am sorry to say that we still have no news so far on the revamp of the club's website, as we are still awaiting our webmaster's redesign to happen.

Hopefully we will have some more news shortly.

Finally I do hope you are enjoying your membership of this club, and if you have any ideas for possible improvements, then please let any one of the committee members know and we will see what we can do.

Best wishes

Les Pace

Chairman NDMRC

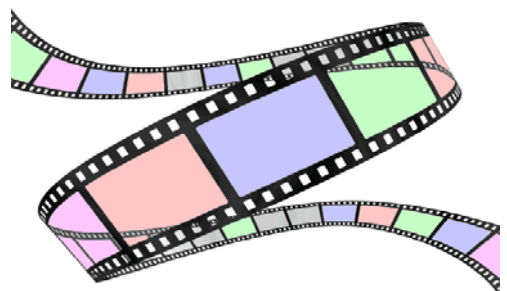
Club Night Refreshments

As a club we stopped the purchase of biscuits some time ago now when our annual biscuit bill was coming to over £300 per year. However we now work on the basis where members bring in and donate some biscuits to munch. Please donate some biscuits now and again.



Film Evening

It has been sometime since we had a film evening. Does the membership want another? Please let a committee member know if you do.



Club Events for 2018

Great Central Model Event —Quorn

We will as a Club will be attending the above event again with our Multit Gauge Test Track on Friday 15th, Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th June. The venue is the same as last year— Quorn station on the Great Central Railway.

Keep this date free as we will need club members to attend to run the trains. Please do what days you can. Passes will be available for car parking, event entry and lunch.

More details to follow when we get them.

Hardingstone Village Hall Fund Raising Day—Hardingstone

All users of the hall have been asked to do a fund raising event for the village hall. For our Club this will be on Saturday 28th July.

We are hoping the weather will be kind to us so that we can have the Multi Gauge Test Track up outside and some other layouts inside. If the weather is bad then everything will have to go inside. The hall management said they can get people to do the refreshments, so that will leave us as a Club to run the trains and collect admissions.

As well as a fund raising day for hall we are also treating this event as an open day for the Club in order that we can hopefully attract some new members.

N&DMRC Model Railway Exhibition—Cogenhoe

This is on Saturday 18th August.

Sour Valley Model Railway Exhibition—Loughborough

We as a Club will be attending the above exhibition with our Multi Gauge Test Track on Saturday 1st and Sunday 2nd September. The venue is the same as last year— Loughborough Grammar School.

Keep this date free as we will need club members to attend to run the trains. You can either both days or just one what ever suits you.

More details to follow.



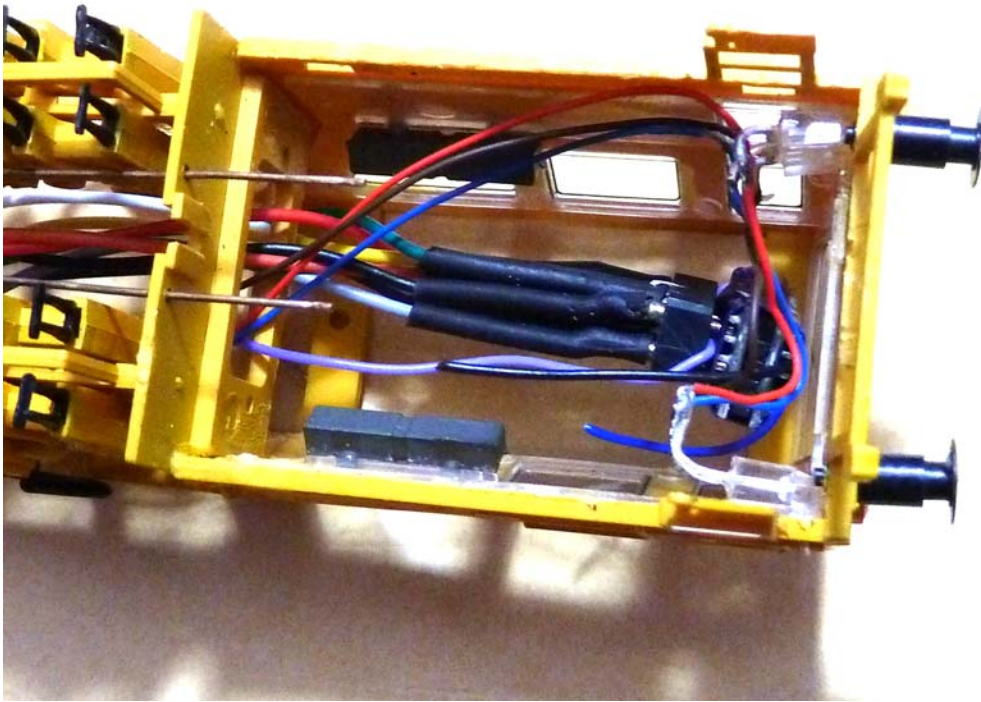
In the last newsletter I stated that I would show you how to make this model work with DCC and add operating lights each end. Its supplied by Bachmann purely as a motorised unit. It does NOT come DCC ready.

This modification basically fits into two operations. The first is to fit the decoder, the second is to fit the lights.

As I have mentioned this motorised model is not DCC ready for some reason. The first job is to fit a decoder. We have two ways of doing this, namely hard wire it or fit a socket. I opted for the second . The reason being that if you need to change the decoder for any reason then all you need to do is unplug the old one and plug in its replacement. I decided to fit an eight pin socket. This has gone into the end with the biggest cab. The drivers seat and controls had to be removed to make room for the decoder.

It is advisable to stick to the standard NMRA colour coding for the wires. This is red and black for the wheel pick up and grey and orange for the motor connections,

The wire you need should be ultra thin flexible wire 30 AWG / 0.5mm multi-strand wire.



Inside the cab showing the decoder harness and decoder.

You will also require an eight pin socket, a soldering iron with a tip approx. 2mm, solder, flux and about 100 different tools which at the outset you don't think you will need but in the end you will use them. I nearly forgot; a great deal of patience.

The decoder harness and socket, which came pre wired, I got from eBay. Unfortunately the wire used is a little too thick, but never the less I managed to shoe horn it all into the cab. The decoder I used here is the Gaugemaster DCC29 Omni. If I ever upgrade to a sound chip, subject to one being available, then that should be interesting fitting that in.

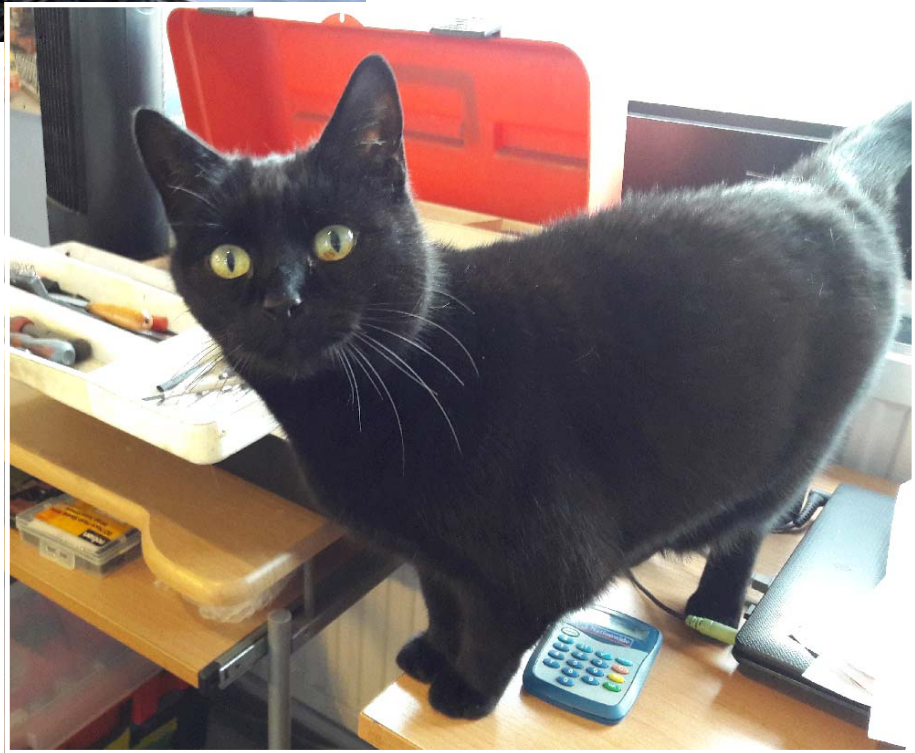
Once the decoder was fitted I then reassembled the unit. Although you can see the wires passing through the open frame of the Tamper; you can paint these black and they will hopefully look like hydraulic pipes. Only the rivet counters will know any different.

Once happy that it performs as it should , the next job is to fit lights. Before I go on to that subject, I will first do an article on LEDs, the various methods of wiring them, and using LEDs with DCC and the type of LEDs available.



If the station planning for the new Four Oakes Junction layout goes wrong this is the architect we will be blaming—Jess. Once sat on the plans she didn't want to give them up.

Another railway cat. This is Boo. This cat is a bit smarter. She has charge of Les's online banking PIN device. Obviously a cat with plenty of money in the kitty (they don't get any better).



Exhibition Flyers — 2018

A small quantity of A6 size flyers still remain to advertise our exhibition in August 2018. When you know you will be attending any model railway exhibitions or any other transport show/event then please take a quantity of flyers with you to be handed out. Please ask a committee member for some flyers .

NORTHAMPTON & DISTRICT MODEL RAILWAY CLUB



MODEL RAILWAY EXHIBITION

SATURDAY 18th AUGUST 2018
from 10.00am to 4.00pm

Cogenhoe Village Hall York Avenue
Cogenhoe Northampton NN7 1NB

Displaying a range of British & International layouts in several gauges and scenarios.
Also a model boat display from the Northampton & District Model Boat Club

Trade support – Demonstrations – Refreshments
Societies – Tombola

Adult £3 Child £2 Family Ticket (2+2) £8
www.ndmrc.org

TOMBOLA

Yes, its that time again.

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 September 2018.

There is a box in our Club store shed for tombola items to be collected and stored in.

On a Friday night nearer the exhibition the cloakroom ticket numbers will need sticking on the prizes and the corresponding draw ticket folding and putting in the draw drum. We still need help with this please.

General Data Protection Regulation 2018

The above regulation comes into force on Friday 25th May 2018.

If you haven't completed your Data Usage Consent form yet, please do so and let me have it.

If anyone has not had the yellow booklet I have been giving out "Advice on how to safeguard your personal information" then please ask me for one.



Colin Tarry

Membership Secretary



In 2019 the N&DMRC will be in its 50th anniversary year, since coming into existence. The exact date is not known but we have tracked it down (all puns intended) to have been in September 1969.

We would like to do something special during 2019 to celebrate this milestone. Will all members please have a think and come up with suggestions for what events we can put on or participate in.

Some ideas have already come forward such as a one-off larger exhibition and a dinner. All ideas to any committee member please.

Club Regalia

Forms have been placed on the signing in trolley on Friday nights, for members to order club regalia (uniform). These forms will be displayed for completion until and including Friday 18th May. If you want any items please put your requirements down. Before the order goes in to our suppliers I will require a £5 deposit for EACH item ordered.

Regalia is available in the following sizes S, M, L, XL & XXL.

Polo shirt £18 each

Sweat shirt £24 each

Fleece £28 each

Committee Meeting Notes



A precis of the committee meeting held on

Monday 30th APRIL 2018

Exhibition 18th August 2018

Les has chased up the traders and exhibitors seeking confirmation of their attendance, but no one has yet replied. We assume all OK

A full height fridge is still needed. We may have to look at a new one, should be room in the store shed at Hardingstone.

Kings Thorpe will be going, bugs should have ironed out by then.

Shed needs a clear out to make space. Many tools never been used. Offer to Members on Club night.

Diary events in all the modelling magazines was done on 30 April.

Insurance is done a week or so prior.

Layout revamps

Four Oakes Jct —Track has been laid off site on the boards . Linking together should be on for next OO club night 11 May. Discussion on constructing a panel using stud probe. Will be wired for both analogue and digital.

Junior track— Les suggested taking it home and worked on there to improve conductivity and lay a 3rd track.

Multi Gauge Test Track

Now on two trolleys, one curved, one for the straights. This has freed up space in the shed.

2018 Exhibitions & Events - These are detailed on page 4 of this newsletter
A rota sheet will be provided for attendees at Quorn.

Web Site - Colin will see how Alan is progressing.

General Data Protection Regulations 2018. Forms have been sent to all members. Imperative they are back before the introduction date 25th May.

Hardingstone Village Hall - Les had attended the hall committee as club rep. There will be a small rise in hall hire charges from September, at a rate to be confirmed. He remarked that the hall struggles to cover its costs, in view of the fact it is an old building and some settlement has occurred. Should another organisation that meets on another night quits, moving to another night could be looked at.

Richard Deacon – Secretary

Club Information

Committee Members

Les Pace (Chair Person)
Colin Tarry (Treasurer)
Richard Deacon (Secretary)
Michael Castledine
Roger Whiffin
Stephen Lloyd



Web site: www.ndmrc.org

Email: feedback@ndmrc.org

Club Night: Friday

Meeting Time: 19:00—22:00

Venue: Hardingstone Village Hall

High Street, Hardingstone,
Northampton, NN4 6DA

Secretary: tel: 01604 890275

email: rjd156@btinternet.com

Non Committee Positions

Newsletter Editor Colin Tarry email: ndmrc@cjv.org.uk

Sales Officer John Walker email: pamjohn38@btinternet.com

Club Membership Rates

Club membership runs from September to August or part of the calendar year, and ALL expire on the last calendar day of August, becoming due for renewal on the first of September.

Adult membership £60 per year, Junior membership £10 per year.

For adult members easy payment terms available. Please enquire.