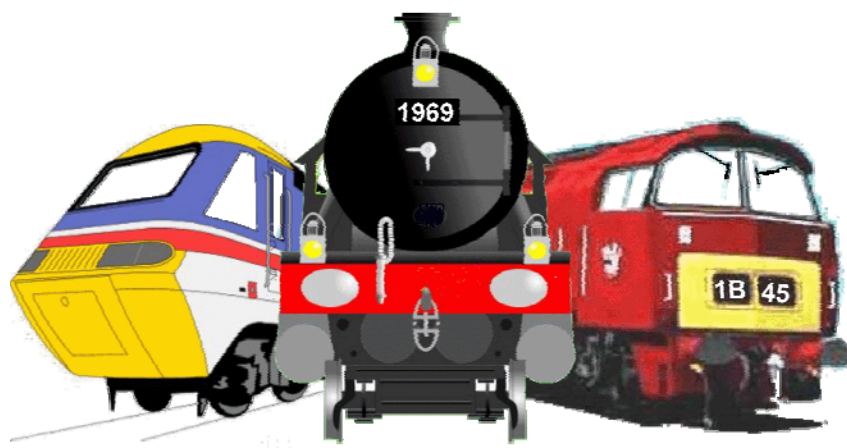
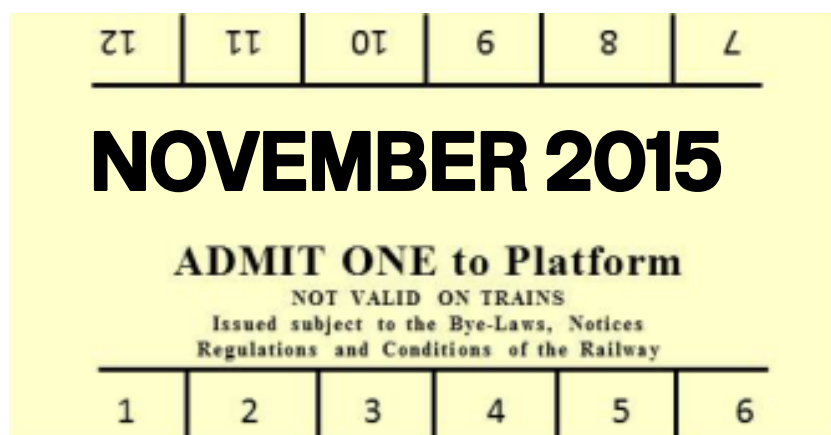


# *Between the Lines*



# Newsletter



# **C O N T E N T S (of key articles)**

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## **Rules for Club Night Attendance**

- 1) Please park your vehicle with consideration for the flat occupants when parking outside the Kingsthorpe Community Centre.
- 2) If you make a drink, please wash your cup/spoon up afterwards. Please wipe up any spillages.
- 3) Don't create congestion in the kitchen. Please get your drink and return to the main hall.
- 4) Have you paid your subs? The money is mainly used to pay our Wednesday night hall rental, plus the cost of drinks. £1.50 per person please.
- 5) Please put away any tools, layouts, tables and chairs you've used at the end of the evening.
- 6) 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.
- 7) Please sign in at each attendance. This ensures we know who to account for in the event of an emergency evacuation.

Current membership :	4	Junior Members
(correct at time of going to press)	29	Members

## From the Editors **Cab Window**

In this edition of the newsletter are details of our Christmas Dinner. Please be aware that as usual there will be NO club meeting that night.



On pages 5 & 6 are some photos of the Club's visit to the Milton Keynes MRS premises. We were Brunswick Green with envy.

*Colin*

## Club Torque

### Next Thursday P.M. Club Meetings

From 14:00—17:00 on the following Thursdays :

- 12th November — Layout working day
- 26th November — Layout working day

### Date of next Committee Meeting

A date for the next committee meeting is Monday 30th November. If there are any items for the agenda, please let Richard have them ASAP.

Email: [rjd156@btinternet.com](mailto:rjd156@btinternet.com)

### Club Night Test Track Dates 2015

18th November and 9th December.

**ALL DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE**



## Peco (Merit) Goods Depot

by Colin Tarry

Have you ever wondered how life-like some of the plastic and card buildings you can get are to real life prototypes. I've often thought this about the Peco goods depot. My father bought this plastic kit back in the early 1960s for our then Hornby Dublo 3-rail layout. I have always thought it a bit modern and of a freelance design. Back in the days when this kit was introduced, it was made by Merit. Peco took over the tooling for it when Merit finished in the early 1970s. I also believe they took on other Merit structures as well.

This goods depot is of a period from the late 1950s and to a real life design. I found this photo of one at Potters Bar taken on 11th July 1955. Also at the right hand end of this structure is another familiar building that Peco currently make. Merit (J & L Randall Ltd) were based in Potters Bar so they copied what was local.



# CHRISTMAS DINNER 2015



To All Members,

This years Christmas Dinner will be held on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2015. The venue is the same as last year being the Windhover, Brampton Lane, Chapel Brampton, Northampton NN6 8AA.

There are some booking forms which are on the kitchen counter on Club nights. Please list all persons wishing to attend along with what you require to eat. All drinks are individually ordered on the night and paid for individually at the time. The Club will NOT be running a tab.

We are going for the THREE course option at £20.95 per person plus £1.05 per person as a gratuity. Last year a Club member was out of pocket when we left it to individuals to settle up the gratuity – some of whom didn't. In view of this, we are adding the gratuity up front. If you are not happy with this arrangement then stay at home. For those wanting Cheese & Biscuits there is an additional charge of £1.50 plus coffee/tea is extra if you don't have it as an alternative pudding.



Minimum total per person is £22.00. The final date for booking is Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November and a £5 deposit per person will be required by this date. If you don't pay your deposit on time then no booking(s) will be made in your name(s).



Payment of the balance will be required by December 1st either by cash or a cheque made payable to "Northampton & District Model Railway Club".

**\*\*\* THERE WILL BE NO CLUB MEETING THIS NIGHT \*\*\***



# Milton Keynes Visit

On Friday 2nd October several members of our Club visited the Milton Keynes Model Railway Society at their premises in Bond Avenue, Bletchley. Their premises are actually in the centre of a building on the Bond Estate. Because the room they have has no windows it cannot be let for office premises so has limited commercial usage, hence they were able to secure it for their use.



No windows—No sun—Nothing fades.

Exactly what the late Rev Peter Denny did with his Buckingham layout.



[above & left]

One of the Clubs OO gauge layouts, -“Milton Quays”. Some of us that went to Warley a couple of years ago remember seeing this layout there.



[left & below]

Another of the Clubs OO gauge layouts—Barton Crossing under development. This is a DCC / DC operated layout.



[below]

A N gauge layout under development.



As you can see the layouts are professionally planned out and built. A lot different to us !

Anyone thinking about defecting or dualling membership?



## **Notes from the Committee Meeting held on Monday 19th October 2015**



### **Exhibition**

Agreed there would be an Exhibition in 2016. The hall was been booked. Les had 4 layouts booked. The ride on railway was not needed. It remains to be seen if the attendance numbers materialise next year now that it is known that the show/location is smaller than previous years. It was agreed to reduce the sandwich numbers but try hot sausage rolls as a new catering item.

### **Potential New Club Premises**

Some Committee members had seen the suggested premises at the ex-Service Members Club and had misgivings over the state of repair, security, fire precautions. Also what happens if the Club goes under. The building still couldn't accommodate all of the Club's layouts assembled. One suggestion is to run the two venues concurrently for 12 months. Then there is the question of what would move and what would stay at Kingsthorpe. Additionally there is the finance to consider as we would be paying two lots of rent. There needs to be a full Club Membership consultation and decision.

### **Milton Keynes Society Visit**

The visit to the MK Model Railway Society premises was successful. Members could see what was possible and to view the sort of premises that might be available in Northampton. Talking to Members about their Exhibitions was enlightening especially marketing and advertising. They rely mainly on targeting local schools and organisations and not on adverts in the modelling press and getting the message out on the main line railway through Network Rail whose HQ is in MK. See pages 5 & 6 for some photos.



## **Christmas Meal**

Agreed this would held again at the Windhover on Wed the 16<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm . The cost asked of the Membership would include a gratuity. Bookings to be taken at the Club on Wed with deposits.

Further details are on page 4.

## **Stock Disappearance**

In view of the disappearance of some OO gauge rolling stock and locomotives from the Club storage room its agreed that all valuable Club stock should be placed in the filing cabinet and each drawer padlocked, the key held by the layout gauge leader.

*Richard Deacon*

Secretary

## **Stock Disappearance**

As stated above in the committee meeting notes, Greenford has suffered some rolling stock and locomotive disappearances. We as a Club, would like to think that it is not due to any of our own membership that these items have gone missing.

Unfortunately the cupboard/room we use does not have exclusive access restricted to Club members. As I expect most of you know, access is required by various workman at times who need access to the heating boiler.

In view of the situation we are reorganising the metal filing cabinet to be secure to hold valuable items belonging to the Club.





## Car Boot Layout

Your editor saw this layout at the Brackley Classic Car Show on August 23rd last.

Its an N gauge layout in the boot of a Morris 1000 owned by a lady.

## Greenlight Electronics — **CAUTION**

At a recent exhibition I was approached by 4 members of the public regarding above company – all with same story, took money at a show for item he did not have with him, promise to post on the Monday, nothing received. Some excuses when contacted but understand now not answering telephone calls, email or letters. Advised that Newbury Trading Standards / Consumer Protection would like to speak to the gentleman. Also understand that there is a similar comment on RMWeb from unhappy customer. Amounts involved range from £ 15.00 to £ 70.00

I pass the above on in good faith and cannot comment personally as I have had no business dealings with this company, but obviously you may want to be careful should you be approached regarding attending your exhibition. Understand that quite often exhibition managers are contacted close to their show date to see if they have any space available for small stand / display layout.

Regards Barry (12 Volts DC)

# NOTICE BOARD



## Kingsthorpe Community Centre— Christmas / New Year



This years Christmas and New Year closures are much shorter than last time—in fact for us they are non existent.

The Kingsthorpe Community Centre will close and reopen for the Christmas and New Year celebrations as follows: -

The centre will close at 16:00 on 24th December, but will be open again by Wednesday 30th December. For the New Year the centre will close at 16:00 on 31st December, re-opening on 2nd January.

In a nut shell as far as our Club is concerned we will not miss out on any Wednesday's over the festive period except the night of our Christmas Dinner (Dec 16th).

## Table Top Sale

On 21st November 2015 there will be a transport related table top sale of books, models etc. at the Abington Church rooms, Park Avenue North (between Abington Avenue and Ashburnham Road).

The Club will be participating. We need help to man (or woman) our table. We would be appreciate some of our members helping out please— AND NOT BY THE SAME FEW WHO DO EVERYTHING ELSE!

If you can help us please let any committee member know with the times you are available to help.





# Club Information

## Committee Members

Les Pace (Chair Person)  
Colin Tarry (Treasurer / Newsletter Editor)  
Richard Deacon (Secretary)  
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)

## Non Committee Positions

Newsletter Editor Colin Tarry email: [ndmrc@cjbv.org.uk](mailto:ndmrc@cjbv.org.uk)  
Sales Officer John Walker email: [pamjohn38@btinternet.com](mailto:pamjohn38@btinternet.com)

## Club Membership Rates

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

Adult membership £35 per year, Junior membership £10 per year.

## **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.