

Newsletter

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	ı	2	3	4	5	6		



CONTENTS (of key articles)

From the Editors Cab Window / Club Torque				
Chairman's Ramblings				
Exhibition flyers 2018 / A winter coat needed				
How is the Store Shed Lit Inside at Night?				
Who Am I, Northamptonshire Film Archive Trust film evening	Page 8			
Soar Valley exhibition photos				
The Northampton Engine Shed				
Cogenhoe exhibition - Greenford photos				
General Data Protection Regulation 2018				
Christmas Meal / Old style one pound coins				

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.

From the Editors Cab

Since the last newsletter, which was the August edition, the Club has exhibited at the Cogenhoe and Soar Valley exhibitions. Some pictures from both events appear in this edition.



Also our illustrious chairman has put pen to paper (or fingers to keyboard) to send you all a message.

Colin

CLUB TORQUE

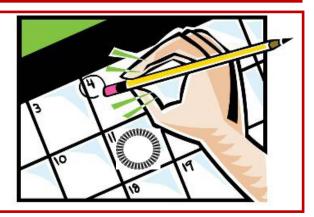
Date of next Committee Meeting

A date for the next committee has not been set. If there are any items for the next agenda, please let Richard have them ASAP.

Email: rjd156@btinternet.com

Club Night Test Track Dates 2017

20th Oct, 10th Nov, 1st & 22nd Dec





To New Member(s)

Cliff Simpson

CHAIRMAN'S RAMBLINGS

Dear Members

Here I am sitting in my workshop as usual, looking out at a very changeable day, weather wise. It is sunny at present but likely to rain shortly, so I will not be working on my outdoor layout today.

As most of you know, there was a sad moment at the Annual General Meeting when I had to announce that one of our long time members, Ralph Morbey, is now unable to carry on as a member due to ill health. He first joined us when the club meetings took place in the rooms on the top floor of Thornton House in Kingsthorpe Park around 27 years ago. Soon after joining he was heavily involved with the many projects that were ongoing at the time. We have moved several times since then and Ralph has been very positive and helpful on every occasion. He has been a great supporter of the club over many years and his enthusiasm and helpfulness will be sorely missed. However, on the bright side he was offered, and accepted to become an honorary member and he will try to visit in the future if his health allows.

We have come a long way since the AGM in 2016 and hopefully we can make a success of the new venue and meeting day. Special thanks need to go to all the committee members and especially Colin and Richard who both put in a lot of work to make the move successful. Amongst all the other jobs that needed to be planned, and then carried out, Richard oversaw the planning and construction of the new storage shed, and Colin arranged the lighting and security of the shed and constructed trolleys to make moving the layouts easier. This hard work behind the scenes helped to make the club's move seem fairly effortless but was an important part of the project. My part in all this was just to get in the way and appear to know what I was doing, and talk too much as usual!

Unfortunately due to the increased cost of the new venue we have had to raise the membership rates and the refreshments costs on the evening. This will be reviewed at the AGM next year and hopefully this will be sufficient to keep the club in the black and allow for expenditure on the layouts to continue. I was pleasantly surprised that we still had quite a healthy bank balance after all the expenditure we have had recently. However we need to keep an eye on expenditure in the future, and also see if we can attract some new members to spread the financial burden and increase the social interaction.

Our show this year at Cogenhoe seemed successful again and made us a decent profit, even though it was less than last year. Considering that the show is much smaller than the ones we used to put on, the profit seems to be healthy enough.

However I am hoping that with a few cost savings that next year's show will be more profitable. I want to thank all the committee members for their help and support which made the show the success that it was.

Also special thanks go to Michelle and Natalie who looked after the Tombola, Michael Castledine's daughter Alex and granddaughter Jade, who looked after the refreshments and to John Walker who was in charge of the club sales. Without their kind help the show would definitely not be as successful.

We have had the chance to take the new test track out to a couple of shows and it has been received well. People seem to enjoy looking at trains running on it and have often commented favourably. May I take this opportunity to welcome a new member into the club, Cliff has agreed to join us and we look forward to seeing his BR blue diesels and stock running regularly on Kingsthorpe and the test track.

You all know my feelings with regards to the club layouts, which I made known at the AGM. Over the next year I would like to see the club regularly attending local shows to raise our local profile and to promote membership. For this purpose I think we need to upgrade the existing layouts to show quality or build new ones. This is a matter for all of us to decide upon and I await your feedback.

With all that has happened over the last year I have probably forgotten something that is important, but at my age this is to be expected. Finally, something I have not forgotten and I think most important.

Thanks to all you members for your club support, also your help and patience with our move this year, and I hope we will now have a chance to grow and develop the existing layouts, and to think about new projects for the future.

Les Pace Chairman

Exhibition Flyers — 2018

A large quantity of A6 size flyers have been printed 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.



ADVANCED NOTICE

Will all members please note that the N&DMRC will NOT be meeting at Hardingstone on Friday 27th October as the hall is unavailable.



A Winter Coat Needed

The Club's Store Shed has been up since April in its original build state. All the external wood from which the shed has been constructed from, was copper dipped at the factory. This protection will not last for ever and we were advised by the erecters that before the on set of winter we should paint the building with some wood preservative. This we will be looking to do in the next couple of months. The more of us that can help with this task the better; if you can help please let any committee member know. With enough of us on the job we should get it done in a morning or afternoon.

How is the Store Shed Lit Inside in the Dark?

by Colin Tarry

By now a number of our Club members will have entered our Store Shed in the dark and have seen we now have some lighting in there. As we do not have any mains power supply to the Store Shed we had to decide how we would light it. Currently the Club's Store Shed is lit by two PAR operated 10 watt LED floodlights. These are standard mains operated devices.



They receive their power from a 12 volt lead acid car battery. In order to get 230 volts AC from a 12 volt car battery, a Pure Sine wave inverter is used. The particular inverter we are using is capable of delivering (a theoretical) 150 watts. As we are only currently drawing about 25 watts (includes the

electronics within the LED flood lights) we have plenty of capacity spare.

The flaw with this system is that eventually the car battery will run out of juice. In order to solve that problem we have installed a 4.3 watt solar panel on the Store Shed roof. This should keep the battery fully charged.

Incidentally if you are ever thinking of buying an inverter of your own, make sure you get a Pure Sine Wave type and NOT a Modified Sine Wave type. The Pure Sine wave is a smooth supply where as the Modified type is a square wave signal. Electronic components do not like the Modified Sine wave - they get hot - very hot and eventually burn out.

CAUTION CAUTION CAUTION

You will see in the Store Shed that the lights are plugged into standard 13 amp mains sockets. **DO NOT** plug anything else into these sockets. The system has only been designed for lights. Also there is NO earthing on this system—YET.

WHO AM I ? - Identify the Club Member

Below are several clues as to the identity of one of our Club members. Can you guess who it is and solve the puzzle Who Am I?



I live in a village off the Nene Valley

I'm interested in steam and electric traction both full size and model I'm involved in model railway and model engineering exhibitions both locally and further afield

I belong to 2 U3A Groups one of which one is railway related I've spent my entire career in engineering; a career in which I never lost my bearings.

I like to scratch build and assemble kits primarily with wagons and coaches

I have my own workshop which includes a lathe

Answers in the next newsletter

THE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE FILM ARCHIVE TRUST Registered Charity No.298527





Steam and Diesel Power on the Railways

An evening of archive films presented by the Northamptonshire Film Archive Trust. This evenings presentation is entitled "Steam and Diesel Power on the Railways".

When—Tuesday 14th November 2017 starting at 19:30.

How much— Tickets £5

Where– Wellingborough Museum, Dulley's Baths, 12 Castle Way, Wellingborough NN8 1XB

Soar Valley Model Railway Club Exhibition

Over the weekend of Saturday and Sunday being 2nd and 3rd of September our Club exhibited the new Test Track and the N gauge layout Jimmys End.

Following are some pictures of both layouts.





Two photos of Jimmys End









The Engine Shed at Northampton



The History of the Northampton Engine Shed

In 1838 a meeting was held in Northampton's Town Hall to first consider the requirement for a railway.

In 1845 Northampton's first railway station was built by the London and Birmingham Railway as part of its route to Blisworth and onto Peterborough, a distance of about 47 miles.

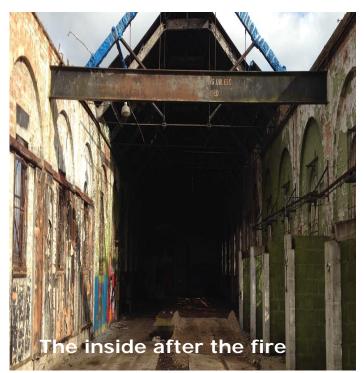
A new line joining Northampton to the Midland Railway was built in 1872 on St John's Street. The site is now home to the University of Northampton's St John's Halls of Residence, which uses railway "Totem" signs to sign up its various parts. Please see May 2015 newsletter for an article on this subject.

The Engine Shed was constructed in 1873 at the junction of the main London and North Western Railway line and the former Northampton branch line to St John's Street station. St John's Station closed on 3rd July 1939. As steam disappeared from the railways in conjunction with the Beeching Report closures, Northampton engine became redundant as a railway shed in 1965.

The Engine Shed Today

The old engine shed is now a Grade II listed building. In 2012, the University of Northampton entered into negotiations with Taylor Wimpey and Persimmon and Avon regarding the acquisition of just over 57 acres of land on what is now known as the Waterside Development, to establish a campus.

After its closure in 1965, the engine shed was converted into a Regional Civil Engineers Welding School by British Rail. Several alterations were made to the building including blocking up some of the windows and the building of ancillary buildings and internal adjustments. In 1998 the welding school was taken out of action and was sold to Avon cosmetics.



In 2000 there was a suspected arson attack in the Engine Shed

which damaged six of the Western Bays leaving the building open to the elements ever since.

The Engine Shed survived for many years as an empty and derelict shell with only the roof on its eastern half surviving.

The Engine Shed's Future

The Grade II listed building is being restored with £1.3m of Heritage Lottery Funding. This will house the University of Northampton Students' Union. Its to become a place to meet, have a coffee and be a place for society events. The building's structural roof trusses, windows and decorative brickwork would be retained alongside original railway

lines, which would be carefully recovered and replaced following development works.

Lets hope we can get a look round when the work is finished.



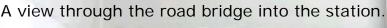
Cogenhoe Exhibition 2017

by Colin Tarry

Some photos around Greenford whilst at our Club exhibition at Cogenhoe on August 19th last.



First things first. Who left their lunch near the main line? We've heard of leaves on the line, but lunch on the line is a new one!





Diesel hydraulic power at Greenford. Amazingly its **not** mine. Someone else with good taste!





Eventually the desire to be at the controls of a diesel hydraulic is just too much to resist.; and some have to look away in disgust.





[above]

Greenford bus station

[centre]

A 2 car electric unit waits at Greenford





European Union's General Data Protection Regulation

by Colin Tarry

The European Union's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) was passed in April this year and will come into effect on 25th May 2018.

What are the regulations for?

The new law comes following the ever increasing digital era of the internet, mobile devices, online banking and social media, replacing the 1995 EU Data Protection Directive. This new legislation is intended to better protect our club members against data breaches caused by service providers. Businesses will benefit through the harmonisation of European data protection regulations therefore making it easier to comply.

What is the impact on our Club?

Those not conforming to the new requirements can expect fines amounting to as much as 4% of their previous year's total revenue.

Come 2018, our club must keep track of sensitive personal data and have proven audit trails of the processing of such information. Should a breach occur, notification to the data protection authorities (in the UK it is the Information Commissioner's Office) must be provided within 72 hours.

How is the N&DMRC protecting your data?

As the membership secretary of this Club, it will be, as it is now, my responsibility to take all steps to insure the personal data of members is as secure as possible. I am currently building and transferring all members details from an Excel spreadsheet to an Access database. This will enable better security as well as more flexibility in data manipulation and management. Additionally the media that stores members details is not physically accessible by the internet on a permanent basis. At times it will be necessary for the database to have a physical link to the internet in order to distribute information to members electronically.

I will distribute more information to members between now and May 2018 as it becomes clear exactly what needs to be done in order to comply with the new regulation.

Colin Tarry Treasurer / Membership Secretary

CHRISTMAS DINNER 2017

This years Christmas Dinner will be held on Tuesday 5th December 2017. The venue is the same as last year being the Brampton Halt, Pitsford Road, Chapel Brampton, Northampton NN6 8BA.

We still have a few places left so if you want to come please put your name on the booking sheet next week at Club or let me know by email. I will also require a £10 per person deposit, plus your food requirements on the evening. 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 £24.95 per person plus £1.00 per person as a gratuity. A couple of years back a Club member was out of pocket when we left it to individuals to settle up the gratuity. In view of this, we are adding the gratuity up front. For those wanting Cheese & Biscuits there is an additional charge of £2.00 plus coffee/tea is extra if you don't have it as an alternative pudding.

The final date for booking is Friday 20th October. I will need to collect the balance from you by Friday 17th November, either by cash or a cheque made payable to "Northampton & District Model Railway Club".

Colin Tarry Treasurer

Old Style One Pound Coins

The old style one pound coins cease to be legal tender after Sunday 15th October 2017. After this date I will **NOT** expect to see any of these in the Friday night Club subs pot. I will be keeping a look out after this date for a while to make sure. It would be nice to say

we can trust our members but when I find foreign coins and washers in the pot then I can't!

Colin Tarry Treasurer

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.