

# Newsletter

Between the Lines



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

From the Editors Cab Window / Club Torque	Page 3
Chairman's Ramblings	Page 4
Tribute to Peter Escott	Page 6
Shed spring clean and preservative coating	Page 9
2020 club events—participation calendar	Page 10
Tombola / Demo layout name?	Page 11
Club uniform	Page 12
Club insurance—Important notice	Page 13

### **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 another club member in then please be ready to move your vehicle in order to let them out.

**DO NOT block anyone in who is NOT a Club member**

## From the Editors Cab Window

Welcome to the Spring edition of Between the Lines.

As you might expect this edition pays tribute to our departed member, Peter Escott. As it said on his funeral order of service, Peter had reached the " End of the Line".

Further on in this edition are details of four events that the club is participating in this year; one of these is our own exhibition at Roade.

*Colin*



## Club Torque

### Date of next Committee Meeting

A date for the next committee is Monday 23rd March. If there are any items for the next agenda, please let Richard have them ASAP.

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

## Club Night Demonstration Layout Dates 2020

We are now having this out every other week. Here are some dates of the demonstration layout running nights :-

**April 10th & 24th, May 8th & 22nd, June 5th & 26th, July 10th & 24th, August 7th & 28th, September 11th & 25th**

***There are big date gaps in June & August as the club has events on. See page 10.***



**All dates are subject to change**

**If you use the demonstration layout please help to erect it and dismantle it at the end of the evening. There have been a number of members recently who use the demonstration layout and then conveniently disappear when its packing up time.**

# Chairman's Ramblings

Dear Members

Firstly, on a serious note there is reference made in this news letter to the sad loss of yet another one of our much loved members, **Peter Escott**. He was such a good natured friendly person, who was always willing to help anyone at any time, and at his funeral his family confirmed this with some wonderful words on his life and personality. I am not that great at putting feelings into words, but I will greatly miss him. He will also be sadly missed at the club, and it will never be quite the same without him.



## IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS

Not really, I just wanted to get your attention as I am sure nobody usually reads this rubbish I write. As I look out of my workshop window writing this drivel, it is once again raining. Will it ever stop or will the man building the large wooden boat at the end of my street, not be as mad as we all think he is.

I wish to unreservedly apologise for Friday evening when I am sure some of you noticed I had purchased the wrong size connectors for the Exhibition layout, and then I threw my toys out of the pram when this was pointed out to me ( I am such a child). This Friday it might be worth discussing other options for changing the connectors. Hopefully I might be able to get it right this time.

When I was at the O guild show at the Kettering Leisure Village yesterday I met Jackie Kneeshaw who was the lady who ran the other model railway exhibition that we attended there last year with Castle Station as a static exhibit, and was cancelled this year.

She introduced me to the lady who has now taken over from her and who is currently planning a new show next year and is going through all the paperwork, and will let us know if we can possibly take Castle Station as a working layout to the new show next year.

Please remember we really do need to have a shed clear out. This is mentioned on page 9 of this newsletter. We need the space for layouts and other commonly used items rather than items that NEVER see the light of day and are seldom used. As I have said often times before, there are items stored in the shed that I know have been with the club for over 30 years and never been used.

With reference to the other club layouts, I currently have a couple of the Kingsthorpe boards in my garage and Paul and I are hoping to add a new traverser/turntable at one end to allow the hidden sidings to be used more usefully. Also I have had a chance to renew some of the ballasting which is difficult to do on a club night as the boards have to be stored on edge just when the glue for the ballast is still wet! Hopefully we can also commence work on the large 00 fiddle yard that will be used for the Castle Station and the new planned layout.

As usual Thanks go to all the committee and club members for all your help and support, hopefully this year will be a good one.

Best wishes

# Les Pace

Chairman NDMRC

# Peter John Escott 1931—2020

by Colin Tarry

On February 7th the club lost another of its stalwart members—Peter Escott. He had been taken into a hospice in Rushden and realistically we knew then, it was sadly just matter of time. He lived to the grand age of 88.



Peter was a regular contributor to the club newsletter with pictures and words about his railway adventures to the many heritage railways in the UK. He was also a big follower of main line steam action within Northamptonshire and further a field.

The following is an abridged extract from the eulogy read out at Peter's funeral, at which the Club was represented by John Baxter, Richard Deacon, Michael Castledine, Les Pace and Colin Tarry.

*" Born in London in 1931, Peter welcomed a brother; Malcolm; married Janette; had 2 children, Karen and Graham; welcomed 2 grandchildren, Emma and Hannah and 3 great-grandchildren, Brandon, Mia and Poppy. Peter was extremely thrilled to have reached this milestone.*

*At age 11, both Peter's parents were taken seriously ill. Peter's father was given the last rites but amazingly recovered, sadly, his mother died leaving the family distraught.*

*Peter left school at 14 and attended college to learn building crafts. Peter chose not continue with building training and undertook a mechanical course. He then took up employment as a Junior Draughtsman with the Electricity Board. Peter progressed and was employed by several companies including Zenith Carburettors; Scammell Lorries; Bedford Commercial Vehicles; Vauxhall/GM Motors and finally Aston Martin Tickford. Peter became a Senior Project Engineer working on carburettor and engine development and cold weather field testing in Canada, Finland and Sweden.*

*He was the first to design and develop a specific carburettor upgrade which he handmade. This was so successful it went into full production and is a key part of a modern carburettor.*

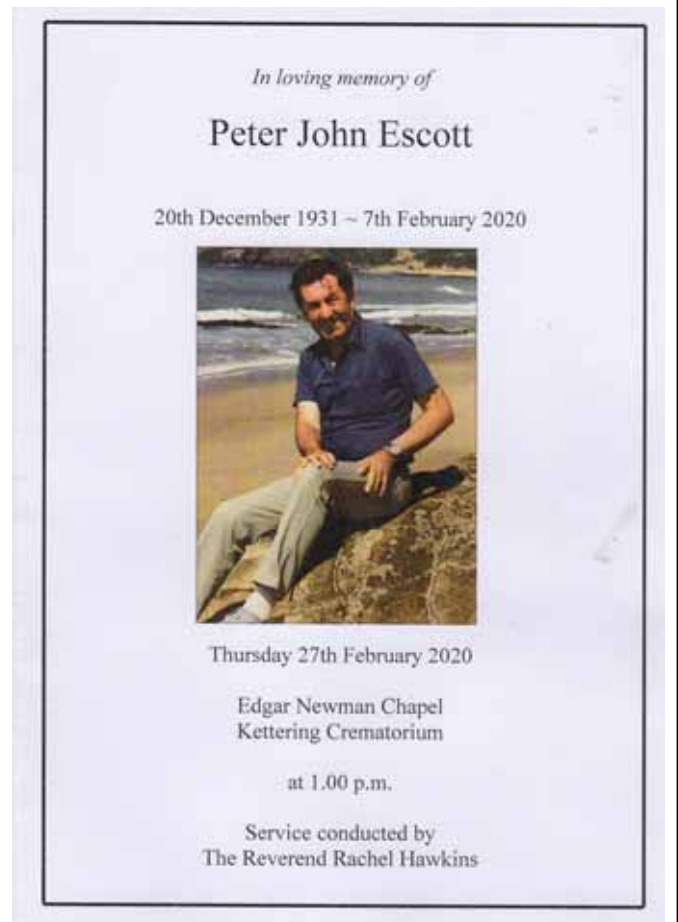
*In 1950 Peter was conscripted into National Service with the Royal Artillery, commencing as a Gunner and progressing to a mechanic with the R.E.M.E. (Royal Electrical & Mechanical Engineers). It was here he learnt to drive cars; lorries; motorbikes and tanks. Peter never undertook a driving test yet became an accomplished driver, often heard saying "I've never taken a driving test in my life". Peter was always proud he never forgot his army service number. He resigned from conscription in 1952 and joined the Territorial Army up to 1966.*

*Peter was often heard in the garage sawing wood and hammering nails. Silence would follow, the door would open and out popped items ranging from a box kite, a sledge or bird box. There was nothing he couldn't make. Peter also took up wine making. Peter joined a wine club at Vauxhalls winning many awards for his Gooseberry, Damson and Elderberry wines.*

*Peter also had a passion for fishing and with his family Peter attended car rallies; game fairs and became a proficient model railway maker.*

*Peter became obsessed with steam trains and enjoyed many trips on famous trains such as the Sir Nigel Gresley, the Union of South Africa and the Mallard. For his 80th Birthday his family treated to him to a trip to Lincoln aboard the Oliver Cromwell with full Silver Service.*

*Peter retired in 1989 and took up family ancestry. This became a detailed and dedicated pursuit visiting many locations, record offices and using online genealogical sites. Peter was able to trace relatives as far back as 1770 but his ultimate goal was always to trace the birth of his mother, Florence. Sadly, this one aim eluded him.*



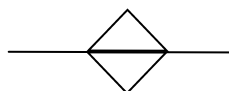
*Janette, Peter's wife, died in 2006. Peter was devastated and threw himself into occupying all his time with his family, more steam trains, and lots more fishing!! He joined a local fishing club soon becoming their Treasurer.*

In 2010, Peter was diagnosed with Prostate cancer, however he refused to give in and threw himself into even more activities. He remained spritely and strong, took up dancing and table tennis, pursuits he had enjoyed in his youth. It was at the dancing club that he met Sue.

*Peter and Sue were able to enjoy 10 loving years together creating many happy memories largely centred around steam train trips. Sue, like the rest of the family, became a train expert!!*

*In 2017 Peter and Sue survived a catastrophic incident caused by Storm Doris whereby a 120 foot Poplar tree crashed through their home. It narrowly missed the pair of them whilst they ate their breakfast. Peter and Sue were temporarily relocated whilst their home underwent an extensive 9 month rebuild.*

*In the latter part of 2019 Peter was diagnosed with a second cancer. Sadly, this time, however, Peter was not able to fight the spread of the cancers and he died on February 7<sup>th</sup> following a short struggle. "*



For me personally it's a sad time as it was Peter who persuaded me to join the club. When the club put on its exhibition in November 2009 at Weston Favell School, it was Peter who came across to myself and Margaret whilst we were viewing the old Test Track. After chatting with us for some time he said to me why don't I come along to the Kingsthorpe Community Centre and see for myself what the club does. In January 2010 I went along and after a couple of visits decided to join. For me, I've Peter to thank and for the rest of you, you've Peter to blame.

Over the next few newsletter issues I will reprint some of the material that Peter provided for the newsletters in his series entitled "The Peter Escott Collection".

Peter also gave me some video he had taken of his railway trips, so I'll get these edited and put on YouTube.



# Shed Spring Clean & Preservative Coating

Once the weather gets a bit warmer and dryer, we need to spring clean the shed.



The list of jobs include: -

- Clear out and take to the tip any clutter we are not using or have the potential to use.
- Review the current shelving and decide if we need it all erected.
- Make room to house the Castle Station layout
- The MOST IMPORTANT—eradicate / exterminate any inhabitants who have 8 legs.



When summer arrives we will need to apply a coat of wood preservative to the external faces of the shed. This can be done on a Friday night as summer gives us the light nights and also it only about 90 mins to do with half a dozen of us.

Once we have some dates, which are dictated by the weather, we will need some volunteers. The spring clean we normally do in the day time.

# 2020 Club Events — Participation Calendar

**Gt Central Railway Model Event** at Quorn  
June 19th-21st (Friday-Sunday) inclusive  
We will be taking the Demonstration layout.  
Thursday June 20th is set up day.

**N&DMRC Annual Exhibition** at Roade  
August 15th (Saturday)  
We will be taking the Kingsthorpe layout.  
Further details to follow nearer the time.  
We have some flyers to advertise this event so please distribute some when and where ever you can.

**Soar Valley MRC Exhibition** at Loughborough  
August 22nd/23rd (Saturday & Sunday)  
We will be taking the Demonstration layout.  
We will set up on Saturday.

**Northampton Heritage Fair** at Abington Park  
September 12th (Saturday)  
We will be taking the Northampton Castle Station layout.

**Rushden Historical Transport Society Model weekend**  
at Rushden  
September 19th-20th **PLEASE NOTE THE DATE CHANGE**  
We will be taking the Demonstration layout.  
Set up day is yet to be finalised.

*There will be NO meetings at Hardingstone on Friday's June 19th, August 14th, August 21st and September 18th. This is because club night was poorly attended last year prior to these events.*

# TOMBOLA

We are still collecting items for our Club Tombola which we will run at our Roade exhibition in August. Please bring in any items that are new or very nearly new. Any edible items must have a Use/Sell By Date of September 2020 or longer. If you bring any that is breakable/fragile please mark it as such on the box/bag you bring it in.

We need a more concerted contribution effort by members please as we ran out of prizes very quickly at last years exhibition. Any unwanted Christmas or birthday presents can make ideal Tombola prizes.

Despite a plea / request for Tombola items in the last two newsletters, we are not getting any response from the membership. Will please have a look at home and see if you have anything for the Tombola. If you have nothing we will accept a financial contribution which we can then use to purchase some Tombola items.

## **Name It! - Test Track / Demonstration Layout**

In response to the appeal to club members to come up with an alternative name for the demonstration layout, I have had several suggestions from one member. These will be discussed at our next committee meeting.



# Club Uniform

If you wish to, order any items of Club Uniform then please get in touch with Colin Tarry.

In order to help you gauge (pun intended) the size of item(s) you require there is information available in the club folder.

The following items are available:

A price list is also in the club folder.

All body clothing has the club logo on and your name.

The cap only has the club logo.

**Please note that a £5 deposit will be required for EACH item ordered. As these items are personalised, we are unable to give refunds or do exchanges where incorrect sizes have been ordered.**



ITEM	GENDER	PRODUCT No	SIZE	PRICE
Polo shirt	Mens	R539M	S,M,L,XL,2XL	£22.00
Polo shirt	Mens	R539M	3XL, 4XL	£25.00
Polo shirt	Ladies	R539F	8,10,12,14,16,18	£22.00
Polo shirt	Ladies	R539F	20,22	£25.00
Polo shirt	Childs	R539B	S,M,L,XL,2XL	£22.00
Sweat shirt	Unisex	R762M	S,M,L,XL,2XL	£26.00
Sweat shirt	Unisex	R762M	3XL, 4XL	£27.00
Sweat shirt	Childs	R762B	S,M,L,XL,2XL	£26.00
Fleece	Mens	R870M	S,M,L,XL,2XL	£29.00
Fleece	Mens	R870M	3XL, 4XL	£31.00
Fleece	Ladies	R870F	8,10,12,14,16,18	£29.00
Fleece	Ladies	R870F	20,22	£31.00
Fleece	Childs	R870B	S,M,L,XL,2XL	£29.00
Cap	Unisex	BC015	One size fits all	£11.00

## Club Insurance — Important Change

We are about to renew the Club's insurance policy with our brokers.

There is part of the policy that some members need to be aware of. This concerns those members under the age of 16 years and over 85 years of age.

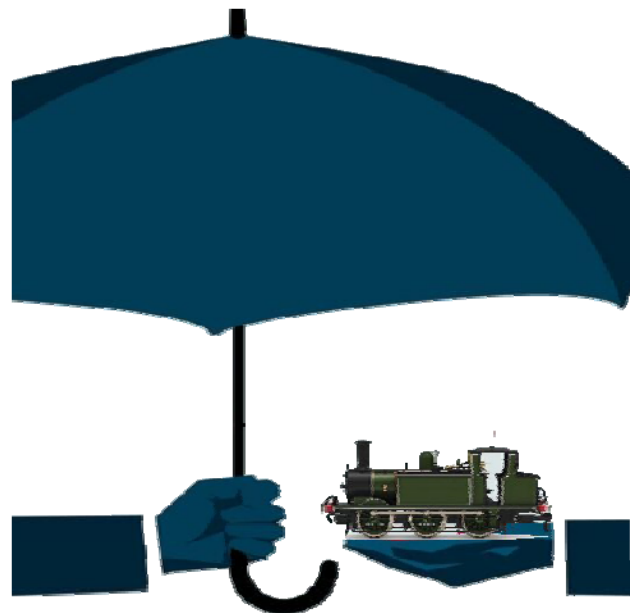
Members under the age of 16 years old and over 85 years old are NOT covered by the Club's Personal Accident Cover.

However those members under 16 years of age and over 85 years old are covered for personal accident when a case of negligence is proved.

We have tried to get our policy altered to have inclusive personal accident cover for all members irrespective of age. The insurance under writers are unwilling to do this.

Another point that we need to make members aware of is that NO member is covered for Personal Accident Cover when using powered wood working machinery.

We have also looked at alternative insurers, but the problem here is that they are not willing to cover the outside storage shed that we have. For the time being we must stay with our current insurers.



# Club Information

## Committee Members

Les Pace (Chair Person)                      Colin Tarry (Treasurer)  
Richard Deacon (Secretary)              Michael Castledine  
Craig Dawkins (Exhibition Manager)

Web site: <https://ndmrc.org>

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

## Non Committee Positions

Newsletter Editor Colin Tarry    email: [wizzo@hymek.net](mailto:wizzo@hymek.net)

Sales Officer John Walker    email: [pamjohn38@btinternet.com](mailto: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.

### **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.

