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# The News Sheet

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## The Chairman's Notes

March appears to have vanished in a flash, and a flurry of activity at Colney Heath has certainly changed everything which is almost an annual affair. The site reflected how I would imagine the Somme looked in the First World War but has now been rotivated and partially reseeded and is starting to look great, as is the Ground Level Railway with the same amount of track as last year being up and running in time for the start of the season.

Weather permitting there would have been more, but members have turned their attention to the wind-felled trees of earlier in the year in time to make the site safe in time for the start of the running season. A start that is dauntingly close but all that hard work put in to date should see everything completed in the knick of time as usual.

Away from Colney Heath, the meeting room at HQ has seen some fantastic meetings, the first a discussion lead by our own Mike Chrisp on painting a model, with many a useful tip for those contemplating doing just that, which author Christopher Vine recommends contemplation of painting before construction.

The second meeting was the Ground Level Railway Section's first official meeting at HQ with a slide show and talk on how the GLR started and where it is heading. The last meeting to have happened as I write this was Nick Rudoe's talk, which due to the dreaded 'lurgie' I missed but Nick tells me it was well attended, and everyone else tells me it was an entertaining night.

Vacant positions within the Council meant that this month due to work and personal commitments the Council meeting had to be delayed a week and it was not possible to inform everybody of this change. I do hope that this did not inconvenience anybody.

It did allow for a slight change of scene for us as we held the meeting with the 'OO' portable track erected especially for us. Well ok, it wasn't really especially for us but it was great to see it up in preparation for their next exhibition on the 14<sup>th</sup> April. Good Luck to you guys and sorry I won't be there because I should be at Villa Park!

Lastly a reminder about AGM Nominations: the deadline for receipt of nominations to stand for the nine elected positions on the Council is last post Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2007; unfortunately it will not be possible to stand for election on the night of the AGM.

In order to be nominated you must send a piece of paper with your name and signature, the position for which you wish to stand, along with the names and signatures of

the members proposing and seconding you. You must also include a brief manifesto describing who you are, why you are standing and your vision for the future of the Society.

Nominations should be marked NLSME Nominations c/o Nick Rudoe and be sent to his address, which can be found on the back of this News Sheet. Nick and his assistant Dave Lawrence will not open any correctly marked envelope until after this deadline has closed.

We look forward to receiving your nominations and Good Luck to those standing.

*Donal Corcoran*

## **Acting Treasurer's Report**

As many of you will be aware Kieran Corcoran has had to step down as Society Treasurer, because of his work commitments. Having been a Council Member for a number of years I have volunteered (?) to take over the position in the meantime to complete the financial figures for the year-end. It is my intention to stand for election to the position of Treasurer at the forthcoming AGM.

At the recent Council Meeting we were pleased to elect one new Member back into the Society:-

Allan Feldman

Interests:- Slot Cars and OO

I would like to remind all members that subscriptions are due on the 1<sup>st</sup> April; please send a cheque payable to the NLSME, together with your membership card and a stamped, addressed envelope for return of your card and receipt to me at the address shown on the back of the News Sheet.

The rates for the year 1<sup>st</sup> April 2007 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2008 as agreed at the EGM in July 2006 are as follows:-

Full Membership           £52.00

Senior Citizens           £47.00 (available after paying Full Membership rate for a period of five years.)

Country Membership   £20.00

Young Person/Student Membership   £6.00 or £1.00 per year of age. (i.e. 16 years old = £16)

*Mike Foreman*

### **Cover picture:**

Peter Funk, caught in the act of felling (with assistance from others) the poplar tree situated just past the tunnel at Tyttenhanger, which was uprooted by recent storm-force winds.

**Photo:** Mike Chrisp

# The March General Meeting by OMAH Mk 2

## “Forum – Painting our Models”

Mike Chrisp welcomed an excellent turnout of members to the Headquarters for what developed into a first-rate meeting.

The subject of the Forum “*Painting our Models*” was no doubt spawned by the publication of that outstanding book “*How (not) to paint a locomotive*” by C. Vine. It is fast becoming the bible of locomotive decorators and I expect that in one hundred years’ time it will become a testament of model engineering and that prospective members to the Club will need to recite a few paragraphs from it to gain admission to the Society! The good book was often referred to during the evening.

Anyway to get back to the meeting. Mike with his usual eloquence started the get-together off with a few ‘parish notices’ and a description of the prizes that thoughtful members had brought for the raffle. We then got on with the substance of the meeting:- Painting.

A forum in the case of the NLSME seems to be the place where a subject is chosen and experts on all sides contribute in an informed and friendly manner. And that is exactly what happened. Mike started the ball rolling with the constructive statement that a plan and a sequence is needed before painting is attempted or else disaster will ensue, ending in tears. “*Painting is all we know of heaven and all we need of hell*” (adapted from Emily Dickinson 1830-1886).

The forum then materialised and your scribe can only record in an abbreviated fashion some of the words of wisdom uttered by our knowledgeable folk. Names have been omitted in order to protect the innocent.

“A good etch primer is needed to be applied to a scrupulously clean surface free of grease and oil.

Acid etch primer is the best but for Health and Safety reasons it is rather difficult to obtain.

Cellulose thinners can be used to clean surfaces and can be used to thin down all types of paint except water derived paints.

It is best to paint outside in May. No flies, no pollen, warm and no washing on the line. 6-8 coats can be applied in an hour.

A plastic sheet painting tent can be constructed indoors and pressurised to keep air clean and dust free. Use a face mask.

Cellulose paint is good but brittle although not so brittle if a good etch primer is used first to improve adhesion. But NBG on wooden gliders anyway.

Get to know the properties of one brand of paint and work with that. Some companies have large 'research' departments that are willing to help, if the correct approach is used. A number of manufactures will produce paint that is 'old' at the start.

Water based paints can be used instead of cellulose and large DIY stores can mix colours exactly according to a spectrometer reading. All colours have international '*rad numbers*' and if that is known, an exact match can be made.

Turning the model on a rack will prevent curtains. A turntable will facilitate painting of the entire model without moving it with sticky fingers and marking it. In the past full sized locomotive were painted with four-inch brushes, so why bother?

A bath of thinners to strip the paint from a job that has gone wrong is only likely to be really suitable for work painted with cellulose paint, and a fresh start made. A test piece should be used if possible. It can be involved in the 'scratch test' where diagonal lines 1mm apart are scratched on the piece and tested for adhesion.

Powder coating is good but it is a specialised process and the result can be rather thick.

There seems to be a variety of satisfactory matt blacks for smoke boxes, Auto K being recommended. (No inducements).

Paint could be stored on tumbling tumblers so that they are always in a mixed and ready condition. Don't use the lathe for this procedure and keep the lid securely on!"

One of the objects on the table was a diesel loco shell. It was painted with *Japlac* 'British Racing Green' synthetic enamel paint, thinned with cellulose thinners to bring it to a constituency suitable for spraying. The cab roof was painted with *Crown* non-drip '*Velvet Black*' paint also thinned with cellulose thinners for spraying.

Also on the table was a side tank painted in matt black, a turntable, two spray guns with filters and a grit blaster. Unfortunately time was against the band of model engineers and forum members, so little could be said about these items. They shall have to form the focus of a further forum on painting which is sure to take place in the near future.

Mr Vine took two years to paint his model *Bongo*. We hope that it won't be two years before we repeat a painting forum.

Mike closed the meeting at just past ten after thanking Ron Thorogood for the excellent tea and biscuits provided during the break. The satisfied members then departed into the cold, dark and wet night to their warm homes or perhaps to visit a welcoming local hostelry for refreshment and reflection.

*Ian Johnston*

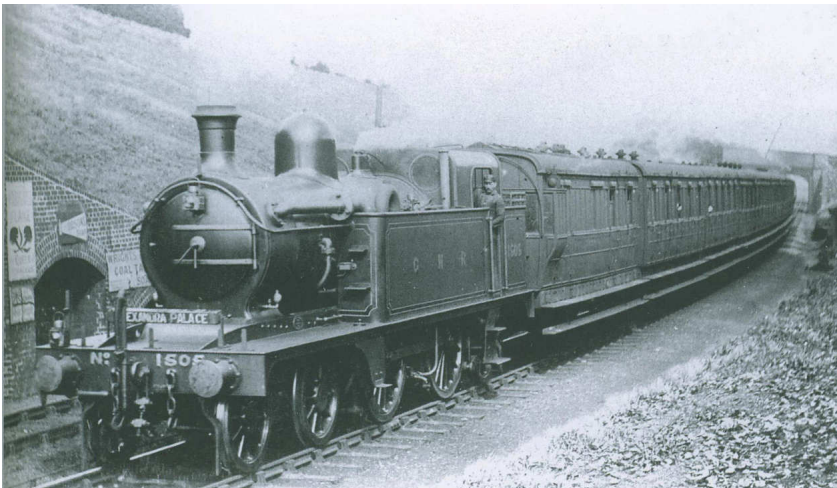
## The March Loco Section Meeting by Roger Bell

Adrian opened the meeting and introduced our speaker as one of the people who puts a lot into the club, active in gauge one, a busy person: our superb Editor, Nick Rudoe.

His topic for the evening was a PowerPoint presentation entitled 'The Alexandra Palace, Barnet and Edgware branches of the GNR'.

Nick's interest in railways started at the age of six in Finchley in 1951 when he would visit a friend's house that backed onto the line; amidst the tube trains a coal train would pass every two hours or so, hauled by a Gresley N2, although he did not recognise it as such at his age. At the age of sixteen whilst at school at Highgate he would visit the GNR surface station above the tube line there. In 1971 he got married, started a family and settled in a job, and moved into a house that also backed onto the Barnet branch, near West Finchley station. He then started to do research into the three lines and has been doing this for the last twenty five to thirty years. It was suggested to him recently that he made his research more publicly available, which has led to this presentation.

The GNR arrived in the 1850's as an East coast route to Scotland. In the 1860's the need was felt for a rail link to Highgate and beyond, due to people wanting to travel by rail to work. This era saw the beginnings of commuting. In addition the capital



*Class C2 (later C12) 4-4-2T No. 1505 approaches Crouch End Station in GNR days .*

**Photo:** Lens of Sutton

was increasing in importance, which meant that trade in London was growing and property prices rising. After Parliamentary debate two acts were passed, the 1862 Act for the building of the Edgware, Highgate and London railway and the 1864 act for the Highgate to Alexandra Palace branch. However, competition for the routes led to three separate plans being put forward by the GNR, the Midland Railway and the EHL. The EHL won although the GNR made an offer to buy the line off them. A map of the routes showed the three branches from Finsbury Park to Edgware, High Barnet and Alexandra Palace.

The pictures were a joy to see, for example those of the stations with ladies clad in the long dresses of the day, and horse-drawn vehicles. At Highgate a cast iron gent's urinal stood on the island platform. Many pictures of the stations were taken by the railway company and their staff posed in them. Many buildings still stand and are protected. Locomotives of the day were a C2 4-4-2T, a Stirling 0-4-4T and a Stirling F2 0-4-2, to name a few.



*Steam Railmotor No.2, designed by HA Ivatt, seen at Edgware in 1906. The diminutive 0-4-0T mounted on the same frame as the 53-seat car was not powerful enough to draw an extra coach when extra capacity was needed, and was therefore abandoned after about a year.*

**Photo:** Paul Strong Collection

The link to Barnet was completed on 1<sup>st</sup> April 1872 and the line to Alexandra Palace was opened on 24th May 1873. The Finchley to Edgware shuttle in 1906 was an unsuccessful experiment as the steam rail motor could only haul one coach, so it was abandoned.

The population of the area grew from 4,900 in 1861 to 11,200 in 1881, 22,000 in 1901 and 40,000 in 1911. This led to a big increase in demand for passenger and freight services. There was a bottleneck between Finsbury Park and Kings Cross, the worst congestion being near the Copenhagen and Maiden Lane tunnels. The arrival of



*A Gresley N2 pulling a Quad-Art set out of Finchley Church End (since renamed Finchley Central) in the 1930s.* **Photo:** John Smith

the tube trains in 1907 helped relieve this congestion. But in 1910 there were still only 63 trains a day between Finsbury Park and High Barnet. The LNER did some trial running with a Church End to Edgware shuttle in 1929 but this was withdrawn less than a year later in 1930.

The builders of some new houses in Nether Street persuaded the LNER to open a station at West Finchley in 1933.

One picture captured the 50th anniversary celebration of the *Flying Scotsman* service at Alexandra Palace Station where an A4 was in steam; this was on 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> September 1938. Bert Mead (age 91) spoke up saying that he was there with his son to have a look at the locomotives. He also recalled that it was on that day that Neville Chamberlain announced his peace treaty with Adolf Hitler and broadcast on the radio at home that evening that historic statement “Peace in our time”.

In 1923 the LNER were aware of congestion on the Finsbury Park line and plans for electrification were made in 1924. In 1935 the London Passenger Transport Board created a modernisation plan and in 1937 these branches were on the map of the underground and work had started on electrification. A new station at East Finchley was under construction in early 1938 and Underground trains first ran through this station on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 1938.



Bomb damage was shown to the mouth of Highgate west tunnel early in 1941; Bert said that he recalls seeing that.

On the 1<sup>st</sup> January 1948 the Alexandra Palace branch became part of BR Eastern Region. Due to a decline in passengers the line was closed in 1954, but freight continued until 1961 on all of the three branches. Various railway enthusiast steam excursions were shown from 1953, 1956, 1959 and 1961.

The line from Finsbury Park to East Finchley continued to be used for tube stock movements, and Nick showed a photo of 1938 tube stock crossing over the bridge at Finsbury Park, hauled by a battery loco. The line finally closed in September 1970, due to the condition of the bridge over the ECML at Finsbury Park, and of the bridge at Crouch End.

As the presentation concluded Nick thanked us for our time and patience and we all applauded in the usual manner in appreciation, and Adrian said that it had brought back personal memories for some of our members.

The next loco section meeting is a work in progress.

Our attention was drawn to the following events:-

A London Transport in Miniature Open Weekend on 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> April at Acton Depot.

Model Engineering Show Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> and Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> April, 10am until 5pm at Milestones, Churchill Way, West Basingstoke.

A Steam Fair on 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> May 11am until 5pm at the Royal Gunpowder Mills, Waltham Abbey.

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## For Sale

Myford Super 7 lathe with screw-cutting gearbox, 5" three-jaw chuck, face plate, hard and soft centres, bench model, very good condition.£800. ono.

Contact: **Ron Todd**

# **GENERAL MEETINGS 2007: FORTHCOMING PROGRAMME**

**by Mike Chrisp**

Unless otherwise indicated, all our General Meetings are held 8–10pm at NLSME Headquarters in Legion Way, North Finchley. Ron Thorogood kindly takes time out to prepare and dispense coffee, tea and biscuits at around 9pm; all donations to cover costs are welcome. A raffle has become a customary feature, any prizes for which are also much appreciated. All profits from teatime and the raffles help towards club funds.

Any ideas you may have for meetings are gratefully received, and if you feel you can contribute in any way to the enlightenment and/or entertainment of your fellow members, please call me so I can make the necessary arrangements.

Our meeting hall can comfortably seat about fifty; for various reasons our regular attendance has dwindled over the years – I can remember occasions when it was ‘standing room only’, but that was some time ago. In view of this, I hope you will forgive me for asking you to make a particular effort to attend meetings when we have special Guest Speakers, and I see no reason why you shouldn’t bring friends and/or family with you as guests to enjoy our General Meetings.

We look forward to your company ...

## **6 APRIL 2007 – MALCOLM HIGH: LASER CUTTING FOR MODEL ENGINEERS**

Preparing sheet and plate material for our model engineering projects requires expertise and can be awkward, time consuming and frustrating. Once one set of frames for a locomotive or hornplates for a traction engine have been hacksawed and filed, the prospect of repeating the process for the next model may not be viewed with much enthusiasm!

Tonight’s speaker will have travelled from Doncaster to explain the art, science and technology of preparing intricate components to streamline the production of our model engineering projects and enhance their fidelity to prototype.

A recently retired lecturer, Malcolm is an excellent speaker with considerable knowledge and expertise in this and other aspects of modern technology. Doubtless he will bring many examples of his work to a meeting which is one definitely not to be missed!

## **4 MAY 2007 – ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

This year’s AGM has returned to our usual first Friday slot to accommodate the Harrogate Exhibition which will be held 11-13 May 2007.

From an administrative point of view, the Annual General Meeting may be considered the most important of the year. It provides an opportunity to review the recent past and to look forward to the future. It is also the time when those involved in the day-to-day running of our Society are elected to office.

If you have an interest in Society affairs and the way they are managed, you should attend the Annual General Meeting to air your views.

**1 JUNE 2007 – BRAKES & BREAKS**

This evening we shall be addressed by two of our own members: Bert Mead and Jim Macdonald.

Bert’s experience of full size railway practice and building miniature live steam locomotives means that he has much to offer on these topics. His theme for tonight will be the Westinghouse brake.

There can be little doubt that Jim is widely travelled. As a trained BBC cameraman he has a good eye for a picture and enjoys taking photographs. He has also demonstrated an enviable ability to assemble a most interesting and enlightening view of the places he has visited. Tonight he will take us on an illustrated tour of his more recent excursions – breaks both near and far.

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**SITE MANAGER’S REPORT FOR MARCH 2007**

Throughout the winter working party season a lot of maintenance work has been completed at Colney Heath. I consider that this winter’s working season has been one of the best for many years, with many jobs being completed by many enthusiastic folk. I am much heartened by the comradeship of all who have done so much to improve the site.

There still remains much tidying up to be done as well as the completion of some of the jobs. It is my intention to have the site open for working parties from Monday, 2 April to Friday, 6 April - I will attempt to be there most of those days - just come along and join in. Let us hope that the Spring has really returned and that the weather is conducive to us getting everything ready for the Easter opening.

May I remind all dog owners who bring their dogs to the Colney Heath site to clear up after their pets! Already this year some of the Winter Working Party folk have had some 'sticky' incidents!! Many thanks.

*David Harris*

<b>Track Steward Rota 2007</b>				
<b>Date</b>	<b>Senior Steward</b>	<b>Track Steward</b>	<b>Track Steward</b>	<b>Track Steward</b>
08-Apr	Maurice Cummins	Ron Price	Graham Price	Guy Ellerby
15-Apr	David Harris (1)	John Amoss	Mark Braley	Jeffrey Bolton
22-Apr	Mike Chrisp (1)	Adrian Newson	Derrick Franklin (1)	Keith Ashman
29-Apr	Brian Apthorpe (1)	David Jones	Brian Hall	Michael Gibbs
06-May	Tony Dunbar	Jack Edwards	Kevin Wilson	Adam Gorski
13-May	Grahame Ainge	Peter Foreman	Jeremy Deans	John Johnston
20-May	Nigel Griffiths	Alan Marshall	Grahame Gardner (1)	David Burman
27-May	Peter Davies (1)	Michael Dear	Richard Castle	Geoffrey Mogg
03-Jun	Les Brimson (1)	Roy Hall	Roger Brown	Anthony Mason
10-Jun	Keith Hughes L	Victor Burgess	Philip Rowe	Peter Sheen
17-Jun	Jim Robson (1)	Ian Buswell	John Riches	Frank Adams
24-Jun	Ian Johnston (1)	David Snellgrove (1)	John L Morgan	Naughton Morgan
01-Jul	Mike Avery	Jonathan Avery	John Winson	Nick Rudoie
08-Jul	Roy Chapman	Mike Hodgson	Peter Badger	John Beesley
15-Jul	Ian Clift	Peter Lancaster (1)	John West	Bob Gamble
22-Jul	Keith Bartlam (1)	John Cattle	Gerald Moore	Peter Fraser
29-Jul	Peter MacDonald	David Foster	Paul Godin	Chris Reynolds
05-Aug	Mike Foreman (1)	Brian Baker	Lawrence Steers (1)	Brian Kennedy
12-Aug	Mike Ruffell	Peter Berkley	Mike Franklin	David Broom
19-Aug	Donal Corcoran	Kieran Corcoran	R. Thompson	Alex Chapman
26-Aug	Stephen Smith	Colin Thomson	Owen Chapman	Matthew Stallard
02-Sep	Brendan Corcoran	Dave Green	Martin Ginger	Steven Don
09-Sep	Jim MacDonald		Paul Bexfield	Tony Guerrier
16-Sep	Adrian Reddish	Nicholas Bone (1)	Peter Brown (1)	Peter Fox
23-Sep	Robert Oldfield	Tim Clementson	Paul Lacey	Ian Reddish (1)
30-Sep	Chris Vousden (1)	John Firth	Michael Smith	Keith Barltrop
07-Oct	Les Brimson (2)	John Sandwell (1)	John Mills	Richard Hesketh
14-Oct	Terry Baxter	Gavin Lang	Ron Todd	Malcolm Reid
21-Oct	Dick Payne (1)	Peter Weeks (1)	Derek Smith	Derek Eldridge (1)

**NB: For any selected date/row, please read across both pages to obtain the names of all designated stewards.**

### **Steward Rota**

Please find above the Steward Rota for the 2007 running season. As you can see there are a lot of spaces. A thank you goes to those who have already been prepared to fill some spaces by doing a second duty. Those of you, who have not yet put your name forward for a second duty, please contact me as soon as possible.

### **The duties of Track Stewards in order of priority are as follows:**

Steward one: Raised embarking Station.

Steward two: Raised Steaming Bay

Steward three: Ground Level Car park Station

Steward four: Gatekeeper & Car park management.

Date	Track Steward	Track Steward	Tea Steward	Tea Steward
08-Apr	Frank Hills	Derek Perham	Ron Thorogood	Mrs Thorogood
15-Apr	Grahame Gardner (2)	Roger Bell (2)	Mrs Harris	R Lidzey
22-Apr	David Snellgrove (2)	Nicholas Bone (2)	George Case	
29-Apr	Dave Chisnall	Derek Eldridge (2)	Mrs Apthorpe	William Mason
06-May	Reg Piper	Keith Bartlam (2)	Raymond Goss	David Metcalf
13-May	Mike Foreman (2)	Peter Brewster (2)	Ray Smiles	
20-May	Peter Precious	David Marsden (1)	Mrs.Griffiths	Mrs Marshall
27-May	Peter Weeks (2)	Chris Vousden (2)	Mervyn Smith	Mrs K Dear
03-Jun	Peter Brown (2)		Frank Inman	
10-Jun	Ian Reddish (2)		Dave Lawrence	Mrs K Reddish (2)
17-Jun			Peter Prior	
24-Jun	Derrick Franklin (2)		John Morgan (M)	Mrs J Morgan
01-Jul	Jack Sanson		Colin Bainbridge	
08-Jul	John Sandwell (2)		Mrs Badger	Graeme Brown
15-Jul			Mrs Clift	
22-Jul			Harold Barrow	
29-Jul				
05-Aug			Mrs Foreman	Chris Dean
12-Aug	Peter Lancaster (2)		David Morgan	
19-Aug	Richard Cross		Peter Funk	Lawrence Steers (1)
26-Aug	Timothy Watson		Ian Johnston (2)	Mrs Smith
02-Sep	Peter Davies (2)		L Brooks	Mrs P Corcoran
09-Sep	Barrie Davies		Mrs. MacDonald	Julie Davies
16-Sep	Dick Payne (2)		Mrs K Reddish (1)	Mike Chrisp (2)
23-Sep				
30-Sep	Grahame Gardner (3)			Richard Hall
07-Oct	David Marsden (2)		Rai Fenton	Mrs B Fenton
14-Oct	Peter Brewster (1)	Jim Robson (2)	Mrs Baxter	Jenny Baxter
21-Oct	David Harris (2)	Brian Apthorpe (2)	Roger Bell (1)	

Steward five: Raised Disembarking, carriages & boating area.

Steward six: Ground Level Henley Halt & toilet area

For us to carry out our **“Duty of Care”** for our members and visitors it is imperative that all Stewards turn up or **make alternative arrangements**.

If you cannot attend on your allocated slot for whatever reason, **arrange a swap with another member. BUT PLEASE LET ME KNOW** so I can amend the published list.

If you appear on the list and you do have a valid reason why you should not, **PLEASE LET ME KNOW**.

If you notice someone who has left or has a valid reason not to be on the list, **PLEASE LET ME KNOW**.

Most importantly if you do not appear on the list and should be, **PLEASE LET ME KNOW**.

We also ask that **TEA STEWARDS as well as TRACK STEWARDS SIGN THE RUNNING BOOK** for monitoring and insurance purposes.

It is not much to ask to do your duty, **but to just not turn up is unreasonable**. It is your responsibility to yourself and your club to make sure this season runs smoothly, so we can carry out our responsibility for health and safety for all those that visit and enjoy our wonderful facility. The Tyttenhanger Committee thank you all, in advance, for your help.

## Loco Section & Tyttenhanger Committee News

### *Winter Working*

The new running season will soon be with us with an early Easter start on 8 April. Site preparation has already started but there is more to do. Work is going on in all areas and those of you who have been coming each week deserve a great thank you from the rest of our members. Without you the club would suffer greatly. Well done. It is never too late for everyone else to come and join in. Unfortunately some important jobs will not be done this winter due to insufficient numbers of members taking part.

The Ground level extension is going great guns and we will be continuing into the season to reach our first goal to get rail to the corner of the new land.

### *Loco Events*

Nick Rudoe's talk at the Loco Section meeting on 16 March was very well attended and much enjoyed. His illustrated talk on the Alexandra Palace, Barnet & Edgware Branches of the GNR was superb. It was good to hear the nostalgic comments from the floor, especially from Bert saying "I was there" and "I saw that". For me the pictures of trains at Ally Pally and an early picture of High Barnet station with open country, trees and fields were amazing.

**Work in Progress Loco Section meeting on Friday 20 April.** Bring your model projects along and share with us all what you have been making.

Urgently needed are ideas for future Loco section meetings. Have you something to share with us all, or do you know someone who has something we will all enjoy to hear or see? Any ideas?

Sun 8 Apr	Easter Day/first public running at Colney Heath.
Mon 9 Apr	Bank holiday private members running day.
Fri 20 Apr	Loco Section Meeting HQ 8pm - Work in progress
Sat 21 Apr	Birthday Party - Pathmanathan- (help required)
Sat 5 May	LNER Invitation day – contact Grahame Ainge
Mon 7 May	Bank holiday private members running day.
Sat 12 May	Birthday Party - Stevens- (help required)

Fri 18 May   Loco Section Meeting HQ 8pm  
Mon 28 May   Bank holiday private members running day.

*Adrian*

## **MINUTES OF THE 62<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY, 12 MAY 2006, AT HEADQUARTERS**

**QUORUM – 25 MEMBERS; 50 PRESENT**

### **1. APOLOGIES**

Ron Price, George Moon, Peter Kearon, Mike Ruffell, Nigel Griffiths.

**2. THE MINUTES OF THE 61<sup>ST</sup> AGM** held on 13 May 2005 were published in the May News Sheet and were taken as read. Brendan Corcoran proposed and Mike Chrisp seconded, that they were a true record of the meeting. The meeting unanimously agreed and the Chairman duly signed them.

**3. MATTERS ARISING** - There were no matters arising.

### **4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

The Chairman, Dr Ian Johnston, presented his report for the year. Mike Foreman proposed and Mike Avery seconded its adoption. Carried.

### **5. TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Treasurer, Kieran Corcoran, presented audited accounts for the Society. Mike Foreman proposed and Rai Fenton seconded their adoption.

The meeting proposed a vote of thanks to Jean Chrisp for her efforts in auditing the accounts. Both Jean Chrisp and Mike Foreman were proposed as auditors for the forthcoming year.

### **6. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Nominations were received from:

Chairman	Donal Corcoran
Treasurer	Kieran Corcoran
Council Members	Adrian Reddish Mike Foreman Ken West Mike Chrisp David Lawrence

There were no nominations for Secretary or Vice-Chairman.

The above Officers and Members were duly elected to serve on the Council for the year 2006/7. Mike Chrisp proposed a vote of thanks to those retiring from the Council.

**7. COUNCIL BUSINESS/MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION WITH MEMBERS**

None.

**8. PROPOSALS FOR CONSIDERATION AT A SUBSEQUENT EXTRA-ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING**

A petition has been received from 25 members requesting an EGM, proposing: 'An annual subscription is payable. The rate of such annual subscription shall be as recommended by the Council and subsequently agreed in General Meeting from time to time. A reduced subscription of one quarter of the annual subscription (to the nearest round number of pounds) shall be payable by members under the age of eighteen years (hereinafter called 'Junior Members') or still in continuous full time education. A reduced subscription of three quarters of the annual subscription (to the nearest round number of pounds) shall be payable by members upon attaining the age of 65 years'.

An EGM will be arranged by the new Council at a date to be decided.

**9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

**10. DATE OF THE NEXT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Friday, 4 May 2007 at HQ.

**Note by the Editor**

The minutes of the EGM held on 14 July 2006 were published in the News Sheet for August 2006.

**NB: Please note the following regarding the procedure for Nominations for the forthcoming AGM on 4 May; the notice on page 4 of the March 2007 News Sheet refers:**

At their February meeting the Council agreed that material received from candidates for election will be printed and sent out separately from the News Sheet, not less than ten days before the AGM. An agenda will be included with the papers.



# Letters Page

The NLSME Council,  
c/o Donal Corcoran,

23rd March 2007

We are gratified to see that the Council has decided to publish all nominations for Council positions before the AGM takes place. This will improve the election process.

May we further suggest that the Council does away with the method of electing Council Members by a show of hands. This method to be replaced by each member present at the AGM being issued with a numbered ballot sheet containing all the candidate's names and the positions for which they are nominated.

This would ensure a fair and secret ballot and remove any suggestion of miscounting, as the number of ballot sheets issued would be the same as the numbers of members present.

The '44 Group' would be willing to provide the necessary ballot papers if this presents a problem.

Mike Ruffell  
For 'The 44 Group'

XX

25<sup>th</sup> March 2007

Dear Nick,

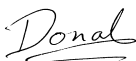
I would like to take this opportunity following Mike Ruffell's letter dated the 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2007, to remind every member of the Society that the North London S.M.E. already has a similar policy to that proposed in Mike's letter for the election of Council members at the Society AGM.

In case members are unaware let me state that, ballot papers are issued whenever there is more than one candidate for each position within the Society Council. These sheets

are issued to the membership on the night of the AGM and tellers are agreed on as required. A show of hands vote is not used unless there is no opposition to a candidate.

I am pleased to see that the Council elections are being met with such enthusiasm and hope that this brings to an end the era of struggling to fill the Council positions.

Good luck to all those intending on standing in May and don't forget the deadline for nominations to be received by Nick Rudoe is last post 11<sup>th</sup> April 2007.



Donal Corcoran  
Chairman, N.L.S.M.E.

### **Agenda for Annual General Meeting Friday 4 May 2007**

- 1..To declare the Meeting Open and receive any Apologies for Absence.
2. To receive and approve the Minutes of the 2006 Annual General Meeting and consider any Matters Arising therefrom.
3. To receive the Chairman's Report for the past year.
4. To receive the Treasurer's Report and approve the Annual Accounts to 31 March 2007.
5. To propose a Vote of Thanks to the Auditors and appoint two Auditors for the next twelve months.
6. To propose a Vote of Thanks to the Serving Officers and elect a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer for the next twelve months.
7. To propose a Vote of Thanks to the Serving Council Members and News Sheet Editor and elect Five Council Members and News Sheet Editor for the next twelve months.
8. To propose a Vote of Thanks to the Society's President and approve his election for the next twelve months
9. To transact Any Other Business proper to the Annual General Meeting, notice of which shall have been received before the commencement of the Business of the Annual General Meeting.
10. To Close the 2007 Annual General Meeting.

### **The Ground Level Railway Section Evening**

The Ground Level Railway Section held a very enjoyable and relaxed evening on March 9<sup>th</sup>. This was the first of three meetings planned for this year, its object being to report progress so far and to encourage anyone who may be interested in standing for election to the Council at the AGM in May. The second meeting will be half way through the running season to discuss how the track is working and the third will be

towards the end of the season to discuss next winter's working parties.

Jim McDonald was the 'anchorman' for the evening, blaming yours truly for conning him into this rôle by a 'fixed' short straw (sorry, short match) selection. I would have claimed that this was a travesty of the truth but, as Jim made such a good job of leading the meeting and had prepared a very interesting PowerPoint presentation for the first half, I will take full credit for my perspicacity in persuading him to take on the job.

Jim's presentation started with a list of the founders of the Ground Level Section, a statement of our aim (to promote the Ground Level Railway), and a list of our achievements to date. This was followed by a rogues' gallery of the principal participants in the management of the Section and in the Saturday and Sunday working parties. He gave a brief illustrated history of the railway from its concept by Frank Dell, John Squire and Brendan Corcoran following a visit to Van Hage's, through participation in the shunting competition and various people and locos running on our track, to work on the car park station and the new extension.



There followed a tour of some 24 tracks around the Country, gleaned from visits made and a trawl through the internet. Jim included any available track plans, interesting and unusual track features (including two 90 degree crossings), some beautiful engines and some unusual, weird and wonderful ones.





The presentation ended with an illustration of fund raising using Jim's portable track at several rallies etc. Jim appealed for help at these functions, showing some of the attractions to be enjoyed and reminding us that helpers are admitted free. He had also managed to find quite a few photos of us breaking the first rule of model engineering by enjoying ourselves and smiling.



The first half was rounded off with a short film of the Great Cockcrow Railway.

After tea and the obligatory raffle, we watched a slide show by Mike Chrisp illustrating the work carried out over the past year and the evening ended with a question and answer session hosted by Peter Funk and Les Brimson.

In case anyone had missed themselves in Mike Chrisp's slide show, everybody left with a complimentary copy of the DVD shown in the second half.

*PeeJayDee*

# WOW

## (Ground Level Railway Update)

What a great evening I had on the first ever GLR meeting. I was pleased to see some of our more senior engineer members present, asking various questions concerning track construction; I hope my answers were adequate. A very big thank you goes to J. MacDonald for organising ours/his presentation, M Crisp for compiling the wonderful DVD's and P. Davies for copying 40 plus DVDs & organising the raffle. Thanks to everyone who supplied prizes and to anyone who helped make this evening a success.

### Track Update.

The churned up area behind the coach has been cultivated and will be sown with grass seed, and hopefully by the time you read this the ruts leading from the gap will also have been repaired. Lawrie Steers and I had a competition with our cultivators which made the work seem easier; once the ground has been dug, levelled, raked & sown it will be roped off, so please don't walk or drive on it until the grass has recovered.

More sections of rail (panels) have been produced; this process is very labour-intensive starting with the flat section being straightened on the anvil, jig drilled, rolled to the required radius, re-jigged on the table outside the workshop & welded up. Then sleepers are tarred up as is the bottom of the rail/stretchers and the 2 are joined; the section is then turned over and the top is also tarred up. When this process is completed the panel is then transported on the club's new bogies and is installed in its relevant position at the rail head; fish plates are fixed on by welding and bolting, and a final touch-up of primer tar - job finished. The whole panel-building process has up to now been carried out by 5 to 6 keen builders whom I know I have leaned on quite heavily; I stand in awe of your dedication and stamina, and you know who you are. Therefore I would like to recruit another gang to work on alternate days (not Thursday or Saturday) to maybe reduce the pressure on the first team; anyone interested please let me know, I would be grateful.

Mr. Jeffrey Bolton (Jeffers) phoned me and asked for a job (silly man) so in conjunction with Peter Davies the track from the steaming bays to Henley Halt has been cleared of debris, sleepers re-aligned and rotten ones replaced, well done. It is visible that the concrete bed has broken its back on one section just past the level crossing; this will in due course be re-levelled with packing - any volunteers?

Mark James and Dad Alex spent all day Saturday moving ballast from the car park to the rail head, a formidable task; I thank you and hope to see more of you in the coming weeks.

(continued over page.....)

Arrangements are being made to take down the almost fallen tree over the main line; hopefully by the time you read this it will be done and we can look forward to the running season. I owe the NLSME club so much for giving me somewhere to enjoy the legacy of members' hard work before me, so to that end I hope to help build and leave a better NLSME for present and future members to enjoy after me, so lets all pull together and get the job done.

As ever on the ground your section leader,

*Peter Funk*

## The Gauge One Model Railway Association

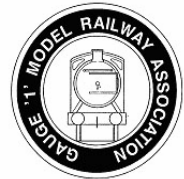
(A Private Limited Company. Registration No. 3325187)

Events Manager : Jeff Towe

### Gauge One Model Railway Association

### 1947----2007 Diamond Jubilee at The Fosse

### SME day: Sunday 10 June 2007



The Gauge One Model Railway Association will be celebrating its Diamond Jubilee in 2007. Two weeks of activities to mark this milestone in the Association's history start with a meeting at the Fosse Exhibition Centre near Leamington Spa on Sat/Sunday 9 & 10 June. Four live steam portable tracks plus a vintage tin plate track will be attending along with strong support from the trade. During the course of the day four talks/demonstrations will be given, by well known Gauge 1 members. Full catering services will also be available. This meeting is not open to the general public but to members and guests only. Members and their guests from all over the UK and abroad have already begun purchasing tickets to attend.

The committee of the Association would like to invite interested members of Model Engineering Societies to spend the day with us on **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> June**. The meeting will be open from 10.30 am until 4pm.

Admission to this event is by ticket only, costing £5. Tickets can be obtained by writing to:

The Secretary, The Gauge One Model Railway Association

Please indicate which Society you belong to, the number of tickets required and please enclose a cheque for the appropriate amount made out to G1MRA plus a stamped self-addressed envelope.

Regards,  
Jeff Towe

## 📖 Dates for your Diary 📖

Friday 6 April	8.00pm General Meeting; Laser cutting for model engineers; HQ, Legion Way, North Finchley
<b>Sunday 8 April</b>	<b>Easter Day/first public running day at Colney Heath</b>
Monday 9 April	Bank Holiday - members' running day at Colney Heath
Monday 9 April	8.00pm Council Meeting; HQ, Legion Way, North Finchley
Saturday 14 April	OO Section on show at the Edgware Model Railway Exhibition, 10.30am-4.30pm; John Keble Church Hall, Deans Lane, Edgware
Friday 20 April	8.00pm Loco Section meeting; Work in Progress; HQ, Legion Way, North Finchley
<b>Friday 20 April</b>	<b><i>Deadline for copy to Editor for May News Sheet</i></b>
Saturday 21 April	Birthday party (help required)
Monday 23 April	8.00pm Tyttenhanger Site Committee Meeting; 23 Bunkers Lane, Hemel Hempstead, Herts HP3 8AX
Friday 27 April	8.00pm Workshop Evening; HQ, Legion Way, North Finchley
<b>Friday 4 May</b>	<b>8.00pm Annual General Meeting; HQ, Legion Way, North Finchley</b>
Saturday 5 May	LNER Invitation Day; contact Grahame Ainge
Sunday 6 May	Toy Boat Regatta, Colney Heath
Monday 7 May	Bank Holiday - members' running day at Colney Heath
Fri/Sun 11/13 May	National Model Engineering show, Harrogate
Saturday 12 May	Birthday party (help required)
Monday 14 May	8.00pm Council Meeting; HQ, Legion Way, North Finchley
Friday 18 May	8.00pm Loco Section meeting; HQ, Legion Way, North Finchley
<b>Friday 18 May</b>	<b><i>Deadline for copy to Editor for June News Sheet</i></b>
Sat/Sun 19/20 May	Steam Fair 2007 at Royal Gunpowder Mills, Waltham Abbey
Monday 28 May	8.00pm Tyttenhanger Site Committee Meeting; 23 Bunkers Lane, Hemel Hempstead, Herts HP3 8AX
Monday 28 May	Bank Holiday - members' running day at Colney Heath
Friday 1 June	8.00pm General Meeting; Brakes and Breaks; HQ, Legion Way, North Finchley
Saturday 9 June	Birthday party (help required)
Monday 11 June	8.00pm Council Meeting; HQ, Legion Way, North Finchley
Wednesday 13 June	GIMRA Diamond Jubilee event, Colney Heath
Friday 15 June	8.00pm Loco Section meeting; HQ, Legion Way, North Finchley
<b>Friday 22 June</b>	<b><i>Deadline for copy to Editor for July News Sheet</i></b>

**NB: Please remember to notify all meetings, events & exhibitions, in advance, to Owen and Rachael Chapman, who act as Keepers of the Society Calendar and Tyttenhanger Site Events Co-ordinators.**