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Off The Cuff

The first meeting of the new Council was held on 11th May with a full attendance including five "new" faces, namely Mike Collingwood (Vice Chairman), Maurice Cummins (Treasurer), and Council members Peter Foreman, Rod Pomeroy and Ken West. The regular stalwarts - Frank Dell (Chairman), Yours Truly (Secretary), with Mike Chrisp and Jack Edwards - remain in situ. Before proceeding further, I must now apologise that due to lack of time and personal commitments my report on the A.G.M. and the Chairman's Report to the A.G.M. (which I am typing for him!) cannot be ready for publication in the June News Sheet - however they will be available for the July issue.

The Chairman, having welcomed the new Council members, then signed the Minutes of the April meeting. Matters Arising included further discussion on the future of fetes, and the first risk assessment documents for H.Q. and Colney Heath.

In his report the Chairman referred to the sea container at the track which is now being "customised" with N.L.S.-type secure locking devices, for which a limited number of keys will be issued. Key holders will be FRANK DELL, MAURICE CUMMINS and MIKE COLLINGWOOD, who can make themselves available during the day for members to have access to the store, and MIKE CHRISP, PETER FOREMAN AND ROD POMEROY who will be available to members evenings and weekends only. It is intended in the near future to store all mowers, strimmers, and gardening equipment in the container along with other "nickable" Club property. As we do not want to discourage anyone doing mid-week gardening stints, if they apply to the Treasurer or Rod Pomeroy a key will be issued.

Information on other Clubs' open days and rallies was passed to Rod Pomeroy - from Harlington, Leeds, Cambridge, Peterborough, and Maidstone (celebrating their 70th anniversary!) - and birthday party bookings for 19th June and 31st July were agreed. That about sums up my contribution to the meeting.

It was too soon after the A.G.M. for the Treasurer to make a detailed report, but Maurice and Brendan will soon be getting together for the big hand-over. In view of his new commitments and after 25 years of collating and posting the monthly news sheet, he & Shirley will be looking for someone else to take this task over. Maurice will also be

standing down as Exhibitions Manager. One membership application was approved and details, with 3 applications from April, will be found elsewhere in this news sheet.

There were no Section reports from Slot Cars, Stationary Steam, and North American. Hopefully the boating season for Marine members will soon be underway with their monthly meetings (and sailings!) taking place at Colney Heath. For the Cine Section John Old is taking over from Dave Lawrence (as Dave is once again the Society's Librarian). 00 members are working hard on redoing track for Bath Green Park, with wiring and scenery the regular on-going tasks. At Colney Heath the Loco Section has had some very busy and popular Sunday afternoons with plenty of trains running and lots of passengers.

Apart from a few miscellaneous items under Any Other Business, that completes my summary of the May Council Meeting.

When Michael & I got home just before 11.00pm we rather expected that our "new" doggie Basil would have clawed up the hall carpet (he's already done it once!) but not only was the carpet intact but there was no dog in evidence - panic ensued till suddenly we heard a faint barking and lo & behold he was shut in the bathroom. How he managed to close the door we don't know but that's where he was - and was he pleased to see us!!

Beryl Collingwood

Treasurer's Corner

I was elected as your new treasurer at the AGM, but until I receive all the paperwork and banking books, cannot do much. At the EGM the council's recommendation for a increase in subscriptions was upheld, and the new increase can be found on the form accompanying this News Sheet.

In the meantime, I have been asked to obtain a costing for a telephone at HQ. Having been a member of the News Sheet team for the last 25 years, I have managed to find a member willing to take over the role. I am also exhibition manager, but I will need to give that up as well. As there are over 200 members in our society, I am sure somebody would be willing to take on a more active role.

An old member, Ernie Millington returns to the fold. Welcome Back.

Maurice Cummins

Tyttenhanger Gazette

The May Loco meeting was an informal affair at the track. An early evening rainstorm had deterred the live steam enthusiasts from running, however David Harris drove his class 08 0-6-0 electric shunter.

It was an enjoyable change from the routine of indoor meetings, to talk amongst friends in such pleasant surroundings.

The June Loco meeting will also be a running evening and barbecue at Colney Heath.

Roger Bell

[The Wideangle](#)

There I was, bumping down the Great North road towards Hatfield the other week in my little brown mini (car not skirt!), with a filthy great grin plastered all over my face. I'd just finished fitting a few tune-up mod's to the miniature money pit and I was keen to give them a good thrash.. er...testing, to see if they lived up to their promise. A couple of holes in the passenger footwell created a draft in the cabin that curled around my ankles like a randy boa constrictor.

The interior was minus it's carpets 'cause they'd got a soaking whilst driving in the wet (due to those blasted holes in the footwell) so the whole car drummed like Charlie Watts on a bad day! Induction roar and road noise combined in to an unholy row which made intelligent conversation impossible, which is just as well because talking to yourself is the first sign of madness.

I was approaching Old Hatfield when I spotted a Rover dealer to my left. Half a dozen shiny new minis were on display, so parking my old hack well out of site, I decided to take a gander at how the saner folk buy their cars. Checking out a very nice sportspack Cooper up for sale at a mere £ 12,000, I caught site of a salesman oiling his way towards me from the showroom, charm oozing from every pore.

"Good afternoon sir, looking to buy a mini? "Just browsing", I replied in unsettled tones, no dice!

"Have you owned, a mini before?"

"Yes, I own one at present".

"What's the registration?"

"T-reg"

"Oh, a new one!"

"Ahem, no, the other side of the plate."

"That's 1978."

"Get away, really?!"

"You know, you really ought to think about buying something newer - it's no use wishing you owned a nice new mini when you're married."

There haven't been many times in my life that I've found myself at a loss for words, but if this didn't take the custard cream! I took my leave with the salesman's business card in one hand and the keys to my mini in the other. However, it wasn't an altogether fruitless trip, his business card made a fine job of plugging those annoying holes in the footwell! Ta, ta

Andy Lawrence

[Workshop Equipment For Sale](#)

As the Society's Secretary, I get a wide range of telephone calls, the latest (12th May) being from a widow of a model engineer who, several years after her husband's death,

now needs to dispose of the contents of his Workshop. If any of the following items interest you then please email us and we will put you in contact with MRS WATSON:

- * Capco surface grinder with magnetic chuck
 - * Small vertical milling machine by Taylor & Son
 - * Boxford lathe, model "A", 41/2"
 - * Universal mill centec 2A
 - * Floor standing pillar drill
 - * A quantity of small stuff
-

Something Else Missing!

If anybody knows the whereabouts of the following items, missing from the signal shed adjacent to the carriage, can they please inform somebody on the Track Committee or the on the Council:

- * Sack barrow
 - * 3-passenger truck heavy canvas gussets (green in colour). These are part of the passenger truck set that we purchased last year.
 - * Tin of nuts & bolts to attach the gussets to the trucks.
-

Tom Luxford

Like most people I understood you had decided to take a well earned rest. Which, knowing you, was the first surprise! The second surprise was to find you standing for re-election. Anyway as incoming Vice Chairman I must thank you on behalf of the membership for your many years of service, enthusiasm and dedication to the Society. Long may you and "The City of London" continue to have a good head of steam!

Mike Collingwood

July News Sheet

Please note that Tim Joiner has kindly offered to edit the July News Sheet.

Submissions should be sent to him or emailed/sent to us to be forwarded

Please see dates for your diary for deadline date - you may prefer to post submissions to him in good time rather than drive to W2 and drop them through the door at midnight on the last day!

Hon.Editor, Angela Foreman

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