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*This Month...*



# The News Sheet

**Chairman's Comments, Treasurer's Report, Forthcoming General Meetings, Stewards' Rota, the July General Meeting, Steam Driver Appeal, Marine News, The June General Meeting, Gauge 0 Update, Open Day in Barnet, Binegar at Bishops' Stortford, Photos from Colney Heath and Bill Bass, Dates for your Diary, Society Contacts.**



## Chairman's Comments



The items for council to consider were few this month and, due to absence of some officers and members, the August council meeting was cancelled. Such business as needs attention is carried forward to the September meeting.

During a busy August the NLSME has been represented at events by fetes and fairs section at Flamstead and the OO section exhibiting their wonderful Binegar layout at the Bishops Stortford Model Railway Exhibition. We have hosted the Bob Todd memorial event, Brian A's visitor day and the East Anglian G1 visit to Colney Heath. An active schedule. Thanks are due to all who arranged and helped at these events. At time of going to press we have yet to have the annual August visit by the Fareham and Chelmsford societies.

In last month's News Sheet I commented on the potential fire hazard at Colney Heath. Unfortunately, or fortunately depending on your attitude to summer weather, the dry spell continued and it was necessary to halt temporarily the running of steam locomotives. With the resumption of normal August weather, the fire risk is reduced and steam is back in operation.

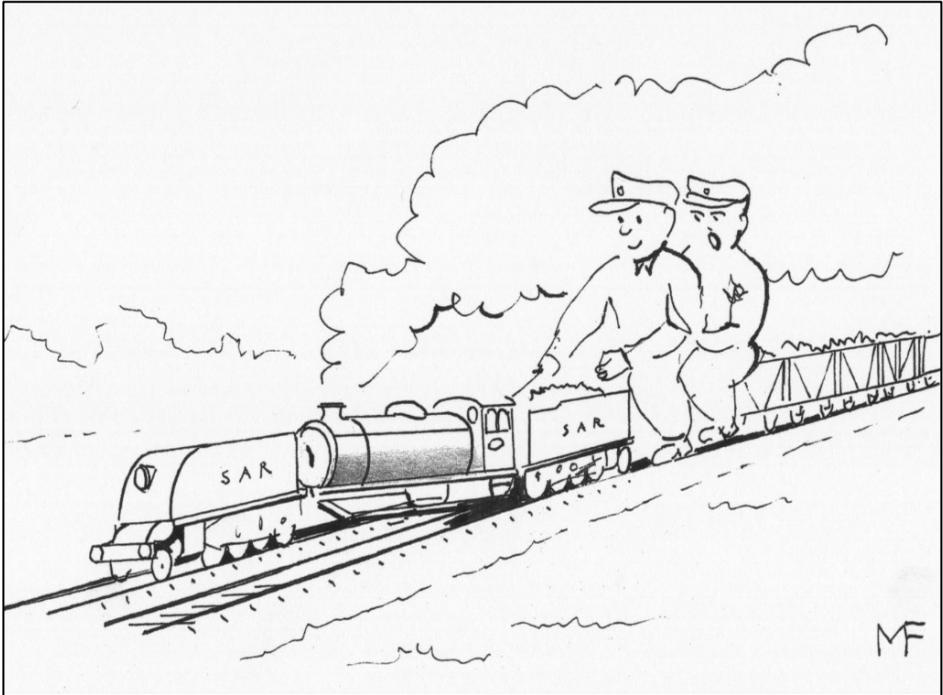
Our editor is always welcoming of articles for inclusion in the News Sheet. Any matter relating to our wide modelling interests are worthy of inclusion, hints or tips have in the past been extremely informative. So, anyone with items of interest are encouraged to send their notes to Derek.

A rightful concern often expressed by members is the lack of participation in modelling, and model engineering in particular, by younger persons. Percival Marshall wrote in the February 5<sup>th</sup> 1931 edition of Model Engineer magazine, "*I do agree, however, that a distinct change has come over the younger generation of to-day in that they are more inclined to seek their recreation in outdoor life and in cinemas, dancing and wireless than do any real study with a desire for improvement or the acquisition of technical knowledge*". From a 21<sup>st</sup> century perspective the comment does not seem to contemplate engineering as a pastime to be pursued at leisure. However, if instead of dancing and wireless we insert clubbing and video gaming the sentiment could hold true today. We are fortunate to have younger members and less experienced modellers in our society, we must do what we can to encourage and support them.

Percival Marshall would I think be most surprised at the subsequent achievements of the younger generation he referred to. Let's hope that we in our turn will be equally surprised.

See you at HQ or the track.

**Les B.  
Chairman.**



Are you sure Garratts work this way ?

by Michael Franklin

**Cover photo.** John D (right) and his friend Graham enjoy the afternoon running their stock on the Garden Railway at Colney Heath. 19th August 2018.

## Forthcoming General Meetings

Unless otherwise indicated General Meetings begin at 8pm at our Legion Way Headquarters in North Finchley, usually ending at about 10pm. All members are welcome and we are always happy to see friends and family attending. We hope for a good attendance to support speakers. Please remember that many of the meetings depend on the club to provide the catalyst for a stupendous evening.

For more information please ring me.

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> September. Work in Progress.** Your chance to show us what you were up to in the winter. So if you were not ready in November, now is the time to show the Club your prowess and progress. Bits of Locomotives please but this is a General Meeting so any general engineering is most welcome.

**Friday 5th October. An evening for open discussion on Colney Heath and HQ matters.** Topics to be as members wish to raise. These are expected to include updates on existing projects under way, suggestions for future projects and a review of the 2018 running season at Colney Heath. **Les B will chair the meeting and asks that to assist planning the agenda members email him beforehand, phone or raise in person topics they wish to be discussed.**

**Friday 2nd November. The last of steam in Africa.** Gordon Massey has travelled extensively in Africa seeking out steam traction and of course recording all with his cameras. An event not to be missed.

**Ian J**  
General Meetings Co-ordinator

## NLSME General Meeting July '18. BBQ at Colney Heath.



In years gone by; Members have said to the scribe that they find Friday a difficult night to attend a General Meeting and that another night would be more suitable, others have said that meeting at HQ in Summers Lane is not a convenient place to get to. So, this time the General Meeting was on a Wednesday and not Friday and at Colney Heath and not at Summers Lane!

What happened. The meeting was blessed with the group of supporters that usually support and attend the BBQ to enjoy themselves even if the CD player was a bit loud. Perhaps the Members who find Friday inconvenient were not the same folk who find Summers Lane inconvenient!!

Our resident Chef, Brian, grilled some mean sausages which were avidly consumed by those who had requested them with excess left over for the uninitiated. The BBQ was lit ready for unannounced visitors to cook their own burgers and chicken legs.

Minestrone was the soup of the day and the Chef complimented accordingly by the complete consumption of all and by the participators volunteering to help with the washing up and clearing away.

Everything worked perfectly and those who partook were well rewarded with good company, succulent sausages, memorable minestrone, mean music from the sixties and wonderful weather.

**Ian J**

**STEAM DRIVERS please  
step forward to support the  
Charity Visit to Colney Heath  
on Saturday, September  
8<sup>th</sup> from 13.00hrs**



Following two appeals in the last two News Sheets, I have had no offers of steam locos to support this event.

With about 60 families scheduled to visit the tracks at Colney Heath on September the 8<sup>th</sup>, it is a little worrying for me to think that the NLSME won't be putting on a reliable steam service.

This is a very worthwhile cause, supported by our Committee and the Lord Lieutenant of Hertfordshire who will be visiting.

So can I both thank those who have pledged help in Stewarding but **ask steam drivers to step forward** with a commitment to provide and drive their locos at the event.

More Stewards also welcome.

Please let me know if you intend to come along.

e-mail -

Telephone -

## Marine News from George C



One extreme to another, attendance is down on the lake when bad weather, obviously, but we have also had attendance down because it is too hot and with the trees in leaf then it is a sun trap and can get uncomfortable. Hopefully the peak sun weather has passed and although I am not wishing the good weather away I am looking for a more stable warm slight breeze for the yachts time of year.

Seen a few new boats on the lake but not had camera with me at the time. I still try to attend Sundays with a boat and am on site other days with locos. First rain we have had in ages and it had to be a Sunday...

### **Don't forget the LAST Toy Boat Regatta for 2018 is Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> September**

The meeting 26<sup>th</sup> July chaired by Mike C attended by all the boiler testers, myself, marine, David W G1 and Alan M for council reps was very well ran with a common sense approach to all the issues raised rather than just the computer says no we so often find in life. There were issues across all sections but the main being in relation to small boilers below 3 bar litre. And gas tanks. In relation to gas tanks some equipment to test them will be required both for G1 and marine which require 5 yearly testing up to 400psi this is way above the 250psi manufacturers certificate on some although most in our section are BIX which are certified to 360psi and the company tell me they have personally pushed one to 1000psi with only a slight deformation but no leaks. How do you tell when 5 yearly test is due as the original certificates have no date on them? (working on that one) .

Small boilers in G1 and commercial higher pressure i.e. above 29psi in marine section just (and I say just light heartedly) need some more equipment to test with as the large kit used on main locos can be a bit heavy handed and takes extreme care not to over do the small stuff. Also need a safety valve and pressure gauge test rig. Cant check on the boiler when it only has one hole.

Older and some even older than our members boilers need a very softly softly but still make sure they are safe to use process (working on that one).

Nearly all visiting our site come from other clubs who will have same problems and issue with test certificate that we all accept across the Southern Fed.

However our toy boat regatta friends from Vintage Yacht Club are mostly nomads as they do not have a home base and do not issue certificates in house, so some of the members may bring boats without any paperwork. We need a dynamic risk assessment procedure to cater for this on a case by case basis (working on that one).

We will require a running log of every time a steam powered boat is put on the lake - the same as loco running log with name, certificate number etc. (working on that one).

I have pencilled an outline of problems and solutions to be presented through Mike C as head boiler tester to council for words of wisdom and an agreed approach within our society to adopt.

The decision will not be an overnight one in the making or implementing. So for now. Take care and sail safe.

**George.**



**Memories of a busy day.**



Steam boats and other boats all sailing happily together. The photos on these pages show a cross section of steam craft we have on the lake and a view that they all mix together on 'toy boat' days.





## NLSME June General Meeting 2018. FIRST AID AT COLNEY HEATH.



That June evening was ideal; dry, sunny but not too warm; ideal to sit back and revise a bit of that first aid. Many feel that it should be mandatory for members of the Club to have knowledge of at least a little bit of rudimentary First Aid. At the very least members should have a 'Plan A' in case of an accident.

The site is rather isolated, and our large gatherings usually occur on Sundays or Saturdays when the emergency services are both stretched by calls from the public and a desire to, at the least give some of their personal an occasional weekend off. So it is incumbent on the Club to at the least know where the phone for emergencies is situated and to have a clear approach lane for rescue traffic.

So, with these parameters in mind a small group gathered to reacquaint themselves with 'Plan A' and perchance 'B' 'C' and 'D'. And wait for the group to considerably enlarge! However, the group did not enlarge, and no further members arrived.

A pleasant time was had discussing theoretical catastrophes and disasters; enjoyed a fine cup of tea and biscuits and good company before wending their ways home.

It would be spiffing if Colney Heath were over-patronised with folk wishing to revise their First Aid at Work certs, and of course to interact positively with their chums.

**ANY IDEAS HOW THE CLUB CAN INCREASE THE NUMBER OF ATTENDEES NEXT YEAR?**

Ian J

## Gauge 0 Group update

by Paul G

Your editor reminded me, backed up by Les, our Chairman, that I have not given the Society a recent update on the progress of the Gauge 0 model railway at Finchley HQ. An irresistible “incentive”, so here we are:



I had been reluctant to give an update because, should you care to put your head around the door of our tiny room, you will see that the Gauge 0 layout looks as though WW3 has broken out. But it isn't WW3 and we have a very good explanation for the mess.

Many of us in the group have had a longstanding link with the late Roger Elkin, a well respected modeller in Enfield, who sadly passed away a few months ago. Roger left us – his adopted and extensive “railway family” - rather suddenly and prematurely. But he left us with fond memories of his slightly eccentric ways and a legacy of no less than 8 (I think) model railways in various scales, including an immense Gauge 0 garden railway and collection of trains. Rogers railways are being carefully dismantled by Derek and Geoff, of the NLSME, and others and disposed of by a complex sale process on behalf of Roger's next of kin.

Some of Rogers models in 7mm scale (buildings and some rolling stock) have found their way into our Gauge 0 group and, at present, sit on top of our layout awaiting incorporation into and onto our rather compact layout. Of particular note is a Gas Works scene which we hope to recreate in a small extension to the layout. I will report, with photos, when this is complete.

This upheaval is all in addition to our regular progress which has included further scenery detailing by Bill, a new station building and working platform lighting by Stephen and Infra-red train detection and extended “cab control” by yours truly. All aided by Geoff when a heavy hammer or strong Gripfill is appropriate. We have also embarked on fitting automatic couplings to our rolling stock since 3 link and screw link couplings, even in 7mm scale, are getting beyond us in our advancing years.

So whilst I would normally say “do drop in and see us on a Wednesday evening”, this time I will say you are still welcome but don't expect anything other than a scene from WW3 for some time to come. So for now, I think I can pinch Pete's strap line and say, Yours, in the muck, Paul.

## NLSME JST open day in Barnet. Miniature Railway and Open Garden in Barnet.

In late June Ian opened his garden and miniature railway for the benefit of the Jubilee Sailing Trust. The five-inch railway round the garden had been overhauled and three sets of points removed to make for smoother running and the carrying of passengers.

Weeks of preparation were complete. Plants grown for sale on the flower stall. Cakes baked for the buffet and for sale. Bottles collected and positioned for the tombola table. A ton of bric-a-brac and books delivered for the second-hand stall. Children's games ready for competitions and gazebos erected to keep the sun off. Leaflets had been delivered and fliers posted at libraries, shops and published in church magazines.

The main problem was that England were playing in the World Cup that afternoon! The worry was that Barnet would close down once the game started. Which in fact did happen but not to the extent that was feared.

Soon the music of the *sixties* commenced, and the crowds arrived. The reputation that the open day held, was rewarded and soon most of the bottles had been won, the plant stall had large vacant spaces, teas and cakes had been eaten and absolute bargains purchased from the pre-owned stall.

Taking the gazebos down and removing the detritus of the day was performed with vigour considering the work put in previously to erect it all.

The main object of the day had been to raise funds for the Jubilee Sailing Trust. This trust has been formed to enable disabled folk to sail in tall ships. While the garden ephemera was being dismantled the takings were counted. The total came to £1,605. This was to be doubled by an anonymous benefactor. The footfall was not as great as could be expected but everyone felt that they had done their best and were rewarded.

Ian J

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## Our '00' Section Exhibits *Binegar* at the Bishop's Stortford Show.

This exhibition took place on Saturday the 18th August 2018 in the Sports Hall of Birchwood High School, Parsonage Lane, Bishop's Stortford. Exhibitors were allowed to set up their layouts the day before to ease congestion on the morning of the show.



Having set up on the Friday evening, Saturday morning was a much more leisurely affair than the often stressful and hurried preparations encountered at model railway shows.

Many exhibitors and traders took advantage of the offerings of the burger van parked outside. Bacon rolls, hot dogs and many other tempting items were on sale for those who perhaps had not had time for breakfast before leaving home

that morning. Tea and coffee was supplied freely inside the venue to layout operators as is usually the practice, kindly brewed by wives of Bishop's Stortford club members to the complete satisfaction of the operators. Many Bishop's Stortford club members were on duty on the day to assist exhibitors and visitors when needed, all looking very smart wearing their blue club sweatshirts. There was ample time before the show opened at 10:30 to clean track, test locomotives and to generally have a tidy up of the layout ensuring perfect entertainment for the visitors (and operators).

*Binegar* was set up and ready for the visitors and a recognisable team of North London members were ready to operate the layout.



The description of *Binegar*, taken from the programme guide, is as follows;

“Based on the original station of the same name on the Somerset & Dorset Joint Railway (all closed in 1966) situated between Radstock and Shepton Mallet. The goods shed shown was originally owned by Oakhill Brewery and was the terminus of a two mile long railway of 3ft gauge (closed 1921) and subsequently converted to standard gauge. Both this and the station master’s house still stand today – the rest having been redeveloped for housing. Operated to a diagram based on the 1956 timetable to illustrate a variety of traffic on the S & D at that time”.





Also at the show was North London club member Grahame. Grahame was outside on the Upper Concourse, running his loco on the portable track. Other club members were running locos too. A small charge was made for rides and many happy rides were given.



NLSME club member Grahame behind his B17 number 61633 *Kimbolton Castle* at the Bishop's Stortford Model Railway Exhibition 18th August 2018.

If you wish to visit the show next year the school has been booked for 17th August 2019.

Recent photos from Colney Heath.

August 2018.



Brian speeds past the workshop followed by a class 08 diesel locomotive.





Helen supplying refreshments to the track stewards, and below, Michael on his first steward duty.



## Running 3.5" Gauge Locos at Colney Heath

I think it's time we had an event solely for the running of 3.5" gauge locos, so with this in mind I've booked Colney Heath for the afternoon of Saturday the 15th of September for this purpose. It would be interesting to see how many 3.5" gauge locos we can get out on the track in the afternoon and maybe see some locos that don't come out too often. So dust off that pride and joy of yours and head up to the track. See you there.

If you are interested in running could you let me know so I can get an idea of numbers, my contact details are listed below.

Martin C

## Workshop Meetings at Finchley

A new series of Workshop meetings begin this month at our Summers Lane headquarters building in Finchley. The meetings take place throughout the winter on the fourth Friday of each month, except December when members are likely to be busy with other matters. Start time is 8pm and finishing at 10pm.

### **28th September.**

This first meeting has the title "Left and Right Hand Machining"

Topics for subsequent evenings include –

**26th October.** "A Die head without going to Coventry".

**23rd November.** "Four Jaws with no tears".

A tea break at 9pm allows visitors to mix and mingle to discuss topics.

So hope to see you on Friday the 28th of September 2018 at 8pm.

**Mike H.**

## Recent photos from Bill Bass



During May 2018 the 'up' siding at New Barnet was lifted, the track was in poor shape and only used for civil engineering road-railing plant etc. The siding is the last vestiges of the goods yard and shed that served the area. Possibly it may be re-laid as new materials are appearing ballast and such like, one to look out for.



'A4' Union of South Africa and 66009 arrives at Kings Cross with a tour from Lincoln in conjunction with the RAF 100 celebrations that weekend.



Deltic D9009 on a Kings Cross to Edinburgh charter through its old hunting ground of Hadley Wood Station.

## Dates for your Diary

<b>SEPTEMBER</b>	<b>2018</b>
Sat 1st Sept	Birthday party, Owen C
Sun 2nd Sept	Public Running at Colney Heath. 2pm to 5pm
Sun 2nd Sept	F & F at Plough weekend and Capel Manor
Tues 4th Sept	Council Meeting at HQ, 8pm
Fri 7th Sept	General Meeting at HQ, 8pm, Work in Progress
Sat 8th Sept	ADD-Vance charity event at CH, contact P G
Sat 8th Sept	F & F at Bricket Wood Rail Group
Sun 9th Sept	Toy Boat Regatta, contact George C
Sun 9th Sept	F & F at Ashley Rd church
Wed 12th Sept	St Albans Signal Box visit contact Jim M
Sat 15th Sept	3.5 inch running day, 1pm to 5pm, contact Martin C
15th/16th Sept	F & F Heritage weekend
Sun 16th Sept	Public Running at Colney Heath. 2pm to 5pm
Tues 18th Sept	TSC meeting at St. Marks Church Centre, 8pm
<b><i>Fri 21st Sept</i></b>	<b><i>Deadline for copy to Editor for October News Sheet</i></b>
Sun 23rd Sept	F & Fairs at Wheathamsted station
Fri 28th Sept	Workshop evening with Mike H. 8pm HQ
<b>OCTOBER</b>	<b>2018</b>
Tues 2nd Oct	Council Meeting at HQ, 8pm
Fri 5th Oct	General Meeting at HQ, 8pm, Discussion, Les B
Sat 6th Oct	North American H0 section visit to Colney Heath
Sun 7th Oct	Public Running at Colney Heath. 2pm to 5pm
Tues 16th Oct	TSC meeting at St. Marks Church Centre, 8pm
<b><i>Fri 19th Oct</i></b>	<b><i>Deadline for copy to Editor for November News Sheet</i></b>
Sun 21st Oct	Last Public Running at Colney Heath. 2pm to 5pm
Fri 26th Oct	Workshop evening with Mike H. 8pm HQ

NB. Please notify Alan M (Secretary) of all meetings and other Society events for inclusion in the Society Calendar. Approval for special events still rests with Council and/or the Tyttenhanger Site Committee.