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The News Sheet

This Month...

Loco Section Meetings (page 7)

Notice to all 5" and 7¼" locomotive owners (page 9)

Engineering Raw Materials from Local Supplier (page 13)

The Model Engineering Exhibition Jan 2012 (page 14)



**From the Chair (page 2), Treasurer's Report (page 3),
Marine Mumbles (page 4), General Meetings Update (page 5)
December General Meeting (page 5),
January General Meeting (page 6), GLR News Dec (page 10)
GLR News Jan (page 12), Dates for Your Diary (page 15),**

Plus...

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FROM THE CHAIR

On to lighter matters. The Society had stands at both the Model Engineer Exhibition at Sandown and at the London Model Engineering Exhibition at Alexandra Palace. Our thanks to all who participated in these two events.

I offer my thanks to Ron Todd who has completely rebuilt and fitted new windows to the coach. They are a first class job and this is the start of a major refurbishment of the coach, both internally and externally.

Progress on the Raised Track extension is really 'steaming' ahead with the embankments being constructed, mainly from soil moved from the adjacent garden. The brick abutments of the bridge are almost complete, thanks to the dedication of Ted Kitchener. Our thanks to Doug Kennedy who replaced the axle of the dumper truck, funded by a donation. When finished the new Raised Track will be an impressive asset of the Society.

The new Ground Level Railway extension has been pegged out, showing the proposed layout. A new team is being formed to progress the new track work.

David Harris

Front cover: Master of all he surveys! Chairman David Harris checks progress as spoil from Dennis Horler's garden is landscaped behind a bridge abutment by Grahame Gardner, Mick Avery, Steve Coffill and Dick Payne while Ted Kitchener works on the brick facing of the nearer face. Photo: M Chrisp

TREASURER'S REPORT

Wishing everybody a Happy New Year. This year started with a terrific turnout of engines and members and friends enjoying a New Year's Day run at Tyttenhanger. Since then work has continued on a number of the projects, particularly on the new land. The hill in the adjoining garden is steadily diminishing, being converted into embankments for the Raised Track Extension. Undergrowth clearance is also in full swing ready for the Ground Level Extension to kick off.

No new members were elected to the Society at the January Council Meeting.

During the past year the Fetes and Fairs Section have attended numerous events and earned funds for the Society. As is the custom those who have done the work during the year, get to choose where to allocate their share of the funds, based on a points earned system. This has now been completed and I am pleased to advise that all the major projects at the Tyttenhanger site have benefited, in particular the Petrol/Hydraulic Loco under construction for the Ground Level Railway. Well done everybody.

Mike Foreman

Marine Mumbles (Rides Again)

I know many of you must be getting withdrawal symptoms from not reading this little gem of a column for two months. So I am sorry to say we are back.

I have just returned from the first day at the ME Exhibition at Ally Pally (that means I wrote this on Friday). Our stand is looking better each year. Thanks to Ian Johnson for organising it.

Not much has happened marine wise. We hope to de-leaf the pond sometime soon, ready for serious sailing and the two Toy Boat regattas in May and July.

Dave informs me that he has now got a new High Definition mini camera for all his new ventures. Speaking of which, the club film show on our ME club stand really set it off.

The JoTiKa Company was able to supply replacement line drawings for the Clyde Puffer project. The original being sun bleached. Young Master Chisnall has taken his life in his hands to start work on it.

We hope to start the HQ Marine Meetings on Friday 10th of February. So bring all your bits and boats.

Now that wasn't too bad, for the first of the year, as I am bringing you in gently. Remember with me writing this column it can only get worse.

Peter Stern

GENERAL MEETINGS 2012 – FORTHCOMING PROGRAMME

Unless otherwise indicated, General Meetings are held 8-10pm at our Legion Way Headquarters in North Finchley. Peter Davies usually presides over our raffle - for which all donations of suitable prizes are always appreciated, while Dave Lawrence provides us with tea and biscuits at around 9pm. Our thanks to Dave and Peter. Profits from meetings go directly to club funds. All members are welcome at any of our General Meetings and we are always happy to see members' friends and family, too. Hoping for a good attendance to support our speakers, we look forward to your company.

Suggestions (and volunteers) for suitable General Meeting topics are always welcome.

3 February 2012

MODEL ENGINEERING FORUM - Hints, tips and techniques.

2 MARCH 2012 – KEN BRERETON – THE INFLUENCE OF EFFLUENT

All you should know about the Markfield Beam Engine and Museum.

December General Meeting

By OMAH II

Not an incredible amount to say, there being no business, etc, apart from a most enjoyable evening with plenty to eat, courtesy of Jean Chrisp, and drink. Once again it was organised by Mike Chrisp, assisted by Mick Avery in setting it all out. One change was that of a competition that Mike had picked up while on visit to his daughter Barbara. It was a not to be taken seriously type, (since I did not win I can only suppose there was fiddle involved!) Any old how, there was a good deal of hilarity and everyone enjoyed it. (Details available if anyone wants something unusual for a party or other function.) As usual there was a great deal of conversazione and general bonhomie before we ventured forth, wishing each other seasonal greetings.

January General Meeting

By OMAH II

It was a cold dark evening in North London; in spite of that almost twenty members gathered together to celebrate the first General Meeting of 2012. Due to the indisposition of OMAH; OMAH MKII was the scribe.

The Master of Ceremonies, Mike Chrisp opened the bowling by the appointment of Tony Dunbar as fire marshal, Mike Ruffell as tea boy and Peter Davies with the task of 'persuading' folk to buy his raffle tickets.

Mike C reported that the Club had acquitted itself on form at the Model Engineering exhibition at Sandown Park especially the OO layout and the demonstration of work in progress by Jonathan Avery.

Ian Johnston reported that a cornucopia of models and equipment had been offered for the forthcoming exhibition at Ally Pally. He requested that members should volunteer their services as stewards at the exhibition. They would be well rewarded by the reception from members of the interested public.

Tony Dunbar volunteered to restart the Locomotive Section meetings with one condition; that he is supported by a team, in fact by all the members of the Club. Mike Forman, David Lawrence and Ian Johnston were the ones that were the slowest in stepping back and so will form the information team backing Tony, but others with ideas are very welcome to put their pennyworths in.

Then it became clear why David Lawrence had lost his job as El-Suprimo of the catering department; he was to show what a busy chap he was in the use of video devices. David showed us his equipment which consisted of a small but perfectly formed £6 video camera about the size of a match box and a bog standard digital camera with a video facility. In conjunction with his computer David showed us all how to edit video footage. He said it was easy but the chap who had taught him had suddenly and mysteriously left the area so the gathering was at a bit of a loss.

To demonstrate his prowess David took the audience on a flight in his small electrically powered plane with camera attached to its belly. Great views of Friern Barnet parks were had from a height but he tactfully avoided the couples having a bit of rumpty-pumpty in the bushes on that warm sunny Sunday afternoon.

Soon it was the turn of the **OO section**, followed in quick succession with **American HO section** and a mind boggling ride in a **Slot Car** round their

award winning track.

Tea and raffle were hastily taken and it was soon a return to the video presentation.

The **Garden Railway** got the works on a pleasant Wednesday afternoon followed by a trip to a hot air engine gathering somewhere. There did not seem to be a lot of hot air about; all the members seemed to be struck dumb by the magnificence of it all.

The presentation concluded with an account of a recent Toy Boat Regatta. Jet boats seemed to compete with stately Victorian reproductions and it was noticed that the matchbox camera did not venture onto a boat; perhaps David was worried that the gathering would get motion sickness!

Mike drew the evening to a natural conclusion in his usual amicable style. Thanking David for his presentation before the satisfied gathering dispersed into the night seeking further sustenance.

LOCO SECTION MEETINGS

Please note that there will be a Loco Section Meeting on Friday, 17th February at HQ, 19.30 hours for 20.00 hours.

As many of you will know, I volunteered to run the meetings at HQ but not actually to arrange their content due to a lack of contacts on my part. However, 3 well known Society Members, Ian Johnson, Mike Foreman and Dave Lawrence have agreed to assist me in setting them up for your entertainment and education(?).

To this end, I propose to seek your guidance as to what you would like us to arrange and will hold a short discussion at the start of the Meeting.

This will be followed by a 'quiz' and, of course, tea! I hope you will all come and look forward to seeing you.

Tony Dunbar

Notice to all 5" and 7 ¼" locomotive owners

The Tyttenhanger Site Committee with the approval of Council have implemented a requirement for all locomotives/riding trucks running at Colney Heath at 5" and 7 ¼" gauges on the **Ground Level Railway** to have their wheel profiles and "back to back" measurements checked to ensure they are within tolerances based upon UK National Society published data for those gauges.

A set of check gauges have been built and Derek Perham and Ron Price on behalf of the TSC have agreed to undertake the task of checking locomotives/riding trucks.

To avoid difficulties occurring once the running season is underway members who wish to use the Ground Level railway are encouraged to contact either Ron or Derek to have their locomotives/riding trucks checked before the running season commences which may conveniently be combined with a scheduled boiler test if appropriate.

Should a locomotive or riding truck be found not to be within tolerance it will not be allowed to run on the Ground Level Railway at Colney Heath.

Alan Marshall, Secretary TSC



New Year's Day 2012 at the GLR station. Peter Davies looks on and Mike Woolsey passes through as Amy Featherstone and Martin Kennedy ride Peter Funk's loco with Thomas Woolsey completing the picture. Photo: M Chrisp

GLR News (Dec 2011)

At last a vast amount of long overdue jobs have been done at the track and I really must thank three comparatively new members for their input working alongside the usual G.L crew. We now altogether single handedly managed to clear the site of most of the years and years of accumulated junk when I say cleared the junk I mean it is now in one big heap and hopefully the owners of some of the heap will take it home again? The bits that are left will I understand will be disposed of by other means or being brutal thrown away. One of the three new boys Robin Thorn took it upon himself to finish building the track into the carriage shed including sorting out the points and point leavers, ballasting the area to finish. Great job another one off the list. The second new boy dear Ken Simpson further enhanced the area around the carriage shed by moving all the left over roof tiles and stacking them away neatly, counting every one and making an inventory also telling me woe betide any one who messes up the area? Ken a former Sergeant Major I guess can hold his own and he can be my Mum anytime. The third new boy Peter from Chingford is with us on Saturdays because I believe he likes to take his wife shopping on Thursdays (we are working on this one) a useful man on the shovel thanks to you all again.

Just recently I was very fortunate to be in the right place at the right time and found my self the proud new owner of a very large pile of 4x2 timbers? Six lorry loads later the club is now the owner of a very large pile of de nailed timbers. The crew cleaned and stacked the timbers between the containers in the blink of an eye, fantastic job boys. These timbers will be used for the roof structure of the containers giving us even more storage areas between the containers, utilising some of the roller shutter doors on the way. Can't think what we could possibly store here I suppose something will come along?

Thanks to our ladies, Robert junior, Pete and Roy for continually nibbling away at the PILE of soil. Henley Halt is now level and ready to be sown with grass seed to finish the job. The good news is we are starting on the big pile in the car park next. WHO'S UP FOR IT? All are welcome to join in on this one, see you there.

Last month has seen three incidents. John West slipped off his tractor (take more water with it) and bashed his coxics. He was quite shocked for a while and we were relieved that our very own Doctor was on site at the time to assist and reassure us all. John has made a full recovery and stated that the bruising to his rear end was quite extensive, (I declined an offer to look) and am glad he is all right.

The second incident was when Master Robin Woolsey decided to inspect the pond liner close up. His mum at the time sitting on the station (drinking tea again) upon seeing the dripping youth stood up on the bench and screamed, I

thought for her son in distress but no in her haste to get up had fallen through the bench (the third incident) and with the composure that only a lady could muster in such times rushed to help dear little Robert. Well done Diane, another bruising story.

After all the building work that has gone on for years the site really is beginning to look good especially the manicured grass, and when the last of the junk pile is gone we should endeavour to keep it that way. I really hope we do. I have managed to get a truck load of pallets and Ken has already converted them into stakes for marking out the G.L. new land development.

Johnny black dog has come up with a great plan for all the old fencing pales, namely using them to make the pointy bits that hang down around the steaming bay. (looks promising well done John) Can anyone tell me what the pointy bits are called? Clean answers only please.

Again I have run out of time and anybody who is doing stuff for the club and I have not told you it's all looking good thanks for your time and effort it will all be worthwhile in the coming years.

Almost forgot here's wishing you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

As ever in the muck P.A.K. Funk G.L.R. Section Leader



We'll show the blokes! On Saturdays throughout the season, Diane Woolsey and Rosemary Turner have been working hard to help shift the pile of earth from the car park to the embankments alongside the GLR in the new land at our Tyttenhanger track site. Peters Cook and Funk can wield shovels too and Roy Hall drives the train. Photo: M Chrisp

GLR News (Jan 2012)

Happy New Year to you all.

Already a great start to the year as the G.L.R crew seem to have got the bit between their teeth right from the off. So much has been achieved since I last wrote. Here is a brief description to follow.

1. A massive clear up on site and around the car park (woe betide anyone messing it up again).
2. Pointy bits fitted to G.L. covered steaming bay roof eaves. Thank you John hope prince is getting better.
3. Mike H has made and fitted a nice stand to the anvil that now sits well on the bumpy concrete floor in readiness for track panel construction.
4. Handrail made up and fitted to the traverser finished in black paint a joy to use. Peter B is finishing the design of the Brake / locator and hopefully Robin will complete this significant improvement in time for this years running.
5. Again Robin has fitted leavers to various points, 4 more to fit and finish.
6. New Stainless bushes have been fitted to P line point.
7. Route for new land development pegged out ready for levels to be set, Hi Les Brimson.
8. David Rose has made out of one lump the operating leaver for the three way point. "So what" I hear you say. An easy job in his heated workshop until you see it's made out of stainless steel. Hope it fits?
9. The point adjacent to the toilets has been lifted and re-laid removing a bit of a dip!

8th Jan 2012. Spring has come early this year as the daffodils are in flower by the Cuckoo Line triangle? Anybody who has not been up the track lately should notice quite a clear up has taken place including the hacking back of all the overgrown hawthorn bushes. Some have been removed altogether. A vast improvement I might say as we can now get on to maintain the old and build the new G.L.R without being scratched and stabbed by vicious thorns.

The next interesting job soon to be started will be to replace the sharp bends just through the Narrows. Mike H is chomping at the bit to restart track panel building and could be looking for an apprentice rigger. Anyone want to learn to MIG WELD?

Ted has nearly finished the facing brickwork to the G.L. / Mainline elevated bridge and a fine job it is too. That leads me nicely on to saying what a brilliant job Graham and Mike are doing in removing and landscaping their elevated mainline piers. They too have had set backs, namely a broken half-shaft on the dump truck and during one of the coldest periods sourced and fitted a new axle in situ (there's life in the old dogs yet).

It looks as though we will have enough soil (taken from the garden) with plenty still to be moved from the car park to complete the elevated walk-ways. (who said we wouldn't have enough?) Anyone who fancy's moving a bucket or two from the car park to the new land is very welcome to do so. You don't need permission just follow Mike Forman's lead (well done Mike).

If the lads and lassies continue to turn out this amount of work I think I had better start to plan the next stage on the new land. Thanks to everyone who is working so very hard to make the track even better.

As ever in the muck P.A.K. Funk G.L.R. Section Leader

Engineering Raw Materials from Local Supplier.

Whilst at the London Model Engineering Exhibition, I was approached by a representative from Thames Stockholders which is a company in the Smiths Metal Centres Group (formally Smiths of Clerkenwell). He informed me that the company is prepared to supply small quantities of material suitable for the needs of the Model Engineer. The company stocks ferrous, non ferrous, specialised metals (bar and sheet) also a good selection of engineering plastics.

I have put a copy of their short catalogue on the notice board at H.Q. For those of you who do not attend the Finchley H.Q. the address of Thames Stockholders is:-

Unit 5W, Woodhall Road,
Redburn Industrial Estate,
Ponders End,
Enfield, Middx,
EN3 4LQ.

Tel. 020 8805 3282. email: sales@thamesstock.com www.thamesstock.com

Hopefully they may well prove to be able to supply our needs locally and at a reasonable price rather than having to pay postage and packing for materials to be sent from the Midlands or further afield.

Mike Ruffell.

The Model Engineering Exhibition at Alexandra Palace. 20th - 22nd January 2012.

Those fortunate members who were able to visit this year's *London Model Engineering Exhibition*, to use its proper name will have enjoyed a celebration of model engineering at its best.

To me the jewel in the crown was the display put on by the NLSME. But then I am biased because that is the Club that I belong to. Right from conception to delivery and presentation everything seemed to go without a hitch. Members were very willing to lend their precious models even if some did treat their creation rather like a favourite daughter being taken away to join a lap-dancing class. The very varied miniatures from every section of the Club produced a cornucopia of attainment. Which when displayed was very pleasing to the eye of both member and Joe public alike.

Mind you the models did not get onto the stand by unnatural powers but by the sheer hard work of a band of unstinting and happy workers. Unlike the seven dwarfs as there was no Grumpy available.

The display boxes and screens were transported to the Palace. Erected adjacent to the High Wycombe Club as in previous years. The display started at one end of the stand with an excellent model of a 7 ¼" gauge eight wheel tender and a full size 'head light' made especially for *Duchess of Hamilton* and culminated at the other end with a steam lorry with contributions from all sections between. In all forty items were produced for the enjoyment of all.

Thank you everybody who contributed models and who helped in a most enthusiastic and cooperative way.

Ian Johnston

📖 Dates for your Diary 📖

Friday 3 Feb	8.00pm General Meeting; Model Engineering Forum, Hints, tips and techniques.; HQ, Legion Way, Nth Finchley
Friday 10 Feb	8.00pm Marine Section Meeting; HQ, Legion Way, Nth Finchley
Monday 13 Feb	8.00pm Council Meeting; HQ, Legion Way, North Finchley
Friday 17 Feb	8.00pm Loco Section Meeting; HQ, Legion Way, North Finchley
Friday 17 Feb	Deadline for copy to Editor for March News Sheet
Tuesday 21 Feb	8.00pm TSC meeting; Colney Heath
Friday 24 Feb	8.00pm Workshop evening; HQ, Legion Way, Nth Finchley
Friday 2 Mar	8.00pm General Meeting; Ken Brereton: The Markfield Beam Engine and Museum; HQ, Legion Way, Nth Finchley
Monday 12 Mar	8.00pm Council Meeting; HQ, Legion Way, North Finchley
Tuesday 20 Mar	8.00pm TSC meeting; Colney Heath
Friday 24 Mar	Deadline for copy to Editor for April News Sheet
Friday 30 Mar	8.00pm Workshop evening; HQ, Legion Way, Nth Finchley



You'll need more than a pickaxe to shift that lot! Fortunately for Dave Green, Grahame Gardner and Mick Avery have been working Thursdays, Saturdays and Sunday mornings (with a little help from their friends) to shift this hundred year old spoil heap from Dennis Horler's garden to our raised track extension project.

Photo: M Chrisp

Every Wednesday	Garden Railway Section at Colney Heath (11am - 4pm); OO and HO Model Railway Groups and Video Group at HQ (evening)
Every Thursday	Slot Cars Section at HQ (evening)
Every Saturday	Morning working party on GLR including junior section.
Every Sunday	Morning working parties at Colney Heath (start 9.00am).

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.

