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The News Sheet

This Month...

- Loco Section meetings (page 7)
- Track Stewards - 2014 (page 10)
- Peter Weeks (page 12)
- Buffers on GLR (page 13)
- Brian Apthorpe's Invitation Day (page 14)
- Junior Driving Course CANCELLED (page 17)
- Mencap Day (page 18)



Plus...

- Chairman's Report (page 2), Treasurer's Report (page 4),
- August General Meeting (page 5), GLR News (page 6)
- Marine Mumbles (page 8), General Meeting Update (page 11),
- Dates for Your Diary (page 19),
- Officers, Council Members and Section Leaders (page 20)

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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

First a bit of an update on the HQ, problems here seem to have been sorted out with the installation of new fencing and gates to the site, security at present is still there 24/7 but will be leaving shortly.

The Jubilee weekend went really well, my only regret is that more visiting clubs were not in attendance, but all in all a good turnout was had both days. I must pass many thanks to my other half, Ann, for all the work she put in both days on the catering side, thanks also to Malcolm Barnes and Brian Looker for their extended help, I hope all were well fed?

The site look excellent, many thanks must go to Nigel Griffiths, his lovely wife Helen and of course the two Johns for all the work they put into keeping the grounds at Tyttenhanger in such lovely kept condition. On that front we now have a new lawn mower, this was expensive so only approved users may operate it, if you are not on the list, leave it alone, you damage it, you pay for repair!

We also had a grand evening B-B-Q on 1st August at Tyttenhanger. Ian Johnston organised soup and bread, I bought along some sausages left over from the weekend, we all eat well, but as with all of these things food disappeared very quickly, even Brian's box of broken biscuits evaporated nearly instantly! It was a really good evening, many members bought their wives along, a really good time, how a friendly club should be.

Well, on the Garden Rail we have been really busy, on the 23rd July we had the 'G1' East Anglian group visit, about 20 visitors, they really enjoyed themselves, weather was great, we had some 30 odd visiting loco's running, often double running on all three tracks.

Next, on the 13th August we had the 'G1' Kent group & some of the 'G1' Southend club visit us, again a very hectic day, we were on site from 9am to 6pm. About 30 visitors were present, again weather was kind to us! Well over 40 loco's in attendance, much double running taking place.

On both days the event was organised by Steve Edwards. Dave West did nearly all of the track stewarding, food was ably organised and cooked by Malcolm Read, Brian Looker took care of drinks and washing up. All the lads helped in one way or the other, many thanks must go to all of them. Nigel cut the grass the day before and the site looked like a park.

Front cover: NSLME Fetes and Fairs section at Victoria Playing Fields St Albans Photo: Tony Mason

I would mention that on both dates we got one of the club loco's out and gave some (all) of our visitors a ride round the RT, most of them were very impressed with the track and the progress being made on the GL, many thanks to all the hard work being put in by the work gangs.

We are fortunate in this society to have one of the most active 'G1' groups probably in the world, we have an excellent level flowing, 3 circuit, user friendly track, this allied to superb facilities in the 'bothy' and the coach, good clean toilets and wonderful grounds make us a popular place to visit. Our only weakness in holding events is we have no club rolling stock, this we must try and solve. We need a good rake of coaches and a good set of "goods" trucks, this would release some of the pressure off the sidings and 'loops' on visitor days.

Then on the 6th August, it being school holidays, and most of us being "old'ish" we had a day for our grandchildren, out came the club loco's and plenty of rides were given, not just to young visitors either! Loads of kids running around enjoying themselves, eating picnics and watching loco's. We all felt that on this day it was exactly what our society should be about. We left site just before 6pm, exhausted! But, I had taken the precaution of placing a bottle of white wine in the fridge for later, and it went down well.

As stated last month, the society's has agreed to allow the "Fairs & Fetes" committee to have secure access to one half of Container No.1 at Tyttenhanger. This is an exception and **only applicable in this case.**

Hopefully next month will not be quite so hectic and I'll get a chance to run my loco's, with the weather forecast as it should stay warm and sunny, let's hope so! Until then I'll wish all of you "Happy modelling".

David Metcalf

TREASURER'S REPORT

Last month I made two rash statements which I will now correct.

I had mentioned in my report that the special weekend at Colney Heath would be a fading memory by the time you read my notes. This was written without realising that our Editor, Nick intended to get the News Sheet out a week earlier than usual. A good crowd of members attended on both days and enjoyed themselves. The inner man (person?) was fortified by plenty of good food provided by David and Ann Metcalf, who we thank for their efforts. What was left over was consumed on the following Friday's General Meeting Barbeque, again well attended by members and some wives. It only a pity that so few visitors and their engines came along from all the dozens of clubs invited to enjoy our wonderful facilities.

My second admission is that I said that Mike Law's Juliet II achieved an even better efficiency figure when performing at Colney Heath LittleLEC in 2011. Having found the relevant performance table from that event, I realised that the winning Juliet was in fact driven by Les Pritchard with an efficiency of 0.653%. Mike Law had had the misfortune of having to retire with a blown super-heater element.

The last Council Meeting saw us welcoming one young man, Karl Newton rejoining us, having completed his GCSEs, and another new junior member, Thomas Brook, son of member Rob Brook, both interested in Locomotives.

Finally, we are please to welcome Roy Verden, interested in Marine, Gauge 1, O, OO and General Engineering.

Next month I will list those members who have decided not to renew their membership of the Society and whose names will need to be deleted from your Name & Address lists.

Finally, it is with a sad heart that I have to advise that Peter Weeks died recently after a protracted illness. We both attended the same school, although a world apart, as he was one year ahead of me. We will miss him and his skill with the paint-brush.

Mike Foreman

August General Meeting

BBQ at Tyttenhanger

By OMAH Mk II

The August BBQ at Tyttenhanger is usually a rather sparse affair. Just a few members attend to partake of tomato soup and grumble at the weather. This year it was different. The reason is not known but it may have been the lure of David Metcalf's sausages that did it.

Ian Johnston lit the BBQ fire nice and early and by the time the throng of members, some with their wives and girlfriends (but not at the same time) arrived the embers were red and ready to roast the first of many sausages.

Several members were running their locomotives and admired by the throng enthusiastically eating sausages, drinking tomato soup and chewing away at rolls and brown bread. So enthusiastically were the sausages consumed that when the folk running locomotives returned to eat, the larder was almost bare!

Nevertheless a very pleasant time was had by all. Especially because a team of willing helpers volunteered to clear and wash up the mugs pans and plates.

Ian Johnston wondered how the BBQ and evening could be improved upon so that he has some idea how many folk would attend and so that adequate food be provided and that those that were not 'first come first served' not left starving.

When the light was fading the modest band drifted away from Tyttenhanger to seek liquid sustenance elsewhere.

GLR News August/September

Hi Gang,

Sorry I missed last month's newsletter deadline. No excuse just had to follow the sun and see if I could find any steam trains in North Wales.

How splendid the container roof is looking as it is slowly being covered with its new coat of tiles, not an easy job for the old boys! So much so that we had to devise a way of moving the tiles along the roof in readiness for laying out on the battens. This involved sitting down and passing the tiles along to the next bloke. Crude but effective, glad to say we ain't lost anyone yet!

Public passenger hauling has begun and I am very pleased to say that we have only had small niggles with points and signals. I thought I had achieved the TOP SCORE of 200 passengers pulling last Sunday the 6th July, only to be told by Mike Woolsey that they broke the record again this Sunday the 20th July - 205 fare paying passengers. Well done boys we will soon pay off the overdraft on the G.L.R. Perhaps we can now get on with the tunnel roof? Thank you Derek and Dave for altering fences and making up the new kick boards and thanks also to the boys who back filled and lifted the track to number three way on the platform. Looks a real neat job.

Moany Bit.

Can I please ask members/parents once again not to let their children linger on the platforms or run in front of an oncoming train, they are your responsibility and even at three miles an hour if there is a collision between child and a loco I think I know who will come off worse. The driver who had this happen to him was quite concerned and shaken; this rule must apply whilst trains are running G.L. at any time, failure to comply could end with serious injury to your CHILD.

Roy's new toy.

What an asset to the club it seems that when Roy is running for the public he clears the queue in one pass.



Loco Section Meetings

Held at HQ, Finchley starting at 8.00pm.

19th September - Unless someone comes forward I will give a programme entitled 'Railway Adventure US Style'

17th October - John Polley, Modelling the Underground and '3D' printing

21st November - To be advised

19th December - Members Film Evening. All types catered for!

16th January - Roger Elkin on 'London Railways Then and Now'.

As usual I'm short of ideas, let alone speakers. Please help!!!!

Tony Dunbar

Marine Mumbles (Rides Again)

Well it's taken quite some time to build, but my scratch built 1/15th scale 40mm Rolls Royce Gun is finished at last. These weapons used the same round as the naval Pom-Pom gun. Being only single shot, without auto feed on the naval gun, the rate of fire was slow. This made it of limited use as an anti-aircraft ordnance, coupled with reliability issues. Weapons of this type were mounted on Coastal Forces craft, at the beginning of WW2, before being superseded by the 40mm Swedish Bofors gun. Rather than waffle on any more I have included plenty of photos of it for Nick to choose from. It's what is called 'padding out' to cover up my limited word inclusion this month.



Right down to the more important part of this précis. The last Toy Boat Regatta of the year will be held on Sunday 14th September at Colney Heath, from 9.00am. I will be there, as I haven't forgotten any of my son's weddings', this time!

As you may or may not know we as a society are invited, every year, to the St. Albans Show. It is held this year at: Townsend C of E School, High Oaks, St. Albans. AL3 6DR on September 27th & 28th. We would like some models to put on the NLSME stand. If any of you are willing to show one of your pride and joy masterpieces, just give Dave or me a ring/e-mail.

Peter Stern



UPDATED STEWARDS ROTA PLEASE CHECK CAREFULLY FOR YOUR NAME

Please remember if you are unable to do your duty, it **is up to you** to change with another member. Please then notify me of the change so it can be published in the next newsletter. If at short notice please let the Senior Steward for that day know.

Senior Stewards, if you are on emails It would really help me if you can let me know if there were any changes on your day and if any members didn't do it please let me know the reason if you are aware of it.

SENIOR STEWARD NEEDED FOR 19th OCTOBER. Please volunteer NOW

Please contact the webmaster

Thanks, Sue Rose

7 September 2014

Keith Hughes - Senior Steward

Brian Baker
David Broom
Colin Davidson
Stephen Don
Peter Foreman
Adam Gorski
Anthony Mason
Jacqui Penny
Gordon Lawrance
Mike Woolsey

21 September 2014

Mike Ruffell - Senior Steward

Graham Ainge
Graeme Browne
John Beesley
Dave Green.
Brian Looker
David Marsden.
Alan Marshall
John Morgan
Sanj Raut
Colin Thomson

5 October 2014

Ian Johnson - Senior Steward

Dave Chisnall
Peter Cook
Mathew Davies
Micheal Gibbs
Mike Franklin
Bryn Morgan
Lawrence Steers
Peter Stern
Keith Wakefield
Tim Watson

19 October 2014

TO BE ADVISED

Robin Barfoot
Peter Fox.
Susie Frith
Dave Lawrence
Alan Loosley
Ian MacCabe
Colin Rouse.
Nigel Kerr
Peter Smith
Ron Todd.

Forthcoming General Meetings 2014

Unless otherwise indicated General Meetings are held at 8-10pm at our Legion Way Headquarters in North Finchley. All members are welcome and we are always happy to see friends and family attending. We hope for a good attendance to support our speakers. Please remember that many of the meetings depend on the Club to provide the catalyst for a stupendous evening. For information email the webmaster

Friday Sept 5th 2014. General Meeting. Return of Edward the Compressor

Edward the Compressor returns to provide a breath of air to resuscitate your forgotten machine. So please ransack your bottom drawers and bring something along to hold us all spell bound when it springs into life. We hope.

Friday October 3rd Auction 'bring and buy' at Headquarters as well as tons of metal and tooling for the model engineer. Please come along and buy a few bargains or just come to be entertained and leave with regrets that you did not bid for that mystery tool box.

Friday November 7th How Barnet got its Railways. A talk by a railway historian from Barnet Museum. Listen and learn with fascination concerning the machinations that took place before High Barnet Station was finally established.

Friday December 4th THE Christmas party for all sections. Please come along and have an evening of Christmas fun. New cuisine this year and meet folk you do not usually see in convivial surroundings.

Peter Weeks

Mrs J. Weeks and family would like it known that following a short illness; it is with sadness we announce the death of Peter weeks.

Peter was a steadfast member of the NLSME. He joined the society in the 1980s and will be remembered for the work that he carried out on the elevated and ground level tracks, for his humour and his engineering knowledge.

Peter leaves his wife Juanita, son Mark, daughter Suzanne, and his five grand children; Christopher, Joseph, Janice, Samuel, and Charlotte. Together they all found great happiness, with a solid teaching from Peter about the era of steam, and steam engines.

They all spent many a morning and afternoon riding his engines at the NLSME track. He will be sorely missed by all who knew him at Colney Heath. Peter's family would also like to thank all his friends in the society for the precious moments he enjoyed over the years.



Peter is eight from left as usual right in amongst the workers.
Peter Weeks

Goodbye Peter nice to have known you, I remember the very day we met back in the 80's, it was in the car park up the track, you were there with your wife feverishly trying to open a child's buggy for I guess your then young son Mark

who now has a young son of his own, you laughed when with one touch I opened the damn contraption saying that I have had more practice than you, having four of my own, how time flies. It was the start of many years of friendship. Pete was always willing and able to do things that were asked of him at the track and without a moan; off he would go quietly going about his business often sharing a joke about current situations at the club. Such was his love for his hobby when the newsletter was due he would rush indoors saying, "the bibles here". I'm glad to say one recent article seemed to touch his sense of humour in particular, The case of the Skips disappearing metal.

Pete enjoyed running on the elevated track with his locos and was particularly pleased with his latest loco named of course after the boss Juanita. One or two teething problems later he showed me what a splendid job Ron Price had done making up a set of oil cups for the axle boxes. Beaming he was when he explained to me that his grandson "had his eye" on the new loco with its fine coat of paint.

I hope the grandchildren will still come and run his locos with the help of dad and follow in Pete's footsteps.

The boys at the track will miss you so, and I send their and my fondest regards for a quiet and modest guy.

Peter Weeks the Bibles Here
1947 to 2014

P.A.K. Funk G.L.R. Section Leader.

Ground Level Railway buffer and coupling dimensions for passenger hauling.

ALL BUFFERS

Max Height from the rail when vehicle is unloaded 5¼" (133 mm)

Buffer Centres 8 5/8" (219 mm)

And of sufficient diameter as to prevent buffer locking.

COUPLINGS

Max Height from rail when vehicle is unloaded 5¼" (133 mm)

Min Height from rail when vehicle is fully loaded 4¼" (108 mm)

Brian Apthorpe's Invitation Day

This really ought to be "The Apthorpe's Invitation Day" as it would not be the same without Sue who provided refreshment throughout the day. Let's hear it for Sue. The weather turned out to be excellent, nothing like the rather gloomy predictions. "Oh Frabjous Day" We had a good turnout of locos, twelve 5in and one 7¼ in.

I think that everyone had a good day although, sadly, we had a couple of failures; Keith Spence had to retire after a few laps due to a leak round the firehole ring and Alan Cox, rather more dramatically, had a valve spindle come undone which bent the valve rod and, hopefully, was something to be sorted back home. Roy Perry had an initial problem with the regulator handle shearing but managed to repair it and had a good two hours fun with the 'Saint'. All the locos seemed to be performing well, one didn't have to look when 'Duke of Winsor' was passing, that delightful phtt from the safety valves was very distinctive. One loco, which I had not seen before, was the USA 2-6-2 of Peter Evans. I was told that it was bought as a box of bits for £150 and refurbished. A remarkable job and excellent performer, "it can pull the side of a house down and is used as the Club's training loco since it is so easy to drive."



Above Keith Spence's *Britannia Solway Firth* is no stranger to our track but unfortunately was not to run for long on this occasion due to boiler failure.

Right Luigi Naruszewicz had a good run with his Halton tank, a regular runner on its home track at Northolt.



Above Passing our garden railway at the regulator of *St Michael*, Roy Perry from Northolt named his locomotive to commemorate the memory of his brother.





Above Under the watchful gaze of fellow members and visitors, Jeremy Lewis pulls carefully away from the station at the regulator of Ray Linkins' fine Black 5
Below Christine Lewis made some extremely fancy cup cakes that were as much a delight to the eye as they were to the taste buds!



Brian wishes to thank all those who helped on the day, particularly Christine Lewis who provided some truly delectable cupcakes, (I tested a couple myself, just to be sure).

(If I might be permitted a personal footnote, all of our invitation days are friendly affairs but this one, which has been going for many years, is almost like a family day with the same folk turning up each time and exchanging greetings. Long may it continue.)

Jim Robson (Photos by Mike Chrisp)



Above The *Duke of Winsor* ran well in the hands of several drivers including those of its owner Chris Hawkins of Madstone.

JUNIOR DRIVING COURSE

Unfortunately due to lack of interest the above Junior Driving Course has to be cancelled.

MENCAP DAY, SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 6th 2014

Ladies & Gentlemen.

The MENCAP DAY 2014 is nearly upon us.

Just a reminder that this year our annual invitation to the
St. Albans Mencap Group has been arranged for
Saturday 6th September 2014.

This is normally a wonderful day out hosted by the Society for many of those
whom are less fortunate than ourselves.

If you are available to Volunteer as DRIVERS, GUARDS or STEWARDS on
this day can you please confirm this to Malcolm Barnes as soon as possible.
Email the webmaster

This day brings so much pleasure to all these visitors,
both the patients and their carers.

It is planned for the event, weather permitting,
to run from 13:00 to 17:00 on that date.

The visitors normally arrange all their own catering
and use our coach for the making of drinks etc.

Actual numbers of visitors are expected to be about 35, maybe more.

I understand that they tend to arrive and leave as and when they wish
so there will possibly be a steady turnover of visitors all afternoon.

I do need to update my list of volunteering members as soon as possible
so please let me know.

As usual the more volunteers the merrier as many of the visitors
will need a lot of help getting on and off of the trains.

Malcolm will be looking after this event for me in my absence.

Thanking you all in advance, Mr. Grumpy

📖 Dates for your Diary 📖

Friday 5 Sept	8.00pm General Meeting; Return of Edward the Compressor; HQ; Legion Way, Nth Finchley
Saturday 6 Sept	St Alban's Mencap visitors; Colney Heath
Sunday 7 Sept	2.00pm Sunday Public running
Sunday 14 Sept	9.00am Toy Boat Regatta, The Pond Tyttenhanger; Colney Heath
Sunday 14 Sept	Peterborough club visit, Tyttenhanger; Colney Heath
Sunday 14 Sept	Fete's and Fairs at Muswell Hill. Contact Jim MacDonald
Tuesday 16 Sept	8.00pm TSC meeting; St Mark's Church Centre, Colney Heath
Friday 19 Sept	8.00pm Loco section meeting; 'Railway Adventure US Style'; HQ, Legion Way, North Finchley
Friday 19 Sept	Deadline for copy to Editor for October News Sheet
Saturday 20 Sept	2.00pm Private party (Owen Chapman); Colney Heath
Sunday 21 Sept	2.00pm Sunday Public running
Sat/Sun 27/28 Sept	St. Albans Model Show. Contact Peter Stern
Friday 3 Oct	8.00pm General Meeting; Bring and Buy Auction; HQ; Legion Way, Nth Finchley
Sunday 5 Oct	2.00pm Sunday Public running
Tuesday 7 Oct	8.00pm Council Meeting; HQ, Legion Way, North Finchley
Friday 17 Oct	8.00pm Loco section meeting; John Polley, 'Modelling the Underground and '3D' printing'; HQ, Legion Way, North Finchley
Sunday 19 Oct	2.00pm Sunday Public running
Tuesday 21 Oct	8.00pm TSC meeting; St Mark's Church Centre, Colney Heath
Friday 24 Oct	8.00pm Workshop meeting; HQ, Legion Way, North Finchley
Friday 24 Oct	Deadline for copy to Editor for November News Sheet
Tuesday 4 Nov	8.00pm Council Meeting; HQ, Legion Way, North Finchley
Friday 7 Oct	8.00pm General Meeting; 'How Barnet got its Railways'; HQ; Legion Way, Nth Finchley

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

NB. Please notify Malcolm Barnes (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.

