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The News Sheet

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FROM THE CHAIR

The North London Society of Model Engineers embraces many aspects of model engineering, and to do so uses the facilities at Colney Heath and at HQ in North Finchley. Without our HQ building the Society is likely to lose a considerable portion of our modelling base, for which the Society has become well known.

Looking forward to September, the Society is hosting the visit of MENCAP to the track on Saturday, 17th September. The Society is also assisting the St Albans MES with their annual exhibition over the weekend of 17th/18th September. Whilst on the next weekend 24th/25th September we are hosting a 'Railways on the Air' amateur radio event organised by Mike Hodgson. The Colchester SME is visiting us on Sunday, 25th September, so it will be a busy active weekend.

David Harris

Front cover: Chelmsford member John Dalton's Great Northern single wheeler No 221 which, as usual, ran faultlessly at Tyttenhanger on Saturday 27th Aug.
Photo: Geoff Burton

TREASURER'S REPORT

At the last Council Meeting we were pleased to accept four new members into the Society. Welcome to you all.

Colin Reeves, Interest in Locomotives and Garden Railways.

Sanj Raut and Master Thomas Raut, Interested in Locomotives.

Master Jack Coker, Interested in Locomotives and OO.

Regrettably, this will be the last issue of the North London S M E News Sheet to be sent to those members who have chosen not to pay their overdue subscriptions since my final reminder letters of the 1st August.

Mike Foreman

Grounds Maintenance at Colney Heath

If you have been reading your News Sheet you will have noticed that in last months From The Chair it was announced that I had been approached and asked to join the Tyttenhanger Site Committee as Grounds Maintenance Manager. Feeling that the site represents our main contact with the visiting public I was happy to accept this role but it is one that I cannot do alone. Fortunately, our newest member Colin Reeves and long serving member Roy Hall have both agreed to join with me in keeping the site as tidy as we can at a time when there are already major projects underway or planned for the coming winter working party season.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend an invitation to other members of the society to join Colin, Roy and myself in the Grounds Maintenance Team. So if you have an interest in joining the team please contact the webmaster.

Nigel Griffiths

Radio at Tyttenhanger

On the weekend of 24-25th September a radio station proudly bearing the call sign GB0TLR will be operating at the track. This fun event, "Railways On the Air" is an excuse for radio amateurs to set up and operate from interesting railway type places all over the UK. Last year there were over thirty stations, mostly at preserved railways including well known ones like the Bluebell Railway.

Our station GB0TLR, is named after "Tom Luxford's Railway", although I had to put "Tyttenhanger Light Railway" on the paper work for Ofcom. The radio station will be operating on 80m, 40m or 20m wave length.

Radio amateurs are people very like Model Engineers, only they have an interest in radio rather than steam. Having passed an exam we are given use of an amazing range of wave lengths, from 160 meters to 7mm, and we can apply for a call sign, mine is M0NOE. If there is anyone out there hiding their call under a bushel, please let me know, I need operators.

The delight of radio is that with relatively straight forward equipment, and the right piece of wire in the air you can contact almost anywhere in the World, with just the cooperation of the fellow at the other end.

GB0TLR is a special event station with relaxed rules, so that anyone can operate under supervision, such as you might let someone drive your locomotive. Here is your chance to speak to people you might know at your favourite preserved railway.

The station will mostly be operated by members of the Southgate Amateur Radio Club, which was started in 1936, some eight years before NLSME. The excuse for the event is to Commemorate the opening of the first steam hauled passenger railway on 27 September 1825.

Mike Hodgson M0NOE

QSL card for "Railways on the Air" at Tyttenhanger, reporting contact with another amateur radio station.
See the following link <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/QSL> for further information on QSL.

To:

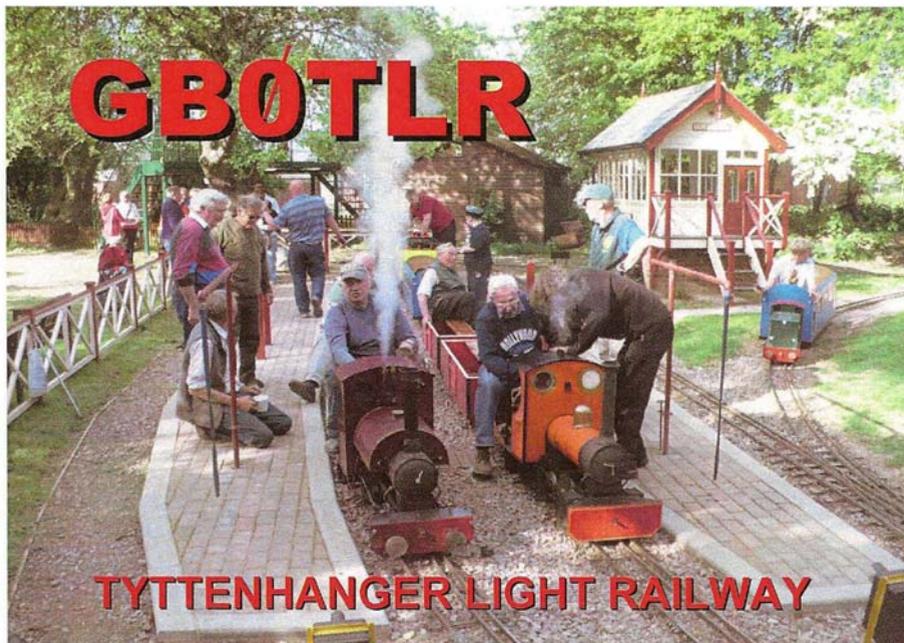
IARU Locator
IO91UR

DATE	UTC	BAND	MODE	R.S.T.	RIG	ANTENNA

73 de Operator _____ Callsign _____

Please QSL via bureau to M0XDS.

This Railways On the Air (ROTA) station is operated by Southgate Amateur Radio Club on behalf of the North London Model Engineering Society, who run the Tyttenhanger Light Railway. This QTH is at London Colney in Hertfordshire, 30km NNW of Central London.



GLR News

Important

Please be aware that due to an incident that happened on the last public running day 21-08-11 will all Ground Level loco drivers please note that as your section leader I am asking that you do not pull public passengers unless your train has an adequate braking system fitted. I ask this until such time that the council makes a ruling on this matter.

Whilst I have my moan'y head on we intend to develop the G.L.R in the new land, this can only be done if a sufficient manpower is interested in completing the outstanding tasks, (listed next page) and helping us in the future, and so determine the rate of progress. The small but beautifully formed team we have are thin on the ground but they soldier on regardless, many thanks lads. So if any new or old members would like to join a formidable team building the new railway please don't be shy. Come and talk to us. You will find us at the track most Thursdays and Saturdays or phone me direct my number is on the back of the newsletter.

Items already completed on the list of maintenance jobs are:-

- the missing rail is now welded in from the old station point to the traverser end, so dear old Robin you can now only fall off the traverser end, watch this space
- one straight panel and a start on a curved panel has been made, this is to allow fitting of the three way point to Orchard Junction. Bring it on! Thanks to Johnny black dog for painting the black stuff on you almost got some on the sleepers this time (you love it) a thankless and messy task we couldn't do it without you.

This weekend is set to be a busy time for the railway seeing a private party, visiting locos and the junior late night run. I have had permission and got a pass out and will be staying over on Saturday night. I don't know how I am going to cope camping out on that damp old field playing trains and going to bed without my loco? Still cope is just what I'll have to do and I will try not to smile as I leave home.

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

HO section members, Ray Fenton, wife Betty, Les Dobbs and Tony Dunbar with Michael Dear's Elsie B up the track, 2nd July 2011.
Photo Lee Griffin

GLR Maintenance Works

Urgent Track Repairs.

- Remove dips and kinks to panels and points,
- Straighten out sharp bends past narrows,
- Remove excess ballast through out,
- Replace rotten sleepers Re-ballasting and Elevating as we go.
- Weld missing rail between traverser and old station, Realign rails to traverser/turntable,
- Fit 3 way point to Orchard junction to enable the fitting of the point coming out in place of worn point in the old station.

Needed

- Ballast and fix rails/points into carriage shed,
- Repair door hinge to shed.
- Move pile of soil in car park and Henley Halt to new land.
- Jury rig compressor to G.L. steaming bay.
- Install electrics to steaming bay.

Traverser

- Make and fit bridging rail from traverser to containers.
- Fit brake mechanism and or locator,
- make and fit hand rail to finish.

Advantageous

- Cover container roof.

List as of 28 07 2011



Marine Mumbles (Rides Again)

It is with a heavy heart, and rapid feet, that we say a fond farewell to our last Friday night sailing of this year. It was good to see Gavin Long, and family, bring his ferry along for water testing. The rudder department was all that needed "looking" at. The next size up should sort out its slow response, directionally speaking. Dave brought his Kortz steered tug which was a lovely ship to control. He even trusted me with it! Situated at the on the top of the funnel he put one of his world famous tiny video cameras. Premiere night will be held at the next Marine Meeting. Now all I have to find some red carpet to run from Dave's house to HQ, just like they do on those TV awards.

Our first HQ meeting will be on Friday, October 14th at 8.00pm. Bring any of your model ships, finished or unfinished. We also will have our Clyde Puffer project, with us there, to discuss. Also as mentioned before, may the video world of Dave Lawrence be with you (OK I nicked a bit from Star Wars) on the night. Hope to see you all there.

Peter Stern

NORTH AMERICAN SECTION IS 25 YEARS OLD ON 26TH OCTOBER

Believe it or not, it will be 25 years since the North American Section was formed following the election to the Society of the former North Middlesex Model Railway Club members who had lost their club room.

Please come and join us for a small celebration at HQ on Wednesday, 26th October commencing at 19.00 hours when refreshments will be served and our 'Woodside Union Terminal' layout will be in operation.

Looking forward to seeing you.

The 'WUT Nuts'.

GENERAL MEETINGS 2011 – 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.

2 SEPTEMBER 2011 TONY DUNBAR REMINISCES

Widely travelled and with long experience of many aspects of full size and miniature railways in various scales and gauges, Tony is sure to use this opportunity to intrigue and entertain us.

7 OCTOBER – WORK IN PROGRESS

An informative, instructive and enjoyable evening when we can show our current project(s) to fellow members and discuss any technical matters giving us cause for thought.

4 NOVEMBER – REVIEW

Time to look back on a busy season and forward to a productive winter.

2 DECEMBER 2010 – PRE-CHRISTMAS SOCIAL

An informal time together with food and drink 'On the House'. All members, families and friends are welcome.

Visitor's Day Tyttenhanger

Photos by Jim Robson

Brian and Sue Apthorpe have been organising these visits for umptytyddlysix years and must have been well pleased with the turnout, 14 locos, 13 on the raised track and an intrepid 5in Tram on the ground level. There were also some very nice G1 loco's on the new Garden Railway layout.

The list was as follows:-

- BR Standard 2-6-4T, Alf Manketelow, Fareham
- 0-6-0 Pannier Tank, Simon Tilbury, Harrow & Wembley
- BR Standard 2-6-0, Mike Freelove, Southampton
- B1 4-6-0, 'Dukebok', (a new species of antelope?), Alan Cox, Bromsgrove
- GWR 4-6-0, 'Saint Michael', Roy Perry, Northolt
- Freelance 0-6-0T, 'Duke of Winser', Chris Hawkins, Maidstone
- Porter American 2-6-0, Jack Ruler, Maidstone
- 4-6-2 Britannia, 'Solway Firth', Keith Spence, Northolt
- P2 2-8-2, 'Lord President', Sue & Martin Parham, Maidstone
- 57XX 0-6-0 PT, Dave Calvert, Northampton
- LNWR D Class 0-8-0, Nigel Thompson, Erewash Valley
- 'Simplex' 0-6-0T, Les Connel, Erewash Valley
- 4-6-0 'Jubilee', 'Sir Charles Nichols', Peter Evans, Gravesend
- 5in G 0-4-0 Tram, (Toby?), Dave Coombes, Bedford





Above: Sue Parham in charge of Lord Faringdon
 Left: Busy group at steaming bay

The day started a bit damp but perked up by lunchtime and the sun put in an appearance, as did I somewhat late and missed seeing at least two locos run, but there was still plenty to observe. 'Lord President' sailed by, oozing quiet power, driven by Sue Parham, where is Martin one wondered. He was discovered running a G1 on the garden railway together with several other folk. They seemed to be quietly enjoying themselves. I must confess, though I took snaps, not identifying the loco's, apart from a very nice 4-4-0 'County of Devon' and a New York Central 6100. I then wandered up to the station where the ever effervescent Sue Apthorpe, ('Mrs Woman'), was dispensing refreshment and bonhomie in equal quantities. I sat and watched the passing engines, all of which seemed to be performing perfectly, I enquired of the owner of the rather nice 'Jubilee', the origin of the Sir Charles Nichols nameplate and was told it was for his late uncle, the 'Sir' was a piece of poetic licence, but he was always a Sir in his eyes, a rather nice memorial. Although they were all very nice loco's and, I think, had trouble free runs, the one which took my fancy was the 0-6-0 Freelance tank named 'Duke of Winsor'. I was informed that it was a souped up job, based on a 'Simplex' chassis but having an oversize boiler,



giving it a fair amount of thrutch, it regularly pulls two passenger trolleys at Mote Park. There were at least four dream loco's, but well outside by handling ability, and if I could have picked one to put in the boot, it would have been the 57XX Class of Dave Calvert. (Fat chance!) A good day, well done the visitors and Brian and Sue for bringing them together yet again.

Jim Robson



Left Jubilee, 'Sir Charles Nichols' with Peter Evans

Above Chris Hawkins' Freelance 0-6-0 tank

Right Dave Calvert with 57XX PT



August General Meeting

By OMAH2

Regular readers of this excellent journal will be conditioned to the accurate minutes scribed by OMAH. Unfortunately for the readers but fortunately for OMAH a Marconi reunion beckoned him and we all wish him a not too severe hangover.

Taking into account that August is the height of the holiday season there was a substantial number of members at the meeting which was opened by the eloquent Mike Chrisp. After the welcome, Jim Macdonald was appointed Fire Marshal for the evening.

Mike then reported on the numerous activities of the Club including the extremely energetic fetes and fairs section as well as the charitable activities at Colney Heath. With such a varied and enthusiastic club many forthcoming events were anticipated including a Geeks Day on Saturday 27th August. An extreme Geek is, I suppose, someone who knows everything about nothing as opposed to us generalists who know nothing about everything.

Our long suffering Club Chairman David Harris reported that all was well with the Club and that membership was holding up well but with the loss of one prominent Country Member.

The first topic for the evening was 'Centering on the lathe' with the four-jaw chuck in command. All experienced bods will know when five model engineers are gathered together there will be at least six different solutions to a problem because one is bound to change his mind; well this evening we were treated to just two! Mike C gave a wonderful demonstration via a DVD which seemed to suffer from sunspot interference and finally gave up but never the less confirmed that Mike keeps a very clean lathe and has commensurate skills. This was followed by Mike Hodgson with a similar exhibition on his work centre called something like a Schussell, which sounded like a challenge to say 'she sells sea shells on the sea shore' as fast as you can. This was followed by the machining of a rear brake drum off an Allard car on the rotating table of the work centre all shown with images on his computer without interference from outer space of course.

Earl Grey Tea followed, brewed by the marine aviator David Lawrence who managed to get through the whole evening without mentioning the pond once.

The call of 'Everyone a Winner' was then heard from the direction of Peter Davies. And with the reduced attendance it was almost true regarding the raffle. Peter also had a number of small rechargeable 12 volt batteries. (Apply to PD if you want one) They are said to be so powerful that if two were wired in series to a blower that they could probably suck out the tubes of a Britannia and perhaps the grate as well.



Which brings us neatly to the next topic; that of burnt out grates. Our hard working locomotives seem to burn out grates with monotonous regularity, but apart from recognising the fact, no one had an answer except for 'stainless steel' being a unanimous cry. Mike Hodgson retaliated with his Sages Cap on saying. 'There are more types of stainless steel than there are shades of green in Ireland'. At which point the discussion evaporated apart from that is, a suggestion that fire bars should be hollow and liquid sodium used as a coolant. The mind boggles. (See photo over leaf of a burnt out grate.)

Mike Chrisp showed us the near perfect smoke box front (see photo over leaf) of his embryo Railmotor and the challenge he is having in attaching the wrapping using minute rivets, this was lost on the ruffians in the crowd who shouted out 'use pop rivets'. 'What about *No Nails*' and 'What's wrong with *Araldite*'?

Mike Hodgson then brought the evening to a calm conclusion with a showing of some of the specialized tools he has adapted for use in the workshop.

It left nothing more to do than thank Mike Chrisp for facilitating such splendid evening before we spilled out into the street in search of a convivial hostelry.



Above: A melted stainless steel grate from Jim Macdonald's heavily used 'Sweet Pea' locomotive gave rise to debate as to locomotive firing and draughting as well as to grate types and construction

Below: Smokebox components for Mike Chrisp's 5in. gauge Railmotor prompted discussion about forming and attaching the wrapper to the front and back plates that had been CNC machined from solid steel plate.

Photos: M Chrisp



LOCO SECTION

Due to there being no Loco section leader there will no longer be the Mike's Musings section. The steward's roster will also not be being updated, and thus members should refer to the May issue for the latest roster.

Forthcoming Loco Section Meetings.

FRIDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 2011 LOCOMOTIVE SECTION MEETING

The September Locomotive Section meeting will be held at our Finchley Headquarters commencing 8pm – and is *not* a barbecue at the track as shown in our August News Sheet.

Many changes have occurred during recent months and a number of issues affecting activities at our Tyttenhanger Track Site and their management have arisen.

It is important that all those interested are brought up to date and given opportunities to discuss and assist with decisions that will affect all who use the site.

If you're involved with the Tyttenhanger Track Site in any way and want not only to know what's going on but also to have your say, this meeting is for you!

The topic, date and venue for the December Locomotive Section meeting will be also be discussed and agreed at this meeting.

Mike Chrisp – Interim Chairman: Tyttenhanger Site Committee.

TSC CHAIRMAN'S REPORT TO COUNCIL

1 AUGUST 2011

Meeting: A wide-ranging and productive TSC meeting was held 12 July 2011. Relevant documents were subsequently given to Peter Macdonald and Brian Baker who were absent from the meeting and to Nigel Griffiths who accepted the role of Grounds Maintenance Manager.

Raised Track: It was considered necessary to seek assistance for Mick Avery who has carried out much of the recent raised track maintenance work. Action: Grahame Gardner. Progress on the extension is very good. Purchase of full size sleepers to complete its construction was agreed and approved.

Ground Level Railway: Maintenance of the existing ground level railway and new works were discussed. A faulty point is to be repaired. A schedule of maintenance and new works is required for presentation at the August TSC meeting. Action: Peter Funk. A report on work required to bring the recently acquired petrol-hydraulic locomotive to a condition to make it fit for purpose is required. Action: Peter Brewster.

Garden Railway: A progress report was received. A Section Leader is required

Steaming Bays: Removal and re-erection of the existing sectional building were discussed and assistance from the team who moved the garage is to be sought to undertake this work. Action: Team via David Harris. No information is yet available concerning its detailed internal configuration. Locomotive storage arrangements have yet to be agreed and approved. Action: TSC.

Summary: A summary of the meeting is to be submitted for publication in the August issue of the NLSME News Sheet. Action: Alan Marshall.

Reports: Section Leaders and Project Managers will be urged to provide brief reports in advance of the August TSC meeting for consideration at that meeting. Action: Section Leaders and Project Managers.

Events: The Society calendar requires update and re-issue. Action: Mike Chrisp.

Legislation: The insurance position concerning junior drivers requires clarification. Action Mike Chrisp.

Mike Chrisp - Interim TSC Chairman - 1 August 2011

Dates for your Diary

Friday 2 Sept	8.00pm General Meeting; Tony Dunbar Reminisces; HQ, Legion Way, Nth Finchley
Saturday 3	Fetes & Fair section at The Crooked Billet, Contact J McDonald
Sunday 4 Sept	Fetes & Fair section at Capel Manor, Contact J McDonald
Monday 5 Sept	8.00pm Council Meeting; HQ, Legion Way, North Finchley
Tuesday 6 Sept	8.00pm TSC Meeting; St Mark's Church Centre, Colney Heath
Saturday 10 Sept	Birthday Party, Vicky Lambert; Colney Heath
Sunday 11 Sept	Fetes & Fair section at Muswell Hill, Contact J McDonald
Friday 16 Sept	8.00pm Loco Section meeting at HQ, Legion Way, North Finchley
Saturday 17 Sept	Mencap visit to the track; Colney Heath
Sat/Sun 17/18 Sept	St Alban's DMES Exhibition
Friday 23 Sept	8.00pm Workshop evening; HQ, Legion Way, Nth Finchley
Sat/Sun 24-25 Sept	Railways on the Air, Amateur Radio; Colney Heath
Saturday 24 Sept	Birthday Party, Owen Chapman; Colney Heath
Saturday 24 Sept	Invitation to visit Fareham DMES (Contact Mike Chrisp)
Sunday 25 Sept	Visit by Colchester SMEE; Colney Heath
Monday 26 Sept	<i>Deadline for copy to Editor for October News Sheet</i>
Saturday 1 Oct	Birthday Party, Angie Hart; Colney Heath
Friday 7 Oct	8.00pm General Meeting; On the Table : Work in Progress; HQ, Legion Way, Nth Finchley
Monday 10 Oct	8.00pm Council Meeting; HQ, Legion Way, North Finchley
Friday 14 Oct	8.00pm Marine Section meeting; HQ, Legion Way, Nth Finchley
Friday 21 Oct	8.00pm Loco Section meeting TBA
Monday 24 Oct	<i>Deadline for copy to Editor for November News Sheet</i>
Wednesday 26 Oct	7.00pm North American Section 25th Anniversary; HQ, Legion Way, Nth Finchley
Friday 28 Oct	8.00pm Workshop evening; HQ, Legion Way, Nth Finchley
Saturday 29 Oct	Birthday Party, Maria Chinnick; Colney Heath
Friday 4 Nov	8.00pm General Meeting; Review, look back on a busy season and forward to a productive winter; HQ, Legion Way, Nth Finchley
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.

