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# The News Sheet

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## CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2010-2011

At this time of the year when I begin to prepare my annual report, I look back at the last annual report to see what the Society achieved over that year. Last year I commented that the Raised Track devotees had had less engineering work to do. What a change this year! Their new track work is progressing well, with the abutments of the bridge over the Ground Level Railway already being built. This is an ambitious project and will take at least a couple of years to finish.

Meanwhile, the Society members have commenced work on the major Steaming Bay Project by clearing the land, building foundations for the containers and placing the containers in their respective locations. The GLR gang are pushing ahead to get their traverser in place, and appropriate sidings and steaming bay, so that they can operate during the summer months.

Another gang of workers have already relocated the garage building close to the coach and are generally refurbishing it for use as a garden equipment store. This aspect of the work has gone exceedingly well, despite the poor weather conditions of the winter months.

Steady progress throughout the year by a small group of members has seen the new Garden Railway facility being completed. New tracks are already being laid and a preliminary try-out has been carried out. Additional facilities will be added throughout the summer.

The HQ groups continue their activities and enjoyment of their various layouts, unfortunately not seen by many of our members as they are tucked away in the HQ building, but are always worth a visit on Wednesday evenings.

This year the Society had a stand at the St Albans SME exhibition, at the Model Engineer Exhibition at Sandown, and at the Alexandra Palace Exhibition. Many thanks to all those who were involved, either as organisers, exhibitors or in manning the stands.

The sad news of the year was the death of Bert Meads just before Christmas in his 99<sup>th</sup> year. Bert had been a keen model engineer for many years, producing a number of locomotives which were seen on our tracks. Jim Macdonald produced an interesting résumé of Bert's life, which was published in the February 2011 News Sheet. We shall miss Bert, particularly sitting on the station at Colney Heath in the summer.

As is usual, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Officers and Members of the Council for their support throughout the year, and for the encouragement from so many Society members in all the activities that have

Front cover: Tony Guerrier's Manor, Anthony Manor at the end of its days run.  
23 May 2010 Photo: O Chapman

taken place. I would also offer my thanks to Mike Ruffell, who has indicated that he wishes to relinquish his Locomotive Section Leader responsibilities. He has carried out this role for many years, so we all thank him for his efforts.

*David Harris*

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## Tyttenhanger Site Committee Meeting, 14<sup>th</sup> March 2011.

The traverser for the GLR has not been made to the drawing and we now have a lot of expensive angle iron over. Peter Funk asked what we should do with it. It is intended to return it to our supplier for reimbursement or we will use it elsewhere.

Currently it is not possible to unload a 7¼" gauge loco onto the track due to the varying heights of vehicles. It was agreed to reinstate the original system of a ramp, with particular attention to safety. Subsequently a final design will be agreed.

David Harris asked what our plans are for the eventual disposal of the workshop.

Ron Todd passed round his proposal of the 'cosmetic' roof for the containers. It was of a low pitched roof design, this was discussed without conclusion.

Mike Foreman reminded the meeting that any steam vehicle on site must have insurance.

The meeting agreed to hold another Halloween event this year, Jim Macdonald will organise this.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

The Society Insurance Policies are in the process of being renewed and the new documentation from the Southern Federation Insurers should be with me by early April. Please contact me if you require a copy of the Society Public Liability Certificate. You may wish to take out your own "Individual Members' Extension of Club Public Liability Insurance for 2011-2012". I have forms for this and for individual members to insure their models and model engineering equipment. Workshop building insurance cover is also available. One final point is that any member who owns and operates a self-propelled road vehicle in any location to which the public have access, including roads, club sites, rally fields, parks, etc. must have Model Road Vehicle Insurance. This cover is a LEGAL REQUIREMENT and I have the necessary application form if needed.

I am very please to say that subscriptions are coming in at a steady rate and the number of additional donations to projects is much appreciated. Those of you who have still to renew, please use the form sent out with the March News Sheet not forgetting your Membership card and a S.A.E.

*Mike Foreman*

## March General Meeting By OMAH

It was the grand bring and buy sale, viewing started at 6pm, sale at 7pm. Some of the items had been pre-priced and were available for immediate sale. Intending purchasers took a card with a number, Geoff Burton was taking the money and keeping tabs on his laptop via the numbers, and Mike Foreman was overseeing. Mike Chrisp had bought a new bowler and those two well known porters, Messrs Avery and Macdonald were selecting and passing the goodies. Time was of the essence so there was no business and we got under way promptly.

There was an excellent selection and the majority of the items were sold without delay. It is intended to sell those items left over at the track on a Sunday morning, or mornings, to be announced. Since I had to leave fairly quickly to keep an urgent appointment I didn't obtain a figure for the takings but I suspect it was quite a substantial one.

Our thanks are due to Mike C for all his work in transporting and sorting the goods and for once more donning the hat and persuading the customers that they desperately needed the items so winningly presented. Also to Mike Avery for helping set it all up, starting at noon. Likewise to Geoff for keeping the rapid inputs accurately without losing his cool and to Jim M for rushing to and fro with assorted goodies. A very satisfactory evening.

(Addendum, nothing to do with the sale but the head count at the track on March 20<sup>th</sup> was somewhat lower than usual, probably due to the accident on the A414, shortly after 9.10am, which caused both lanes to be closed, some of us had to take a detour to get home but the road was re-opened approx. 1pm.JPR)



Michael Dear at the regulator of his loco during the 2010 running season

Photo: O Chapman

## Marine Mumbles (Rides Again)

Not much has been going on this month unless you include the house decorating the boss lady made me do. I wasn't allowed out to play with Dave until it was finished. So, just to prove I'm still alive, I thought somebody might be interested as to what my next project is going to be? I'm pleased you asked.

A few years ago I found the second part of a write up, in Model Boats, of the building of a WW2 Harbour Defence Motor Launch by a Mr D.J. Metcalf (that's our very own Dave Metcalf). It was not until this summer that I became the proud recipient of part one, courtesy of Geoff from the "OO" section. He had some effects to distribute. Among them was the part one copy I was after, complete with full size plan designed by the said Mr Metcalf. Not bad as you consider it was January 1984 edition. There is even a pretty picture of Dave in it, younger by twenty six years. So armed with all this information, and a complete set of John Lambert's HDML plans, I intend to build an early war version of the boat. As the scale is 1:24 it means the model will be of a more manageable size, being three feet long. Watch this space, and keep watching. You know the speed I build, when not decorating!

While I have been doing my bit, Dave Lawrence has (by the sound of things) been building yet more trawling nets for the pond. Well it keeps him off the streets!

Hope to see you all on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April at HQ for another dazzling Marine Meeting.

Don't forget to put Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May in your diary. It's the first of the two Toy Boat Regattas held at our pond from about 9.00am.

I am going to leave you all with this final thought- I HATE HOUSE DECORATING!!

Peter Stern

### **Notice of the 2011 Annual General Meeting**

The Annual General Meeting of the North London Society of Model Engineers will be held at its Headquarters, Legion Way, off Summers Lane, North Finchley on 6<sup>th</sup> May commencing at 8.00 pm.



# **Minutes of 66<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting Held on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2010 at Headquarters**

## **Present:**

54 members and one guest were present all having signed the attendance book for General Meetings.

Chairman D Harris declared the meeting open and called for a few moments silence and for the assembled people to stand in memory of Peter Kearon, a member who had passed away during the past year. M Chrisp also added the name of D Monk who although not a member would have been known to many.

The AGM Agenda was published in the May 2010 News Sheet of which every member had received a copy.

## **1. Apologies**

Apologies were received from M Foreman, C Dean, M Ruffel, P Precious, B Apthorp, P Davies, J Edwards, R Chapman, D Corcoran, K Corcoran.

## **2. Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting**

The minutes of the AGM meeting of 22 May 2009 had been published in the May 2010 News Sheet. The Chairman took them as read and requested a proposal that they be approved. This being proposed and seconded the vote was in favour of the minutes being approved and they were duly signed by the Chairman.

## **3. Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

## **4. Chairman's report**

The Chairman stated his report had been published in the May 2010 News

Sheet together with three section reports from M Ruffel (loco section) P Stern (Marine section) and G Howard (OO section).

Two other reports had also been received, namely from C Winter (HO section) and J Macdonald (Fetes and Fairs section) both of which were read out to the meeting (copies attached to the minutes).

The Chairman invited any other section reports from the floor. P Funk (GLR section) gave his report (copy attached to the minutes), G Mogg gave a report on the Garden Railway activities for the year concentrating on the building of the new layout for which the foundations and supports were now well advanced forming a complete loop. Also noted was the interest amongst some junior members who now had G1 models. B Corcoran reported that the Stationary Steam section had been active during the year supporting a number of full size rallies. He also noted that some owners of full size engines were now turning to building models and he anticipated that the NLSME may see applications for membership from some of these people.

## **5. Treasurers Report**

The Treasurer being absent from the meeting had published the annual accounts in the May 2010 News Sheet and the Chairman read out a brief report written by the Treasurer. (Copy attached to the minutes).

There being no questions upon the accounts the Chairman called for a proposition that the accounts be formally adopted. The proposal was made by R Fenton and seconded by G Burton. The proposal was unanimously carried.

The Chairman express his thanks to the auditors, J Chrisp and J Robson, for their work in auditing the last years accounts and called for a proposal that having received their agreement to continue in the role for the forthcoming year that they be re-elected as auditors. The proposal was put by T Dunbar and seconded by B Corcoran. The proposition was carried unanimously.

## **6. Vote of thanks**

The Chairman recorded his personal thanks to the officers of Council for their support over the past year. In particular thanks were extended to M Chrisp for his long service to Council as he was not standing for re-election for the forthcoming year. A vote of thanks to the Council Officers for their work during the past year was proposed by D Metcalf and seconded by G Mogg. The proposal was carried unanimously.

## **7. Election of Officers.**

The Secretary noted that there was no nomination for the position of Chairman of the Council and Society and therefore in accordance with the articles of the NLSME Constitution the present Chairman would continue in office providing he so agreed. D Harris indicated he was willing to continue in office for a further year but stressed that he would do so not as a caretaker Chairman but playing his full part. However it was important that the Society found a successor in time for the next AGM as he would definitely not continue for a further year. A New Chairman would bring new ideas and direction and such diversity would be of benefit to the Society.

The position of Vice Chairman had only one nomination that being of J Macdonald and he was duly declared elected.

The position of Secretary had only one nomination that being of A Marshall, the current secretary, and he was duly declared elected.

The position of Treasurer had only one nomination that being of M Foreman, the present treasurer, and he was duly elected.

## **8. Election of Council members**

The Chairman extended his thanks to the Council members that had served for the past year noting that he had benefited from the team approach that had been a feature of his Council. He particularly thanked T Dunbar and G Moore who were not standing for re-election for their contribution and outlined his memories of their and the other Council members salient contributions during the year.

There were six nominees for Council membership and a vote was therefore necessary. The six nominees had declared their interest and vision in statements published in the May 2010 News Sheet. The nominees were:

- P Brown
- G Howard
- P Funk
- N Back
- D Lapham
- G Mogg

S Rose a visitor was invited to act as teller and the Secretary distributed printed voting slips to each member.

Following a count of the returned slips the Chairman declared the following were duly elected: P Brown, G Howard, P Funk, D Lapham and G Mogg.

Thanks were extended to Sue Rose for acting as teller.

The Chairman extended the thanks of the Society to N Griffin as News Sheet Editor for his work in keeping the Society informed of all matters. Nick Griffin, having given his agreement to continue in that office, was duly re-elected as News Sheet editor.

## **9. Society President**

The Chairman reported that he had written to the Society President to invite him to continue in that position but had received no reply. He indicated awareness that some changes may have been made to the management of our landlords and that this may be the cause of a lack of response. The Chairman recommended to the meeting the matter be left in abeyance so that he could further enquire of the position and report at some future General Meeting his findings so the Society could then decide on what action to take. The suggestion met with the approval of the meeting.

## **10. AOB**

I Johnson was invited to address the meeting with a proposal that he and D Perham had put to Council earlier in the year.

I Johnson expressed the feelings that the Society should give due recognition to M Chrisp for his 46 years of membership and the contribution he had made to the well being and functioning of the Society over these years. He indicated a number of activities that were organised by Mike for the Society and his role in his professional capacity giving him a unique list of contacts and accrued knowledge which had been of significant benefit to the NLSME. It was therefore suggested to Council that Mike Chrisp be afforded Honorary Membership of the Society.

The Chairman indicated that Council had discussed the suggestion at an opportune meeting that Mike had not been able to attend, and unanimously agreed that Honorary Membership was an appropriate tribute. Council there recommended to the meeting that M Chrisp should be awarded Honorary Membership of the NLSME.

The meeting unanimously endorsed the recommendation from Council.

Mike Crisp gave a response indicating his surprise at receiving the honour and indicating how deeply he held the NLSME in his affections over the years. He was grateful for its people and friendships and the amenities it provided.

Date of next AGM meeting:

20<sup>th</sup> May 2011 at 8.00pm at HQ (*ed note actual date is 6th May 2011*)

Minutes approved:

Chairman.....

Date.....

## March Loco Section Meeting

By Roger Bell

The topic for the evening was a talk and photograph presentation by David Cockle and Roger Elkin on the centenary of the railway from Enfield to Cuffley 1910-2010. There are five stations along the 4 ¾ miles of line which now forms part of the Hertford Loop. An extension was granted by Act of Parliament in 1898 from Enfield to Stevenage this would pass through Grange Park to Cuffley via Enfield and Crews Hill. One householder objected to the bill and the planned line was moved west which entailed more earthworks. Near Chase Park about ten properties had to be demolished as it cut through a street of terraced houses. An Act of Parliament required that the bridge across Chase Green Avenue 'to be of ornamental character' and faced with red bricks and stone chippings. The building of the line to Cuffley was awarded to H. M. Nowell in Jan 1906 and the line opened on 4<sup>th</sup> April 1910. The footbridge at Gordon Hill was shown under construction, it is still there. We saw a Bradshaw's timetable for Moorgate to Cuffley. The first tickets numbered 0000 were won by a Mr. Fish. A timetable of workman's trains showed the earliest to depart Enfield at 2.53am for Kings Cross.

In 1916 a German airship was shot down by William Leafe Robinson near Cuffley, hundreds of passengers were seen on the platform having come to view the remains. In 1924 the line extended to Bayford, Hertford North and Stevenage, this coming of the railway led to new housing developments for commuters'. In 1910 the locomotives used was a 4-4-2 tank hauling four wheel coaches. In 1920 the 0-6-2 N was introduced. From 1923 new coaches were introduced called 'Quad Arts' eight of these carried 632 passengers. In 1950 the steel bodied BR Mark 1 compartment coach was introduced with a maximum of five coaches. The first diesel in service was a BRC & W type 2 in 1958. The Cravens DMU's were in full service by 1960, followed by a North British type 8 from 1959. The English electric Baby Deltic's that followed were unsuccessful. The Brush type 2 which later became class 31 became the main diesel used. In the 1970's the line was modernised and electrified. One picture showed overhead wires being erected by a team of men standing on the flat roof of a coach, no safety harnesses in those days. Electric trains were introduced in 1976 and the line was privatised in 1995.

When the line was built every station had a signal box, some could switch out at night, all were mechanical until 1970. They had 15 to 20 levers per box. Crews Hill was seen where George Case used to work. Colour lights were introduced in the 1970's. At Enfield in 1962 BR opened up a coal concentration depot where coal arrived by train, was loaded onto a conveyer then down a chute into a truck for onward road delivery to schools and the like, after twelve years it was closed. Many steam locomotives were captured on the Hertford Loop which was used when track work was taking place on the main line. Each photo told its story the RT at Enfield Chase in 1972, Gordon Hill in 1910 with its gas lights and gravel platforms, due to the threat of a German invasion in 1940 tank traps were built and are still there today.

Turkey Brook is spanned by the fourteen arch Rendlesham Viaduct. Its building meant the loss of some land to Mr Rendlesham who at that time was intending to downsize house wise, so he was agreeable for his house to be knocked down. In gratitude of his co operation BR had the bridge named after him. Photographs were taken of the various centenary celebrations.

We thanked David and Roger for a well researched and enjoyable presentation, fortunately the meeting was well attended.



## 2011 AGM - Nominations to Council

The following nominations have been received duly proposed and seconded for position on Council for the 2011/2012 year:

### Council Members:

G Howard	Proposed G Burton	Seconded M Avery
G Mogg	Proposed D Metcalf	Seconded P O'Donnell
P Brown	Proposed M Chrisp	Seconded D Harris
P Funk	Proposed A Marshall	Seconded B Baker
T Dunbar	Proposed J MacDonald	Seconded D Lawrence

News Sheet editor	N Griffin	Proposed M Foreman	Seconded B Bass
Treasurer:	M Foreman	Proposed A Marshall	Seconded D Franklin
Secretary:	A Marshall	Proposed B Baker	Seconded P Funk
Vice Chairman:	J MacDonald	Proposed P Davies	Seconded J Robson
Chairman:	No Nomination		

As there are no contested positions there will be no need for a vote at the AGM.

In the case of the Chairman, although D Harris had notified the Society that he would not be standing for a further year, recent developments have prompted him to indicated his willingness to serve a further year. Accordingly he will be formally asked in accordance with the Constitution at the AGM if he will continue as Chairman in the absence of a nominated person.

Supporting statements from nominated members are shown below.

**Chairman:** none

**Vice Chairman:** None

**Secretary:** This will be my fourth term on Council and during the coming year we will face some important decisions regarding the continued tenancy of our HQ. As part of the team appointed by the Society to look after its interests I hope to play my part in securing the long term future of our HQ. Also, the developments at Colney Heath are significant for the Society and will be of long term benefit and I add my support to all of the activities currently being undertaken by a dedicated band of members to expand the facilities of the elevated track, ground level railway and garden railway installations.

**Treasurer:** None

**News Sheet Editor:** None

Council Members:

**P Funk:** None

**P Brown:** Having been the new boy for this past year, I have to say how impressed I am with the way the Council is run. We made some difficult decisions which although were not always popular with some of the members, I felt they were taken after due consideration to the interests of the club. I hope I have carried out my Council duties to my best abilities and would be pleased and proud to serve for another year.

**G Howard:** It is my intention to stand for Council once more in order to continue a representation for those of us who have an active interest of our hobby and being based at the Society Headquarters. I also agree to provide continued support in all Society matters. I therefore hope and trust you the members will continue to provide your support to both myself and the Council as a whole in the year ahead.

**T Dunbar:** None

**G Mogg:** I am a qualified engineer and spent my working life in the electronics and computer industries. During my career I designed many large computer and communications systems, and successfully managed many high value projects. I ran my own business for several years and in the fifteen years before retirement I was an IT and business consultant.

My primary model engineering interests are Gauge 1 and the new Garden Railway but I am also interested in the running of the larger scales at Colney Heath.

I am standing for election as a committee member as I feel that, having been a Council member for two years now, I understand the workings of the Society and, given my background, I can well represent not only those members who are interested in Gauge 1 but also the membership at large. I am well versed in business procedures, highly objective, and enjoy achieving results by teamwork and consensus. I am used to public speaking and I believe I can be an effective voice for members and their views.

We are fortunate in having the Colney Heath site and my vision is to see that the best use is made of this to the benefit of all members who use the site. To this end my initial objective is to see through the building of the new Garden Railway as a first class facility, not only to cater for the present large and growing Gauge 1 following, but also to attract new members to NLSME. On a broader front, I fully support the expansion of both the Raised Track and Ground Level Railways, and the renewal of the associated steaming bays. I envisage us all to continue working together to achieve improvements and enhancements to the railways which are well coordinated and balanced and have the approval of all members, with the overall aim of providing a set of railways which run well together and to further their enjoyment by all.

# Agenda for the Annual General Meeting of The North London Society of Model Engineers 6<sup>th</sup> May 2011 To be held at HQ Finchley Commencing 8.00 PM

- To open the meeting and receive any apologies for absence and to remember any member who has passed away during the past year.
- To receive and approve the Minutes of the 2010 Annual General Meeting and consider any matters arising there from.
- To receive the Chairman's report for the past year.
- To receive the Treasurer's report and approve the Annual Accounts to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011.
- To propose a vote of thanks to the Auditors and appoint two auditors for the next 12 months.
- To propose a vote of thanks to the Officers of the past year and to elect a Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer for the next twelve months.
- To propose a vote of thanks to the Council Members and News Sheet Editor of the past year and to elect five Council Members and a News Sheet editor for the next twelve months.
- To transact any other business properly brought to the Annual general Meeting, notice of which shall have been received and sent to members 10 days before the meeting.
- To close the Annual general Meeting.

A E T Marshall, Secretary

# **NORTH LONDON SOCIETY OF MODEL ENGINEERS NORTH AMERICAN SECTION**

Report for AGM May 2011

Permanent Layout: Our permanent layout is mature, last year I said we can't imagine how to expand any further in the space available, however some creative thinking is going on to explore the possibility of including some narrow gauge track. We have concentrated on operations this year with the implementation of the freight car card system which brings us much closer to prototypical operation. It means that some thought has to be given to the order in which a train is marshalled to make the switching of freight cars in and out of a train at each depot en route is as straightforward as possible. There are still some block trains for instance the coal hoppers as well as the passenger trains which are outside the car card system. These are especially useful to operators who need something less mentally demanding. Members using our layout apart from our usual Wednesday evenings are reminded please to use the block trains as matching out of position freight cars with the cards can be quite time consuming at the beginning of an operating session. As our operating procedures improve it becomes essential that the track and rolling stock are as efficient as possible.

Scenically we are working to improve the detail, country areas have been weathered down from the somewhat over-enthusiastic greens. The communities which have been developed by Keith Wakefield are greatly appreciated. Visitors have commented on the detail down to the level of sunflowers and a pumpkin patch. Unfortunately some of the dustbins have been overturned by disorderly and uninvited mice.

Exhibitions: For the time being we have regrettably come to the conclusion that we cannot adequately man the operation of Young Street Yard at exhibitions. It calls for a minimum of six to be able to sustain working throughout the 6 or 7 hours of an exhibition and keep visitors attention as well as enjoy the exhibition ourselves. We have found ourselves with less than six able to commit sufficiently far ahead on several occasions

As usual in December the North American section hosted two well attended events at HQ. Our open evening shortly before Christmas attracted members from all sections of the Society. After Christmas our all afternoon running session begins with a pub lunch and then gets crowded.

# ANNUAL REPORT 2010-2011 - GROUND LEVEL RAILWAY

As ever another year has just rolled by and surprisingly no major incidents or occurrences happened during the running season, so I guess that must imply the Ground Level Railway is bedding down nicely. The Club's Junior Section being the most prolific user of the GLR has throughout the year behaved almost perfectly, being courteous and acting very sensibly. Once during the year, and under discrete supervision, they ran Orchard Junction on their own, giving rides for a junior member's private birthday party; again no incidents or occurrences happened - a joy to watch. They have always been very enthusiastic in helping and playing on the GLR - they are the future of the club and I applaud them. I wish the same could be said of the grown ups; throughout the year they have argued, changed their minds, moaned, stamped their feet, not spoken to each other, and most of all worked **Blooming! Hard**, so again I guess that must also imply that the GLR is still on track and in good hands.

Highlights of the year. Alan Marshall telling me the signals are up and all working, and if we awarded 'man of the match', he would be my choice; no moans, groans, foot stamping, only dedication. **Well done Alan.**

Another highlight was my organising, and consequential purchasing, of the three containers for the Steaming Bay Project. Looking back to around Christmas time, all the hard work in removing tree stumps, digging holes, concreting, site levelling, is very satisfying now that the traverser is taking shape. I think it will look the business and will complement the whole set up.

Thanks to all the people in the background and who can't always be at the track, thanks for your input; thanks also to all who do what they can when they can, as it all helps.

As for the main ground level crew, you just keep arguing, moaning, groaning and throwing your toys out of your pram! It seems to have worked this year and one day, you never know, we may have an even better railway to play with that is all **finished.**

As ever, your loving Section Leader.

P A K Funk

## Fetes and Fairs Section Annual Report

2010 became the most successful year financially since we started the section many years ago. It could also be said to have been the most successful for spreading the word of model engineering.

The venues included corporation Fun Days, Steam Rallies, Church Fetes and School functions, with a total of 17 events from April to December.

Sweet Pea and the class 31 locomotive were the backbone of the motive power backed up by the recently refurbished Butch and a guest appearance of Mike Foreman's 4-6-0 Tank. Mike Chrisp managed to get through the season without getting caught speeding on Sweet Pea; Mick Avery tried (but failed) to control Peter Davies and his whistle. Mike Hodgson survived many runs without burning his feet; Keith Bartrop is still being trained to drive Sweet Pea by Jim Robson (at least that's what they say when they disappear into a big white tent somewhere on site). Support was given by Peter Weeks (complete with damaged arm) and Lawrence Steers - advisor and provider of catering, especially at exhibitions. The whole season was calmly overseen by Tony Dunbar who's return following his argument with the Fetes trailer was most welcome.

I would like to thank the Woolsey family, Martin and Doug Kennedy and Waz Godin who stepped in and held the fort during a difficult time at the Flamstead Scarecrow weekend. And finally I would like to thank Peter Macdonald who was responsible for us missing the Saturday at Flamstead but turns up occasionally (driving Brian Baker's traction engine) to check that his inheritance is in good shape.

As you might imagine we treat all the events as social occasions which give us as much pleasure as we are sure it does for our customers.

18 events are booked for the coming year and we would be pleased to welcome all members who wish to attend any of the forthcoming events.

Jim Macdonald  
Section Leader.

<u>Fetes and Fairs bookings 2011</u>		
24th	April	Grundy Park Cheshunt
30th	April	Baldock Beer Festival
2nd	May	Christ Church Southgate May Day Fair
21st	May	St Andrews Church Enfield
30th	May	Watton at Stone
4th&5th	June	Oaklands (Herts Steam Club)
11th	June	Berkhamsted (church fair)
18th	June	Hertingfordbury
26th	June	Victoria Park St Albans (Larks in the Park)
3rd	July	Longfield Fun Day (Kent)
9th &10th	July	Redbourn Steam Rally
16th	July	Camps Hill School and Bedwell Rangers FC
23rd&24th	July	Potten End
19th,20th&21st	Aug	Flamstead Scarecrow Festival
29th	Aug	The Boot, Chipperfield
4th	Sept	Capel Manor
5th	Nov	Walker Cricket ground
3rd	Dec	Victoria School Berkhamsted

## **Marine Section Annual Report 2010**

The Marine Section had another very good year in 2010. The winter Friday evening meetings at HQ are very successful in content and attendance. Everybody is getting involved with subject matter. We will continue with the second Friday of the month meetings this winter. The summer Friday night pond sailings also went down well. Even the night it poured with rain (that's commitment for you).

As usual we have had the two Toy Boat Regattas (May and July). The participating "boaters" are going up in numbers at each event. It appears they all enjoy the NLSME experience and our clean pond. They have booked again for 2011.

Dave Lawrence and I have been regularly maintaining the pond again in 2010 and can report it has been "gin clear" for the sailing season again.

Peter Stern (Marine Section Co-leader).

# OO Section Annual Report

By Geoff Howard

Once again we come to the end of another year within the Society. Life within the OO Section continues more or less as it has done now for some time; we work, we play, we chat and we put the kettle on for a brew.

Regular running sessions continue to be held on the first Wednesday of each month, with extra running nights laid on for special occasions. Over the Christmas period, we enjoyed an extended run, with the layouts in operation from the beginning of December through to February. During the course of this period we were happy to see the presence of many other Society members who do not normally attend HQ on a Wednesday evening.

The section was also happy to supply a display of models at the exhibitions attended by the Society at both Sandown and Alexandra Palace. This included the provision of one member giving a demonstration of solder work on a signal box which will, when finished, be used on Midsomer layout.

During the early part of last year we finished the refurbishment of our original exhibition layout, Binegar, and were able to exhibit this at Leverstock Green. The layout is to make a return visit to the exhibition at John Keeble Church in Edgware on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2011 and we have several other bookings in hand for both Binegar and Midsomer for later this year and next.

Whilst section members continue to work on various projects on the layouts, the bulk of our work recently has been concentrated on trying to sort out the maze of wires on Peter Roakes' old layout. Each time we get one section of track thereon operational another problem arises and at times, we've felt as if we are going round in circles! We are however persevering on this with the aim of getting the layout operational as quickly as it is possible.



Ex MOD Ruston shunter at Wembley depot. The loco has been named after a Chiltern fitter who has been on the railway for 50 years and is still going strong. 30th Sept 2010  
Photo: Mick Baker

## **Loco Section Leaders annual report 2010/11.**

Last year a decision was taken to open our track site to the public on one Sunday per month. There were many reasons for this course of action not least of all was our inability to efficiently steward the site every Sunday. Also it was felt by some members that the Society was running for the benefit of the public rather than Society members. However I was somewhat surprised to find that on non public running days very few members actually attended and ran at the track. Lack of enthusiasm or just plain old age - I'm not sure which?

For those who did attend they seemed to have had a very enjoyable running season. Due to only running for the public once a month our income from donation boxes and the coach has been greatly reduced, but we were able to competently steward the site. As you are all aware this was only an experiment and I'm sure that a lot of you will be pleased that after consulting the membership the TSC decided to open to the public on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month starting in May through to October. Hopefully this will satisfy those who enjoy public running and those who prefer a more tranquil Sunday.

Our winter programme of speakers has been very successful with some extremely knowledgeable and entertaining speakers. Early in the season Frank Banfield entertained us with some of his historical films followed by members film night, on the table, (very poorly attended) David Cockle and Roger Elkin gave an extremely good presentation entitled "The Centenary of the GNR's Enfield – Cuffley Line. This was followed by a presentation by Bill Davies who regaled us with his 42 years of railway experiences and finally to end of the winter programme our very own Owen Chapman gave a presentation on the Ffestiniog/Welsh Highland Railway.

Once again I have to comment on one rather disappointing aspect of organising the meetings at HQ and that is the lack of members in attendance. I find it very embarrassing when we can only manage a turnout of 20 to 25 members which is not many considering the size of our Society. Some speakers travel considerable distances to give their talk and apart from presenting them with such a small audience we do have to pay for their out of pocket expenses.

For those of you who read the News Sheet you will be aware that I have decided to retire from the position of Loco Section Leader as from this years AGM. May I take this opportunity in thanking all those folk who have assisted me over the past years with their support and suggestions. I would also like to give a special thanks to Roger Bell (who will be hanging up his pen after the AGM) who has done a magnificent job by taking and writing up the minutes of our TSC meetings.

As I said in last years report we should not forget the group of members who run Birthday Parties at the track and others who take the portable track to various fetes. In doing so they give pleasure to many and provide substantial financial benefit to the Section. My thanks to all of you for your efforts. Additionally apart from public running through to the end of October we ran invitation days for other Societies. A busy season indeed.

The future at Tyttenhanger is going to be an extremely busy one with the extension to the raised track, steaming bay project and new garden railway. Obviously with this amount of work going on the site will not appear as pristine as we would all like, but I'm sure that once completed and established we will have one of the finest and most diverse sites in the whole of the country.

Finally I would like to wish you all a very enjoyable running season, may all your boilers steam like Witches

*Mike Ruffell.*  
*Loco Section Leader*



EWS Company loco 67029 at Wembley Depot at the head of a WSMR train  
20th Dec 2010. Photo: Mick Baker

## MIKE'S MUSINGS

All photos by Mike Ruffell

Last year whilst on holiday, Daphne and I had the pleasure of sharing a dinner table with four delightful Americans who have now become firm friends of ours. Consequently we had the very great pleasure of spending a week's holiday with them in January. Our friends live in Port St. Lucie, Florida which is approx 120 miles north of Miami.

During our stay Michael (my host) took Daphne and I to visit the Treasure Coast Model Railroad Club and Historical Society who are based in what used to be Fire Station 13! The building which I believe is approx 55 x 35 ft and air conditioned makes for an extremely comfortable environment in which to operate a model railroad.

Although it was not a public running day we were made very welcome by the Clubs President, Robert Wiseman. We were briefly shown around and then I was allowed to indulge myself in photographing what was one of the best HO layouts that I've ever seen, the standard of construction being very high. For those who may not know HO gauge is the preferred gauge in the States, although being the same track gauge (16.5mm) as our OO the scale is 3.5mm to 1ft as opposed to OO which is 4mm to 1ft.

The Clubhouse has an area of some 1900 sq. ft. This includes a small workshop to the right of the main entrance, the shape of the running area is therefore "L" shaped and as you can appreciate that in a building of this size the layout is somewhat larger than at our Finchley HQ. Quoting from their leaflet there is over 750ft of track (which represents 13 scale miles) 10 actual miles of wiring, 85 switches, 175 structures, 2500 trees and shrubs plus bridges, tunnels and harbours. The quantity of rolling stock and locomotives is also very impressive with 250 freight cars, 70 passenger cars and 40 engines.

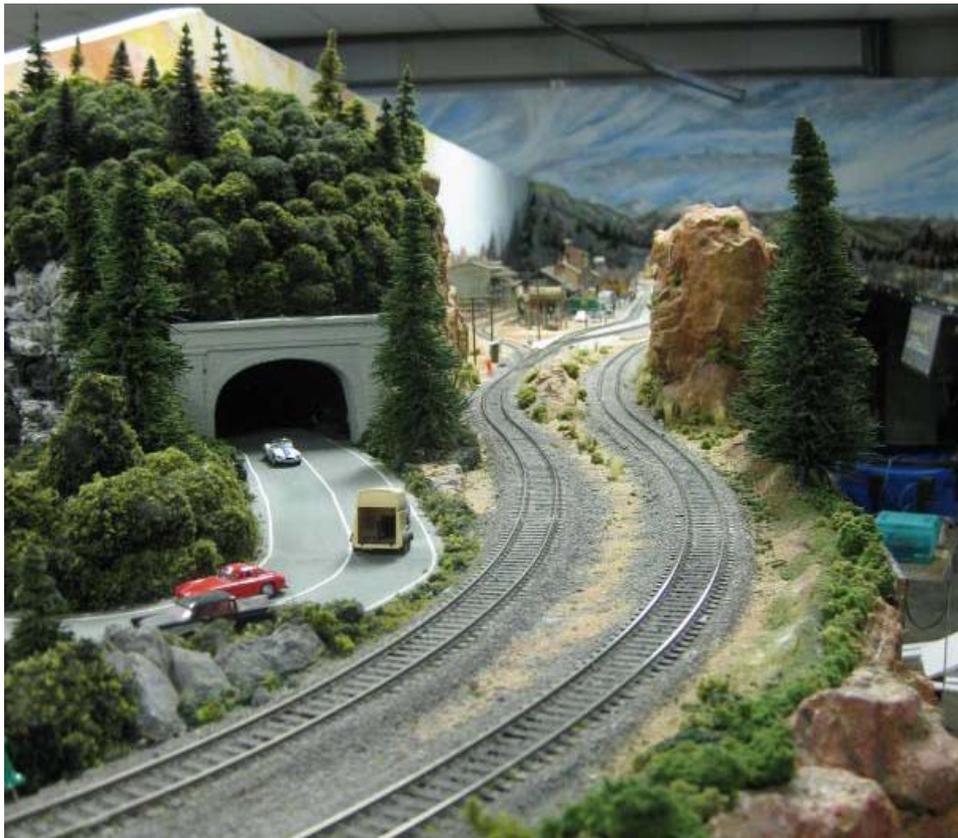
As can be seen from the accompanying photographs the layout encompasses main, secondary and branch line running through city, industrial and country areas.

As in this country the members have installed a Digitrax Digital Command Control System (DCC) as more and more models are fitted with sound decoders which give surprisingly realistic sounds and certainly enhance ones enjoyment from running trains.

Interestingly our US friends enlist the help of sponsors and benefactors, not just Companies who are associated with railways such as hobby stores but supermarkets, environmental services, sports bars and even the Mayor. How it works is that in return for sponsorship the members of the Club will custom



design a model of the sponsors business into a structure, billboard or onto rolling stock.



For you HO boys in our society the website is [www.tcmrr.org](http://www.tcmrr.org) and is certainly worth a visit. Who knows you may strike up some email friendships with exchanges of ideas.

With thanks to all the friendly guys who we met and special thanks to Robert for allowing me to freely take photographs.

Now turning to our Society matters. **For those of you who will be requiring a boiler test for 2011 then Terry Baxter will be available at the track to carry out boiler tests on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> April. If possible please contact him to arrange a time.**

It was agreed by the TSC committee that in addition to the requirement for a large number of track stewards for public running days we should additionally provide 2 stewards for each non public day. To fulfil this requirement it will mean that many of you will be asked to do an additional duty. However this is not an onerous job as it is an informal day and all that is required of the stewards is to check things

like boiler certificates and generally keep an eye on things, make some tea and finally make sure that the site is secure at end of play (or for late runners hand over the security responsibility before you leave).

The updated public day steward's rota is published below and as can be seen there are a couple of gaps-volunteers please. This is followed by the non public day steward's rota.

Date.	Stewards Name.		Date	Stewards Name.
1st May.	Brian Apthorpe.		15th May.	Ron Price.
	Derek Perham.			Maurice Cummins.
	David Jones.			Graham Price.
	Peter Brewster.			Jack Edwards.
	Peter Brown.			Alan Crittenden.
	Peter Weeks.			Steve Jones.
	Mike Hodgson.			Rai Fenton.
	Peter Badger.			Keith Bartlam.
	John Beesley.			Jeffrey Bolton.
	Peter Lancaster.			Lesley Dobbs.
	John West.			Ian Buswell.

Date.	Stewards Name.		Date	Stewards Name.
5th June.	Nigel Griffiths.		19th June.	Peter Funk.
	John Johnston.			Reg Piper.
	John Mills			Mark Braley.
	Ashton Miles.			Alan Marshall.
	Keith Hughs.			Jim Robson.
	John L Morgan.			Derek Smith.
	Naughton Morgan.			John Riches.
	Dave Rose.			Peter Fraser.
	John Morgan.			Richard Cross.
	Steve Coffill.			Paul Godin.
	David Dunlop.			Nicholas Griffin.

Date.	Stewards Name.		Date	Stewards Name.
3 <sup>rd</sup> July.	Edward Kitchener.		17 <sup>th</sup> July.	Mike Forman.
	Roy Hall.			Peter Prior.
	Roger Brown.			Alex Chapman.
	Derek Eldridge.			Michael Dear.
	Michael Smith.			David Foster.
	Graham Gardner.			Nicholas Gear.
	Mervyn Smith.			Robert Hatton.
	Owen Chapman.			Brian Lees.
	Graham Ainge.			Peter MacDonald.
				Bill Bass.
	Robert Ambler.			Andy Benstead,

Date.	Stewards Name.		Date	Stewards Name.
7 <sup>th</sup> Aug.	Mike Avery.		21 <sup>st</sup> Aug.	Roy Chapman.
	Victor Burgess.			<b>Peter Brewster.</b>
	Keith Bartrop.			Geoffrey Burton.
	Derrick Franklin.			Dave Snellgrove.
	Paul Godwin.			R. Lidzey.
	David Broom.			David Lapham.
	Mike Franklin.			George Case.
	Aaron Brady.			Ian Johnston.
	Lawrence Steers.			David Burman.
	Johnathan Avery.			David Morgan.
	R. Thompson.			Barrie Luckhurst.

### Forthcoming Loco Section Meetings.

#### **Friday April 15<sup>th</sup>:-**

Tonight it will be my pleasure to introduce you to Bill Davies who will be giving us his presentation entitled "On and Off the Footplate" based on 42 years of Railway Experiences.

#### **Friday May 20<sup>th</sup>:-**

Tonight Owen Chapman has very kindly offered to give us a picture presentation on the Ffestiniog/Welsh Highland Railways. Owen's pictures are of a very high standard and I'm sure we will have a very enjoyable evening.

Date.	Stewards Name.		Date	Stewards Name.
4th Sept.	Mike Chrisp.		18th Sept.	Dick Payne.
	Jim MacDonald.			Peter Davies
	Dave Laurance.			Michael Gibbs.
	Colin Thompson.			Roy Mears.
	Anthony Mason.			Mike Woolsey.
	Bryn Morgan.			Peter Precious.
	Peter Gooch.			David Marsden.
	John Firth.			<b>Mike Franklin.</b>
	Martin Ginger.			Roy E Tyler.
	Adam Gorski.			
	Richard Hall.			Dave Green.

Date.	Stewards Name.		Date	Stewards Name.
2nd Oct.	Mike Ruffell.		16th Oct.	Terry Baxter.
	Dave Chisnall.			Tony Dunbar.
	Brian Baker.			Graham Brown.
	Roger Bell.			Ron Todd.
	Paul Lacey.			Colin Rouse.
	Barrie Davies.			Tim Clementson.
	Peter Stern.			David Harris.
	Gavin Lang.			Peter Fox.
	Tim Watson.			Harry Henderson.
	Richard Hesketh.			Peter Smith.
	Paul Bexfield.			Peter Sheen.

**Track Stewards for none public Sundays.**

8th May	Roger Bell		22th May	David Harris
	Dave Laurance			Graham Brown
29th May	Mike Chrisp			
	Jim MacDonald			

12th June	Little LEC		26th June	Dick Payne
	Little LEC			Mike Woolesey

10th July	Peter Davies		24th July	Lawrence Steers
	Mike Avery			R Lidzey
31st July	Steve Jones			
	Jeffrey Bolton			

14th Aug	Mike Hodgson		28th Aug	John West
	Peter Weeks			Peter Badger

11th Sept	Alan Marshall		25th Sept	Keith Hughs
	Peter Funk			John Mills

9th Oct	Mike Foreman		23rd Oct	Derek Eldridge
	Dave Rose			Edward Kitchener
30th Oct	Owen Chapman			
	Graham Gardner			

*Mike Ruffell.*  
*Loco Section Leader*

## **GENERAL MEETINGS 2010 – FORTHCOMING PROGRAMME**

Unless otherwise stated, General Meetings are held 8–10pm at our Legion Way Headquarters in North Finchley. Thanks to Peter Davies (a man with a persuasive manner) we usually have a raffle (donations of suitable prizes appreciated), and thanks to Ron Thorogood (maestro of kettle and teapot), we usually have refreshments around 9pm. All 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. We like to see a good attendance to support our speakers and look forward to your company.

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

### **1 APRIL 2011 PETER BADGER – THE LEVANT MINE ENGINE**

With records back to the 17<sup>th</sup> century, Levant was one of Cornwall's leading mines and the largest producer in the Land's End peninsula. First worked in 1790, it produced copper from about 1820 and tin after 1852. One of the last prominent copper mines in Cornwall, it produced significant amounts of that material as recently as 1910. Developed from the 1790s by Cornish engineers including Richard Trevithick, the Levant engine was designed by Francis Mitchell and built by Harvey & Co. of Hayle. It worked uninterrupted from 1840 until the mine ceased production in 1930. One of the volunteer drivers of the restored engine, our Peter has been involved for some 25 years. This evening will provide us with a unique opportunity to hear about one of his favourite activities.

### **6 MAY 2011 – ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

All members with an interest in Society affairs and their management are urged to attend this meeting.

### **3 JUNE 2011 – DAVE METCALFE – WHITEMETAL CASTING**

A knowledgeable creator of working model boats and miniature locomotives, Dave has developed the process to suit his own applications. This evening will be an opportunity to discover the art, craft and practice of the technique. (Subject to confirmation.)

### **1 JULY – WORKING MODELS**

An informal evening to bring and run something on air – or whatever.

## **Dates for your Diary**

Friday 1 April	8.00pm General Meeting ; Peter Badger—The Levant mine Winding Engine; HQ, Legion Way, Nth Finchley
Friday 8 April	8.00pm Marine section at HQ; HQ, Legion Way, Nth Finchley
Monday 11 April	8.00pm Council Meeting; HQ, Legion Way, North Finchley
Friday 15 April	8.00pm Loco Section, Bill Davies, On and off the footplate; HQ, Legion Way, Nth Finchley
Monday 18 April	8.00pm Tyttenhanger Meeting St. Marks Church Centre, Colney Heath
Sunday 24 April	Fete's & Fair section at Grundy Park, Cheshunt, Contact J McDonald
<b>Monday 25 April</b>	<b><i>Deadline for copy to Editor for May News Sheet</i></b>
Friday 29 April	8.00pm Workshop evening; HQ, Legion Way, Nth Finchley
Saturday 30 April	Fete's & Fair section at Baldock beer festival, Contact J McDonald
Sunday 1 May	1st public running day at Colney Heath
Monday 2 May	Fete's & Fair section at Christchurch Southgate, Contact J McDonald
Friday 6 May	8.00pm General Meeting ; Annual General Meeting; HQ, Legion Way, Nth Finchley
Saturday 7 May	Birthday Party (Rob Brook, member)
Monday 9 May	8.00pm Council Meeting; HQ, Legion Way, North Finchley
Saturday 14 May	Birthday Party (Anna Holden)
Sunday 15 May	9.00am Toy Boat Regatta; Colney Heath
Monday 16 May	8.00pm Tyttenhanger Meeting St. Marks Church Centre, Colney Heath
Friday 20 May	8.00pm Loco Section, Owen Chapman, Photographic presentation on Welsh Highland/Ffestiniog Railway; HQ, Legion Way, Nth Finchley
Saturday 21 May	Fete's & Fair section at St Andrew's Church, Enfield Contact J McDonald
<b>Monday 23 May</b>	<b><i>Deadline for copy to Editor for June News Sheet</i></b>
Saturday 28 May	Birthday Party (Chris Dalton)
Monday 30 May	Fete's & Fair section at Watton at Stone, Contact J McDonald
Friday 3 June	8.00pm General Meeting ; Dave Metcalfe - Whitmetal Casting; 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.**

