

NORWICH & DISTRICT SOCIETY OF MODEL ENGINEERS

Founded 1933

Incorporated 1967

eBULLETIN

OCT 2017



So, what's happening here? See inside...



Cover story

August bank holiday Monday was notable on two accounts. Firstly, the traditional bank holiday washout did not happen, and, secondly, the Lord Mayor of Norwich came along to commission our first ever charity day for the Lord Mayor's Fund. Each year, the Lord Mayor nominates a good cause for fundraising and, following the decision at the 2016 AGM, we have decided to support this with a special day each year.

The Lord Mayor arrived at our site at 1230, right on schedule and after a brief period of hob-nobbing with NDSME aristocracy, gave a short and informative talk to a packed station before cutting the ribbon to inaugurate proceedings.



Left. The chairman and membership secretary enjoy tea and nibbles under the security of the new gazebo (no sharp edges!)

Just after 1pm, the Mayor cut the ribbon (*right*) and the first trains went out, full of invited guests and the general public.

Brian Parker pulled the first train out, with his well known "loco with drop handlebars", carrying the Lord Mayor (pic next page).



SANTA SPECIALS 2017

Can you help? Get in touch if you can. All help welcomed!

Brian's loco was as popular with visitors as ever, however this was to be the last appearance of his loco for the foreseeable future, due to Brian being the victim of a RTA on his way home. This destroyed his trailer and driving truck and badly damaged the loco. Fortunately, Brian suffered only minor injuries and shock.



The Lord Mayor took several trips around the circuit and had a good look around our operation before his car came to collect him at 1:30.

Members day, Saturday 4th November

The first Saturday of the month is a private members day on either track although, in practice, it is a 5" and 3½" day. There is some thought being given to making every Saturday a 5" members day and they are set to continue through the autumn and winter. The next is Saturday 4th November.

For further details contact Allan Shirley via his email or via the membership secretary email address (on the website)

BOILER TESTING

A service for members – by arrangement.

Contact the Chairman.

ON THE MOVE?

Be sure to let us know if any of your details change.

Always inform the membership secretary so our records can be updated.

LETTERBOCKS



This month, a real letter from one of our visitors, Kay Manning of *Evergreens*

Just wish to say "thank you" to you all at Norwich because it was good of you to be ok with my husband turning up with Kevin's battery electric to run! It sounds that he enjoyed the day from what he has said. Also, I wish to say very well done on running a charity event, children in need a good cause. Yes, we are both impressed with what you have achieved at Norwich, how you operate/man/run things and nice friendly to boot!

Oh and please wish Charlie a very "Happy Birthday!"

*With my best regards,
Kay (Manning).*

Have you got a letter to send to the eBulletin? (Or an email, pigeon, microdot or whatever)

Spotted on YouTube

[A 7.25 gauge electric tramway](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hq7fUwIhIac)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hq7fUwIhIac>

The *Wootton Electric Tramway* is based in a garden in Wootton, IoW. It shows just what is possible in 7¼" gauge. It is complete with very tight radius curves, spring loaded points, passing loops, prototypical tramway controls and a live overhead with trolley pole pick up. Remarkably, they also have a portable track and in this YT clip it is seen during an open day at Acton Depot in 2011. It is, of course, fenced off here and much though we might like it, wouldn't be possible to construct this sort of thing at Eaton Park. A battery electric tram however... now that might just work!

ARE YOU A MEMBER OF THE MEMBERS AREA?

ALL MEMBERS OF THE NDSME MAY GAIN ACCESS TO THE PRIVATE MEMBERS AREA OF THE NDSME WEBSITE. TO OBTAIN YOUR LOGIN DETAILS, CONTACT webteam@ndsme.co.uk WITH YOUR MEMBERSHIP DETAILS



The oldest computer can be traced back to Adam and Eve.

Surprise !
It was an Apple.
But with extremely limited memory..
Just 1 byte.

Then everything crashed.



Forthcoming Events

- 08 Nov 17 Monthly meeting *East Anglian Air Ambulance*
- 03 Dec 17 Santa Specials
- 10 Dec 17 Santa Specials
- 13 Dec 17 Monthly meeting *Have Gavel Will Travel, part 2* by Martyn Fox MBE
- 10 Jan 18 Monthly meeting tbc
- 20 Jan 18 London MEX, coach times tbc

For other events, see the ndsme website

Do you know somewhere we could visit on one of our monthly meetings ? Contact the chairman if you have any ideas and we will do our best to arrange it if possible...

If you have any suggestions for future meetings, let us know. Remember there is still a vacancy for Meetings Organiser too! Email the chairman if you'd like to help.



Above – Ken Bye stands next to his tree in the former tennis courts field

HSG216 and the NDSME

The Society has adopted HSG216 as the guidance for all operations involving carrying non-members on the two railways at the park. If you are involved in any way with public operations, you should familiarise yourself with this document. It is currently available online at

<http://www.vulcan.works/media/hsg216.pdf>

and is also available on the Southern Federation website or in our members area. A copy is also kept at the clubhouse.

Please take the time to read through this important document. Our railways have an excellent public safety record – let's keep it that way.

IF IT'S UNSAFE: REPORT IT -REMOVE IT-REPLACE IT!

NDSME – affiliated to the Southern Federation and now the Northern Association – for the benefit of all our members.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Please note that the NDSMEs insurance policy does NOT cover any members' locos or assets stored at Eaton Park. Members should ensure that their own insurances cover this eventuality, should they wish to store any locos, rolling stock or other items at the Society premises.



London ME Exhibition, January 19-21 2018

NDSME will be providing a coach for this exhibition. Date and times to be confirmed but most likely Saturday 20th.

For further details contact Roger Montgomery on 01603 403395.



Roundup – a peek into other society journals and onlines



From the *Riverside Miniature Railway* website.

You will recall mention of this embryonic railway in St Neots in the bulletin last year. Since then they have made great strides forward. Here we see their loco *Fritz* with a public train passing the new-build station. This railway operates for the public in Riverside Park, St Neots, on Sats and Suns from Easter until October. This is one to watch!

2017 AGM report, 11 October at EP

The 2017 AGM was attended by 25 ordinary members and the directors (committee) and company secretary/treasurer.

In stark contrast to last year, the 2017 AGM passed off completely uneventfully. This is, of course, a generally good state of affairs, indicating that head and body are in broad agreement, which wasn't the case last year! There were no nominations for either director posts or company posts, so the board and officers were all re-elected *nem con*.

The Treasurer presented his report which showed the society's finances to be in a healthy state and the Chairman discussed the report of society activities and progress over the last year.

Two motions were proposed and passed. Firstly, that the NDSME provides a higher standard of ladies room facility than that which currently exists, ie none. The committee will be looking into what is possible over the coming months. The second motion was that NDSME provide a motorised lift for the ground level track. A budget was approved for this item and suitable machinery is being sought.

Following the close of the AGM there followed informal Q&A on a wide variety of topics.



NDSME directors (committee) and officers as at Oct 2017

President	Neville Gower	Company Sec.	Jim McDonell
Chairman	Barry Fane	Membership Sec.	Allan Shirley
Treasurer	Jim McDonell	Publicity	Mark Rhodes

Other directors: Peter King, Dave Beeken, Roger Montgomery, Mike Riches and Philip Moore.

Bulletin distribution, *digital* – Allan Shirley, *hard copy* – Philip Moore. There are a number of other roles, such as meetings organiser, that need filling. Contact Barry Fane if you can help. The email is chairman@ndsme.co.uk



A message from the membership secretary...

Following a successful AGM, the entire committee was re-elected 'en masse'. The consequence to this situation is that I get to continue as the membership secretary. Yes folks, I'll be with you for another year.

We now have 100 members across all categories. Although I love spreadsheets, I've discovered a copy of MSAccess 2016 on my machine so I'll be migrating all the data there next year.

Allan

For Sale For Sale For Sale

Pete Otley still has lots of model railway stuff for sale as he runs down his shop. Model Railways - OO Gauge & N.Gauge All Construction materials including Scatter materials, Flock, Static Grass, Grass Mats, Hedge Foliage, Tree Foliage, Back scenes, Super quick Buildings, Figures in all Gauges, Dapol Plastic Kits, Knightwing, N Gauge Plastic kits, Model Plants, Various Vinyl Decals, Trackside Decals, Sankey Signs, Plasticard in White & Black, Brick Paper, Grain of wheat Bulbs, Grain of rice Bulbs, Various colour Led's, Brick embossed plastic sheets, PD Marsh Figures & Station Accessories, OO Gauge Canal boat Kits, Glues & Adhesives etc.

Building Materials – Piano Wire, Brass Wire, K&S Metal Extrusions (Brass Copper & Aluminium Rod, Tube, Sheet etc., Plastruct Plastic Extrusions, Balsa wood sheet Strips & Blocks, Mahogany Strip wood, Spruce Strip wood, Obechi Strip wood, Craft Tools, Foam Board

Plus a large range of model Boat & Model Aircraft accessories including Brass propellers, Propshafts etc., and a large range of vinyl Lettering & Decals for all types of models.

Contact Pete on 01692 652960



Brian Baker advises he has some extra items for disposal

A set of 7¼ Lion, (Titfield Thunderbolt) Wheels and 2 off cylinder castings, with LBSC drawings. the old loco committee have 7¼ drawings £300



A working 5" gauge "Canterbury Lamb", a Canterbury & Whitstable Invicta class loco, with current hydraulic certificate, but needs a steam ticket. The loco needs tidying, and perhaps repainting (see photos) £1500



A part finished Stuart Double 10, with parts & drawings to complete £200

Rob Roy, with boiler certificate, which is more or less complete, except for the tanks & cab and has been dismantled for painting. Nicely built, by an old friend, the loco has run on air. With drawings. £900

Lastly, a set of Stuart Turner casting for their Triple Expansion engine, with drawings, £500. Also, a full set of castings for a 1.5 in scale *Alchin* traction engine, including drawings, cut gears, ready cut spokes and a boiler kit, £1600.

STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS

The following letter was received by the society recently,

01727 865528

27 Sept. 2017

Dear Sir,

3.5" GAUGE 'ROB ROY' CHASSIS AND PARTS FOR SALE

I found your contact details on the NDSME website today and wondered if, in the absence of any 3.5" Gauge Society, the above would be of interest to any of your members. I do not have an internet connection, so no email.

The model was started by my late Father in law, who passed away 3 years ago. Although involved in model engineering, 2.5" gauge, I do not have the time to complete it.

The model is presently located north of Norwich, in North Walsham. There are no plans, we think he was working from magazine build articles since lost.

Cylinders were fabricated and the boiler was hydraulically tested and this revealed a couple of leaks, mainly due to Martin Evans design suggesting that boiler fittings be threaded into the boiler shell rather than being individually bushed. Illness prevented any further remedial work following the hydraulic test.

An unused new pressure gauge and its associated U-syphon are included.

I'm looking for around £200 o.n.o. and the buyer, or a representative, will need to collect.

At 85 his widow, is wary of unsolicited strangers calling at her address, so as son-in-law, I will be handling any sale. I live in St Albans, tel no 01727 865528.

We travel to North Walsham roughly monthly and could arrange to meet any potential purchaser on the weekends we are there, to agree a sale and collection.

Many thanks for any assistance you and yours can offer on this and I look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Yours Faithfully

Don crouch

P.S. We also have a complete set of 'Lion'/Titfield thunderbolt plans in 3.5" – say £20 – these could be mailed to any buyer.