

# NORWICH & DISTRICT SOCIETY OF MODEL ENGINEERS

Founded 1933

Incorporated 1967

EATON PARK MINIATURE RAILWAY

## eBULLETIN

Oct/Nov 2018



*A sinister shadow from the past?*



## *Cover story - V2 rocket.*

On Tuesday 23<sup>th</sup> October, during the half-term week, the Forum held its Science Week. Aimed at young people to interest them in STEM subjects, Tuesday was devoted to engineering. An opportunity for the society to get out into the community was spotted by Allan, the membership secretary who organised a ndsme presence. And, a very worthwhile day it turned out to be.

Amongst the stands was a 1/5<sup>th</sup> scale V” rocket based on the design and paint scheme of the German V2 rockets captured and re-purposed by the US in the dying days of WW2. These massive rockets, built as weapons of war, were modified to carry scientific instruments and became the first rockets to fly such payloads into space in the early 1950s, as part of the precursor to the US space programme. US scientists, including the renowned Dr Werner von Braun, reverse engineered the missiles that had brought terror to London and used their advanced liquid fuelled engines as the basis for their own designs that ultimately went on to carry US astronauts into space and ultimately to the moon.

This model was built by Ben Jarvis, founder of *Raptor Aerospace*, Norfolk’s only rocket launching company. It is a real working rocket. Powered by a large solid fuel rocket engine this model is capable of reaching 5000 feet and breaking the sound barrier in doing so. Thankfully there is no warhead!

For those interested in rocketry, visit the website of the East Anglian Rocketry Society at [www.ears.org.uk](http://www.ears.org.uk)

There was also a display by Greenpower, an educational charity. Greenpower Education Trust is a UK based charity with an outstanding track record in kick starting careers in engineering. They help unlock potential and spark enthusiasm for Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) through the excitement of motorsport.

Teams of students aged 9 to 25 from across the globe compete at Greenpower events in the UK and other countries including USA, Poland and China. The annual International Final takes place at the UK’s Rockingham Motor Speedway. Greenpower provides funding towards the acquisition of electric racing cars in kit form.. These are assembles as a STEM project to compete in competitive events. Schools set up a team of pupils, aged 11-16, who work with a local

employer to design, build and race a single seater electric car. Greenpower also specify that 50% of those taking part must be female.



The society had a formidable presence outside the Forum.



Brian Parker brought his fine Romulus derivative along to be admired



Above Allan, James and Kat all manage to avoid the photographers lens as they look at the birdie elsewhere. Below – brisk trade at our stand.





*Above* the large twin cylinder stationery engine and the GWR45xx loco were both running on air from a compressor – for a time anyway.

A wide range of machinery was on display on the ndsme stand. Roger Pearson showed a partially dismantled steam loco. James Horrex displayed his new build LBSCR tank engine, now in a shade of blue reminiscent of Prussian Blue. Robert Bailey brought along several of his beam engines, including his latest creation. A compressor was used to run two exhibits on air – the 5" GWR prairie and also a large horizontal mill engine. The generator was incredibly noisy and next year it will need to go in a sound-reducing box. Stars of the show were Allan's kit of a conventional four-cylinder car engine with an associated competition to win chocolate, and also Brian Parkers famous Romulus which was mounted on a high stand.

The day was only marred by the collapse of the power supply to the compressor, owing, it is thought, to an excessive demand from two hybrid cars that ended up frying circuits and cutting the supply to outside power points.

Although the stand inevitably attracted "males of a certain age" there also was healthy interest from families and children and Allan's chocolate was especially popular.

This was a first for the society, exhibiting at a non ME event. It almost certainly won't be the last – we hope to be back bigger and better next year...

# WANTED

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS, LIGHTS ETC FOR THE SANTA SPECIALS IN EARLY DECEMBER.

ALL OFFERS TO PHILIP MOORE OR MIKE FORDHAM PLEASE

*The next monthly meeting...*

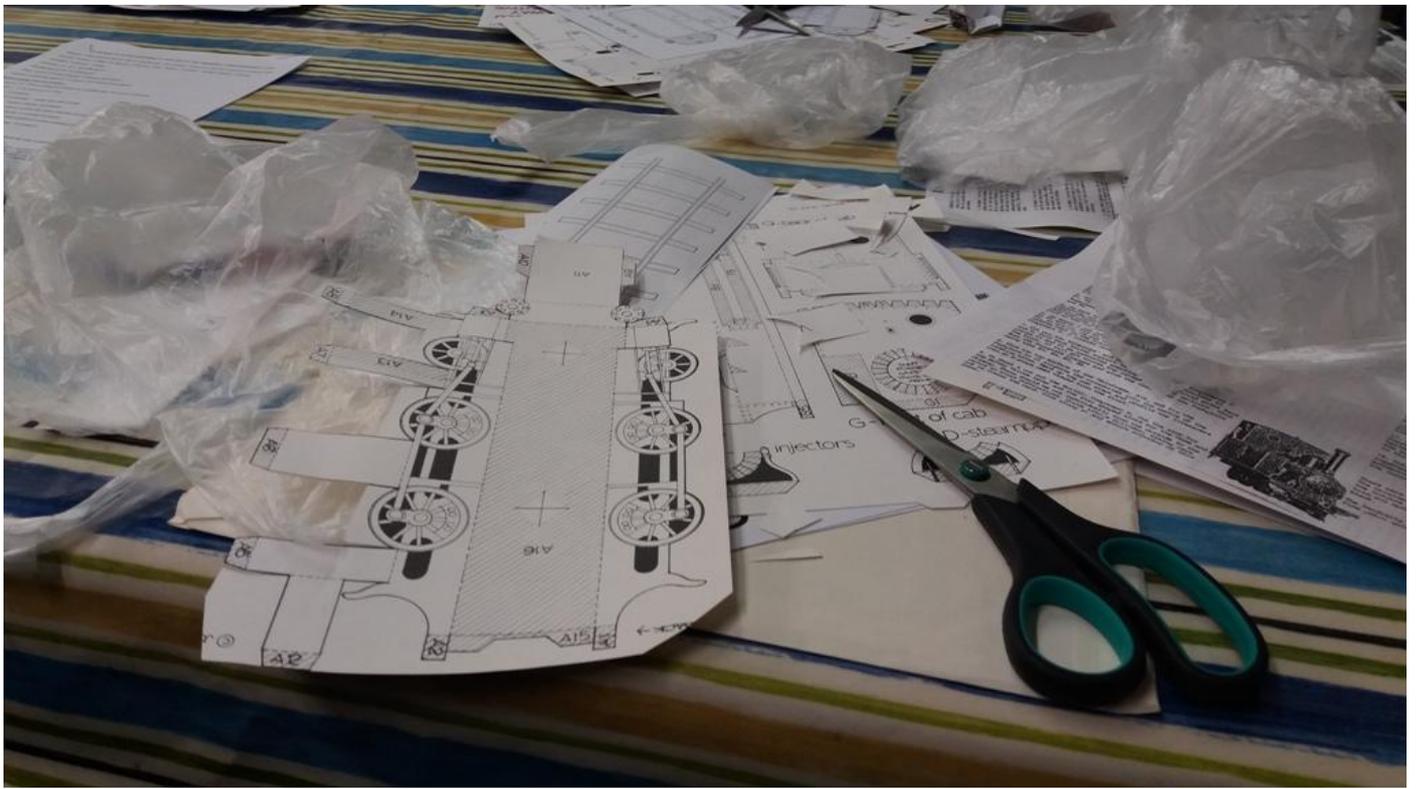
Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> November

*Bits 'n' Pieces!* 7:30pm at the clubhouse. Another session looking at members idiosyncrasies...

### **A Blue Peter moment**

At the October members meeting, attendees were given the task of constructing a paper locomotive from a printed kit.





The resulting completed paper models are to be presented for judging at the December meeting at the URC in Ipswich Road. This will be an interesting task for people more used to metal bashing, a chance to show off those delicate scissor skills!

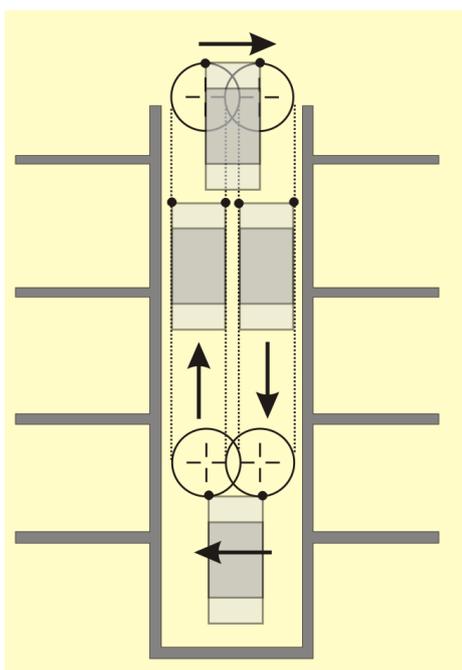
## Spotted on YouTube

A look at the last remaining paternoster lifts.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-g9Z12w\\_1fE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-g9Z12w_1fE)

The paternoster lift, which works on a circuit and never stops moving, is rarely seen these days. But despite some concerns over safety, a handful still operate in Central and Eastern Europe.

Paternoster lifts are a holdover of times when safety regulations were a little less strict, but the unusual elevators are still in use. The name Paternoster, Latin for Lord's Prayer, comes not from a last ditch effort to nervously atone before jumping on one. It actually gets its name because each car runs on chains on a belt system in a loop, a little like rosary beads on a rosary. Passengers are supposed to exit before the paternoster passes the top or bottom floor. If they don't nothing serious happens, but they must wait to make the turn in the circuit before heading back up or down in the opposite direction. Some people make the turn just for fun to see what happens.



The inventors of the paternoster saw it as a way to deliver more people up and down floors without as a long of a wait. The disadvantage is they could be very dangerous if they don't have an emergency shut off triggered by an obstruction. This one in Prague's Lucerna Palace, a downtown Art Deco shopping passage, has an emergency shut off. There are dozens of decades old paternosters still in use in the Czech Republic, where they are mainly used by staff in government buildings. A few are open to the public to ride. There are also as many 200 of them still in use in the Germany. But they are slowly being replaced, since new ones are no longer allowed to be installed in buildings.

A few remain in the UK where the invention of the paternoster, dating to the 19th century, has its origins. A Peter Ellis installed the first precursors of the modern paternoster in Oriel Chambers,

Liverpool in 1868. The first patent was obtained by engineer Peter Hart in 1877. In 1884 J & E Hall of Dartford built it's "Cyclic Elevator", the first recognisable paternoster lift.

Surviving UK examples are in the University of Sheffield Arts Tower and University of Essex Albert Sloman library.

## LETTERBOCKS



Mr Trellis is back this issue and he is in fine form!

*Now, when I went along to the science week at the Forum recently, I was struck by one significant omission. There was not a single tray of nuts and bolts available to rummage through. Oh, what joy I used to have in my younger days, when I espied a box of unlabelled threadables! I would eagerly remove the lid and attempt to discover what obscure but delightful thread forms lay within ...6-32 UNC perhaps, or maybe Whitworth-Rudge bicycle thread. Oh the joy of simple pleasures now lost in time. Children don't know what they are missing. Now, it's all guns, and knives, and smoking and drinking and fighting and "Smackin' up ma Bitch!". That's what's wrong with today's youngsters - they can't identify thread forms! And another thing, I firmly believe that... (contd. P78)*

Has he got a point? Or is this meaningless ramble? Watch this space.

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

**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.**

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

## COMEDY CORNER



### Engineering Laws

Any circuit design must contain at least one part which is obsolete, two parts which are unobtainable, and three parts which are still under development.

Nothing ever gets built on schedule or within budget.

A failure will not appear until a unit has passed its final inspection.

If you can't fix it – document it.

The primary function of the design engineer is to make things difficult for the fabricator and impossible for the serviceman.



## Real Engineers

Real Engineers consider themselves well dressed if their socks match.

Real Engineers buy their spouses a set of matched screwdrivers for their birthday.

Real engineers have a non-technical vocabulary of 800 words.

Real Engineers repair their own cameras, telephones, televisions, watches, and automatic transmissions.

Real Engineers say "It's 77 degrees Fahrenheit, 25 degrees Celsius, and 298 Kelvin" and all you say is "Isn't it a nice day?"

Real Engineers wear badges so they don't forget who they are. Sometimes a note is attached saying "Don't offer me a ride today. I drove my own car".

Real Engineers' politics run towards acquiring a parking space with their name on it and an office with a window.

Real Engineers know the "ABC's of Infra-red" from A to B.

Real Engineers know how to take the cover off of their computer, and are not afraid to do it.

Real Engineers' briefcases contain a Phillips screwdriver, a copy of "Quantum Physics," and half of a peanut butter sandwich.

Real Engineers don't find the above at all funny.

*(Wow, this hits very close to home...)*

## 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.



## Forthcoming Events

- 03 November Private members day, raised track. From 1030 am
- 14 November Monthly meeting *Bits 'n' Pieces*. 7.30pm
- 02 December First Santa Specials. From 8am
- 09 December Second Santa Specials. From 8am
- 12 December Monthly Meeting *A nostalgic look at children's toys and games*  
With Angela Bishop. Ipswich Rd URC NR4 6QR 7.30pm
- 01 January 19 New Years members Day 10am onwards

For other events, see the ndsme website



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



**Saturday 19th Jan 2019 - Coach to Alexandra Palace, departs Eaton Park at 0800**

The ndsme is organising a coach to the 2019 London Model Engineering Exhibition. Come along and see the full spectrum of modelling from traditional model engineering, steam locomotives and traction engines through to the

more modern gadgets including trucks, boats, aeroplanes and helicopters.

Over 50 clubs and societies will be present displaying their members work and competing to win the prestigious Society Shield. In total nearly 2,000 models will be on display. All of the leading suppliers will also be present giving hobbyists an excellent opportunity to see and compare products under one roof. You will be able to purchase virtually anything you need for your next model or project or to get you started in a hobby.

It's the South's major showcase of modelling and is not to be missed!

Previous visitors have commented,

*"I had a great time and came back with loads of stuff!"*

*"I nearly missed the coach home"*

*"Now both my sheds are full up!"*

*"I was going down West Ham but got on the wrong coach!"*

The Coach departs Eaton Park at the reasonable time of 0800. The fare is £23 for the coach only, visitors pay their own admission.

For those who would care to indulge in retail therapy, explore museums or just go trainspotting (you know who you are!), the coach will set down and pick up at a nearby tube station (to be advised).

Further details on the LMEX website [here](#).

Coach bookings via Barry Fane (07427872778) or Roger Montgomery please. Admission ticket booking details can be found [here](#)

At the Park – recent activity



Above -A recent visitor to one of the popular 5" members days

Below – Richard Wells training on his Royal Scot.



**DEREHAM**

**2019**

**Model Railway Exhibition**

**Saturday**

**23<sup>rd</sup> February**

**10am to 4pm**

**Memorial Hall**

**Norwich Street**

**NR19 1AD**

*And also at*

*Dereham Station*

**Admission £5**

**Children free**

**Trains running on the MNR**

**More info from [ukmodelshops.co.uk](http://ukmodelshops.co.uk)**

**01362 697628**



## NDSME directors (committee) and officers as at Oct 2018

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

Other directors: James Horrex, Andrew Shirley, Peter King (PW), , Pete Ottley, Mike Riches and Philip Moore (Estates).

Other officers. Rolling stock – Roger Montgomery. Meetings organiser D Beeken (tbc)

Bulletin distribution, *digital* – Allan Shirley, *hard copy* – Philip Moore.

There is a number of other roles, such as meetings organiser, that need filling. Contact the Company Secretary if you can help. The email is [clubsecretary@ndsme.org](mailto:clubsecretary@ndsme.org)



### ***From the Clubhouse...***

Salient points from the October meeting.

The question of new toilet facilities was rediscussed in view of the new plans for the raised track and the council instead voted to refurbish and expand the existing facility. Estimates are to be obtained.

The Treasurer reported that the society finances are in a healthy state.

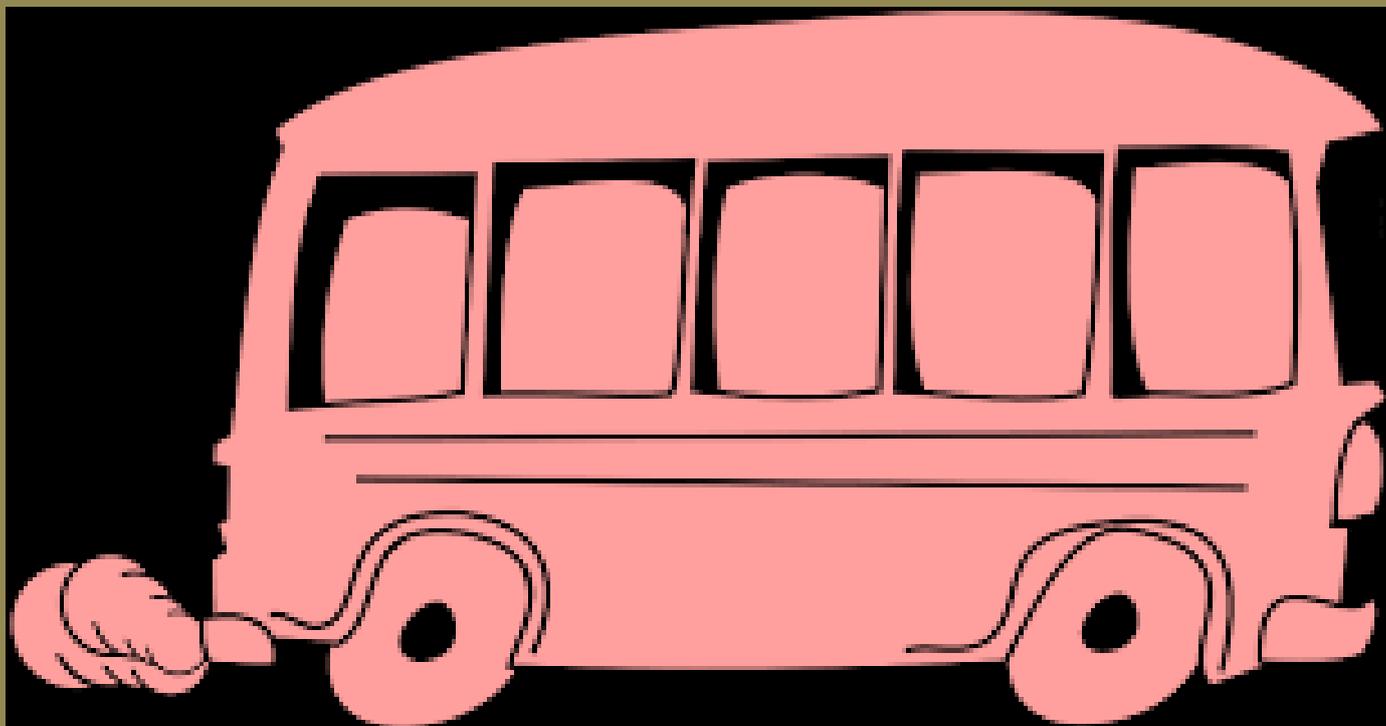
J Horrex and P Ottley presented a proposal for upgrading the raised track and a radical change to the traverse area that would facilitate rapid loco changes and stock storage. This would be presented to a members meeting as the cost would exceed £500.

The Society will make up any deficit incurred on coach trips, as a service to members.

The society will acquire a basic mobile phone to use at Eaton Park.

Additional walkie-talkies would be acquired.

Hedge cutting was discussed and it was noted that B Sayer had agreed to undertake this.



## ***ndsme Tours presents...***

A coach trip to the London Model Engineering Exhibition

Sat 19 Jan 2019, d. Eaton Park @ 0800.

Places now available. £23 coach only fare.

Contact Barry Fane or Roger Montgomery

## ***Held over to the next ebulletin...***

James Horrex brings us right up to date with his 5" new build, warts 'n' all.

## Nostalgia Corner



This is an ndsme competition night in 1955. Everybody correctly dressed in shirt and tie – how things have changed! In this picture are, from left to right, G Cross, J Broom, P Bailey, A Hoskins, RH Morse, unknown, W Atwell Palmer. Can anybody id the unknowns?

## **STILL MISSING!**

**Four packets of Santa Special tickets. Last seen at the clubhouse in mid July. Any info to Allan please.**

## **Raised Track Group.**

**There is now a thriving 5"/3½" raised track group, meeting on the first Saturday of each month, plus other Saturdays too. Contact Pete Ottley via email for further details or see the members page on the website for updates.**

### **SMALL ADS**

**Pete Franklin has for sale,**

Hornby live steam *Rocket* 3½ " gauge loco and tender. Comes complete with track, both in original boxes. Spare *Ronson* valve and socket spanner for fuel tank. Model runs on lighter fuel. Personal demo if required, video of loco running available. £250 ovno.

Contact Pete via [pef@talktalk.net](mailto:pef@talktalk.net) 01603 749417

### **Free to a good home**

Dennis Baumber has approx 4-5 gallons of pickle bath in a large plastic container, ready to use.

Free to any model engineer.

Dennis is in Taverham. Tel 01603 867121

**###**

