

NORTHAMPTON & DISTRICT

NEWSLETTER

MODEL RAILWAY CLUB

Between the Lines



In this newsletter.....

Club Torque	Page 3
Chairman's Ramblings	Page 4
Club gazebo, St Matthews Church Fete, Roade Exhibition	Page 5
The Indian Pacific—Part 2	Page 6
Steam Museum—Swindon	Page 9
The Gloucester & Warwickshire Railway	Page 11
The Severn Valley Railway	Page 13
Adhesives guide	Page 15
Events 2024	Page 16
Club Uniform	Page 17



From the Editors Driving Console

Things have been very busy at the club with various events taking place and attended. Also some of us have been on our travels. This newsletter has some reports on these happenings. I can't get them all into this newsletter so some will appear in a future edition as well.

In this newsletter I cover Craigs holiday to Australia (part 2) on the Indian Pacific Railway.

Additionally there are reports on my trips to Steam at Swindon, the Gloucestershire and Warwickshire Railway and the Severn Valley Railway.

You will read on page 5 that the club needs somewhere to store its gazebo. If anyone can help with this issue we would be very grateful.

I have included in this newsletter an article on glues and adhesives. This appeared in one of our newsletters some time ago, but I feel its time to include it again as there are new adhesives on the market and also the advice on some products has changed.

Colin

Club Torque

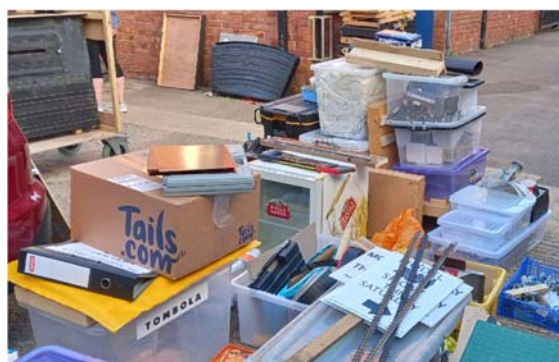


The Club is pleased to welcome the following new member(s):

Finn McIntyre and **Tom Harvey** (both junior members)

Club Shed / Locker

At the beginning of June a coat of Ronseal preservative was applied to the shed. That should see us through the winter. The bitumen on the roof looked in good condition so we will leave that alone for the time being. At the end of June the shed was cleaned out by Colin, Keith and Stephen. This just leaves the locker to do.



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

of the
NORTHAMPTON & DISTRICT MODEL RAILWAY CLUB

will be held on
Thursday 10th October 2024
at 20:00
at Hardingstone Village Hall.

Any items for the **Any Other Business** section of the meeting please send to Richard Deacon by Friday 27th September 2024.

Richard's email address is *rjd156@btinternet.com*

Please note there will be NO modelling activities or layouts out on this evening.

Chairman's Ramblings

Dear All,

Hope you are all well and having a good summer.

Regarding our main show layouts, we have been working hard on both of them, and have exhibited Castle Station at our annual show recently, and Kingsthorpe was out and about at the Loughborough show on the weekend of 17th and 18th August. Colin was also at Loughborough with the Tumil St James N gauge layout.



Both club layouts had minor problems that need to be resolved before they go out again, especially Kingsthorpe that is due out again at the end of next month at Kempston.

As you are aware we have a new committee running the hall and finances are very tight for them and us. So unfortunately financing changes are on the way. If not we could lose the hall.

We will be needing to have a sort out of items in the external storage locker before the end of the summer and we will be asking for assistance from members to do this work.

Please could you all keep looking to see if there is anywhere around that may be suitable for the club. As you know we would benefit from having sole use of a venue rather than sharing.

It is good to see the club now has some new younger members attending on a Thursday evening, and hopefully more can be recruited. It will be the younger generation who are the future of this hobby.

Les Pace

Chairman NDMRC

Club Gazebo Storage

The club needs somewhere to store the gazebo we purchased earlier in the year. If any club member has room in their garage then please let a committee member know. Unfortunately its too big to fit in our shed at Hardingstone. Also please be aware its is also heavy. Below are the measurements of each unit to be stored.

All measurements are in meters and the items are in boxes unless stated they are in a bag.

Note: the pole boxes are heavy and probably can't be stored standing up as the boxes are not that sturdy.

- 1) Poles A: 2.0m x 0.4m x 0.2m
- 2) Poles B: 2.0m x 0.3m x 0.2m
- 3) Metal joiners: 0.55m x 0.35m x 0.35m
- 4) Covers A: 0.55m x 0.65m x 0.25m
- 5) Covers B: 0.55m x 0.65m x 0.25m
- 6) Bag of ropes and ties. Medium bag.

St Matthews Summer Fete *by Colin Tarry*

On Saturday 6th July we attended the St Matthews Church Summer Fete in Northampton. To this event we took the Junior Layout along with Les's OO gauge Brunswick East layout and my N gauge Tumil St James.

The club had a successful day here. This was in doubt when I first turned up to set up at 09:00 as it was raining. In fact I was well expecting them to call it off, but then the sun put his hat on and all was well.

Hopefully it was a successful day for St Matthews Church.

Road Exhibition *by Colin Tarry*

As you all know the club had its annual exhibition at Roade on Saturday 20th July.

There will be a fuller article on the event in a future newsletter with pictures.

It was a successful exhibition both in financial terms and in the feedback we had from exhibitors and traders.

We will of course have a post mortem at the next committee meeting.

Road Village Hall has been provisionally booked for our 2025 exhibition which will be on Saturday 19th July.

You will hear in more detail how we did at our Annual General Meeting on Thursday 10th October at Hardingstone.

The Indian Pacific – Part 2

by Craig Dawkins

Having shared with you the first part of our trip on the Indian Pacific from Perth to Sydney in the last newsletter I thought you might be interested to hear about the rest of the trip.

Having travelled through the vast Nullarbor desert region we started to pass into the greener pastures of South Australia. The first stop on the morning of Day 3 was to Adelaide.

We departed the train just outside of Adelaide and took a coach tour of the surrounding area of the Adelaide Hills, and which ended up with us taking lunch at the highest point overlooking Adelaide, some 710 metres above sea level. We rejoined the train in central Adelaide ready for the trip to Sydney. At this stage a second loco was added ready for the climb into the Blue Mountains.



As the train was too large to fit in the main station for the Blue Mountains at Katoomba we departed on the morning of Day 4 at Mount Victoria Station. As you can see from the photo's I did feel as though I had stepped back in time and the whole colour scheme made me feel that I was somewhere on the Great Central Railway.

A short coach ride and we arrived at Scenic World in the Blue Mountains.



If you ever visit this part of the world I strongly recommend you find time to visit the Blue Mountains. It's a Unesco World heritage site and as you can see from the photo has some amazing views over the Jamison Valley. Only just over an hour by car or train west of Sydney and very easy to get to.

Part of the attractions at the Blue Mountains in addition to the views and the Cable Car was a chance to ride on the Scenic Railway. The 310m long track was built in the 19th century to transport coal from the valley floor to the top for onward transfer to Sydney.

It was converted to a tourist attraction in 1945 and at 52 degrees or 128%, is the worlds steepest railway. As you can see from the photo it is some ride down especially as part of it is through a cliff tunnel.





And so we finally headed into Sydney Central station and the end of our train adventures on our great trip. Or so we thought.....

Whilst in Wellington New Zealand we discovered the Wellington Cable Car. Opened in 1902 it was originally opened to allow people to commute from the suburbs at the top of the hill down to the docks and the commercial area below.

Whilst still used by locals it is mainly a tourist attraction now which offers excellent views over the city. It was certainly a very nice ride up and down, and even had a couple of stations on the way.



Steam Museum—Swindon

by Colin Tarry

On the 28th May we went to Steam in Swindon. This is a museum of the Great Western Railway. I'm not going into any great depth of what's there as there is plenty of information on this in the public domain via the internet. If you want more info then follow this link <https://www.steam-museum.org.uk>

We made the trip partially by road and partially by rail. We went from Northampton to Banbury by road and parked up there, where there is a nice little car park in Compton Road and the fee is £5.50 all day until 18:00 (after that it's free). From here we do about a 12 minute walk to the railway station along side the canal.

At Banbury railway station we purchased tickets for Swindon, changing at Didcot Parkway. We have a TwoTogether Railcard as opposed to an "Old Codgers" railcard, so that all helps.



On arrival at Swindon we leave the station and after a coffee at a Costa outside, we make our way to the museum. The entrance fee is £13.10 each.



Here a couple of pictures of some worthy exhibits.

[above]

Castle no 4073 Caerphilly Castle

[left]

King no 6000 Ging George V

Designed by Charles Collett, these two classes were the benchmark for express passenger locomotive development between 1924 to 1939.

We last visited this museum in September 2019. On this visit there was a good café on the first floor within the entrance lobby area called Platform One. Here you could get snacks, hot meals, drinks and desserts. The café is still there and called Platform One, but what they offer now is hardly worth mentioning; all they offer now is drinks and sandwiches. Nothing hot at all in the food line. With this we are very disappointed.

The museum shop isn't bad with a selection of railway books and museum souvenirs like pens, key rings, coasters etc — the usual. However they did have some clothing as well and amongst the garments I found some T shirts. I had to buy one of these.



Various pictures from the museum trip



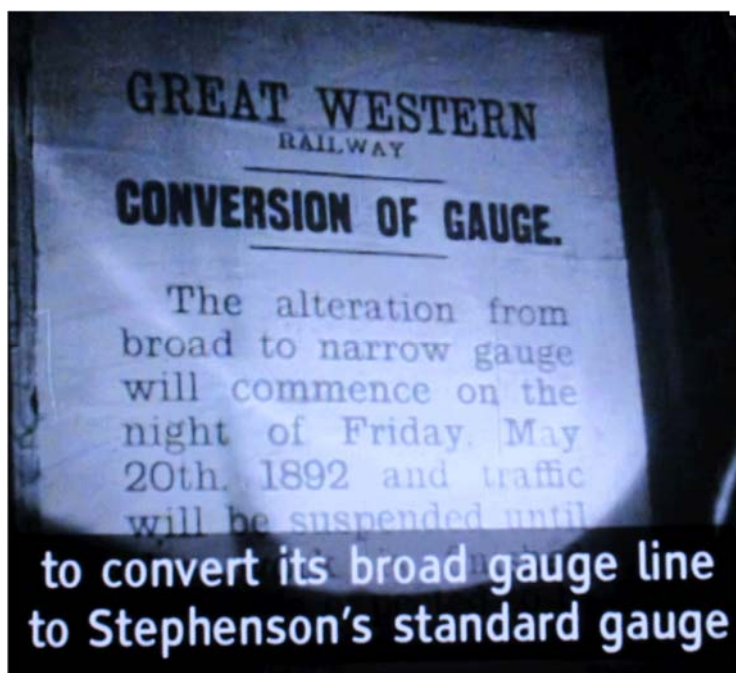
A footplate view of a GWR 2301 class more commonly known as a Deans Goods. You will note that being a GWR locomotive that it is RIGHT hand drive. Most steam locomotives from other railway companies were left hand drive.



I think we need to get one of these for Thursday club nights



The man who made it all possible, the great Isambard Kingdom Brunel.



This is a screen shot from one of the videos playing. It refers to the last section of the GWR being converted over from the broad gauge (7' 1/4") to standard gauge (4' 8 1/2"). The west of England section referred to here, the GWR did in a weekend.

If the same job was done today how long would Network Rail take to do it. You would probably end up with a replacement bus service for weeks.

A Trip to the Gloucester & Warwickshire Railway

by Colin Tarry

On our travels yet again, this time to the Gloucestershire & Warwickshire Railway. This we did on Sunday 19th May. Like many heritage railways in the current times they are running fewer trains than they used to but longer trains. The two locomotives operating on our visit was a GWR 2-8-0 heavy freight loco no 2807 and a Class24 diesel electric no D5081/24081.



Like on our visit to the Steam Museum at Swindon, the catering has taken a dive. The café, formerly the Flag & Whistle, is now called the Cotswold Halt. The menu is now relegated to hot and cold drinks and snacks. Gone are the hot meals you used to be able to get.



A general view of Toddington station taken from the footbridge. Looking toward Cheltenham.

At Wincombe there is a coach with a couple of model railways in. There was an OO gauge layout and a N gauge layout still under construction.

[right]

This is one of the layouts with a cricket match in full swing.

[below]

A Peak no 45149 on shed



[left]

GWR 2-8-0 no 2807 awaiting departure from Toddington toward Cheltenham.

A Trip to the Severn Valley Railway

by Colin Tarry

During the middle of June this year we had a weekend away on the Severn Valley Railway. This was the SVR's Mixed Traction and Real Ale Festival. Weather wise the Saturday started off with pouring rain and brightened up later. Sunday was a nice sunny day.

The SVR advertised this event as "Our first-ever Real Ale & Mixed Traction Festival". Unfortunately when alcohol is involved you always get one or two who over do it and spoil things for other people. In my opinion it would be better if the two events were kept completely separate, or even better don't do the alcohol at all. It's a double edged sword because although you have to put up with the drunks, it's a good money earner for the SVR. The Sunday was better as the drunks had either gone home, were unconscious somewhere or were spent out.

We were in a coach on the Saturday and a chap came round selling raffle tickets and all he got was a load of verbal abuse from some of the drunks in the coach.

The traction for the weekend consisted of the diesel hydraulic D1062 Western Courier, a DMU and a former Great Western Railway Hall no 4930 Hagley Hall, Stanier Mogul no 13268 and Class 37 no 37263. The Stanier Mogul was hauling a matching rake of historic LMS carriages.



This is a view inside the Engine House at Highley. On the right can be seen the root of the trouble, namely the bar selling the ale, with up to 20 Real Ales from Pale Ales to Dark Stouts, and everything in between, from all over the country. For those interested the beverages included Gizmo, Orbital, Plum Porter and Murder She Oat, from breweries including Salopian, Electric Bear, Bewdley Brewery and Snowdonia, plus more!

Here are some images taken over the weekend.



[left]

GWR no 4930 Hagley Hall enters Highley with a train for Bridgnorth.

[below]

The DMU arrives at Arley with the Highley to Kidderminster service.



[left & below]

D1062 Western Courier at Kidderminster



[below]

The tranquil setting of Hampton Loade station on a Sunday afternoon.



Class 33 no 33108 rests at Highley

Adhesives Guide

by Colin Tarry

As a general rule of thumb, the longer an adhesive takes to cure, the greater the bond strength. A glue that sets in 5 minutes sounds good, but in the long term its strength could be compromised. Note that some adhesives can be toxic containing some chemicals/solvents that are regarded as carcinogenic.

Which Glue	Recommended Applications
PVA	All round glue – sticks felt, foam, polystyrene etc. Ideal for most basic crafts, safe for children – can be used as a sealer.. DO NOT use with lead as it reacts and causes the lead to swell.
Tacky glue	All purpose PVA. More tacky than regular PVA giving a quicker bond.
Fabric glue	Ideal for fabrics where finished product will require washing.
All purpose tasks.	Strong and clear, ideal for most crafts and lightweight DIY
Araldite (Epoxy Resin)	Strong and long lasting, ideal for metal, glass and masonry.
Copydex and DIY tasks.	Strong, versatile, solvent free – ideal for hobbies, craftwork
Contact	Extra strong and water-resistant.
Hot melt glue gun	Fast tack, good bond – ideal for heavier objects to embellish cards etc. and on materials not affected by high temperature. Uses hot melt glue sticks and a special gun.
Cool melt glue gun	Ideal for delicate items such as artificial flowers. Uses cool melt glue sticks.
Glitter glue	Gives a 3D effect to cards and papercraft projects.
Glue sticks	Ideal for scrap booking. Repositionable until dry – stops paper wrinkling, safe for children, less mess than PVA. Some glue sticks are acid free.
Spray glue – repositionable	Temporarily bonds lightweight materials, repositionable time and again without damaging surfaces i.e. Stencilling, short term display use.
Spray glue – permanent	Long term bond ideal for découpage, sticking artificial flowers to cards etc. – dries transparent.
Double sided tape	Suitable for card making and children's craft projects. Gives an instant result and leaves no mess. Sticks paper, card, foam etc.
Sticky Fixers	Double sided adhesive, available in pads or rolls. Ideal for shaker cards and mounting materials to give a 3D effect.
Super Glue	Can be used on most materials. There is a massive difference in the adhesive quality of differing makes. Glue is available in liquid or gel form. Gives an instant bond.
Grab it type adhesives	Usually used for DIY jobs . Originally only available in pump cartridges, but can now be obtained in tubes. For modelling the glue is best decanted onto a small pallet fir use.
Wallpaper Paste	For use on paper materials. Ideal for adhering backscenes but check the printed ink is waterproof first.

Information from a variety of sources including Hobbycraft and RS-Components

Events 2024

Rushden Historical Transport Society - Model Weekend

CANCELLED ATTENDANCE

14th/15th September 2024

The clubs attendance at this event has been cancelled because they do not have room for us this year with the Demonstration layout.

The event is still taking place if you wish to visit it.



Kempston & District Model Railway Society Exhibition

Saturday 28th September 2024

Kempston East Methodist Church Hall, 227 Bedford Road, Kempston, Bedfordshire MK42 8DA

The club is taking the O gauge Kingsthorpe layout to this event.

If you wish to help please see Les.

Corby & District Model Railway Society Exhibition

Saturday/Sunday 5th/6th October 2024

St. Peter & Andrew Church Hall, Beanfield Avenue, Corby, NN18 0EH

Opening times: 10- 5 Sat 11-4 Sun (have to wait for the church service to finish)

The club is not taking any of its own layouts but it will be attended by club members Les Pace with Brunswick East and Colin Tarry with Tumil St James. Unfortunately Corby don't have room for large layouts which is all the club has at the moment. We will be flying the flag for the club at this event. If any club member wants to come and help then let us know.

Uniform

If you wish to, order any items of Club Uniform then please get in touch with Colin Tarry.

In order to help you gauge (pun intended) the size of item(s) you require there is information available in the club folder.

The following items are available:

A price list is also in the club folder.

All body clothing has the club logo on and your name.

The cap only has the club logo.



Please note that a £5 deposit will be required for EACH item ordered. As these items are personalised, we are unable to give refunds or do exchanges where incorrect sizes have been ordered.

ITEM	GENDER	PRODUCT No	SIZE	PRICE
Polo shirt	Mens	R539M	S,M,L,XL,2XL	£23.00
Polo shirt	Mens	R539M	3XL, 4XL	£28.00
Polo shirt	Ladies	R539F	8,10,12,14,16,18	£23.00
Polo shirt	Ladies	R539F	20,22	£28.00
Polo shirt	Childs	R539B	S,M,L,XL,2XL	£19.00
Sweat shirt	Unisex	R762M	S,M,L,XL,2XL	£24.00
Sweat shirt	Unisex	R762M	3XL, 4XL	£32.00
Sweat shirt	Childs	R762B	S,M,L,XL,2XL	£23.00
Fleece	Mens	R870M	S,M,L,XL,2XL	£36.00
Fleece	Mens	R870M	3XL, 4XL	£40.00
Fleece	Ladies	R870F	8,10,12,14,16,18	£36.00
Fleece	Ladies	R870F	20,22	£40.00
Fleece	Childs	R870B	S,M,L,XL,2XL	£30.00
Cap	Unisex	BC015	One size fits all	£17.00

These prices are correct as at 1st March 2023. These prices are subject to change. When ordering please bear in mind that the cost may be greater than shown here.

Club Information



Committee Members

Les Pace (Chair Person)	Colin Tarry (Treasurer)
Richard Deacon (Secretary)	Michael Castledine
Craig Dawkins (Exhibition Manager)	Cliff Simpson Stephen Lloyd

Web site: <https://ndmrc.org>

Email: feedback@ndmrc.org

Club Night: Thursday

Meeting Time: 19:00—22:00

Venue: Hardingsstone Village Hall, High Street, Hardingsstone,
Northampton, NN4 6DA



Scan for web site

Secretary: tel: 01604 890275

email: rjd156@btinternet.com

Non Committee Positions

Newsletter Editor - Colin Tarry	email: wizzo@hymek.net
Sales Officer - John Walker	email: pamjohn38@btinternet.com

Club Membership Rates

Club membership runs from September to August or part of the calendar year, and ALL expire on the last calendar day of August, becoming due for renewal on the first of September.

Adult membership £60 per year, Junior membership £12 per year.

For adult members easy payment terms available. Please enquire.

DISCLAIMER

Any views expressed in this newsletter are those of the individual contributors and not necessarily those of the Northampton and District Model Railway Club, its Officials or Members unless so stated.