

NEWSLETTER



Between the Lines

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**WINTER
2023**

ADMIT ONE to Platform

NOT VALID ON TRAINS

Issued subject to the Bye-Laws, Notices
Regulations and Conditions of the Railway

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From the Editors Cab Window

Here we are at the end of another year.

My promised article on the scenic side of the N gauge layout Tumil St James appear in this edition. I had assumed that this article would be the last for a while on Tumil St James, but as there have been some track changes, I cover these hopefully in the next edition.

On an event front, the major events since the last newsletter were the Great British Model Railway Show at the Gaydon Motor Museum and the Warley National Model Railway Exhibition held at the NEC, These were in in October and November respectively. An item connected with the Gaydon show appears in this newsletter. However nothing appears from the Warley NEC show as in my opinion this was a disappointment this year.

Please take note of the notice on page 3 about the break for the festive season.

Colin





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

Jackie Browne

CHRISTMAS BREAK

2023 / 2024

We will meet for the last time in 2023
at Hardingstone on Thursday 21st
December. We will reconvene on
Thursday 4th January 2024

The Committee would like to wish all our
Club members and newsletter readers a
very Happy Christmas and New Year.

Chairman's Ramblings

Dear All,

I hope you are all well and in good spirits and ready to read my pearls of wisdom.

It is nearly Christmas 2023 and I am glad to say we are still having fun playing trains at Hardingstone Village Hall. Unfortunately numbers are a little down due to the awful weather which I think makes some members more likely to want to stay in the warmth of their homes rather than travel, which I must admit I really do not blame them for.



NOW FOR THE NEWS.



I am really hoping that at last there seems to be something happening regarding a possible new venue at Blisworth for the club, alongside our current one. By the time you read these ramblings, things may have developed further with luck.

Currently at the club a group of us are currently working on the Castle Station layout, converting it into an oval, rather than an end to end one, as it is at the moment. This will be for our show in July.

Also for the show I am also building a small 00 scale steam and early diesel loco motive power depot.

The Kingsthorpe O gauge exhibition layout is currently stored, but it is due to do a couple of shows next year, and hopefully these events may lead to invites to others.

The junior layout is in regular use, and now may need some servicing, as the track is a little vague in places.

The N gauge test track seems to be running OK , but at present does not seem to get a lot of use, except for only one member, This is probably due to the new N gauge layout that is under construction at present.

Finally; the main demonstration layout is in regular use each week and seems to be holding up to this. Except for a few connections getting a little tired there are problems with the fact there is no DCC wiring bus for the O gauge tracks, which causes a breakdown of the sound on large locos.

It is nice to welcome some new faces lately at the club, and I hope you are all enjoying the Thursday evenings with us.



Also we all had a really good evening at the Queen Eleanor pub Christmas meal last week, and it was great to meet new and existing members and their partners, for what turned out to be quite good food, considering Christmas food menus can sometimes be a little sketchy in quality.

Hopefully, next year when it finally arrives, we can get on with the projects we are currently working on, plus, possibly some new ones.

A few of us recently visited the Corby club to see their Christmas light show and were made very welcome. Their club rooms are very extensive and they also have a real Pacer train unit on site.

Also, I attended the Daventry club's Annual General Meeting, and they are currently moving to a wonderful new venue situated this side of Daventry. They said yes when I asked them if we could visit them in the new year to see how they are getting on with it. I really do hope that the new venue is a success for them in the future.

Finally, I do hope you have a great Christmas and a happy 2024.

Best wishes

Les Pace

Chairman NDMRC

Club Uniform

In the new year I will be submitting another order for items of club uniform.

If any member wants any items then please let me know. Details of what is available can be found at the back of this newsletter or in the Club Handbook.



Newsletter Items

Don't forget that any of you can submit articles for publication in the club's newsletter. These can be about your own layout at home, railway projects you are working on, visits or outings to railway related venues etc etc.

From the Annual General Meeting

The clubs AGM was held on October 12th. A few points were raised which will be mentioned here

Layout Erection and Dismantling *

Concerns were raised with regard to some members who are not pulling their weight in helping put up and/or take down layouts on which they make use of. We appreciate that not all members are able bodied in order to do the physical work required, but then there are those who are, who are not helping.

New Exhibition OO Gauge Layout

It was mentioned that we would like to construct a small version of Kingsthorpe, which could be taken to exhibitions. An OO gauge layout would be more manageable than to keep lugging the O gauge layout for example. If you want to get involved with this then see either Les or Andy Chapman.

Help at Exhibitions

At a couple of events, at which we had taken layouts to, we were left a bit short staffed. Members had put their names down to attend, but some didn't turn up. Then there was an issue of members who had turned up, suddenly clearing off. In future the forms we put out for attendees at events are going to ask for more detailed information about your intentions.

A Message from the Sales Officer

John mentioned that he is currently sorting out all the items he has to sell. For a while he may not be bringing as much to club as he did, as he wants to do an inventory. However if you particularly want a specific item then mention it to John and he will have a look and see if he has it in stock.



* Two months after the AGM, this issue still persists. In fact there is one member in particular who never helps erect or dismantle the Demonstration Layout, but is very happy to use it when he attends the club. YOU know who you are and if you don't change your ways we will be having a word. If that fails you will be named and shamed in this newsletter for all to see.

In the Late Spring edition of the newsletter I finished my article on TU-MYL St JAMES stating that I would give details on the scenic structures and cameos on the layout. Here are a few views around the layout.



Above—A general view of the station. Since this view was taken there have been some track changes . These will be reviewed in a future issue.

Below—The fire station with a Dennis RS pump tender and the SPAR supermarket.





Top—The two road diesel depot with D1005 Western Venturer and a class 22 no D6324

Middle—The garage. This is still a work in progress but the petrol brand will be Regent.

Bottom—The church of St Margaret. A wedding is taking place. Again a work in progress as I still need to get a wedding party to be outside.

This is also the dead centre of the town.

Events 2024

St Matthews Church—Summer Fete

29th June or 6th July (date to be confirmed)

We have again been invited to take a layout or two plus displays, like we have done in previous years, to St Matthews Summer Fete. We need to decide what we want to take.

N&DMRC Model Railway Club Exhibition

20th July 2024

Our club exhibition will take place at this earlier date in 2024. The venue is still Roade Village Hall. More details nearer the time.

Soar Valley Model Railway Club Exhibition

17th/18th August 2024

We have booked to attend the above event with the club's Kingsthorpe layout. They have said they do not want the Demonstration layout. The SVMRC exhibition is being held on the weekend of 17th/18th August 2024 at Loughborough Grammar School.

We have indicated to them that we require 8 operators. Nearer the time we will be seeking the names of members who wish to attend. If we get more than 8 on each day then we will need to ration who attends on what day(s).



Unbelievable Audacity

by Colin Tarry

On visiting the Great British Model Railway Show at the Gaydon Motor Museum in October last, I couldn't believe what I saw. A layout that had appeared in the *Railway Modeller*, had put out a begging box for public money in order that development of the layout could continue. On reading the layouts description from the show guide, the layout was put together by a group of modellers. Nothing out the norm there then. Yet they had the audacity to put out a box for funds so they can continue layout development.

If they want to development the layout further, then they put their own hands in their own pockets, like the rest of us do.



Chippenham Junction in N

by Colin Tarry

On visiting the Great British Model Railway Show, one layout inspired me most of all, and that was an N gauge layout called Chippenham Junction. The layout is about 20 feet long with a fiddle yard each end that is a 180 degree horseshoe shape. It's a clever design that turns the trains through 180 degrees and then they re-enter the layout and proceed down to the opposite end.

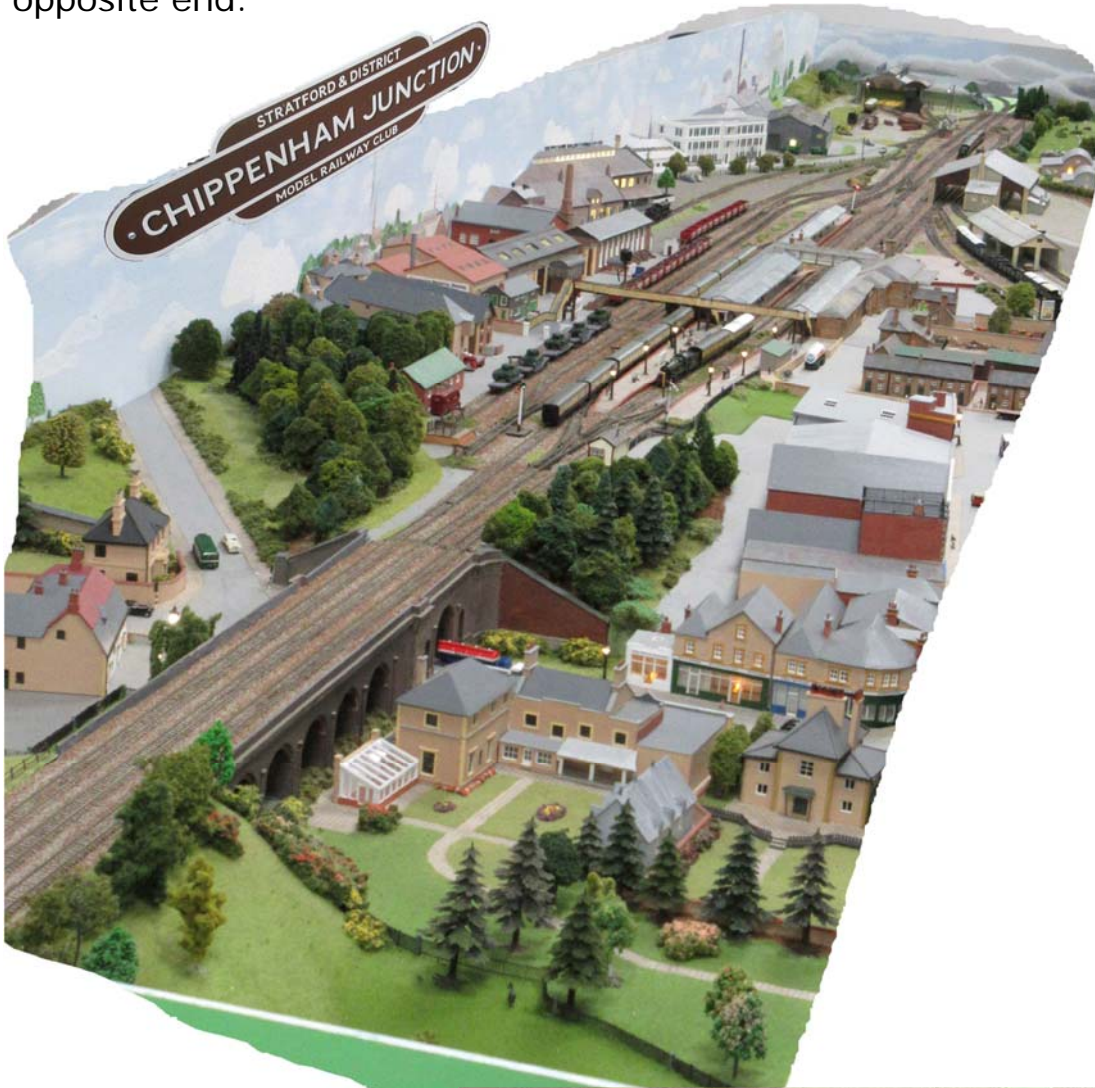


Photo
Colin Tarry

The turn around fiddle yard has some electronics that automatically changes the points and switches the polarity.

Photo

Stratford & District Model
Railway Club



Its Party Time

Photos Les Pace

On Wednesday 6th December the club held its Christmas Dinner at the Queen Eleanor in Northampton. On the next couple of pages are some photos that Les took of you all enjoying yourself.





Christmas Off the Rails

by Colin Tarry

At the Weston Favell shopping centre, they have put on their usual Christmas display by Santa's cabin.

Whilst all the usual Christmas paraphernalia is looking good, there is one aspect they didn't get quite right.

From the photos below you don't need to be Einstein to see what is awry. Was speed an issue or did the reindeer (who is out of sight in the photo) that is standing next to it, give it a kick? Or was it too much glitter on the track?

The track laying has a lot to be desired.

We need to bring Network Rail in—they need a replacement bus service; or better still a replacement sledge service.



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	£20.00
Polo shirt	Mens	R539M	3XL, 4XL	£26.00
Polo shirt	Ladies	R539F	8,10,12,14,16,18	£20.00
Polo shirt	Ladies	R539F	20,22	£26.00
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	£32.00
Fleece	Mens	R870M	3XL, 4XL	£38.00
Fleece	Ladies	R870F	8,10,12,14,16,18	£32.00
Fleece	Ladies	R870F	20,22	£38.00
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)
Richard Deacon (Secretary)
Craig Dawkins (Exhibition Manager)
Cliff Simpson Stephen Lloyd

Colin Tarry (Treasurer)
Michael Castledine

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

Email: feedback@ndmrc.org



Club Night: Thursday

Meeting Time: 19:30—22:00

Venue: Hardingstone Village Hall

High Street, Hardingstone,
Northampton, NN4 6DA

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 £10 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.