

NORWICH & DISTRICT SOCIETY OF MODEL ENGINEERS

Founded 1933

Incorporated 1967

EATON PARK MINIATURE RAILWAY

e-BULLETIN Feb/Mar 2019



A new loco emerges...

Cover pic - A new loco is born

Member Mike Riches is a prolific loco builder, having constructed at least five locos in the last ten years. Informally known as *dieselmike*, there is the clue as to what he has built: two Hunslet 4W petrol-electric diesel shunters, a Class 37 petrol-hydraulic, a diesel hydraulic autotruck and now his latest creation, a Lister autotruck with exposed engine. This one, in



a long line of petrol and diesel powered units, has a one and a half HP single cylinder diesel engine belt driven to a Reliant Robin four speed gearbox and then chain driven to the axles. The clever design puts the engine weight over the front axles and the driver's weight over the rear for maximum traction. It has a very natural driving position as the clutch is operated by the left foot, the gear lever is operated with the left hand and the right hand is used for both throttle and brake. It has rubber bush suspension.

More on this loco in the next edition...



Spotted on YouTube

Auden, Britten and trains! A gem of UK cinematographic history. *The Night Mail* (1936)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sLFv6CutWzI>

Night Mail is a 1936 English documentary film directed and produced by Harry Watt and Basil Wright, and produced by the General Post Office (GPO) film unit. The 24-minute film documents the nightly postal train operated by the London, Midland and Scottish Railway (LMS) from London to Glasgow and the staff who operate it. Narrated by John Grierson and Stuart Legg, the film ends with a "verse commentary" written by W. H. Auden to score by composer Benjamin Britten. The locomotive featured in the film is Royal Scot Class No. 6115 Scots Guardsman.

Night Mail premiered on 4 February 1936 at the Cambridge Arts Theatre in Cambridge, England in a launch programme for the venue. Its general release gained critical praise and became a classic of its own kind, much imitated by adverts and modern film shorts. *Night Mail* is widely considered a masterpiece of the British Documentary Film Movement. A sequel was released in 1987 entitled *Night Mail 2*.

Sadly, no mail is conveyed by train any more.

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

LETTERBOOKS



Mr Trellis takes a whimsical approach...

Should locos have funny faces? I write concerning the contemporary practice of funny faces on locomotives. I believe they are usually called "Thomas" or something similar. Now, when I was a train spotter before the war I don't ever recall seeing funny faces on locos, unless it was that of the driver or fireman. These latter were usually in "blackface" but I expect that wouldn't be allowed nowadays. On miniature engines, surely any face should replicate that of the driver, whether happy, grumpy, agitated or whatever. I would be pleased to lend my boat race for anybody to stick on the front of their loco and, furthermore, I firmly believe that children would (contd p78)

What on earth is he talking about? 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.

COMEDY CORNER

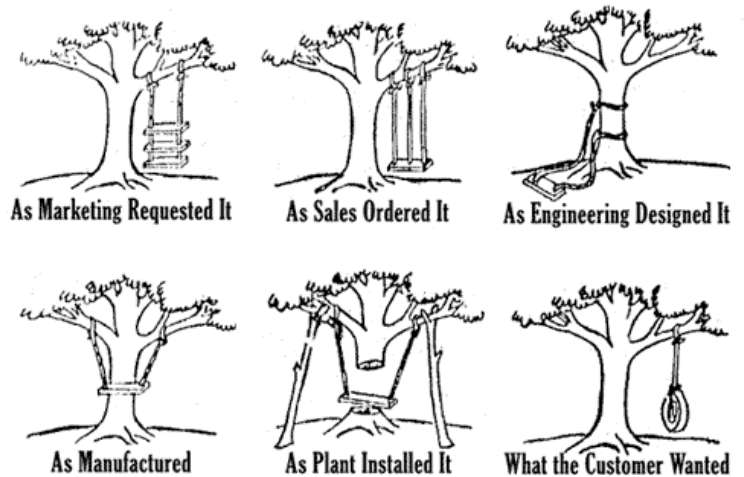


Real Engineers

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 Infrared” 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 a half of a peanut butter sandwich.

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

NOBODY IS PERFECT



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

- 31 March Pre-season members day
- 06 April Private members day with Allan. 1030 onwards
- 07 April Public operations commences
- 10 April Monthly Meeting *Mid Suffolk Lt Rly*
- 06 May EACH Fundraising day
- 08 May Monthly Meeting *Holden Loco Trust* by Steve Cooper
- 13 June Monthly Meeting *City of Norwich Aviation Museum*
- 18 June Visit to *City of Aviation Museum* time tbc

For other events, see the ndsme.org



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...

Nostalgia Corner



A Condor moment?

W. Atwell Palmer in quiet contemplation with a hot air engine at the NDSME exhibition held at the TA Hall, Aylsham Road in 1964. Now, does anybody know if this is the TA Hall that is still there now, or the previous TA hall in Aylsham Rd that is now covered by a housing estate?

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New Members

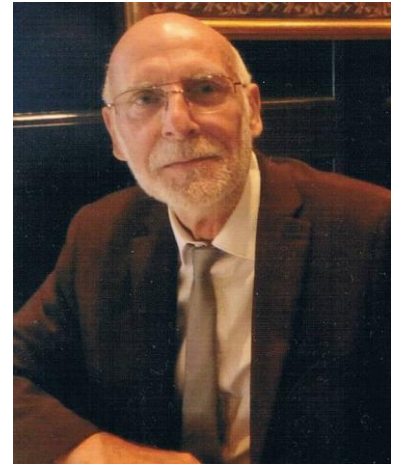
Informal bios of some of our many new members.

No 1 Malcolm Fisher

Having recently joined NDSME I was asked to introduce myself .

I have always had an interest in railways and am essentially a frustrated Model Engineer .

After serving a Technician Apprenticeship (to HNC standard) with the Marconi Company in the 1960 s I invested in a Myford S7 lathe intending to go into Model Engineering .



However this lathe became the basis of a Sub- Contract Engineering business which became a full time enterprise after leaving Marconi in the early 1970 s. Unfortunately running a business left little time for pursuing hobbies – so Model Engineering “remained on the back burner.

From then on I attended “The University of Life “ until 1994 when I was able to sell the business and retire very early. Interestingly the original Myford lathe retired with me! At this point my wife and I moved to Pulham Market in Norfolk intending to live life in the slow lane .

Perhaps this would be the long awaited opportunity to do some Model Engineering ?

No – rather perversely after a couple of years I started another Hobby Business - Peartree Engineering - providing a Machining and Manufacturing Service to some of my old contacts . My workshop is fairly well equipped - but “low tech”. At this point in my career investing in expensive CNC equipment is not practical - so I use my old traditional skills. In a way I have gone back to the early years of being in business - which I remember as being the most enjoyable !

Then I received an enquiry to produce O Gauge Railway Wheels and this led to more similar work. It seemed logical to specialise in this area and now the bulk of my work is Model Railway related. The range of products can be seen on www.ModelRailwayParts.com

So having retired very early , now I should be retired I m working flat out !

News from the Clubhouse

Amongst things discussed at the February board meeting were,

Progress on the new *Superloo*. David Beeken is finalising plans and costs. Planning permission will be required.

The possibility of new stock – this was not pursued because of the limited storage facilities

Financial report – clubs finances are extremely healthy

Roller shutter door – may require repair – Philip will obtain estimates

Maxitrak Owners Club and *Northolt Live Steamers* will be visiting us this summer

The need for a flatbed works wagon was discussed and this will be initiated. Allan Shirley willing to sell two x bogie components

The requirement for passenger stock on the ground level to be fitted with continuous brakes was noted.

A Myford Universal vertical slide would be acquired for the machine shop.

We may need to consider a commercial rubbish provider, following the changes to the park contractors site.

Painting to both sets of railway stations was deemed necessary as they were now looking a bit tired.

From the archive.



Northolt (Middx) Live Steamers are visiting us at a date to be confirmed in the summer. On their website is this fascinating picture from the 1970s. Doesn't look too remarkable until you notice just how high up their raised track is. On our raised track the footboards are only a few inches above the ground.. Here they look a good two to three feet up. Must have been a fun ride!

From the Membership Secretary

The renewal season is now under way and so far over a quarter have done so. Renewal forms may be had from the Members Area and there is also one attached to this bulletin. If you have no printer then one may be had at the clubhouse or contact me and I can send you one by post

Allan



NDSME directors (committee) and officers as at Mar 2019

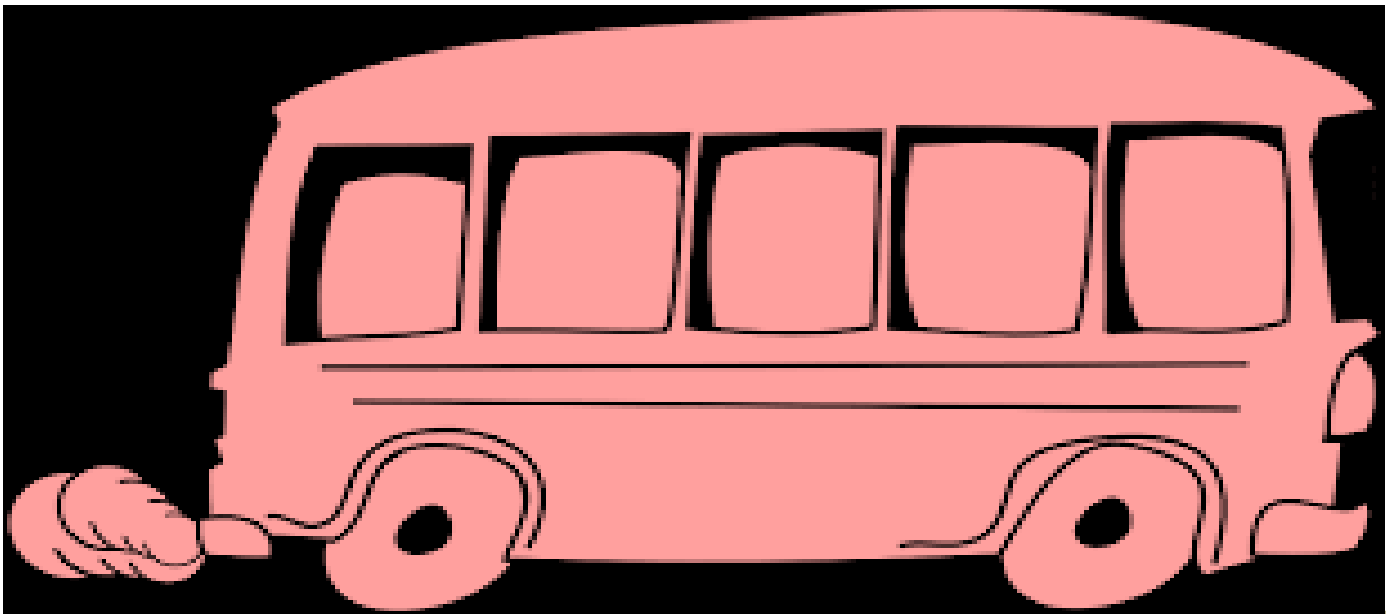
President	Neville Gower	Company Sec.	Jim McDonell
Chairman	vacant	Membership Sec.	Allan Shirley
Treasurer	Jim McDonell	Publicity	Mark Rhodes

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

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

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

There is a number of other roles, that need filling. Contact the Company Secretary if you can help. The email is clubsecretary@ndsme.org



ndsme Tours presents...

A coach trip to the Doncaster Exhibition May 11 2019, d. Eaton Park @ 0800

Places now available. £23 coach only fare.

Contact Barry Fane or Roger Montgomery



Above David Neale with his Hercules 0-4-0 at a recent pop-up

Raised Track Group.

There is a thriving 5"/3½" raised track group, meeting on the first Saturday of each month, plus other Saturdays too. Contact Allan Shirley 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

01603 749417

EPPING & ONGAR RAILWAY

STEAM GALA

Saturday 8th June



The *Norfolk Railway Society* has arranged this visit and all ndsme members are welcome to join this coach trip. The cost is £40 which includes a discounted Gala ticket.

The coach will leave Eaton Park at 8.30am Sharp with parking on our car park.

To book please send a £40 cheques payable to Norfolk Railway Society

Send to Malcolm Wright 17 St Anne's Rd, Framingham Earl,

Norwich, NR14 7TH

Name _____

Telephone Number + Mobile _____

No Tickets @ £40 _____

Total _____

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

(1) Membership categories (please tick as appropriate)

Adult (18 and over)	£20.00	
Adult (75 and over)	£10.00	
Junior (under 16 and subject to supervision by a parent/guardian or other adult, who is a member.)	free	
Junior (16 and over and under 18)	£10.00	
Associate (spouse or partner)	£2.00	

(2) Please indicate your interest/s

Miniature Railways 7¼"	
Miniature Railways 3½" or 5"	
Model Railways	
Road Engines and vehicles	
Stationary Engines	
Clock & Watchmaking	
Miniature/model boats or aeroplanes	
Other (please specify)	

(3) Member details (capital letters please) **PLEASE USE A SEPARATE FORM FOR ANY ASSOCIATE MEMBERS**

Full Name d.o.b.

Address

Postcode email

Phone

I agree to abide by the Rules of the Society (tick box)

I enclose my cheque to the value of £ made payable to *Norwich & District Society of Model Engineers*. Please include an SAE for return of receipt and membership card. Do not send cash in the post.

(4) Signature..... **Date**.....

DATA PROTECTION ACT (1998) Your personal details will be held securely in compliance with the Data Protection legislation and not passed to anyone other than relevant society officers. If you wish your contact details to be put on a membership list that will be circulated to other members, please tick this box

Please send this form and your remittance to: The Membership Secretary, NDSME, 17 The Ridgeway, Norwich NR1 4ND

For office use only

Recd by Mem Sec	Date	Receipt sent	Date
Cheque banked	Date	Mem No.	