



THE LONDON & NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

Registered Charity - L&NWR Society No. 1110210

No 182

June 2016

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Chairman's Letter

1 Our Society continues to attract a steady stream of new members, all of whom I welcome. I hope that they find stimulation from the various activities and literature provided. The recent joint meeting with the 'George V New Build Group' at Stone, together with an excellent presentation of slides by Norman Lee, not only widened the knowledge of those present into the workings of this LNWR class, but from the thoughts of modellers present, constructive discussion took place in relation to many engineering aspects. Meeting for lunch prior to the presentation enabled the 18 participants to share and exchange valuable 'Premier Line' knowledge. A future meeting will take place on Saturday 3rd September at the same venue.

Opportunities for local L&NWR Groups are being investigated for Cheshire, Warwickshire, Derbyshire and the North East. The 'At Home' hosted by our member Francis Pearce was greatly appreciated by those who attended,

The future of the comprehensive LNWR Archive is receiving close attention from the Trustees, who are considering various options and locations including Chester and Ironbridge. Accessibility is important for both members and the public as per our charitable status. With the assistance of the Promotions Officer, a diary of events is being prepared for 12 months in advance which should enable members to ensure they have appropriate dates in their diaries. There has been flooding in West Yorkshire, which resulted in the Highways Authority enforcing weight restrictions on road overbridges. As this affected the movement of the 'Coal Tank', the trip behind LNWR 1054 on the North Yorkshire Moors Railway has had to be cancelled. An alternative 'day out' is being planned on the Keighley and Worth Valley Line in September, the details being given in the Forthcoming Events notice.

The Editor of our Journal must be thanked for the work that he undertakes with diligence, and for the variety of topics which are included. To ensure the success of this publication, articles will always be welcome. We will try to give guidance and assistance with research to all who feel help of this nature is appropriate.

I hope to welcome members at the AGM on 4th June, together with events at Kidderminster, Leyland, Keighley and Doncaster in the future. The Modeller's Event at the Kenilworth Study Centre will permit members not only to appreciate the dedicated work undertaken, but will enable many aspects of the 'inclusive work' of the L&NWR to be discussed and appreciated. During the summer, I hope you all have opportunities to visit areas of the 'Premier Line' which still exhibit buildings and remnants from their operational era.

Brian Hayes, Chairman

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Saturday 4th June 2016 AGM at the Crewe Arms Hotel CW2 6DN

(A selection of Society publications, photographs and postcards will be on sale both before and after the meeting.)

Saturday 25th June Archive and Library Open Day Kenilworth

Saturday 2nd July Modellers' Event at the Study Centre, Kenilworth

Contact Roger Stapleton or David Bond. (Full details inside this *Newsletter*)

Saturday 23rd July Archive & Library Open Day, Kenilworth

Saturday 30th July 2016 4th Annual Open Meeting at Kidderminster Railway Museum on the Severn Valley Rly.

Displays, models, talks, relics and much more. See notice on page 4

****NEW** Saturday 20th August Midlands Area Members Day and Social Event, Kenilworth.**

Contact: Mike Hollick mike.hollick@ntlworld.com

****NEW** Saturday 3rd September 2016. At 2pm, Stone Railway Station, Staffordshire. A slide show "Aspects of the Premier Line" by Ted Talbot.**

Wednesday 7th September Archive & Library Open Day, Kenilworth

****NEW** Wednesday 7th September 2016. Day out with LNWR Coal Tank 1054 on the Keighley & Worth Valley Railway. Two return trips from Keighley.**

Saturday 17th September Archive & Library Open Day, Kenilworth

Sat/Sun 17th-18th September 2016 Annual Gala at NRM Shildon L&NWR stand attending.

(Contact details: Martin O'Shea 01325 321335)

Saturday 24th September 2016 Annual Steam Up at Leyland SME, Worden Park, Leyland.

Wednesday 12th October Archive & Library Open Day, Kenilworth

Thursday 13th to Sunday 16th October 2016 LNWR stand at the Midlands Model Engineering Exhibition. The Fosse Near Leamington Spa

Saturday 29th October Archive & Library Open Day, Kenilworth

Saturday 19th November 2016 Annual Crewe Luncheon

In Committee

The April 2016 Committee meeting opened with the Chairman announcing that Francis Pearce had decided to resign as a Trustee. The Committee thanked Francis for his contribution and wished him well for the future. The Study Centre and the Archive again featured prominently on the Committee's agenda, and as described in the Chairman's Letter, a number of options are being actively pursued.

Membership renewals appear to have stabilised, with an encouraging number of subscriptions already received. An improvement in sales revenue was noted for the first quarter 2016, which is a welcome development. However the withdrawal of small business rate relief on the Study Centre has increased costs.

The importance of promoting the Society and its activities more widely was addressed, with the Committee approving a more focussed role for the Promotions Officer to raise the

Society's profile across the range of interest areas. The Committee also approved a new role of 'Exhibitions Officer', to manage and organise the Society's exhibition and show attendances, (see note following). Established events such as the Crewe Lunch and Kidderminster are outside the scope of the new role.

Work on the new *Portfolio* is moving towards completion, whilst contacts are continuing with the publishers concerning 'Wagons, Volume 3', regarding formats and timescales. Members will be advised through the website and the *Newsletter* on progress.

Following the April Committee meeting, David Bond offered himself as a Trustee of the Society, and has been accepted. David will therefore be added to the trustees to be presented to the 2016 Annual General Meeting for election by the members. David will continue in his sales officer role.

Ian Mathews, Secretary

New Event Details

Wednesday 7th September 2016

Ride behind the LNWR Coal Tank no.1054. There will be two return trips from Keighley to Oxenhope. Departure approximately 11.30am. The event will include visits to Ingrow Museum and possibly the Vintage Carriage shed and mpd. Further details from the Chairman, Ted Talbot or Peter Stanton, by telephone or e-mail.

Saturday 3rd September 2016

At 2pm, Stone Railway Station. Staffordshire. There will be a slide show covering "Aspects of the Premier Line" by Ted Talbot. Comments and discussion will be welcome and the proceedings will be preceded by lunch from 12 noon in the Talbot Inn which is adjacent to the station. Queries to Ted Talbot.

[And what a fine station building it is - use Google Streetview or Google Earth for a look - Ed.]

New - Exhibition Officer

The Committee has identified a requirement for a new role of 'Exhibitions Officer'. The role will be responsible for organising the Society's exhibition and show attendances, with the objective of raising the Society's profile, supporting sales and attracting new members. If you're interested, please contact the Secretary.

Ian Mathews, Secretary

Modelling Event Kenilworth

On 2nd July 2016. Study centre open from 10:00am

In addition to the information in the previous newsletter (page 3), Bob Williams will be bringing along some of the stock that was built for Geoff William's Aylesbury layout. This will be a rare chance to examine the models up close, many of which have been scratch built or are heavily modified kits.

John Milesons exceptional model of the LNWR Cinema will be on display. Paul from Stevenson Carriages has confirmed he will be bringing along his range of 4mm LNWR kits and accessories available for purchase on the day, as well as

carrying out the coach painting and lining demonstration.

Any members who have second hand items for sale, please do feel free to bring these along and offer them to other members. Modellers of all gauges, disciplines and skill levels most welcome, so don't forget to bring along examples of your work in all scales and at all stages of completion

Tea, Coffee and biscuits will be available, but please remember to bring your own lunch or plan to utilise the local facilities. Any enquiries to **David Bond** please (contact details on back page)

Can You Help?

The Archive & Library and the Open Days and other events at Kenilworth are run entirely by a small band of friendly and enthusiastic volunteers. The premises at Kenilworth offer great flexibility and the Society would like to offer more open days and special events for members. The limitation on what can be done and the number of events is only the availability of volunteers. New volunteers are always welcome, no special skills or knowledge are required. There is always plenty to be done and all volunteers are free to choose how much or little time they wish to give. As well as the events and Open Days advertised in the *Newsletter*, volunteers usually get together once or twice a month to help develop, organise and catalogue our archive collection and prepare for events. If you would like to come along, meet the people and give things a try, please contact myself, David Patrick, on 01270 666459 for a chat and further details, or just turn up at one of the Open Days and introduce yourself.

David Patrick

SPECIAL SALE OF JOURNALS

The society has a stock of *older* Journal Back Issues which are now available to members for the reduced price of £1 each, with postage at cost. Indexes can be found on the web site. Journals available are:

Volume 3: No 1

Volume 4: Nos 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11

Volume 5: Nos 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12

Volume 6: Nos 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12

Postage Prices: 1 Journal, £1:54, 2 Journals, £2:09, 3-6 Journals, £2:85. Above 6 Journals please contact for quotation.

Order to the Sales Officer - David Bond, 58 Shire Road, Corby, Northants, NN17 2HN Tel:01536 681496 mobile 07707569073
e-mail: sales@lnwrs.org.uk

Midlands Area Report

Saturday 12th March 2016. The Midlands Area Social and Members Day attracted a significant number of visitors, with people arriving and departing throughout the day, to look at the material on display, meet people, chat with others and ask questions, with some staying for a couple of hours, and some much, much, longer. There were extensive displays of photographs from the Society's collections and Owen and John Gibbon brought along some of their display boards and LNWR photographs and plans which they put on display at a number of model railway exhibitions

around the country. The Society photographs included a selection from the Midlands LNWR network. Also on display were plans from the Society's Archive, again including material from the local area. Also on display were a number of models, including the locomotives donated by Philip Millard and several more examples of Len Arnold's work.

The atmosphere throughout the event was very friendly and relaxed and everyone seemed to enjoy their visits and went away having found the day worth-while and learnt something new.

Midlands Meet - Invitation

Midlands Area Members Day Saturday 20th August 2016 from 11am to 4 pm.

The Midlands Area Members Day and Social Event at Kenilworth in March proved to be very well received and well attended (see previous item). A further meeting and social event for members and friends has been arranged for Saturday 20th August, between 11am and 4 pm at the Society's premises at Kenilworth.

This will be an informal get-together where members can meet each other, and chat about their favourite railway (or other topics!). There will be photographic displays and some of our archive material and artefacts, etc. will be on view.

There will also be displays of models including a selection of 7mm scale wagons and the model locomotives so generously donated by Philip Millard will be on show. There will also be a section of operational O gauge track where models can be demonstrated and tested. For anyone with O gauge models, this will be an excellent opportunity to use the track to show them off in operation. Some of the Society's collection of LNWR artefacts will also be on display, including tools and nameplates.

If you are able to bring along interesting photographs, drawings, artefacts or models, perhaps some LNWR items from your own collection, please do so, as people are bound to be interested and will usually prompt discussion and exchange of information! If you have a project you are working on and which you would like to discuss or would like some help with, this would be an ideal opportunity to enlist the help of other members – if you can bring along some documents or photographs to attract attention so much the better!

You will find the atmosphere friendly and the people welcoming. If the past events are anything to go by the day will no doubt lead to discussions on a wide variety of topics and those coming along are bound to meet interesting people and learn a lot. Feel free to bring along friends and especially prospective members – a wonderful opportunity to introduce them to the Society!

We do hope you will be able to come along, as we are sure you will find it a most interesting and stimulating day. There should be something for everyone. Good supplies of tea and coffee (and some biscuits!) will be available to help the discussions along! There is ample free parking just outside the building and there is a frequent bus service from Coventry railway



Members studying the displays. [Photo: Richard Foster]



A few of the artefacts from the Society collection [Photo: Richard Foster]

station. Alight at the Woodlands Road stop which is just after the footbridge across the road (this marks the site of the LNWR Berkswell - Kenilworth Junction line). The A45, A46 and A452 pass close to the venue and the M6, M40, M42, M69, M1 and M45 are only a few miles away. The address is on the back page and the Post Code is CV8 2FD. Look for the white diamond!

We very much look forward to seeing you on the day. Member **Mike Hollick** has very kindly offered to make the arrangements for the meeting. If you need any further information or would like display facilities, plan to bring something along and would like space, need further information on bus services or a map, etc., please contact Mike at mike.hollick@ntlworld.com.

He will be happy to help.

A new use for the Study Centre

The Society premises at Kenilworth offer the opportunity to provide the venue for additional events for both the Society and outside bodies. Society events can be held at minimal additional cost while hosting activities for other organisations can bring very useful good publicity for the Society and the potential for additional income to help with costs. A little while ago the Association of Larger Scale Modellers Limited - a Charitable Trust similar to ourselves, approached the Society to ask if they could use our premises for one of their committee meetings. Their committee chose the Centre as the venue for the meeting because of its central location, which balanced the travelling distances for the trustees, and the easy access. Their meeting was held on Monday 4th April and one of the first members to arrive had come by train and bus from Halifax and was very complimentary about the bus connection from Coventry Station.

The members were very impressed with the Centre and the facilities offered, while their use of the premises provided good positive publicity for the LNWR Society. In addition, the booking fee has provided welcome income for our Society. One of their members was so impressed that he joined our Society on the spot!

The use of the Centre for this meeting highlights the potential to use it for meetings for other organisations, giving the benefits of greater use, positive publicity and useful income for the Society. If you are a member of an organisation which might be able to use the Centre or know of an organisation who might be interested, please contact David Patrick.

Records & Archives Sub Committee

L&NWR SOCIETY ANNUAL STEAM UP

Saturday 24th September 2016
The Leyland Society of Model Engineers



The L&NWR Society, in association with the Leyland Society of Model Engineers, invite you to a 'Steam Up', to be held at their headquarters, Worden Park, Leyland Lancashire. SatNav. Ref: PR25 3BD

The track gauges are 3.5", 5" and 7.25". A separate area will be set aside for those who wish to display models in the smaller or larger scales. Bring your loco whatever railway company it represents and have a good day out, and do not forget your Boiler and Public Liability Insurance Certificates. Light refreshments will be available.

Contact: Ken Wood, L&NWRS 01785 660208

Modelling Matters

Subject: DCC Loco identification.

For those of us who are gradually fitting our locos with DCC chips, it becomes a problem remembering the individual loco's identification number. Originally, I used the last two digits of the loco's actual number, but reading an LNWR number plate in 4mm scale is not the easiest of procedures especially in shadow or bad light.

However, for the past year or so, I have written the code number on the loco's cab roof with an UV security pen. One has only to shine an UV torch on the loco and up comes the code loud and clear. Both the pen and torch are readily available on eBay for less than £2 each. I hope this will be useful to modellers in all scales.

Gordon Ferrier (No.516)

L&NWRS 4TH ANNUAL OPEN MEETING

Kidderminster Railway Museum,
Saturday 30th July 2016 10.30am - 5.30pm
Open to Members and the Public

Talks, Displays, Photographs, Information, Models, Bring and Buy Stall, artefacts, memorabilia, plans, et cetera, et cetera.

Displays of models: Gauge 3, Gauge 1, Gauge 0, 4mm et cetera.
LNWR Society Exhibition Stand

Jack Nelson dioramas - LNWR project to restore them for Conway Valley Railway Museum

George the Fifth New-Build project

Coal Tank 1054 and the Bahamas Locomotive Society
Exhibition of paintings by Gerald Broom and Roger Markland
LNWR Society Archives & Photograph collection

Admission free! Come and meet other people interested in the Premier Line. Bring friends - non-members welcome. See the exhibits. Talk to the exhibitors. Listen to the talks. Ask questions. Have a Premier Day!

Questions, or requests to have a stand, contact Ted Talbot by email - talbot186@btinternet.com - or by phone - 01785 823672.

Archive & Library News

The first few months of 2016 have been very productive in finding and adding material to our Archive. The material has included drawings, working timetables operating documents. Notable acquisitions have included a set of Working Timetables from 1887 and some plans for station improvements on the Birkenhead Joint line and works on the Chester Holyhead line. Working timetables for the years prior to about 1900 are not at all common so the opportunity to acquire several from the 1887 period was particularly welcome. The various plans provide new insights into the work the LNWR was doing to develop its railway to meet the needs of ever increasing traffic.

The Chester and Holyhead Railway plan book dated from 1860. It included plans showing additional land purchases at what was later to become Llandudno Junction. This showed the amount of in-filling that had to be done along the foreshore in later years to enable the development of what was to become a busy junction, locomotive depot and carriage storage sidings to serve the increasing North Wales traffic. A plan for Holyhead showed details of the expansion of the harbour and one for Dublin North Wall showed the acquisition of land for Hotel development.

We recently received a number of

Help - Air Race

Our local History Society is researching the Daily Mail London - Manchester air race of 1910 between Englishman, Claude Grahame-White and Frenchman Louis Paulhan. Grahame-White planned to follow the London & North Western Railway all the way, and persuaded the company to whitewash its sleepers for 100 yards to the north of every junction, so that he might stay on the right line.

Specifically we are interested in the second attempt undertaken on 27th April. Paulhan had taken off from Hendon unbeknown to CG-W, who upon learning of his contemporary's head start dashed to Hendon taking off at 6.30pm.

But when night fell Paulhan was as far ahead as ever. Grahame-White had made 60 miles and was at Roade, in Northamptonshire, while Paulhan had reached Lichfield, 117 miles (188 km) from London. Along the route, even greater crowds turned out than at the weekend to see the Frenchman pass over followed by the Englishman in pursuit an hour or so later.

At Roade, after having a cup of

books and pictures, bequeathed to the society by a member. Some of the books have been added to the library, while the remainder of the material is in the process of being sold to raise funds for future purchases. Donations and bequests are always very welcome as they provide a very valuable means of expanding our collections for the benefit of members.

Many of you will have heard of the Doncaster Grammar School collection. The LNWR paperwork from this archive has recently been given to the LNWRs and currently we are sorting through the material. It consists of many interesting items such as large sheet timetables for the Trans-Pennine services, Euston to Glasgow and Edinburgh and the South Manchester area, all for 1897. There are also Account and Record Books from stations showing details of traffic handled there, operating and public notices, and much else. Altogether it is a veritable goldmine of information and very welcome additions to the Archive.

All the new material has to be sorted, item by item, and catalogued. If any member wishes to join our working parties in this work, then please come along and enjoy what are always interesting and informative occasions.

David Patrick

tea in a signal box, Grahame-White returned to his aeroplane to find the field full of well-wishers. He was carried shoulder high and then made to sign autographs by the light of a bicycle lamp.

Do the society's staff records have any details on whom the signalman at Roade may of been, or any other company servants who were at this location at that time.?

CG-W upon learning of his disadvantage decided to take-off from Roade, assisted by the beams of car headlights in darkness to reduce his disadvantage. From our research this was the first ever night flight undertaken in world, and it is this ground-breaking feat we wish to celebrate. Regrettably his brave decision was in vain as Paulhan was the first to reach Manchester and claimed the £10000 prize. Further details of this aviation feat may be found at thosemagnificentmen.co.uk

Many thanks, Chris Hillyard RVM, Royal Train Foreman (retired), Society Member 1290, email:

secretary@roadehistorysociety.org.uk

Usage of the Society Archive & Study Centre

The end of 2015 provided an opportunity to have a look at the use that has been made of the Society Archive and Library since the Study Centre opened, and thus give some indication of its value to members and its role in meeting the Society's Charitable obligations to provide educational resources to the public.

Since the facilities at Kenilworth were opened and up to the end of 2015, there had been 445 visits by external users to make use of the research facilities and consult the archives and library. This excludes people attending other events at the centre It also excludes the members who host the Open Days and undertake work in sorting and cataloguing archive material and undertake other work at the premises, many of whom follow their own research work between duties. The 445 external visits were made by 121 different people, many of whom came back again to do more research once they have seen the range of material available.

The visitors included:

- i) 73 members and a further 6 people who are known to have joined the Society since using the facilities. This represents over 13% of the total membership. This is a remarkably high figure as general experience in societies similar to ours in these days of multiple attractions is that achieving a participation rate of above about 5% in such activities is pretty successful. To put the figures in perspective, attendance at the Society's AGMs - the most important business meetings - is usually only around 6-8%.
- ii) 48 non members, again a surprisingly high figure considering the specialist nature of the archive.

Usage of the archives continues to increase. During 2015 there were a total of 123 visits to consult the archives and undertake research. This represents an average of 10.25 visitors per advertised opening day. There have been further new visitors since the beginning of this year.

Records & Archives Sub Committee



Letters to the Editor

All opinions and information given in readers' letters are the sole ownership of the writers and do not in any form represent official LNWRs opinion or policy unless stated as such.

"Looking after our Archive"

I am writing to you in response to your request in *Newsletter* 181 for members' views on the accessibility of LNWRs archive material. This is, I feel, a difficult subject, but perhaps I can add a few of my own thoughts on the matter.

I have a considerable personal collection of railway books, which are kept in closed bookcases, away from dust and dirt, and in rooms the curtains of which are permanently drawn to prevent their covers from being damaged by sunlight. In addition books which I am likely to need to consult frequently, such as the 'Ian Allan Pre-Grouping Atlas', I have bought two copies of. One copy resides

in the bookcase and is never touched; the second working copy is handled frequently and shows corresponding signs of wear and tear. I might add that when I come across a copy of a book such as 'The Chester and Holyhead Railway' Vol 1' at an auction or railway society sale it is almost invariably in much poorer condition than the corresponding copy in my library, demonstrating that many people either do not know how to properly care for their books, or else do not value them sufficiently.

Another point which comes to mind is what happened when I was unwise enough to lend a document (a copy of the Great Western Railway Signalling Regulations, dated 1936, the GW equivalent of the British Railways 1960 'apple green' book) to the Great Western society for an exhibition. At the end of the exhibition my book had 'disappeared' and I never saw it again; clearly not all railway enthusiasts are 100% honest.

With these points in mind I think the society should be very wary of allowing uncontrolled access to historical material. In the worst case scenario such items might 'disappear' like my Great Western document, but there is also the risk of damage to such items should they not be handled with sufficient care; so that they end up with coffee stains, marks from dirty hands, torn or bent pages and so on. (I must confess that such things have happened, now and then, even to books in my own collection.)

Obviously nothing lasts, or can be preserved, for ever, but carefully controlling access to archive material is certainly likely to make it last considerably longer, so that it is available for more future generations.

Francis Voisey (No. 211)

"L&NWR Livery Panel"

In the March *Newsletter* No.181 there is a minor error in the caption to Norman's photograph of the display on Merseyside. It said that I had painted the Locomotive Livery Panel for the late Eric Russell: this is incorrect. I painted it twenty years ago in time for the 150th Anniversary celebrations at Crewe Works in order for the Brocklebank nameplate to be displayed more effectively. It remained my property until I donated it to the Society around five years ago.

Ken Wood

"Selling Publications"

The Society had a stand at Scale4North at Wakefield on 16th and 17th April 2016. I wish to thank Jim Houghton, Jim Lodge and Steve Johns for their assistance - their company was greatly appreciated and I believe we all enjoyed the experience.

Our stand, to our benefit, was situated alongside Jol Wilkinson's superb layout 'London Road'. We attracted a lot of attention and we sold LNWR literature to the value of £216.

What I am about to say about stock levels might be regarded as controversial, but it is intended to make our members aware of how their subscriptions have been used to acquire huge stocks of publications.

Our sales this day included 7 'Wagon Supplements', thus reducing the stock holding to a mere 713. We sold 2 'Garston Docks', thus reducing the stock holding to a mere 518, 6 'Pilcher Photos' thus reducing the stock holding to a mere 362.

Unless some other people get out there and do some selling it is going to take an awfully long time to clear that stock - I can't do it all on my own. Come on Executive Committee - get something organised.

Roger Stapleton, Past President

MEMBERS' MAIL ORDER SERVICE

Books (take a look at the 'Webb site' for a full description of the subject and content)

L&NWR 40th Anniversary	£12.00
L&NWR wagons (suppl. No1)	£5.75
FW Webb a Bibliography	£11.00
Garston & Stalbridge Docks	£11.00
Crewe Works Narrow Gauge System	£6.75
Wolverton Carriage Works	£3.70
L&NWR Non-Corridor Carriages £22.50: currently a bargain at:	£15
Railway Photos of PW Pilcher	£7.45
Crewe Locomotive Works	£3.70
The War Record of the L&NWR	£3.70
John Ramsbottom	£7.45
Excursion Programme 1914	£4.50

Portfolios

14. Bill Finch Building a Jumbo	£7.90
15. Six-wheeled Carriages	£7.95
16. LNWR Company Houses	£3.50

Other Society Items

LNWR route map of UK ~Autumn 1903 £20.00
Maps are in colour and are despatched rolled in mailer tube. Size 1050mm by 860mm; suitable for framing. See *Newsletter* 168 December 2012 for full details and an image of the map.

Binder to hold L&NWRS 12 Journals £7.50
Black with gold block title 'LNWR Journal' and 2 inch spine. Also available in black untitled

** Please specify titled or plain with order **

LNWRs Tie	£8.50
LNWRs Lapel Badge	£2.50

Journal back issues, £2.60 per copy. The following are currently available:
Volume 7: Nos. 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12
Volume 8: Nos. 1,2,3,4

Order to the Sales Officer - David Bond, 58 Shire Road, Corby, Northants, NN17 2HN Tel:01536 681496 e-mail: sales@lnwrs.org.uk

Francis Pierce's 'At Home'

Disappointingly, only your Chairman and myself turned up, but we were treated to an excellent display of LNWR passenger and goods trains running on his large 0 gauge layout. One highlight was his 19 Inch Goods hauling a mixed train and watching the working Joy valve gear – quite visible on this type of engine. Also of great note was the amazing variety of passenger vehicles. Out of over 60 carriages, very few were of the same type. Thanks to Francis for hosting such an enjoyable event.

Simon Fountain



Francis Pearce concentrating hard while simultaneously acting as engine driver, signal man and discussing some finer points of his hand-built coaching stock. His 0 gauge layout has six storage sidings, each able to hold two trains.

Show Helpers Needed

The Society has been giving serious thought as to how it can increase its public visibility and one way is showing ourselves with a stand at Model Railway and Model Engineering shows, plus events at heritage sites.

Whilst I am organising a body to be accountable for running this, I suggest we should get together a register of members who are happy to give their time up at shows, etc. I realise we have a small and devoted core of people already doing this and I know who they are. The Society really values them. They will form the core of our list of willing helpers, but if **you** would like to spend a pleasant day or two helping to host a club stand at exhibitions. then please let me know at my email address:- promotions@lnwrs.org.uk

If you can think of where we might get good exposure then please let me know. We have thoughts about several heritage railways during the summer.

Peter Stanton. Promotions Officer

[The EC is well aware of the hard work put in by the volunteers, and it often gets appreciation during Committee meetings. - Ed.]

Book Reviews

"Photographs of P. W. Pilcher" An album of photographs taken from the collection

Percy William Pilcher was a talented musician, being the organist at the Abbey Church, Shrewsbury for some twenty seven years. Amongst other things he had an interest in photography, and was one of the pioneers in attempting to capture moving trains, with his first success being recorded in 1889.

This book is presented as an album of photographs from the collections which survive. One hundred of the one hundred and fifty three plates are of LNWR locomotives, and they show large volumes of detail which is of interest to students of history and modeller's alike. This detail is not limited to the locomotives themselves, but also the settings surrounding the locomotives.

The book also includes some twenty plates each of Great Western and Great Northern Railway locomotives as well as a flavouring of other companies. Included is a beautiful plate of Farlies Patent with the locomotive in steam, and a woman in full Victorian dress standing alongside.

The book includes the photographic lists of the two collections located in the National Railway Museum, which contain many more plates of interest to students of the LNWR.

Available to members at £7.45, Enquiries to the **Sales Officer**.

"The Grand Junction Railway" by Bob Yate, published by Book Law Publications, price £23.99, ISBN 9781 909625 51 8, 176 pages softback.

The author of this book has undertaken with great diligence, the research necessary to produce a record of this section of the Grand Junction Railway from the authorisation of the line, through its construction and completion, together with alterations and improvements through to the year 2015. In the author's description of a particular area, he has researched prior to the Middle Ages, and the historical content adds to the reader's knowledge of the area. This reviewer worked as a Relief Station Master in the 1950's at some of the stations mentioned, and this book has produced facts hitherto unknown to him. For the reader today, it provides an important snapshot of the railway's contribution and operation in both an industrial and rural environment. The work reflects the considerable changes which rail traffic has experienced during the last 50 years, indicating the change from a 'Common Carrier' to a current style commercial undertaking.

My concern with this publication is that neither the publisher nor the proof reader brought to the attention of the author, how the presentation of the material through his research could have been presented in a more readable and accurate format. Regrettably there are typographical errors, and in my opinion, correct punctuation would have enabled the reader to appreciate the value of this work. Using only words to explain track layouts is very difficult, and both in relation to the Bescot and Proof House Junction areas, the text may need reading three or four times. The photographs are very interesting and the majority have a sharp, definitive finish. The captions are appropriate for the scene, and again it is a pity that a few inaccuracies have not been spotted. For example a photograph of the layout of Bescot west end shows No 3 SB which is referred to as No 2.

In reviewing this book, the majority of readers will find their knowledge of railway operation in an industrial landscape over the years considerably widened, and the book should not be sidelined. From a historical perspective, because of inaccuracies it cannot be accepted wholly as fact; but most readers may not find this a distraction.

Brian Hayes.

Membership Matters

From Alan Shepherd

Deceased

I regret to report the death of the following member.

Mr. JWP (Peter) Rowledge No. 332 of Newton Abbot. He died at the end of February, age 81. He was in charge of the Crewe Diesel Depot in 1963 at the time of 'The Great Train Robbery'. One of his drivers, Jack Mills, was the driver of the stolen train and was badly injured in the attack. Peter always said that his claim to fame was that he was finger printed by the Police in order to eliminate him from the crime scene. In retirement, he was instrumental in setting up and running the Railway Studies Section in Newton Abbot Library.

I also regret to report the death of the following members.

Mr. C Taylor No.253. Mr. N Harrison No.1516. Mr. A Lloyd No.1354. Mr. D Hudson No.1723. Mr. M Barrow No.744

New Members.

We welcome the following New Members:

Mr. Michael Byng No.1899 of Birmingham
Mr. William Dunseith No.1900 of Cty. Leitrim, Ireland
Mr. Richard Surman No.1901 of Wavertree
Mr. Nicholas Broomhead No.1902 of Isle of Mull
Mr. Roger McLellan No.1903 of Tunbridge Wells
Mr. Keith Sullivan No.1904 of Brixhan
Mr. Angus Higgins No.1905 of Leek
Mr. David White No.1906 of Belper
Mr. Roger Thomas No.1907 of Ellesmere

The Following Members have resigned; many due to age and frailty.

D Pearson No.1499, E Conway No.1817, P J Bryan No.1838, T Sherratt No.1002, M Allen No.1732, B Emery No.825, D Thomas No.1455, G Tweedy No.1871, M Bayliss No.1268, J Page No.1884, Brenda Lawson No.1272

Are you moving house? Have you changed your email address? If so don't forget to notify the Membership Secretary, Alan Shepherd, of any change of address.

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Closing date for Newsletter 182 - 1st May 2016

Editor, **Tony Gillam, 27 Elstree Avenue, Chester CH3 5HJ** newsletter@lnwrs.org.uk

I am happy to receive text for the next edition in any form (letter, CD, email) but Word files are favourites. Provided it is not too long, I am willing to accept hand written text in a clear script.

If you supply images, please send films, photos, negatives or slides, and include your name and address with them. Digital images are very acceptable provided they are at least 300 dpi and have no (or very little) compression (in practice this means a file size around 1 Mb).

I shall endeavour to return material within two weeks of publication. Otherwise, please keep reminding me.

Please direct delivery queries to (temporarily): The Editor. See address in *Society Contacts*.

Are you moving house? If so, please don't forget to notify the Membership Secretary, Alan Shepherd of any change of address. See address in *Society Contacts*