

Club Scene

THE positions of Treasurer and Membership Secretary were combined into one post by members at the **Bassetlaw (North Notts) Railway Society** annual meeting.

The move is designed to speed up membership renewals.

Some 35 members attended the meeting, which was held on February 18.

In accordance with the rules of the Society, one third of the officer and committee posts are re-elected each year on a three year rolling basis.

The following posts were contested: Deputy Chairman: Richard Deas (re-elected); Treasurer/Membership Secretary: Stan Balmer (re-elected); Committee: Standing down: Terry Kilby and Haydon Relph; Joining: Donald Howbridge and Phil Lewis; Re-elected: Robin Breddy.

In future years, the meeting will move from its February slot to the third Wednesday in March. This will give the Treasurer extra time to complete and audit the accounts.

FIRST Bangor Model Railway Club is to hold its annual exhibition on Friday 28 and Saturday 29 May at the First Bangor Presbyterian Church, Main Street Bangor, Co. Down, N. Ireland.

Also that weekend, on the Saturday and Sunday (29-30 May), the **New Forest Model Railway Society** will be staging their exhibition at Brockenhurst Village Hall, Hants.

THE chairman of **Barry and Penarth Model Railway Club** 'spoiled' (sic) the club's second themed evening by bringing a grey diesel to run on the Holton Junction layout, it is lightheartedly reported on the club's web site.

New N-gauge (!) members kept the Machnlleth layout busy with their blue diesels—including an HST (one actually reached Aberystwyth on a test run).

THE **009 Society's** AGM celebrating their 30th anniversary will be held alongside the **Wessex Narrow Gauge Modellers** Exhibition at Sparsholt College, near Winchester on Saturday April 3.

More than twenty 009 and related layouts, as well as a variety of other narrow gauge model railways, including Buccabury Town, Header's Mill and Ditton Heath, will be on display.

Members boost for Suffolk club

NORTH East Suffolk's Waveney Valley Model Railway Club increased its membership to more than 40 in 2003 — despite being in a substantially rural area!

The past 12 months have seen a number of notable successes for the group.

In addition to boosting member numbers, the club also celebrated two years online in February 2004. Its web site has numerous hyperlinks to and from other related sites, as well as tourist organisations.

Last August's Southwold Model Railway Exhibition, held at St Felix School and organised by the club, achieved a 23 per cent increase in attendance over their 2002 event.

This took the figures to over 2,000 for the first time—despite glorious weather on both days!

Twenty-one layouts, in various scales, attended the exhibition, along with demonstrations, trade stands etc. and there was a live steam

passenger-carrying railway in the grounds.

This year's Southwold Model Railway Exhibition will be held over the weekend of August 7/8 at St Felix School, Halesworth Road, Southwold, Suffolk.

The club test tracks, continuous circuits of around 100 feet in "0"/"00" and "N", have recently been re-laid on strengthened baseboards.

The WVMRC is based in North East Suffolk, its clubhouse being

located at Grange Farm Centre, Barsham near Beccles.

Members meet on Tuesday and Thursday evenings and the club house is also open to the public on Farmers' Market days.

The club may be contacted by telephoning the secretary, Kevin Bertrand, on 01986 873523 or by e-mail at Waveneyvalleymrc@aol.com.

The WVMRC web site is at www.waveneyvalleymrc.150m.com.

Ipswich show date is set

IPSWICH Railway Modellers Association summer exhibition is to be held at the Rushmere Resource Centre, Rushmere Village, Ipswich, Suffolk, on Saturday June 5.

Ten layouts will be on show including: P4 gauge Debenham, and in 00 gauge Grafton on Sea, Anderson Lock and Ayling Island.

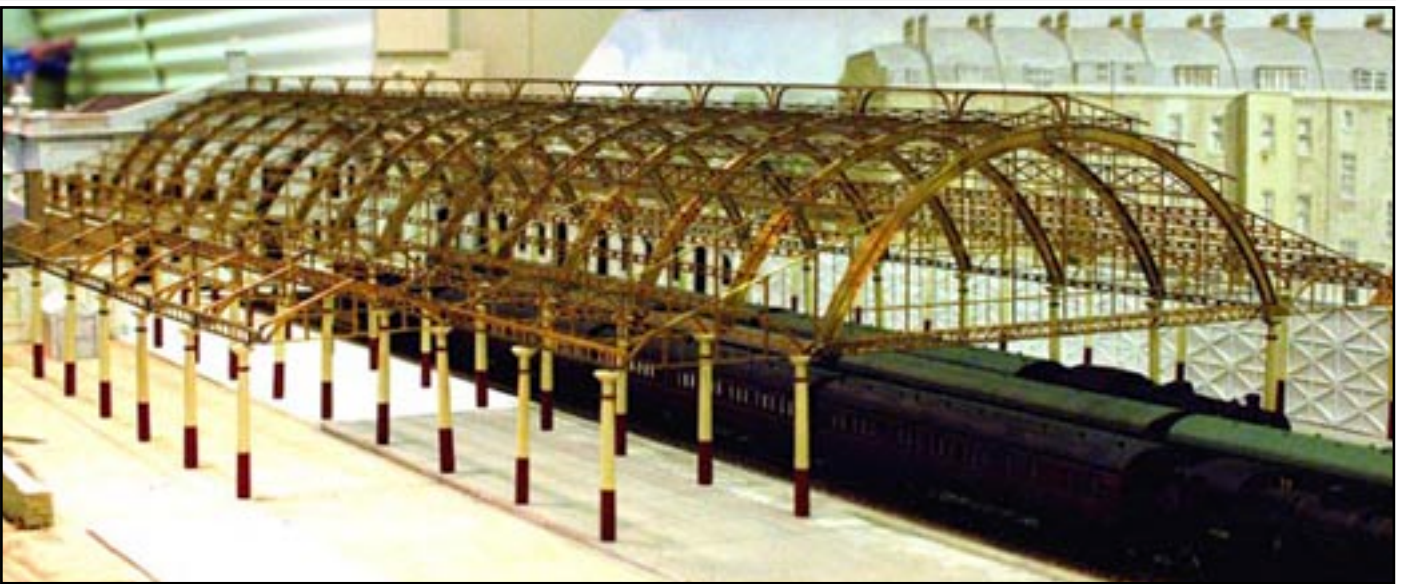
Attention all club secretaries

Trains On-line Magazine needs your help in compiling a list of club and society secretaries and their addresses (both home and e-mail), so that we can advise you of forthcoming features.

We are also hoping, in the future, to expand our coverage of events/shows and welcome club news and diary dates for inclusion on these and other pages.

If you would like your club and its activities to be featured in the magazine please e-mail the editor at the following address:

editor@trainsonlinemagazine.co.uk



Taunton group put Bath Green Park on show...

THE Taunton Model Railway Group (TMRG) 00 finescale model of Bath Green Park was given its first 'proper' outing at the Epsom and Ewell show on April 3 /4.

The layout, which is now nearing completion, is a 65 ft long scale representation of the line from Bath Green Park Station to Bath Junction, where the Somerset & Dorset line south to Bournemouth diverged from the LMS line to Bristol.

"We will be running prototypical stock for the 1958-1960 period, on representative trains, to a typical sequence for the place and period. The sequence lasts 40 to 45 minutes, depending on the layout operators", said the group's Press Officer, Harvey Godber.

The layout, operated as a terminus-to-fiddle, has the correct track formations and signalling for the line modelled, including ground signals.

Signals are electrically operated by relays and are fully interlocked with the track so that the correct route has to be set to clear the signals.

All structures are scale representations of actual buildings and the overall station roof is made from custom-etched components, based on

drawings made by a club member.

Operation is by cab-control system with five active operators using AMR handheld units.

Stock is a mixture of scratch-built, modified kit-built and customised ready-to-run stock.

Weathered

Locos carry correct names / numbers recorded on the line during that period and are fitted with fire irons, coal, lamps, crews, fall plates etc.

Coaches are fitted with gangway connections where appropriate and Brake Vans carry guards and lamps.

All stock is suitably weathered for the period. (when few locos and stock were ever cleaned!). Kaydee couplers are standard giving full remote uncoupling and positioning using strategically placed electromagnets.

"The TMRG meets Monday and Thursday evenings at our clubroom on Bishops Lydeard Station of the West Somerset Railway, a

few miles to the west of Taunton", said Harvey.

"Our aim is simply the highest standards reasonably achievable in 4mm 00 finescale operation. We open to the public on most of the WSR's special event days, when Bath Green Park operates connected to our older Tamerig layout".

The group, he added, were always pleased to meet with like-minded prospective members. The contact is TMRG Secretary Steve Stubbs (phone 01823 289789 or email at: steve@rosecottage74.freemove.co.uk).



These pictures taken during the construction of the layout can only give an indication of what a fine model this really is...

Top: The sheer scale and intricacy of the train shed roof, built using custom etchings, is truly breathtaking. Above: The rear view of the engine shed complex. Below: The grand frontage of the former Somerset and Dorset Joint Railway's principal station is accurately captured by the Taunton group's modellers.



PROTOTYPE PROFILES...1



Midland Peaks observed



Top: Nearing the end of its active career Peak 45 110(?), with plated over indicator box, prepares to leave Coalville with a train load of ballast.

Above: An unidentified Peak with 'split code' boxes enters Derby Station from the north.

Right: Yet another variation in indicator style is evident on this loco pictured at Derby.

Below: Another split headcode locomotive is seen approaching Leicester London Road Station.



THE 'Peaks', introduced in 1959 as part of the BR Modernisation plan, were a relatively long-lived group of locomotives and generally well liked by both enthusiasts and enginemen.

The first ten, D1-D10 (later Class 44) were built at Derby and had a 12-cylinder Sulzer engine rated at 2,300 hp, with six Crompton Parkinson type axle hung, nose suspended motors of 305HP each.

They were named after famous Welsh and English mountains and thus gave the class as a whole the name 'Peaks'.

Later locomotives (D11-D137) had Sulzer engines with 2,500 hp output and subsequently became Class 45. The remaining locomotives (D138-D193) shared the higher output

engine, but had Brush traction motors instead of Crompton Parkinson, and subsequently became Class 46.

Some of the later batches were built at Crew.

Initially outshopped in the standard BR livery of the time, they spent most of their working lives in 'corporate' blue with small cabside 'arrows'

The majority were allocated to the Midland routes, including the 'North to West', and after being displaced by HSTs (1982) could still be found for some time on freight duties.

Several have been preserved.



The 45/46 Classes were quite capable of running at speed when conditions allowed, such as here at Wistow, near Market Harborough.

YOUR GUIDE TO 2004 EXHIBITIONS

ALL DATES FOR APRIL CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB SITE

MAY

1 (Sat)

Ashford MRC annual exhibition, The Centrepiece, Bank Street, Ashford, Kent. Contact via web site: www.ashfordmrc.co.uk/page4.html

8-9 (Sat & Sun)

Redditch MRC show, Town Hall, Redditch. Details: www.redditchmrc.freeserve.co.uk/Annual%20Show.htm

JUNE

5 (Sat)

Desborough Model Railway Exhibition presented by Corby & District Model Railway Society and St. Giles church Desborough. Details: www.corbymrs.org.uk/Coming%20events.htm

12 & 13 (Sat & Sun)

Wingfield Railway Group Model Railway Exhibition, Agricultural Business Centre, Bakewell, Derbys.

JULY

3-4 (Sat & Sun)

Basildon MRC exhibition, Laindon Community Centre, Laindon, Essex. Details: www.basildon-mrc.org.uk/ or telephone 01268 411603.

FireRail 2004, Modelling Exhibition and Air Show, St. Peter's Collegiate School, Compton Road, Wolverhampton, W. Midlands.

10 & 11 (Sat & Sun)

Pendon Museum 50th Anniversary weekend, Long Whittenham, Abingdon, Oxfordshire. Details: www.pendonmuseum.com. (See feature and news in JANUARY magazine)

AUGUST

7 & 8 (Sat & Sun)

Southwold Model Railway Exhibition, Waveney Valley Model Railway Club, St Felix School, Halesworth Road (A1095 - East off A12 at Henham).

SEPTEMBER

4 & 5 (Sat & Sun)

Warrington Model Railway Club exhibition, Woolston Community High School, Holes Lane, Woolston, Warrington WA1 4LS. Details: David Brown, Secretary Tel 01925 810426

18 & 19 (Sat & Sun)

Shibley MRS 2004 Show, Baildon Recreation Centre, Green Lane, Shibley, BD17 5JH. Details: www.mphgate.demon.co.uk/mrail/exhib.html

OCTOBER

9 & 10 (Sat & Sun)

RAIL-EX Taunton-SouthWest, Richard Huish College, South Road, Taunton, Somerset. Details: www.binning.co.uk/expo.htm

Farnham and District MRC Exhibition, Connaught Leisure Centre, Tongham Road, Aldershot. GU12 4AS.

Corby & District Model Railway Society exhibition, SS Peter & Andrew church, Beanfield Avenue, Corby. Details: www.corbymrs.org.uk/Coming%20events.htm

16 & 17 (Sat & Sun)

Uckfield MRC annual exhibition, Uckfield Civic Centre, Bell Farm Lane, Uckfield, East Sussex.

23 (Sat)

Chelmsford and District MRC exhibition, hosted jointly with the Deltic Preservation Society, King Edward VI Grammar School, Broomfield Road, Chelmsford, Essex. Further information: www.chelmsfordmodelrailwayclub.org.uk/exhibition2004.html

30 & 31 (Sat & Sun)

Colchester & District Model Railway Club Exhibition, Colchester Institute, Sheepen Road, Colchester.

NOVEMBER

6-7 (Sat & Sun)

Bolton and District Model Railway Show 2004, Canon Slade School, Bradshaw Brow, Bolton BL2 3BP. See: <http://www.on.to/bolton.mrc>

Barnsley MRC annual exhibition, Kingstone School, Broadway, Barnsley. Telephone: 01226 248270 / visit: www.barnsleymrc.plus.com/exhibition.html

13 (Sat)

Northampton & District Model Railway Club exhibition, Duston Upper School Berrywood Road, Northampton. Contact: 01604 582002 for more details.

21 (Sun)

Halifax MRC Open Day, The Clubrooms, 5 Deal Street, Halifax, West Yorkshire, HX1 1QX. Details: <http://pages.zoom.co.uk/hmrc/index.htm>

DECEMBER

2-3 (Sat & Sun)

Warley Model Railway Exhibition, NEC, Birmingham.

2005

FEBRUARY

12 (Sat)

East Bedfordshire MRC show, Biggleswade, Beds. Further information: <http://www.ebmrs.org.uk/1112.html>

25 to 27 (Fri to Sun)

Model Rail Scotland, Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre, Glasgow.

MARCH

12 & 13 (Sat & Sun)

Wyre Forest MRC exhibition, Kidderminster.

OCTOBER

22 & 23 (Sat & Sun)

Norbury & South London Transport Club, 70th Anniversary Model Railway & Transport Exhibition, Fairfield Halls, Croydon, Surrey. Details: <http://www.fircroft.clara.net> or <http://www.norbury.club.new.net>