



News Letter 82 – March 2018
Layouts – (LC = Layout Coordinator)

Ashtown (N) – LC Martin Lockwood. We didn't submit any copy for the last Newsletter so this covers 4 month's work. Gareth has completed the linking board from the fiddle yard to the end board, laid the track and wired both it and the fiddle yard such that we can run trains round the entire layout albeit there are some alignment issues on one of the end boards. Bob is still wearing his property developer hat and has been planting the terraced houses in place behind the station plus laying roads and pavements. Bob has also constructed a bus depot which will go at the front on the other side of the station. Meantime, Martin has been fixing a curved backscene board at the right-hand end of the layout as well as levelling-up the first part of the road at the front to take the bus depot.

Newton Wharf (previously Yeaton) (N) – LC Greg Deacon, Ian Dodds, George Hartfield, Neil Grayson. The "Scalescenes" cottages which the three of us have built were difficult and very fiddly and I am not convinced that the quality is good enough to include on the layout. Recent work has been around finishing off ground cover, mainly grass and ballast so far. About half the layout is covered so there is another half to do - the area at the industrial end, then the roads need tidying and then tree planting! Other than that the layout seems to be pretty robust with the club loco running successfully round all sections of the track on most club nights whilst pulling a string of 5 or 6 coaches. This Tuesday we had Jim's ICE running too. Having two trains running at the same time looks good on the layout so we must find a way to obtain another loco. If anybody has a cheap N-scale diesel to sell I might be interested.

Burch Green (OO) Work has been suspended temporarily while the gang finish the new lighting rig on Rise Park. Points have been sourced and tracklaying can start after Nottingham show has passed.

Phoenix Park (OO) – LC Jeff Bamford/Pete Marshall. The layout has made great progress since the last Newsletter. All tracks are electrified, points wired and mimic boards in place. Trains can be run on any route. It is intended that occasional running sessions will be held in the near future. The scenic's are also progressing well, the scenic's area has been decaled and the goods yard is being developed rapidly.

Soarston Lower Level (DCC OO) – LC Jim Duckworth. I am finishing off the scenic side to get a basic layout ready for Cotgrave. Unfortunately I won't get time for much of the finer detail to be included for the Exhibition. The cassette stock storage system is almost finished and appears to be working. I still have to finish the point switching problem and thoroughly test the track for running, and then I can work out a sequence for shunting operation. Fingers crossed it will be ready for the show in April.

Rise Park (N) – LC Les Richardson. Alf has engineered the new lighting rig and Geoff and Les have got the lights working. We are at Nottingham Show on 17th and 18th March. Andy York's photos have finally been processed and are superb. The layout is provisionally scheduled for the May BRM.

POINTLESS LITTLE ROUNDY-ROUNDY. Presently stored in Les's workshop it will be finished in time to sit on the pay desk at our show. Twenty applications of varnish were needed to get the water in the pond working properly.

OTHER:-

Club Exhibition – Chairman Pete George: Yes it's that time of the year, our annual exhibition will be on us in no time, Friday 13th to Sunday 15th April at Cotgrave. There is a lot of unrewarded work to do, particularly difficult this year as the Club has 5 layouts on show (it would be helpful if each would restrict the number of member used as operators to TWO). So here is where help is needed:

1. **Poster distribution.** Placing A4 posters in prominent places in major settlements like West Bridgford, Keyworth, Ratcliffe as well as villages in the general area. They could be displayed in shop windows, public notice boards, bus shelters etc. Ask Les or myself.
2. **Distributing Flyers for the show** (they offer £1 discount). Some might be left with posters, but the majority need to go through letterboxes. We should aim to deliver in the two weeks leading up to the show. Nowhere can be given 100% cover but we need to concentrate on covering as much of Cotgrave as possible, plus parts of West Bridgford, Keyworth, Bingham and the larger villages. About 7-10% of these flyers come back as visitors. Contact Les or myself if you can help.
3. **Staffing at the Exhibition:** Help is needed with set up on the Friday, manning the front desk through the weekend and generally being around to help. A notice will be put please sign up in the timeslots. Remember at least 10 members are tied up exhibiting.
4. **Club and Commission Sales:** We needed railway items to either sale on behalf of the Club or sell taking a 10% commission. PLEASE look at your stuff and see what you can do without.

- **Club Raffle:** this year we have two train sets to raffle, one on each day. Tickets will be sold on the door. **Club Exhibition – Exhibition Manager Les Richardson:-**

Pete has put a list on the wall for volunteers. We need people to-

1. Push leaflets through doors in Cotgrave, Keyworth and Bingham. See Pete or Les for details of the streets we'd like covering. Ditto places like Aslockton/Whatton, Bottesford and Orston.
2. Help from 2pm onwards on Friday afternoon with measuring and setting out the hall, also giving traders and layout holders a hand in with their stuff. Can someone also do the 6m to 8pm shift please to avoid Les having to be in three places at once. 2a. Ditto 8am to 10am Saturday.
3. Help on the Saturday and Sunday with the front desk and with distributing lunches- also circulating talking to punters.
4. Sell raffle tickets on the two days. Daily prize (one only) is a train set courtesy of Hornby.
5. Hang around at the end of the show to help with clearing. The aim is to be done by 6pm.

CAN YOU HELP or do you intend to leave it to the usual suspects and carry on doing your thing, despite being a member of THE CLUB!

- **Hawthorn Dene** is off to Alexandra Palace this month. Rumour has it that Les has finally built a programming track in the fiddle yard.
- **Graham's Railway Memories** – In 1972 I worked in Derby and lived in Belper. This photograph was taken (not by me!) in 1972 from Amber House where I worked shows the inaugural run of the Experimental Advanced Passenger Train (APTE) from Derby to Duffield and back. It was then blacked by ASLEF for over a year because it had only one driver's seat. A little extra - after Railway Nationalisation 01/01/48, Men's Station toilets were free for a wee and a penny for a poo. A gentleman was heard saying "here I sit, broken hearted, paid a penny and only farted".



Diary Dates – *Please give Graham details of events of railway interest for the Diary.*

RCTS Nottingham meetings are held at The New Mechanics, 3 North Sherwood Street, Nottingham NG1 4EZ. Both Society members and non-members are very welcome to attend their meetings.

2018	
March 24/25	Alexandra Palace. Hawthorn Dene
April 14/15	Our Exhibition at Cotgrave Welfare.
May 19/20	L&YDCC show at Manchester Museum of Transport. No Place
Sept 1/2	Soar Valley MRC, Loughborough. Rise Park
Sept 9	Weston Super-Mare. Hawthorn Dene
Nov 10/11	Barnsley. Hawthorn Dene
Nov 24/25	Warley, National Exhibition Centre Hawthorn Dene
2019	
February	Sileby. Croft Spa
April 6/7	Our Exhibition at Cotgrave Welfare.
November	Spalding. Hawthorn Dene
2020	
April 4/5	Our Exhibition at Cotgrave Welfare