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*West Midlands' N' Gauge Club*

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*Newsletter*

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Vol 20 Issue 1

March 2017

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OUTWARD JOURNEY

A Belated Welcome To 2017



I make no apologies for my raisin *d'être*, or the lack of nuts - in my prose, it's just that I prefer raisins or not - depending on my mood.

Just a reminder to all WMNGC members, that to be included in the next Members' Contributions section, your article should be with me by **Friday 23rd June**, *it isn't just for layout news!*

**Volume 20 Issue 2** will be published in late June 2017.

**Future Newsletter dates**

Summer: June 2017

Autumn: September 2017

Winter: December 2017

Spring: March 2018

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## WMNGC 21 and still going strong

### STOP PRESS NEWS start

Extraordinary General Meeting [EGM] 15th April 2017

This EGM is called in line with the constitution of The West Midlands N Gauge Club. It is called to discuss and vote on one motion as below. All members of the club, as confirmed by our treasurer are entitled to vote whether they are N Gauge Society [NGS] members or not. No other matters will be considered at the EGM.

#### Motion

In view of the proposals by the NGS to form a Company Limited by Guarantee which would put unnecessary restrictions on the club and its members, the motion calls for the club to cease being an area group of the NGS if the proposals of the NGS are carried forward unchanged. This does not affect individual members of the club whether they are NGS members or not.

proposed by Ken Jones - chairman  
seconded by Edgar Mason - treasurer

#### Background

The NGS have been proposing it becomes a Company Limited by Guarantee for many years and this year is set to go ahead with the plans. If it does go ahead with their proposals, as recently detailed in their Journal supplement, it would mean that an Area Group could only have NGS members as voting members of the club. Other club members would only be guests with no voting rights. This is clearly a breach of our own constitution which clearly states that all our members have equal voting rights, and access to the club rooms and layouts whether they are a NGS member or not.

The West Midlands N Gauge Club was formed in 1995 and has been an area group of the NGS every since it was formed. However we only claim the national grant for NGS members and this has worked well for all concerned. The club is there for all of it's members and does not believe in discrimination of any sort. The committee urge you to support the motion.

#### Voting

All eligible members of the club can vote on this motion. If you are a member and unable to get to the meeting please contact Ken about proxy vote, postal votes, or votes by email.

### STOP PRESS NEWS end

*From The Chairman*

Welcome to 2017, well a bit late perhaps to say that but, as this is our first newsletter of the year, I'm using it to not only wish everyone a good year but to also welcome new members Jeremy and Nigel who have joined the club and several more who have joined our newsletter mailing list.

As I write this I'm testing 4 of my layouts which will be out in March – three are going to the Keighley show, the first time I've ventured outside the Midlands for exhibiting for many years, although in the past my layouts have been seen from Manchester to Kent.

My new z gauge layout is here and will be at exhibitions later in the year. Meanwhile it's another big year at TINGS for us with 4 members' layouts attending as well as our new club layout. More information will be forthcoming later in this and future newsletters.

*Ken Jones*

*CLUB LAYOUTS' NEWS*

*After a few hiccups, the intention is to get **Whartson Hall** layout ready for TINGS 2018, all hands to the pumps! – Ed.*

***GIBBON QUARRY***

*Alison's Farm* continues to develop within this ever-improving layout, which will be seen at it's first TINGS this year.



EXHIBITION NEWS

by Dave Griffin

Myself and Stuart Brasier did an N' Gauge wagon demo at the Chiltern model railway association in Stevenage on the 13/14 January 2017. A very nice exhibition with some nice layouts, my favourite being *Copenhagen Fields*. Lots of people to talk to, even Brian Derbyshire from Keighley came and had a chat.





## WMNGC 21 and still going strong

On Saturday 4 March the West Bromwich Club, of which I am a member, had their exhibition at the Bilston sports and social club. This being our first *exhibition* in a couple of years' instead of small open days, I would say it was a great success. Star billing, in my humble opinion, was an N' Gauge model of Arley, by Tony and Linn.



The icing on the cake, was myself winning first prize on the raffle, a Hornby 00 starter set! DG

MEMBERS' CONTRIBUTIONS

**Ken's** new 'Special Birthday' layout, without a name, at time of editing, was seen at one of our regular meetings. It was admired by a fantastic turnout...



I am sure we will be seeing more of this excellent suitcase layout in the near future, suggested names through this office or direct to Ken - watch this space!

I hope you'll all join me in wishing our Chairman a happy 65<sup>th</sup> birthday year *Ed*.

**Rodney & Christine** continue with their hectic programme.

April 14,15,16,17	York Exhibition	<i>Charlieville</i>
April 21,22,23	Sutton Coldfield	
28,29,30	Bristol	<i>The Quarry with Bill &amp; Ben</i>
July		<i>Warley Open Day</i>
September		<i>Swindon Steam</i>
November		<i>Warley MRC NEC Exhibition</i>

## RETURN JOURNEY

### SOCIETY NEWS

*For those who don't already know:*

To help celebrate the NGS's forthcoming 50th anniversary, the Society is producing its first powered RTR offering - a model of the Hunslet industrial 0-6-0 shunter.

Many of these locomotives were built from the 1960's onwards and saw use in collieries, steel works, refineries, quarries, paper mills and other industrial locations.

The last loco was built in 1988 for Caledonian Paper in Irvine and at least 23 still survive in industrial use (with a further 6 -10 in preservation). They were exported to mainland Europe, Africa and North America.

Model specifications will include: 0-6-0 chassis; low gearing for smooth running; wheels to NMRA standards; DCC ready; NEM coupler sockets. They are also planning to feature some prototype specific details such as a working flashing amber warning light on the roof for some models, and additional bonnet details and handrail variations where appropriate.

The price, depending on final costs and prevailing exchange rates, is hoped to be in the region of £75 per model.

Fifteen liveries are being offered for pre-order. Only those with sufficient orders will be produced.

The liveries are:

1. 6614 NCB NE area two-tone green
2. 7279 NCB Midlands maroon
3. 6663 NCB Western area olive green
4. 8998 Esso red
5. 6950 BP original white
6. 6950 BP green
7. 8977 CEGB Orange
8. 7543 British Steel yellow
9. 8976 Port Authority blue/yellow
10. 7410 RMS Locotec blue/grey
11. 8879 'Black Agnes' Lafarge green
12. 7017 RfD sectorisation triple grey
13. 7017 Harry Needle Railroad Co
14. 9092 Caledonian pale blue
15. 6685 'Big John' blue
16. Completely undecorated



## WMNGC 21 and still going strong

two examples shown here.....



*Full details and image gallery can be seen on the NGS website:*

*<http://www.ngaugesociety.com/index.php?page=hunslet-industrial-shunter>*

**ERRATUM** - I now have the proper spelling of “d’être” on page one, the raisin for the error is unknown to me, probably cus I’m not French - email me, with any other erratum at [art1san1957@icloud.com](mailto:art1san1957@icloud.com) Ed.



*Points for discussion:*

1. *Now HS2 has been given Royal Assent, how do members feel this will enhance their lives?*
2. *I wonder how many HS2 objectors are also Remoaners?*
3. *Will Brexit really benefit generations to come?*

*Tip of the quarter - measure twice, cut once!*

*NB. The next issue will include, amongst our regular items, erratum from this issue, the delayed, yet again, Part Two of our article on Heritage Railways - any and all submissions gratefully received - come on if you've got a bee in ya bonnet let me know!*

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NO PROFIT IS MADE FROM THE DISTRIBUTION OR  
PRODUCTION OF THIS *FREE* NEWSLETTER *Ed.*



## NOTICEBOARD INFORMATION



*Our regular, easily  
transportable, exhibition  
layout Tipton Hills -  
come 'n' 'av' a go at  
running your own stock  
on 'ere! Ed.*

### 2017 PROGRAMME

Meetings will be held at Tipton Green Methodist Church Hall, Park Lane West,  
Tipton, West Midlands. DY4 8LD

Meetings – 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in each month

January	7th	21st
February	4th	18th
March	4th	18th
April	1st	15th
May	6th	20th
June	3rd	17th
July	1st	15th
August	5th	19th
September	2nd	16th
October	7th	21st
November	4th	18th
December	2nd	AGM

Again all meetings will be from 2 – 5pm. If in doubt, please ring first.  
For more information call Ken Jones on 0121 777 7062

Email [westernsultan@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:westernsultan@hotmail.co.uk)

Website [www.wmngaugeclub.co.uk](http://www.wmngaugeclub.co.uk)

Any changes to these dates will appear on our website or in our quarterly newsletter.

**Please use the rear entrance at church hall.**