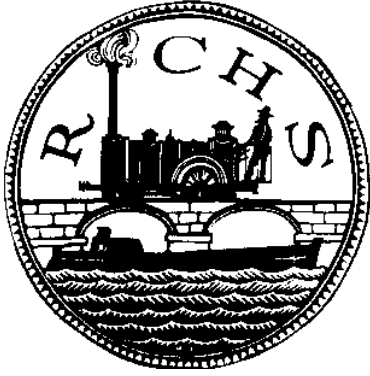


Railway and Canal Historical Society



Society website:
www.rchs.org.uk

Bulletin

No 470 of 12 pages November - December 2017

Opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the Editor or of the Society.

Editor: A.M.Jervis, 7 Dymond Grove, Pitcorthie,
Dunfermline, Fife, KY11 8DE.
E-mail address: tony.jervis@talktalk.net

Closing date for next issue: 1 December 2017

Despatch date of next issue: 4 January 2018

SOCIETY MATTERS

EARLY MAIN LINE RAILWAY CONFERENCE 2 (*Bulletins* 468/3 and 469/2)

Change of date! Due to unforeseen circumstances, the second Early Main Line Railways Conference will now be held on **21-24 June 2018.0**

ADVANCE NOTICE — 2018 AGM WEEKEND

The 2018 AGM weekend will be based at the Ramada Plaza Hotel, Wrexham, between Friday 4th and Monday 7th May 2018. The AGM itself will, as usual, be on the Saturday morning of this weekend.

A programme of visits is being finalised which we hope will include the following highlights:

- Pontcysyllte Aqueduct
- CRT Ellesmere Depot
- Brymbo Steelworks site
- Boat trip on Llangollen Canal from Trevor Basin
- Trip on Llangollen Steam Railway to Corwen
- Chirk Aqueduct and Viaduct
- Glyn Valley Tramway Depot
- Railway stations at Oswestry and Gobowen

There will also be a canal-themed 'fringe' event on Thursday 3rd May which will require participants to use and share car transport.

Full details and the booking form will be circulated with the next *Bulletin* early in January 2018.

2018 SUBSCRIPTIONS

A renewal form is enclosed for those needing to renew; it is not being sent to those who have provided direct debit mandates (as at 30th September) or those already paid for 2018. Please take a quick look at the label on the front of the parcel with the November *Journal*. It will tell you if your subscription is due on 1 January 2018 (earlier is always appreciated), whether you have a Direct Debit payment pending or whether you do not owe the Society anything.

2017 AGM WEEKEND, EXETER

A few copies of the Tour Notes are still available. If anyone would like a copy please contact Michael Messenger, 144 Lake Road East, Cardiff CF23 5NQ, or e-mail michael@twelveheads.com.

NOTICE TO ALL WHO ALREADY GIFT AID THEIR SUBSCRIPTION

This is a reminder that once you have signed or indicated a gift aid declaration, it will remain in force, and the Society will continue to reclaim tax on your future subscriptions until you cancel it. If, perhaps because of a changed tax position, you wish your declaration to be cancelled, you must advise the Membership Secretary accordingly. The label on your copy of the *Journal* will be marked 'Gift Aided' if the society believes your subscription is gift aided. Gift Aid is worth an extra 25% of your subscription to the Society, so if you qualify and have not already signed up then please consider it.

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES to 24 September 2017

Notification of address changes, *etc.*, should be sent to the Membership Secretary, Andrew Wager, Dove Cottage, Thorpe, Ashbourne, DE6 2AW, or by e-mail to membership@rchs.org.uk.

The Membership Secretary has e-mail addresses for many members and postal addresses for all members. If you wish to make contact with a member via e-mail, he will pass your e-mail address to that member who can then respond. If you wish to contact a member by post please ask the Membership Secretary who will do his best to put you in contact

After accounting for the changes noted below, the Society has 796 memberships, including 55 joint memberships and 13 student memberships making a total of 851 members.

Deceased Members

We are saddened to record the deaths of the following members:–

████████████████████ died on 3 March 2017, aged 80. He had been a member since 1994.

████████████████████ passed away on 14th September 2017.

One other member in the North-West Group who previously asked for details not to be included has also died.

New Members

Group	Name and Address	Interests
South West	Personal data in this online edition have been removed for reasons of confidentiality.	
North West		Railways; Canals; Railway chronology; Waterways history research; Railway history research
East Midlands		
North West		Canals; Docks & Coastal Shipping; Waterways history research. Hanna is a maritime archaeologist with 10 years experience working in the UK and Australia. She is particularly interested in the social archaeology and history of inland waterways, coastal and inland ports, harbours, the community of the waterways and urban inland ports. Her current PhD research is looking at the impact and effects of the construction of the Thames Embankment at Chelsea on the working class riverside residents.
North East		Railways; Canals; Early railways
North West		Railways; Canals; Railway chronology; Early railways
Two new members in the North West do not wish their details to be published.		

[Continued opposite. . . .

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES (continued)

Resignations

Group	Name	Reason	Member Since
West Midlands		Other interests	2014

Changes of Postal Address

The following members have new postal addresses. Contact the Membership Secretary for details.

Group	Details
Overseas	Personal data in this online edition have been removed for reasons of confidentiality.
London	
London	
South West	
North West	

Changes of E-mail Address

The following members have new e-mail addresses. Contact the Membership Secretary for details.

Group	Details
North East	Personal data in this online edition have been removed for reasons of confidentiality.
Scotland	
London	
South West	
North West	

Lost Contact

The last mailing to [REDACTED] was returned. He has been a member since 2001. The membership secretary will be grateful for any information.

Un-Lapsed Members

Although reported as lapsed in the previous *Bulletin*, [REDACTED] has continued her membership, as has [REDACTED]. My apologies for any deficiencies on my part.

GROUP TALKS AND WALKS — I

East Midlands Group — Friday 3 November 2017: Lecture meeting at the New Conservative Club, Beeston, at 19:00, *Victorian Railways and the transformation of the East Coast seaside landscape*, by Andrew Wager.

North East Group — Saturday 4th November 2017: At the Railway Institute, York, starting at 2 o'clock, President Mike Clarke's lecture will list key points in *The Development of the Chamber Lock*. This covers waterways around the world.

East Midlands Group — Friday 9 November 2017: Group walk from Brixworth to Kingsthorpe. Meet at Leicester Railway Station at 10:45 to catch X7 bus from stop R at 10:59.

North West Group — 11th November: *Anderton Boat Lift: An Illustrated History*. Dave Thomas will give a full history of the Anderton Boat Lift — why it was built, the changes in working methods, its closure in 1983 and the successful efforts to get it refurbished and reopened in 2002. Dave will give us a fully illustrated history of the boat lift from its early plans and its construction through to its working today. The Anderton Boat Lift is included in the Seven Wonders of the Waterways as listed by the Canal & River Trust. It is a lift lock providing a vertical link between the River Weaver and the Trent and Mersey Canal. It is designated as a scheduled monument and is included in the National Heritage List for England. The talk will take place in The Friends Meeting House, 6 Mount Street, Manchester, M2 5NS, commencing at 2.00 p.m. For further information please consult the website or contact Roger Brice (01625 533959; 07702 303242; roger.brice1945@gmail.com).

GETTING OUT AND FINDING OUT IN GROUPS — II

West Midlands Group — Saturday 18th November 2017: *THE VALE OF BERKELEY RAILWAY*, an illustrated talk by IAN RAVEN (VofBR talks co-ordinator), commencing at 2 p.m. in the Briar Rose Hotel Conference Room, Bennetts Hill, Birmingham; location details are shown on WM Group home page. The Vale of Berkeley Heritage Railway was established in 2015; restored it will run from Sharpness Docks on the River Severn to Berkeley Road on the main Birmingham – Bristol line. The fully equipped engineering facility will restore locos, rolling stock, track, signalling and infrastructure rebuilt to LMS detail by volunteers. Ian's talk covers the line's birth in the early 19th century, its demise in 1964, the challenges faced in restoration, the VoBR loco pool and how it will become a cornerstone of tourism in the Severn Vale.

North West Group — Thursday 23rd November: A walk (distance 5.5 miles) in the North Liverpool area, led by Bernard Parkinson, to explore the former Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway's North Mersey Line after viewing bridges, viaducts and junctions in Bootle. From here we will follow as near as possible the former route of the branch, passing through Litherland, Orrell Park, and Ford to Aintree, where the walk will end. Meet initially in the concourse of Liverpool South Parkway Station at 10.20 a.m. following arrival of the 09.37 a.m. departure (East Midlands Trains) from Manchester Piccadilly (dep. Stockport at 9.24) and Warrington Central at 09:58. Transferring to Merseyrail, the group will then travel to Bootle New Strand station where the walk will start. The walk will commence from there at 11.00 a.m. approx. Ticketing suggestion is to book a return ticket to Bootle New Strand. The lunch break will be at Litherland, where there is a supermarket cafe. There are opportunities for an early escape along the route. Return from will be by Merseyrail service back to Liverpool Central (for Lime Street) or Liverpool South Parkway for onward journeys to Manchester and other destinations. For further information contact Gerald Leach, telephone 01565 654342 or e-mail gerald.leach@btinternet.com.

West Midlands Group — Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th November 2017: Yet again the WM Group will be represented at the WARLEY NATIONAL MODEL RAILWAY EXHIBITION at the N.E.C. Birmingham (adjacent to Birmingham International railway station) with a sales and promotional stand. We hope to sell some Society books and generate interest in the Society and its activities. If you intend to visit the show, look us up and perhaps spend a short time on the stand to allow those of us manning the stand to have a short break.

London Group — Monday 27th November 2017: Reg Davies will associate the *SR and buses in 1920s & 1930s* at a meeting in The Rugby Tavern, Rugby Street, London WC1N 3ES (off Lamb's Conduit Street) between 6.30 p.m. and 8.00 p.m. Food is served from 5.30 p.m. Further information may be obtained from Andy Brown (07960) 479014 or apbrown35@yahoo.co.uk.

North West Group — Thursday 30th November: East Manchester rail links and associated industries. Further details of this walk will appear in a future *Bulletin*.

East Midlands Group — Friday 1 December 2017: Lecture meeting at the New Conservative Club, Beeston, at 19:00, *The Chesterfield Canal*, by Tony Lower.

North East Group — Saturday 2nd December 2017: At the Railway Institute, York, starting at 2 o'clock, John Lower will relate *the Chesterfield Canal, HS2, Cuckoo Boat, Norwood Tunnel and the new archive*.

West Midlands Group — Saturday 9th December 2017: *THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE LOCK WORLDWIDE*, an illustrated talk by MIKE CLARKE (RCHS President), commencing at 2 p.m. in the Briar Rose Hotel Conference Room, Bennetts Hill, Birmingham; location details are shown on WM Group home page. The chamber lock was vital to the success of canals. Where were they first used, and was there any transfer of technology? The talk by our President, Mike Clarke, looks at canals in China and across Europe to discover the origins of early locks, and contrasts their development with the introduction of the chamber lock to Britain.

GETTING OUT AND FINDING OUT IN GROUPS — III

North West Group — Saturday 9th December: *Britain's Railway Policy: From Post War Closures to the Policies of Today.* We are very pleased to welcome Lord Faulkner of Worcester to address the NW Group. Richard Faulkner is the co-author (along with Chris Austin) of *Holding the Line: How Britain's Railways Were Saved and Disconnected! Broken Links in Britain's Rail Policy.* The premise of the former is that the past is vital to understanding today's railway as the industry struggles to meet increasing demands, and that trimming at the margins remains a compelling argument for policy makers unaware of history. The second book looks at the contraction of the British railway network over a 50-year period and its subsequent development from the mid-1990s onwards. Lord Faulkner draws on many sources including cabinet papers, reports from whistleblowers and, again, lessons that may be learned from the past. The speaker is both critical and complimentary, where he sees each to be appropriate, in this fascinating and thought-provoking talk. We are anticipating that, whilst national policies and important events outside of the North of England need to be included, the talk will also include a more local focus — during both the talk itself and the questions from the floor which we look forward to. The talk will take place in The Friends Meeting House, 6 Mount Street, Manchester, M2 5NS, commencing at 2.00 p.m. For further information please consult the website or contact Roger Brice (01625 533959; 07702 303242; roger.brice1945@gmail.com).

East Midlands Group — Friday 5 January 2018: Lecture meeting at the New Conservative Club, Beeston, at 19:00, *Antipodean Travels*, by Tony Thompson.

North East Group — Saturday 6th January 2018: At the Railway Institute, York, starting at 2 o'clock, Gerald Daniels will chart his career on British Railways (Southern Region) and beyond. Gerald worked in the Southern Region of British Railways as Area Manager at Salisbury. Since retiring he has traded as Crookham Travel. He has also co-written *Passengers No More*, a railway chronology book.

North West Group — January 13th 2018: NW Group AGM. The AGM will be followed by the usual members' miscellany. Any members wishing to volunteer to give a short (10-20 minutes) talk, please contact Gerald Leach. The meeting will take place in The Friends Meeting House, 6 Mount Street, Manchester, M2 5NS commencing at 2:00pm. For further information please consult the website or contact Roger Brice (01625 533959; 07702 303242; roger.brice1945@gmail.com).

West Midlands Group — Saturday 20th January 2018: *JAMES BRINDLEY — AN OVERVIEW OF HIS LIFE AND ACHIEVEMENTS*, an illustrated talk by VICTORIA OWENS, commencing at 2 p.m. in the Briar Rose Hotel Conference Room, Bennetts Hill, Birmingham; location details are shown on WM Group home page. Celebrated as a pioneering canal builder, James Brindley (1716-1772) is the subject of some colourful folklore. In a bid to sift myth from history, Victoria Owens, author of *James Brindley and the Duke of Bridgewater — Canal Visionaries* (Amberley Publishing, 2015), examines his early life as a millwright, his brief if adventurous exploration of steam power and the fame which followed his canal work for Francis Egerton, 3rd Duke of Bridgewater.

London Group — Monday 22nd January 2018: Terry McCarthy will present a talk on *Dieselisation in the UK and US* at a meeting in The Rugby Tavern, Rugby Street, London WC1N 3ES (off Lamb's Conduit Street) between 6.30 p.m. and 8.00 p.m. Food is served from 5.30 p.m. Further information may be obtained from Andy Brown (07960) 479014 or apbrown35@yahoo.co.uk .

North West Group — Thursday 25th January: Walk led by Gerald Leach along the towpath of the Bridgewater Canal from Old Trafford to Worsley. Total distance, 6 miles. In the event of adverse weather conditions on the day the walk will terminate at Barton (4 miles.) Meet at 10.15 a.m. outside the Metrolink Tram Station at Trafford Bar. There will be opportunity for a pub or cafe lunch. Return to central Manchester from Worsley (or Barton) will be by bus. Several locations for early escape are available along the route. For further information contact Gerald Leach — e-mail gerald.leach@btinternet.com or telephone 01565 654342.

GETTING OUT AND FINDING OUT IN GROUPS — IV

East Midlands Group — Friday 2 February 2018: Lecture meeting at the New Conservative Club, Beeston, at 19:00, *Railway Ramblings*, by Jane Ellis.

North East Group — Saturday 3rd February 2018: At the Railway Institute, York, starting at 2 o'clock, Ian Edgar will talk on the *Peak Forest Canal and Bugsworth Basin*, the connection with the Peak Forest Tramway.

North East Group — Thursday 8th February 2018: Kirkstall Forge to Leeds. A linear walk looking at the infrastructure of, and around, the Leeds ends of the Leeds & Liverpool Canal and the Aire & Calder Canal. The distance to the L&L Canal river lock (adjacent to Leeds station) is 5½ miles. Depending on time and weather conditions there will be an optional extension of approximately 1½ miles to Leeds Dock (the Armouries). Pub lunch. Meet at Kirkstall Forge Station after the arrival of the 10:32 train from Leeds (arrive 10:38). N.B. — Check train times after the winter timetable change. Leader: Bill Jagger.

North West Group — 10th February 2018: The Presidential Address: *Development of the Chamber Lock*. The next bi-annual Presidential Address to the NW Group will be given by Mike Clarke (President 2016-18). The chamber lock is one of the most important features of canals, and their design has often been considered as part of a long and continuous sequence of development. This view tends to ignore local influences, and yet these were highly significant in the design of individual locks. Their design and construction was usually the work of local craftsmen who would have had little or no opportunity to see or discuss developments outside of their own area. In Europe, transfer of technology was probably not an important factor in canal design and construction until the 18th century. It was only with the publication of books describing the technical aspects of waterway design, such as Zonca's *Novo Teatro Di Machine*, published in Padua in 1656, Sturm's *Fang-schleusen und Rollbrücken*, published in Augsburg in 1720, and, most importantly, Belidor's four volume *Achitecture Hydraulique*, published in Paris in 1753, that local influences on waterway design became less important. The talk looks at some of the influences on the design of the lock, and how local conditions affected the way in which lock structures were built. In particular, it looks the development of locks in China, the Low Countries, Italy and France, comparing the major influences affecting lock design, and how local craftsmen coped with these in their design for locks and other hydraulic structures.

The meeting will take place in The Friends Meeting House, 6 Mount Street, Manchester, M2 5NS, commencing at 2:00 p.m. For further information please consult the website or contact Roger Brice (01625 533959; 07702 303242; roger.brice1945@gmail.com).

North West Group — Thursday 22nd February: A visit to Central Manchester to view and travel by service trains along the route of the new Ordsall Curve, which is scheduled to become operational in December 2017. The intention is to travel along the route between Manchester Victoria, Salford Central and Deansgate. After lunch, starting from the Museum of Science and Industry, there will be a walk to explore the impact of the new line on the urban landscape, including the heritage railways, bridges and viaducts in the Castlefield, Liverpool Road, Water Street and Ordsall Lane areas. The group will meet at Deansgate Station at 10:30. Options to get to Deansgate Station are train from Piccadilly by train, Metrolink and No 2 Shuttle Bus service (free) from Victoria, Shudehill and Victoria. At present it is not possible to provide exact timings of the trains as this information will not be officially available until after 10th December. More details regarding the itinerary will be given in the January-February issue of the *Bulletin* and the train times will be published in the NW Group's section of the Society website in early January. For further information contact Gerald Leach — e-mail gerald.leach@btinternet.com or telephone 01565 654342.

London Group — Monday 26th February 2018: David Maidment will give a talk entitled *Railway Safety and a Culture Change* at a meeting in The Rugby Tavern, Rugby Street, London WC1N 3ES (off Lamb's Conduit Street) between 6.30 p.m. and 8.00 p.m. Food is served from 5.30 p.m. Further information may be obtained from Andy Brown (07960) 479014 or apbrown35@yahoo.co.uk .

GROUP EVENTS — V

West Midlands Group — Saturday 17th February 2018: *THE CORRIS RAILWAY*, an illustrated talk by DAVID COLEMAN, former chairman of the Corris Railway Society, commencing at 2 p.m. in the Briar Rose Hotel Conference Room, Bennetts Hill, Birmingham; location details are shown on WM Group home page. The talk will include a brief illustrated history of the Corris Railway (1850 – 1948) and a more detailed history of the revitalisation of the railway in more recent years, describing some of the projects undertaken together with the society's plans for the future.

East Midlands Group — Friday 2 March 2018: At the New Conservative Club, Beeston, at 19:00, East Midlands Group AGM followed by a lecture about *Wolverhampton Low Level Station*, by Keith Hodgkinson.

North East Group — Saturday 3rd March 2018: At the Railway Institute, York, starting at 2 o'clock, the North East Group's Annual General Meeting will be followed by a selection of slide and digital presentations by members.

North West Group — 10th March 2018: Advance notice that Alan Crosby will give a talk titled *Coal in East Cheshire*. He will focus on coal-mining operations in the Poynton and Whaley Bridge "triangle" and will discuss associated issues of transport and accessibility. Further details will be published both on the website and in future editions of the *Bulletin*. The meeting will take place in The Friends Meeting House, 6 Mount Street, Manchester, M2 5NS, commencing at 2:00 p.m. For further information please consult the website or contact Roger Brice (01625 533959; 07702 303242; roger.brice1945@gmail.com).

North West Group – 15 March 2018: (Note that the date of this event is not scheduled for the usual last Thursday in the month.) Advance notice of a circular rail tour through Central and East Lancashire using a Lancashire Day Ranger ticket. The tour will start from Manchester Victoria Station and take an outward journey to reach Clitheroe. Full details of the itinerary, timings and ticketing arrangements will be provided in the January-February issue of the *Bulletin*.

West Midlands Group — Saturday 17th March 2018: Group AGM, followed by *CONSERVING HISTORIC WOODEN BOATS*, an illustrated talk by FABIAN HISCOCK, commencing at 2 p.m. in the Briar Rose Hotel Conference Room, Bennetts Hill, Birmingham; location details are shown on WM Group home page. Further details will appear on the RCHS website and in future *Bulletins* when available.

London Group — Monday 26th March 2018: Alan Johnson will chronicle the *History & Restoration of the Wey & Arun Canal* at a meeting in The Rugby Tavern, Rugby Street, London WC1N 3ES (off Lamb's Conduit Street) between 6.30 p.m. and 8.00 p.m. Food is served from 5.30 p.m. Further information may be obtained from Andy Brown (07960) 479014 or apbrown35@yahoo.co.uk .

East Midlands Group — Friday 6 April 2018: Lecture meeting at the New Conservative Club, Beeston, at 19:00, *Dadford Canal Builders*, by Paul Dadford.

North West Group — 14th April 2018: *The Cromford & High Peak Railway, part 2* (advance notice). This talk, by Paul Blurton, on the history of the C&HPR will include an informative session ahead of the North West Group visit to the railway on 26th April 2018. Further details of this talk will be published both on the website and in future editions of the *Bulletin*. The meeting will take place in The Friends Meeting House, 6 Mount Street, Manchester, M2 5NS, commencing at 2:00 p.m. For further information please consult the website or contact Roger Brice (01625 533959; 07702 303242; roger.brice1945@gmail.com).

GROUPINGS — VI

North West Group — Thursday 26th April: Cromford and High Peak Railway, Part 2. Led by Paul Blurton, a visit by coach starting from Buxton to view parts of the line from the coach and walk short sections of the former C&HP Railway. For this second tour it is intended to include visits to locations at the eastern end of the line. Full details of the itinerary and timings will be given in the January-February issue of the *Bulletin*. For further information contact Gerald Leach — e-mail gerald.leach@btinternet.com or telephone 01565 654342.

London Group — Monday 30th April 2018: The London Group's 2018 AGM will be followed by Colin Boocock's recollections of *Eastleigh Locomotive Works* at The Rugby Tavern, Rugby Street, London WC1N 3ES (off Lamb's Conduit Street) between 6.30 p.m. and 8.00 p.m. Food is served from 5.30 p.m. Further information may be obtained from Andy Brown (07960) 479014 or apbrown35@yahoo.co.uk.

East Midlands Industrial Archaeology Conference — Saturday 19 May 2018: Industrial Heritage Day (EMIAC 94), *Electricity from Coal*, at West Park Leisure Centre, Long Eaton, organised by Derbyshire Archaeological Society. Advance Bookings only; fee £16. Booking forms will be available at East Midlands Group meetings.

RAILWAY CHRONOLOGY GROUP

Co-ordinating newsletter Number Ninetyone and an Index to all 95 newsletters published by the Group were distributed at the end of July. The newsletter contained the following articles.

<i>Geoffrey Webb's Notes on Clinker's Register — part 8: Index to Webb's pages 1 to 77 in Newsletters 83, 8, 85, 87 and 88</i>	Don Steggles	7 pages
<i>Chester & Holyhead Railway: Aber station correspondence</i>	Gerald Leach	4 pages

Notes (n), Queries (q) and Responses (r) dealt with the following subjects.

n	<i>Wern Siding (Cambrian Rlys)</i>	Richard Maund	1 page; illus.
r	<i>Special trains, The Potteries to the Seaside: Stoke Wakes Weeks: Endon, Milton and Ford Green</i>	Richard Maund	<1/2 page
n	<i>Nottingham Victoria</i>	Richard Maund	2 pages; illus.
q	<i>Minimum Service Passenger Routes</i>	Ray Shill	1/2 page; illus.
q	<i>Penge/Beckenham Road (West End of London & Crystal Palace Rly)</i>	Richard Maund	<1/2 page
q	<i>Clinker's Register: multi-level and divided stations</i>	Richard Maund	1/2 page
rq	<i>Closure Dates: chronological conventions</i>	Richard Maund	<1/2 page
q	<i>Ossett and Flushdyke</i>	Richard Maund	1/2 page
n	<i>Cosford</i>	Richard Maund	1/2 page; illus.
q	<i>Derwenthaugh</i>	Richard Maund	<1/2 page
n	<i>Stockton: -on-Tees or not?</i>	Richard Maund	<1/2 page
rq	<i>Distington – Rowrah</i>	Richard Maund	1/2 page
q	<i>Parton Workers' Halts</i>	Richard Maund	<1/2 page
q	<i>Micklehurst (LNW)</i>	Richard Maund	<1/2 page
n	<i>Smethwick West</i>	Richard Maund	<1/2 page
n	<i>Newsletter 92 (October 2017)</i>	Ted Cheers	<1/2 page

Correspondence for the Group should be sent to 7 Wealden Hatch, Wolverhampton, WV10 8TY, or by e-mail to RCHSChronology@aol.com, from which details about the Group may also be obtained.

MODERN TRANSPORT GROUP

Co-ordinating Newsletter Number Thirty Six was distributed during August. It contained the following articles.

<i>Transport Matters</i> [Pollution, politics, trade unions, London railway construction]	1 page
<i>HS2 Phase 1 Construction Contracts Let</i> Professor Andrew McNaughton	1½ pages; illus. ½ page; illus.
<i>HS2 Phase 2</i> East Coast Franchise Chris Grayling, MP	1 page; illus. 1½ pages 1 page; illus.
<i>Bi-modal Trains</i> Hitachi, maker of bi-modal units, Class 802	½ page ½ page
<i>Crossrail — the work continues</i> Northern Line Extension to Battersea	3 pages; illus. 4 pages; illus.
<i>Aberdeen Harbour Expansion</i> Specialist Transport for Offshore Wind Turbines	1½ pages; illus. 2½ pages; illus.
<i>Internal Combustion Vehicles — their use to be curtailed</i> BMW and the Mini	4½ pages; illus. 2 × ½-pages
<i>Transport Infrastructure</i>	2 pages; illus.

Correspondence from Allan Brackenbury (AB) and Michael Denholm (MD) dealt with the following subjects: Leigh Guided Busway (AB); Cross Border Rail link (MD); new steam locomotives (MD); Scottish Government axing of Highland rural bus services (MD); new study on Borders Transport (MD).

Contribution and correspondence for the Group should be sent to Ray Sill, 100 Frederick Road, Stechford, Birmingham, B33 8AE, or by e-mail to rayshill125@gmail.com.

AIR TRANSPORT GROUP

The September 2017 mailing of this special interest group, Newsletter No 39, mailed by its co-ordinator, Mr P L Scowcroft (8 Rowan Mount, DONCASTER, DN2 5PJ), included the following Occasional Papers. Anyone requiring copies may contact Mr Scowcroft by post or Mr Wild by e-mail to wild141@talktalk.net. There may be a charge.

368 <i>The "Shagbat"</i>	Philip L Scowcroft	2pp, illus.
369 <i>The "Wimpey"</i>	Philip L Scowcroft	3pp, illus.
370 <i>The Fairey Battle: Obsolescence Personified</i>	Philip L Scowcroft	2pp, illus.
371 <i>The Short Stirling</i>	Philip L Scowcroft	2pp, illus.
372 <i>Abridge Aerodrome</i>	Alan D Simpson	16pp, illus.
373 <i>The "Brisfit"</i>	Philip L Scowcroft	2pp, illus.
374 <i>The Other Walrus</i>	Philip L Scowcroft	1p, illus.
375 <i>The DH.6</i>	Philip L Scowcroft	1p, illus.
376 <i>The Fairey Barracuda</i>	Philip L Scowcroft	2pp, illus.
377 <i>The Fairey Firefly</i>	Philip L Scowcroft	2pp, illus.
378 <i>The Vickers Valentia</i>	Philip L Scowcroft	2pp, illus.

The co-ordinator is very willing to accept papers in respect of Air Transport and its infrastructure from anyone.

RAILWAY HISTORY RESEARCH GROUP

Newsletter number nineteen was issued at the end of September containing the following principal articles:

<i>WW1 'On War Service' badges</i> (Query response)	Andrew Jones	1 page
<i>Isolated by the railway</i> (Query responses)	Anne Willis <i>et al</i>	3½ pages
<i>David Duncan</i> (Query)	Chris Rouse	<½ page
<i>Update on the Mystery Signal Box at Westward Ho!</i> (Note)	Tim Edmonds	1 page

Andrew Jones, RHRG Email Co-ordinator

LEYLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The name Leyland is not unknown in transport circles and, as might be expected, the means for moving people and goods from one place to another features from time to time in the Leyland Historical Society's series of monthly lectures. The society, described by one of our members as seeming "a go-ahead bunch," are currently celebrating their 50th anniversary season and below is a selection of their meetings in 2017-18, to be held in the Shield Room, Banqueting Suite, Civic Centre, West Paddock, Leyland, commencing at 7.30 p.m. Meetings are free to members but visitors are asked to pay an entrance fee of £5 (£10 where marked with an asterisk *).

Monday 6 November*: Dr Nick Barrett will speak on *The Rise of Personal Heritage in the 21st Century — Family History and Local History*, how these have been aided and promoted.

Monday 4 December: Lizzie Jones will dramatise in her own style *The Diary of Samuel Pepys* (1633-1703), who rose to be the Chief Secretary to the Admiralty and influenced and reformed the early professionalism of the Royal Navy.

Monday 8 January 2018: Chris Wild will discuss in *Industrial Archaeology — The Latest Past* his work with the Archaeology Unit of the University of Salford, which includes the fire recording of Wythenshawe Hall, Stephenson's 1830 railway viaduct over the River Irwell, Salford Twist Mill and Caernarvon Castle.

On Friday 18 May the Leyland Heritage Centre in rented shop premises on Hough Lane will be opened to celebrate over eight weeks the society's work during the past 50 years with displays. Further information about the society and its meetings and publications may be found on its website, www.leylandhistoricalsociety.co.uk, or from Peter Houghton, 14 Clifton Avenue, Leyland PR25 3ES; phone 01772 641604; e-mail peter@leylandhistoricalsociety.co.uk.

LOCOMOTIVE MAGAZINE

Michael Messenger has some 150 copies of the *Locomotive Magazine* dated between 1908 and 1929, alas insufficient to make a complete volume of any year. They are a marvellous source of information on many aspects of railway history and he is willing to give them to anyone prepared to take them away, but not willing to receive requests for individual copies. There is also a number of *Railway Magazines* between 1908 and 1916. Contact Michael Messenger, 144 Lake Road East, Cardiff CF23 5NQ, or e-mail michael@twelveheads.com.

“FOR FUTURE TRAVEL COMFORT”

With windows a blaze of light, and speed back to 80 m.p.h. or more — the night express will beat its own record again and again, and passenger comfort will be such that the traveller will arrive at his destination free from any of the weariness now necessarily associated with a long journey. It is not just back to pre-war comfort at which we aim, the name WILD is synonymous with progress where rolling stock fittings are concerned.

WILDS, 40 years experience in rolling stock development.

A.G.Wild's Co. Ltd, Charlotte Rd, Sheffield.

Advertisement in *The Railway Gazette*, 4 May 1945. — *Now, where did we go wrong?*

UNCOVERING RAILWAY WORKER ACCIDENTS, 1911-15

Over the past 9 months, the ‘Railway Work, Life & Death’ project has been building a new resource which will tell us a lot more about work and accidents on the railways between 1911 and 1915.

The project is a joint initiative of the University of Portsmouth and National Railway Museum (NRM). Using nearly 4000 worker accident reports produced by UK’s state inspectors between 1911 and 1915, a team of volunteers from the NRM have catalogued the information in the reports, making them more easily searchable. These reports are currently only generally accessible in hard copy, meaning that many people who would be interested in them simply don’t know they exist.

The volunteers have extracted key information about the accidents (who was involved, what happened, and so on) and entered it in a standardised and easily searchable spreadsheet, now freely available on the project website (www.railwayaccidents.port.ac.uk). This spreadsheet contains a significant level of detail, and will help raise awareness of the full reports, as well as answer questions about the nature of railway work, the types of people involved and the accidents railway employees incurred. The blog (on the website) is regularly updated with example cases, and the website contains a host of other useful resources.

It is hoped that future development of the work will extend the timeframe covered and bring in further worker accident records held at the NRM, as well as records from the National Archives and Modern Records Centre, University of Warwick. Your feedback on the current project will be invaluable in developing these next steps and is eagerly sought — do please explore this resource and let us know what you make of it!

The team can be contacted at railwayworkeraccidents@gmail.com.

LIVERPOOL & MANCHESTER AND CROMFORD & HIGH PEAK RAILWAYS — SIMILARITIES IN STRUCTURE GAUGE (*Bulletin 469/12*)

The similarities between the structure gauges of these two railways can hardly be more than coincidental. Apart from the features to which Mr Bignall draws attention the lines follow different concepts. The L&M was the first line to have many of the features that would be commonplace for the next 140 years (*e.g.*, water columns); the C&HP was the development of a canal proposal when the impracticability of constructing and supplying water to a canal crossing 20 miles of limestone plateau was appreciated. Comparison with the dimensions of the Stockon & Darlington line might be interesting.

Most, if not all, of the line between Shallcross Bottom and Whaley Top had been double. Between the junction of the spur line to the L&NWR and Whaley Top and the Peak Forest Canal sidings at Whaley Basin appear always to have been horse-worked.

Was Middleton Top locomotive depot unique in having no piped water supply? It was delivered by tank cars from Parsley Hay.

The narrow “six-foot” on the inclines made for a severe limit on the size of wagons permitted up to closure, making competition with road transport impossible; the working of Hopton Incline was just as restrictive.

Is there any evidence that L&M structures such as Sankey Viaduct and the well known Rainhill skew bridge have ever been widened to accommodate modern rolling stock as they do?

Patrick McCarthy

ALAN GODFREY MAPS

Over 3000 titles have now been published in this series. The majority of maps cost £3.00 each, but **colour-printed maps**, including those of Germany and France, **cost £3.50**. However, considerable discounts are available for those subscribing in advance for all issues or for all of particular areas. For a copy of the latest catalogue of available maps send a stamped, addressed envelope to the publisher, Alan Godfrey Maps, Prospect Business Park, Leadgate, Consett, DH8 7PW, or visit the website at www.alangodfreymaps.co.uk, where maps can be also be bought on-line. Below are the titles that have been published since August 2017. (International Standard Book Numbers should be prefixed with 978-1-78721-.)

<u>Regular Godfrey Edition, 1 : 2500 reduced to approximately 1 : 4340</u>			ISBN
Edinburgh	1.16	Leith Harbour, 1913	081-3
Essex (New Series)	78.07	Barkingside, 1939	082-0
	78.11	Gants Hill & Valentines Park, 1939	085-1
Hampshire	35.07	Alton, 1909	083-7
	83.08	Central Portsmouth, 1907	088-2
Lancashire	105.10	Guide Bridge & Dukinfield, 1934	086-8
		[includes parts of Cheshire Sheet III ^A .16, III.9 and III.13]	
Somerset	105.13	Denton (West) & Gorton Bridge, 1934	079-0
	9.15	Weston-super-Mare, 1885 (coloured edition)	078-3
	91.04	Chard, 1929	087-5
Sussex	21.16	Midhurst, 1895	089-9
Tyneside	5	High Heaton & Jesmond Dene, 1913	084-4
		[Original plan published by O.S. as Northumberland (News Series) Sheet NXC.V.5]	
	22	Dunston, 1914	080-6
		[Original plan published by Ordnance Survey as Durham Sheet VI.3]	

Purchasers of the Dunston map will receive a photograph of “The Railway Station, Dunston-on-Tyne” which they can compare with the map to check the accuracy of the Ordnance Surveyors when they revised the original 1855-56 survey in 1914. Henry De Voy gave his occupation as station master in 1906, but he actually worked for the Dunston Ferry Co. Limited. The layout of the North Eastern Railway’s Dunston Extension line from Norwood Junction to Dunston Junction and the 23 roughly parallel sidings in Norwood Yard are clearly depicted, though the staiths on the River Tyne that these sidings served are off the map. The essay by Anthea Lang on the rear mentions that, although the branch to Dunston Staiths had to give 35 feet headroom above high water in the river, its road bridges in Dunston itself limited the area to being served only by single-deck vehicles. The NER company’s Tanfield Branch runs south from Norwood Colliery past Dunston Forge, one of whose internal railway tracks, possibly isolated from the national network, extends out over a large, deep and flooded clay pit. The Team Wagonway starts from a Fire Brick Works at Low Team and, if the map is to be believed, changes its name to Team Colliery Wagonway as it crosses the Tanfield Branch on the level on top of a plate-girder tunnel-bridge over Newall Terrace (Ellison Road) and picks up a connection from Norwood Colliery. The Gateshead & District tram line runs along Gas Works Bridge Road, a single line with one loop on the map and a two-track terminal stub.

About half of the Weston-super-Mare map is labelled “Mud”; perhaps it is appropriate for those hoping to immerse themselves in the briny that sticking out from the shore at the end of a causeway a building is named as “Knightstone Baths”. More appropriate for this Society, the sheet line cuts through Station Road, alongside which are two tracks marked “Railway (Disused)” and half of a large masonry building with glass canopy similarly designated as “Station (Disused)”. The latter would be the town’s second terminal station, replaced the year previous to the surveyors’ 1885 visit by the current through station; the former may have been siding remnants of the tracks to the town’s first terminus on the opposite side of the road.