

# **WJVintage**

## **November 2022 Newsletter**



**Welcome to the November 2022 edition of the WJVintage newsletter. It may be cold, damp and murky outside as we head towards winter in the UK, but I hope this newsletter will help brighten your day! Before I continue, I should perhaps mention that, in my rush to get last month's newsletter out to you, I completely omitted to mention that my little concern celebrated eleven years in business back in October.**

**My, how that has flown – but they do say that time flies by when you are having fun – and I certainly have had enormous fun these past eleven years. Much of it is down to you, my loyal customers, without whom, none of it would have been possible. Thanks to each and every one of you for your continued support.**

**My 'What a Picture' feature this month is a little bit special. I came across it purely by chance on Youtube and it is in fact 'What a Video'. It is a brilliantly re-mastered and coloured account of a day in London during the 1930s and features some superb period footage of Waterloo station. It really is a 'must watch'.**

**The 'Out and About' feature has a bit of an emphasis on special displays this month – purely coincidental I have to say but interesting to see and I hope you will enjoy the photos I managed to take of these.**

**'What's New' is a little light again this month but hopefully in the new year I will be able to announce our next locomotive project. Something to look forward to!**

**Finally, do please check out the 'See Us at Shows' listings at the end of the newsletter. I have featured events right through until April 2023 as an aid to planning your trips out. I hope to see you at some of these. In the meantime .....**

**Stay Safe &  
Keep enjoying your trains**

**WJVintage**

**Serious Toys for Discerning Boys**

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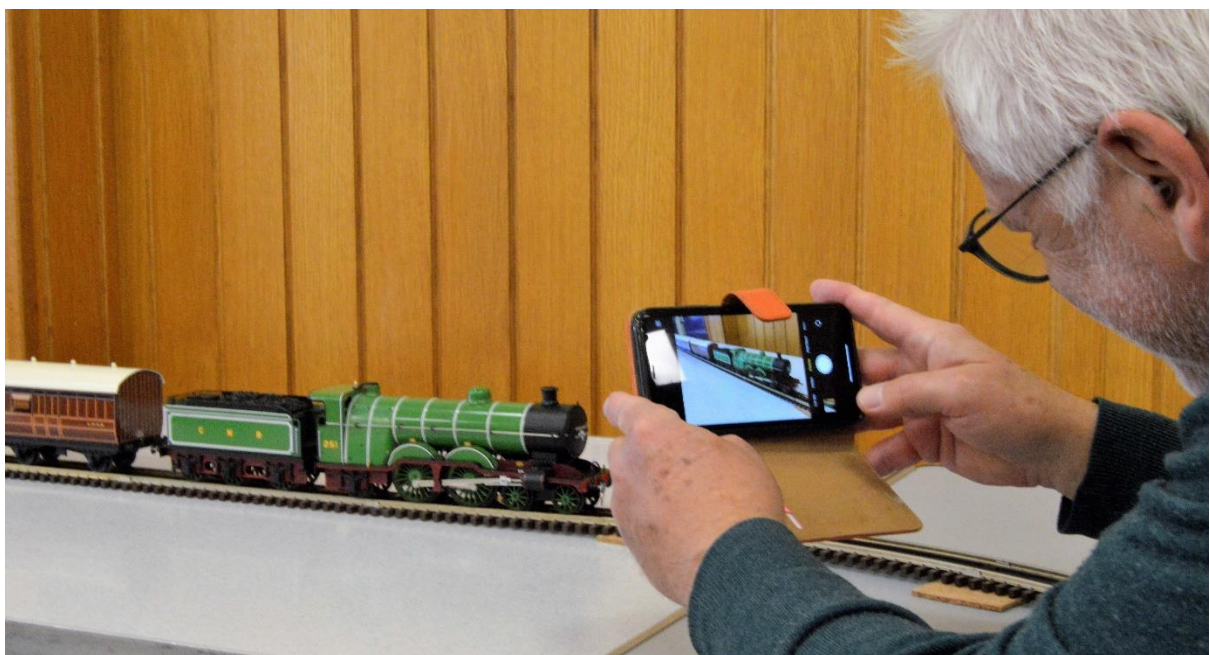


## Out & About



**Northants and Rutland O Gauge Group (NAROGG)  
Gretton Village Hall, Gretton - Tuesday October 18th**  
After the cancellation of the August NAROGG meeting due to low predicted attendance, it was so nice to see that this event was so well supported and thanks to everyone that came along and contributed to another excellent meeting.

With all that has gone on throughout the 2 years of Covid lockdowns and restrictions, coupled with the lack of availability of many of our regulars for the planned August event, Richard and I had been a little apprehensive that the turnout might be low. However, pre-event canvassing suggested otherwise, and it was really heartening to see a great turnout and some fabulous models at our October event, the last of this year as it turns out.





It was particularly nice to see one of my GNR C1 Atlantics in action and Richard was keen to get a snap of it too – so I snapped both at once 😊 Makes for quite a nice photo, I think.

Elsewhere we had everything from traditional, British outline Bassett-Lowke to more modern Lionel US outline with working bells and whistles, plus some European outline too. That is one of the things I love about NAROGG meets – there are no restrictions, anything goes, and diversity is welcomed.





Aside of the operating trains, Dave Busfield put on a lovely 'Binns Road' display including a superb Meccano WW2 Bailey Bridge diorama, complete with period correct Dinky Toys.



He also had a perfect, complete Hornby No O Silver Jubilee set made sometime between 1936 and 1941, clockwork of course.



A very unusual (well I've never seen one before) Dinky Gliding Game featuring diecast B17 Flying Fortress aircraft which fly on strings attached to a wooden frame. These were apparently made between 1937 and 1940 and Dave even has the instruction sheet to assist in setting it all up – fabulous!



Finally, there was one of Hornby's recent 0-4-0 2710 Locos produced in 2020 to mark the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Frank Hornby's first clockwork O Gauge trains. You may also note in the background a Meccano Electronics set. Unfortunately, I forgot to photograph this in its own right. What a superb display Dave, thank you so much for making the effort to bring it along for everyone's enjoyment.

I hope this gives a good flavour of what goes on at a NAROGG event. Richard and I will be meeting soon to discuss 2023, so watch this space for news of future events and we look forward to welcoming you along!



**HRCA Merseyside Group All Day Event, Preston Brook Village Hall, Preston Brook - Saturday November 5th**  
**This was to be the very last Preston Brook meeting for this group. From 2023, all meetings will move to Whitley Village Hall, just a few miles away, but offering more space and in particular lots more parking.**

Sadly, for such an auspicious occasion, the turnout was well below the norm for this group. Perhaps being on a Saturday instead of the more usual midweek slot, perhaps the fact that it clashed with the TCS show in Leicester, who knows, but it was a shame to say goodbye to the PB Village Hall with so few folk around.

It is also a shame because, as always this is an event well supported by the trade and with a fantastic O Gauge layout featuring a huge gathering of Compound locos, which must have taken some time and effort to produce. There was even a black Hornby Compound, which I believe is quite a rare beast!







I have to say, I had a really nice day. It was great to catch up with some familiar faces that I have not seen for some time (some since before the pandemic) and the welcome from the chaps up in the northwest is always extremely hospitable. So, what I missed out on in terms of turnover, was made up for in terms of a great day out.

I am looking forward to the move to Whitley Village Hall on a permanent basis next year.

Check the '**See Us at Shows**' info at the end of the newsletter for details of the first 2023 Whitley meeting.



### **HRCA Cotswolds Group Meet, Northend Village Hall, Northend - Monday November 14<sup>th</sup>**

**I have to say that it is already feeling like we were never away from Northend Village Hall. The refurbishment has without doubt improved it, but it still retains a comfortable feel. It is a shame the catering is no longer available, but the cakes are very good!**

The turnout was also very good, and no doubt contributed to the all-round nice atmosphere. The theme for this meeting was 'Classic Hornby' and we certainly saw some beautiful examples on the O Gauge layout.

It always amazes me how popular the little Hornby 0-4-0s remain, and just how well they run, both electric and clockwork, tank and tender engines.







It has been a month for great displays and at Northend we were not disappointed. Bob Field had an example of just about every style of Dublo packaging over the years, making a fantastic exhibit covering the entire width of the hall at one end.







I know that Bob has been a Hornby Dublo collector for many years and that indeed he is probably one of the foremost experts in everything Dublo, but he really surpassed himself here. This sort of display would not be out of place in a museum – and dare I say, perhaps one day that's exactly where it will end up.

I will also just say how nice it was to see and chat to Len Mills at Northend, so soon after his fairly major heart surgery. He was looking really well and was surprisingly candid about the operation and how nervous he was about it. I am so pleased that he has come through it and recovered so quickly.

## Atlantic Mystery Solved



Last month I reported on the September Bassett-Lowke Society Running Day at Digswell and showed a photo of what I presumed was a Bing for Bassett-Lowke Atlantic. Well, I'm delighted to say I had two responses to confirm my suspicions, one from Mark Carne and one from Jamie Green. As the loco actually belongs to Jamie, here is his explanation:

*I'm glad you like my non-WJVintage Atlantic! 4452 is indeed a Bing for B-L example, and both Nicholas Oddy and Mark Carne have, after studying it in the metal, concluded it was converted from clockwork to three rail and its number and lettering altered by Bassett-Lowke, either immediately before, but more likely not long after WW2. The lettering is hand-done and quite exquisite. It appeared at Digswell courtesy of Mark Carne who was handing it to David Burt for sympathetic restoration of the paintwork on the tender side not shown.*



*It came to me from an American friend who bought it over there, just before you announced your Atlantics, and explains why I opted for a BR black variant from yourself since my apple green Atlantic space was filled. It is a testament to its scale design that for transport to Mark and onwards I put it in my WJV one's box and foam packaging!*

*I hope you'll see it running at some point.*

Well Jamie (and Mark), thanks so much for confirming the origin of the loco and I certainly do hope I will get to see it running sometime in the not-too distant future.

## What A Picture!



This month's photographic offering is a little bit special. On the face of it the above photo is a shot of Southern Maunsell 2-6-0 U Class Locomotive R/N 1613 soon to be boarded by passengers at Waterloo Station in London during the 1930s. However, there is more to it than that. This is a still taken from an incredible piece of video depicting London in the 1930s. The film has been digitally re-mastered to a much higher definition, it has been sympathetically and subtly colourised, and a soundtrack has been cleverly added. All in all, it takes you back to a different era with a sense of realism that almost places you in the scene. I have to say, I was absolutely transfixed by it – most especially by the footage from around 5:35 minutes in where it transports us to Waterloo station with the comings and goings of various locomotives, plus the hustle and bustle of commuters coming and going. It's around 90 years ago now but wow, what a different world!

Below is the Youtube link. I hope you enjoy it as much as I did.



[\(20\) A Day in London 1930s in color \[60fps, Remastered\] w/sound design added - YouTube](#)

Apologies if the film is interrupted by advertising – this seems to be the way with Youtube nowadays (unless you pay to have ads removed).

## Customer Corner

This month it's that man Brian Edinboro again. This month Brian recommends a couple of interesting places to visit for a day trip. The first is one I know quite well myself from several visits and I too would recommend it. It's the Crich Tramway Village, home of the National Tramway Museum.



Located near Matlock in the Derbyshire Peak District, Crich is a real trip back in time. Visitors can ride the vintage trams along the steep period restored street up into open countryside with some spectacular views.





Down at the bottom end of the street are the tram sheds where you can view examples of all types of vintage tram. There is also a gallery for viewing the workshops where restoration goes on all the time. If you are lucky, you might even spot Sheffield Tram 46, the inspiration for the ETS Sheffield single deck tram!



Do note however, that the Tramway Village closes through the winter months and will not now re-open until 11<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

Next up from Brian is a recommendation to visit the Chasewater Railway. This lovely little preserved railway is situated close to the Chasewater Country Park at Brownhills in Staffordshire and boasts four miles of track (including a causeway over the reservoir – see header photo), operating a timetable throughout the year between Brownhill West and Chasedown Church Street. A round trip takes around 1 hour and at just £6.95 for an adult day rover ticket (2022 prices), it is really good value.





The stock consists of mainly 0-4-0 and 0-6-0 industrial steam saddle tanks, although they do also operate a few diesel shunters as well. These benefit a preserved railway in an area around Cannock Chase, where Collieries dominated the local industry in years gone by and the railways were an important development, with Colliery Company locomotives depositing loaded trains for onward haulage by the main line Companies, and then collecting empty wagons for refilling.



Thanks for the photos, Brian. I will certainly look up the Chasewater Railway when I am next in the West Midlands with half a day to spare for a leisurely visit.

## What's New

### Tram and Bus Driver/Conductor Figure Sets

Graham Lock met me at the recent Sandown toyfair and presented me with his latest creation; a pair of driver/conductor figures suitable for O gauge trams or buses.





Similar to his very popular locomotive driver/firemen figure sets, these new fellows will be very at home with one of the ETS range of O gauge trams as you will see from the photos above and below.



They are cast in white metal and hand painted by Graham himself. Price is a very reasonable **£15.00** plus P&P per set of two figures.



As a further accompaniment to these figure sets, Graham has also produced a very nice Bus/Tram Stop sign. These are priced at **£9.00** each plus P&P

Do please get in touch if you would like to add any of these to your collection. Graham will produce them initially to order so please allow a couple of weeks for delivery. Once I assess demand, I will try to keep a few of each on hand as stock items.

## Anyone for a GWR Garratt?

Here is an interesting opportunity for an unusual and quite unique loco. ETS have been approached by an overseas customer who would like them to produce a 'Never Wazza' GWR livery on their existing Garratt 2-6-0-0-6-2 tooling.

Obviously to produce this as a one-off would be totally uneconomic, but they have said that if they can get a small run of say 5 pieces together, they will do it as they already have enough parts produced.

I have mocked up below what it might look like but please note you will have to imagine the colour as it will be the darker GWR green overall (not the bright green as shown).





The loco can be produced as 2- or 3-rail (but not switchable) and will be priced at **£795.00** each plus P&P.

If you would be interested in one of these potentially very limited pieces, do please get in touch and if there is sufficient interest it will be produced sometime early in the new year.

## Black Loco-day Promotion

It's that time of the year when everyone tries to stimulate pre-Christmas sales with a Black Friday or Cyber Monday type promotion. Not to be outdone, I thought I might have a little promotion of a few locomotives that have been sitting in stock for a while now.

I am calling it **Black-loco Day** and it is limited strictly to the items listed below that are ordered before the end of November 2022 and subject to stock availability – some of these are now extremely limited and once they are gone, they are gone!



Adams Radial – Southern Black 3488

Normal Price **£450.00**

Black Loco Day Price **£415.00** plus P&P

**You save £35.00**



USA Tank – Southern Black 68

Normal Price **£345.00**

Black Loco Day Price **£320.00** plus P&P

**You save £25.00**



48XX – GWR Black 4807

Normal Price **£375.00**

Black Loco Day Price **£345.00** plus P&P

**You save £30.00**



Sentinel – LNER Black 150

Normal Price **£275.00**

Black Loco Day Price **£250.00** plus P&P

**You save £25.00**



Sentinel – LMS Black 7161  
 Normal Price **£275.00**  
 Black Loco Day Price **£250.00** plus P&P  
**You save £25.00**



Sentinel – BR late crest Black 57  
 Normal Price **£275.00**  
 Black Loco Day Price **£250.00** plus P&P  
**You save £25.00**



J94 – LNER Black 8008  
 Normal Price **£375.00**  
 Black Loco Day Price **£345.00** plus P&P  
**You save £30.00**

### REMEMBER

Offer ends midnight (UK time) on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2022

All prices are plus P&P

Whilst stocks last

Don't delay - Drop me a line at [wjvintage@outlook.com](mailto:wjvintage@outlook.com) to secure your Black Loco-day deal now!

### See us at Shows

This month I have tried to give a more comprehensive schedule of events going forward as far as April 2023. With rising fuel costs and a general decline in spending with cost-of-living rises, I have reduced my travelling to some of the general Toy Fairs and I am focussing instead on the toy meets and shows. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible over the coming months as we head through winter towards a hopefully brighter spring! Do check back on these dates with each newsletter as I may add, subtract or alter events as we go.

### Monday Dec 12<sup>th</sup> – HRCA Cotswolds Group

Northend Village Hall, Top Street, Northend, Warks CV47 2TN 3:30pm to 8:00pm **NOTE – This meeting has returned to its old venue**

**PLEASE ALSO NOTE - I am double booked for this meet so I will not be in attendance**



**Saturday Dec 17<sup>th</sup> – Bassett-Lowke Society Running Day, Digswell**

The Cowper Arms, 31 Station Road, Digswell, Welwyn, Herts, AL6 0EA –  
10:30am to 3:30pm

**Please note The Cowper Arms is next to Welwyn North Station**

**Monday Jan 9<sup>th</sup> – HRCA Cotswolds Group**

Northend Village Hall, Top Street, Northend, Warks CV47 2TN 3:30pm to  
8:00pm **NOTE – This meeting has returned to its old venue**

**Sunday Jan 15<sup>th</sup> – B-L Society, Vintage Toy Trains at Bromsgrove**

Dodford Village Hall, Priory Road, Dodford, Bromsgrove, B61 9DD  
10:30am to 3:30pm

**Tuesday Jan 24<sup>th</sup> – HRCA Cambridge Group**

Fulbourn Village Library, The Swifts, Haggis Gap, Fulbourn CB21 5HD  
5:30pm to 9:00pm

**Monday Feb 13<sup>th</sup> – HRCA Cotswolds Group**

Northend Village Hall, Top Street, Northend, Warks CV47 2TN 3:30pm to  
8:00pm **NOTE – This meeting has returned to its old venue**

**Tuesday Feb 21<sup>st</sup> – HRCA Merseyside Group**

Whitley Village Hall, Village Lane, Higher Whitley, Warrington, Cheshire WA4  
4EJ

2:00pm to 5:30pm **NOTE – this is a new venue (was formerly held at  
Preston Brook)**

**Monday Mar 13<sup>th</sup> – HRCA Cotswolds Group**

Northend Village Hall, Top Street, Northend, Warks CV47 2TN 3:30pm to  
8:00pm **NOTE – This meeting has returned to its old venue**

**Tuesday Mar 21<sup>st</sup> – HRCA Cambridge Group**

Fulbourn Village Library, The Swifts, Haggis Gap, Fulbourn CB21 5HD  
5:30pm to 9:00pm

**Saturday Mar 25<sup>th</sup> – Sandown Park (Barry Potter Fairs)**

Sandown Exhibition Centre, Sandown Park Racecourse, Portsmouth Road,  
Esher, Surrey, KT10 9AJ - 10:30am to 3:00pm

**Sat April 1<sup>st</sup> – Beckenham Vintage Toy Train Show**

St John's Church, Eden Park Avenue, Beckenham, Kent, BR3 3JN

**Monday Apr 10<sup>th</sup> – HRCA Cotswolds Group**

Northend Village Hall, Top Street, Northend, Warks CV47 2TN 3:30pm to  
8:00pm **NOTE – This meeting has returned to its old venue**

**Tuesday Apr 11<sup>th</sup> – HRCA Merseyside Group**

Whitley Village Hall, Village Lane, Higher Whitley, Warrington, Cheshire WA4

4EJ

2:00pm to 5:30pm **NOTE – this is a new venue (was formerly held at Preston Brook)**



## **Don't forget to like our WJVintage Facebook Page**

With well over 500 Facebook 'likes', the WJVintage page is almost as popular as this newsletter! That said, many subscribers on Facebook are associates, friends and family with a passing interest in what I get up to – so not my key target audience. 😊 However, it keeps growing and all the latest news is often seen on Facebook before it appears in the newsletter as updates can be done instantly rather than monthly. If you are a member of Facebook, why not look us up and give us a 'like'?



## **Plus, we also now have a 'YouTube' Channel!**

I have to confess, after a good start, the channel has been quiet for a while but I am pleased to say that a new video of the Atlantic running has now been posted.

I am hoping that this will be the first of many and that the videos will be able to recommence on a more regular basis in future.

## **Ordering from WJVintage is Easy**

### **Online**

Please use the **WJVintage** website as a shop window and then place your order by using the dropdown menu on each product page to select and submit the item you wish to purchase. This automatically sends me your details and I will be in touch to confirm your requirements and take payment. Alternatively select what you want and then give me a call or email me. Whichever method you use I will get back to you asap and I can confirm stock, particularly for highly limited items, and postage options. Please see below for full contact details.

### **Credit Card**

We have a credit/debit card facility, so you can telephone and place your order with us by calling **07711 092497** – please have your card to hand when calling.



### **Cheque**

If you would prefer to pay by cheque, that is no problem either. Just download the order form from our website and complete your requirements. Then make a cheque out for the total and post both order form and cheque to us at the address shown. Please make cheques payable to **WJVintage**.

### **Email**

Alternatively, you can place your order by email and payment can then be made either by card, PayPal, direct bank transfer or cheque. Please note our email address is: [wjvintage@outlook.com](mailto:wjvintage@outlook.com)

### **BACS**

A growing number of customers are now choosing to send money direct to my account by BACS transfer. If you would like to use this method, please contact me and I will send you my bank account details.

Stay Safe Everyone!

*Paul*

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