

WJVintage

July 2023 Newsletter



Welcome to the July 2023 edition of the WJVintage newsletter. I am perhaps a little light on news this month as I am pleased to report that my wife and I have been on holiday. I am also pleased to say that with this break I have achieved one of my 'bucket list' ambitions and have visited Northumberland, one of the parts of the UK I have never been to before. As you will see above, I always look out for railway connections wherever I am.

We were lucky enough to find a beautiful walk that started and ended at the Heatherslaw Light Railway – please see the 'Out and About' feature below for a little more detail.

This month sees a bit of a theme developing along the lines of preserved narrow gauge and other modelling gauges of railways. Scroll down to discover more amongst the various features.

As promised last month I have now listed a few more items from the 'Brian Edinboro Collection'.

This time there are a couple of new locomotives, plus some interesting diecast pieces just to add a bit of variety. Scroll down to the 'What's New' feature to see what's available. I am still sifting through some of the smaller items from Brian's collection so there should be a few more to list next month.

That is all for this month. As Europe is suffering a severe heatwave, we here in the UK are currently enjoying a typically wet and windy July, just as the kids break up from school! Enjoy the rest of your summer and

**Stay Safe &
Keep enjoying your trains**

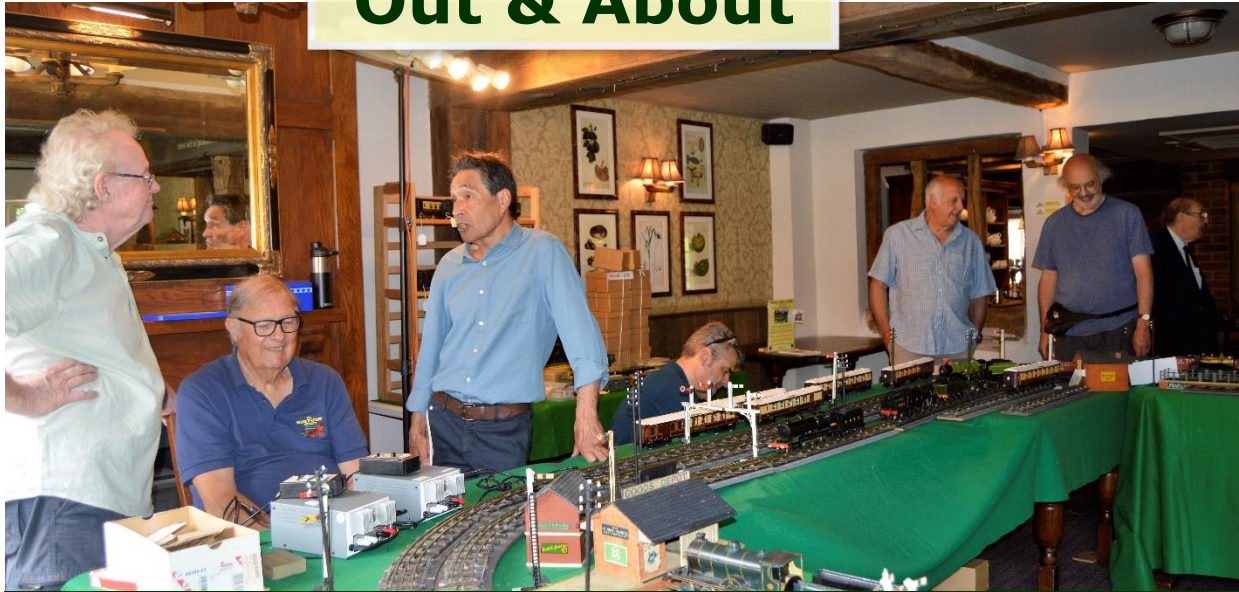
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Out & About



Bassett-Lowke Society Running Day – Digswell, June 24th.

There was another great turnout for this summer Bassett-Lowke Society running day. I say it every time, but it is true - every Digswell meeting seems to throw up something particularly interesting or rare. This meeting was certainly no exception.

Nice locomotive though it is, there is nothing terribly rare about Marcus Peacock's Seven Mill Models LNER B17 2-6-0 'Doncaster Rovers' but just take a look at the Pullman coaches it is hauling.



Marcus says these were sold to him as Fred Newman coaches, but he isn't so sure of this. What is for sure is that they are probably the most exquisite Pullman coaches I have ever seen! They are certainly worth another look.





The quality, finish and level of detail were just superb, and I think everyone at the meeting took time out to take in their beauty.

Another real rarity was the superb LNER J39 Class 0-6-0 tender engine shown below. This is by James Beeson, generally acknowledged as one of the top professional model manufacturers of his time. Everything about a Beeson model oozes class and quality and this locomotive is certainly no exception. The lining is superb and the cab detail is fantastic, a really lovely model!



Moving onto items that are more unusual/interesting, how about the lovely LNER 4-4-0 below, that is the handiwork of Alan Boldero? Starting life as a rather humble and tatty Bassett-Lowke Prince Charles, Alan set about fully rebuilding the locomotive. It was then expertly re-painted and decorated, plus makers plates were fabricated and applied to cover up the clock work keyhole. I think Alan has done a really lovely job of this and it just goes to show how you can breathe new life into old toys that might otherwise have been consigned to the dustbin. Of course, a degree of model engineering and painting skill is also required but Alan appears to have both in plentiful supply!

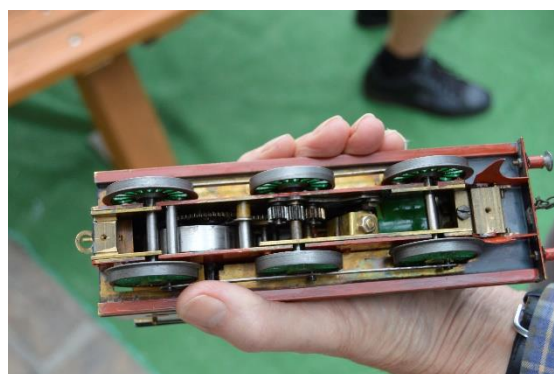
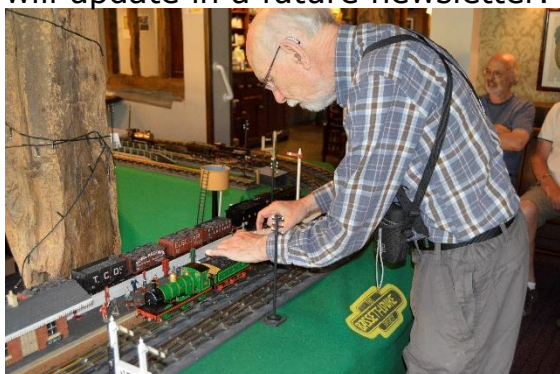


A really lovely clockwork engine was also being put through its paces. This, however, was no ordinary clockwork mechanism, as it glided around the layout at a very smooth, realistic speed.

A quick word with the owner quickly revealed that the motor has a custom-built damper fitted so the speed is regulated, and it maintains a nice scale speed without the rather frenetic early acceleration that we normally associate with clockwork locomotives.



I did actually speak for a while with the owner but stupidly failed to commit details into my notepad – schoolboy error! So, I am afraid I cannot recall his name or details of the damping system. If I find out, I will update in a future newsletter.



Finally, a little bit of self-promotion. A question I am often asked is: 'Will it run on raised centre third track'? Well, as I had the prototype with me, I just had to give the new LB&SCR Atlantic a quick run on the raised centre third Bassett-Lowke track. The answer is – it runs beautifully and was much admired by those present! 😊



The next Bassett-Lowke Digswell running day is planned for Saturday 16th September. They take place in The Cowper Arms, just a short walk from Welwyn North Station. I highly recommend a visit if you can get along.



A Trip to the Heatherslaw Light Railway, Northumberland July 8th

As I mentioned above, one of our holiday walks started and finished in the car park of this nice little railway. Sadly, there was no way our dogs could be persuaded to set foot in the carriages, so I had to be content with watching the odd departure and arrival rather than taking a ride

The Heatherslaw Light Railway is a 15 inch narrow gauge railway created by engineer and enthusiast Neville Smith. Passenger services began in 1989 and the railway now runs for two miles between the villages of Heatherslaw and Etal, with the route following the picturesque River Till and around the outside of Letham Haugh (a haugh being a low-lying meadow in a river valley).



We were incredibly lucky during our visit as the weather was just perfect. It isn't always that way up in Northumberland and the railway has suffered major flooding problems in the past – with 2008 being the worst and left the railway in a state of total devastation. Indeed, it is only operating today due to the hard work and dedication of a band of volunteers who refused to let the damage destroy everything they have helped build.

If you are ever up in this part of the world, this is well worth a visit. Etal, at the end of the line is a really beautiful village and has a lovely pub,

tearoom, and castle. Just across the Railway/River bridge at Heatherslaw there is a working Corn Mill which you can visit and there are some rather nice gift shops there too. You can make a real day of this trip and get to ride both ways on the railway – what more could you ask for?

Customer Corner



You can't keep a good man down! Brian Edinboro may be disposing of his quite comprehensive O Gauge stock (see below for items still available) but he has not lost any of his enthusiasm for railways and is still getting out and about at weekends. Last month he took a drive over to the Amerton Railway between Stafford and Uttoxeter.



The Amerton Railway is a charity, dedicated to preserving the narrow-gauge railway heritage of Staffordshire and is staffed entirely by volunteers. It operates narrow gauge locomotives and rolling stock that were mostly built or worked in Staffordshire. The first passenger trains ran in 1992 and today the railway runs through the local countryside around a 1-mile circular track. There is a small museum on site and visitors can also take tours of the sheds and workshop, where volunteers are always happy to chat about the preservation work they are carrying out.



If you are in the Stafford area, I reckon this railway could be well worth a look. Thanks very much to Brian for sending in the photos and for giving me the heads up on a railway I had never heard of before!

Every Picture Tells a Story

Something a little different this month – a general interest photo (photos actually) but with a model railway connection.

Most of you will be aware that I currently spend a few days each week caring for my mother down in London. She lives in Chingford and about 300 yards from her house is the entrance to the Ridgeway Park. A few yards away from this entrance is a post box and on a recent visit we noticed that it has been beautifully and very skillfully 'yarn-bombed' with an crocheted top. This consists of a green base with a steam locomotive hauling a tennis net carriage, and two gunk figures are playing tennis either side of the net. What does it all mean?



Well, the Ridgeway Park is well-known for its extensive tennis courts which can be hired by the hour, and it is also the home of the Chingford and District Model Engineering Club. This club has been based at the Ridgeway Park since 1945 and builds and operates mainly 7¼" and 5" gauge model railways, offering passenger rides every Sunday and bank holiday Monday between April and the end of September.



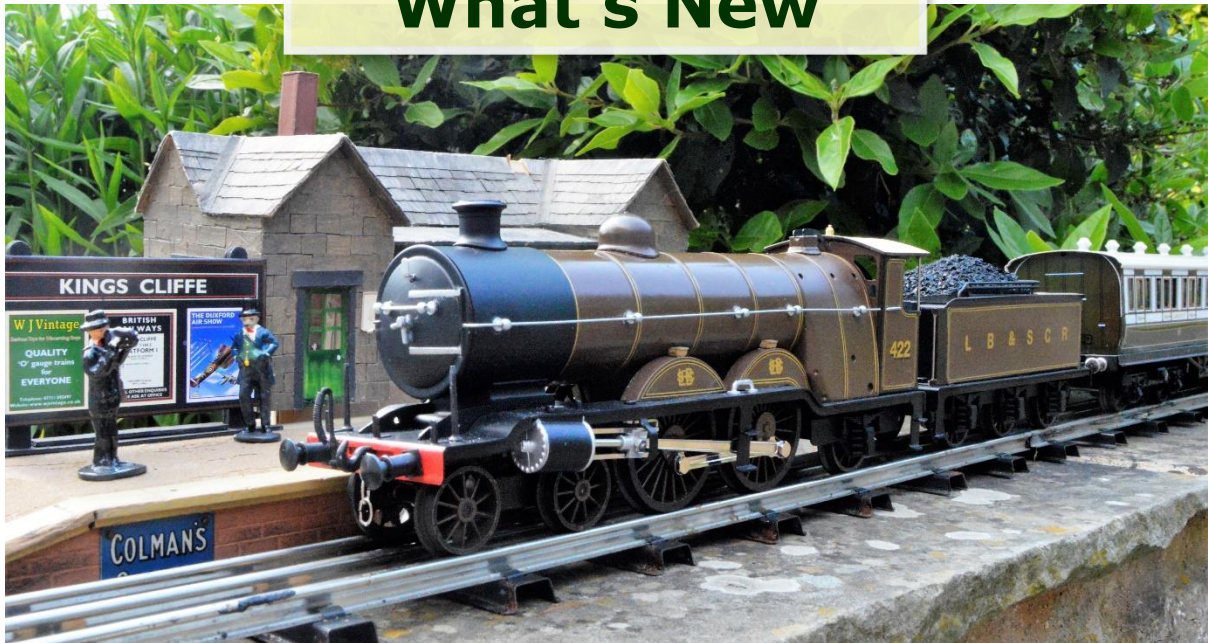
The first train ran on the 4th August 1945. This started as a single line back and forth. Since then, the club has grown with a circular kidney shaped raised track and an out and back dual gauge 5" & 7 1/4" line with signal box. This has now been further extended with double track, viaduct and new carriage sheds, complete with recently acquired new carriages, part funded by donations. They have also added a 45mm track to run gauge 1 & narrow-gauge rolling stock.



If you are ever in that part of London on a Sunday, why not pop in to see the trains running? If you are feeling particularly energetic, you could even book a game of tennis as well.



What's New



LBSCR H2 4-4-2 'Brighton' Atlantic

Well, the fabulous reaction I have had to the new H2 'Brighton' Atlantic continues, and I now have just 19 pieces to sell. The remaining locos are actually very evenly spread with the following still available from each of the liveries:

LBSCR Umber – 5 Pieces

SR Maunsell Green – 5 Pieces

SR Malachite Green – 5 Pieces

BR lined Black – 4 Pieces

The total allocations of each livery are shown in the table below so you will see that the LBSCR Umber livery remains the best seller, closely followed by the SR Maunsell Green.

Thanks to everyone that has placed a pre-order for one of these. Your support during difficult financial/cost of living times is really appreciated. If you haven't seen the prototype in person (and I appreciate that many of you won't have yet) do remember, I have a short clip of the loco in action on my Youtube Page – here is a link:

<https://youtu.be/hiU1XtYIIvg>

Plus you can take a look at it from a few more angles below:





The specification will unsurprisingly be pretty similar to the GNR Atlantic but with one additional key feature – **this version will be 2/3 rail switchable**. Here is the full list of features:

- Precision engineered, (7mm to the foot) O gauge model.
- Hand-built tinplate construction.
- Beautifully tampo-printed authentic liveries.
- 2/3-rail switchable.
- Includes ON/OFF isolating switch.
- 10–14 Volts DC operation.
- Twin motors with super-smooth clutch drive mechanism.
- Fitted with standard Bassett-Lowke/Ace style couplings on tender.
- All-metal construction
- Suitable for minimum radius 27-inch (686mm) curves.
- Will run on raised centre third track.



Production numbers are going to be kept pretty low and my allocation across all liveries will be just **75 pieces** so I would advise early ordering to avoid disappointment.

The planned liveries/quantities are as follows:

Livery	WJVintage Allocation
LB&SCR lined Umber	30
SR lined Maunsell Green – ‘Trevose Head’ and ‘The Needles’	25
SR lined Malachite Green – ‘South Foreland’	10
BR (early crest) lined Black 32424 ‘Beachy Head’	10

We do reserve the right to amend these allocations according to demand but the total quantity produced will remain 150 total with just 75 pieces allocated to **WJVintage**

Below are some images found on the internet to show how the Southern and BR liveries will look.

Lined Maunsell Green



Lined Malachite Green



BR Lined (early crest) Black



The superb H2 Atlantics are scheduled to start arriving from October 2023 and the prices will be a little more than the previous GNR examples. The cost for the 'Brighton' Atlantics is anticipated to be **£750.00** each plus P&P.

Note - We will do everything we can to maintain this price but if there are serious cost fluctuations between now and production, we do reserve the right to review pricing and will advise all customers as quickly as possible.

Please get in touch to pre-order/express interest in any of the 'Brighton' Atlantics and I will take your details. Progress updates will be available via this newsletter over the coming months.

...Still available - C1 Atlantics

I do still have a few of the C1 Atlantics left in just two schemes
LNER (superheated) BR (superheated)



These are now in very limited quantities and are priced at **£695.00** each plus P&P

Graham Lock Figures

I am still taking orders for Graham's lovely figures. The latest is Isambard Kingdom Brunel and there is also WJ Bassett-Lowke.

Cast in white metal, then beautifully hand painted in a traditional style gloss finish, these lovely, collectable pieces are also supplied in superb

period style 'Graham Lock' and 'Bassett-Lowke' branded boxes. Overall height of Brunel figure is 49mm (approx.) Lowke 47mm (approx.)



Priced at just **£11.00** each plus P&P, Graham will make these to order so please let me know if you would like one and I will get him working on them. I would anticipate a lead time of around 2 weeks given the labour-intensive nature of these pieces. It also sometimes depends on how soon I will next see him to take delivery, or whether he will post them.

Some Pre-owned Opportunities

From time to time, I am offered pre-owned items that are surplus to requirements.

Here are a few such items, all in excellent condition, some with very little use at all – please see individual descriptions for further descriptions on condition.

Darstaed ES2/ES2E Double Track Engine Shed with Extension

A rare opportunity to acquire one of the fabulous Darstaed engine sheds. This one was purchased by a good customer but has never been assembled or used and is now surplus to requirements. The main engine shed has had one end removed ready to attach to the extension. The Instructions and all ancillary items are included.



Actual boxes shown left, photo of finished engine shed above is a stock website photo.

This 'as new' set is offered at just **£220.00** plus P&P. Note - I'm afraid it is sold as a set – I cannot offer the items separately.

The Brian Edinboro Collection

Seven Mill Models Ivatt 2-6-0, Class 2 'Mickey Mouse' – 46473 BR (early crest) lined black

This loco is also presented in excellent condition **with the exception of** the fall plate. For some reason it has been glued in the up position and bent slightly, presumably to keep it out of the way. I have returned it to its normal pivotable state, but it has left a little damage from the glue. It is a fairly easy fix and hardly noticeable when running but it needs to be considered and I have shown it in the photos below.



The box is in good condition and the instructions are present.
The price is **£550.00** plus P&P which is a considerable saving over a new one (RRP £675.00)

Bassett-Lowke (Corgi) J39 Class 0-6-0 – 64757 BR (late crest) unlined black



This locomotive has been well used as you will see from the photo of the pick-up spoons below. As such it is not offered in pristine condition, but it is nevertheless a very good, very useable locomotive and is, I think, priced accordingly at **£250.00** plus P&P.

The box is in very good condition too and the instructions are present. There is a smoke unit fitted but this has not been tested.



WJVintage C1 Atlantic 4-4-2 – 62822, British Railways unlined black



This is quite a difficult one for me. I wasn't expecting to be selling a used Atlantic whilst I still have new ones available! As you can imagine this loco is not very old and has seen very little running. It presents in almost 'as new' condition, as does the box – instructions included.

Priced at **£650.00** plus P&P so a reasonable discount from the 'brand new' price.

Corgi GS 2S - 109 inch WB Land Rover with Rice Pony Trailer and including Pony Figurine



Produced in Gt Britain between 1962 and 1968, this is the improved set which features suspension on the Land Rover. As the pony's rug is unpainted, I will assume this is a late production model (cost cuts always come later in the production cycle). It is however in really nice condition (not mint but very good). Unboxed, scale 1:43.

Price is **£15.00** plus P&P

Dinky 190 Caravan Cream/Blue



Produced between 1956 and 1960 this caravan is in nice, play-worn condition with a few paint chips as can be seen in photos. The tow hook is complete, and the jockey wheel is in place. Tyres both look to be in good condition. Price **£5.00** plus P&P

Corgi 1:50 Scale Double Deck Buses (all unboxed)

Corgi produced their double deck buses in 1:50 scale, a little small for O Gauge but not by much, and they actually look pretty good on O Gauge layouts

Guy Arab – London Transport (Black & White)



Excellent all-round condition. Does have a sticky patch on roof where a price label was applied – should clean off easily. Complete with mirrors fitted.

Price **£8.00** plus P&P

Utility Bus – London Transport (Maples Carpets)



Excellent all-round condition. Also has a slight sticky patch on roof where a price label was applied – should clean off easily. No mirrors fitted.

Price **£7.50** plus P&P

Routemaster – London Transport (50th Anniversary/Zetters)



Excellent all-round condition. No mirrors fitted and missing handrail on rear entrance.

Price **£7.50** plus P&P

Utility Bus – Aberdeen Corporation Transport



Excellent, unmarked all-round condition. No mirrors fitted.

Price **£7.50** plus P&P

Corgi 97089 Bedford Pantechicon Masons Removals



Boxed and in good all-round condition with paperwork. There are some tar-like marks on one side and roof which should be easily cleaned off. Some slight paint wear on roof.

Price **£5.00** plus P&P

Corgi Showman's 24401 Leyland 8 Wheel Truck – Codona's Pleasure Fairs



Boxed and in good all-round condition with paperwork, certificate and mirrors.

Price **£10.00** plus P&P

1:43 Car Job Lot (all unboxed)



Dinky Ford V8 Pilot
Oxford Daimler Hearse
Oxford Humber Pullman - Rothschild
All in reasonable condition (Humber is missing one wing mirror). They do need a bit of cleaning.
Bargain price of **£10.00** plus P&P the lot

See us at Shows

This month I have tried to give a more comprehensive schedule of events going forward as far as the end of 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 Model Railway club meets and shows. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible over the coming months. **Do check back on these dates with each newsletter as I have already had to add, subtract or alter some events and may continue to do so as necessary.**

Tuesday July 25th – HRCA Cambridge Group

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

Monday Aug 14th – 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**

Saturday September 9th – Sandown Park (Barry Potter Fairs)

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

Saturday September 16th - 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

Tuesday September 26th – HRCA Cambridge Group

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

Saturday October 28th - Yorkshire, Vintage Toy, Tinsplate and Live Steam Railways Fair 2023

Eccleshill Mechanics Institute, 93B Stone Hall Rd, Bradford BD2 2EW –
10:00am to 4:30pm

Saturday November 11th – Sandown Park (Barry Potter Fairs)

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

Saturday December 16th - 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



Don't forget to like our WJVintage Facebook Page

With close to 600 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, remember our 'YouTube' Channel!

I have to confess, after a good start, the channel has been quiet for a while but the most recent post is a rather nice video of the prototype LBSCR H2 Atlantic running.

I am hoping that there will be more to come 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

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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