



CLUB UPDATE

East Bedfordshire Model Railway Society Issue No 6 Jan – Feb 2014

Introduction

Happy New Year to everyone involved with the club, past and present, and to all your families too.

You'll all be aware the exhibition is in 4 weeks, and so it's all hands to the pump to advertise and prepare for the show - and a reminder to dig out items for the second hand stall. We've had a call to arms to take flyers to the St Albans show, but don't forget any other opportunities.

The last part of the year is often quieter, but there's still been continued construction to Finchley's trackwork and the never-ending story of updating Sutton's wiring. With the show approaching Cheriton has had a rare airing and shake-down.

There's also been some interesting news from Hornby, more of which later in Notice Board.

The Picture



Here's Standard 4 4-6-0 75034 (of 1e Bletchley), only two months old, at Dunstable North. And the connection with EBMRS? It's on an afternoon excursion and passed through Finchley. It's 12 September 1953, and the train left Kensington travelling via Willesden, Finchley and Harringay, turning off to the GN to Welwyn. It then took the branch via Ayot and Dunstable to Leighton Buzzard, thence Winslow and the ex-GC line through Aylesbury and High Wycombe before taking the link line at North Acton back to Kensington. The stock is quirky - 6 WR side corridor coaches plus cafeteria car 41697E in the centre!



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FINCHLEY ROAD ST JOHNS WOOD

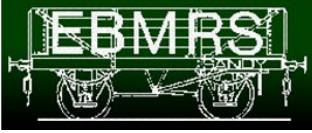
We manage to maintain progress despite attention to the other layouts

Electrics	Structure
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board BBG requires plugs fitting and fault-testing to be completed. • Board BBK in progress 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baseboard construction of the final boards is in progress.
Baseboard Top (scenic, trackwork)	Operation, presentation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pointwork for fiddle boards BBU (east end), BBT and BBV (west end) is now being quality checked by Bob, and board BBZ - the last complex trackwork required - will shortly be started. • All the main railway-related buildings are now complete bar the signal box - and Bern has agreed to build it from the Churchward Models kit I purchased for the role. • Bern is also now considering how to building the cutting walls at the eastern end of the station, and a selection of goods yard building oddments. • Backscene will be considered when baseboards are complete 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lighting is yet to be discussed - will need to be considered at the same time as any backscene construction • Pelmet was originally mooted, to be discussed later • The design concept allowed for a repeat signal diagram display at the front of the layout - consideration needs to be given on how to progress this. Andy's electronics took this into consideration I believe.

CHERITON BISHOP

Cheriton is in preparation for the show

Electrics	Structure
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The layout has been tested and a few glitches discovered -point fettling in progress. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
Baseboard Top (scenic, trackwork)	Operation, presentation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The layout is in very good order and requires only minor scenic work. • Colour-blending scenery to backscene - probably impractical to consider in the time before the show this year. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convert curtain to Velcro



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SUTTON-ON-SEA

Generally less progress this month with attention switched to preparing Cheriton Bishop

Electrics	Structure
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flying leads to replace plug & socket, though ensuring practical for each board. Dave Sutton and Jim have been putting in the hours, with Dave working an occasional Monday evening to help push this along. Board 3 is progressing well. Dave's soldering iron tip is of some concern - it's been bent to solder around corners. • Service point motors & clean contacts Has gone well, but has a lull whilst the wiring work concludes on the current boards. This and the rewiring will be 80% complete after board 3. • Investigate current control panel provision for signal operation and determine how to set up their operation • Additional switch for turntable track isolation • Fiddle yard microswitch for road 4 requires a fix 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrade bolts to dome-headed/wing nut/large washers: spec to be agreed and items sourced, costed and approved for purchase • Replace end boards : spec to be agreed, material sourced/costed/approved for purchase • Control panel covers required to clear switches and be sufficiently strong to bear other items on top for transport : spec to be agreed, material sourced/costed/approved for purchase • Provide a ledge on control panel mounting boards, making it easier to align and fit the control panel • Docks extension and support arrangements to be scoped, designed and costed
Baseboard Top (scenic, trackwork)	Operation, presentation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repair any damaged backscene • Repaint roadways - a start has been made at the country end of the layout, and the roadway by the engine shed. • Platform roof glazing bars • Assess remainder of layout board by board for repairs • Check all points are correctly adjusted • Check and level turntable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Label switches to points for diagnostics, produce an overlay illustrating point numbers, ensuring matched to naming convention under the boards • Investigate practicalities of installing a control panel-powered push-button mic system • Investigate improved clips for retaining lighting units to baseboard legs • Convert the curtain to be mountable by Velcro instead of drawing pins



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TIMETABLE

John Wakeman informs me this remains the situation for our shows, and he is following up to check the circumstances.

There are no scheduled steam services in the area in January or February.

EBMRS SHOWS		Other events, local shows etc (nominally within 30 miles)	
8 Feb 2014	Biggleswade (Cheriton Bishop)	8 Jan	Hoddesdon Toy & Train Fair
17 May 2014	Ely (Sutton) TBC	11 & 12 Jan	Chilterns show, St Albans
8 & 9 Nov 2014	Spalding (Sutton) TBC	26 Jan	OO9 Society show, Barton-le-Clay
7 Feb 2015	Biggleswade	6 Feb	Theydon Bois Toy & Train Fair
29 & 30 Mar 2015	Ally Pally (Sutton) TBC	15 Feb	Milton Keynes show
15 Sep 2015	Grantham (Sutton) TBC	15 & 16 Feb	Watford Finescale show
		22 Feb	Saffron Walden show
		8 & 9 Mar	St Neots show
		22 Mar	Chesham show
		29 Mar	Sawston show



NOTICE BOARD

- Oerlikon units - We have purchased copies of underframe drawings from the HMRS, and after some concern the quality could be poor they are found to be fantastically detailed, clear and well presented. We now have a full set for a 3 car Oerlikon unit, with the suggestion that the drawings we have obtained are actually for the earlier Siemens units but are believed to be probably almost identical.

A review of the details of the parts required has begun and we will look to see if London Road Models will consider manufacturing them with the information we now have.

- Suggestion for a mini layout for testing? This is a genuine suggestion as an additional project to run alongside the major build of Finchley - but it would need to be of 'micro' proportions.

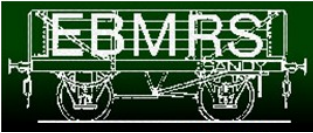
- Jim asks if there is any working plan for maintenance at shows
- Operating sessions required to teach new members how to operate the layouts
- Question over availability of suitable stock for layouts should Bern or Alan B be unavailable.
- Hornby has announced an interesting set of new models for this year:

LSWR 700 Black Motor 0-6-0 - numbers 30339, 346, 355, 687 and 688 were shedded at Feltham in the late fifties and were used regularly on the NLL.

GE J15 0-6-0 - a number of these were shedded at Stratford and could be seen on the NLL as under-powered replacements when the allocated power was not available. There's also scope for these on Sutton

GE D16/3 4-4-0 - mainly used in East Anglia, especially the M&GN route, but some were based at March and 4 based at Lincoln in their last years - 62535, 564, 568 and 599 - which makes them a requirement for Sutton!

GN K1 2-6-0 - Several of these were shedded at Darnall and Colwick, but in particular 61720, 61725 and 61727 operated out of Boston or Immingham making them a must for Sutton again.



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Member layouts

For those of you who didn't know, Dave Sutton is building a model based on Sandy. This is located in a large purpose-built room

The model is a very large undertaking, but the model still requires a lot of compression to fit in the room. Dave has also spent a lot of time laying track, starting scenic work and electrics, and then scrapping all the trackwork because it didn't feel right. He's now going through a hand-built track rebuild at some not unreasonable expense!

Here's a couple of pictures to whet your whistle - I'll get Dave to write a few extra notes for us for a future issue. All the track you can see here has been removed ready for the rebuild.

