

# **ANNUAL REPORT 2012/13**

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## INTRODUCTION

and

## HIGHLIGHTS

It gives me great pleasure to bring you the annual report of the Society for 2013, a year of progress and consolidation.

- ⤴ The LS coach continued its shakedown mileage together with the driver training programme, under the watchful eye of Norman Taylor.
- ⤴ We again supported Severn Valley Railway WW II week but not without incident – see vehicle reports.
- ⤴ We went to Beamish on 3 days for Halloween and two out of three Christmas Fair days.
- ⤴ We displayed the K, L, LS in Grainger Street, Newcastle and in collaboration with NEBPT.
- ⤴ Once again we worked during the year with NRM Locomotion Shildon doing shuttle duty, our own annual rally and a new opening in November that of 14 days in the museum with the LS and the L on display. Under cover, secure and in the warm.
- ⤴ Workshops acquired a milling machine as a donation from John Wise, a well wisher, together with a 6” centre lathe from SW Durham Training School, plus all accessories, which was grant funded through T & W museum development funds. We also bought a power hack- saw for £30.
- ⤴ Tony Swanston started up a customised electric clock production line which has been selling well.

## EVENTS - Period 01/10/12 to 30/11/13

The statistics for the programme year are set out below and speak for themselves

TYPE	EVENT DAYS	TOTAL MILES	TOTAL ENGINE TIME
K	12	875	28
D	14	900	29
L	22	1894*	81 * includes 600 miles to SVR
LHS	5	450	12
LS	15	1167	34
TOW T.	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>5286</b>	<b>184</b>

**On the basis of 6 regular drivers, plus (3 occasional ) the 6 drove roughly 30 hours in a season. Average event mileage, excluding the run to SVR gives about 70 miles per event, = 4.5 gallons of fuel @ 15mpg = £26 per event (average).**

**VOLUNTEER HOURS - over the last 3 years we have averaged 4800 hours per year, with 200 + days in the year, 950 individual volunteer shifts, at an average of 5 hours per shift . Obviously workshop banter, tea drinking and chatting still took its toll but we had on average 15 individual weekly attendances again from an annual paid up membership of 42. During 2013 the volunteer hours have been maintained which is a remarkable achievement and members should be well pleased with such a result.**

### **VEHICLE REPORTS**

**AHN 451B – DAIMLER - a list of minor issues is being worked on by the Teesside group headed up by Dave Phipps and Ray Knox. Work includes painting both upper and lower saloon floors and the back platform. The demister motor has been repaired and refitted whilst the differential oil seal will be looked at in 2014.**

**GHN 189 – BRISTOL K5G – will continue its restricted programme in 2014, however the Teesside group will also work through a schedule of minor works including the Tee Cutting and polishing of the panels, which has been successfully done with the L type this year, thanks to Kevin Openshaw.**

**LHN 860 – The L - workshops re piston ringed the 5LW engine during last winter and it is now a joy to start however it failed to hold brake vacuum on its way to Severn Valley Railway for the WW II week in June. Returning to Aycliffe, a 6 hour round trip from Trowell Services, ( a bit hairy with only handbrake but thankfully little traffic on the A1M at 1am) workshops sorted the problem out and we were back at Kidderminster by the Wednesday of the full week. The Society should be well pleased with this result and so too were SVR.**

**NDL 769G – The Newtonian – is to have mechanical work done after the Christmas break and it is proposed to return it to United livery in the Spring. It is also intended to use the vehicle much more in 2014 as its exposure is currently very limited.**

**304 GHN – The LS has continued its shake down mileage and workshops have looked at a small list of minor issues which have appeared during the 1000 miles done this summer. We re installed a spare wheel having recovered its carrier from our Luton friends who had taken it as a donation from us some years ago.**

**FHN 923 – The Old Darling – We obtained PRISM funding last year and were successful in getting £4000 of grant ( 50%) has been paid to us up front. It did the**

honours for Charlie at the end of August 2012 when the “Chief Engineer” needed his expertise, unfortunately this and other operational pressures has put the restoration programme back and we are presently trying the negotiate an extension of 12 months with PRISM

**PROJECT WORK - MHN 131W – Leyland National.** Workshops have just replaced the rear brake shoes, whilst some near side repanelling work has been carried out. The need for other priorities will see the National go onto the back burner in Unit 25 and may not re appear for sometime.

**NEW HOME PROJECT –** again this is a back burner job but not forgotten. As you know we vacated Cargo Fleet Depot on the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2012 but were delighted to be offered 6,500 sq ft of space on Riverside Park Middlesbrough as a new facility. We floor share with 3 narrow gauge locos, a half scale model of HMS Endeavour, (ex Cleveland Centre) plus a number of military vehicle restorers. My recent contacts with Middlesbrough Council suggest that they are happy to let us be forgotten about and bearing in mind the state of the economy and the low take up take of industrial premises we should not have to worry about garaging the Daimler and K type for some time to come.

#### **AUDIENCE DEVELOPMENT & OUTREACH**

The Archive and Digitization programme continues. We now have a phone line and broadband connected into the Units. Tony Swanston is to look at removing obsolete IT equipment. The proposed links with Locomotion, Head of Steam and Beamish will now follow which will enhance our educational outreach and influence in the region. Chris Hall continues his filing and scanning of the photographic collection. We also have a grant of £1000 to upgrade the web site and Peter Mitchell is currently dealing with this issue, supported by Dave Young with his photographic and video collections.

#### **ADMINISTRATION, FINANCE and ORGANISATIONAL REVIEW**

The Secretariat also continues to do its work and we have had no particular problems or surprises to deal with. Derek Kirby and Tony Swanston have assisted with PC work, e bay sales and the website updating.

In October the Newcastle Council for Voluntary Services, under the guidance of Sarah Carr, carried out an organisational health check on us. It highlighted two important issues, namely that of Trustee Indemnity, see below and the up grade of the website, again this is in hand due to grant money of £1000 having been awarded to us for this work from the Museum Development Fund.

**As a consequence of the report we have also just taken out Trustee Indemnity insurance as a precursor to the the issue which the Trustees will investigate as to whether or not the Society should become a registered CIO ( charitable incorporated organisation) There is an item on the AGM agenda about this.**

**Peter Smith and Neil Cockburn continue to run the finances which is very much appreciated. The balance sheet is attached. Peter Smith reports that the Society has had another successful year financially ( yes we are solvent!) with an increase in income over last year. This has been across several income streams, in particular vehicles have worked well at various events which includes other museums, ie Locomotion and Beamish, rallies, and promotional bookings which brought in £6,387. VAT recovery exceeded £2,600, plus sales, 2012 gift-aid and grant aid for small projects. We have yet to recover gift-aid for 2013, which will show on next years figures, but is anticipated to exceed £3,000. This will run in parallel with the on line recovery of VAT even though Peter Smith would still like to use paper!! When Peter's BP has settled we will likely have to look at e banking.**

#### **FORWARD PLAN and ACCREDITATION**

**We adopted a new forward plan in 2010 and were Accredited in 2012. We are due for a revue of accreditation in 2014 but this date may slip due to pressures on the Arts Council from their back log of museums applications awaiting accreditation. We continue to support the voluntary independent museum workshops run by Sarah Carr, Senior Museum Development Officer, Discovery Museum. This is a useful way of building up contacts and hence programme bookings. It is also an excellent way of finding out about current trends and grant funding streams.**

#### **CURATORIAL REPORT - JOHN WILKS**

**Members should continue to feel justifiably proud that all the museum items ( both large and small) in the Society collection are being looked after and cared for in such a way that they will be available, not only for the current membership to enjoy but also for future generations.**

**The Society's high standing in the regional museum network is reflected by the fact that Locomotion and Beamish have asked the Society to provide vehicles for them on numerous occasions in 2013. This should not be dismissed lightly, there are many who would jump at the chance but may not even get one.**

#### **CONCLUSIONS**

**the consolidation of our efforts, together with the streamlining of some of our activities continues. The recent health check audit by Louise McGlenn from NCVS was a useful overview of the Society's operations. The Trustees will address the issues and report back to the next AGM with their findings, views and recommendations/decisions for the future.**

