

London & North Western Railway Society

Chairman's Statement for the year of 2019

2019 was very much a year of consolidation for the Society, building upon the foundations that were laid in 2018, putting in place lessons learnt and making further improvements to our structure and organisation that continues our fitness for being a line society in the 21st Century. Our volunteers throughout the year have once more focused their efforts on furthering our objectives, for which we owe them a great deal of thanks.

Our Study Centre has continued to receive visitors on many Saturday and Wednesday openings throughout the year as well as the working days and special events that are held there. Sourced from a charitable donation, the main study room has had a new carpet at no cost to the LNWR, and further subtle improvements have improved the comfort and functionality of the building for researchers. Bought in 2018, the scanning equipment has been in continuous use on open days to take digital records of the many plans and documents that we hold. The Archives and Management Sub-Committee under the Chairmanship of David Patrick have managed the above work as well as the ongoing liaison between the LNWR and the SRS over the past year admirably, and our thanks goes to them all, as well as to all those who donated to the Study Centre and supported the important work carried out there.

The *Journal* continues to be in a rich vein of form with well researched and high-quality articles featuring, from authors old and new. The *Newsletter* throughout the year has provided reports on activities within the LNWR as well as LNWR related news in the wider world. 2019 saw the LNWR launch a new supplement, the *LNWR Modeller* to widen the appeal of our regular publications. All of this work is being managed by the Publications Sub Committee, and the fruits of their labours are showing through in our publications. Our sincere thanks go to Bob, Tony and the team for their efforts.

It has been some time since the Society published a book or portfolio, and like the old saying about buses, 2019 brought not one, but two new Publications. *The 42FT Carriages of Richard Bore* by Richard Ball and Peter Chatham is a detailed insight into these carriages built on Francis Webb's radial underframes, with many of them being rebuilt onto bogies, a crucial development as LNWR carriages grew in size. The text is supplemented by many photographs of the carriages, and by drawings specially prepared for the publication.

The Diary of an Engineman, Thomas Baron, by Edward Talbot is a well presented record of the diary as kept by Thomas in the formative years of the LNWR. The diary which details his daily working trips and the engines he worked upon, is supplemented by period maps, photographs, drawings and paintings by the renowned artist Gerald Broom. This publication is important in recording the working conditions and practices of the early railway period, and also its family history link as the diary records many names of the men who Thomas worked with.

After receiving over 40 entries in the different categories, the winners of the LNWR Modelling Competition were announced at the Stafford Model Railway Show in February. The standard of modelling was exceptional throughout, providing a tough job for the judges to decide upon the winners. The winners were: Twickenham MRC – Kensington Addison Road, Peter Warren – L&NWR 3-car Oerlikon set, John Dale – Crewe Long Firebox Goods Saddletank and Stephen Kingett – 3.5 inch Gauge locomotive, No.2181 "Eleanor". Following the end of the competition, Richard Ellis kindly donated his highly commended competition entry, a 1:24 scale model of a signal box to the Society, and it will now be proudly displayed at our study centre and Society events.

The 24th May saw a significant event for the Society when the memorandum of understanding was signed between the L&NWRS and the National Railway Museum. This memorandum recognises the Society's specialism in the London and North Western Railway, and work has begun on the joint research projects that are to be undertaken.

I was delighted to attend the At Home Event of Francis Pearce and to also be more involved in the running of trains on the day. In a picturesque setting, it was most enjoyable to once more get a chance to run high quality scale length trains. Thank you, Francis and Trish, for your wonderful hosting of a superb event open to all Society members.

The 2019 AGM saw members ratify changes to keep the constitution relevant and allow for the trustees to take advantage of modern communication methods to conduct business external to the regular meetings. All of the members who stood for election were elected as Trustees, which is a ratification of approval by those members present of the direction the trustees are leading the Society. Regretfully, Tim Birch resigned a short time after the AGM and has been much missed by his fellow trustees. In his short time as Secretary, Tim, out in place many new policies and procedures that will stand the executive Committee in good stead for the future, work for which the trustees are extremely grateful, and thank Tim. A replacement Secretary from the membership has not yet been forthcoming.

The first Committee meeting of the newly elected trustees in July saw a re-organisation of our sub-committees and the remits to which they operate. The remit of the sub-committees has been defined inline with the strategic aims which were developed following the 2018 meeting and feedback from the questionnaire which was sent out in late 2018, with the results published in early 2019. The work done by the sub-committees will now be in line with the Society's strategic aims.

The LNWR Open Day at the Severn Valley Railway, Kidderminster once more saw many members and the general public enjoying the varied exhibits and talks during the day. LNWR Locomotives and rolling stock once more ran merrily on the Gauge 1 track on the station concourse.

The annual Steam-up was very well attended by members, with no less than 16 locomotives gathered from around the country offering train rides around the fabulous track at South Cheshire Model Engineering Society's Headquarters. Hot on the heels of the Steam up came the annual Crewe Luncheon which was once more well attended by members, with the afternoon speaker, Michael Bailey, being thoroughly enjoyed by all those who attended. Our sincere thanks go to our Society President, Ken Wood, and his team for once more organising these fantastic events.

There are many officers who carry out work for the LNWR which is vital to our existence but rarely are their praises sung. The Society recognises the work and efforts of Alan Shepherd, Membership Secretary; Matthew Cadbury, Drawings Officer; Norman Lee, Photographic Officer; Philip Millard, Modelling Officer; Julian and John, Webb site team; Mike Musson, Promotions Officer; Ellen Fry, Sales Officer; and finally, Steve Johns, Publications and Exhibitions Officer.

It was thus a great shock to the Society to learn of the sudden passing of our Press Digest Officer Chris James. Chris had been a loyal Officer of the LNWR since 2001, and his presence will be much missed as an Officer and his attendance at Society gatherings. In our Society President, Ken Wood's words:

"Chris always had a lovely beaming smile whenever we met. He was a lovely person and will be missed by all who came to know him."

David Bond *D. A. Bond*

Chairman London and North Western Railway Society

London & North Western Railway Society
Registered Charity - No 1110210

Income and Expenditure Account Year Ended 31st December 2019

	<u>Income</u>	
2018		2019
£19,525.96	Subscriptions	£19,143.41
£23,467.49	Donations	£2,760.02
£9,494.60	Council Grants	£112.94
£6,114.76	Sales	£6,111.90
£3,276.00	Sub-Rentals	£3,378.00
£310.00	Scanning	£97.00
£85.33	Interest	£94.37
£3,755.00	Gift Aid	£3,750.00
£281.00	Study Centre Cash Sales/Donations	£427.55
£66,310.14		£35,875.19
<u>Expenditure</u>		
<u>Study Centre</u>		
£5,129.32	Rent	£4,895.32
£1,257.15	Rates	£1,152.20
£956.43	Insurance	£790.37
£744.31	Telephone & Broadband	£304.25
£400.00	Electricity	£1,147.66
£4,560.00	Repairs & Maintenance	£200.00
£27,255.74	Furniture & Equipment	£1,843.24
£747.10	Misc supplies	£539.86
£41,050.05		£10,872.90
<u>R&A</u>		
£3,246.57	Acquisitions	£1,813.60
£285.28	Zenfolio & HRA etc	£267.01
£200.00	Photographic Collections	£0.00
£3,731.85		£2,080.61
<u>Publications</u>		
£5,848.00	Journal	£5,631.00
£1,263.50	Newsletter	£1,172.00
£0.00	LNWR Modeller	£624.00
£1,384.92	Production	£1,458.00
£0.00	Portfolios	£5,330.00
£4,000.00	Provision	£0.00
£344.60	Notices and Questionnaire	£485.00
£3,184.12	Postage	£5,319.68
£16,025.14		£20,019.68
<u>Sales</u>		
£2,964.33	Book purchases	£726.56
£99.75	Postage	£374.19
£40.03	Ebay Costs	£51.90
£3,104.11		£1,152.65
<u>Activities</u>		
£330.00	AGM	£375.00
£0.00	Committee Expenses	£0.00
£0.00	Administrative Postage	£411.78
£153.00	Exhibitions	£48.00
£142.84	Publicity	£154.95
£280.56	Website/Webhosting	£436.01
£92.99	Paypal Costs	£141.15
£0.00	Misc Expenses	£0.00
£999.39		£1,566.89
£64,910.54	Total Expenditure	£35,692.73
£1,399.60	Excess of income over expenditure	£182.46

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2019

2018	2019
Assets	
0.00 Society's library and records and relics	0.00
8068.26 Cash at bank - Current Account	7649.92
560.10 - Community Account balance per statement	481.98
44148.03 - Reserve Account	42520.12
0.00 - Librarian	54.54
Accrued revenue	
1.31 Cash in hand - records and relics	191.08
2466.46 Paypal Account	382.57
3755.00 Gift Aid recovery debtor 2018	3762.35
2019 est	3750.00
<hr/> 58999.16 Total	<hr/> 58792.56
Liabilities	
11139.06 Subscriptions in advance	10750.00
400.00 Accrued costs - electricity	400.00
5000.00 Provision for Long term liability for maintenance	5000.00
4000.00 Provision for future publications	4000.00
<hr/> 38460.10 Net Assets	<hr/> 38642.56
Represented by	
37060.50 Balance brought forward	38460.10
1,399.60 Excess of Income over expenditure in current year	182.46
<hr/> 38460.10	<hr/> 38642.56

It is the policy of the Society to write off the Library, Records and Relic purchases to current expenditure and accordingly they are held on the books at no value. The estimated replacement value for this material is :-
Library £18,500, Archives £55,000 and Relics £50,000

David Bond

(Hon. Chairman)

Michael Hollick

(Hon. Treasurer)