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Welcome to this additional Newsletter which outline some additional activities offered by Merseyside Chester & North Wales and the North East branches.

This is followed by our draft proposals for the Members' Weekend at Norwich during the weekend 15th - 17th October 2004.

LLANGOLLEN RAILWAY

Brake Van Trip 2nd July 2004 Merseyside, Chester & N.Wales Branch

A Midsummer Brake Van Special has been arranged for Friday evening 2nd July and affords a unique opportunity to view the Llangollen Railway by steam locomotive and brake van. The train will depart Llangollen Loco Yard at 18.30 hours and travel via the station then on to Carrog with various stops for photographic opportunities, including run-pasts. The tour is limited to 50 participants, and very limited opportunities (to be drawn for) will exist for footplate rides. Fare for the tour is £12.00 and members should contact George Jones, 24 Fairmount Road, Wrexham LL13 9GX (Telephone 01978 352010 or by Email to: georgeinllan@btinternet.com).

TYNE & WEAR METRO

"The Tyneside Centenarian Railtour" 4th July 2004 North East Branch

Originally planned to be in conjunction with the Society's 75th Anniversary celebrations last year this tour will now take place on Sunday 4th July. The tour will start at 11.00hrs from St. James (Tyne & Wear) and will last for about 3 hours, finishing the journey at St. James'. Much "rare" track has been requested and is included in the itinerary. Cost for the tour is £13.00 and to book on this tour please contact Jim Sedgewick, N.E. Branch Secretary at Brick House Farm, Danby Wiske Road, Northallerton DL6 2NT (Telephone 01609 772115).

MEMBERS WEEKEND & OFFICERS CONFERENCE

Please find below draft proposals for the Members' Weekend at Norwich 15th - 17th October 2004. Whilst I expect little to change final details will be circulated and available on my return from the USA in mid-July.

Accommodation Swallow Nelson Hotel Norwich

Nightly Room Rate £30.00pp per night [to be settled by guests individually]

Saturday Dinner £21.50 per person (Menu and Guest Speaker information to follow)

Sunday Lunch: £11.95 (Booking details to be discussed)

Friday 15th October 2004

Members and guest will be greeted at the Swallow Nelson Hotel Norwich (opposite the station. In the evening there will be a presentation by Norfolk Railway Society Member Richard Adderson (also co-author with Graham Kenworthy of East Anglian themed Middleton Press histories). Richard will give an illustrated presentation on the railways of around the Norwich including the Wymondham to Fakenham (Now the Mid Norfolk Railway. Local freight traffic, summer holiday extras to the coast and a look at the London main Line.

Saturday 16th October - Outdoor Visits

We will leave Norwich by coach for the North Norfolk Railway at Sheringham where a short time will be available to look around before leaving by the 10.30 train to Weybourne, via Holt. At Weybourne we will have a guided tour of the engine and carriage & wagon facilities. During our time at Weybourne patrons will be provided with a packed lunch and drink voucher (to be exchanged at the station restaurant).

After the visit, and an opportunity to watch/photograph arrivals/departures of following services, we will make the short road trip to Aylsham where a visit to the Bure Valley Railway will take place. This will be followed by use of our Charter Train for the journey to Wroxham. As we are expected to be the only service using the line that afternoon, and subject to operating conditions on the day, we have arranged photo stops and stations to also include false arrival and departures.

On arrival at Wroxham we will rejoin our coach for the return journey to our hotel where there will be time to socialise, visit the Persian Market or just relax before dinner.

The cost of the Saturday excursions, including packed lunch is offered at £23.00 per person.

As usual on Sunday Morning the Officer's Conference will take place at the hotel whilst we will provide information (in advance) for anyone who might wish to make their own way to visit the Mid Norfolk Railway or other facilities in the area..

As part of the package to be distributed we will include full timetables for local railway services One-Anglia/Central as well as the preserved railways. Tourist information about Norwich and the surrounding area will also be included for those who wish "to do their own thing".

The booking form will appear in the September RO with a Web Site version available from the end of July for those wishing to make