

NEWSLETTER 34



NOVEMBER 2009

Website: rcts.org.uk

BRANCH LIAISON SECRETARY

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Please take particular notice of items 34.01 & 34.02 relating to the change in Value Added Tax and Branch Financial Returns

34.01 VALUE ADDED TAX

As you are well aware Value Added Tax will from the 1st of January 2010 revert back to **17½%**.

Will all Branch Chairmen and/or Secretaries please inform their branch treasurers and any other officer claiming expenses on the standard Society claims forms to ensure that VAT is claimed at the standard rate of 17½ % on all purchases which are made from Friday 1st January 2010. Any claims relating to the period up to and including the 31st of December will be claimed at the old rate of 15%. This also applies to any VAT claims on branch and other returns.

As of the Friday 1st of January 2010 VAT will be calculated as **7/47ths** of the total cost.

It is essential that all fill in their returns and claims correctly with the VAT claims shown at the new rate of 17½%. Failure to do this may see your documents returned for correction.

34.02 FINANCIAL RETURNS

The Society's financial year ended on the 31st of October. Reg Wood, Society Treasurer is now preparing the accounts showing the Branches financial position at that date. Treasurer's packs giving the information that is need from your Branch were distributed at the Members' Weekend in Coventry at the end of October.

If any branch has yet to receive a year end Treasurer's pack will they please contact Reg Wood or John Redgate immediately.

For an interim period, please send all Branch Expense Claims, VAT returns and Publication Sales returns to;- John Redgate, High Lees, 7 Frieth Road, Marlow SL7 2QT. Tel./fax 01628 476265.

e-mail: chairman@rcts.org.uk

John is for the time being consolidating these figures on Reg's behalf whilst he gets to grips with the national Society's financial information.

Please send publication stock holdings audit figures only to:- David Pick, 6 Harrowick Lane, Earls Barton, Northampton NN6 0HD.

Tel. 01604 810613. e-mail: northampton@rcts.org.uk

34.03 LOCOMOTIVES OF THE LMS – The Hughes & Stanier 2-6-0s.

It was announced in the November RO the imminent publication of the latest volume in this series. I am now pleased to report that the book has been published and stocks have been delivered to our stores in Coventry. The Society is indebted to David Tyreman who has put in many years of research and hard work to produce this excellent book and I am sure that David is very proud with the finished book. I am sure that when you purchase your copy you will be very impressed.

This is the first publication that the Society has prepared 'in-house' and by that I mean that all the text has been typed up from the manuscripts prepared by David and the photographs were scanned and edited by members of the publications committee. Many others were involved with the production of this book to which the publications committee would like to extend their thanks.

All that was sent to the printer was a memory stick and a disc containing all the photographs.

Full details of the book appeared in the supplement in the centre of the November RO but what you may have noticed that there was no members discount voucher on the supplement. The voucher has been a regular feature of past supplements whenever a new book is published.

Do not worry; a discount to members does still apply, as has been in the past. On production of a current membership card, members can purchase from branches 'The Hughes & Stanier 2-6-0s' book for **£20** as opposed to the full retail price of £22.95. Members wishing to purchase a copy by using the order form in the November RO can do so by adding their membership number after their name. Purchasers using the society website can still obtain the discount by following the instructions on the website. The discount is valid until the end of 31st October 2010.

Those who order using the order form or via the website should note that delivery before Christmas cannot be guaranteed unless John Wood gets the order by the 6th of December.

Branch stocks holdings can be ordered from John Wood, Publication Sales Officer in the normal way. Contact details for John are in the RO or in the Branch Officers' Handbook page 9.02.

The books have been received from Amadeus Press in boxes of **14** so whoever orders branch stocks can they please take this into consideration when determining branch stock requests.

34.04 PUBLICATION CATALOGUE

The new colour insert that appeared in the November RO is now available separately for use on sales stands and exhibitions or at branch meetings. This plus the revised Society Membership application forms are available from Bob Ballard. Bob's contact details are in the Branch Officers' Handbook page 9.01.

34.05 SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION

Please remind all members to renew their Society membership before the 31st of December. This will ensure continued membership of the Society and reduce the costs of sending out reminder letters to those who fail to renew on time. It also saves our membership secretaries a considerable amount of work in not having to send out reminder letters; after all they have both been very busy in sending out the original renewal letters in October.

34.06 THE RAILWAY OBSERVER

Volume 79 will be the first for the ROs when the pages in the December 2009 edition surpass 700 and that is a milestone in the RO's history.

The January 2010 edition will have blue banners on the front cover and the editorial committee have announced that the section on Rail Tours will cease with the January 2010 issue and any reports will now be included in the Regional Notes.

As mentioned in the Newsletter 33, a Branch History feature will replace Management Profiles later in 2010 but Callum MacLeod has yet not worked out the exact date that they will appear.

Bristol, Cambridge and Cheltenham will be the first three branches to appear (in that order) so members in those branches need get their thinking caps and get pen to paper so to speak and of course David Kelso will want some photographs to accompany the articles. Although some branches are considerably 'younger' than others even these branches have a tale to tell, who's idea was it to form a branch, how members became branch officers and I am sure there is an anecdote or two to relate. On completion branch histories should be sent to Callum MacLeod.

The full script with photographs will appear on the Branch home page on our Website and the edited version in the RO. So remember you can write as long or short a history as you have time for.

Peter Clark will be taking on the role of Western Editor from January as well as continuing compiling the Nostalgia Corner page.

David Kelso, RO Picture Editor has revised the guidelines on submitting photographs for the RO. The revised guidelines appear as **APPENDIX A** to this Newsletter.

It is recommended that branch secretaries print off a few copies of the guidelines and place them with branch fixture lists or with the indoor fixtures signing-in register or book.

34.07 2010 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

As announced in Newsletter 33 the 2010 Annual General Meeting will be a one day event held at the Hallmark Hotel, Derby on Saturday the 24th of April. The MC has invited Nick Pigot, editor of 'The Railway Magazine' to address the meeting prior to the commencement of the AGM Refreshments will be provided for a fee. We hope to announce shortly that we will have another speaker after the AGM itself, so as to round off the day. Although no formal arrangements have been made for this weekend any member who wishes to stay at the Hallmark Hotel on the Friday or Saturday evening can reserve accommodation by contacting the hotel directly and make a reservation at a special rate of £39 per person inclusive of a full English breakfast. Contact the hotel on 01332 345894 and quote 'RCTS'. Alternatively write to The Hallmark Hotel Derby, Midland Road, Derby, DE1 2SQ

Further details will appear in the RO in 2010

34.08 2010 MEMBERS' WEEKEND

The Bristol Branch are the hosts this event and this will take place from Friday the 22nd of October until Sunday the 24th of October. The venue for the weekend is the Marriot Hotel in Swindon. Swindon is of course world famous for the production of Honda cars. That's me banned from the weekends' activities for sure!

Proposed visits are to the 'GWR Railway Village Museum', STEAM Museum, The Swindon & Cricklade Railway', a visit to the Swindon Outlet Retail Centre and Lydiard House.

Further details will appear in subsequent Newsletter and in the RO.

34.09 2011 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING WEEKEND

The North East Branch will be the hosts this event and this will take place from Friday the 15th of April until Sunday the 17th of April 2011. The venue for the weekend will be The Caledonian Hotel in Jesmond, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

34.10 LIBRARIAN'S PHONE NUMBERS

Please note that the Terry Silcock's FAX / Voice Mail phone number 0870-131-8711 is no longer operational. Terry now has a new FAX number which is **0705-341-0783**. His BT phone number is 020-8866-3432. The preferred method of communication with Terry is by e-mail:-

librarian@rcts.org.uk

34.11 SECOND HAND BOOK PRICING AND SALES LISTS

Over the last 30 years the Library has generated a computer data base of over 13000 books which are either part of the Library's extensive loan collection and or have been sold from the Library. The file also includes the marked price for sold items. This, as a trial, has been offered to some branches in the form of Excel spread sheets. These files will be shortly uploaded to the FILES section of **RCTSOfficers@yahoogroups.com** for general use by branches. It has been necessary to divide it into two parts as Terry's files are limited to only 8190 rows. There is a spare column within the spread sheet for you to enter a flag or marker. The files are sorted by author, but you can of course sort in any other sequence, if you so wish. Alternative file formats can be made available on request.

Suggested procedure is that if you wish to list and price any books, you open the spread sheet, search for the author and then put a "flag" in the flag column. When you have entered all the books, sort on the flag column, and you will have a section of the spread sheet which lists all these books with a price.

Print this section and you have a generated sales list or copy and paste it to where you wish.

The Library uses a flag combining source initials and month, such as RR0904 for books from RR listed in April 2009. Any queries to Terry's e-mail:- **Librarian:@rcts.org.uk**

34.12 THE RAILWAY OBSERVER ON CD-ROM

You will have read in the November RO, that there are more ROs available for sale on fully searchable CD-ROMs: 1935, 1936, 1937, each with its locomotive stock book. A high quality version of the 2008 RO is ready, but has yet to be announced and there will be a special members' price of £6.50, (£16.50 to non-members). If successful a similar version of the 2009 RO will be available by summer 2010.

Thus at present all issues from 1932 to 1951 + 1958, 1968 each with any published supplements are available for sale. Further CDs which should be available before Christmas are: ROs for each of 1952 (with Stock Book), 1953, 1954 and a CD with a compendium of all RO Indexes 1928 to 2008. Work is in hand in preparing 1931 and earlier issues for publication. A new order form, listing all the available CDs has been produced and appears as **APPENDIX B** to this Newsletter. Could you please place some copies of this out at exhibitions and branch meetings so as to generate sales. Remember to include your branch code on the form since a donation will be made to your branch funds of £1 for every CD ordered on these forms. Unfortunately because these CDs are VAT rated direct sales by branches is not available.

34.13 NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION

The Newsletter is distributed to all Branch chairmen and secretaries directly either by Royal Mail or by e-mail. It is also distributed to other Branch committee members or Society Officers or who have sent me their e-mail addresses. However not all Branch committee members are on e-mail and

I would urge all Branch chairmen and secretaries to take the latest Newsletter with them to the next branch committee meeting so that **ALL** Branch committee members get sight of the information contained in the Newsletter. If there is anyone who would like to be included on my e-mail circulation list and get the Newsletter direct please send me an e-mail to the **liaison@rcts.org.uk** and type:- 'RCTS – Newsletter Request' in the subject box.

Alternatively, as reported in Newsletter 30 in October 2008 any Branch Committee Member, Editor or Ed. Rep for the RO or other National Officer who has an Internet connection could receive a copy of this Newsletter as an attachment to an e-mail, if they belong to the **RCTSOfficers@yahoogroups.com** e-mail group. To join the e-mail group, which is private and a free service, it is necessary to send an e-mail to The Society Librarian, Terry Silcock at: -

RCTSOfficers-subscribe@yahoogroups.com including your "job title" and membership number so that Terry can confirm that you are eligible to join the group.

If you have any problems please send an e-mail to Terry at **Librarian@rcts.org.uk**

34.14 FORTHCOMING EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & MEMBERS WEEKENDS

		DATE	BRANCH	VENUE	HOTEL
2010	AGM	24 th April One Day Event	Management Committee	Derby	Hallmark Hotel
	MW	22 nd – 24 th October	Bristol	Swindon	Marriot Hotel
2011	AGM	15 th to 17 th April	North East	Newcastle upon Tyne	Caledonian Hotel
	MW		????		
2012	AGM	tba	West of England	tba	
	MW		????		
2013	AGM		????		
	MW		????		

Further details will be published in the RO, Newsletters and on the website nearer the event. The MC is looking for branches or regional groups to volunteer to host future events. If any branch or group is able to host an event please contact Alan Cooke for the AGM weekend and myself for the Members Weekend.

The information contained in this newsletter is for use of RCTS Officers and Members only and should not be communicated outside the society.

And finally from myself and all my colleagues on the MC, I would like to wish you all a Very Joyous Christmas and a Very Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Our thanks to you all within the Society for your hard work, dedication and efforts throughout the year in keeping all aspects of the Society and the branches vibrant and maintaining the high profile of the Society.

W. Gordon Davies
Branch Liaison Secretary

20th November 2009

APPENDIX A



PHOTOGRAPHS FOR THE RAILWAY OBSERVER

A guide to submitting images for publication (Updated Nov. 2009)

FILM:

We can accept negative B+W, negative colour and positive colour transparencies of all film sizes. Do not send old glass plate negatives without first consulting the Picture Editor.

PRINTS:

Prints should be of at least 6"x4" (15x10cm) size and should be on glossy paper. Wet process or professionally produced digital prints are acceptable. Prints from ink jet printers may only be acceptable if they are from a 6 ink or more printer and are on Epson Premium Glossy paper or its equivalent. Prints from "fast process" high street stores are unlikely to be of sufficient quality. Dye Sublimation and Laser prints are acceptable.

DIGITAL:

After downloading the image from the camera please DO NOT manipulate the image except in the case of RAW files which should be converted to a TIF or JPG file format using the camera provided software. DO NOT crop, resize or resample the file. Rename the file to include the loco. number and/or location and your surname. Make a copy of the file for the purpose of manipulating the image for your own use. Do not make and submit prints from digital images send only the original digital image file by CD-Rom, Memory Card or Memory Stick or by email. Submit the disc, card or stick with a set of thumbnail prints of the images. Be sure the thumbnails print with the file name. **We will not publish images already sent to or have appeared in national magazines including electronic publications except in the case of unique historic situations. (Added Nov. 09)**

SUBMISSION: (Revised May 09)

DO NOT send discs in Jewel Cases. Place the disc in a disc envelope which can be purchased from Staples/Jessops etc. and mail in a padded envelope. Write your name on the disc with a suitable pen. Memory Cards or Sticks should be placed in a plastic bag. Negatives and transparencies should be placed in film envelopes, not in paper envelopes and be individually labelled. Prints should be labelled on the back or the full caption details written on the back in pencil. Do not use a ballpoint pen. A fully comprehensive caption must be provided with each image submitted. If sent by email the caption text should be in a separate paragraph within the text of the email and must contain full and accurate details of the subject matter. Please do not add the caption text to the file name. Images submitted without a fully detailed caption will not be considered for publication.

Send all material to the Picture Editor at Al Mafrak, George Hill Road, Broadstairs, Kent CT10 3JT or email to publicity@rcts.org.uk

Please send no more than 2 image files per email. If sending more than 2 images by email advise in first message how many images you are sending in total.

(Highlighted Nov. 09)

Film material, memory cards and sticks will be returned. Prints and discs will not be returned **unless specifically requested and sufficient postage in stamps is included with the submission. (Added Nov 09)**

David Kelso, Picture Editor



THE RAILWAY OBSERVER ON SEARCHABLE CD-ROMS

The **Railway Observer** has been published by **The Railway Correspondence and Travel Society** every month since 1929. It provides a unique record of officially supplied and enthusiast gathered information. The main problem for researchers has been locating that information, even when they have been able to acquire the earlier issues. The society also published many supplements to the Railway Observer, including the innovative Locomotive Stock Book introduced in 1934, shed by shed locomotive allocations and various other specialist publications. The Society's Library Reference Copies are being progressively professionally scanned and converted to fully searchable Adobe Acrobat files, bookmarked for each month and supplement. These are available for sale on CD-ROMs, one for each volume of the R.O.

They are available for sale from the Society's web site **rcts.org.uk** or by ordering by post using the order form below. Each CD is available for either £16.50 or £19 where Locomotive Stock Book or other significant supplements are included. These prices include UK postage and VAT. The Society will absorb the cost of the increased rate of VAT from January 2010.

A LOCOMOTIVE STOCK BOOK or APPENDIX is included with the CDs for each of the following years:

1935, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1946, 1947, 1948, 1950, 1952,

Four papers originally published by the Institution of Locomotive Engineers are included within the following volumes:

1946 "LMS Locomotive Design" by E.S.Cox

1947 "LNER Design" by B.Spencer

1949 "History of Southern Railway Locomotives" by C.S.Cocks

1950 "Churchward Locomotive Design" by K.J.Cook

The following RCTS books are also included on CDs for:

1946 "Egyptian State & Palestine Railways" and "WD 2-8-0/2-10-0 locomotives"

1950 "LNWR 8 coupled Locomotives"

Various lesser supplements: Locomotive allocations and lists of shed codes are also included.

Tear off here, and post to Terry Silcock

Order form: Post to Terry Silcock (RCTS), 17 Raisins Hill, Pinner, HA5 2BU

e-mail: Librarian@ **rcts.org.uk**

Branch/exhibition code: ...SURREY

Name: RCTS Membership No: (if any)

Address:

.....Post Code:

e-mail Phone Number

Please supply: CDs of ROs for: Circle those you require and cross out those not wanted

1932 1933 1934 1940 1941 1942/3 1944/5 1951 1953 1954 1958 1968 2008

@ £16.50 each Number ordered Total price £.....

1935 1936 1937 1938 1939 1946 1947 1948 1949 1950 1952

@ £19.00 each Number ordered Total price £.....

Cheque / Postal Order No: enclosed for a total of £.....

Made payable to 'The Railway Correspondence and Travel Society'