

DECEMBER 2011

rcts.org.uk

BRANCH LIAISON SECRETARY

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41.01 RECRUITMENT INITIATIVE

At the MC meeting on Saturday the 3rd of December it was decided that in a drive to increase membership a special offer of **£18** would apply to anyone wishing to join the Society at branch events. The period of this special recruitment campaign will be from the 1st Jan 2012 and will continue until the 30th of June 2012. The normal six months offer from July to December at £12.00 will then apply.

1) The **£18** offer applies to anyone filing in an application form at either a branch meeting or branch exhibition or sales stand and handing over their hard earned pennies at that event. Payment can be either by cash or cheque. Cheque's should be made out to 'The Railway Correspondence & Travel Society'.

2) The reduced rate will not apply to anyone taking away a Recruitment Pack and filling the application form at home and posting it in at a later date.

3) 'New Member' applies to anyone not currently a member of the Society but a 'New Member' can apply to a lapsed member. They may even get their old membership number back.

4) Any existing member who wants to renew their current membership at the reduced rate will be very politely refused as the incentive scheme is to get new people into the Society; the reduced rate is for 'New Members'.

5) Can the branch secretary or whoever is dealing with the paper work get the new application forms endorsed '**Newsletter 41 Campaign**' and send all the details to Vron Cooke, Asst. Treasurer, New Members, 23 Haig Drive, Slough SL1 9HA as soon as possible so that Vron can process the paperwork quickly for Richard Morris.

Let us hope we can recruit some more new members with this initiative and 'Good Luck' with your efforts.

41.02 REGIONAL MEETINGS

At the MC meeting held on Saturday the 17th of September it was decided that in future Regional Meetings will be held every two years. The Regional Meetings have served the Society well and in the early years generated many ideas and raised issues of importance with the MC. In the last couple of years there have been no major issues between the branches and the MC and attendances at the annual Officer's Conference have declined. It has been debated as to whether the Regional Meetings have in some way taken some of the sparkle away from the conference.

The cost of holding the yearly meetings does not justify an annual event however if a regional group wish to continue to organise a local meeting these can be held but should be funded by the branches themselves. Your Regional Meetings Chairman will contact you with the dates, time and venue for the 2013 round of meetings.

41.03 OFFICERS CONFERENCE & REGIONAL MEETINGS EXPENDITURE

The MC has decided that from the 1st November 2011 all branches that have a balance of over £1500 will no longer receive support for accommodation and travel cost from central funds to attend Regional Meetings and the Officers' Conference. Expenses for these events will be paid from branch funds.

41.04 BRANCH NEWS EDITOR'S NEW E-MAIL ADDRESS

Please note that Steve Batty, the Branch News Editor's has a new e-mail address which is:- **srbatty@uwclub.net** All other contact details for Steve remain the same.

41.05 PUBLICATIONS OFFERS

Members who are looking to add to their library collection this Christmas are reminded that the Society is offering a number of RCTS publications at substantial discounts.

Full details are on the Society website, **rcts.org.uk/shop/publications**

In particular there are three 'Bargain Bundles' available which represent attractive savings over publication prices. These Bundles can be ordered by post from John Wood the Society Publication Sales Officer whose contact details can be found in the RO or they can be ordered on the website along with all the other discounted books available. The 'Bargain Bundles' are also advertised on page 657 of the December RO.

The Bargain Bundles offers are valid until 31st January 2012.

Two Book Bundle consisting of ;
LNWR Locomotive Names
Locomotives of the LNWR Southern Division £20.00

Three Book Bundle consisting of ;
LNWR Locomotive Names
Locomotives of the LNWR Southern Division
Raising Steam on the LMS £23.00

Three Book Bundle consisting of ;
The Jubilee 4-6-0s
The Hughes and Stanier 2-6-0s
Raising Steam on the LMS £45.00

Other offers on discounted books are listed on **APPENDIX A**. Will branch secretaries please print off a number of copies of this appendix and display them on your sales tables to encourage sales of discounted publications.

41.06 ARMSTRONG WHITWORTH – A Pioneer of World Diesel Traction.

The members discount price of £17.50 for the purchase of this book has been extended to the 31st of January 2012. Members can purchase this book at the discount price at branch meetings or exhibition sales stands on production of a valid membership card. The full price of £19.95 will apply from the 1st of February 2012.

41.07 TREASURERS' MEETINGS AND BRANCH RETURNS

The Treasurers' Meetings held during the autumn in London and Crewe proved to be very successful and a lot of positive feedback has been received. The aim was to enable branch treasurers to get to know each other better, to discuss the duties and responsibilities of branch treasurers and committees, and to explain and give guidance on the Society's reporting procedures. The set of handouts prepared for the meetings are now being prepared for inclusion in the Branch Officers' Handbook.

Perhaps as a result of these meetings, the end of year reporting has worked well and Reg Wood, the Society Treasurer, and Noel Machell and Bob Ellison, Assistant Treasurers, would like to thank all branch treasurers and publications' officers for getting the completed forms submitted quickly. This does help in the task of preparing the Society Annual Financial Report and the timely reporting for this year has been much appreciated.

41.08 PUBLICATIONS ---TRADE

Discounts are available for trade orders on Society publications. If you or a branch member know of a local bookshop, retail outlet, railway preservation site or museum who may wish to stock our books please advise of the generous trade discounts on offer and if they wish to purchase books at trade prices please advise them to contact David Pick, 6 Harrowick Lane, Earls Barton, Northampton NN6 0HD. Tel. 01604 810613. e-mail: northampton@rcts.org.uk

Trade discounts are as follows (figures quoted derive from book cover price) :-

Orders up to £99	-25%
£100 to £499	- 33%
£500 to £999	- 40%
Over £1,000	- 50%

Special offers such as the "Bargain Bundles" are not subject to trade discounts.

41.09 SOCIETY INSURANCE (DIGITAL EQUIPMENT)

All digital projectors and associated laptop computers owned by the branches listed below are covered by the Society's insurance policy.

Bristol & District, Cheltenham; Merseyside, Chester & N. Wales; Northampton; North East; South Essex; Surrey; Thames Valley; West Midlands and Windsor & Maidenhead

If any other branch has purchased a digital projector and associated laptop since the publication of Newsletter 39 in April this year and your name does not appear on the list above can you please follow the procedure described in paragraph **36.08** in Newsletter 36 and inform me by **Tuesday the 20th of December.** This will ensure your equipment is registered on the Society insurance policy due for renewal on the 31st of December 2011.

41.10 DIGITAL PROJECTORS

The previously recommended Samsung SP-L335 has been discontinued by Samsung. We currently do not have a recommended replacement however we hope to have more information in a future Newsletter.

We are aware of at least one branch experiencing a problem with this projector pixelating a presentation part way through. Branches may wish to have a PC available just in case of any difficulties.

41.11 CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Please note that Society Chairman John Redgate has changed the name of his house. His correct postal address is:- 'Hillside House', 7 Frieth Road, Marlow SL7 2QT.

41.12 2011 OFFICERS' CONFERENCE MINUTES

The minutes of the Officers' Conference held at Derby in October 2011 have now been prepared and published. A copy of the minutes is enclosed with this newsletter. For those of you who receive electronic copies of this newsletter please note that the minutes are on another attachment to the e-mail.

Can all Branch secretaries please ensure that all their branch officers who attended conference receive either an electronic or paper version of the minutes.

41.13 2012 SOCIETY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Society AGM will take place on Saturday the 28th of April at the Britannia Coventry Hotel, Fairfax Street, Coventry. CV1 5RP.

Details of the full day's events will appear in future editions of the RO and on the website.

41.14 2010 OFFICERS' CONFERENCE MINUTES

At the Officers Conference at Derby on the 15th of October Steve Ollive (MHD) enquired about the mention in minute 7 of the 2010 Officers' Conference minutes of the appointment of a Society Archivist, and asked if the role had been defined and published to membership? David Kelso and David Pick advised that the role is in fact *Library* Archivist. The role of a Society Archivist will be discussed at the next Development Sub-committee.

41.15 FORTHCOMING EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & MEMBERS WEEKENDS

		DATE	BRANCH	VENUE	HOTEL
2012	AGM	Saturday 28 th April	One Day Event Organised by the MC	Coventry	Britannia Hotel Coventry
	MW	Friday 12 October to Sunday 14 October	John Day & his Team liaising with the Scottish Branch.	Dunfermline	King Malcolm Hotel
2013	AGM	tba	One Day Event Organised by the MC	tba	
	MW	tba	John Day & his Team	tba	

Further details will be published in the RO, Newsletters and on the website nearer the event.

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 as well as all my colleagues on the MC we wish to extend to you all a very joyous Christmas and an extremely prosperous New Year.

Many thanks to everyone 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

12th December 2011

Special Offer on New Books

Huge Discounts

TITLE	REDUCED PRICE	ORIGINAL PRICE	SAVING
Two Books -- L&NWR Locomotive Names and Locomotives of the LNWR Southern Division	£20.00	£47.90	£27.90
Three Books -- L&NWR Locomotive Names, Locomotives of the LNWR Southern Division and Raising Steam on the LMS	£23.00	£63.85	£40.85
LMS Set -- The Hughes and Stanier 2-6-0s, The Jubilee 4-6-0's and Raising Steam on the LMS	£45.00	£63.80	£18.80
BR Standards <u>Set of 4 Books</u>	£80.00	£88.90	£8.80
Locos of the LNWR Southern Division	£11.50	£27.95	£16.45
LNWR Locomotive Names	£9.50	£19.95	£10.45
Raising Steam on the LMS	£7.50	£15.95	£8.45
Plymouth Railways in the 1930s	£5.00	£12.95	£7.95
The Railways of Keynsham	£6.50	£9.95	£3.45
The Birkenhead Railway	£6.85	£14.95	£8.10
LNER Part 2B	£4.50	£13.95	£9.45
LNER Part 10A	£3.00	£10.95	£7.95
LNER Part 11	£7.95	£11.95	£4.00
Sildon - Newport in Retrospect	£7.95	£13.95	£6.00
Great Northern Loco. History Part 1	£6.00	£12.95	£6.95
Great Northern Loco. History Part 2	£6.00	£13.95	£7.95
Great Northern Loco. History Part 3A	£7.50	£19.95	£12.45
Great Northern Loco. History Part 3B	£7.50	£16.95	£9.45
Great Northern Loco. <u>Set of 4 Books</u>	£22.50	£63.80	£41.30
The Great Northern Railway in the East Midlands No.1. Colwick Yards, London Rd-Gedling-Basford	£8.00	£13.95	£5.95
The Great Northern Railway in the East Midlands No.3. The Erewash Valley Lines, Pinxton Branch, Awsworth-Ilkeston, Heanor and Stanton Branches	£8.50	£15.95	£7.45
The Great Northern Railway in the East Midlands No.4. Nottingham-Grantham, Bottesford-Newark, Melton Mowbray, Leicester Line and Ironstone Branches	£9.50	£18.95	£9.45
The Great Northern Railway in the East Midlands <u>Set of 3 books</u> (NB Vol 2 is Out of Print)	£21.00	£47.85	£26.85

Some of these titles maybe available here today but if not they can be ordered from John Wood, 87 Tiverton Drive, Horeston Grange, Nuneaton CV11 6YJ. e-mail: sales@rcts.org.uk or use the Society's e-commerce facility at rcts.org.uk