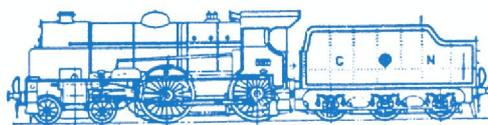


IRISH RAILWAY RECORD SOCIETY

LONDON AREA



www.irrslondon.com

irrslondon@hotmail.com

PROGRAMME 2018/19

WINTER MEETINGS

The London Area of the IRRS provides a forum in England for those interested in Irish transport, particularly railways. All meetings are from **19.00 – 21.45** in the Function Room of the **Calthorpe Arms**, 252 Gray's Inn Road LONDON WC1X 8JR. (The room is accessible by stairs only.) A selection of Irish transport books is usually on sale.

- Entry is £3 for IRRS members, £5 for non-members (except £3 in December)
- The non-member entry fee is refunded if you join the IRRS on the night

Thursday 18th October 2018 : “Valencia Harbour Branch” by Barry Carse

Longstanding Irish enthusiast and regular contributor to the Journal, Barry Carse, revisits the London Area with fascinating new research about the Valencia Harbour branch. Building on a recently discovered report, “Closing of Unremunerative Branch Lines” written by railwaymen rather than accountants, he will describe the branch, its history and its steam and diesel locomotives, finishing with railcar trials and GAA specials. This most westerly and scenic Irish line had a character all of its own.

Thursday 15th November 2018 : “Current and Future Fleet Development on Irish Rail”

by Peter Smyth (CME Irish Rail)

Peter has principal responsibility for the procurement, maintenance and overhaul of all rolling stock operated by Irish Rail. He will not only cover day-to-day operations but, with continuing pressure to drive down costs, will look at many recent innovations including remote diagnostics, condition monitoring, acoustic monitoring of bearings, automatic wheel measurement and other measurement systems. He will also take a look forward to consider what form future Irish rolling stock might take, and how it might be operated and maintained.

Thursday 6th December 2018

“With Lance King in Ireland – CIE 1958 - 1964” by Leslie McAllister + AGM

London Area Committee member, Leslie McAllister, pays tribute to our late founding Chairman, Lance King, with a first selection of Lance's photos (now digitised). Lance was a skilled photographer and left a fine record of day to day steam on Dublin suburban trains and on the famed branches such as Loughrea, Ballaghaderreen, Edenderry, Tullow, Clara and Youghal, Steam and diesel in daily service on the CB&SCR feature, as well as the memorable railtour with the last “Bandon tank”. A snapshot of great change 60 years ago.

*plus a complimentary Christmas drink and followed by the London Area AGM at 20.45
(to be addressed by the first IRRS President, Dick Fearn)*

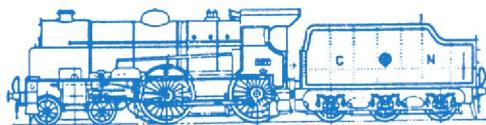
See our railway drawings and models at **SCALEFORUM, Stoke Mandeville on Sat 22nd September (10.30 – 17.30) and Sun 23rd September 2018 (10.00 – 16.30)**

And for IRRS publications, Irish railway books, Irish models and Irish locomotive drawings, visit the IRRS (London Area) at **Stand C65, Warley National Model Railway Exhibition, Hall 5, National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham Saturday 24th November (09.45 – 18.00) and Sunday 25th November 2018 (09.45 - 17.00)**

continued overleaf

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PROGRAMME 2018/19 (continued)

WINTER MEETINGS are from 19.00–21.45 in Central London in the **Function Room, Calthorpe Arms, 252 Gray's Inn Road, LONDON WC1X 8JR**. Entry is £3 members, £5 non-members. The non-member entry fee is refunded if you join the Society on the night.

Thursday 17th January 2019

“A Magnificent Folly – the Burtonport Extension Railway” by Roger Crombleholme

Author and enthusiast, Roger Crombleholme, tells how the BER became a legend in its own time for its wayward operation, broken down engines, bad management, erratic driving, poor punctuality, lost goods and a running battle with the Board of Works. But, oh, how we wish we could make that epic journey again on the 3ft gauge from Letterkenny, never mind the four hours on hard wooden seats in unlit coaches, to make the perilous crossing of the Owencarrow valley on a stormy night and arrive on the rocky shores of Burtonport.

This was Irish narrow gauge at its most extreme and most magnificent.

Thursday 14th February 2019 : “NIR – the Good, the Bad and the Ugly” by Colin McVea (Signalling and Telecommunications Engineer, NIR)

“The good, the bad and the ugly” is a reflection of Colin’s 30 years with NIR, from working on track through to managing staff. The talk stems from a number of accidents and incidents, each of which identified the need for change. Today’s NIR is very different from that of the railway of 30 years ago. The many characters from the old days (and their stories) have been replaced by investment, equipment, safety, performance, competency. Colin describes how the whole culture of the railway has changed and how that has come about.

Thursday 14th March 2019 : “Railways of County Wexford” by Oliver Doyle

Former Irish Rail manager and railway expert, Oliver Doyle, explores the fascinating history of Wexford’s railways. This rich agricultural county, noted both for farm produce and manufacturing farm machinery, had a good railway network. There was keen competition to gain rail access to Wexford and Waterford and the GWR, jointly with the GS&WR, became involved with its line from Rosslare Strand – Waterford, over the fine Barrow bridge. Oliver’s talk will take an expert look at the rise and demise of Wexford’s railways and their traffic.

Thursday 4th April 2019 : “Classic Irish Steam” by Ciarán Cooney

IRRS Photographic Archivist, Ciarán Cooney, has skilfully restored the classic photos of Bob Clements, Denis Morris and J Macartney Robbins. Enjoy stirring shots of 400s, 500s and 800s hard at work. There will be rarely-seen places like Clara Midland and Inny Junction. Then high-wheeled J5s on the Midland doing everything from cattle trains to excursions, and 2-4-0’s in the west. The talk moves on to the SL&NCR, the GN, the B&CDR, and the NCC moguls, mogul tanks and 4-4-0’s. This is a veritable feast of classic Irish steam.

TRANSPORT COLLECTORS’ MARKET

The London Area of the IRRS runs this popular event, now in its 40th season, to be held in **Chiswick Town Hall (west London) from 11.00 – 15.00 on Saturday 16th March 2019**.

The Hall is accessible by London Underground (Chiswick Park or Gunnersbury), London Overground (Gunnersbury), South Western Railway (Chiswick or Kew Bridge) or bus.

**35 sales stands selling a huge range of transport items :
books, magazines, maps, photos, Irish railway drawings, DVDs,
timetables, postcards, models, specialist publications etc.**