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The Journal of  
The London Underground Railway Society

Preliminary Issue

December 1961

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A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

The London Underground Railway Society was formed officially at a very successful meeting held at The Railway Tavern, in Liverpool Street, London, on the evening of Friday 17th November 1961. I have had the honour of being elected the first Chairman of the new body, and the very pleasant duty of announcing its arrival thus falls to me.

The meeting defined the Objects of the Society to be -  
to foster and encourage interest in and the study of the railways of the London Transport Executive and its predecessors by all possible means, and to promote such social activities as may be desirable ancillary thereto.

A Committee was elected to hold office until the first Annual General Meeting, and in the meantime was given the duties of drawing up the Rules, and of running the Society. On page 4 of this issue there is a list of names, addresses and telephone numbers of all the members of this committee, together with some information about their particular interests in the LT railway system.

It is the intention of the Committee to do all they can to make Society membership worthwhile; this journal will be published monthly, and in due course will include valuable information on all aspects of the LT system; an event of some kind will be arranged each month, and you will find the provisional programme for the first quarter of 1962 on a later page.

In the last resort, however, it is the members who make any Society - please help to make this one by supporting as many of our activities as possible, and by encouraging others to join - response has been excellent, but with more we can do more. It's up to you.

ORIGINS

## Or a Summary of the Society's Prehistory

by  
Norman Fuller

The initial incentive came from the Southern Carriage and Wagon Society, whose objects provide for the foster-of interest in the rolling stock of other regions of British Railways. This led me to propose to the S.C.W.S., on the 25th May 1961, that a London Transport Carriage and Wagon Society be formed. From then onwards I have had a great deal of help from the Publications Secretary of the S.C.W.S., Mr L.A. Mack, who, among other things, offered on behalf of his Society to duplicate our first few publications.

While these arrangements were taking shape, Mr Joe Brook Smith had a letter published in the August issue of Model Railway News, proposing the formation of a small group of LT modellers. After corresponding, Mr Brook Smith and I both felt that the most suitable arrangement would be to merge our two ideas into a London Transport Railway Society.

Three of the railway journals kindly published notices in their October issues, and the response to these was larger than we could have hoped for; by the day of the Inaugural Meeting, almost 60 enquiries had been received, and, most important, we had received the good wishes of the London Transport Executive.

In late October those who had indicated that they would be willing to help run the Society were brought together as a Forming Committee, and the Inaugural Meeting was arranged. At the is meeting the Society came into being, under the slightly changed name of The London Underground Railway Society. Twentythree members attended the meeting, when we were fortunate to have with us Mr J.R. Day, representing the LTE; Mr Day's comments on behalf of the Executive were most useful and informative, and he kindly promised to send us relevant publicity hand-cuts emanating from his office.

The Inaugural Meeting elected the Forming Committee to serve as the first Committee of the Society, and they are now getting down to serious work planning for the future.

## THE TIMETABLE

Saturday 20th January 1962 - Visit to the Museum of British Transport, Clapham. This visit is open to members of all ages, and to visitors. The tour of the Museum will include the large exhibits not yet on show to the public.

Saturday 10th February - date provisional only - Visit to the Central Control Room, Leicester Square. Members only, and possibly some restriction on age - conditions have not yet been agreed with the LTE.

Saturday 10th March - Visit to the Signal School. Here again, the date is provisional, and conditions not yet agreed, but it will probably be restricted to members only.

Members wishing to attend any of these visits are asked to send their names, and those of visitors they wish to bring, to the Secretary as soon as possible.

### Bulk Purchase of Met Stock Souvenirs.

If you wish to purchase souvenirs from the old Met stock - Door Handles, Metroland Plates, Destination Boards, Whistles, etc - please let the Secretary know what you would like, and the maximum price you will pay, at once. This is urgent, as T stock is being cut up at the rate of one train a fortnight.

Modelling. Mr Brook Smith is preparing moulds for Metropolitan Electric Loco body sides and ends in plastic. If there is sufficient support from members and others, these could be made available at about 5/- per loco. If interested, write to Mr Brook Smith.

Journal. This will be published monthly, and will include news of the LT system and of the Society, also articles relating to all aspects of LT railways. The Editor would welcome articles from members, with a view to publication in the journal; drawings, maps and plans can be included, but not photographs yet.

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MEMBERSHIP We will accept Members and Associate Members, but the division between them cannot be fixed until we have information from LTE on age restrictions. At present we are treating Members as over, and Associates as under, 16.

SUBSCRIPTIONS to 31st December 1962 are 10/- and 7/6d respectively. If you have not yet paid your subscription, will you please do so soon.

## INTRODUCTIONS

### The Committee and Officers

The Members of the Society's first committee are -

NORMAN E. FULLER, whose idea it was, and whose main LT interest is in all aspects of the LPTB period.

JOE BROOK SMITH, whose main interest is the modelling side, and who once thought of an LT modelling group.

KENNETH R. BENEST, who is interested in the history of the whole system prior to 1933, but with very particular reference to the Metropolitan.

ROY E. LABRUM - very interested in all aspects, and particularly knowledgeable on current workings.

PETER R. DAVIS, who concentrates on the history of the system, with particular reference to routes covered, services run, and stations served.

Ken Benest and Roy Labrum are both LT employees, so have opportunities of combining work with pleasure!

So far, all the offices have been filled by members of the committee, and a complete list is appended, together with addresses, so that any member may write direct to the officer concerned on any matter he may want to raise. They will be pleased to hear from you, but please, to enable us to conserve our funds in the early days of the Society, if your letter needs a reply enclose a stamped, addressed envelope.

### Officers

Chairman: Peter R. Davis, 62 Billet Lane, Hornchurch, Essex.  
Hornchurch 47361.

Secretary: Norman E.W. Fuller, 4 Southcombe Street,  
London, W. 14.

Treasurer: Kenneth R. Benest, 66 Hare Lane, Claygate,  
Surrey.

Assistant Secretary - Membership:

Roy E. Labrum, 134 Cranley Drive, Ilford, Essex.

Assistant Secretary - Modelling:

J. Brook Smith, 34 Barnehurst Road, Barnehurst, Kent.

Editor: Peter R. Davis, 62 Billet Lane, Hornchurch, Essex.