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Prepared by
D.R.J. Collings 71 Belmont Road, ERITH, KENT, DA8 1JY, UNITED KINGDOM
Telephone (44) 07941 796476 E-mail nkrs@crystalldave.com

Secretary Stephen Osborn G8JZT (secretary@nkrs.info) - 07985753370 evenings and weekends

NKRS Newsletter

Our next meeting **18th July 2017** will be at the usual location. The Pop In Parlour (Rendezvous), Graham Road, Bexleyheath. (Opposite Asda). Doors open at 20.00.

Date	Event	Notes
18/07/17	Bring a Rig	What's your fav rig, bring it along and talk briefly about it
25-29 July 2017 ++	War and peace show	Back in the hop farm
01/08/17	Nicholas Wilkinson	A talk on his introduction to A.R
15/08/17	ILLW	Planning meeting for the event
19/20 August 2017 ++	ILLW	International Lighthouse Lightship weekend
05/09/17	Arc Tracking	A presentation by M Osborn
19/09/17	Natter Night	
03/10/17	Visit	RSGB President to visit NKRS
17/10/17	AGM	Provisional
20-20/10/17 ++	JOTA	GB2FCS activation for Footscray Cub Scouts
07/11/17	Natter Night	Station on the air
21/11/17	TBA	
05/12/17	Curry Night	Probably the usual venue
19/12/17	Christmas EGM	Mince Pies

++ denotes this is not held on a normal club night.

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Did anyone go to **Friedrichshafen** ?

If so can you send me some photographs and perhaps your thoughts and observations on the show.

Notes from the Secretary

Your committee has recently had a meeting and a number of events have been arranged for the forth coming club nights. I hope to see you there, holidays and personal commitments allowing.

On the radio front I have not done much as other interest have been vying for my time.

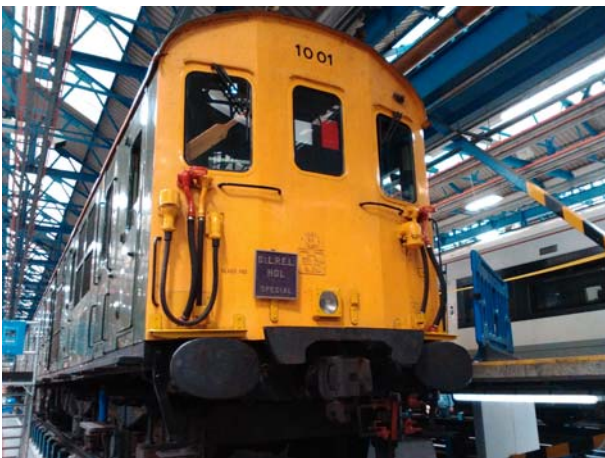
One event I went to with my son Thomas was an open day at the Train Care Depot at Sladegreen. It was a great opportunity to get up close to the rolling stock on our railways and take photo's from angles not normally possible. There were a number of visiting trains and locomotives not normally seen in the sheds. A small selection of the photo's are shown below,



EMU Remember these



Brush Type 4 Class 47



DEMU



Class 465 having a bearing change



Thomas at the controls of a Javelin



Looking towards Slade green with a Class 465 from the Bexleyheath line on the left on it's way to Dartford. They even had a demo of how to put a derailed train back on the line. Well worth the visit.

Just a final note my better half will be doing a presentation on the 5th September on Arc Tracking. This will be an extract of material she works on as part of her daily work as a Senior Test Engineer at QinetiQ.

See you at the next meeting
Stephen G8JZT

All photographs in this section by Stephen Osborne

Staying with the railway theme The NECROPOLIS LINE:

There is an opportunity to follow the final train journey made by hundreds of first and second world war servicemen and women on their way to burial at the leafy Brookwood Military Cemetery located in Brookwood Necropolis. Waterloo Station, free tour (pay your own train fare), book ahead, Wed 19 July 2017 10:00 – 14:00. But there is more to it than that.

The London Necropolis Railway was a railway line opened in November 1854 to carry corpses and mourners between London newly opened Brookwood Cemetery. The line ran mostly along the existing tracks of the London and South Western Railway (LSWR) but had its own branches from the main line at both London and Brookwood. Trains carried coffins and passengers from a dedicated station in Waterloo but in April 1941 the station and train were badly damaged in an air raid so the service ceased to exist.

I have never visited the Necropolis and other commitments permitting I will try to make this trip.

[Click here for more information.](#)

Radio Caroline legal at last

From the [Ofcom official site](#)

Ofcom awards five new AM community radio licences
Media release
01 June 2017

Radio Caroline (Radio Caroline AM Broadcasting Ltd)
Contact name: Peter Moore
Email: caroline_pirate@btconnect.com
Website: www.radiocaroline.co.uk □

Radio Caroline will broadcast a wide range of album music from the 1960s to the present day. It is for people aged 45+ in Suffolk and northern parts of Essex.

Community radio services are provided on a not-for-profit basis, focusing on the delivery of specific social benefits to a particular geographical community, or a community of interest.

The pirates return to the airwaves – for the first time legally – this year.

After an absence of more than 25 years Ofcom granted the well remembered station an AM licence. Ofcom has approved plans for a one kilowatt output and Radio Caroline has now imported a transmitter which is being modified to suit the frequency 648 kHz

It doesn't sound as good as Caroline on 319 but at last they will be returning to the airwaves. Its frequency of 648 kHz was once used by the old BBC World Service when it was transmitted from Orford Ness.

I am not going into the detailed history of Caroline as much has been written about that but it was formed in 1964 by Ronan O'Rahilly to find a way round the perceived record companies' control of popular music broadcasting in the United Kingdom and the BBC's radio broadcasting monopoly. Unlicensed by any government it was a pirate radio station that never actually became legal, and after the Marine Offences Act (1967) it became illegal for a British subject to associate with it.

The station was founded to play pop music all day at a time when broadcasting was dominated by the BBC and pop was played for an hour a week.

It is my understanding (from a source that I can't quote) that if they had been prepared to accept a regional licence they could have got one years ago but that is history.

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A spokesman for Caroline said: *“The basis of our application was that our traditional heartland was Essex and Suffolk, where the signal from our ships made first landfall and that we wished to entertain on AM, an audience that we have not been able to serve in this way since 1990.*

“We said that this audience may hear music radio of a style they remember and in some cases presented by the same people they remember.

“That in essence is what we intend to do.

“We can now announce that our AM frequency will be 648 kHz with a power of 1,000 watts.

“A transmitter was imported from the continent a few days ago and is now being modified to suit the frequency. There are further hurdles, but as you can see progress is being made.”

Ofcom were told that Radio Caroline will broadcast a wide range of album music from the 1960s to the present day aimed at people aged 45 and over in Suffolk and northern parts of Essex.

Thanks to Pete Martin for pointing me towards some of this information.



Not the Caroline mast but the 1kW transmitter of Sunrise Radio located in an obscure area of Southall transmitting on 972 kHz

Spa Valley Railway



I recently visited the Spa Valley Railway at Groombridge and stopped for a coffee and a chat with some of the volunteers that run the station.

The station has plenty of parking serves good coffee and is a very pleasant place to spend some time especially on a warm sunny afternoon.

The Spa Valley Railway (SVR) is a standard gauge heritage railway that runs from Tunbridge Wells West railway station in Tunbridge Wells to High Rocks, Groombridge, and Eridge, where it links with the Oxted Line. En route it crosses the Kent and East Sussex border, a distance of 5 miles (8 km), along the former Three Bridges to Tunbridge Wells Central Line .

The railway headquarters are at Tunbridge Wells West railway station.

20 years ago, in August 1997, the Spa Valley Railway opened the line to Groombridge. This was following a period from late December 1996 and also from March to August 1997 where they operated a shuttle train over 3/4 mile of track from Tunbridge Wells West to Cold Bath Bridge.

On August bank holiday (26th, 27th and 28th August) they are holding a commemorative event. See page 7 for full details.

For more information on the Spa Valley Railway click [here](#)



JOIN US TO COMMEMORATE 20 YEARS OF HERITAGE TRAINS AT TUNBRIDGE WELLS!



2017

1997

August Bank Holiday 2017
Saturday 26th, Sunday 27th and Monday 28th

On August 23rd 1997, "North Downs" hauled the first Spa Valley Railway passenger service from Tunbridge Wells into Groombridge station. The line had been closed for 12 years.

Joining our resident fleet for three days of celebrations will be the Standard Tank 80078, Ring Haw and Deltic 55019, promising to make this one of our biggest events ever!

In addition to intensive train services, there will be bands, displays of classic cars, photographic and model railway displays, a miniature railway, beer and BBQ. (all subject to availability).

Visit our website for more information and advance booking. **DO NOT MISS THIS EVENT!**

BROMPTON CEMETERY TOUR:

Brompton Cemetery is one of London's impressive cemetery's, I published some photographs in a newsletter earlier this year.

Here is an opportunity to learn about the conservation work going on at Brompton Cemetery on this hard hat tour behind the scenes. Brompton Cemetery, free, book ahead, Wednesday 19th and Wednesday 26 July 6pm-8pm

<https://www.royalparks.org.uk/whats-on/upcoming-events/behind-the-scenes-brompton-cemetery-restoration-tours>

That's all for this time

Best regards

Dave