

1758 MIDDLETON RAILWAY, LEEDS.

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Trust for 1978 will be held on Saturday, 4th. March 1978 at Cockburn High School, Burton Road, Leeds W at 2.30 p.m. For the transaction of the business listed below.

By order of the Council

J. D. Edwards,  
Secretary,  
55 Village Way,  
Pinner,  
Middlesex.

February, 1978.

1. To receive and approve for the year ending 31st. December, 1977 :-
  - a) Trading and Profit & Loss Accounts,
  - b) Balance Sheet at year end,
  - c) Report of the Council,
  - d) Report of the Auditors.
2. To receive the reports of the Officers.
3. To elect a Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and not less than four nor more than thirteen other members of the Council. (See below)
4. To appoint Auditors and to provide for the fixing of their remuneration.  
(Recommendation of Council :- To re-appoint Messrs. Volans, Leach and Schofield with the Council to fix the remuneration.)
5. To consider the amount of the Annual Membership Subscription.  
(Recommendation of Council :- To fix the subscription for 1978 at -  
Ordinary: £2.50, O.A.P.: £1.25, Family Corporate: £0.50.)
6. To receive a Report from the Middleton Railway Association.
7. To deal with any other competent business.

NOTE. The following persons are eligible for and offer themselves for re-election to the Council :-

Chairman:	J. K. Lee.
Secretary:	J. D. Edwards.
Treasurer:	G. W. Lunn.

Membership of the Council: Dr. A. L. Barnett, Messrs. N. A Brampton, A. J. Caltieri, A. J. Cowling, D. J. Hebden, D. N. Hill, W.E. Holliday, S. J. Roberts, C. Rogers, I. B. Smith, B. Wood.

In accordance with the Articles of Association, any other nominations for election to the Council, together with the consent of the nominee, shall be given in writing to the Secretary prior to the meeting.

## MIDDLETON RAILWAY TRUST LTD.

### SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR 1977.

Relations with the Railway Inspectorate continue to be good and in particular Major Olver has been helpful in arranging with the Local Authorities that they will fence off the Railway.

We have now obtained documentary evidence that the 'Lord Mayor' locomotive is owned by the Middleton Railway Trust.

We have continued membership of the Association of Minor Railways and of the Association of Railway Preservation Societies and have successfully sponsored the election of the Hallamshire Railway Society to the A.R.P.S.

John D. Edwards,  
19th. January 1978.

### REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st. DECEMBER 1977.

1. The following have served as members of the Council:-

B. W. Ashurst,	(resigned 12th. September 1977)
A. L. Barnett,	
N. A. Brampton,	
A. J. Caltieri,	(elected 26th. March 1977)
A. J. Cowling,	
J. D. Edwards,	
D. J. Hebden,	
D. N. Hill,	(elected 26th. March 1977)
W. E. Holliday,	
J. K. Lee,	(resigned 31st. October 1977)
J. A. Lodge,	
G. W. Lunn,	(resigned 31st. October 1977)
P. Nettleton,	
S. J. Roberts,	
C. Rogers,	(elected 26th. March 1977)
I. B. Smith,	(elected 7th. December 1977)
B. Wood,	

2. The Company has continued to maintain and operate the Middleton Railway, Leeds.

3. The Company has had no paid employees.

John D. Edwards,  
Secretary,  
19th. January 1978.

### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR 1977.

In my opening remarks I wish to draw attention to the unfailing support given by members of the Trust who have taken an active part in the operation of the Railway during the past twelve months. I wish to include in addition those members who perform administrative tasks and those who staff exhibitions at various sites throughout the season. Without this support the future of the Railway would be in jeopardy, creating the possibility of cessation in time.

The recruitment of new members has been encouraging since the beginning of the year, donations almost equalling membership fees. This has been due to increased publicity by the media. The local press have proved most helpful in making the public aware of our needs and, of course, our existence as a historic undertaking.

## Chairmans Report Cont'd.

Development of the Middleton Broom site by the West Yorkshire Metropolitan Council has enhanced appearance to the delight and enjoyment of the visitors. It is anticipated that the whole area will become an attractive parkland site within the forthcoming months.

The Railway Inspectorate, Major Olver and his colleague, Mr. Cooksey have visited the Railway making recommendations which are being implemented as manpower permits. This points to the necessity of more members being encouraged to participate in practical work in all spheres.

This year has been one of variety, from locomotive testing, a product of local industry destined for Hong Kong, School steam days and the popular Santa specials all contributing to the future vision of keeping alive 'The Worlds oldest Railway'.

Joseph K. Lee,  
Chairman.

## TREASURERS REPORT FOR 1977.

It gives me great pleasure to be able to report that this year we have a profit of £772 against a loss of £518 the previous year. But I must caution members that had not normal repair costs been reduced and had we not had such a good income from the 'special' activities we would have had a much reduced profit to report this year.

<u>Special Income.</u>	<u>1977</u>	<u>1976</u>
Passenger specials	£356	£73
Hire of Line	£60	-
Scrap sales	£276	£86
TOTAL	£692	£159
<u>Repairs.</u>		
Repairs per accounts	£282	£792
Less special item- New braking system	-	£323
TOTAL	£282	£469

The above table shows that special income increased by £533 and that normal repairs were reduced by £187. If this had not taken place then the profit of £772 which we report would have been £52 calculated as follows;

Profit per 1977 accounts	£ 772
Less Increase in 'special income'	533
	239
Less Reduction of normal repairs	187
PROFIT	£ 52

I should like to thank the Council and the Auditors, Messrs. Volans, Leach and Schofield, for the help and assistance I have received in 1977.

George W. Lunn,  
Treasurer.

## CIVIL ENGINEERS REPORT FOR 1977.

The essence of this report could be put in three words:- Routine maintenance continued. By comparison with the major changes which the Local Authority have made to the landscape ( the appearance and then disappearance of a coal mine, the demolition of Parkside bridge and the flattening of the 'Alps' ) this does not seem very much. Some rails changed after being bent by earthmoving machinery, some sleepers replaced between Moor Road and Beza Street level crossings and a lot of jacking and packing, some of it necessitated by the changes in level and drainage resulting from the landscaping. This all comes under the heading of necessary rather than spectacular, but it is perhaps inevitable that as the general standard of the track improves, so the scope for making further progress becomes more limited - particularly on our sort of budget.

The new Hunslet Moor platform and shop were completed at the beginning of the year and represent a considerable improvement on the previous facilities. This winter has seen additional shopfitting, which has improved it still further. We have also been collecting the (somewhat scarce) equipment for fitting proper facing point locks, worked from ground frames, to the two turnouts on the passenger line as required by the Railway Inspectorate. Some parts have already been obtained and are being overhauled where necessary: the remainder have been located but have not yet arrived.

We have also agreed with the Railway Inspectorate on the plans for the depot site, to consist of a crossover (of which half has already been laid) onto the run round loop, which will run back parallel to the main line and then come into it at the turnout between the platform and Burton Road, which will allow a two road engine shed to be built of up to 300 feet in length. This next stage of the project is now to complete the crossover. We shall then require more materials before we can build the run round loop and then the sidings.

Anthony J. Cowling,  
Civil Engineer.

## SALES REPORT FOR 1977.

I should like to express my appreciation to all the people that have volunteered their time to give assistance to to this aspect of the railways activities; especially to Derek Plummer who has continued to organise and make the arrangements to attend the model railway and traction engine exhibitions in this area and also to Bill Holliday who has packed the sales stock which we take to these events, as well as keeping the railway shop supplied.

Exhibitions & Rallies: Although these events are always good from a point of view of publicity (the fact that the name of the Railway is seen about) the profitability of them is more and more in doubt. With the organisers asking us to pay full stand fees, our own profit margin on the exhibitions is getting less and less. In addition to all this, we still have the perennial problem of finding people to staff the stands.

Railway Shop. As with the exhibitions, staffing the shop is a problem at times and can become very unsatisfactory when there are only young members of the M. R. A. available. The increase in room for the sales staff in the shop has made operation of both the ticket and sales counters much easier.

Any conclusion as to the success or failure of the years sales must be left to the Treasurer as financial assessment is outside my field of activity.

Chris. Rogers,  
Sales Organiser.

## PUBLICITY REPORT FOR 1977.

During 1977 we have enjoyed the attention of many sources of publicity including British Rail advertising, Yorkshire Post Newspapers, a German Travel Magazine, Henry Boot Engineering Journal, several exhibition programmes throughout Yorkshire, the Leeds Topic, the Tourist information Office in Leeds and the Yorkshire and Humberside Tourist Guide. Every member should wherever possible broadcast our existence to friends and acquaintances.

The publicity sub-committee has met frequently resulting in many outlets to the public drawing favourable attention to our service as an amenity in the City. Many enquiries from all parts of the British Isles requesting information have been answered, some resulting in new membership. The cooperation of all members, once again, is sincerely appreciated.

Joseph K. Lee,  
Publicity Officer.

## MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR 1977.

I am pleased to report the following:- Current full membership of the Trust at the end of 1977 was 132, Family Corporate members was 42, Life membership was 15 and Honorary and Corporate was 14, making a grand total of 203. Not possessing the numbers for 1976 I cannot compare but I sincerely hope that they are favourable.

Since becoming Membership Secretary on October 1st. we have enrolled 24 new members due, I am sure, to the excellent publicity we received during the last few weeks of the season. I would ask that, if possible, every existing member endeavours to recruit at least ONE NEW MEMBER this year. This would, of course, double our membership and bring in more working potential.

I am making an effort to secure members renewals as early in the New Year as possible, in the first instance to improve cash flow and secondly to give an accurate state of the membership. Donations for 1977 were £122.40, a splendid amount most gratefully received and many thanks to all those who contributed.

Thank you for your support and the advice that I received during my early days and to those who have paid so promptly.

Elizabeth M. Lee,  
Membership Secretary.

## OLD RUN EDITORS REPORT FOR 1977.

It is becoming almost traditional for the Old Run Editor to report to the ACM that three issues of the magazine were produced during the year, more or less on time, and to thank those whom have contributed material or helped in other ways. This time is no different, and it gives me great pleasure to look back on another uneventful year for the Old Run. The magazine is intended to provide a forum for news, views and entertainment for Middleton members, and the more smoothly it can be produced, the better for all concerned, not the least the Editor!

There have been developments during the year, of course, the most notable being the very welcome offer made by Hubert Nettleton to act in a news-gathering capacity around the line, a job I cannot perform adequately from my home in Warwickshire. I hope that his efforts will be given the support they most certainly deserve. The same should be said about Ian Smith's recent revival of the Association Advertiser feature.

M. Leah,  
Old Run Editor.