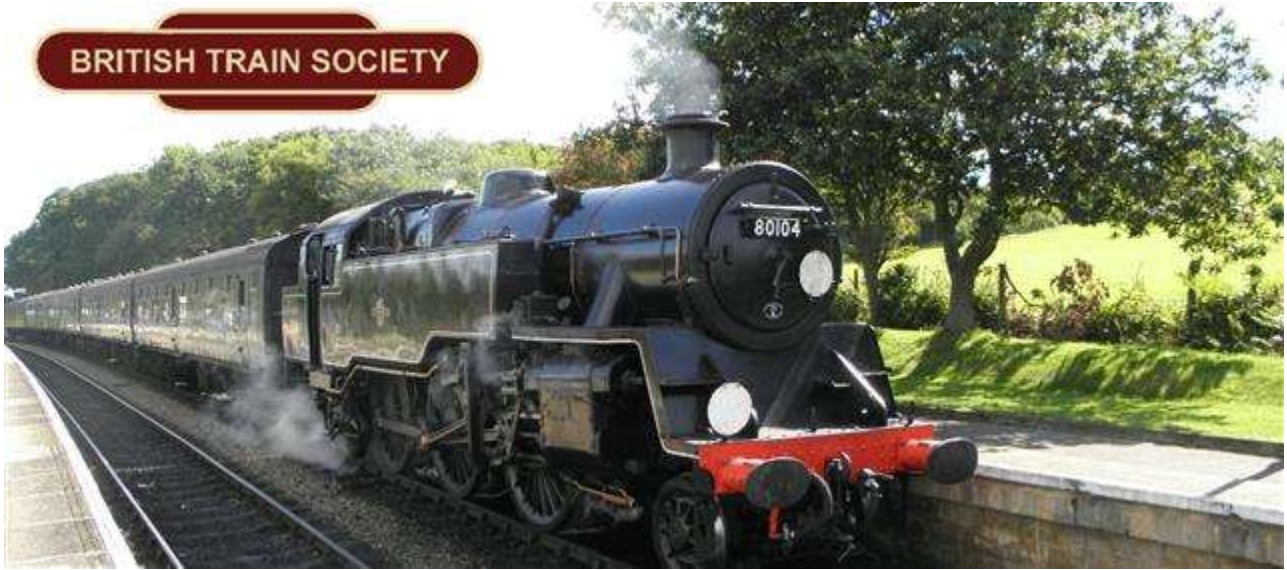


BRITISH TRAIN SOCIETY



Left Hand Running October 2025

Hello, members, and welcome to Left Hand Running – October 2025.

Our October meeting will be Saturday October 11th, 1:30pm. We will be meeting at Harry Raynis' home, 1537 Warbler Dr, Naperville, IL. This meeting will be our annual swap meet. If you wish to sell at the swap meet, please contact Alex Jackiw with how much space you require.

Our September meeting was held as part of Chicagoland T-Trak's display at the Elmhurst Public Library on Saturday, September 13. Jon Szajkovics and I tended our club's T-Trak layout. We had a good show, with many happy children passing by.

Jon and I took some notes on T-Trak operations. Most egregious was our comparative lack of UK prototype for being a 'British' club. My stable of locomotives amounts to two good runners and multiple half-dead. Jon mostly has American outline. While not a big show like Lyons, we should endeavor to be running UK trains on a UK layout.

Secondly, our T Trak modules need service and reworking. Namely, our station module needs the track relaying. The current arrangement has faulty geometry. It needs to be paired with one specific curve that has a loose track for that purpose. This is not an ideal situation for a modular layout that is supposed to be standardized. We also have a road bridge that restricts what stock can run. While, arguably, restricting Hy-Cube and double-stack American cars isn't egregious, some UK steam-era coaches come to grief on the inside curve. Alex and I plan to approach both issues after the Roselle library show in November.

Our final note from the show is more down to arrangement. We had Jon's inside curve situated between two outside curves. This plan caused much UK stock to come to grief. My two 'Consolidations' would both force their pilots off. Four-wheel

stock, especially items of greater length, would also decouple or derail. We will need to avoid this arrangement in the future.

We are invited and confirmed to appear at the Roselle Public Library train show again this year. Set-up for the show is Friday, October 31 from 5pm. Show days are Saturday, November 1st from 9:30am to 4pm and Sunday November 2nd from 1pm to 4pm. Roselle Public Library is 40 Park St, Roselle, IL. As of right now, the only layout I am committing to the show is our club's N scale T-Trak layout. Please reach out to me, Martin Sorensen, if you have a layout you wish to bring to the show.

Alex Jackiw, Arnie Iturrieta and I have been talking about the potential for a multi-club clubhouse. We have all agreed that having a clubhouse where a layout is always available for running is desirable for both BTS and ETE Chicagoland. Our biggest hurdle would be dues. As of right now, BTS is \$15 for annual dues. Current estimates suggest at least \$50 *monthly* would be the minimum to maintain a clubhouse. That is also provided all of both BTS and ETE are willing to commit to those dues. Hopefully, we could attract an additional club to join us as well. We understand this will be steep. No action on this has been taken yet. We are open to opinions and suggestions.

On Saturday, September 6th, I had a table at the Villa Park scale model train swap meet. A not insignificant amount of the remaining Bill Donahue collection was sold, including all remaining locomotives. There are still some items left. What items that are left will be available at Harry's on Saturday, October 11th.

I hope many of you enjoyed this issue of Left Hand Running. I look forward to seeing many of you at Harry's on Saturday, October 11th.

Martin Sorensen, President