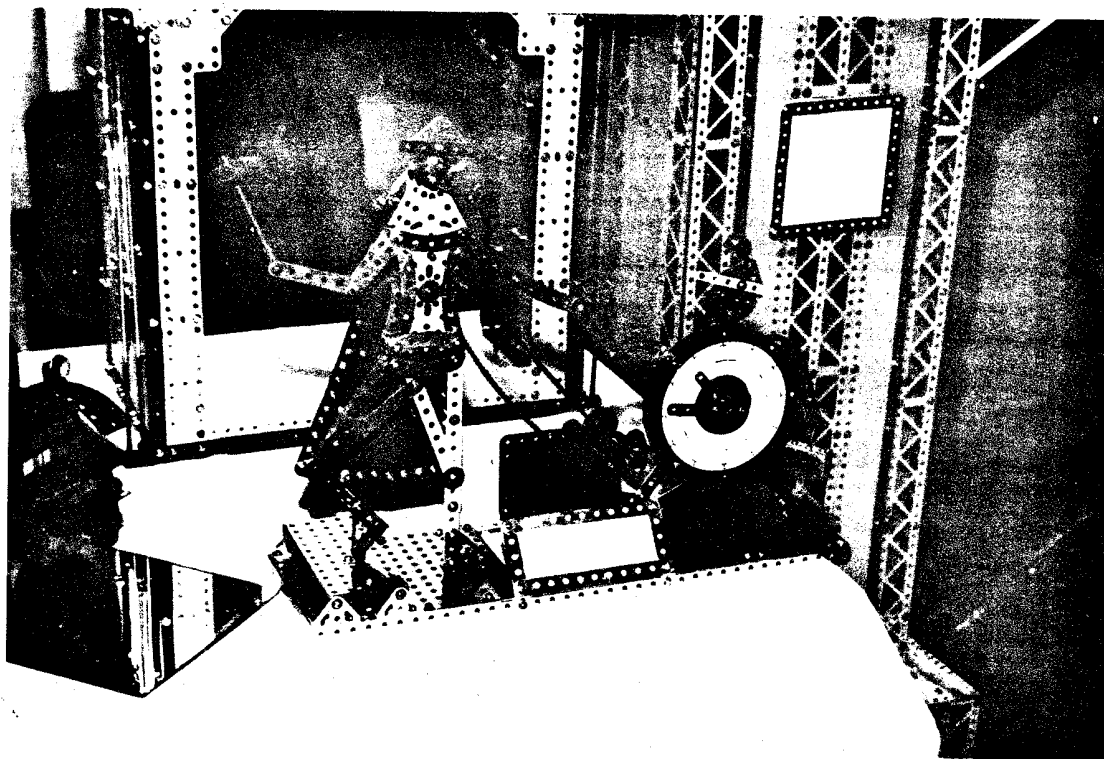




ISSUE NO. 23

SEPTEMBER 1988



Pierrot & Harlequin clock by Brian Harper at Kelham '88

SMG NEWS is a supplement to MECCANO QUARTERLY, to provide news about events in the Sheffield area, of interest to SMG members.

This issue contains a report of the SMG Exhibition held at Kelham Island on the 16th. & 17th. July 1988.

MODEL REPORT

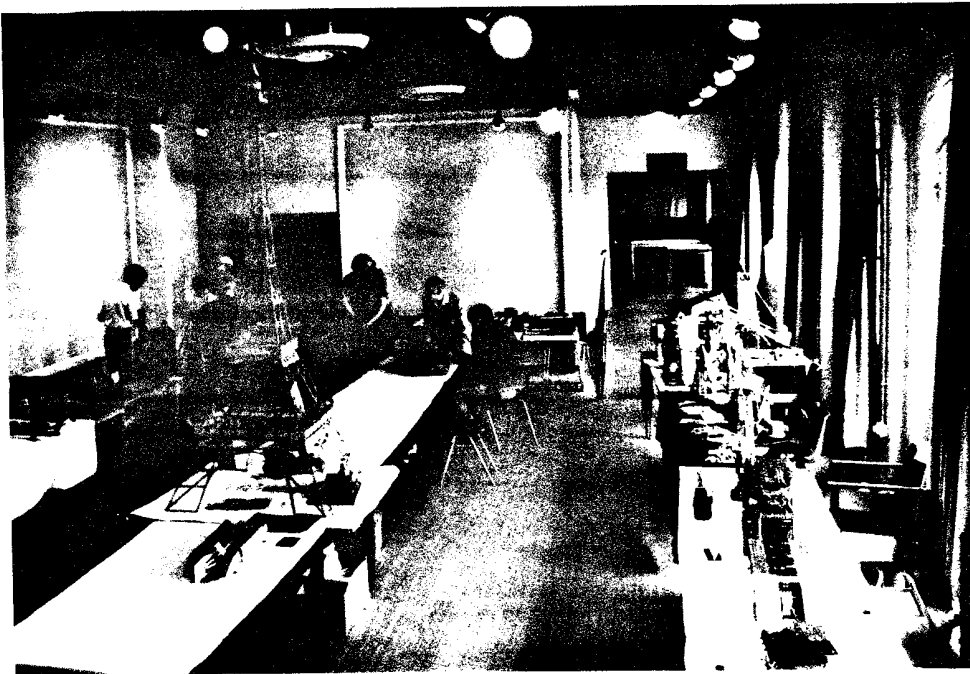
The S.M.G's exhibition at Kelham Island Industrial Museum was an outstanding success, with its fine turnout of both Meccano models and visitors. Unlike last years exhibition, fine weather prevailed, which probably sent a lot of prospective visitors elsewhere, but however, enough came to make the whole venture worthwhile. The large number and variety of models is detailed below.

Eric, Joyce, and Robin Schoolar brought their superb Wuppertal Schwebbahn. This suspended monorail is based on a prototype near Dusseldorf in West Germany. The track is arranged as a 'Dumbell' shape so as to give a continuous run of about 17 feet length. Three cars run at the same time, and isolating sections prevent collisions and give an uncanny amount of automation.

The Schoolar family also each brought their own individual models. Joyce brought an exploding boat and submarine (great fun), Eric brought an almost microscopic chassis complete with steering and differential, and Robin brought his swinging monkey, whose fate it is to climb hand over hand along a moving rope to reach a banana- a pleasantly futile task.

Bernard Sage arrived with his famous electro-mechanical '2p in the slot' mechanism. He also brought his puzzling Non-reversing windmill.

Nick Rudoe brought the Eric Taylor Crawler Tractor, built in 1950's red & green. Nick's modifications to the original included thickened drive sprockets, and hinged bonnet to reveal the detailed engine.



EARLY SATURDAY MORNING  
VIEW OF THE EXHIBITION  
HALL-note the air of  
tense expectancy!

Pete Pyefinch made the journey from Lincoln with his Scammell Heavy Haulage Tractor Unit, built in blue, yellow & zinc parts.

Rob Mitchell brought a variety of models, including a 'Thing', a Meccanosaurus, small scale red & green dockyard crane, and a primitive lego bashing machine, with an

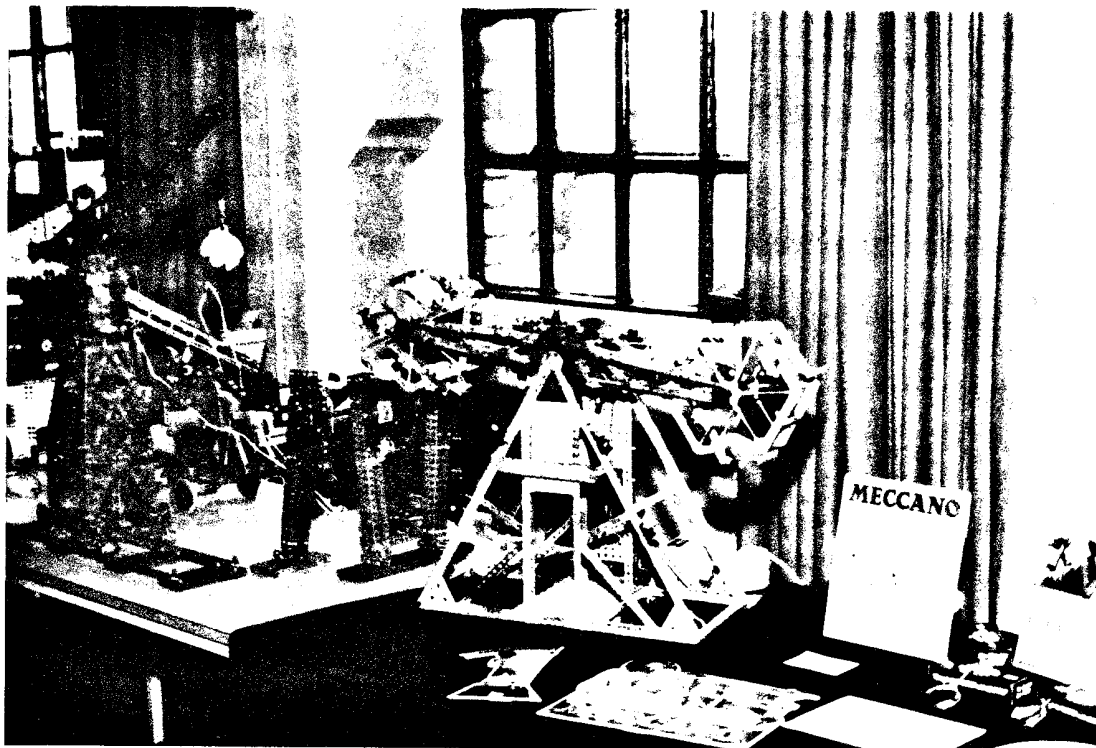
energetic man making it work. Rob also fetched his steam-powered 'chariot', which sported power steering, 3-speed crash gearbox, 3-point suspension, and a driver. Finally, he brought his Dolomite Processing Plant, complete with conveyor belt, surge hoppers, electromagnetic feeders, BJD hammer mills, bucket elevator, reciprocating screens, drag chain, & dense phase blowing machinery.

Iain McKenzie joined forces with Richard Bigham to put on an impressive display of Bayko at one end of the room. Iain wasted no time in building the 'Voiture De Maitre' from the cover of SNGM no.22 in red & green. He also brought a 1930's red-green bucket dredger and two shop window display models; an American loco and ferris wheel. Iain fetched Barrie McKenzies enormous unfinished zinc & yellow Eiffel Tower which dominated the centre of the room.

John Martin arrived with an LNER A4 modelled in 1934 plain blue and 1978 blue. This highly detailed small-scale model is built roughly to 'O' gauge, and one nice touch was the use of spring clips for coal in the tender.

John McDonald's incredible talent for bending flexible plates was shown off in a variety of superb military models, including a red & green 'FAUN' tank transporter with Crusader tank, and two Army Green models; a Kettenkraftrad (tracked motor cycle to us), and a 1931 'Lanchester' Armoured car. All of John's models worked as well as they looked.

Richard Kent brought quite a selection of models. They were an example of SML 6 in yellow & black, a junior 'son' of 'Thing', and a pair of different no.1 set scooters.



TOM McCALLUM'S DEALERS FERRIS WHEEL AND REPLICA SHOWCARDS

Charles Hatfield brought three models to Kelham Island- a 'magic windmill' and a pair of steam engines, the larger of which represented an undertype machine, as made by Robey's of Lincoln in the 1890's. The smaller model represented a beam engine, built in red & blue parts.

Brian Harper gave his magnificent Grandfather clock another airing. Built in zinc yellow & blue, it stands 7' high and keeps accurate time. Powered by a pair of 15lb weights, it will run for 2 days on one winding. Brian also brought his Pierrot and Harlequin clock, as designed by Konkoly.

Frank Grant took a novel Meccanograph. Based on a Konkoly design, it sports an interesting feature--an 'Etch-a-Sketch' type drawing board on which the design is

scribed . To erase the design, the board is moved out (under power) and then moved back.

Roy Everitt brought his version of the Irving-Napier 'Golden Arrow' car which broke the world land speed record in 1929. The model features clutch, 3-speed gearbox, and twin propellor shafts.

Tom McCallum's display consisted of factory built models. One was a 1950's red & green Showmans Engine mounted on a plinth, and the other was a ferris wheel with twin contra-rotating wheels in blue, yellow & zinc.

Geoff Brown brought his 1920's nickel tower crane, and a 25-year old LMS 'Princess' loco, which sports a cranked front axle, internal motion, and tender drive.

Mike Beadman took a miniature monorail loco (no track yet!) and a ship's crane, powered by Ni-Cad batteries and M5 motor. Mike provided a realistic load on the hook with a rather heavy little biplane.

Last, but by no means least, John Bader came from Bradford with a plastic Meccano Tower Bridge, and plastic Meccanograph from the 400 manual. His two standard Meccano models were a Zinc, yellow & black beam engine, and a 0-4-0 ST industrial tank loco. Mounted on a 'rolling rail', it used Argentinian 3" circular plates & 2½" wheel flanges for the wheels.

Finally, members votes were counted on Sunday afternoon for the SMG trophy. The results were as follows.....

3rd-Rob Mitchell-for general model display  
2nd-John McDonald-tank transporter  
1st-Schoolar family-monorail

All in all, it was a good weekend, and hopefully we can do the same in 1982

ROBIN SCHOOLAR BROODS OVER THE ADJUSTMENT OF HIS DOUBLE-LEFT-HANDED-INVERTED  
SCRUNGE-BRACKET



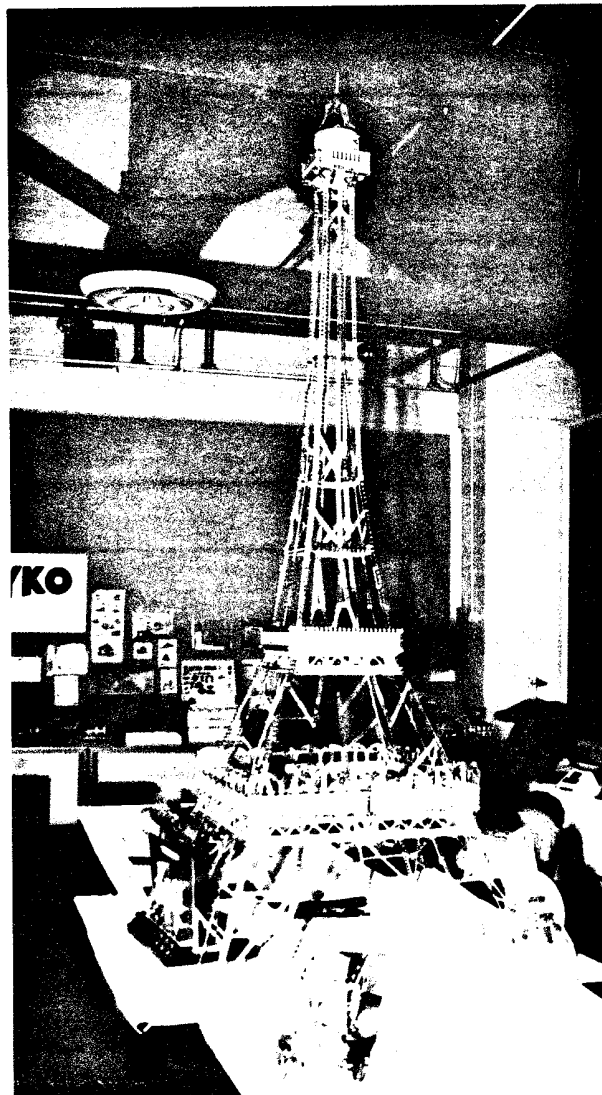
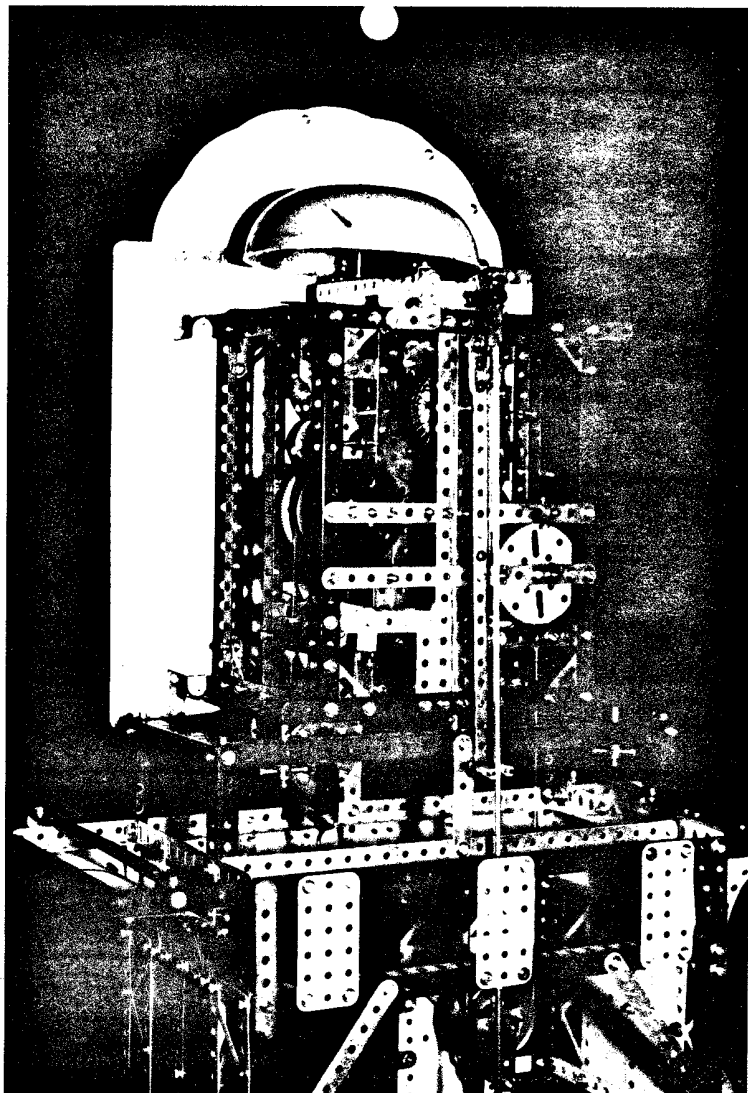
MECCANO MEETINGS & EXHIBITIONS, 1988-1989

24th. SEPTEMBER SOUTH-EAST LONDON MECCANO CLUB, CLUB MEETING (ELTHAM)  
1st. OCTOBER MIDLANDS MECCANO GUILD, CLUB MEETING (ALCESTER)  
8th. OCTOBER SHEFFIELD MECCANO GUILD, CLUB MEETING & AGM (NORTON)  
8th. OCTOBER RUNNYMEDE MECCANO GUILD, CLUB MEETING (OTTERSRAW)  
15th. OCTOBER SOUTH-EAST LONDON MECCANO CLUB, EXHIBITION (ELTHAM)  
22nd. OCTOBER HOLY TRINITY MECCANO CLUB, CLUB MEETING (HILDENBOROUGH)  
OCTOBER MECCANO EXHIBITION IN TELFORD TOWN CENTRE  
19th. NOVEMBER NORTH-EASTERN MECCANO SOCIETY, EXHIBITION (DARLINGTON)  
19th. NOVEMBER WEST LONDON MECCANO SOCIETY, CLUB MEETING (GREENFORD)  
26th. NOVEMBER HENLEY SOC. OF MECCANO ENGINEERS, CLUB MEETING (HENLEY)  
1989  
25th. FEBRUARY HENLEY SOC. OF MECCANO ENGINEERS, CLUB MEETING (HENLEY)  
25th. MARCH MIDLANDS MECCANO GUILD, CLUB MEETING (ALCESTER)  
22nd. APRIL HOLY TRINITY MECCANO CLUB, CLUB MEETING (HILDENBOROUGH)  
27th. MAY HENLEY SOC. OF MECCANO ENGINEERS, CLUB MEETING (HENLEY)

MORE MODELS FROM KELHAM ISLAND '88

Brian Harpers clock-rear view.

Barrie McKenzies's rafter-scraping  
Eiffel Tower.



A.G.M., NORTON, OCTOBER 8th. 1988.

This meeting, to be held at the usual venue of Norton church hall is of special importance for members because the present Guild officers- Richard Bingham, Robin Johnson, & Peter Mason- have all expressed an intention NOT to stand for re-election for the forthcoming year.

These three tireless workers have done a tremendous job for us in the past, and will be a hard act to follow. It is expected that new officers will be elected at this meeting, so anyone who can attend, please come to Norton. Your votes, and your opinions, are needed.

A CAUTIONARY TALE.....!

The Rotherham Scaledown Association exists to promote and bring together all aspects of modelling - from model boats to marquetry, from Meccano to model railways. The RSA organises exhibitions in various venues around Rotherham, showing local talent in easily accessible places; e.g. schools, libraries, etc.

Now for the painful reality....

The RSA, now renamed the Rotherham Association of Scale Modellers, has suffered a decline in membership from about 120 members in 1984-'85, to around 20 at present

WHY?

- 1)- lack of new material; the same items on show year after year, with notable exceptions (e.g. Meccano)
- 2)- great ideas never carried out- not enough commitment to actually doing things instead of talking about it

RESULT -

Poor public attendance at some local exhibitions; it's all been seen before, compounded by insufficient advertising of events.

Meccano has the great advantage that it can be re-assembled into something new. Thus, new ideas can be quickly made solid, enthusiasm is maintained, and the public always has something new to see.

Which would you rather see?- a collection of plastic models, which, however good they are, have been around for years?

Or, a Meccano exhibition where you are never sure what you are going to see, anything from an astronomical clock to a Ping-Pong ball roller?

GUILD OFFICERS

CHAIRMAN- RICHARD BINGHAM

TREASURER- PETER MASON

SECRETARY- ROBIN JOHNSON

CREDITS

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NEWSLETTER PRODUCTION- MIKE BEADMAN & ROB MITCHELL