



# TCS Members' Questionnaire

To help us move our society forward, your committee feel we needed to know a little more about our members. So we have devised a questionnaire which we would ask you to complete and return to us by **20 May 2011** to **Tony Stanford** via e-mail to [memesec@traincollectors.co.uk](mailto:memesec@traincollectors.co.uk) or post to **PO Box 1329 Hemel Hempstead, Herts. HP1 9JZ**. The information collected will be used only by the TCS committee and will not be individually revealed to any third party; we may publish overall statistics. We do ask you to give your name and / or membership no. but if you wish to remain anonymous you are welcome to do so. However all non-anonymous replies will be entered into a draw and the first one selected will have a free TCS membership for 12 months.

## Part 1 - A few details about you

Your name

TCS membership no (if known)

### 1.2 Your age

Please tick one

- 30 or under ☐
- 31 to 45 ☐
- 46 to 60 ☐
- 61 to 75 ☐
- Over 75 ☐

**1.3 Your location** – if you have not provided us with your name please give your postal county or state or first three characters of postcode

## Part 2 – Your toy and model train interests

### 2.1 Your scales / gauges of interest

Please indicate in first column the main scales/gauges that interest you and in the second column any others in which you have some interest. Please tick as many items in each column that are relevant to you.

|             | Main                     | Other                    |
|-------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| G           | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| I or bigger | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| O           | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| S           | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| OO/HO       | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| TT          | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| N           | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Z           | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other       | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

(Please specify)

### 2.2 Your favourite manufacturer

Please indicate in first column the main manufacturers of toy trains that interest you and in the second column any others in which you have some interest. Please tick as many items in each column that are relevant to you.

|                           | Main                     | Other                    |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Airfix                    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Bachmann                  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Bassett-Lowke             | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Bing                      | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Bowman                    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Carrette                  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Fleischmann               | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Graham Farish             | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Hornby (Meccano)          | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Lionel                    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Lone Star                 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Märklin                   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Mainline (Palitoy)        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Rivarossi                 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Rovex Tri-ang Hornby      | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Trix                      | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other<br>(Please specify) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

### 2.3 Your preferred era

Please indicate in first column the main era of model / toy train manufacture that interest you and in the second column any others in which you have some interest. Please tick as many items in each column that are relevant to you.

|                 | Main                     | Other                    |
|-----------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Pre 1900        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 1900 – 1919     | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 1920 – 1944     | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 1945 – 1970     | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 1971-1995       | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 1996 to present | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

## 2.4 Your preferred type of train item

Please indicate in first column the main sort of model / toy train item that interest you and in the second column any others in which you have some interest. Please tick as many items in each column that are relevant to you.

|                            | Main                     | Other                    |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Locomotives                | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Passenger rolling stock    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Goods rolling stock        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Railway Buildings          | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other accessories          | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Catalogues and other paper | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Track                      | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Power supply               | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other (Please specify)     | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

**2.5** Do you have one (or more) permanent layout(s) at home? (Please include a 'portable' layout if in practices it stays at home!) YES /NO  
(Please ring your answer)

If Yes please give a brief description

**2.6** Do you regularly set up a temporary 'layout' or set up at home (e.g. at Christmas?) YES /NO  
(Please ring your answer)

If Yes please give a brief description

**2.7** Do you currently have one (or more) portable layouts, set ups or displays that you operate away from home? YES /NO (Please ring your answer)

If Yes

- Do you exhibit at trains shows YES/NO  
(Please ring your answer)
- Please give a brief description of the layout(s) / display(s)

## 2.8 Do you belong to any other model / toy train club or society?

Please tick as many as apply

|                          |                          |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Bassett-Lowke Society    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| HRCA                     | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| TTRCA                    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| TCA                      | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Tri-ang Society          | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Local model railway club | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other (please specify)   | <input type="checkbox"/> |

**2.9** Please give a short description of your toy train interests

**2.10** Do you feel you have particular knowledge / expertise in any toy train subject, and if so what?

### Part 3 – About the Train Collectors Society and you

**3.1** The TCS provides a number of services to members. Please indicate which you value the most or least by ticking just one item in each column

|                           | Most valued              | Least valued             |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Train Collector</b>    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| TCS web site              | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| TCS events                | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| TrainColSoc E-group       | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Spares directory          | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other<br>(Please specify) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

**3.2** Thinking of recent issues of the **Train Collector** magazine what have been the articles or series

a) You most liked (please give no more than three)

b) You least liked (please give no more than three)

c) You wish you had written (please give no more than three)

**3.3** Again thinking of recent issues of the **Train Collector** magazine what in your view is the most important topic area that has not been covered?

**3.4** And conversely what topic or article(s) could have been omitted without any real loss?

**3.5** Do you have regular access to the Internet? YES/NO *(Please ring your answer)*

If NO please skip to question 3.14 below

**3.6** On the TCS Yahoo! E-Group (TrainColSoc)

Are you a member of this group? YES/NO *(Please ring your answer)*

If yes how regularly do you look at the group? Please tick one

- Receive messages to my E-mail ☐
- Look daily ☐
- Look at least once a week ☐
- Look at least once a month ☐
- Look occasionally ☐
- Never looked ☐

**3.7** On the TCS Web site How often do you look at this?

- Look daily ☐
- Look at least once a week ☐
- Look at least once a month ☐
- Look occasionally ☐
- Never looked ☐

**3.8** What do you find most useful on this web site?

**3.9** Do you have any difficulties finding what you are looking for – if so please explain what?

**3.10** Is there anything else you would like to see on the website – if so please explain what?

**3.11** On the Spares Directory How often do you look at this on line?

- Look daily ☐
- Look at least once a week ☐
- Look at least once a month ☐
- Look occasionally ☐
- Never looked ☐

**3.12** When you have used the spares directory, have you been able to find what you were looking for?

- Most times ☐  
 Sometimes ☐  
 Occasionally ☐  
 Never ☐

**3.13** Have you had any difficulties in using directory on line – if so please give details.

**3.16** If you do not regularly attend these events what are the main reasons. Please tick one or more

- Distance ☐  
 Journey too complicated ☐  
 Entrance fee too high ☐  
 Dates not convenient ☐  
 Personal issues (e.g. limited mobility) ☐  
 Other ☐  
 (Please specify)

## Now about TCS Events

**3.14 Attendance at the TCS events** (the AGM, the Summer Show at Sandy and the Leicester meet in November)

Please tick one in each column to indicate how often you have been to each event

|             | AGM                      | Sandy                    | Leicester                |
|-------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Never       | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Once        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| A few times | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Most years  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Every year  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

**3.15** If you have attended a number of these events recently what did you enjoy the most / least? Please indicate which you particularly enjoyed (tick as many as you wish).

- Vintage train layouts ☐  
 Scale layouts ☐  
 Static displays ☐  
 Trade stands ☐  
 Lunch ☐  
 Meeting fellow collectors ☐  
 Other ☐  
 (Please specify)

## Your involvement with the TCS

**3.17** The TCS is an entirely voluntary organisation and depends on its members for all the services it provides. Would you be able to contribute to the running of the TCS in any (or all) of the following ways? Please tick one or more

- Assist in show set up / break down ☐  
 Assist in show staffing during day ☐  
 Organise a local TCS show ☐  
 Provide a layout or static display ☐  
 Write an article for the ***Train Collector*** ☐  
 Serve on the TCS Committee ☐  
 Other ☐  
 (Please specify)

**Finally please add any further comments you wish** (on a separate sheet if necessary)

**Thank you for completing this questionnaire**

Please return completed questionnaires to:

**Tony Stanford, TCS Membership Secretary, PO Box 1329, Hemel Hempstead, Herts, HP1 9JZ**  
 Or E-mail to [memsec@traincollectors.co.uk](mailto:memsec@traincollectors.co.uk)