SOCIETY ABBREVIATIONS

The Editors of our publications use a kind of shorthand to save needless repetition when describing locomotives etc. For the benefit of new members some of the abbreviations are listed below.

For STEAM LOCOMOTIVES, the long-established Whyte system is used, i.e. 4-6-2, 0-6-0 etc. For tank locomotive the suffix T, ST, WT are added as appropriate. A tank locomotive with a tender, not uncommon in narrow-gauge circles, is for example 2-4-0 T+T. Other, less common suffixes include VB (vertical boiler.) and G (geared loco).

For NON-STEAM LOCOMOTIVES, the picture is more complicated. Those with conventional coupling rods like a steam loco use the Whyte system as above, with a suffix P (petrol), D (diesel) or BE {battery electric}. locos where axles are individually powered, or connected by gears, are shown with a 'w' suffix after the axle - the examples below should make this clearer.

4w - 4w
4w - 4
bogie loco with one powered bogie
2 - 2w - 4
bogie loco with one axle powered
2-6w
rigid frame loco with leading pony truck and three axles all geared
four-wheel loco with one powered axle
four-wheel loco with both axles powered but no coupling rods

NON-STEAM LOCOS

DM- diesel loco with mechanical transmission
DH- diesel loco with hydraulic transmission
DE- diesel loco with electric transmission
D - diesel loco, transmission type unknown

PM, PH etc. – as above with petrol engine

R - Railcar

BE - Battery-electric RE - Third-rail electric

WE - Overhead wire electric

s/o - diesel or petrol loco with steam-loco type superstructure

locos with identifiable Makers Works No. and year built are listed as, for example - 1234/98 = Works No. 1234 built 1898.

LOCOMOTIVE MANUFACTURERS

The most common ones are as follows:

AB	Andrew Barclay	HL	Hawthorn Leslie
ΑE	Avonside Engine Co.	JF	John Fowler
AK	Alan Keef	K	Kitson & Co
AS	Andrew Barclay	KC	Kent Construction
Bg	E.E. Baguley	KS	Kerr, Stuart
Bgc	Baguley Cars	L	Lister
BL	Bassett Lowke	LB	Lister Blackstone
BLW	Baldwin Loco Works	MR	Motor Rail
BP	Beyer Peacock	NB	North British
CE	Clarke Chapman (Clayton Engineering)	NW	Nasmyth Wilson
D	Dubs	OK	Orenstein &
DC	Drewry Car Co	Р	Peckett
Dcv	Decauville	RH	Ruston Hornsby
DK	Dick, Kerr	RP	Ruston Proctor
Dtz	Deutz	RS	Robert
FH	F.C. Hibberd (Planet)	S	Sentinel
GB	Greenwood & Batley	SS	Sharp, Stewart
GE	George England	TG	T. Green
GM	General Motors(EMD)	TH	Thomas Hill
Н	J & F Howard	WB	W. Bagnall
ш	Lludouall Clarks	WD	Wingrove &
HC	Hudswell Clarke	WR	Rogers
HE	Hunslet Engine Co.		

There are of course many others, but these are so rarely used that they are generally spelled out in full.