

How the railways came to be built in Eaton Park

Highlights and short history ...

June 1933	Inaugural meeting of Norwich and District Society of Model Engineers
June 1942	Society's HQ and workshop in King Street destroyed by enemy action.
Feb 1957	Society accepts the Norwich Corporation offer of a site in Eaton Park for a permanent track.
May 1960	Official opening of the track in Eaton Park. This was a circle around the site occupied by the Club House. First day of public running, takings £5.6.0. (£5.30).
May 1966	Passenger trolleys rebuilt.
Oct 1966	Construction begun on new trolleys.
Sept 1969	Track discovered vandalised by removal of a piece of outer rail. It was quickly replaced and running commenced five minutes late.
April 1973	Commencement of building current elevated track of 955ft.
April 1974	New track opened by Councillor John Walker.
March 1979	All five passenger trolleys rebuilt with new bogies, upholstered seats and yellow valances with "NDSME" lettering.
Nov 1983	Tree fell on track.
April 1984	After several cold Sunday mornings the track was finally repaired.
Oct 1987	Gales damage track around steaming bays, completely destroying one section.
Jan 1989	Discussions begin about a proposal to build a 7¼" track in Eaton Park.
May 1989	Public running increased to every Sunday of the season, subject to having sufficient numbers of locomotives and members to operate the service.
Sept 2002	Foundations of Clubhouse laid in Eaton Park.
June 2004	Lord Mayor opens the new Clubhouse.
June 2004	Work on constructing new track begins.
Easter 2006	New line opened for public running.
Jan 2008	Work starts on building new covered train station.

With thanks to Norwich and District Society of Model Engineers