



**No. 61662 in LNER Days at Nottingham**

**(Photo : Rail Archive Stephenson)**

We're keeping a fairly low profile in Manchester at the moment following the recent defeat by City and subsequent loss of the Premiership Title. However, we can assure our Members and Supporters that there are no plans to jump ship and build No. 61671 instead ! Several new Members have joined us in recent weeks and work continues on rebuilding the locomotive cab at the Mizens Railway near Woking. We hope to be able to show some new photos of this very soon.

As mentioned elsewhere, details of this July's fund raising Land's End to John O'Groats cycle ride are now being finalised and a special stop will be included at Old Trafford en route to help to raise public awareness for the Engine 61662 Appeal.

In the meantime, we can reflect on a bit of railway history. The above photo shows 'Manchester United' in virtually brand new condition carrying its original LNER number 2862 at Nottingham Victoria Station whilst working the 2-20pm Manchester London Road to London Marylebone express train on 21<sup>st</sup> May 1938. To put things into perspective, when this superb photo was taken, almost exactly 74 years ago, Manchester United were about to start their 43<sup>rd</sup> season in the Football League, Jimmy Hanlon was the top goal scorer and the start of World War II was more than a year away !

To end on a on a very positive note, one of our members, who wishes to remain nameless for the time being, has managed to purchase the original 'Manchester United' nameplate featured in last month's Newsletter. Therefore at some point in the future it might well be possible for the new No. 61662 to carry its original nameplate on special occasions