



BACHMANN
MODELZONE BLUE 2-EPB

HORNBY TONY WRIGHT ON THE B1



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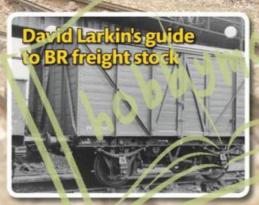
THE BRM AWARDS Our top 3

layouts of

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Weathered Wagons OO Scale Triple Wagon Packs

Introducing the new OO Scale weathered wagon triple packs from Bachmann Branchline. Featuring our new improved weathering techniques, which make subtle use of colour and general weathering effects, these wagons evoke the realism of everyday working rolling stock. For more information, please visit **www.bachmann.co.uk**.



37-095 'Coal Trader' Triple Pack 7 Plank Private Owner Wagons - Weathered





38-185 Triple Pack BR Ventilated Vans BR Bauxite (Late) - Weathered

4



37-235 Triple Pack 16 Ton Steel Mineral Wagons BR Grey - Weathered





38-390 Triple Pack 12 Ton Ventilated Vans BR Bauxite (Early) - Weathered



Also Available	37-715	Triple Pack 8 Ton Cattle Wagons BR Bauxite (Early) - Weathered	4
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Era 3 signifies locomotives suitable for period 1923 - 1947 The Big Four - LMS, GWR, LNER & SR

Era (a) signifies locomotives suitable for period 1948 - 1956 British Railways Early Emblem

Era (5) signifies locomotives suitable for period 1957 - 1966 British Railways Late Crest



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ETCH	ED	W	ATE	R'	TANE	(S				
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GWR	TOKEN	APPARA	TUS	
MT243	GWR Squ	are Post		£10.1
A High	y Detailed	Brass Lost	Wax (Dra	wing.

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ETCHED LOCO BRAKE SHOES

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MT103 GWR 4000g Chassis £8.90
MT252 GWR Etched Tender Steps £1.25
MT337 GWR Water Scoop £1.30

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Incl Crown & Makers Plates etc £1.60
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METAL STRIP

141		9		
(Availal	ole in 5 wi	dths: 1	. 2. 3.	4, 5 mm
BRASS 10				
N/S 10th /7	in) 3 strine			

BRASS 10th (6in) 3 strips	75p
N/S 10th (7in) 3 strips	75p
P/BRONZE 10th (8in) 3 strips	95p
COMPOSITE PACK	£7.60
45 Strips (3 each of x 3 Metals x 5	Widths)

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26 BR Rev Wagon Pre Tops Instruction	
31 Pullman Crests, Nos, Names1930-6	
32 Pullman Lining 1930 & 1960	
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LP10 Fine 3 Link Unassembled (4 prs) .£5.2
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LP4 3 Link Assembled (4 prs) £8.3
LP11 Fine 3 Link Assembled (4 prs) £8.3
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floren 15 Spoke (LMS Ivatt / BR 73XXX)
floren 16 Spoke (LMS Ivatt / BR 73XXX)
floren 16 Spoke (LMS/BR)
floren 16 Spoke (LMS/BR)
floren 17 Spoke LMS (Crab)
floren 17 Spoke LMS (Crab)
floren 17 Spoke LMS (Crab)
floren 18 Spoke (BR)
floren 18 Spoke (BR)
floren 19 WEBSITE or REQUEST LISTING 24.7mm 18 Spoke (LNER Various) 26mm 22 Spoke (GWR King) 26mm 20 Spoke (LNER Vario 26mm 22 Spoke (Schools/Arthur)) 27mm 21 Spoke (Duchess) 27mm 21 Spoke (LMS Jub/Patriotetc) 27mm 21 Spoke (Fowler Scot

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56		JACKSON
20	9mm Disc 10.5mm Disc	10.5mm Spk 12mm 3 Hole
	12mm BR 3 Hole	12mm Disc

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PINPOINT AXLES	£2.15
9mm Disc	10.5mm Spk
10.5mm Disc	12mm 3 Hole
12mm BR 3 Hole	12mm Disc
12mm 8 Spk	12mm 8 Split Spk
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14mm Spk	16mm Disc
16mm Spk	
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13mm 10 Spk (10 Spk)	Bevel)
16mm 12 Spk (Bevel)	17mm 12 Spk (Bevel)
DOOLE	

14mm Spk	16mm Disc
16mm Spk	
PINPOINT AXLES	N/S Tyres . £3.45
13mm 10 Spk (10 Spk I	Bevel)
16mm 12 Spk (Bevel)	17mm 12 Spk (Bevel)
BOGIE	£2.15
9mm Spk	9mm Disc
10.5mm Spk	10.5mm Disc
12mm 10 Spk	12mm Disc
16mm Disc	
BOGIE N/S Tyres	£3.45
12mm 9 Spk	12mm 3ft 1in 10Spk

12mm 3ft 1in 10Spk 13mm 10 Spk 14mm 10 Spk 15mm Spoked or Disc 16mm (Bevel) Spk 17mm (Bevel) 12 Spk 14mm 12 Spk 14mm Disc 16mm (Plain) Spl

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8BA	MT902 Ch MT912 Csk £1.4
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14BA	MT905 Ch MT915 Csk £2.9
20 x l	BRASS WASHERS
MT921	6BA 60p MT922 8BA 80p
MT923	10BA . £1.00 .MT924 12BA . £1.25
MT925	14BA £1.50
COM	POSITE PACK BRASS
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	each Nuts & Bolts + 20 each Washers!

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to 1.00mm then 1.2/1.3/1.4/1.5/1.6) .	£10.00
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11532 As 11516 Titanium Coated	£11.00
11533 As 11520 Titanium Coated	£13.00

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MAINLY TRAINS

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MAINLY TRAINS 00 PRODUCTS



Stop Kit Brass Lost War (Fine Scale) £4.95

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£4.46 £5.82

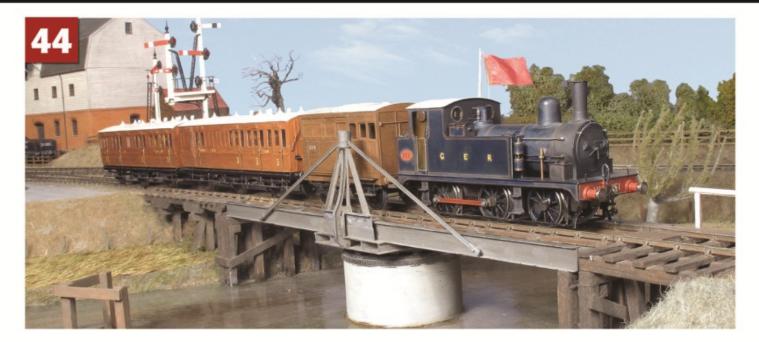
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£1.07



Tender, Loco & Coach Chassis. Architectural Items, General Loco, Wagon and Coach Detailing Parts.

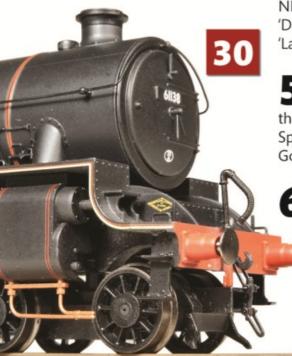
Contents



More from Hornby and some new building papers.

New Releases Hornby's new B1 gets the spotlight this month, as well as their Gresley suburbans. From Bachmann there's the Class 350 and Modelzone EPB.

Layout Focus East Lynn & Nunstanton - Trevor Nunn's suberb S Scale Great Eastern-based layout.



Modern Railway
Modelling

NIgel Burkin glazes a Bachmann 'Deltic' using Shawplan's 'Laserglaze'.

6 Practical BRM Howard Leader builds the crossing cottages for Spalding MRC's new club layout Gosberton Risegate.

Layout FocusTower Pier - a fictitious 'Widened Lines' terminus in EM from Geoff Ashdown.

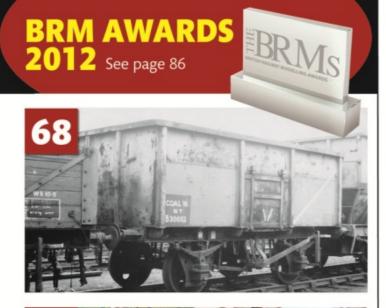
> **Readers' Layouts** Have your layout or project featured on these pages and you'll get £25.00.

Freight Only Part one of a series on BR-absorbed wagons by David Larkin.

Practical BRM Karl Crowther builds an 850 Class Pannier in EM for Cornwallis Yard.

Layout Focus Botleigh Old North Road Shed - Ian Corps introduces his Southern Region shed in OO gauge.

6 DCC Spot Biscuit box DCC - Graeme Elgar shows how easy it is to build transportable controls.





90 Practical BRM Building the MARC Models 'Coronation' triplet set described by Geoff Haynes.

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What's happening this month within the hobby.



DIGITAL EDITIONS

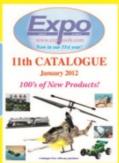
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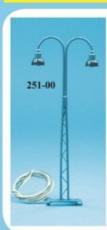
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EXPO High Quality Pin Pushers

2 types available: CODE: 751-10 2mm - for fine model railway track pins

CODE: 751-20 3mm - for heavier track pins such as Hornby





MODELMAKERS SCALE RULE

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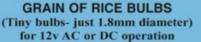
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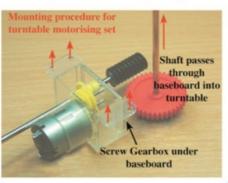
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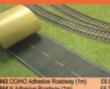
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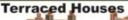
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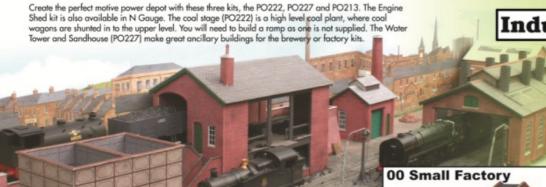
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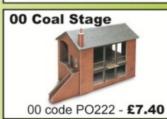


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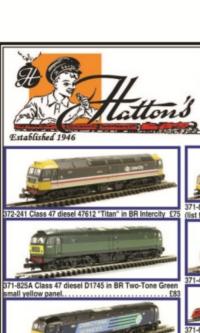


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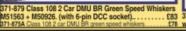


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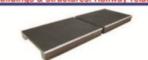
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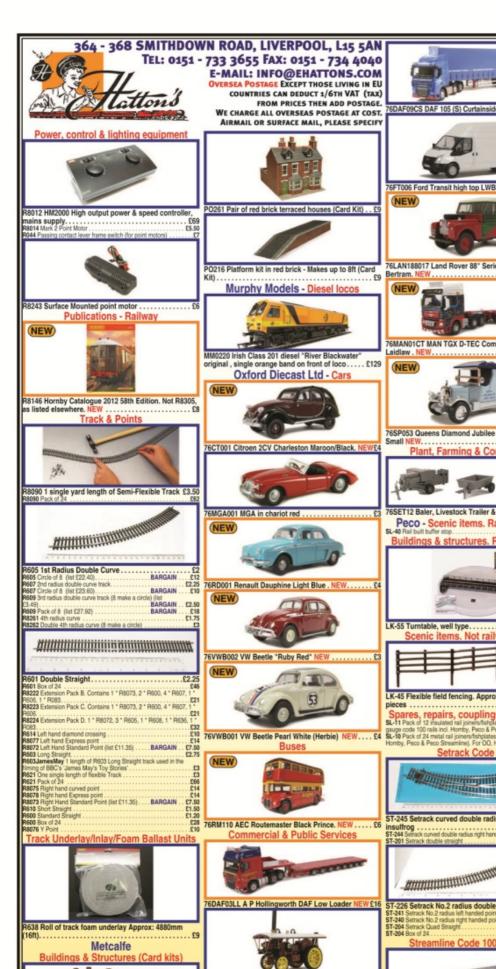
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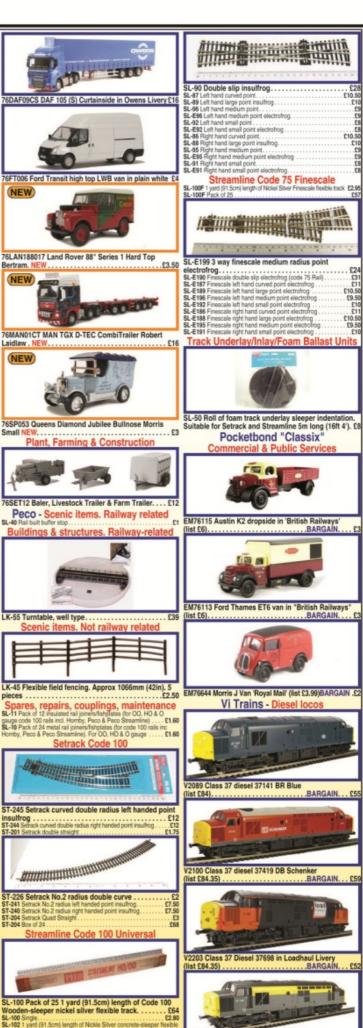
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Jack Ray

SCENIC

As mentioned last month Mike Cook, the moving force behind the York Model Railway Show, passed away on December 16. This year would have marked his 50 years involvement in the show and we understand that Mike's name will be kept as Exhibition Manager for the 2012 show as a tribute to him. Derek Mundy gives an appreciation of Mike Cook on page 110.

Sadly, we also heard the news that another pioneer of the hobby passed away in January. Jack Ray, who has died at the age of 95, was a founder member of the Gauge O Guild and their first chairman. I'm sure most readers will remember

Jack from his famous garden layout Crewchester which inspired so many modellers. Graham Sheppard, Gauge O Guild Treasurer, has an appreciation of Jack Ray which we will publish next month.

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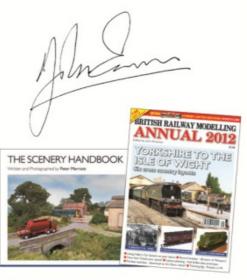


Also new is The Scenery Handbook from regular BRM contributor Peter Marriott. In this latest book Peter looks at some of the latest products and innovations in the hobby, and shows you how to use them to produce effective scenery. Look out for Peter Marriott's scenery features in BRM over the coming months. The new book is priced at £12.99, or buy it together with Tony Hill's DVD for the combined price of £19.99.

While we are on the subject of new books, a reminder that the 2012 BRM Annual is still on sale, and is also available for the first time as a hardback 'Limited Edition', price £16.99. To order any of the above, call 01778 392002 or order online at modelrailways-live.co.uk

Finally, why not enter this month's online competition for your chance to win a brand new Hornby B1? Check out the competition online at www.model-railways-live.co.uk

Until next month, happy modelling!

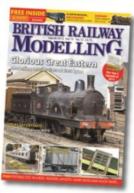




BRITISH RAILWAY

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Front Cover: See this at Doncaster -Trevor Nunn's magnificent S scale East Lynn. Paul Bason



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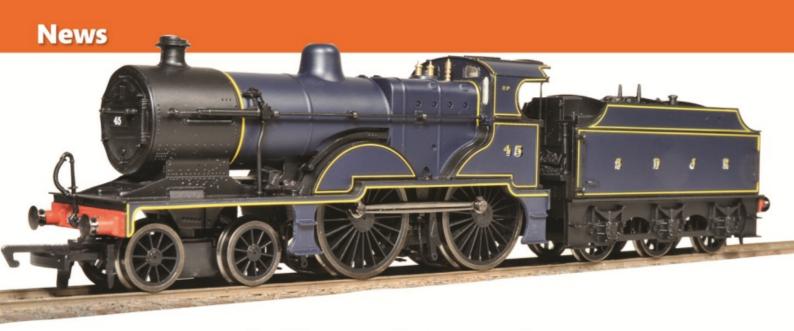
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More Midland Region Motive Power from Hornby

Outside of the 2012 model plans, there are still plenty of new releases from Margate!

ornby have been busy with releases leading up to their 2012 announcements, with a number of new models of interest to those whose leanings are not towards the east of the country!

First up is the 'new' 2P. It's not in fact entirely new; Hornby have taken the original locomotive, which dates back to the Airfix GMR era with a rather poor tender drive and revamped the chassis to loco drive with provision for a DCC decoder in the tender. Two birds with one stone! The tooling of the bodywork is still excellent despite the age of the model - which probably shows how good it was in the first



place! With a top-notch paint finish the locomotive can certainly easily retain its place in the current Hornby range.

For a full review of the 2Ps by Tony Wright, visit: www.model-railways-live.co.uk

Following on, Hornby's 'Black Five' and 8F make a welcome reappearance. This means that there is now another 'Black Five' with Digital Sound, No. 45010 (R2995XS). This one represents the loco really late in its life, with the 'top' lamp iron moved to the three o'clock position on the smokebox door (in case it operated under the wires). So, the centre bracket above the bufferbeam should be offset to the right; all the other 'Black Fives' in pictures with this feature also have overhead electric warning flashes. Many had also lost their lining. Correctly, the model has a domeless boiler and riveted tender (once more, attention to detail from Hornby), and the weathering is nicely applied. And it's Scottish-based, at Hurlford, on the ex-G&SWR. The model is priced at £266.49.

The 8F model reappears after a couple of years absence and No.48706, in heavily weathered condition (R3026), represents one of the 8Fs built at Brighton during the war which saw service on the LNER (as Class O6), eventually ending its days in South Wales. The weathering almost obliterates the numbers (realistically), and there's the usual mix of bits for the purchaser to fit. It runs superbly and is priced £143.99.



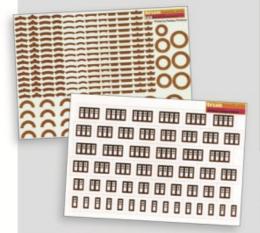


Another Brick in the Wall

Truetexture introduce range of building and detailing sheets in 4mm scale.

new name to us here at BRM is Truetexture, a company producing a range of 'photo-real' selfadhesive sheets, acetates and waterslide transfers in 4mm scale for the railway modeller.

In the range so far are 72 self adhesive 'texture' sheets, covering not only brick in a number of colours, but also stonework, tiles, corrugated sheets, paving and doors plus many others. In the 16 sheets of acetate windows, there are various window formations from industrial to domestic, while

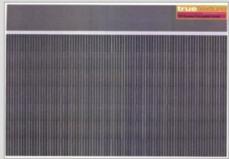






the transfers have a selection of arches and lintels, quoins, graffiti and road markings. The range will be available from many model shops, priced £1.20 for the self-adhesive sheets, the





acetates are £2.80 and the waterslide decal sheets are £5.40 each.

View the full selection or order online via their website: www.truetexture.co.uk

Flower Power!

Gaugemaster has been sending some of the interesting new products in the Noch HO range (suitable for 4mm scale) including a set of plants in pots (14031) priced £6.50, some very intricate platform seats (14849) priced £6.50 and some



laser cut woodpile kits (14212) priced £5.50. These are just a





In conjunction with Dapol, Rails of Sheffield have introduced a limited edition N gauge locomotive pack containing the first two members of the BRCW Type 2s (later Class 26), as D5300 (26 001) Eastfield and D5301 (27 007) in BR green with small yellow ends. The locos were repainted during their final allocation at Eastfield TMD and used on numerous railtours. All the class were withdrawn by 1993, but 13 were preserved including 26 001 Eastfield at the Caledonian Railway and 26 007 at the Great Central.

Previous versions of this Dapol model have already been under the BRM review spotlight and found to be excellent. D5301 is supplied powered and D5300 unpowered (but contains a eight-pin DCC socket to operate lights if required). Etched brass depot plaques and Eastfield nameplates are included for both locos. Priced at £129.95 and limited to 150 packs, these are sure to sell out quickly, so if you want one, contact Rails of Sheffield, 27-29 Chesterfield Road, Sheffield S8 ORL, Tel: 0114 255 1436 or visit: www.railsofsheffield.com





Hornby's new 'Bongo'

Tony Wright gets to grips with the new B1 model from Margate.



The prototypes were the most numerous mixed traffic 4-6-0s running on the LNER and its successors' lines, the Eastern, North Eastern and Scottish Regions of BR. A grand total of 410 was built between 1942 and 1952, though one, 61057, was written off in a smash in 1950, before the last ones were erected, giving a final BR total of 409. The last survivors made it to the penultimate year of steam operation on BR, and some even saw work in departmental use carriage heating, stationary boilers and so on. They were built at Darlington, Glasgow (by North British), Newton-le-Willows (by Vulcan) and Gorton, in various batches, and were an immediate success. Just what the wartime and post-war railways needed - a go-anywhere, rugged, reliable, easy-to-maintain and powerful 5MT, the LNER equivalent of the Stanier 'Black 5', and Edward Thompson's only design memorial worthy of mention. It's not my intention to provide a potted class history (surely folk are more interested in the model?), suggesting that those who want to know more consult with the works of the RCTS (Green Series, Part 2B) or Willie Yeadon (LNER Locomotives, Volume 6). On a personal level, I saw almost half of them at places such as Chester (on the CLC and on summer Saturday extras to the north Wales coast), Manchester (at all four stations), Guide Bridge, Sheffield (both stations), Staveley, Chesterfield, Kiveton Park, Worksop, Retford, Lincoln, Doncaster, Hull, York, Thirsk, Middlesbrough and Darlington. Not being a naturalist or zoologist (just a trainspotter), I puzzled at the early names (some of which I learnt later were tautological - Wildebeeste and Gnu, Inyala and Nyala, and Steinbok and Stembok), and as for the tedious Director names, who were they? I never saw Mayflower, but at least that name had a certain panache.

A very nice representation of the GS 4,200 gallon tender is supplied, complete with fire-iron tunnel (on the driver's side - I assume this is correct, since two B1s are preserved and can be viewed). The rear coal-division plate is correctly across the pick-up dome. In later life this was moved forwards - Hornby has done this with its Scottish B1. An open cab roof ventilator is present, though the cover doesn't slide, and there's no (correctly), too-prominent transverse division line across the roof.

And so to the models to hand, LNER 1040 Roedeer (R2998) and BR 61138 (R2999). 1040 represents the first of the North British-built B1s in as-built condition (April, 1946), and 61138 represents another NB-built example in early '50s BR/L&NWR-style lined black. First impressions were extremely positive, and the handsome look of these utilitarian, though elegant 4-6-0s has been well captured. I tested both locos on a variety of duties on Little Bytham and both performed well, handling typical loads, running freely through my mixture of hand-built and proprietary

trackwork. Roedeer's performance was perfect, rock-steady and with no intrusive noise, though 61138 wobbled

from side to side and, though quiet, had a pronounced tight spot. On investigation, I noted that the slidebars were at the wrong angle, with their back ends higher than the front - the opposite of what should be. I removed the body and bent the slidebar support bracket down, both sides. This cured the tight spot, but not the wobble. It's nice to see the correct forward 'lean' to the return cranks, both sides. Delicate (though durable) sandpipes are a delightful touch. The appearance of the driving wheels is good. However, the bogie wheels (although the correct diameter, and having the prominent centre boss) don't have enough flare to the spokes, so they look a little clumsy. The (cast in coupling. When the scale front shackle is



Reviews



The wrong position of the cabside numbers is very evident here. Note the snug gap 'twixt loco and tender (and the cab doors), plus the delicate brake rigging and sandpipes.

I'd saw off the socket - it's ugly anyway, and B1s spent most of their working life going forwards. Flanges on all wheels are to RP25 standards and have consistent back-to-backs. The beautifully smooth five-pole motor is standard and there's provision inside the tender for a DCC decoder. The drawbar is adjustable (a lovely touch), but I dislike the (now current, it would appear with Hornby tender locos) need to have the loco and tender permanently wired together for running purposes. I understand the desirability of tender pick-ups (though I've never found a need - if you've made a chassis square, made and laid

your track well and keep it clean, well?), and the practice nowadays to have the chip in the tender, but the inability to test-run a chassis, just by itself, is a real nuisance in my opinion. In fairness with regard to the running, after I'd tested 'my' 61138, I visited a friend who'd just acquired his own 61138, and, DCCfitted, it worked impeccably. Its slidebars were at the right angle, so had 'mine' suffered a clout in transit? It certainly, to me, suggests a need to examine and test any model before you buy, just as we always used to.

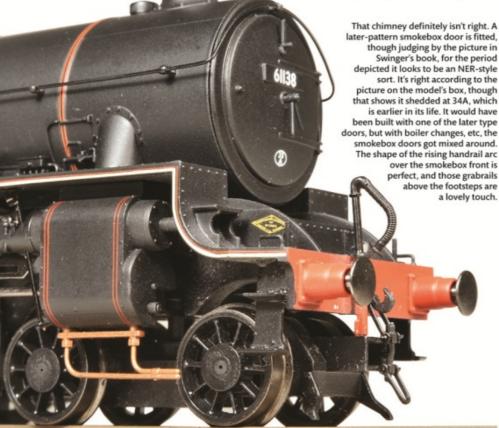
I measured the models up against the Isinglass drawing (at all cost, avoid Roche's), and this Hornby B1 is spot on in just about every dimension, both major and in detail. I say 'just about' because one feature (and it's one of the most important) doesn't look right at

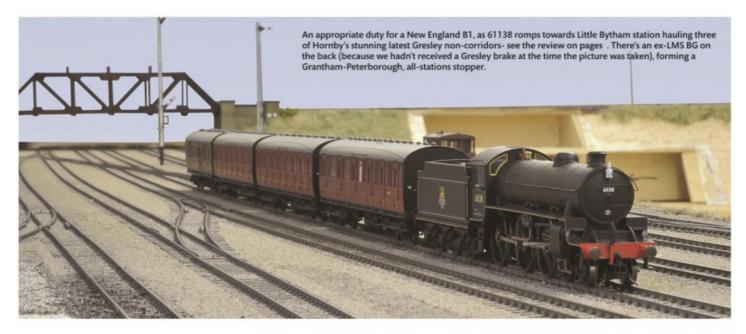
> That chimney definitely isn't right. A later-pattern smokebox door is fitted, though judging by the picture in Swinger's book, for the period depicted it looks to be an NER-style sort. It's right according to the picture on the model's box, though that shows it shedded at 34A, which is earlier in its life. It would have been built with one of the later type doors, but with boiler changes, etc, the smokebox doors got mixed around. The shape of the rising handrail arc over the smokebox front is perfect, and those grabrails above the footsteps are a lovely touch.

all in my opinion, and that's the chimney. I know there were two chimney variants (one had a higher top), though this 'pot' looks like neither of those. The sides are just too parallel (though they taper in and out a bit), and the effect is spoilt. Is it because of mould extraction necessities? Were these mine, I'd order propershaped chimneys from the likes of Markits - I might do that anyway and show you the results in a future issue, substituting better-looking bogie wheels as well. Detail in the main is exquisite and I particularly liked the redundant speedo bracket beneath the driver's side of the cab (although it fell off on taking 61138 out of its box - I glued it back on), lubricator drive (almost invisible underneath the nearside footplate), fully-detailed cab interior (with dials picked-out), 'brass' surrounds to the spectacles and the delicate cinder guards between the cab windows, as well as the correct worksplates which have legible words and numerals, though I'm not sure whether a plate should be present on the cabside of 61138. It certainly isn't present in the picture on the packaging.

Both liveries are beautifully applied, with the lining particularly well-done, the BR sort having the correct three colours on the cabsides. tender and valances. However, I would take issue with both locos' cabside numbers. 1040's are a bit too small (look at the official work's picture in The Power of the B1s by Peter Swinger, OPC, 1994) and the picture on the model's packaging. 61138's numbers are too high up on the cabside - again look in Swinger's book (daftly, the pages aren't numbered, but it's an image near the back) and also look at the picture on the model's packaging. Speaking of 61138, she's shown as shedded at 35A (New England), which gives the period depicted by the model as the end of 1952 until halfway through 1955. In 1953, she was one of several B1s (and V2s and 'Black Fives') loaned to the Southern during the time when the 'Merchant Navy' class was temporarily withdrawn, and thus worked to Margate. Is this why Hornby chose her?

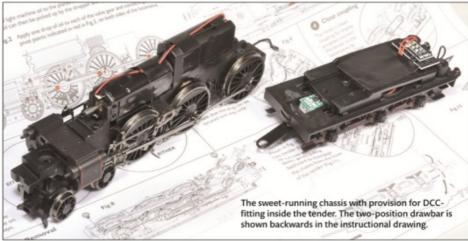
So, to sum up - with just a few criticisms, a very fine model indeed. I've reported many times on how models are judged now. Only a few years ago the RTR purchaser would have been happy with the right number of wheels and so on. So, is it unfair to judge out-of-thebox models against (say) kit-built or scratchbuilt examples? In my own case I've built two Jamieson B1s and three Nu-Cast B1s (I melteddown a Bristol Models' one, believing it to be way beyond my abilities). I've also put umpteen Comet chassis beneath ex-Palitoy/Replica/ Bachmann B1 bodies. Without boasting, I'd say that all my personal B1s (and those done for customers) run as well (or better) than any current RTR chassis, though that's down to what I set as a standard and my own limits of acceptance. However, it's unlikely that any of mine are as detailed as these latest B1s - cinder guards, brass spectacle surrounds, sandpipes, etc. I believe that as the RTR standards have risen, then a more 'critical' review is expected, especially as most tender locos are now well the 'wrong' side of £100.00, especially the bigger ones. All the above said, a certain amount of pragmatism must surely be necessary with regard to a massed-produced, RTR loco (which still represents superb value for money). With 410 prototypes to choose from, isn't it asking





too much to expect that every minutiae of detail will be catered for? Things like different pattern smokebox doors, rivets on those doors or on the smokebox, position of hingestraps on the doors, studs or not on the bufferbeam, angle of outside steampipes, strengthening footplate 'gussets' on Cowlairs' shopped B1s, electric lighting fitted or not, AWS fitted or not, etc. And that's not to mention the myriad livery variations. And remember, after shopping, many detail changes might have taken place. On all the B1s I've built or modified, I've catered for those variations, using an accurately-dated prototype picture (or several) as a source. I think it's safe to assume that Hornby will have done the same with each model B1 they introduce, so they should be right for one particular time/date. And will I personally build any more B1s or make chassis for them? No!

And, in comparison with the latest Bachmann B1? At some £27.00 cheaper (RRP), the Bachmann model, despite its body age, stands up very well. Its new chassis is certainly the equal of Hornby's in terms of performance, though it's not quite so detailed. At least its chimney is better (though not dead right either), though the overall body isn't quite as



'crisp' as the newcomer, and that loco-tender gap is ridiculous! It's down to personal choice, but I feel the Hornby one is definitely worth the extra cost and I'll probably 'muck about' with both, showing the results in the magazine - it won't take long!

One final point (and I should have predicted this): having put on the extra details on the BR

B1, I popped it back in its packaging to take to show a friend and promptly broke off the cylinder drain cocks and bent the steps. The snug, blister packaging won't accommodate these. Why doesn't the packaging carry a warning to this effect? I carved away some packaging, cutting a finger in the process. Blood and profanity go together very well!





Read a full review on the third B1 from Hornby, which features details unique to some of the Scottish B1s as well as full AWS gear and electric lighting.

www.model-railways-live.co.uk/reviews

PRODUCT DETAILS

Scale: 4mm/OO gauge
Produced by: Hornby plc
Web: www.hornby.com
Price: LNER 1040 Roedeer (R2998) and BR
61138 (R2999) £119.75 each, also DCC
fitted (R2998X and 2999X) £137.49
Era: 1942-1967 depending on build and livery

Modelzone mid-60s 2-EPB

Nigel Burkin goes back to the BR blues.

5739

Ian Allan in 1989. Comparing the headcode showing on the leading vehicle of the unit in the

> photograph with the model's DTS, this image appears to be one of the references for the model.

The Bachmann model itself represents a 2-EPB in the 5753-5779 sequence of the class owing to the roof detail modelled: the first part of the batch being different. This makes the choice of No. 5739 a close fit to the body shell due to the roof detail differences. Of course, the more discerning modeller could renumber the model to better match the bodyshell tooling and could choose, according to records, from 5753/55/60/63-5/72-3 and 75; all of which carried

this livery, some well into 1970.

The model itself is well appointed, both in terms of detail and on the technical front. From the pleasing proportions of the Mk.1

body shell and finely moulded detail to the individually applied hand rails and electrical conduit, the model perfectly captures the character of the full size units. It's the underframe that sets the model apart where each item of underframe equipment is fitted as individual mouldings. The same approach has been applied to the brake equipment, a more obvious detail on the DTS, giving the model a

particularly fine appearance.

The numerous windows of high density suburban stock is seen by Southern Region modellers, especially those who have kit built this type of stock in the past, as a key characteristic feature and also the hardest to get right. The Bachmann 2-EPB has succeeded in this regard, with closely fitting glazing to both windows and doors which appears to be flat and smooth, with only a slight trace of a rim where it is fitted to the bodyshell. It allows a view of the interior with its 3 x 2 seating throughout the DTS whilst part of the DMBS is occupied by the motor bogie and ballast weight. The much remembered net luggage racks fitted along the back of the seating are not modelled. Each cab has an interior,

The Bachmann OO gauge 2-EPB is well appointed with standalone fittings for underframe equipment, hand rails, roof details and cab fittings. The overall appearance is neat and attractive.

short-lived but attractive livery applied to a small number of twocar Class 416 2-EPB units in the mid 1960s is the latest special edition model to be offered by Modelzone. A small number of the BR Eastleigh built units in the 5701-5779 number sequence were repainted in early BR livery consisting of allover BR blue with a small yellow warning panel applied to the cab fronts. A black triangle was placed on the DMBS cab to indicate the position of the guard's compartment in the train to assist platform staff. Numbering was applied in white together with a small BR double arrow symbol on the cab sides. This austere livery was relatively short-lived due to the decision to apply warning panel yellow over the whole of the cab face together with other detail changes, resulting in the more common rail blue livery which lasted well into the 1980s on numerous multiple units, both diesel and electric. The early blue livery with small yellow warning panel effectively covers a period ranging from 1966 to around 1970 on the 2-EPB units, although other EMU types painted in this livery held out for longer.

No.5739 is the unit chosen for the Modelzone 2-EPB, understood to be one of only ten of the Class 416 units to be painted in early BR blue livery. A picture of this unit can be found on page 37 of British Rail Fleet Survey No. 10; Third Rail DC Electric Multiple Units by Brian Haresnape and Alec Swain, published by





On the technical front, the model has many useful refinements, including close coupling cams fitted to the inner ends which do ensure the model is actually close coupled together. It is equipped with a 21-pin DCC interface with internal wiring and bar couplings fitted with electrical connections ensuring that the headcode panels and interior lighting can work from a single decoder. The unpowered DTS vehicle has all wheel current collection too with split axle wheel sets supplying power via stub axles to bearing contacts on the inside of the bogies. Power is transmitted to the interior circuits via phosphor bronze contacts in the underframe, avoiding the need for hard wired connections. Bogies are simple to remove as a result. The unpowered inner bogie of the powered vehicle is also equipped the same way whilst the motor bogie has more conventional wiper pick-ups working on the axle bushes.

> The model is a refined performer with little or no noise coming from the power bogie in both analogue and DCC

control. As commented on in past reviews of

Bachmann multiple unit stock,

the weight of the model is impressive and the MBSO is capable of powering a sizeable length train, certainly more than the lightweight and free rolling DTS trailer!

Overall, the finish of the model is neat and attractive, the small yellow warning panel version of BR blue being regarded by many as the best of the BR corporate images. The plain blue finish is leavened with silver applied to the door handles and 'No smoking' triangles to the glazing. The paint is smooth, without blemish and an even eggshell in appearance.

While being relatively short lived, this livery is a welcome one to be applied to the 2-EPB, making for a very attractive model, despite its outwardly plain appearance. Emphasis on models with workaday appearances is important to modellers if convincing rosters of equipment can be accumulated for layout operations and this model fits the bill for the 1966-1970 period. Priced at £119.99, the

For more Modelzone reviews visit the MRL review section www.model-railways-live.co.uk/reviews

PRODUCT DETAILS

Scale: 4mm/OO gauge Produced by: Modelzone Ltd Web: www.modelzone.co.uk

Price: see text Era: 1966-1970

model is limited to 512 pieces and is supplied with a Limited Edition certificate. For more information, visit the Modelzone website at www.modelzone.co.uk. BRM





Non-corridor Gresley Coaches

Hornby's latest coaches are something special - **Tony Wright** runs his expert eye (and camera) over them.

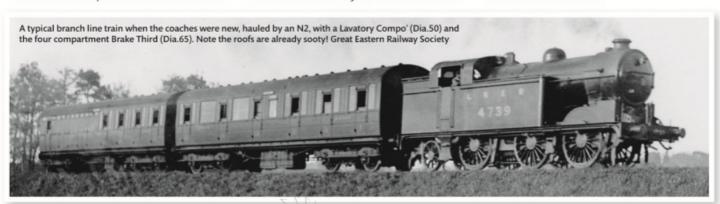
he long-awaited Gresley non-corridor stock has just arrived in the office.
Long-awaited on two counts - one, because we've known of these forthcoming models from Hornby for some time and two, at last we've got some top-of-the-range non-vestibuled 'suburban' coaches in 4mm scale. And the wait has been worth it, for these are truly stunning models.

The LNER drew up standards in 1923 for the

construction of non-corridor (non-articulated) coaches with an overall length of 51' 1½" and overall width of 8' 9". From 1927, the overall width was increased to 9' 3", and these specifications continued until steel-panelled construction began to replace all-teak construction in 1938. Hundreds were built, seeing service all over the LNER and its successors, as well as many other areas outside the ex-LNER. And not just for suburban work

either, for 'Parliamentaries', cross-country services and summer-Saturday/football excursions could be formed of these coaches, with only a handful having the lavatory composites. Hardy everyday passengers, holidaymakers and fans must have had substantial bladders!

Thus far, we've had four types to examine the All First, (Dia.48, post-'46 No.81025, with BR 'E' prefix and suffix), All Third (Dia.57, post-'46 No.82326 with BR 'E' prefix and suffix), Lavatory Composite (Dia.50, post-'46 No.88090, with BR 'E' prefix and suffix) and four-compartment Brake Third (Dia.65, post-'46 No.86136, with BR 'E' prefix and suffix), all built in 1927 to the wider standard at York (by the LNER) or by RY Pickering and Co. (outside contractors). These are in the earlier BR allcrimson livery (I assume we'll get some later in maroon?). We've also had the All First, All Third, Lavatory Composite and four compartment Brake Third in teak livery. These are to the same respective diagrams and build dates as the BR versions.





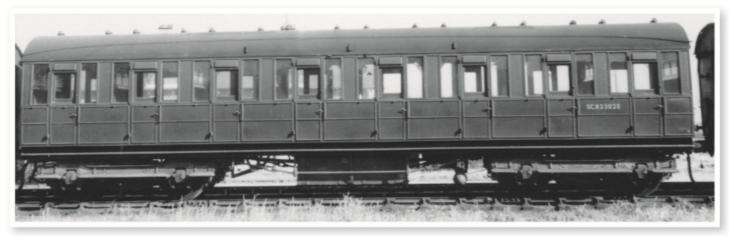
I compared these models with all the drawings and descriptions at my disposal (Campling, Harris, Edgson) and they are spot on in every way. In particular, the end-elevation shape of the body tumbleholme and side position of beading panels are perfect and are a considerable improvement on Hornby's current Gresley 61' 6" gangwayed stock. The vehicles are flush-glazed with only the slightest plastic 'halo' around the edges being apparent in certain light and angles. Really, with this method of glazing, it's as good as it gets and far superior to the armoured sides inherent in earlier plastic-bodied coaches. Indeed, only etched brass with flush glazing directly behind the sides could be superior. Printing on the inside of the glazing is superb, with all the appropriate (and different for period) signage clearly discernable. Full interiors are also fitted, just waiting to be populated. Regarding the latter, I've yet to investigate how to get inside, though I advise caution, for these vehicles are very delicate. All door handles and grab rails are separately-applied, as are the roof ventilators (and tank filler and grab rails on the

The Dia.50 Lavatory Composite E88090E.



The excellent teak finish and superb bogie detail on the LNER-liveried All Third.

Reviews



A fine view of a real Dia.57 All Third, branded for use in Scotland, while still retaining its 'E' suffix denoting ex-LNER stock. Great Eastern Railway Society



footsteps are very fragile. How do I know? Guess what happened when I changed the couplings.

Compo'). Destination board brackets also feature on the roofs. These were common, though not universal, so, if you go about renumbering or converting, do check against a photograph.

The underframes are something to behold, for I've never seen such attention to detail in an out-of-the-box product before. The turnbuckle trussing is exquisite and superior to many 'flat' brass etches I might name. Even the battery boxes have the correct strapping supports, and all the brake cylinders and 'V' hangers are perfectly done. I've got some Comet, Kemilway and Trice coaches of similar types and none have as detailed an underframe as these. Even the vacuum brake conduit is present, running down one of the solebars (as it is on the Gresley gangwayed stock, to be fair).

The bogies are the correct 8' 6" 'lightweights', appropriately carrying full-length footboards. All the wheels are true round and don't need immediate replacement for 'scale' OO operation, for these vehicles ride superbly. Brake blocks are in line with the wheel treads, and they look perfect. However, for those using more accurate gauges (EM/P4), and these coaches will be used by the more scaleconscious (they're that good), then the blocks will have to be cut off and repositioned. That said, I've heard it mentioned from several EM modellers that were OO RTR standards as good when they started as they are now, they wouldn't have bothered going to 18.2mm.

Standard tension-lock couplings are fitted,

though close-coupling substitutes are provided to fit into the NEM pockets. So good are these coaches that I'd be tempted to fit proper screw shackles. End detail is also exemplary, with sprung buffers, lighting conduits and vacuum standpipes clearly in evidence. Again, with all this patently visible, a 'proper' coupling is a must.

The overall finish is fantastic, with a delightful satin sheen to the whole things. The teak finish is perfectly caught, and the ends are black, which is correct, unlike on the vestibuled coaches which (apart from the gangways) are teak, as they should be. Beading/moulding lining (so tricky to get right with a paintbrush or ruling pen) is perfectly applied. Any numerals and lettering are accurately positioned, including the stars on the solebars. I'd be tempted to apply some





Comparison of the LNER and BR Lavatory Compos'. Interestingly the LNER branded their compartments as 'Smoking' and BR 'Non-smoking'.



Dia. 65 four compartment Brake Third in teak. As mentioned in the first prototype photograph, these white roofs would not remain so for long.



Dia. 50 Lavatory Composite Note the red interior in Third compared to the blue for First Class. At least those in this coach could get relief on a long journey!

weathering, particularly to the underframes, for that would surely bring these models to life. And for how long would a white roof remain pristine behind a steam locomotive? Still, Hornby has produced these vehicles in ex-works condition, and there must be something left for us modellers to do after all.

So, in conclusion, I appear to have run out of superlatives! Though, as mentioned, I already have several vehicles of similar diagrams to these, other than the (slightly) better appearance of the window reveals and the presence of weathering, they are no better, and they've needed making and painting. The old Kirk plastic range was cheap and cheerful (only as 'budget' coaches can they compete) and the etched alternatives already mentioned are/ were considerably more in terms of cost. I might have missed something, but I cannot find fault with these latest Hornby coaches. I've mentioned before how locos and rolling stock are now judged in reviews - judged against the best kit-built or even scratch-built examples now. Yes, a Banks or Willetts kit/scratch-built coach will have the edge (at over eight to ten times the price, mind!) but how many have the resources to populate their layouts with such supreme vehicles? And these latest Hornby Gresleys are supreme, anyway.

Remember, these vehicles could be seen anywhere, particularly in BR days. And you don't need a load to represent a whole train, for they were standard fare for branch lines - just a Brake Third and Compo' being typical. For those 'bodgers' brave enough to tackle conversions into (say) articulated stock, the

possibilities are endless, and I do mean 'brave'. Later-built vehicles of similar appearance had angle trussing, so take care with any surgery or re-brandings undertaken. But really, I suggest just using them as they are (with proper shackles and a touch of weathering - I'll show you later in *BRM*). Behind Hornby's own B1 and L1 (and B17, when it comes), they'll look dead right. Behind an N2, V1/V3 and K3 as well, no doubt, and also behind LNER Pacifics on

running-in turns or balancing workings, etc. You'll also find pictures of them behind locos of the other three of the Big Four (and pre-Grouping), and the BR Standards, as well as the earlier Pilot Scheme diesels. They were indeed ubiquitous.

Along with
Bachmann's BR Mk.1s
and Hornby's own
Hawksworth carriages, I
consider these to be the
finest 4mm RTR
examples of rolling
stock ever made. At
the prices (£42.00 for
the teaks and £36.49
for the crimsons),
outstanding value for
money. But, please, spare
a thought for our
beleagured kit-

makers. BRM

PRODUCT DETAILS

Scale: 4mm/OO gauge Produced by: Hornby plc Web: www.hornby.com Price: in text Era: 1927 - early '60s

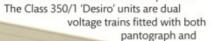
The end detail of the BR Brake Third which includes the guard's windows and narrower end.



Class 350 'Desiro'

A modern EMU in the form of the Class 350/1 and 350/2 kicks off Bachmann's entry into overhead traction modelling in OO gauge. Nigel Burkin investigates.

hirty Class 350/1 four-car units were constructed and introduced during 2004 and 2005 for West Coast Main Line local services following the cancellation of an order for similar Class 450 five-car EMU sets for South West Trains inner suburban services. Numbered 350 101-130, they were allocated to services operated by both Silverlink and Central Trains and painted in a nondescript silver and blue livery so the fleet could be shared between both operators. The use of a nondescript livery also took into account the chance of a major reorganisation of franchises involving both Silverlink and Central Trains with routes covered by the new trains being directly affected. So it came to pass with the formation of London Midland and transfer of all 30 trains to the new operator.





All 30 of the Class 350/1 units introduced in 2004 and 2005 were allocated to London Midland and are a common sight on the WCML between Liverpool and London Euston. No. 350 104 was photographed at Slindon, racing north with a Birmingham New Street - Liverpool Lime Street working in May 2010. The London Midland livery applied to this units is offered by Bachmann on its Class 350/1 model of 350 101 and the Class 350/2 variant as 350 238.

third rail shoe beams whereas the subsequent built of 350/2 units are not dual voltage trains. Fitted out with 2+2 seating, the Class 350/1 sets have become popular on middle distance services such as Birmingham New Street -Liverpool Lime Street services and those on the southern part of the WCML. Ultimately, the Class 350 has seen off the

Class 321s long tenure

of regular services on the southern part of the WCML with the introduction of the Class 350/2

The Class 350/2 was constructed solely for 25kV operation and is regarded as a high density unit with 3+2 seating, being introduced after the formation of the then new London Midland operator. Class 350/2 units were painted in the attractive green and ivory London Midland livery from new and put to work on services where more seats were needed and where journey times are shorter, such as WCML stopping services south

of Northampton. A total of 37

Above: 'Desiro' units have a distinctive flat roof with air conditioning pods, one of which conveniently conceals the day and night lighting controls so they are accessible without having to remove the model from the track.

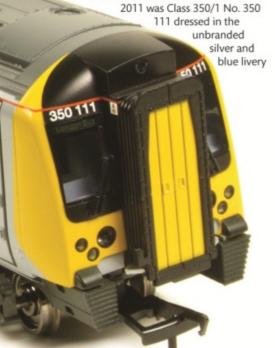
Left: When fully raised, the pantograph has a tall reach and is sufficiently sprung to work on a catenary system. Furthermore, it is well made and durable making it suitable for regular use. It does present possibilities on DCC control and memory wire for raising and lowering it.



were built and numbered 350231-267.

When announced by Bachmann for release in 2011, the Class 350 model (together with a Class 85) signalled a switch to overhead electric traction modelling in both OO gauge and N gauge by the company, the N gauge model being due for release in early 2012. Given that overhead systems remain to be fully developed in 4mm scale modelling beyond the initial release of single masts by Dapol, the move into almost exclusive overhead traction territory is both a courageous move and perhaps a logical one too given that most diesel classes are spoken for. Modern multiple unit stock translates well into model form and the Class 350/1 is no exception. Whilst traditional traction enthusiasts might not appreciate spartan-looking modern trains, they do look attractive in model form.

The first model to be released in late 2011 was Class 350/1 No. 350



of the pre-London Midland period and is the model kindly provided by Bachmann for this review. Two models decorated in the colours of London Midland followed in early 2012: a Class 350/1 as 350 101 and a 350/2 as 350 238.

The overall finish and construction of the review model is neat and clean, with well fitted components and very effective flush glazing. The trailer cars are very free-rolling and close coupling cams are fitted, ensuring the unit couples together with a minimal gap between the gangways. Technical elements are nicely refined including a distinct change in thinking with regard to decoder fitting and cab lighting controls. Overall, it is a very nicely presented model. However, how well does it stand close scrutiny?

Bodyshell

'Desiro' units have a flat roof profile with air conditioning pods and a flat inner end profile with distinct angles between the sides and roof panels. It gives the 'Desiro' family of units its distinct character which has been well represented by the Bachmann model. It measures up well too, and assembly of bodyshell components and the glazing is neatly done, except at the very front of the DMSO vehicles, where the front of the underframe and over-ride protector mouldings do not appear to be tightly attached to the model.

Underframe and bogies

A great deal of fine moulding work has been undertaken to represent all of the underframe boxes on all four vehicles. The detail differs slightly between the two driving cars (DMSO) and the equipment under the pantographfitted TSO also captures the heavy looking feel of these trains. The bogies are also faithfully represented, fitted with phosphor bronze contacts to the inside of the side frames for end of axle current collection on each vehicle. The effect of the contacts is to create very freerolling trailers which happily rolled to the edge of the desk without much encouragement (but not to the floor!).

Electronics

Sophisticated electronics are fitted to this model including a 21-pin DCC interface socket located inside one of the underframe boxes of the powered vehicle (the pantograph fitted TSO). Decoder fitting is a two-minute job because body removal is not necessary to find the socket. Lighting circuits are fitted to the DMSO vehicles, all controlled from the single decoder and supplied with power through electrical connections in each coupling. The cab lighting can be switched on and off using switches located under the cab air conditioning panels

Current collection is via split axles and the aforementioned phosphor bronze contacts in the bogies where power is collected via the axle ends. The single drive bogie has traditional pick-ups bearing on the axle bearings and all of them are linked to the internal circuit boards via phosphor bronze contacts; wiring between bogies and underframes is not used.

Wheels and couplings

Wheels are of turned metal and insulated from each other with a plastic bush to ensure efficient current pick-up. Called 'stub axles', they offer one of the most efficient methods of current collection. Those wheels fitted to the single drive bogie are not stub axles and are blind ended in the more traditional way.

Couplings within the set are bar couplings with electrical connections. They plug into coupling boxes fitted to self-centring coupling cams which keep the unit closely coupled together on straight track but allow operation on curves down to second radius. Couplings in the end of the units are normal tension lock types fitted to NEM coupling pockets.

Drive mechanism and performance

Performance is silky smooth and the single motor bogie is quiet and competent. The three trailer vehicles, being very free-rolling, are no challenge for the powered car. Unfortunately, part of the mechanism and ballast weight can be viewed through the windows of the TSO

Reviews



vehicle, something which is difficult to reconcile on EMU stock with numerous passenger cabin windows in any scale unless the mechanism is fitted under the floor with the loss of underframe definition. It's a situation that will please some, dismay others.

Paint colours and finish

The livery is wonderfully simple in the case of the review model: silver and blue with full yellow ends and black around the windows. The model appears neatly finished and captures the spartan appearance of the interim livery perfectly. Also released are the London Midland versions of the model where the livery application is neat and with good colour definition. Some of the blue paint application

appears slightly fuzzy along some edges, but is otherwise neat enough for a model of this standard.

Specific details

A packet of small detailing parts is supplied with the model, some which may be fitted for static display and others for a working model. The review model itself, being a Class 350/1, is fitted with shoe beams to the bogies of the DMSO but no actual shoe gear appears to be represented which is correct for the type at the time of writing.

Conclusion

On a personal note, I think it is great that a company such as Bachmann is prepared to have

a go at producing a very modern multiple unit model to suit a 25kV ac overhead layout. It is a brave move, as stated earlier in the article, and one I hope is successful. Two things fall out of this development: Would Bachmann consider Mk.3 sliding door EMUs as a future development with all of the potential that has for various types of unit (particularly dual voltage Class 319s)? It already has experience of this type of bodyshell from the development of its Class 150 model. Secondly, the Class 350 is not a million miles from a SWT Class 450 unit, some lateral and logical thinking could see a Stagecoach version released in its colourful blue livery however, logic has not always been a feature of the mainstream model manufacturers' thinking as has been observed in the past! BRM





PRODUCT DETAILS

Class 350/1 and Class 350/2 25kV ac EMU

Era: 2003 to present day.

Scale/gauge: 1:76 scale to run on OO

gauge track.

Price: £149.95 for all three versions.

Produced by: Bachmann Europe Plc.

Moat Way, Barwell, Leicestershire. LE9 8EY

www.bachmann.co.uk

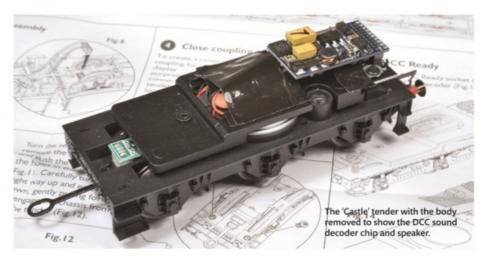
Sound 'Castle' from Margate

Rob Kinsey reviews a DCC sound version of this Western workhorse from Hornby. *Photos by Tony Wright*

he popularity of DCC and sound fitted models has been increasing rapidly, no doubt aided by the increasing availability of RTR models with factoryfitted decoders. A recent release by Hornby is a model of Clun Castle which comes with DCC sound ready installed. The model depicts the locomotive as running from 1959 when its double chimney was fitted, until withdrawal in 1965. Details and fittings are correct for a locomotive carrying a boiler with a four-row superheater, finished in correct British Railways express passenger livery carrying the second emblem. The finish is crisp and clear, and the livery is accurately applied, although etchedbrass name and number plates would help the flat appearance of the cab side and splasher.

The model has a plastic injection moulded body with separately fitted hand rails, sprung buffers, cylinder drain cocks, injectors and head lamp brackets and the cab is flush glazed. However, the shape of the chimney does not look correct; it is elliptical, unlike photographs of the prototype which suggest it to be more like two semicircles joined by straight or near straight sides. Brake rigging, vacuum pipes and cosmetic coupling are supplied for the owner to fit as required. The review model did not include a fall plate between the engine and tender as has become normal, although one is shown on the picture on the outer packaging.

The chassis is die cast metal with numerous metal and plastic additional components and details. The motor drives the middle axle through a worm and gear drive. A slight problem with the chassis is the bogie fixing, this takes the form of a short length of silicon rubber tube that is pushed over the end of the bogie's central pivot. During test running the bogie quickly became detached and required a partial dismantling of the chassis to reinstall, only for it to fall off again within seconds. A better engineered solution would be expected on a model from Hornby. The model did derail a few times during test running which appeared to be



caused by this loose bogie.

The tender body and chassis are both plastic injection mouldings with a number of small details added as separate items and carries the DCC chip and speaker. The imitation coal is a separate moulding and is readily removed to reveal the fully detailed coal space beneath; a separate set of fire irons is supplied for detailing.

Engine and tender are joined by Hornby's standard two-position draw bar and electrically with a four-pin plug and socket. On the review model the wires were a little too long and could drop low enough to catch on the track and point blades which may cause derailments.

Performance

The performance of the model on test was good with smooth running apparent in both directions straight from the box, even when tried on straight DC with the chip still in place. The model initially struggled to haul a ten coach train of mixed RTR and kit-built stock exhibiting excessive slipping, but after several laps of the test layout, it gradually found its feet and latterly coped competently with the test train increased to 14 coaches when again excessive slipping was occurred, but for most owners a 14 coach train is likely to be more

than can be accommodated on their layout.

The sound was impressive with only a little fine tuning of the factory settings being needed to suit the running conditions. The chip is also pre-programmed with a wide range of steam engine sounds and effects most of which give a good representation, although a few sounded very similar to each other.

A nice model which in looks, running and sound is quite impressive, although there are a small number of gremlins and/or errors that Hornby really should rectify quickly - most urgently required is a better engineered bogie fixing method. BRM

See video footage of this loco in operation at: www.model-railways-live.co.uk

PRODUCT DETAILS

Scale: 4mm/OO gauge Produced by: Hornby plc Web: www.hornby.com

Price: BR 'Castle' Class 4-6-0 Clun Castle with DCC sound (R2994XS) £266.49

Era: 1959-1965

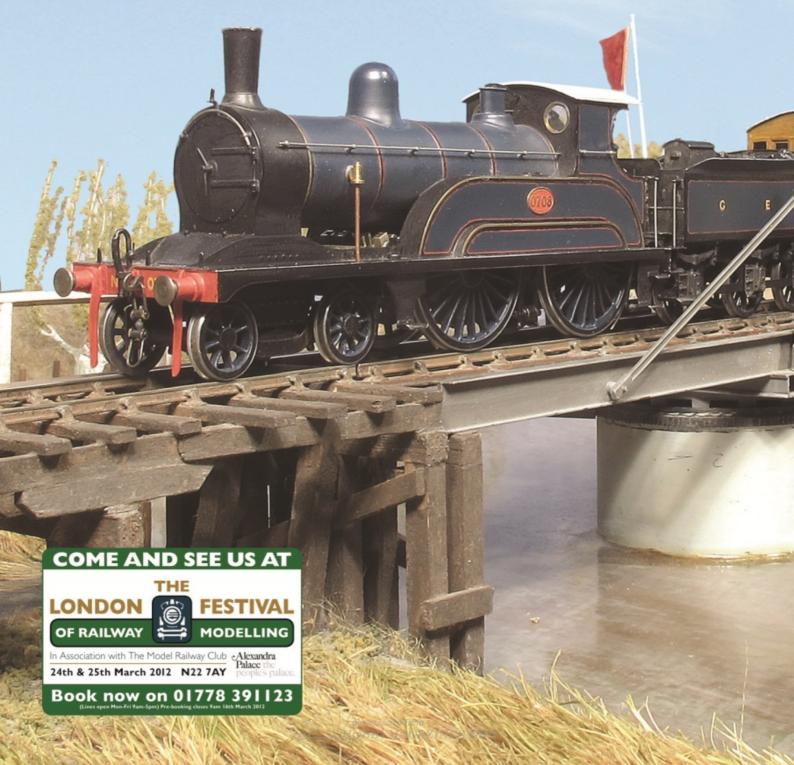


East Lynn & Nunstanton

It's not every modeller who chooses to use S scale, where nearly everything has to be scratch-built, this makes **Trevor Nunn's** GER masterpiece even more spectacular. *Photos by Paul Bason*.

nd now for something completely different! Having had about 20 years working in 4mm OO, with much kit bashing of white metal and just one scratch-built loco, I started modelling in S Scale in 1973, having seen models on display in a showcase at the old MRC Easter Show. The scale struck me as just right, so I dived in with no thought as to what problems there might be. Fortunately, since then I have managed to stick more or less to one railway and the one scale with no distractions, other than a small fenland branch line layout, Wicken, along the way.

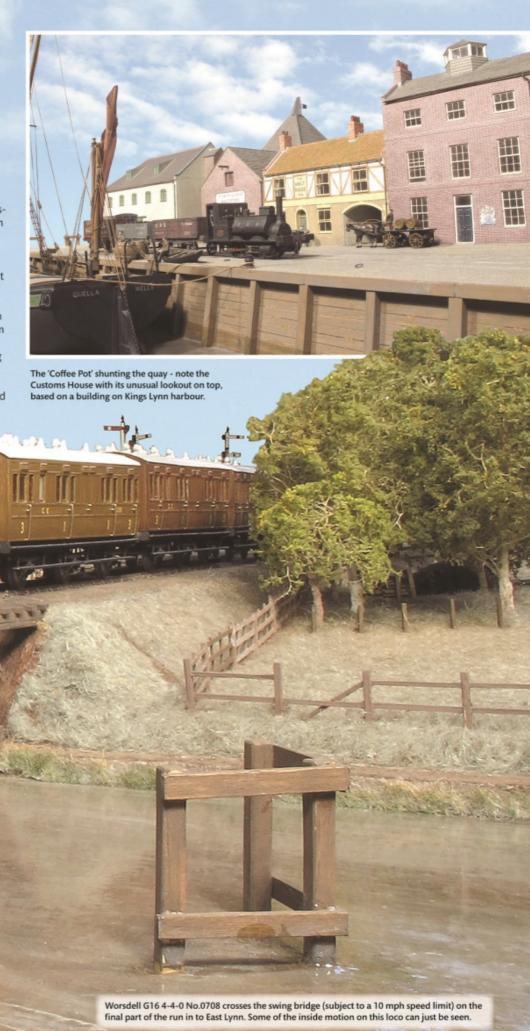
Some 20 years later I wanted a more extensive layout that would have much more operating potential, but needed to be something I could build in a reasonable timescale. As everything in S Scale has to be hand made this meant that it had to be a compact layout with short trains. Wells-next-the-Sea on the North Norfolk coast was of a suitable size but not what I wanted in terms of layout. In earlier years it had no run-round and passenger



EAST LYNN

trains were reversed out of the platforms and run back in by gravity - difficult to model. So a lot of time was spent trying to get a workable track plan to balance my objectives. However that part of Norfolk attracted me, so East Lynn became a terminus at a small seaport somewhere in that remote part of the Great Eastern Railway, as it might have been in the early 1900s. Having settled on the rough location a visit was made to the area to photograph suitable buildings to be modelled, or adapted to suit the available space. These came almost entirely from the coastal area bounded by Kings Lynn, Hunstanton and Wellsnext-the-Sea. Membership of the Great Eastern Railway Society and its regular journal has provided a large amount of valuable information over the years.

As it was intended to be an exhibition layout (not enough space at home for a permanent one) the baseboards needed to be light. They were made almost entirely from 4mm ply with plenty of diagonal cross bracing to stiffen them and fortunately are still perfectly flat all these years later. Track was laid on a cork base, using code 95 bullhead rail and cast white metal chairs glued to ply sleepers. In the nineteenth and early twentieth century ballast was ash and



LAYOUT FOCUS



The 'Coffee Pot' shunting by the large granary. This building conceals the 20-lever mechanical frame.



Johnson 477 class 0-6-0 No.0486 on the turntable. This is in its final form with stovepipe chimney and Ramsbottom safety valves in place of the Johnson fittings.

clinker, and covered the sleepers. This was made from a mix of sieved building sand and grey floor tile grout powder. It was mixed almost dry with a latex emulsion adhesive, which allowed it to be laid, spread and tamped down. Finally it was flooded with the usual dilute PVA from a plastic pipette, with added washing-up liquid as a wetting agent. The biggest difficulty was trying to keep it off the tops of chairs and out of the rail webs.

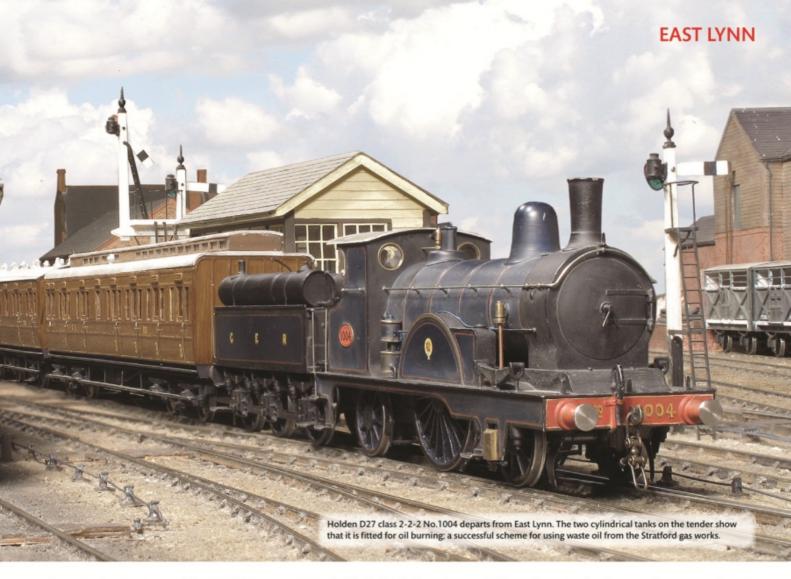
Before ballasting, wiring had been installed for cab control, using two hand-held feedback controllers and supplied by a built in transformer. A 20-lever mechanical frame, made by a good friend, was fitted into the baseboard, and operates points and signals by means of rods and cranks in the space underneath. Cross-baseboard operation is made possible by a rod pushing onto a springloaded plunger on the adjacent board, so that no connecting up is necessary. Section switches are fitted into a panel mounted just behind the lever frame. The turntable, scratch-built and constructed mainly from brass, is powered from either of the train controllers, using a motor and gearhead, which then drives the table through a worm gearbox, and this has to be lined up by eye - tricky with the 4-4-0, which only just fits on the table. The signals were all home built from wood posts, with

silver sheet and using MSE ladders. The lever frame is not interlocked and the ground disc signals are non-working, but there is something very satisfying about using an all-mechanical

was coated with a plaster mix of 'Polyfilla' and coloured floor tile grout, with plasterer's scrim for reinforcement. Grass on the embankments arms and spectacles fabricated from nickel is natural fibre carpet underlay that was bleached and dyed and then glued down with PVA. When dry this was torn off and trimmed and had other scatter materials added here and there. As a scenic feature on the approach to



frame, especially on a period layout. Norfolk is not as flat as some people imagine, so scenic contouring was built up using foam polystyrene carved to shape. This



the station the river is crossed by a single line swing bridge with timber trestle approaches. This is a non-working model built largely from brass, and based on one at Beccles in Suffolk although there were similar framed but longer span bridges in Kings Lynn. The river surface is several coats of varnish streaked through with paint to represent weeds.

Printed self-adhesive brickwork was available in S scale and the station hotel and granary were built using this. The shells of these were made from 5mm thick foamboard, which gave simple, strong structures. The granary has windows computer-printed on to acetate sheet, but almost all other windows have been cut from thin card, shellacked to seal the surface,

then painted and mounted on acetate sheet. An exception to this is the water tower, which has window frames soldered up from tinned copper wire. Timber cladding on buildings is done with card strip, between corner timbers built up with 0.4mm ply.

The goods shed, based on one at Snettisham on the former Kings Lynn to Hunstanton line, is



LAYOUT FOCUS

mainly carstone, a yellow/brown sandstone found only in that area. Brick arches over the doorways were marked out on cartridge paper and hand painted with powder colour. For the stone a thin layer of 'Das' modelling clay was applied to the rest of the carcase and painted with a yellow - brown powder colour mix. When dry the random coursed stonework was scored in with a scriber to expose the mortar courses. Finally the powder colour was sealed with a spray of artist's matt fixative to prevent it rubbing off. Several other buildings have since been built using this method. The windows for this building are thin Perspex with the glazing bars put on with paint from a bow pen; another odd one out.

For the houses next to the hotel the brickwork needed to look much older. Having painted the brick arches for the goods shed, I decided to try painting all the bricks by hand. Cartridge paper was scribed with the horizontal mortar lines and then attached to the shell with dilute PVA. The vertical courses were marked out to give English or Flemish bond as required, and correct corner detail. A powder colour mix was again used to paint them and sealed as for

the goods shed. The hand painted brickwork has more character than the printed variety, which suited my needs better; so almost all the remaining brickwork has been hand painted this way, although sometimes using enamels or watercolour. Several of the buildings have been built on a shell of 1.5mm ply, which is equally as good as the foamboard. In the case of the station building, based on the architecture of Kings Lynn, but significantly smaller, there was a lot of complex panelling, so the brickwork was scribed directly on to the ply rather than using the cartridge paper. Most of the roofs are plain slates or tiles, made using self-coloured strips of card. For some roofs pantiles were needed, as these are common in this part of Norfolk. These were produced by making a simple press tool to form the shape of the tile on the end of a strip of card. They were

then cut off

and laid

individually; a time consuming job. Finally, all the brickwork and roofs were weathered using a wash of paint, usually a light grey, just to tone bright colours down. Producing these buildings took place over several years and was a most enjoyable activity.

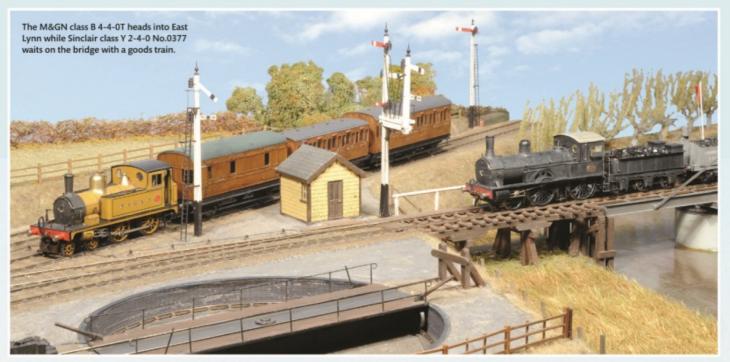
A small number of locomotives and some rolling stock came from the earlier layout: 209 class Neilson designed 0-4-0ST No.226, the first locomotive built back in 1975; G15 0-4-0 Tram engine No.131; E22 0-6-0T No.151 (running as a 2-4-0T) and E10 0-4-4T No.60. A friend gave me the No.1 class 'Little Sharpie' 2-4-0 No.117, which was a great help. Also from the earlier layout there were two six-wheel coaches and about 20 wagons. Right from the beginning I had settled on using three link

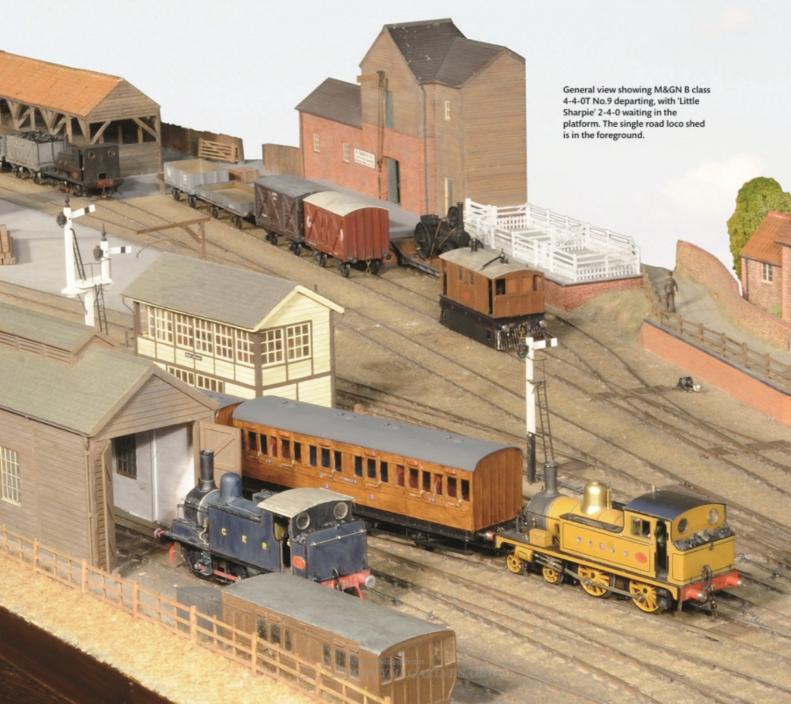
> and dummy screw couplings, as nothing else looks right.

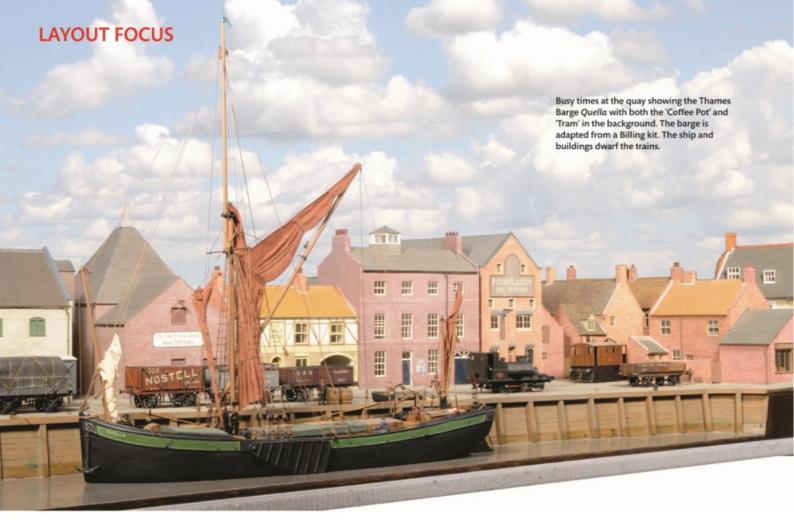


The tram heads up the short gradient from the quay, hemmed in by buildings, and passing the coal siding into the main yard.

EAST LYNN

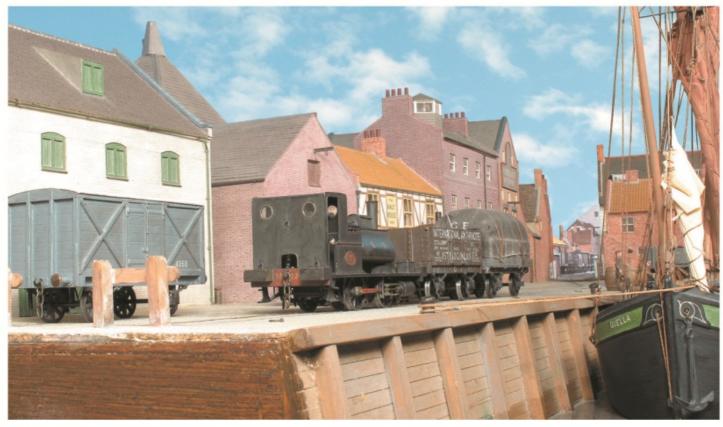






For new coaching stock I purchased etched zinc sides and ends made by Trevor Charlton to special order for S scale. This saved a lot of time and got the difficult panelled parts produced the easy way. As they are nearly all six-wheelers, most have a home made Cleminson type steering arrangement fitted, as well as compensation or springing. More recently the Brassmasters system became available and has been used successfully. The two earlier coaches and some more recent ones have been scratch- built using laminated card for the panelled bodies. I have never mastered the art of using plastic card.

A significant number of wagons have been produced from gravity cast white metal GER fiveplank open wagons and centrifugally cast sevenplank Private Owner wagons, from patterns made by society members. Several of these have been butchered into six-plank POs. Large numbers of wagons and vans have been built using thin birch



209 class 0-4-0ST 'Coffee Pot' No.226 shunting the quay at East Lynn, with a clear view between the buildings through to the main yard.



Worsdell G14 0-4-0T 'Tram' No.131 arrives on the quay with a short train. The two turnouts on the quay are stub points. The Malt House inn is based on an old building on the waterfront at Wells harbour, although hardly recognisable nowadays.

ply for the bodies, my preferred method of construction. Ironwork for these is mostly produced from thin copper strip simply embossed with rivet detail by a scriber and attached to the body with cyanoacrylate. Castings available from the society provide the detail parts such as springs and axleboxes. These days the S Scale MRS has a considerable range of etched and cast parts for wagons and coaches.

Scratch-building locomotives is my most enjoyable modelling activity, although parts for the Worsdell Y14 0-6-0 No.639 and Holden T26 2-4-0 No.428 were produced for me in etched brass to save some build time. All the self-built locomotives are made from nickel silver sheet with machined brass fittings. Nickel silver is so much easier to work with when soldering, rather than brass, thanks to its lower thermal conductivity. All chassis are fully compensated. Motors are mainly Mashima, with just a few ironless instrument motors. All are fitted with a flywheel to help give smooth running. Other additions to the fleet have been a Bromley 140 class 0-4-2T No.146, a rebuild from a 0-4-4T; Holden D27 2-2-2 No.1004, an oil burner fitted with cylindrical oil tanks on the tender; Worsdell G16 4-4-0 No.0708; and Johnson 477 class 0-6-0 No.0486. The most recent additions are Sinclair Y class 2-4-0 No.0377, a real oldie, and Adams K9 0-4-2T No.25, the result of a swap for a R24R 0-6-0T that would now be well out of period.

There are two locomotives and trains from the Midland & Great Northern Railway; class B Hudswell 4-4-0T No.9 on passenger work, and a CM class 2-4-0 No.3A (a rebuild from a Cornwall Minerals 0-6-0T) for goods. The M&GN was an independent railway, which ran across north Norfolk with several connections to the Great Eastern, and for my purposes it has running powers into East Lynn.

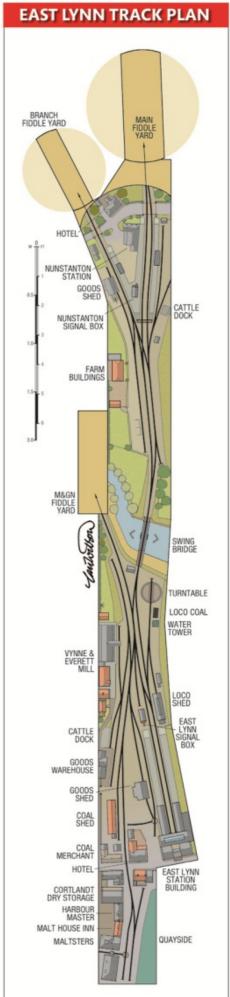
When the G16 4-4-0 was being built, it was very noticeable that there was a large gap between the boiler and frames, with valve rods clearly visible in the space between. I decided to try to make a set of working Joy's inside valve

gear and, after a few hiccups, succeeded. Having done that, the next two locomotives, the T26 2-4-0 and 477 0-6-0, were fitted with partly working Stephenson's valve gear. This does not mean that all the locos will be fitted with inside motion; I am not that much of a masochist! All bar one of the locomotives have all metal wheels and use split axles and frames, thus avoiding wiping pick-ups. Most of those metal wheels are brass investment (lost wax) castings fitted with steel or nickel silver tyres. For this sort of work a lathe is an essential part of the workshop.

By 2004, with East Lynn more or less finished and having adequate stock, the quayside extension was started. This is a very simple layout with just two turnouts, built as stub points, copied from an old photograph of Wells harbour. With no run round facility, shunting by chain is necessary. There is also a wagon turntable, which, with a couple of strategically placed bollards, is chain shunted. By far the largest part of the work was another series of buildings to provide a backdrop for the trains and a Thames barge moored at the quay. This is based on a Billing kit that was extensively modified. It was converted from full hull to waterline, had alterations to the cabin, deck and masts to make it look earlier, and is modelled with the sails furled. It was a steep learning curve - boat building is very different to railway modelling. BRM

The Nunstanton part of Trevor's layout will feature in next month's BRM and you can see it all at the London Festival of Railway Modelling on March 24/25.





'LASERGLAZE' 'DELTIC'

Nigel Burkin shows how he enhanced the Bachmann Class 55 with new engine room windows. Photos by the author.

hile there have been many improvements to the way that glazing is represented in models of diesel electric locomotives (and multiple units) in recent years, some models remain less than satisfactory in that department, despite them being relatively recently developed models (post 1999). In some instances, the window openings moulded in the bodyshell are over-size to accommodate a clear moulded glazing insert which has the window frame moulded as part of it; a practice which makes it difficult for modellers to make changes to the model. This is, thankfully, a practice which is being used less and less these days.

Another issue is that the glazing inserts, although designed to represent 'flush'

in a prismatic appearance akin to thick pebble glasses and lacking the flat appearance of real glass. Usually, all windows are modelled in the closed position too, though one way of making a model take on the appearance of a well used machine is to

position. It is generally agreed that it is up to the modeller to introduce such 'character' to their models for that is what modelling is all about rather than rely on the manufacturer to do this work. However, if the glazing we have to work with is designed in such a way as to be difficult to work on or too thick to



'Deltic' No. 9005 in BR blue is one of Bachmann's latest models of the class to be released in 2011. It features an on-board 21-pin decoder and etched nameplates that can be applied over the printed ones. Notable details include the bonnet mounted air horns, twin windscreen wipers to each of the windscreens and neatly modelled cab side windows. The quarter light is not plated over. Bachmann continues the practice of using printing to represent small details such as panel covers which are lost if the model is repainted. They will have to be marked in place with a scribing tool first,



be realistic when the job is complete, then our efforts will be wasted.

One example of a model with challenging glazing as far as adding character is concerned is the Bachmann 'Deltic', particularly in respect to its engine room windows. While the cab side and windscreen windows are reasonably represented, trying to do something with the side windows is difficult to say the least. Taking a closer look at the photograph on the right shows how ragged the painted frames (unpainted metal on the full-size engines) are and how poorly the inserts fit the openings, which are oversize. The windows are 'closed', something which I rarely saw on 'Deltics' when in use on warm days - at least two or more on each side were usually open to allow additional ventilation for hard worked engines!

Open side windows was a feature I wished to include on my model of 55 022 Royal Scots Grey as if operating on a hot summer's day. The model is in BR green livery with small yellow warning panels and with modern livery features such as an orange warning stripe and modern electrification notices. The livery and degree of weathering is representative of the locomotive's condition at the time it worked summer Saturday services to Ramsgate for Virgin Trains where I observed various engine room windows open on every occasion I went out to photograph the train. Modelling this feature on the Bachmann model turned out to be more difficult than it normally should be because of the manner in which the unpainted window frames are moulded as part of the glazing insert. Had the frames been part of the body moulding and the openings correspondingly the correct size, cutting and fitting new thin glazing using acetate sheet would have been fairly straightforward.



Looking closely at the engine room windows, which are a particular characteristic feature of the 'Deltic's, it is clear that the mouldings do not fit the openings perfectly and are not properly lined up with each other. The window frames are moulded as part of the glazing insert rather than the body shell resulting in an oversize opening in the body. The depth of the glazing is obvious at this oblique angle too. With window openings that are too large, using use glazing sheet to replace the moulded glazing will result in an inaccurate appearance unless an etched frame is fitted to each, assuming one is available.



The same problem with the engine room windows is apparent with the detailed and weathered model of No.55 022. It is this model that made me look for an alternative method for representing the glazing in this model. Shawplan's new Laserglaze product seemed to provide the answers and a long conversation with Brian Hanson of Shawplan to work out some details has made this project possible. The etched nameplates fitted to the model are by Shawplan and the model would soon be enhanced with etched steel window frames reducing the size of each engine room window opening.

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MODERN RAILWAY MODELLING

MATERIALS LIST

- · Enamel matt varnish
- · Enamel gloss varnish
- · Several fine paint brushes (Size 0 or 00)
- Tweezers
- · Self-healing cutting mat
- Scissors
- Thinners

The answer to this problem came in the form of 'Laserglaze', the etched window frame and laser cut glazing products offered by Shawplan Models. The etched steel window frames are exquisite, reducing the size of the window openings to more or less scale size once applied while the Laserglaze itself allows the modelling of the windows with their overlapping panes in either the open or closed position.

The key to securing 'Laserglaze' is to use gloss varnish, suitably thinned, as a clear adhesive. I run it along the edges of each piece of glazing relying on capillary action to do the rest. Matt varnish is effective for

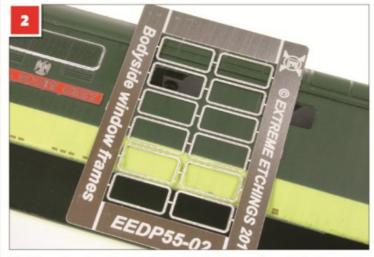




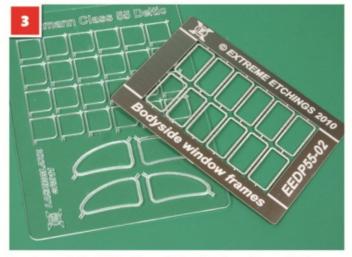
The first task is to remove the old glazing inserts by carefully inserting the blade of a blunt modelling knife between the body and glazing. This task took a little time and careful work so not to damage any of the previously applied detail. As you can see, the moulding is crude and very heavy in section, doing little for the appearance of the model. This cruel close-up picture also shows another compromise made to the model: moulded handrails! Difficult to replace with wire ones without damaging the paint finish unless the model is to be repainted.

attaching the etched window frames and of course, it is invaluable for nameplates, works plates and depot plaques too!

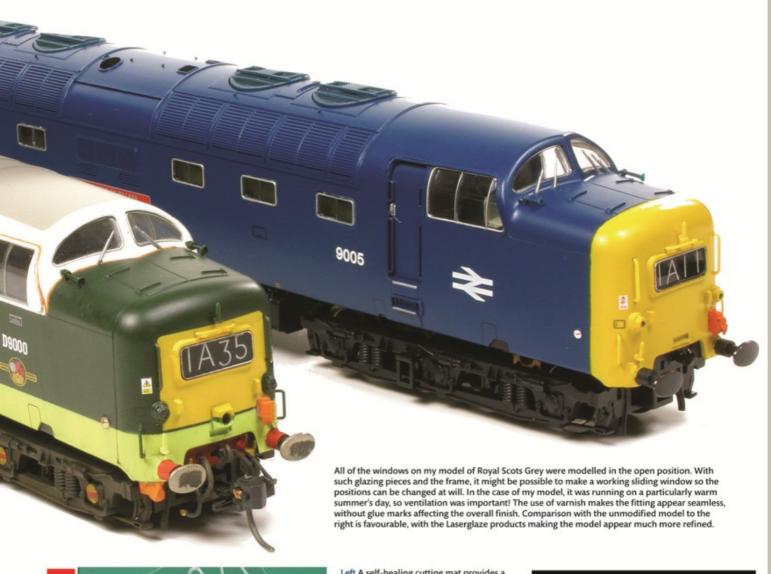
When discussing this project with Brian Hanson of Shawplan, he expressed concern that the thinnest glazing material he could work with would still appear slightly too thick for the overlapping panes of glass. However, there are other limits too: the ability of modellers to secure really thin material in the model and the minimum thickness of material required to achieve the flat appearance of glass. In the end, the finished result is a huge improvement over the original mouldings and in my view, the 'Laserglaze' does not appear to be overly thick. After all, this level of improvement is vastly better than none at all. BRM



This picture shows the etched stainless steel window frames to be applied to the model after the new glazing is fitted. This test shows how the model can be corrected and enhanced by the simple addition of an etched detail without the need for any



Laserglaze and etched window frames by Shawplan, the perfect combination. All that is needed is some gloss varnish to secure the glazing in place and matt varnish to attach the window frames. Sharp scissors or Xuron etch shears are required to remove the frames from the fret without distorting them.



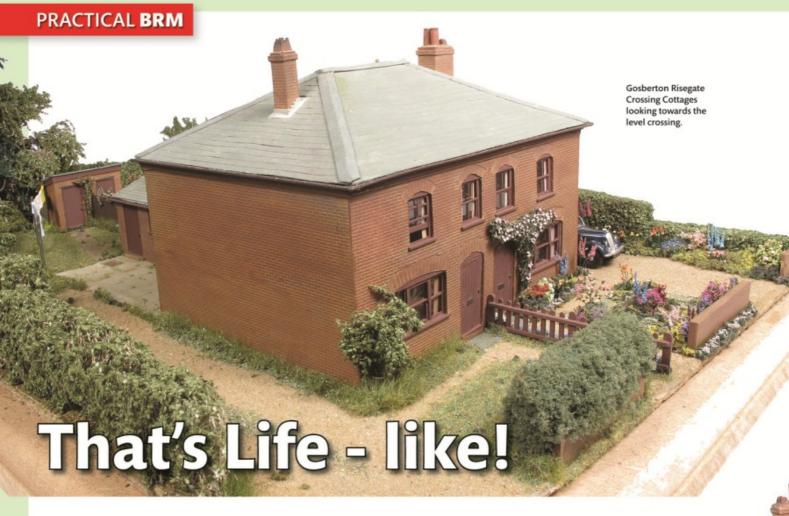
Left A self-healing cutting mat provides a suitably yielding surface on which to cut each glazing piece from the fret. There are two small pips in opposite corners which hold the glazing pieces in place - cut by applying the tip of a sharp modelling knife blade to them and gently pressing down. Be ready to catch any glazing that threatens to shoot off across the table! To avoid such occurrence, use a small piece of low tack masking tape to hold the glazing piece as the knife blade tip is applied.

FURTHER DETAILS

Shawplan Models 2 Upper Dunstead Road, Langley Mill, Nottingham, NG16 4GR Tel: 01773 718648 www.shawplan.com

Right: Each piece of Laserglaze is fitted to the locomotive, the fixed pane first followed by the sliding one on top. Varnish is applied to the first one and then left to dry before the second piece is added. The varnish is allowed to flow between the glazing and body shell by capillary action and I avoided applying it to the surface of the glazing. Once I was happy with the position of each, the frames were added with matt varnish. The varnish is applied to the frame first, using a size 00 brush before being literally dropped into place. Varnish allows for adjustment and should not cause unsightly marking on the painted surface of the body shell. Each side was done in turn and the body shell left on its side whilst the varnish set.

D9000



Part 1: Writer, broadcaster and former presenter of the BBC's That's Life! show, **Howard Leader**, gets down to construction work for Spalding MRC's new club layout. *Photos by Paul Bason*.

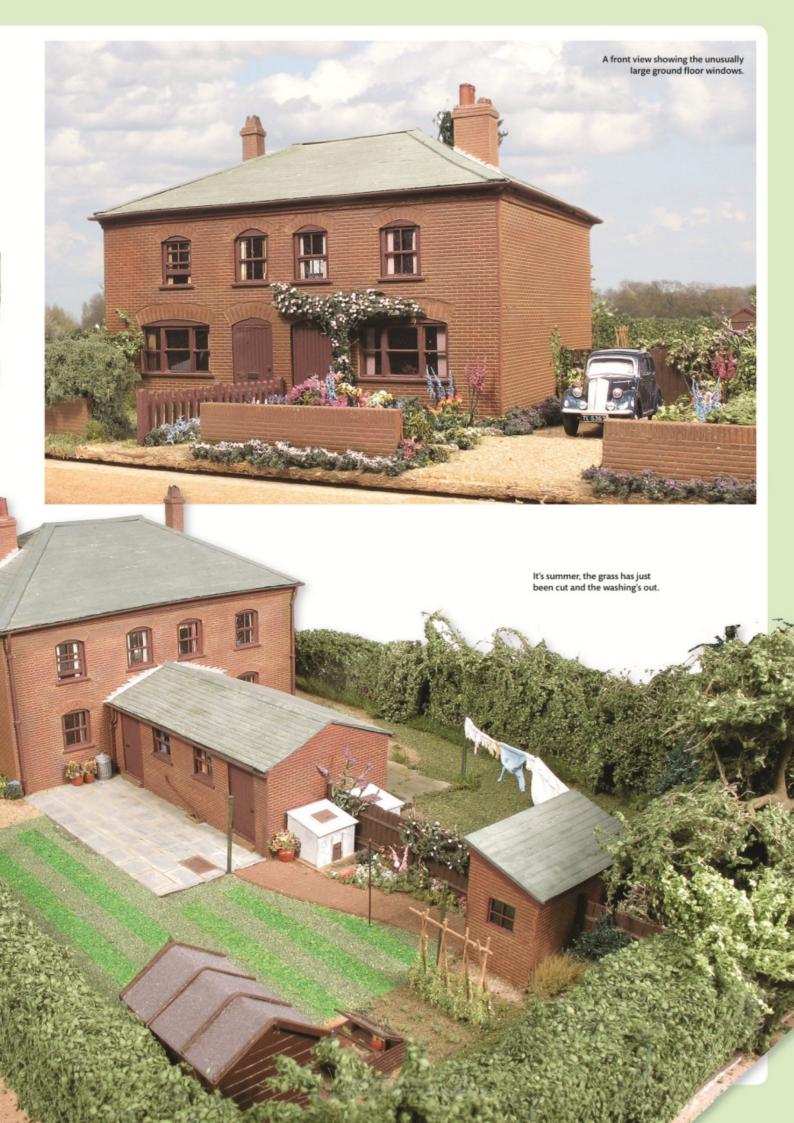
hese initial buildings for the new Spalding Model Railway Club layout, Gosberton Risegate, have come about almost by accident. Like many enthusiasts in our hobby, I am returning to it after too long an absence. My interest was kindled when my father and I built a jolly good train set when I was a lad, but it was duly broken up to make way for a younger brother, at which point I vowed that, one day, I would build a layout of my own in my own house.

Nearly 40 years later, excepting a brief happy foray into the hobby in the nineties when I was presenting *Collectable Models* on QVC, I have finally reached a point when I can devote a little more time and a small amount of space to my long held ambition. Thus, about two years ago I began using my commuting time on the train to do some serious research. The research led to me knocking up a small 'test' layout in order to find out just how much I didn't know. Such was the yawning chasm in my knowledge that earlier this year I decided that, if I was ever to scratch this itch, I really should join a club where I would at least be in contact with people who did understand all the mysteries of track laying, wiring, joinery and the myriad skills one seems to need.

Having attended the previous year's Spalding model railway exhibition and been suitably

impressed, I summoned the courage to go along to a club night and, to my immense relief, met with a friendly welcome and no entrance exam of my 'skills'. A few visits later and I thought I really ought to take something along so they could assess whether I could make any kind of contribution. I had been having a go at a signal box in which I





PRACTICAL BRM



had attempted to install an 'interior', so I took that. I waited until most people were busy with other things before discretely showing it to the chairman. A small crowd gathered, peered, probed me a bit, peered again then dispersed. Had I passed this first test?

Later that evening a meeting was convened to discuss the new club project. I listened attentively as the project manager, Trev, explained the ideas for a depiction of a small country station, Gosberton Risegate, just north of Spalding which closed in the mid 1960s but

still has trains passing by today. It was felt that the research process would be useful to the overall local knowledge bank and the station's importance in the 1940s and '50s to local agriculture would, as a summer layout, allow us to run a range of interesting goods trains. It would be built as a circuit on a series of boards with a frontage of some 20'. All this was fascinating. Plans were poured over, wiring discussed, DC or DCC argued over and I was soaking it all up.

Finally, Trev called order and began the

allocation of tasks. Baseboard construction to two old hands, track laying and electronics to others and Howard, could you do the buildings? Erm ... could I? I pointed out that I had never before tried to make a model of a 'real' building, but agreed to have a stab at something of lesser importance and see how it went.

In March I visited the site where, to my relief, all of the main structures still stand, although most in a fairly dilapidated state. A kindly crossing keeper allowed me to take some



I think the fellow on the right is retired and his neighbour works shifts!



Above: The long nocturnal walk to the privy!

Right: The coal bunker is as I remember ours from childhood.

photographs from the railway's property, enough to get me started on a pair of cottages that stand next to the level crossing. From the pictures, I made some drawings and slowly developed the model. I started by cutting all of the wall shapes from plastic card, covered them with an outer skin of brick embossed card, then cut out the window apertures. Although the windows in the cottages today are of UPVC, I managed to find some similar houses in the area with sash windows of the type I imagine these would have had. Master model maker Geoff Taylor assisted with the supply of some brass etches of the smaller sashes and I handmade the rest. After adding the roof I enjoyed trying to recreate the chimneys, each of which is slightly different. I tiled the whole roof with hand-cut and painted paper tiles.

Then, I got carried away. "You can't have a pair of cottages without gardens can you?" said my wife. Erm ...no. How on earth do you do miniature gardening? There followed more research, a great deal of trial and some error but, very slowly, a garden began to take shape. The privies were added, along with a garden shed, cold frame (with plants in!) and a shed.

The idea formed in my mind that the chap on the right must be retired and the fellow next door works shifts! Out came the gardening books with photographs of a variety of garden flowers, then I had a good think about how I might recreate them. I remembered that I had read an article in a previous edition of *BRM* about a chap who had made his own buddleia bushes. He was quite right, they take a while to make but I followed his lead and painted a sheet of paper different shades of green on each side, then set to cutting out dozens of individual leaves which I glued to fuse wire

sprayed green. My wife helpfully spotted some floral sprinkle material in a craft shop which came in a number of colours, so this was employed for various flower heads. As Barry Norman always says, using plenty of different textures and colours of material is the secret. I built up a small collection of lichens, ferns, moss and horse hair, along with various shades of scatter and just played around until the plants were something like the real thing. I even managed to make something passably like iris heads by sticking individual pieces of yellow scatter onto one of my fuse wire stems in the approximate shape of the original! A word of

longer than building the rest of the model.

For the back garden of the facing cottage, I wanted a few features. I remembered the coal bunker in my childhood garden which I had so many times shovelled coal from early on frosty mornings as a lad, and decided that each cottage should have one of those. These I built from scraps of plastic left over from the main structure. The garden path was another scrap etched with a tile pattern. The empty washing line was a few bits of plastic rod with a hair recovered from my wife's hairbrush stretched between. I got a small amount of ash from our stove to make the bonfire site behind the shed

warning though, making the garden took a lot

and popped a squirrel on the privvy roof for good measure.

Finally enough was enough, I could see the rest of the layout being finished and me still working on the cottage garden! After nearly two months I took this model along to the club. More peering, more scrutiny and eventually a nod from the chairman who, peering over the rim of his glasses, said 'And what can we expect next'.'

It seems that, just as in show business, you're only as good as your last job! BRM

MODEL RAILWAYS LIVE

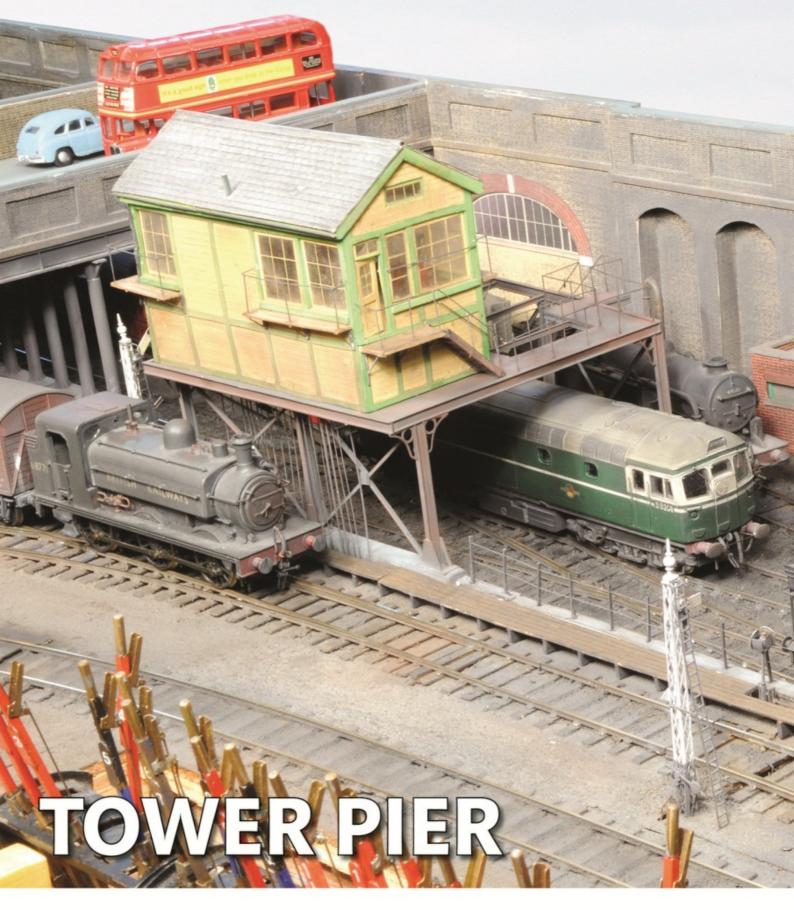
Check out our MRL Model Railways Answers section for more tips on weathering buildings



www.model-railways-live.co.uk/features

FURTHER DETAILS

Spalding Model Railway club welcomes new members (of any skill level!), check out the Spalding Model Railway club website: www.spaldingmodelrailwayclub. org.uk for more details.



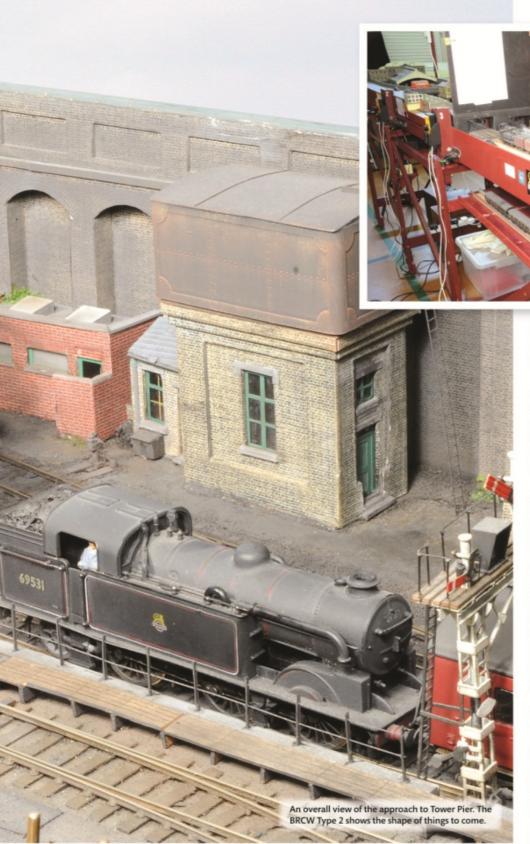
Geoff Ashdown describes his EM gauge layout based on the Metropolitan 'Widened Lines'.

Photography by Paul Bason.

hould you find yourself gliding along in a Thameslink train between St. Pancras International and Blackfriars, perhaps on the way to a 'jolly' at Brighton, you will be travelling part-way along a section of track once called the 'Metropolitan Widened Lines'. Built beneath the streets in 'cut and cover' tunnels or in deep cuttings lined with brick arched retaining walls, in steam days it was a dark, smoke-filled, mysterious stretch of railway with steep grades that demanded the highest standard of enginemanship.

In the 1860s the Metropolitan Railway built connections with the Midland and the Great Northern Railways at Kings Cross/St. Pancras and with the London Chatham & Dover via a triangular junction at Farringdon. The huge traffic, both passenger and goods, thus generated required the lines be doubled (hence Metropolitan Widened Lines) from Kings Cross to Moorgate. The Great Northern, Midland, Great Western and Metropolitan all built Goods Depots along the route adding to the congestion. Although the Metropolitan was

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BR Rule Book 1950: 'Each train when on any running line must always have a tail lamp... attached to the last vehicle, and this lamp will furnish evidence to the signalman and others that the train is complete'.

making up departing goods traffic with its own very restricted access to the dock sidings. All this, of course, requires a major revision of the history of the Circle Line and all is explained in the Historical Model Railway Society Journal Vol. 20 No.9. What, never heard of the HMRS? You don't know what you are missing!

Although Tower Pier is fictional, all the routes it serves at one time existed and all trains run to a timetable to actual places. BR Eastern Region runs trains from Hartford East, Hatfield North and intermediate terminating stations hauled by N2s with either 'Quad-arts' or the new Mk.1 compartment sets and the Southern runs an EPB two-car shuttle service to and from Streatham Hill. Midland Region trains continued to terminate at Moorgate after the line was built. Goods traffic to the docks is brought in from Ferme Park by J52s or J50s (which is a bit naughty, because the latter are not condensing) and from Acton Yard by condensing 97XX panniers. The year the layout operates in is 1955.

The layout itself can best be described as a 'layout in a coffin' with 5" (scale 30') retaining walls all round. It is 10' (ok, 3m) long and 20" (um...50.8cm) wide divided into three equal boxes, one of which is the fiddle yard. Built entirely of ply, the rear and end retaining walls form part of the structure and there is cross and diagonal bracing under the trackbed to give triangular bracing with its resistance to twisting. Each box has a carrying handle built in at the rear and a top cover which can be bolted on. The whole layout is thus contained in three suitcase size boxes, each of which can easily be carried by one person. It is supported on four trestles with shelves and diagonal bracing to give rigidity and erected with bolts and wing nuts so that the whole caboose is completely portable. This was an important part of the design when the baseboards were built in the year 2000, as I reckoned I had at least one more move before I retired - as it happened I had two! The 20' length was totally arbitrary as I reasoned it would surely fit into any garage or spare bedroom - and it has!

Each baseboard and trestle has adjustable

later electrified, the Widened lines remained steam hauled until the diesels took over in the late 1950s. Because of the tunnels, all engines had to have condensing gear fitted – instead of using the chimney, steam was exhausted through pipes back to the tanks to condense into water. This affected the steaming, caused problems with the injectors, and was never fully effective – the tunnels remained filthy sulphurous places to the end, diesel fumes being even more obnoxious than steam!

'Tower Pier' is the terminus of my fictional

'Widened Lines Extension Railway' supposedly built by a Great Northern/Great Western consortium in 1879, running from Moorgate through Liverpool Street and Aldgate to a cramped site between Minories and Vine Street and facing onto Tower Hill. A goods spur from Minories Junction ran alongside the passenger lines to the station and then turned under Tower Bridge Approach and East Smithfield to St. Katherine Docks. Because of the very restricted dock siding space, an additional yard was later-squeezed in next to the station for

LAYOUT FOCUS



An SR EPB unit clatters over the points en route to Sydenham Hill via Smithfield Junction, Holborn Viaduct (Low level), Blackfriars and over the Thames to the Elephant & Castle.

feet so that the trackwork can be carefully lined up before the boards are bolted together through the end framing with long bolts and wing nuts. I did consider using pattern maker's dowels for quick baseboard alignment but decided against them. I am dubious about using precision fixings with wooden baseboards which expand and contract. Much better, I think, to allow for adjustment until it all lines up nicely and then nip 'em up tight with a bolt in a floppy 'ole. It was for the same reason I decided against having each baseboard on its own legs –

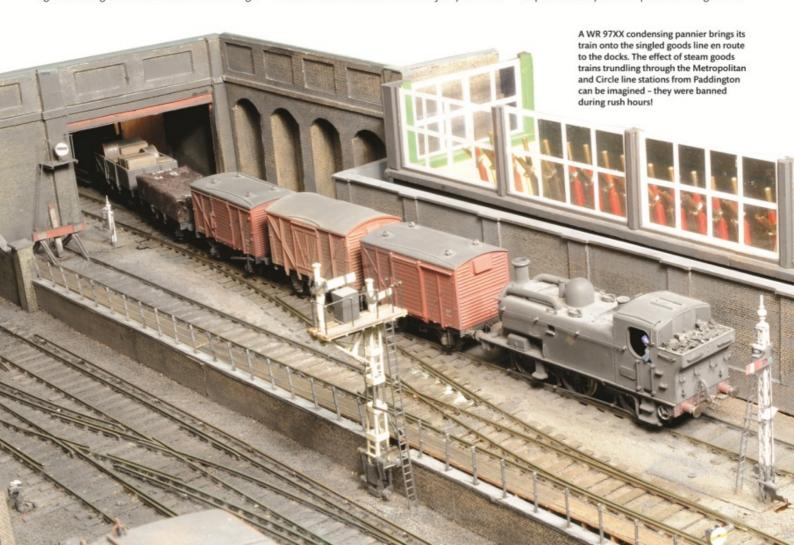
fine in its way but it's far easier to place the boards on a pre erected support frame and then align them. Once the layout is erected and something goes wrong with the wiring – and it will – it's simple to undo the connecting bolts and tip the offending baseboard on its side to work on in situ at a convenient height. Much better than trying to solder upside down!

The Layout is to EM gauge standards. Partly because that was the fine scale standard when I were a lad but mainly because I don't like the look of Peco track. I know the majority of 4mm

scale modellers use it, and are completely satisfied, and I know the OO/Peco combination offers very many advantages (tighter radius curves to allow a working layout to be squeezed into a room, ease of use, speed of laying, compatibility, etc, etc.), but it just doesn't look like steam era bullhead track! I think it's the size and spacing of the sleepers even more than the rail. It's not right, so it was EM for me. Why not P4? Well, you have to compromise somewhere, and for me it was time. EM gauge uses 'modelling' standards which are near to scale but sufficiently tolerant to allow the simple quick conversion of propriety locomotives using Romford wheels. I knew the speed at which I worked and the time I then had available and P4 would have taken me too long to get what I wanted - so pragmatism ruled ... OK?

The trouble with discussing model railway standards in print is that people so often seem to take it so seriously and write angry letters to the magazines (or are the letters written by bored editors on a wet afternoon just to stir things up a bit?). This is in complete contrast to the many totally amiable, interested (and interesting) people who come and chat and ask questions when I am helping man the EM gauge demonstration stand at exhibitions. What is there to get agitated about, for goodness sake?

The track is 'ply and rivets' also known to older readers as the 'Joe Brook Smith system'. Basically it consists of tiny brass rivets inserted into equally tiny holes in the plywood sleeper, swaged over and then the rail is soldered to the rivets. It is now totally outclassed by sophisticated systems of plastic chairs glued to





The J50 brings its train onto the single goods line while a passenger train of BR Mk.1 stock arrives.

plastic or ply sleepers, but I like my prehistoric ways and enjoy making track this way. I have a sneaking suspicion that it is a lot stronger than glued track systems but wiser people than me affirm that glue is fine. The advantage of handmade track, of course, is that the pointwork is made to fit the site, so no struggling with standard points with their fixed geometry and grossly over-scale centres for double track (yes, I know, it's to stop rolling stock hitting on the curves). The station throat at Tower Pier is quite complex, some points are subtly curved and there is a single slip and a pair of interlaced points. The EM Gauge Society has a comprehensive manual and supplies all the gauges and materials required. Happiness is turning on the controller and watching a train run smoothly over pointwork you have made yourself!

Right from the start, Tower Pier was designed to be operated as a steam age railway. When I go to exhibitions I try and sneak a look behind the layouts and am intrigued to find quite small layouts operated by a 'control panel', sometimes with an electric pencil to change the points and switches on the track diagram to set the route and even more switches for the uncouplers. That's fine, but is not for me. I wanted to have the operating ambience of a steam age railway without having to 'think electric'. The passenger and goods lines are entirely separate and virtually form two separate layouts each with their own (KPC) controller. All the track is designed to be electrically live at all times so a locomotive can go anywhere without the need to set an electrical route. Every section of track is wired to the controller so there is no nonsense of an engine at one end of the layout refusing to move because a point at the other end is set 'wrongly'. The strict rule is that wherever a locomotive is brought to a stand the driver puts the handbrake on. This is, of course, an isolating switch but always referred to (and thought of) as a handbrake. There are 19 'handbrakes' so a standing locomotive does not



A 97XX is reversing its train back onto the down goods to enter the yard. When there is space in the docks it will reverse the movement and take its train down.

stop any other legitimate movement.

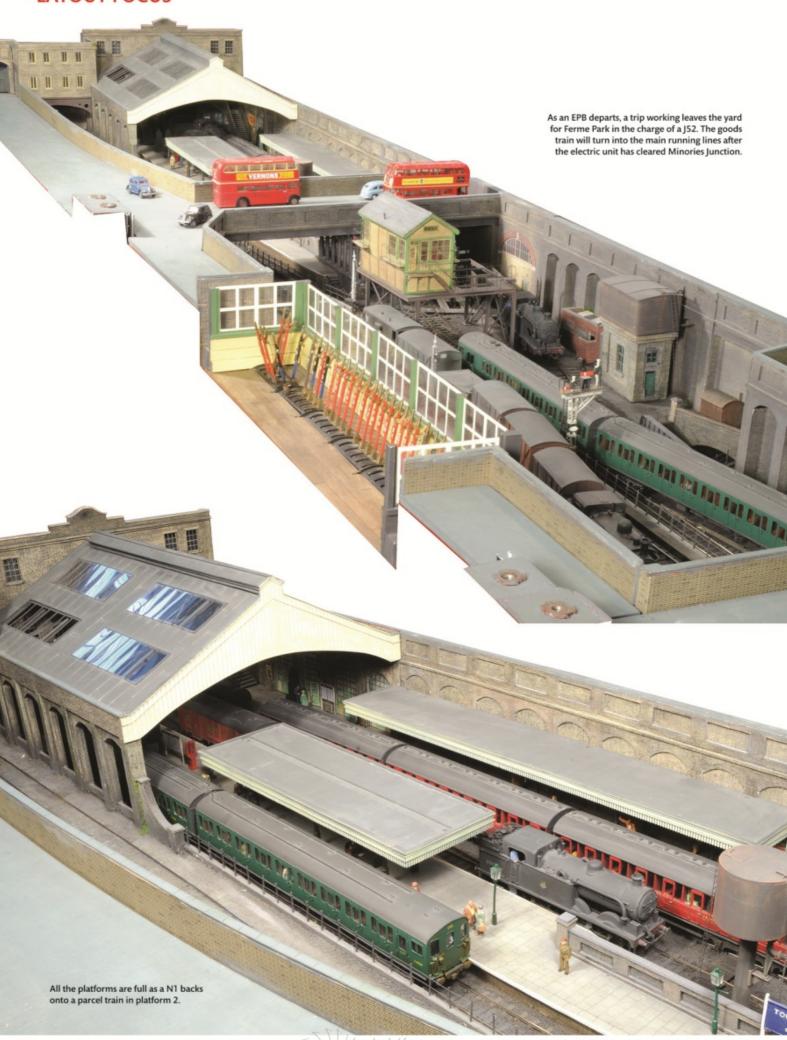
The points and signals are manually operated from a 30 lever frame made up of 'Brassmasters' excellent kits and are activated using the 'wire in tube' system, mostly copper tube by 'GEM' but I also used a plastic tube system rejoicing in the name of 'Slippery Sid'! The wire and tubes run on the surface, part buried in the cork track base and ballast, connected direct to the point tie bars and operating the signals by pushing against a paddle on the balance weight crank. The signal returns to danger by gravity. All very simple and crude - but my signals work! Have a close look at the photos and all is revealed.

The layout is fully signalled using components and kits from MSE and Alan Gibson and everything, including ground signals and banner repeaters, works. I know a lot of

modellers don't bother with signals, but to me they are the essence of a railway, how do you run protypically without them? The same goes for the bells and block instruments, all part and parcel of running a traditional steam railway. Without them you are operating a model railway, with them you are running a model of a railway, and I find it immensely satisfying so to

The block instruments are made of stripwood from Homebase, some clear plastic sheet and a touch of wood dye. They look far better than they are and people are impressed, but they really are simplicity itself (they had to be, I made them, didn't I?). The pegger handles are made of bits of brass and wood dowel and the bell pushes are the levers of the micro switches with the head of one of those fancy pins used

LAYOUT FOCUS

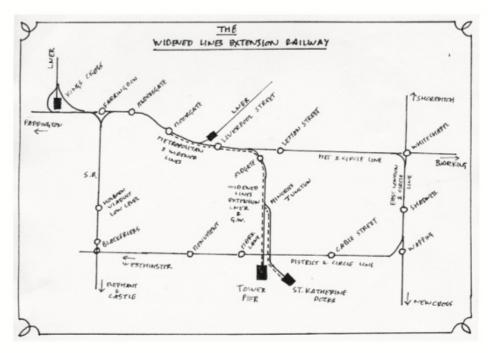


for hanging pictures soldered on. Everything is connected electrically and manually to the next box down the line, Minories Junction, which is actually the fiddle yard and has a much simplified set of 'instruments' using lights instead of bells. And the bell? A house 'Ding Dong' electric bell, with the 'Dong' removed. Bodger? Me?

And so to couplings. If you are going to play at being a real life shunter you have to be able to do as he does - bring a wagon, or cut of wagons into a siding, unhook the coupling and leave them exactly where you want them. No worrying where the uncoupler is, no little jiggles over a magnet, just you and a shunter's pole and a train to sort - that's the way to do it! All goods stock is therefore fitted with three link or screw couplings. Sure, it takes time, but the timetable is operated with a manually operated clock so time stands still as required - also useful for a brew up! Coaching stock, however, has Sprat & Winkle couplings on the ends of the rake because the station has an overall roof no chance of hand uncoupling there so a permanent magnet hidden in the ballast does the job when the departing engine buffers up at the platform end and nudges the coaches just enough to let the coupling drop.

From the above twittering it's obvious that Tower Pier takes a lot of operator input, but model railways are all about personal enjoyment and I love ringing the bells, setting the block instruments and pulling the point and signal levers - I suppose it's my own bit of virtual reality! It's a real pleasure when friends come round to join in the fun but the layout is usually operated by me alone, happily ringing bells to myself and lost in my own little world. Ah, bless - leave him alone and he plays for hours!

All the buildings on Tower Pier are built of card using the excellent Exactoscale selfadhesive brick paper, which I think is still available, if not advertised. I enjoy modelling in card and to me the subtle texture of the Exactoscale brick and slate roof papers is far more effective than embossed plastic. The retaining walls are made of balsa and card using their 'retaining wall' sheets - lovely stuff. The GN had a very austere building style, especially to the rear, and I've tried to capture the character of their station buildings in the North London

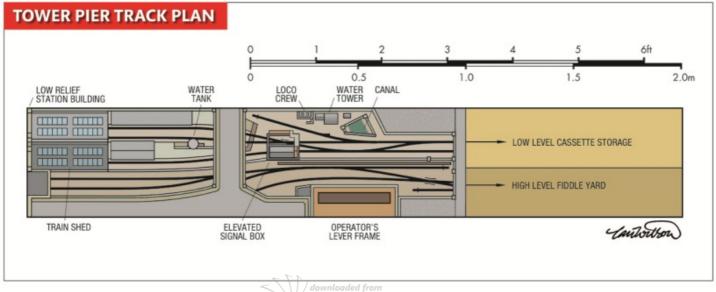


suburbs. The gantry mounted signal box is based on the Saxby & Farmer No.3 box at Wood Green. The overall roof is the only plastic structure, the trusses made on a jig. It's not based on any prototype, just made to look as 'railwaylike' as I could manage.

Stock roster

- · Three N2 tanks. Lovely Hornby models with extra detailing and an easy conversion to EM. Being Hornby they run sweetly and quietly, unlike the earlier Airfix version which sounded like a coffee grinder. They handle all the passenger work.
- J52 tank: Hornby converted to resemble the condensing versions which spent 60 years working in the Widened Lines tunnels. A very pleasant chap at an exhibition reckoned I had got this one wrong, but I've checked the pictures and reckon I'm right, so if you are reading this, I know the chassis is wrong but I have a pukka 'Mainly Trains' kit to replace it. · J50 tank: DJH kit which went together nicely and is a heavy brute. Non-condensing engines were not allowed on the widened lines beyond the Farringdon junction to the Southern Region,

- so it should not really be at Tower Pier, but by this time the J52s were very old so I run it as a short notice replacement engine for a failed J52. NI tank: a 'Little Engines' kit. Lovely engine, used on goods and parcels.
- 97XX condensing pannier: A much modified Bachmann pannier, with the tanks cut back from the smoke box sides and extended to the footplate and a feed pump and condensing gear added. The main deficiency is a lack of rivets to the tank sides, although another exhibition visitor pointed out that I'd got the vent to the condensing pipes wrong. He's right, but it is not going to be easy to alter - can I live with it? This model is fitted with an all singin' all dancin' sprung 'Comet' chassis and runs as well as it should.
- · Sentinel Shunter: DJH kit, one of these was allocated to 'Top Shed' in the early '50s so it is not quite the anachronism it may seem. Not my best runner, but we are persevering.
- Two-car Southern EPB EMU: A DC.Kits model which makes up into a nice unit. With the new Bachmann release everybody will have one now, which spoils the fun, so I have a Roxey Mouldings' 2NOL to construct.



LAYOUT FOCUS

· Drewry 204 bhp shunter: Bachmann, modified to the early version with small windows to the cab. Very easy conversion to EM - just pull the wheels out to gauge! This one is just early enough to use in the steam period and one was allocated to Kings Cross - but I got the number wrong - one digit out!

· BR 0-6-0 Diesel shunter: Bachmann: A lovely runner, but after conversion has a tendency to tie its connecting rods into knots. It and me have had a few chats about this but I recently saw someone else's do exactly the same thing, which made me feel better. Used for trip working from Ferme Park.

In addition to the above 'Steam Era' roster I have a few extra diesels to allow me to move into the 'Transition Period', although I don't really approve:

- · BRCW Type 2 Bo-Bo: Modified Lima and a real growler! The bogies are wrong - but I tell myself it's only a diesel!
- · Cravens DMU: Bachmann and a very easy conversion. I didn't like them when they came in, but I like the model!
- · North British Type 2 Bo-Bo: Hornby. The modifications are almost finished but it is so ugly I have lost interest!

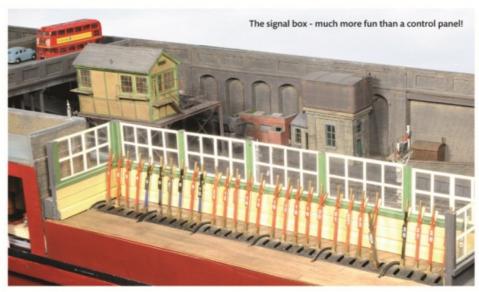
The coaching stock comprises a lovely 'Quad-art' set (I rode in them regularly) from Ian Kirk kits and a BR Mk.1 suburban set from Bachmann. These are the correct 57' length as used on the Widened Lines with the ventilators spaced to clear the restricted loading gauge. They have been flush glazed (Finecast) and the prominent roof beading removed. The 'Quadart' train should consist of two sets and the Mk.1s should be five coaches, not three.

Parcels and goods stock are a mixture of proprietery and the excellent Parkside Dundas kits. One vehicle of note is the GW 'Acton' brake van used on the widened lines because of the space restrictions at Smithfield Goods. A Connoisseurs Models kit, it went together beautifully and if ever a brake van could be said to be 'cute' this one is - it gives me continued pleasure.

And so that's my little bit of the Widened Lines. It's been exhibited twice, at the East London Finescale show in 2010 and I was flabbergasted and honoured to be invited to expoEM this year. I have declined invitations to



The instrument shelf, track diagram, clock and timetable. There are two sets of instruments for the passenger and goods lines, the tunnel through to St. Katherine Docks is controlled by the plungers on the far left. The bells are dolls house bells and buzzed rather than 'tinged'. I replaced them with house bells fixed behind the board but couldn't get them to sound differently to recognise which were ringing. In the end I settled for one bell with a light which is flashed to tell the signalman which line is being referred to.





An N2 leaves platform 1 for New Barnet while the N1 stands in the spur.

'general public' shows because it really isn't very suitable for exhibitions. It's in a box so children and anyone in a wheelchair can't see it, (put it behind a barrier and no-one would!) there are at least two operators standing in front and it is not possible 'to have something moving all the time' which many feel is the mark of a good exhibition layout. Finescale shows, however, operate under a different ethos (not better just different) and so it will be shown at the Watford Finescale show on April 18/19, 2012 and returns to the East London Finescale Exhibition in November 2012. All operators are housetrained and don't bite so if you are at the shows come and say hello.

If you do come and have a look, try and be kind and not to show your disappointment that the layout is not as good as it appears in the photographs taken by Paul Basson in less than perfect conditions and not really enough time at expoEM. Thanks Paul - a diamond geezer if ever there was one! BRM

Readers' Layouts

Share your layout or latest modelling project with other BRM readers - we pay £25.00 for each project published! Please ensure that you include your name and address on all emails, letters, disks and prints. Write to Richard Wilson, British Railway Modelling, The Maltings, West Street, Bourne, Lincolnshire PE10 9PH or email: richardw@warnersgroup.co.uk



Magdalen

This all started at the tender age of 66, after my grandsons saw a model railway and found out that I had built one years ago when my son was small, and I still had the trains.

The layout, which is housed in my shed, is 6' x 2' and N gauge with a double continuous track, a loop in the station, two sidings and another line heading to the loco sheds. This allows me to have four complete trains running at any one time, with additional locos in the sheds. It's controlled by two old H&M 'Flyer' controllers and all switching and isolation is via the pointwork.

It is not any particular period, all the buildings are just old ones I had, and all the locos are proprietary brands. My grandsons were quite impressed when they saw it finished and still come round to see it, but usually clear off back to their Nintendos, etc. after a while! Anyway, I'm glad they gave me the reason to do it.

Dave Orriss, Orpington, Kent

Crane Conversion

This is a recent project which involved the conversion of a Tri-ang rail-mounted crane into a small works yard steam crane.

The two chassis jib supports have to be removed and the centre well of the chassis filled in with 'Plastruct' angle girders and channels, and a thick piece of plastic card placed on top to cover the full top surface. It is best to double up the thickness of



the card in the centre underneath as it then requires a hole to be drilled and tapped in the centre for the pivot bolt to be positioned.

The jib operating chain and winding drum were cut away from the top of the main structure and replaced with two wire supports to hold the jib at a fixed angle.

The rounded sides of the floor (right and left) were cut down to just under the width of the truck. This allows for two long Plastruct

channels to be glued under these platforms to form the lower body frame. The lower rear main frame was covered over on the top with thin card where the boiler will fit. The lower structure was then built up with plastic angle to form the upper body frame, this is then covered with Slater's corrugated 'Plastikard'. A small plastic water tube forms the boiler with a chimney placed on top (I used a chimney taken from an Airfix 'Pug' kit).

D Penney, Chesterfield, Derbys

Tower of Strength

Some months ago I thought I'd like something a bit different on my layout, so I had a go at a scratch-built ash plant, using pictures downloaded from me by my friend. I was pleased with the results and thought I'd better have a coaling tower as well.

So, inspired by Tony Wright's stunning pictures of the one at King's Cross on the Gresley Beat layout, I've tried to make a single track version, but then I thought I'd go for the big one!

Recently we've had card kits and readymade models from the major manufacturers. but no articles on scratch-buildings these structures





despite lots of interest. The photo shows there is another option - they're made from balsa wood and plastic and are quite strong but extremely lightweight.

Denis M Sewter, Hull, E Yorks

British Railways Freight Stock

Getting the Balance Right, Part 1, by David Larkin. Photos as credited.



This non-ventilated, unfitted ex-Midland Railway van is typical of some of the elderly stock operated by BR in the first six years. It has been given a coat of BR Grey paint but this has become weathered by the time it was photographed at Kettering on September 16, 1952. A E West, courtesy Wessex collection

n the 30 years that have passed since I started writing articles and books about wagons, an impressive number of accurate kits and RTR models have been produced, particularly in the last ten years. I have concentrated in recent times in producing detailed books denoting types of wagons produced during specific periods and they have been covering the post-1948 era. I would like to think I have contributed in some way to the general raising of standards of wagon models, both at the individual modeller's level and that of the manufacturer as well.

There is one aspect, though, that I do feel needs examination. This is the correct mixture of the various designs and categories. With the editor's permission, I will tackle this aspect in an ongoing series of illustrated articles.

Firstly, a study will be made of specific eras and these will be as follows:

- 1a: Post-Nationalisation (1948-1955) stock acquired from the 'Big Four' railway companies and the Ministry of Transport
- 1b: Post-Nationalisation (1948-1955) stock acquired from the Privately Owned companies and the Non Pool wagon fleet up to the early 1960s
- 2: British Railways Standard wagon designs (1956-1967) – stock constructed to traditional designs for BR
- 3: British Rail era designs (post 1967) unfitted and vacuum-braked wagons
- 3b: British Rail era designs (post 1967) airbraked wagons up to the 1994 Privatisation era
- · 3c: British Rail era designs (post 1967 air-

braked privately owned wagons up to the 1994 privatisation era

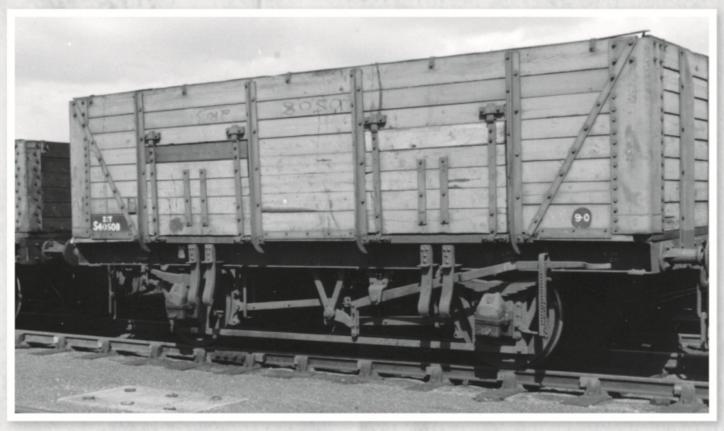
Subsequent articles will focus on specific loads, for example coke, livestock and motor vehicles, and will examine in depth exactly what stock was used.

1a: Post-Nationalisation (1948-1955)

Stock acquired from the Big Four railway companies and the Ministry of Transport.

British Railways came into being on January 1, 1948, a politically motivated entity deriving from the Labour Party then in power and pushed for by the trade unions. It was part of a grand plan to 'nationalise' all forms of public transport.

In the case of British Railways, this was to be achieved by absorbing the assets of the Big Four



The Southern Railway were not noted for large mineral wagons but this Dia. 1386 21T mineral wagon shows that they did have some. There were collieries in Kent but these wagons probably carried locomotive coal into SR territory originally. Taken at Swindon, early 1950s. Roye England, courtesy Pendon Museum collection

Railway companies, which including four varied wagon fleets. A fifth wagon fleet, which consisted of coal wagons built for the Ministry of Transport from World War II onwards, also came under BR control at this time. There was a sixth fleet, that of the non-railway owned stock known as 'Private Owner' but this is a complicated chapter and will be dealt with separately.

The biggest wagon fleet acquired was that of the London, Midland & Scottish Railway. This had been created from the former Caledonian, Lancashire & Yorkshire, London & North Western and Midland Railways, amongst others, and all those named had large industrial traffics to convey. The fleet had been added to by large numbers of wagons built to LMS designs but

still included a large number of pre-1923 wagons. Acquired vehicles retained their original numbers and were given the prefix M.

The second largest fleet was that of the London & North Eastern Railway. This also included former companies with large industrial traffic, such as the Great Central, Great Northern, North British and North Eastern

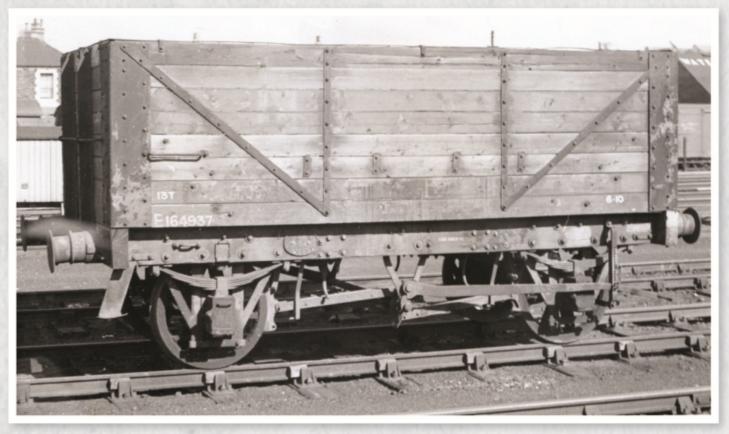


The Great Western Railway had the largest number of locomotive coal wagons and Diagram N'20 is one of the smaller designs. It would have been seen at any former GWR loco shed. Taken at Swindon, early 1950s. Roye England, courtesy Pendon Museum collection

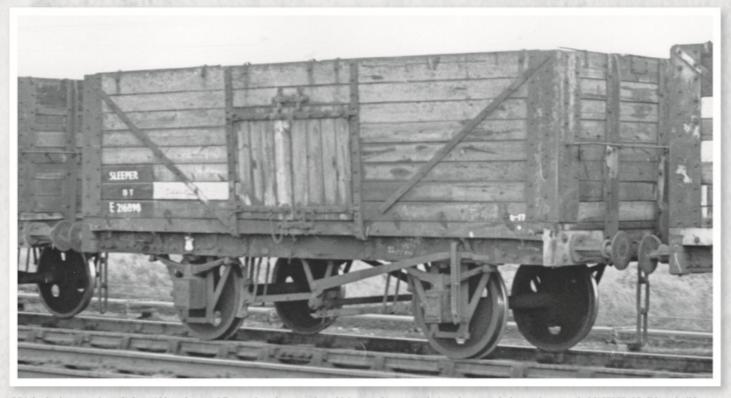
FREIGHT ONLY



This 16T mineral is one of the former Ministry of Transport wagons and was issued with BR Diagram 1/102, as it does not have the side flap doors. Photographed at Hoo Junction yard in March 1969, the sides have been given new plates, where the fresh paint is, but is otherwise in original condition. Author, W1294/DL



As mentioned in the text, the LNER built many coal hopper wagons, to be unloaded at the numerous staithes in former NER territory, and also used wooden solebars far longer than anyone else. Both features are seen here. D P Rowland, courtesy S4 Society



BR inherited some unique designs. Although resembling a mineral wagon, the vehicles seen here were designed to carry timber and were coded SLEEPER. BR did not build any further examples, but this view, taken in the early 1960s at Millerhill Yard, shows that they lasted a long time. D P Rowland, courtesy S4 Society

Railways. This fleet brought in many pre-1923 wagons and LNER designed wagons. The designs were a bit quirky, there being much use of wooden chassis, long after the other companies had dropped this feature. Hopper wagons were also much more common. Acquired vehicles retained their original numbers and were given the prefix E.

The Great Western Railway fleet came next

and this was the most standardised, having had the continuous identity at the 1923 Grouping. There was some industry in the West Midlands served by the GWR but, in general, this wagon fleet was for general merchandise. Acquired vehicles retained their original numbers and were given the prefix W.

The Southern Railway had the smallest of all but there were significant numbers of pre-1923

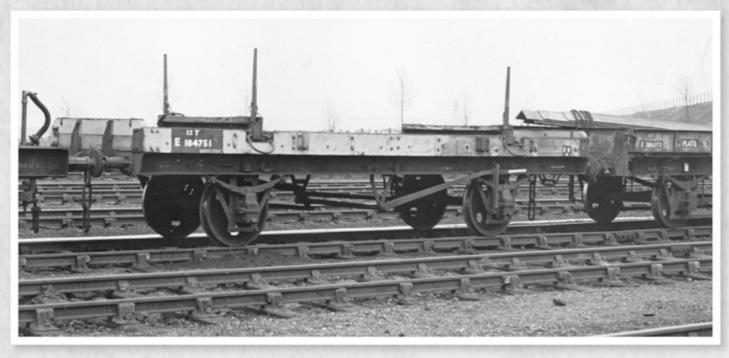
wagons. Once again, the traffic was general merchandise rather than industrial. Acquired vehicles retained their original numbers and were given the prefix S.

The final fleet to be dealt with in this chapter is the Ministry of Transport. This group of wagons, all 16T all-steel mineral designs, has its origins in World War II when the Ministry of War Transport ordered stock to be used in the



Another unique LNER design inherited by BR is this 22T vacuum-braked tube wagon. The last of a number of LNER designs built to carry this traffic, it was actually built after January 1, 1948. Such wagons lasted well into the 1970s, this example being seen at Millerhill Yard in the early 1960s. D P Rowland, courtesy S4 Society

FREIGHT ONLY



Double bolster wagons, such as this early LNER. example seen at Millerhill Yard in the late 1950s, were a standard in the inter-war period. Bogie wagons had begun to replace them and, although BR did build a small number, survivors were converted or used as runner wagons, as seen here. D P Rowland, courtesy S4 Society

UK initially and then transferred to Europe after D-Day. This did happen to most of the wagons ordered but some remained in Britain. In 1945, the government placed orders with factories that had been producing guns and ammunition and further 16T mineral wagons passed into Ministry of Transport ownership. With the

setting up of British Railways in 1948, all existing wagons, and those still being constructed, were handed over. Acquired vehicles retained their original numbers and were given the prefix B. This is why the lowest range of BR-built wagons are 16T minerals; they followed on from the ex-MoWT/MoT stock. The wagons that were sent

abroad returned to the UK in 1951; they could have been incorporated in the original batches but were in fact given new numbers in the B199XXX range.

In the next article in this series, we will examine the fate of the former Private Owner wagons. BRM



Vacuum-braked ventilated vans were required in vast numbers and the GWR example is seen in well-maintained condition. It was, however, not considered front-line because of the 9'0" wheelbase. Because of this, it could not run at passenger-train speeds and would be phased out by the late 1960s. R H G Simpson



This SR-built van is 10'0" wheelbase and bears the required XP code. Any banana vans with this wheelbase, such as the two SR designs, survived a lot longer in traffic than their contemporaries, which had the shorter wheelbase. Seen in 1964, they only passed out of service due to loss of traffic and were even retained in another role well into the 1970s. RJ Essery, courtesy Roger Carpenter



Some designs lasted for operating reasons. The SR was afflicted by narrow tunnels between Tonbridge and Hastings and therefore the 25T 'Pillbox' design lasted a lot longer than might have been expected. D P Rowland, courtesy S4 Society



A Pannier Tank for Cornwallis Yard

Karl Crowther constructs an 850 Class locomotive. Photography by the author.

eaders may be familiar with the late Bob Haskins' EM gauge layout, Cornwallis Yard, which was described in the June and July 2007 issues of BRM. Bob's existing collection of locomotives numbered just about enough to satisfy motive power requirements for the layout. However, one of several unbuilt kits he had in stock was Alan Gibson's version of the 850 Class 0-6-0 pannier tank and it seemed sensible to construct a few additional locos in case of potential failures in service. In addition, while being heavily involved in final detailing of the layout, I felt that making a loco to run on it would give me a closer affinity with the model - something I could see as a tangible, stand-alone contribution.

I must confess at this point to being no expert on the Great Western Railway, and in regards to prototype information, I am extremely grateful for the assistance and advice of Martin Goodall. However, despite



A close-up view of the completed model (injector pipework now the correct colour but still needs weathering!). this input, any errors in the resulting model are entirely down to the builder! Through these exchanges I remembered I had previously read Guy Williams' account of building an 850 Class pannier tank in his book The 4mm Engine, A Scratchbuilder's Guide (published by Wild Swan), which provided an excellent insight into aspects of building this type of loco. As originally constructed, they had open cabs and saddle tanks, with some also being provided with LNWR/Crewe pattern 'H'-spoke wheels. Subsequently they received a range of modifications that included Belpaire fireboxes and pannier tanks, although not all locos were so-modified. Another common modification appears to have been the provision of enclosed cabs and in some cases, an enlarged bunker.

I managed to track down a photograph of a suitable locomotive, this being No.1930 seen at Plymouth Friary Junction in 1925. Although a little early for our period (1936-37), it had already been rebuilt with pannier tanks by this time. In addition, it retained the original open cab and 'H'-spoke wheels and had an enlarged-style bunker (I believe I am correct in saying that wheels were never changed). A set of cabside plates was duly ordered from 247 Developments, which arrived back by return of post, as they were already in stock. I also ordered a set of 'H'-spoke wheels from Alan Gibson; the kit being supplied with plain spoke pattern.

As the loco sports an open cab, I was keen to ensure that the motor and gearbox would not encroach into this area. An ideal combination seemed to be a High Level 'LoadHauler Compact' and gearbox with a D2 'DriveStretcher' final drive carriage. I opted for the 108:1 gear ratio which would suit the loco's intended slow-speed shunting role, whilst High Level's Chris Gibbon suggested using a Mashima 1024 round can motor. At the same time I also purchased some of Chris's standard hornblocks so I could compensate the chassis.

Alan's kit for the 850 class is, I believe, a reincarnation of the old Model & Leisure product. It retains elements of the original whitemetal kit, such as the pannier tank/boiler/firebox/smokebox assembly and bunker, whilst features such as the footplate, cab front section



The loco now looks better with its rods weathered, though the eagle-eyed may spot that the injector pipework has been painted black in error, since corrected (see photo at bottom of previous page).

and roof (Photo 1) have been upgraded with etched-brass components – an approach that exploits the best characteristics of the two materials. In addition, there is a separate nickel-silver etch for the chassis and coupling rods. In fact, all that is needed to complete the kit as originally supplied, is a motor. Assembly is guided through an exploded drawing that seems to have been originally provided for the full white metal kit. However, the part numbers in the instructions, and shown on the drawing all seem to tie up correctly with the etched components. I first read through all the instructions, as recommended, and then proceeded to make up the basic footplate unit.

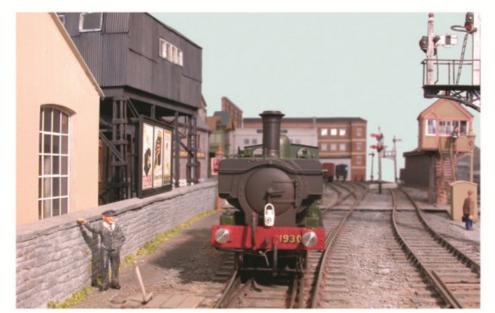
The footplate top is represented by a 5thou., half-etched overlay, including rivet detail, fitted over the main valance assembly. Once removed from the fret, I found this rather prone to distortion in handling until it had been sweated into place. Bending up the main splasher sides was also quite a tricky operation, as was shaping and soldering into place the splasher tops. The latter were formed to shape around a suitable object of slightly smaller

than the required diameter and then tacksoldered over the splasher sides at their ends, holding the middle portion in position using a blob of 'Blu-Tak'. It may seem an odd substance to use as an aid to soldering, but I find it a great help and use it for this purpose quite often. The tiny coupling rod splashers were even more of a challenge!

I next turned to the chassis which I chose to assemble using beam compensation on the leading pair of axles, essentially following what could be described as 'conventional practice'. Firstly, one needs to provide a pivot hole for the compensating beam, exactly mid-way between the two leading axles, somewhere near the top of the frames (some kits have this already provided). As I tend to use 0.9mm brass rod for the beam, which can be bent slightly to adjust the final ride height, the exact height of the pivot is not that critical, so long as it sits above the axle centre-line by a distance, say, of around 4mm. To drill this hole accurately through both frames it is best to tack-solder them together first. I also drilled out the half-etched brake rodding holes to the required size at this time, after which the frames were then unsoldered, cleaned up, and the part-etched cut-outs around the two leading axle positions removed using a piercing saw.

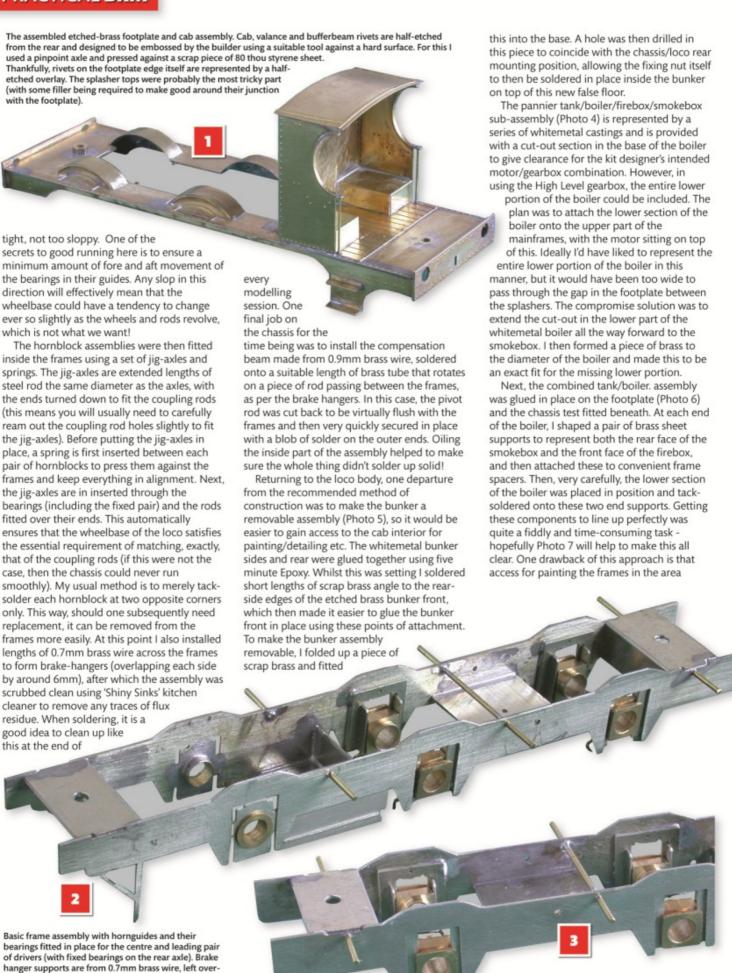
The fixed axle bearings were then soldered in place and the frames erected using the EM spacers provided. It is essential that the frames are truly square in all planes, and I check this on a sheet of plate glass with an engineer's square. As an aid, I find it useful to insert a straight length of 1/8" steel rod through the fixed axle position, and then check alignment using the engineer's square and edge of the plate glass as a guide. Happy with this, the laminated connecting rods were then soldered together. Here, I held the pairs in correct alignment by inserting a drill shank through the crankpin holes and into a suitable sized hole in a piece of scrap wood. The secret is to lightly tin and then flux the inside faces of the rod halves before soldering.

Attention then turned to the High Level hornblocks, which I found very quick and easy to assemble, and produced an excellent fit of the square bearings in the hornguides - not too



Head-on view of the completed model negotiating the tandem turnout at the entrance to Cornwallis Yard. The railway worker seems unimpressed!

PRACTICAL BRM



Close-up photo of the chassis showing the neat little High Level hornblock assemblies, tack-soldered in place on opposite corners only - my usual approach, making them easier to remove if they were ever to require replacement.

leading hornblocks.

length at present (for the rear pair, the portion in between the frames required removal to clear the motor). The pivot point for the compensation beam can also be seen, mid-way between the centre and



Above: The basic pannier tank/smokebox/boiler/firebox assembly in white metal, comprising a mere five castings, thereby saving many hours of fun trying to bend this all up from etched brass components. Note also the provision of accurately-placed drill-starts for handrail supports and locating holes for tank-top fittings, such as chimney, dome and filler caps. A small amount of filler was necessary along join lines, but nothing too alarming.

beneath the boiler was made rather difficult, but I think the effort in terms of appearance has been worthwhile. At this point I thoroughly cleaned, dried and then spray-painted the frames using Halfords spray cans. It pays to mask off things such as hornblocks and bearings to avoid clogging them up with paint.

Once the frames were properly dry, attention was turned to installing wheels and getting the thing running. The wheel rims were first chemically blackened and the crankpins installed. The Alan Gibson type are formed from 14BA bolts and the instructions stress the need to first countersink the crankpin hole at the rear of the wheel (I used a 2.0 mm drill), so the bolt head can be screwed in flush with its surface. I found on these particular wheels that the centre had a raised boss, the edge of which partly coincided with the crankpin hole position. This made it very difficult to countersink the holes neatly and on the first attempt, I found that the crankpin went into the wheel with a very obvious lean to it and the head was left protruding somewhat at the rear. On subsequent attempts I found it necessary to carefully cut back a section of the plastic wheel boss so that a more effective countersink could be formed. Once the pin was almost fully home, before final tightening, I ran a drop of 'Loctite 601' around the thread to lock the bolt in place once screwed up tight. I returned to the original, misaligned crankpin and my initial response was to bend the pin to be at 90 degrees to the wheel. However, the protruding head, relative to the others, still bothered me so I unscrewed it from the wheel, made an attempt to re-form the countersink and replaced it with a fresh bolt. The result was a rather loose-fitting, wobbly crankpin. Fortunately, all

was not lost - I made a quick telephone call to Alan and confessed to my blunder, fully prepared to buy a new pair of wheels, whereupon he very kindly offered to replace the plastic centre of the damaged wheel with a new moulding - problem solved. The chassis was wheeled-up usin

The chassis was wheeled-up using a GW Models quartering jig, which takes most of the pain out of this task. One of the hardest parts is calculating the thickness of spacing washers to take up side-play between

Below: Close-up of the bunker assembly showing the combination of cast white metal and etched-brass components. Attaching the thin, etched bunker front to the cast portions proved a little tricky, achieved by attaching L-shaped pieces of scrap brass to the rear, inside edges of the bunker front. Once glued, a spot of filler was necessary, in places, along the junction between the two parts. The beading along the bunker front top was added using a piece of shaped 0.45mm brass wire, filed flat along its surface once in place.

the wheels and frames. I aimed for just a running clearance only on the front and rear axles, and didn't bother with any spacing washers on the centre one, which at around 1mm side-play either side would allow more than ample clearance for negotiating curves. Next, the coupling rod holes were opened up using taper broaches, to fit onto the crankpin bushes, taking care not to make them too sloppy. It's difficult to describe how to achieve the right amount of clearance. Normally I first open up so the holes are just a tight fit over the bushes and then open them up that little bit more so one can see a very slight, but obvious movement when the rod is pushed from side to side over the crankpin. It's better to leave the rods initially a little tight and then increase the amount of slop, if necessary, once sure the wheels are quartered correctly. The first pair of rods was then installed on the rear (driven) and centre pairs of wheels and the chassis test-run on a rolling road. To retain the rods at this stage, I used small lengths of plastic wire insulating sleeve screwed down along the crankpins. This is far easier than trying to keep putting on and removing the crankpin nuts every time - and they would keep working loose in any case. Once satisfied with quartering on this first pair of axles (which should be spot-on if using the jig), the second pair of rods was then added and

again test run. A small amount of tweaking of the wheels is sometimes necessary to remove any wobble, but use of the GW press seems to minimise this problem. It was then a case of adding a small amount of lubricant and gently test-running for a while in either direction, after which the pick-ups were fitted (0.33mm straight brass wire), followed by a further test run. Photos 10 and 11 illustrate the completed chassis.

the chassis

Incidentally, fixing the motor finally in place worked out extremely well on this occasion. I have in stock a sheet of black foam rubber with a self-adhesive surface on one side. I cut a piece of this to sit in the base of the lower boiler section and the motor rested snugly on this. I fixed a further small square of this material onto the top of the motor itself, which then rests against the underside of the boiler/tank assembly, thereby holding the motor tightly in place. This arrangement also seems to have been successful at keeping the mechanism fairly quiet as well.

The final job on the chassis was to make up and fit the brake gear. These days I try wherever possible to make this

This photograph shows the pannier tank/smokebox/boiler/firebox assembly finally united with the footplate. Very little trimming was required to achieve a good fit and the two components lined up nicely parallel to one another. As can be seen, some filler was needed to disguise the joint between these two main sub-assemblies, but nothing too significant.

PRACTICAL BRM

This picture illustrates the method of attaching the lower section of the boiler onto the frames. It is supported at the front by a representation of the rear part of the smokebox and at the rear by the front face of the firebox. Fortunately, it was found that the arrangement of frame spacers provided convenient points of attachment for the two supports. The compensation beam had of course been installed before attaching the lower boiler section (careful forethought and planning always pay dividends).

removable, usually by arranging for the brake hanger assemblies to be a clip-fit onto the hanger-supports. This way, it is possible to get the chassis wheeled up and running without having brake gear getting in the way. On this particular loco, clearances between the pullrods and the underside of the firebox were extremely tight, so I thinned the pull-rods down ever so slightly in the offending areas obviously we want to avoid these creating a short across the frames! On this loco the sandboxes are situated on the top of the footplate, so front sandpipes were soldered directly onto the leading set of brake hangers and trimmed to length, so they appeared to coincide with the position of the sandboxes on the footplate above them. I did similarly attach a rear pair of sandpipes to the underside of the cab floor, but these got in the way when uniting

chassis and body, so I removed them (they are largely hidden by the cab-steps in any case)

Going back to the loco body, small amounts of 'Milliput' filler were used to make good minor gaps in places like the join between the firebox. smokebox and footplate, and around the junction of the splasher tops. This was carefully worked into position using a shaped cocktail stick, and very little dressing-up was found to be necessary once it had set. Boiler, footplate and other various small fittings are provided in a variety of white metal and lost-wax brass castings, and were found to require only a minimal amount of cleaning up. The kit also includes a full set of etchings for the lamp-irons, plus tool-hangers for the bunker rear. Where possible, I prefer to mount such items into holes drilled into the body of the model, rather than flush-mounting, as it makes them less likely to be subsequently knocked-off. For lamp-irons on the bunker rear, this meant that I had to first solder an extension piece of strip material onto the base.

One extremely fiddly job was that of attaching the cast white metal springs (Photo 8). On the prototype these are (of course) attached to the frames and sit just above and behind the splashers. On the model, due to the way I had attached the lower part of the boiler to the chassis, it was found easier to mount the springs directly onto the body/footplate assembly. They needed considerable thinning down to leave sufficient space for the lower boiler section to pass behind them and in practice I just tacked them carefully to the splasher tops. The tank equalising pipes were also added at this time, being formed from 1.6mm brass wire, again carefully shaped at the rear to avoid catching on the lower boiler section. One very obvious feature on the photo of No.1930 was the vacuum brake pipe running beneath the right-hand side footplate valance. This was made up from 0.7mm brass wire and soldered in place on top of representations of the securing brackets made from tiny offcuts of thin brass strip.

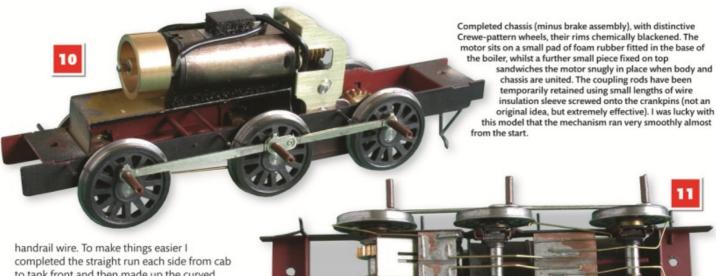
Just about the final job on the body was to add the main handrails (Photo 12). The location of handrail supports along the tank sides and smokebox front are indicated by small dimples provided in the casting, which saved a lot of time and effort as compared with marking out and drilling these using one's own measurements. The rear, terminal handrail knobs on the etched cab-sides were not so marked, so I determined their location using a straight edge to ensure alignment with those along the tank sides. The slightly differing width of tank and cab meant that handrail knobs of two different lengths were required.

To allow for a measure of adjustment, rather than use those provided in the kit, I made up my own knobs. This I did by filing some suitable brass wire into a half-round section, which was then formed into split pins by squeezing round a length of the

Above: The basic body taking shape, with the majority of boiler etc. fittings in place. I found it quite a struggle to thin down and fit the spring castings (it took me most of a whole dayl), but eventually managed to tack them into place with sufficient clearance to get the chassis back under the body. As can be seen here, I mistakenly removed the leading hangers for the front pair of springs, thinking there would be insufficient room to fit them in behind the smokebox - all was made good later in styrene sheet. Holes for fitting tank/cabside handrail supports, including those in the etched cabsides, have also been drilled out.

Right: Body assembly with the bunker placed in position, this latter sub-assembly now seen complete with handrails, lamp and tool irons. A few minor imperfections and some unwanted drill starts in the castings have been filled and smoothed down.

K



handrall wire. Io make things easier I completed the straight run each side from cab to tank front and then made up the curved smokebox front handrail as a separate piece which, remarkably, I managed to form to the correct shape at the first attempt! It was at this point, near the very end of construction, that I noticed something not quite right at the front end. I had one last casting remaining, this being the valve chest cover. It was clear that on the model as built there was insufficient space to fit this on the footplate in between the smokebox front and leading buffer beam. Having got this far, the only option was to omit the valve chest cover; at least, hopefully, this will not be too obvious from normal viewing distances when in use on the layout.

All was now ready for painting and I gave the completed body a good scrub with 'Shiny Sinks' kitchen cleaner using an old toothbrush. Once dry it was clear that the white metal parts still looked extremely grubby, so I burnished these areas using small squares of material cut from a kitchen scouring pad held with a pair of tweezers. Then, wearing a respirator mask, I wiped the whole thing down using cotton buds dipped in cellulose thinners and left to dry while I got busy shaking up the can of Halfords grey primer. I made a quick inspection to see that no fibres of cotton had become attached to the model and then got to work with the aerosol spray. To hold the model during this operation I used an offcut of wood that by chance fitted neatly into the underside of the tank/boiler section. Once coated, the loco body was put aside to dry for a day or two, whereupon the buffer beams were masked using tiny pieces of low-tack masking tape and the green top-coat (Phoenix-Precision P10 GWR Loco Green: 1928-45) was then airbrushed on. At the same time I brush-painted the bottom part of the boiler attached to the chassis. Again, everything was put aside in a sealed container to dry for a couple of days, after which all black parts of the loco (thanks here once more to Martin Goodall's advice on the correct colour scheme) were brush-painted using slightly thinned matt black (Humbrol 33). At the same time the buffer beams were painted in gloss red (Humbrol 19), whilst details such as the springs and cab floor were worked-up using a dirty black concoction.

Transfers came from the appropriate HMRS 'Pressfix' sheet and once in place these were varnished over and then the model was lightly weathered using a mixture of dry-brushing and powders. Finishing touches included glazing the cab front windows using small pieces of 25thou. perspex sheet, and fitting items such as boiler back-head (with scratchbuilt regulator handle),

Underside of the completed chassis showing pick-up arrangement. Two pieces of gapped copperclad strip were fitted beneath frame spacers (again, it pays to plan this out at the chassis erection stage). The rear pickups were arranged to press directly against the wheel rim edges of this fixed, driven axle. However, for the centre and leading axles, pickups press sideways against the rear of the tyres to avoid them exerting any upward force on these compensated wheels. Brass wire bus bars connect the two copperclad pickup mounts and the motor feed wires can just be made out. It is good practice to sleeve the pickup wires to avoid short-circuits, but I thought I could get away without in this instance.

reversing lever, injector pipework, cabside number plates and buffer heads, plus the addition of a crew and lamp. Finally, the Alex Jackson couplings were soldered onto small offcuts of copperclad paxolin sleeper strip and glued in place behind the buffer beams.

All told, construction of the kit took a shade over 90 hours, which some might find a surprisingly long time (although this does include all the painting). The kit went together without any major difficulties and I like the way it retains elements from the original version, such as the pannier tank/boiler etc. unit – much easier to represent in a material like whitemetal. To have made this up from etched brass components would have been much more challenging, more than likely involving some careful bending and shaping of components. However, the etched-brass elements employed

in Alan's upgrade of the original kit really do give a delicate level of refinement to the appearance of areas like the footplate and cabfront. Whatever the time spent in construction of any model, or any difficulties and frustrations encountered along the way, these all seem to evaporate when the outcome is a satisfactory one. This has certainly been the case with this loco, which proved enjoyable to build, looks the part and runs well – what more could one ask?

Since writing this article, the Alan Gibson business has passed into the ownership of Colin Seymour and the kits are being produced in small batches, depending on demand.

Cornwallis Yard and the 850 are due to appear at the Abingdon show on March 3, Nailsea on March 17/18 and Epsom on March 28/29, 2012



The completed loco prior to painting. To make the installation of handrails that bit easier, the curved section along the smokebox front was made as a separate piece. The lost-wax brass injector pipework was added after painting, as I mistakenly believed these should have been in bare metal. In fact they could have gone in place before painting, as they should be finished in the main body colour.

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Botleigh d North Road Shed

lan Corps shows us around his OO gauge shed-based layout which makes full use of the excellent range of RTR locomotives, which have been professionally weathered. Photos by Richard Wilson.



A Class 03 shunter pushes the loaded coal wagons into the coaling stage.

t's the first week of the school summer holidays in 1966, a warm dry August is expected; while Dad works under the bonnet of his Ford Anglia its time to cycle to the corner shop for a bottle of Tizer and a bag of sherbert lemons, then its off to the local engine shed with your dog eared 'combine' in the hope of copping the last members of surviving Bulleid 'West Countries' or some unusual visitor from another region. It is these halcyon days that I have tried to capture.

Botleigh Old North Road is an imaginary engine shed on the Southern Region. Set just outside a large station, it is squeezed between a main line, recently singled to one track and 'Penny Lane' featuring a mix of old fashioned shops, terraced houses, factories and new flats - a scene very typical of city life in the 1960s.

The layout was built after a house move allowed me to extend my existing layout into a continuous run. It serves two purposes, one to allow me to find a home for my loco collection and secondly it was designed to be an exhibition layout in its own right by the addition of two fiddle yards at each end when being exhibited

Baseboard construction

I used the same tried and tested technique of building each base board using ½" chipboard supported by a 6mm ply and softwood sandwich. 12mm ply is used at each end to

BOTLEIGH OLD NORTH ROAD SHED





A condemmed wagon receives attention before it can be moved and taken away for scrapping.



A 9F waits on shed before taking a special back north via the Somerset & Dorset route.



LAYOUT FOCUS



form a rigid connection to the next baseboard. Each board is aligned to its neighbour using short lengths of ¾" plastic tubing, boards are joined using bolts and wing nuts.

This supporting framework is 100mm deep to give protection to the Tortoise point motors. Trackwork is from SMP using code 65 phosphor bronze rail with scratch-built points, this type of rail gives a very realistic rusty look straight from the 'box'. Track is laid on cork sheeting and ballasted using N gauge granite ballast and in the immediate shed area I have used barbeque ash as well as fine coal dust. All this needs to be well glued down so as not to get into the locos' mechanisms

The turntable is from Peco but has been substantially modified underneath to fit a hand cranked mechanism using Meccano gears and worm, it was originally motorised but I was never satisfied with the alignment with the tracks so reverted to hand operation which gives more precise operation.

Buildings

Some will recognise the engine shed as an enlarged version of Templecombe shed on the S&D, this can now hold up to 16 locos. The coaling stage is based upon the corrugated iron structure at Norwood and the signal box is modelled on Liphook. All these buildings use the same construction technique of plastic card mounted on thick cardboard used for mounting pictures, this is very rigid and does not warp. The water tower is two Airfix kits joined together but the bulky plastic cross-bracing has been replaced with soldered copper wire preformed on a jig

The arches that form the scenic break at each end are the excellent Scalescene products, again mounted on card, I found to my cost that its worth using quality ink when printing as cheaper ink will fade quickly in sunlight.

Backscene

This is a recent addition and really does finish the layout off, it is a mix of a painted backscene, painted by my neighbour who is a talented artist, and low relief buildings. These are from



A filthy Q1 being turned before being coaled and returned to duty.



A Class 08 shunter moves a brake tender while a 'Crompton' takes on fuel.



the excellent Scalescene series. I have also taken photographs of suitable local buildings and after printing them on quality photo paper have glued them to the backscene behind the low relief buildings to give depth of field.

Scenics

To add additional atmosphere I have created a scrap yard underneath the arches, this is an ideal way of putting to use all those odds and ends we modellers collect, just paint them in a rust colour and glue them down. The vehicles in the yard were from the Oxford diecast range and have been suitably distressed with a large hammer! The chain link fencing around the scrap yard is made from ladies tights, this needs to be stretched before being sprayed silver, when the paint has dried the material continues to hold its shape and can be cut and glued to suitable thin 'T' section brass.

The iron staircase giving access to the engine shed is made from scrap rail and brass wire soldered together, with plastic card for the step treads, this is a popular location for train

The population is a mix of Dart Castings, Langley Miniture Models. Aden Cambell's figures of policemen, burglar and shoppers which give additional interest to the backscene. The Ford Anglia police car has been given a working flashing blue light, using a 1.8mm blue LED connected to a simple electronic flashing circuit.

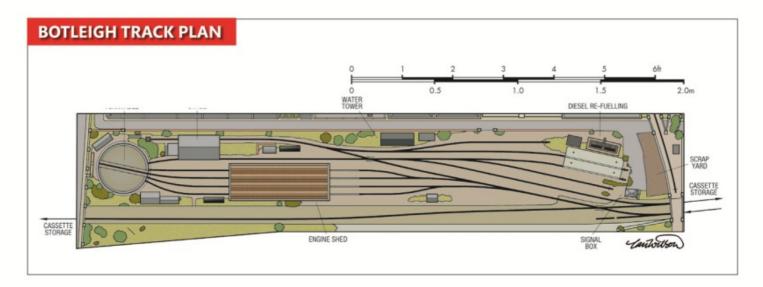
The yard lamps are all built using brass tubing and ladders. For the diesel depot I used ultra bright white LEDs, while in the steam

Above: The steam shed appears to be quiet on this summer afternoon, with only a Standard 4 tank taking coal.

Right: Late evening on shed. The building in the background is the locoal Co-op laundry.

Below: The crew of the Standard make their way back to their steed, having had a brief break in the bothy.





shed I used yellow LEDs which give a more subdued glow. The shed is also illuminated using surface mounted LEDs these are much brighter and much smaller than conventional LEDs. They have also been used in the backscene street lights.

On a layout like this there is little conventional scenery, where it does exist rough grass has been created using felt carpet underlay which has been airbrushed with a mixture of green/yellow hues to create the final result.

No engine shed would be complete without puddles of oily water, these have been created using multiple layers of clear varnish.

Control

I have opted for conventional control, with home built hand controllers, the circuit design is now over 30 years old but still gives excellent control at slow speed.

Tortoise point motors are operated using 16 volt half wave AC, this give a realistic slow action and also greatly reduces the amount of wiring, as each point only needs one wire to the operating switch plus a common return. The control panel has a mimic diagram of the track layout and each point has an individual DPDT switch. The switch also controls bi- coloured LEDs which indicate the position of each point by changing colour from red to green.

Fiddle yard

I have utilised a cassette system within the fiddle yard, using 'L'-shaped aluminium screwed to strips of MDF, this has the benefit of minimising the handling of locos as they can be stored on the cassette until needed.

Locos and rolling stock

The stock is relatively limited, consisting of coal wagons supplying the coaling stage and oil tankers for the diesel depot, To add variety I have scratch built a bogie brake tender, these were used by some first generation diesels to supplement their braking efficiency on unfitted goods trains and so is quite suitable for the



BOTLEIGH OLD NORTH ROAD SHED

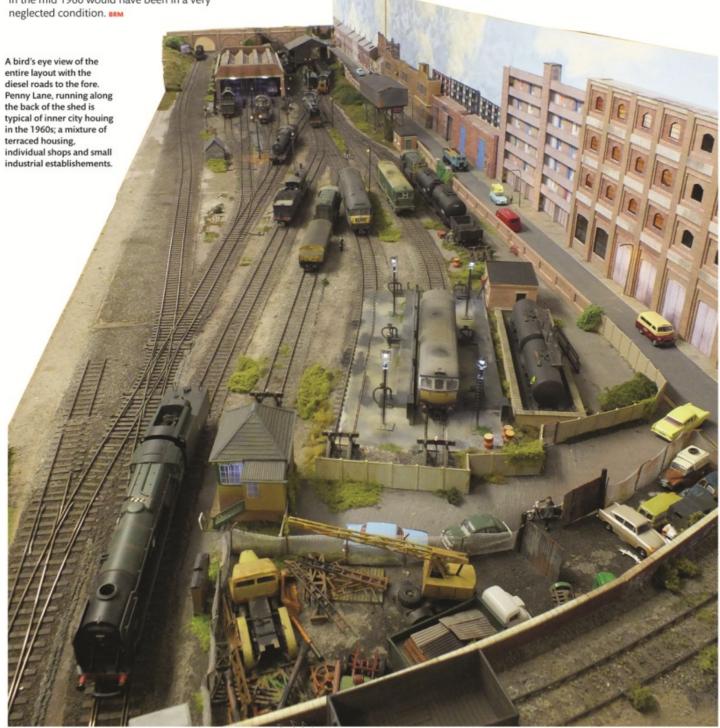


period. Locos are predominantly of Southern Region origin, with most standard classes represented and also frequent visitors from the GWR and S&D, all diesels that would have been seen on SR metals including Classes

33,35,42,47 and of course 08s. The majority of locos have been professionally weathered, to various degrees of dirtiness, by Lord and Butler of Cardiff. I think locos in a shed environment in the mid 1960 would have been in a very



The viaduct over the scrapyard is a haunt for undesirables you'll notice elsewhere the police are conducting house -to-house enquiries into a recent burglary!



Biscuit box portable DCC

Faced with winter stock maintenance in a cold shed, **Graeme Elgar** came up with this handy portable DCC box. Photography by the author.



PARTS LIST

- 1 x 1kg biscuit box (with lid)
- 1 x Lenz TR100 transformer
- 1 x Lenz Set 90/100 Xpressnet
- 1 x Lenz Set 90/100 Apressnet
- 1 x Lenz LA152 Fascia adaptor
- 6 x 25mm M6 nuts and bolts
- 12 x 1" diameter M6 washers
- 1 piece hardboard cut to 8¼" x 8¼"
- 2 x packs 6BA bolts
- · 2 x packs 6BA nuts
- 2 x Maplins JG04 Race pack leads (male)
- 2 x Maplins JG05 Race pack leads (female)
- 1 x Maplins FH05F Sub-miniature toggle switch
- 1 x pack Maplins Eyelet 4.3mm
- · Cable ties
- · Cable 'P' clips
- Wire
- 1 x length of 44 x 12mm wood
- 1 x length of 69 x 18mm wood

he northern Scottish winter came a little earlier than usual in 2010. As ever there's always things to be done on the stock that involves running trains - not, however, in temperatures as low as minus 12° it doesn't!

Looking at the Lenz set 100 I had bought earlier in the year to possibly power a proposed small exhibition layout, I had a thought which might not only solve the winter warmth issue, but also how to power a portable layout too.

Over several years I have accumulated a number of plastic biscuit boxes, which are far too useful to throw away. These now form a stack under the layout containing various bits, spares, kits, 'round tuit' projects and scenic pieces waiting their eventual call to use. Why not use one and see if it could be used to carry a small transformer, an LZV100 Expressnet and its associated wiring, a Fascia plate and carry the handset too?

The heaviest item is the transformer, and because of its weight, a piece of hardboard measuring 8%" x 8%" (210 x 220mm) must be secured to the floor of the box – without this, the box will be weak and will split. To do this I





used four M6 x 25mm bolts and eight 1" washers. The washers are placed both out and inside the box as this helps to strengthen the area around the bolts. It also raises the box above any surface which helps protect the brass bolt heads used to secure items to the floor of the box.

The boxes are not square, so along one of the longer sides make a series of 5mm holes ½" (15mm) from the floor of the box (these will help with ventilating the transformer when in use) This side we'll call the right-hand side as we look at the box. In what is now the rear of the box make another 5mm hole ½" from the floor 1½" (40mm) from the corner closest the right-hand side. This will be for the mains wire.

In the front of the box, to the left-hand side, cut a rectangular aperture measuring %" x 3%" (20 x 90mm) 1" (25mm) from the floor to accommodate the fascia unit. Fit this and secure using 6BA nuts and bolts.

Measure ½" (12mm) from the right-hand side



The LA152 fascia unit fitted to the front of the box.



The pilot holes marked out and drilled for the switch shelf brackets.

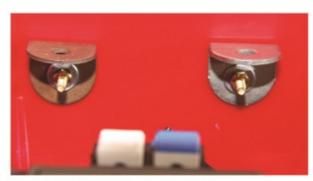
and mark a line, then measure 1%" (45mm) from the front and mark a line. Place the transformer in the box using these drawn lines to show its location. The Lenz TR100 transformer already has moulded securing holes, so through these make marks on the box floor. Drill out the four holes in the floor and secure the transformer to the floor using 6BA nuts and bolts.

The Lenz transformer comes with a 'moulded plug' which will need to be removed and

another attached in its place to allow the mains wire to be fed through the hole in the rear of the box – remember to put a 3 Amp fuse in the replacement plug!

Place the Lenz Expressnet unit in the box, holding it in place next to the transformer using 'No More Nails' self-adhesive strips, then wire it all up as per the instructions. For neatness I used cable ties and cable 'P' clips (again using 6BA nut and bolts to secure them).

As the DCC box is going to be used



Switch shelf brackets in place



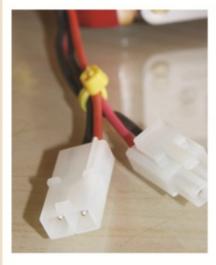
Switch shelf complete with switch. Note the P written to remind me which way to set for programming.



The layout of the equipment in the box.

downloaded from

DCC SPOT



Left: Bus (male) and programming track (female) connectors - note they are cabletied together so as to prevent them being accidentally joined.

Right: Connected to the PPT showing the equipment layout.

(hopefully) for an exhibition layout as well as the winter 'indoor workbench test track powerer' (aka the Portable Programming Track - PTT). I included a DPDT 'centre off' switch and associated wiring for a programming track. To accomodate the DPDT switch, I made a small shelf using two small right-angle brackets and a piece of 80thou styrene sheet. On the front of the box measure 1" to the right of the fascia plate and 1½" from the top of the box and make a mark. Two inches to the right of this make another mark (again 1½" from the top of the box). At these two marks drill pilot holes for the two small brackets.

Attach
the two
brackets with
6BA nuts, bolts and
washers to the box.
Cut a piece of 80thou
styrene sheet 3" x 1½"
and drill a hole to
accept the DPDT
switch and two
smaller holes for the
securing bolts. Insert
and tighten up the nut on

the DPDT switch and wire it up before securing it to the brackets.

For ease of use either on the proposed portable layout or at home on the workbench test track, I incorporated a pair of Maplin JG04/JG05 Race Pack Leads (connectors). To avoid any possible confusion when they are attached to a layout I made sure the pair of bus wires had a 'male' end and the programming wires a 'female' end. For the desktop test track only the programming track wires need to be attached to the rails.

When not in use, I use an old bar cloth laid across the top of the equipment, folded over the handset. Atop this I wind the wires before the lid is placed on the top.



The Portable Programming Track (PPT) came about thanks to the need for a programming track long enough to hold a four-car unit, which I didn't have space for on my layout.

Above the fiddle yard I screwed three small 'London' brackets and some old fascia wood I found lying around in the shed to make it look presentable as well as to hold the PPT in place.





Wrapping the handset in a bar cloth getting ready to go, and the handset wrapped up and track wires laid on top.



I cut a 4' length of 2%" x %" (69 x 18mm) and screwed four small pieces of 1%" x %" (44 x 12mm) which will give sufficient clearance for the two bolts and raise it above desk level, making it easier to pick up.

Lay your track along the PPT. At one end of the PPT drill two holes for two M6 bolts. Before inserting the 1" (25mm) long M6 bolts place two 4.3mm eyelets and a washer on the bolts. Secure in place with the eyelet tails parallel with the sides of the wood.

Run the wires of a 'male' race pack lead through a block connector and then solder the

ends to the eyelets facing towards the end of the wood. Screw the block connector to the wood between the two bolts. This will ensure that during transit the connector will face back along the wood and not hang off the end risking damage. Solder two short pieces of wire to the other eyelets and the rail ends. I also bolted a Kadee No.205 coupler height gauge at the other end of the PPT (remember to cut through one rail to prevent short circuits!).

The DPDT switch for the programming track is wired normally and inserted into the fascia with the two track wires connected to a 'female' race pack lead.

USEFUL CONTACTS

www.lenz.com

Maplin Electronics Ltd PO Box 534, Manvers, Rotherham S63 3DH Tel: 0844 557 6000 www.maplins.co.uk

Nairnshire Modelling Supplies PO Box 6078, Nairn IV12 5WU Tel: 01667 451130 www.nairnshire-modelling-supplies. co.uk







The kit is mainly etched brass, with pre-formed brass roofs, and a small number of white metal castings. Some nickel silver window and beading etches (not shown here) are included if you choose to build in LNER silver livery. Alternatively, if you opt to build this in post war condition, you will not need the valences, and you will need the additional underframe parts (truss rods, battery boxes etc).

Geoff Haynes builds and describes construction of the MARC Models 4mm scale kit. Photos by the author.

illed as 'Britain's first streamline train' the inaugural service of 'The Silver Jubilee' was on Friday, September 27, 1935. As part of the commemoration of the Silver Jubilee of King George V, it was intended that the service would run for long distances at an average speed in excess of 70 miles per hour. Initially, reservations were limited to 154 passengers, 58 in first class and 96 in third class. A small supplementary charge of 5 shillings in first class and 3 shillings in third class applied in view of the exceptionally high speed service. The train, hauled by one of the first batch of A4 locomotives, comprised a brake first twin set and a brake third twin set (although this was replaced





by a brake third triplet set shortly afterwards), split by a restaurant triplet set (a restaurant first, a kitchen car, and a restaurant third). Equipped with the latest in electronic cooking and refrigerating apparatus, the kitchen car offered afternoon tea at 6d a pot, luncheon, or for dinner, a full meal for up to 5 shillings in first class. During the war years this train went into storage.

Marc Models is a cottage industry run by enthusiast Mike Radford. His philosophy is to provide bespoke kits of models where kits are not available. He is also a bespoke coach builder for ready-to-run models, and as a by

product he also offers the model in kit form once the original customer has his kit or RTR model. Mike has actually produced kits for the whole of the Silver Jubilee train, although I will just be focusing on the restaurant triplet set.

From a constructional perspective, there are principally three elements: the four bogies, the underframes, and the bodies. The coach interiors are mounted onto the underframes, and each coach body incorporates the roof, to make a strong five sided box. These units are screwed together with 8BA bolts. I will look at each of these in turn.



Left: There were four types of bogie supplied with this kit. Firstly, there are two different lengths of bogie, the larger heavier duty bogies being used for the articulation points, and the shorter bogies on the outsides of the set. This photo shows two semi-circular fold up sections that run lengthways. The other type of bogie supplied has two semi-circular fold up sections that run across the bogie. One each of these is supplied in each length of bogie. These are used to support the body; either on the bogie bolsters or on the coach ends. However, I modified what I had so that both short bogies had fold up sections length ways and both long bogies had fold up sections across the frame. More of this later.

Below: An important point to be aware of when assembling the bogie is that, unconventionally, the half etched fold lines must be to the outside. Otherwise the frames will be too close together, and the wheels will not fit. Firstly, I filed down the cusped edges. After folding the frames, I soldered in the pin point bearings, and tinned the outside of the frames, so that I could solder on the white metal frame castings using low melt solder.

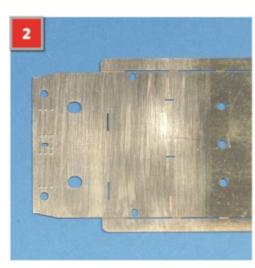


PRACTICAL BRM



Left: The underframe has some half etched rivets that need to be pushed through at either end on the buffer beam. I have a rivet press; however they can be pushed through with a pointed tool on a cutting mat if you do not have access to a press.

Right: The effect of the rivets is quite noticeable, so it is worth the effort. You can also see the next job which is to bend up the sides of the underframe. All bends on this component are with the half-etch line on the inside.



Right: I made up a set of bending bars from some aluminium angle I had left over from another project, but they can be bought ready made. These are essential for bending long sections, such as the underframe sides, but the two bends for the buffer beam can be formed in a small vice. When bending the buffer beams, I formed the lower bend first, which is the underside of the buffer beam, then I formed the top bend. For this second bend, I put an offcut of plastic card behind the buffer beam that is thicker than the underside of the buffer beam to protect this piece, and a small piece of card in front to protect the rivets. You can also see the half etched lines that the tables will locate into in due course, and the fully etched slots for the compartment divisions.





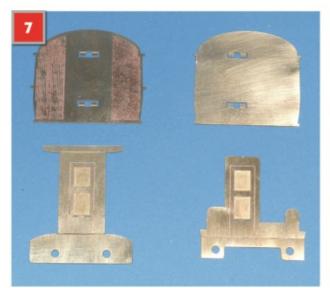
If you have chosen to build these coaches in their post-war condition, ie: with the valences removed, then the underframe detail will be visible and will need to be modelled. Initially, I was going to build the model in this condition, hence I made these up for one coach, but then I had a sudden change of mind, with the prospect of building something in a livery that I have not yet covered.



Above: If, as I am, you are building in full streamlined condition, the next stage is to fit the valences. Normally, these would come preformed, but it is not a difficult job to perform. Firstly, I formed the acute angle at the top of the valence, which is the face that joins to the underframe. Before proceeding further, I then soften the part using a blow torch, heating the part evenly to a fairly bright red, and allowing it to cool. There are several half-etch lines behind the valence to help the curve to be formed, which I did by rolling with a steel bar on my rubber cutting mat, with the top face overhanging the worktop. I then sweated each valence on after tinning both surfaces.

Right: Under each of the doors (at either end on the outer coaches, and three on the kitchen car) there is a step. On the left is the part cut from the fret, which is folded back on itself with the half-etched line on the outside of the bend and secured with a small amount of solder. The two protruding elements then fit into the two slots in the valence. It may be necessary to open out the slots, which I did with a small offcut of fret that I had thinned slightly with a file, and then wiggled it gently in each slot. Finally the steps are positioned horizontally, and soldered from behind the valence.

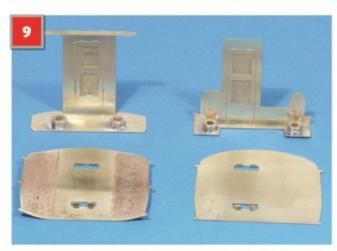


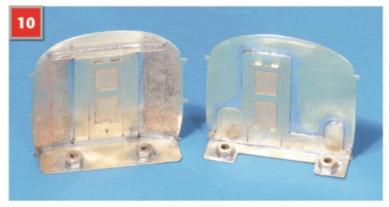


Left: Each of the body parts requires some preparation. Here we see the parts for the two ends of the Restaurant Third. The outer end is bowed, and the inner end has an offset corridor connection where it meets the Kitchen car.

Below Again, to facilitate the forming of the bowed end, there are a series of half-etched lines. The curve formed very easily with my trusty steel bar.

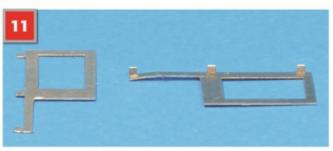






Finally, the two parts for each end are fitted and soldered. You can also see the locators which help you to line up the sides.

The other two parts are the end-inners. They need to be folded, and 8BA nuts soldered above the holes in the base for the body to be secured to the underframe. Also, the end-inner for the bowed end can be used to double check that the bowed end has been formed correctly. It is also possible here to see that the locators have been folded up on the ends. These fit into the slots on the endinners, although the slots need a little opening out with a spare piece of fret as described before.



Wherever there is a door, there needs to be a droplight and door hinges. As

to follow the tumblehome of the coach body.

well as folding up the hinges, the bottom section of this part needs to be curved

fitted the door handle in this picture.

Next, the droplight and hinges can be fitted to the coach sides. Again, the slots need to be opened a little, and I also thinned the hinges slightly as these were a tight fit. I have also



I tend to assemble coach bodies by attaching one end to one side, ensuring that they are square, and repeating with the other end and side. Then the two halves can be fitted together. Normally, care is needed to ensure that the correct end is matched with the correct side, but on each of these bodies, the locators on the ends make this a little easier. These locators are then filed flush with the coach sides.

PRACTICAL **BRM**



Finally the roof is added. It is preformed, but the shape needs adjusting slightly before fitting. It is a case of gently squeezing the roof in at one end, using one end of the coach body as a guide, then working along the length of the roof. It is actually simpler than it sounds. Next, I carefully soldered the roof to the top of the sides. First I soldered the ends, then I used a reasonably large screwdriver to gently push the coach side up against the roof, then ran the soldering iron along the top of the coach side with a small amount of solder. Finally I found that there was a small gap between the end of the coach and the roof at each corner. By running an additional small fillet of solder around each end these gaps are easily and quickly filled. The last step is to polish off any excess solder with a fibre glass burnishing tool. The body can now be tried on the underframe, fixing by an 8BA screw in each corner.



There are two etched parts and an 8BA screw for each of the articulated couplings. The two etched parts form an upper and a lower piece. The screw is soldered to the upper part of the coupling. On the left is the lower, and on the right the upper. The tail of the lower part has to be bent with the halfetched line to the outside.



The tails are inserted into the slots in the buffer beams, so that the tails rest on the underside of the floor. They are not soldered at this point, and please note that they are not pushed all the way into the buffer beam.



Ensure that the corners of the two coaches on the inside of the curve do not touch, and then the tails of the couplings can be soldered to the underside of the two floors. At this point, I will come back to the fold up semi-circles on top of the bogies. I varied from the original instructions with the kit here. As mentioned earlier, I wanted the two shorter bogies on the outside of the triple set to rock only in a backward and forward motion, and for the longer articulated bogies to rock sideways underneath the two adjoining coaches. Also, I put both upper coupling units on the kitchen car, so that it sits both ends on the outer coaches. At the articulated ends, the underside of the buffer beams of the two restaurant cars then rest on one of the folded up semi-circles on the bogies. Some adjustment of the angle of the bend may be needed at this point, so that the buffer beam sits comfortably and also that both the restaurant cars and the kitchen car all sit at the same height. It is useful to compare roof heights at this point.

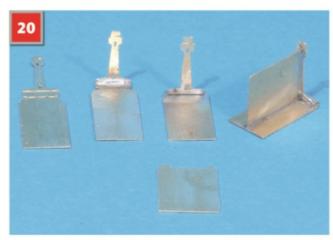


At this point, a dry run is needed to set the distance between the coaches, and hence where the articulated couplings are soldered to the underside of the floor. For this the bodies need to be on the underframes, and a piece of track set to the tightest radius that the coaches will need to negotiate. I set a piece of flexi-track to 36" radius.



The kitchen car has interior partitioning. This consists of one long corridor panel, and three short divider panels. The long panel bends as shown with all halfetched lines to the inside, and the dividers are soldered on. It locates in a number of slots in the underframe floor.

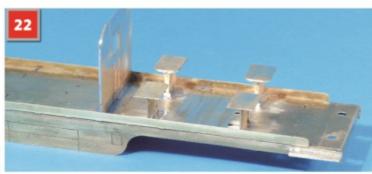


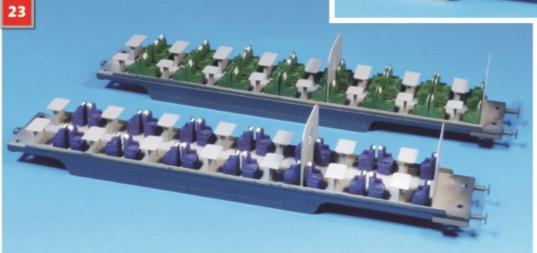


There are three sizes of table in the kit. The smallest and largest tables fit into the third class restaurant car for single and double seats respectively, and the middle sized table fits into the first class restaurant for single seats only. There are two parts for each table, the table top and leg, and the table support. I folded the leg to 90° (half etch line to the inside), then at the next half-etch line, fold the leg and underside back on itself through 180° (half-etch line to the outside). I then reinforced these bends with a little solder, before fitting the table support.



Each of the restaurant cars has some section dividers. There are three parts, but two of these are fitted back to back. These two can be identified by the tabs that locate into the floor at the bottom of the dividers, the third divider having tabs that are spaced differently.





Above: I fitted the dividers first, and then attached the tables, soldering each one in turn. I did not fit the seats at this stage, I chose to complete all of the painting first, and then glue them into position.

Left: After my usual triple wash of Flash, Viakal limescale remover (then lots of water and allow to dry), and cellulose thinners, the components were primed with Phoenix Precision two-part primer, then sprayed with Phoenix Precision LNER Silver Grey and LNER Mid Grey. Afterwards, the seats were fitted. First class seats were blue, and third class seats were green. The antimacassars were painted by hand.

Conclusion

I found this to be a satisfying project. The assembly went well, and without problems. I was a little concerned that the bogie side frame castings did not fully hide the etched bogie frame that they attached to, but this is much less noticeable once painted. Adding the beading was a very time consuming task, but the additional dimension that this brings to the model is worth

the effort. The corridor connections supplied are glued to the outer ends of the restaurant cars, and each end of the kitchen car. The white glazing for the kitchen car was achieved by painting the reverse side of some clear glazing material, prior to attaching. Fox Transfers produce a sheet of transfers especially for this train, although it does not include the first and third numbers for the carriage doors. I asked them

about this, and they told me that they chose not to include these as they do not show up very well on the coach. However, similar numbers are available on another sheet.

All that is needed now is for the rest of the train to be built with a silver A4 to haul them! BRM

Below: On the body, I left the interior in a neutral grey, painted the roof LMS Coronation roof silver, then after allowing a few days for the paint to harden, masked the roof to spray the sides with the silver grey. After painting, the silver window frames and beading needs to be added. The window frames fit nicely into the half-etched recesses, and are secured with Bostick Repair Extreme glue, that does not attack the paint. Then, the beading is carefully cut to length, and stuck in place one by one. The trick is to use just enough glue to hold the beading with the minimal cleaning up, although some cleaning is inevitable. I used a sharpened cocktail stick for this process.

FURTHER DETAILS

MARC Models

15 Hadley Highstone, Barnet, Herts. EN5 4PU

Tel: 020 8440 5918 (9.00am-5.00pm) www.marcmodels.co.uk







A Leeds Horsfield tram in wartime livery heading eastbound for the terminus at the shops and pub.

was very probably conceived on the 'overnight sleeper to Llandudno'. This is what I blame for my love of all things relating to flanged wheels and metal rails. I currently have two layouts; one is in a bedroom 7' x 11'. It's fictional BR 1950s and I run all my 110 locos, units, etc., on it including some 25 locos and units from Europe, not PC but who cares, I enjoy it!

Layout two, Crickey (silent middle 'c') is specifically an exhibition layout which stems from two things; Firstly; I was born in London in the late '40s, my Granddad took me to see the last trams in London, hence the tram fascination, and secondly a visit to Crich Tramway Village in Derbyshire from whence came my inspiration to build this layout and its name. I already had several Corgi model trams that I had motorised and ran on my layout and on our club layout, this caused some merriment! The visit gave me the idea to construct a preserved tram layout on which I could realistically run all my trams, just like Crich does. I think it's called 'modellers licence'

So very early in 2009 work commenced. All the books on building a layout emphasise the value of planning! I had two bits of MDF, both 15" wide, one 4' 0" and one 5' 0" long so that was the size. Some 2" x 1" or metric equivalent and bingo, we had two baseboards. Just by luck it fits a treat in my Golf. The track layout

BRM March 2012



was a combination of inspiration, a rough idea of what I wanted to achieve and what spare track I had left over. Cyril Freezer would be turning in his grave - bless him. Track was laid (by guesswork as to where to put it) tested and two ends for turning trams were built and added. Later on a second-hand Fleischmann turntable was added to the far end fiddle yard for the remote turning of those nonmultidirectional trams or those with fixed poles on top. It speeds up the operational side no end. It all worked eventually. Its DC as DCC would be OTT! The only other electrics are two sets of points wired as one. These not only provide direction (a bit obvious) but isolation should it be needed and the lighting.



The London E1 tram passes the war memorial, heading westward towards the Church stop.

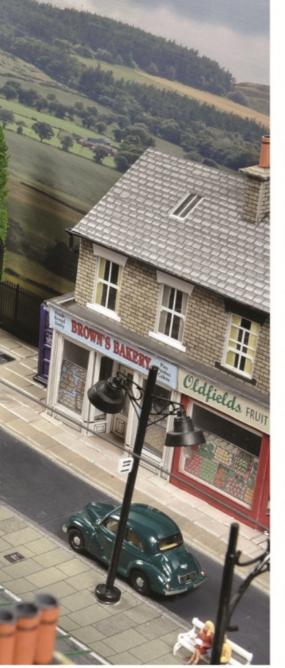




A Blackpool 'Dreadnought' tram passes the cottages heading for the terminus at shops and pub.

I have a very good book called the Golden Years of the British Tram, which contains hundreds of photos by Henry Priestly. From studying this I was able to gain more inspiration as to what was possible and correct, I wanted what I was building to be believable to the eye and possible to achieve to an exhibition standard, I don't like 'tatty'.

The road was built by adding card the same thickness as the sleepers to the desired width the full length of the track, both at the sides and in between the two tracks. Then I added another layer of card which brought the road level up to just under the height of the rail, this was butted up to the side of the rail. I achieved this by laying the card in small sheets to cover the rail, and then ran an old wallpaper edge roller, pressing down very hard which made an indentation on the underside of the card of the rail, which I very carefully cut along and this made a perfect match to the rail. This card must be firmly glued to the sleeper and track to prevent warping when painted. I didn't do this and paid the price, retro-fixing was a real nightmare, but I did it! Between the rails I used a filler, water and PVA mix for the road surface. Using string tucked up to the rails, the filler, after standing for 15 minutes before using, was applied. The filler was smoothed level with the





The Blackpool works tram passes the terminus en route to some track maintenance required further down the line.



An Austrian two-car unit (Liliput) approaches the town terminal (seen on the left), to load passengers.

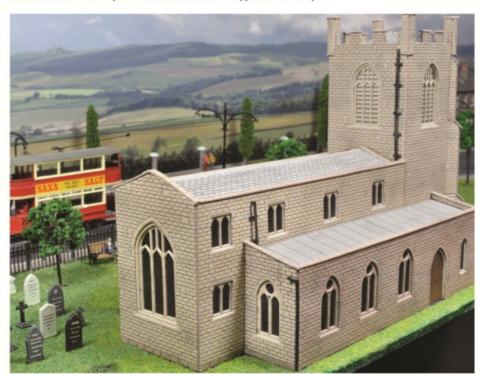


A Zurich tram passes the 'Hanover's gift to Hiroshima' tram by the cottages.



Above: A Blackpool tram approaches the church stop as a Metropolitan 'Feltham' car leaves, heading eastbound for the terminus at the shops and pub.

Below: A London E1 tram passes behind the church as it approaches the stop.



rail tops using a narrow wallpaper scraper. When the filler was 75% set, the string was very carefully extracted using a metal ruler laid on the filler leaving a gap just wide enough for the string. This method protects the filler as the string is removed. The gaps did require some cleaning up but the result after painting the whole roadway dark grey looks like realistic tarmac. I avoided cobblestones as so often the results don't look as convincing, because the cobblestone paper used does not wear as well and can look tatty.

By now a picture was forming of how it would pan out. The ends of the scenic section were made from a Metcalfe Models triple arch viaduct, much kit-bashed to form a single and a double archway, one at each end. The back scene/backboard was made and fitted. Houses, shops, a pub and church from Metcalfe were obtained, made (slowly and carefully) and placed in position. The second-hand church kit (unmade), which I paid £3.00 for at a swapmeet, wouldn't fit where I had planned it, so I added a 'carbuncle' to the baseboard front, 17" x 3", problem solved! Nearly 1,500 Metcalfe paving slabs were laid beside the roads to form pavements with much 'Mod-Roc' placed to form a base for grassed areas and even out minor unwanted undulation.

I must have had a premonition about this layout as a year or so earlier I had bought on eBay, sufficient Somefeldt power masts to meet



Above and right: A Blackpool 'Balloon' car waits to leave the terminus on a westbound trip.

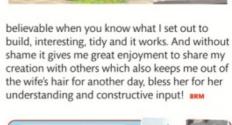
my needs. These were fitted, painted and wired up and look very effective, although they do not supply current to trams - know your limitations! However I did make my first and second ever brass kits, the Tram Shelter and period phone box to stretch my limitations!

As time progressed grass, seats, trees, street lamps (working), street signs, more fencing, people (many repainted), gardens, flower troughs, dust and waste bins, grave stones, bicycles, drain pipes to all buildings, a War Memorial, a WC complete with man standing in the open top urinal and a 'Tardis' type Police box complete with flashing blue light were added, not necessarily in that order. The church, like all the Metcalfe kit buildings, except the houses, are illuminated, and also has a loudspeaker within through which bell ringing can be played. It's all these little things that make the layout come alive and give it interest. Virtually nothing purchased for the layout was added without some form of enhancement, you get out only what you put in! It will continue to be added to and altered as necessary, I am already on my second set of street lamps as I came to dislike the original ones. Two non-exhibitions and one exhibition outing have helped me see what does and doesn't work. The turntable addition along with other minor modifications has been made to improve various aspects of the layout.

As for the rolling stock, I have some 26

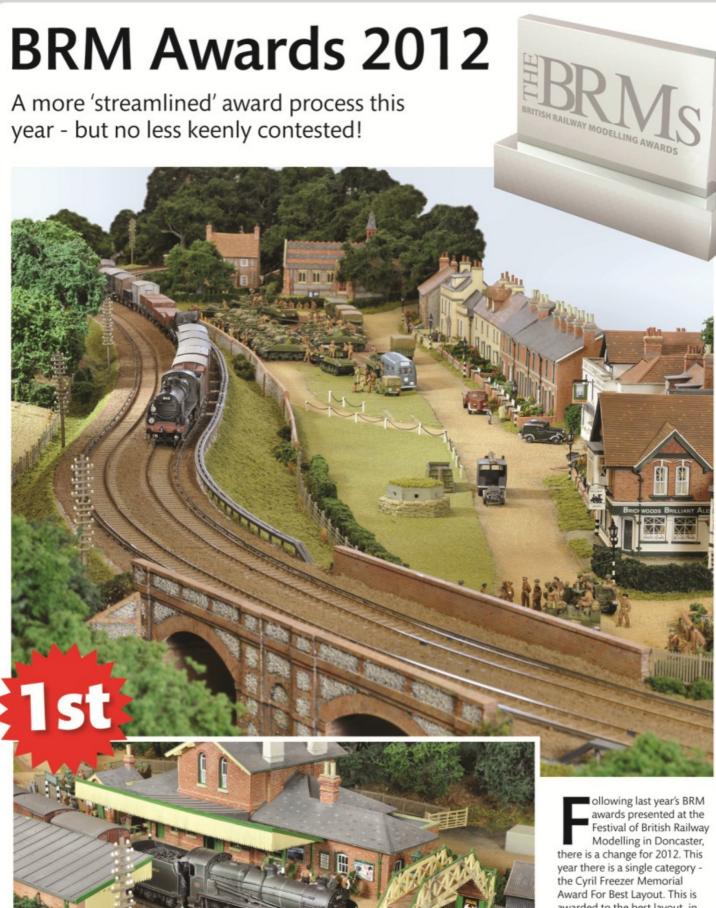
motorised trams so far, both HO and OO. If you don't run them together it's not noticeable! They are from London (5), Lowestoft (1), Leeds (2), Edinburgh (1), Blackpool (5), Birkenhead (1), Germany (1), Portugal (1), Austria (3), Russia (1), America (2), Germany/Japan (1) and two miscellaneous. The fleet is made up from six motorised plastic kits, one motorised plastic tram (probably a marketing model), one motorised white metal kit, five Corgi and two EFE motorised diecasts, a non-branded diecast, plus seven RTR models from Roco, Liliput (purchased on eBay without motor and remotorised), Spectrum, Bachmann, Kato, Hamo, Navemo, Hornby and one oddment! To be honest it's the tram kit building and motorising tram bodies, mostly without instruction or guide which 'floats my boat'. But once built they have to be run. This is where Crickey has a real point of difference and creates interest.

So what have I achieved? From the very favourable public reaction at its first exhibition outing at Aldeburgh I have achieved my interpretation of a preserved tramway village, it does not look too lived in as it isn't. It's very









awarded to the best layout, in the opinion of the editorial staff, featured in British Railway Modelling over the past 12 months. There are also two runners-up.

That means quite a list of high-quality layouts to be considered and the judging was very close, but, as usual, there can only be one winner!



Highly Commended

Some of the layouts which were just 'pipped at the post' include:



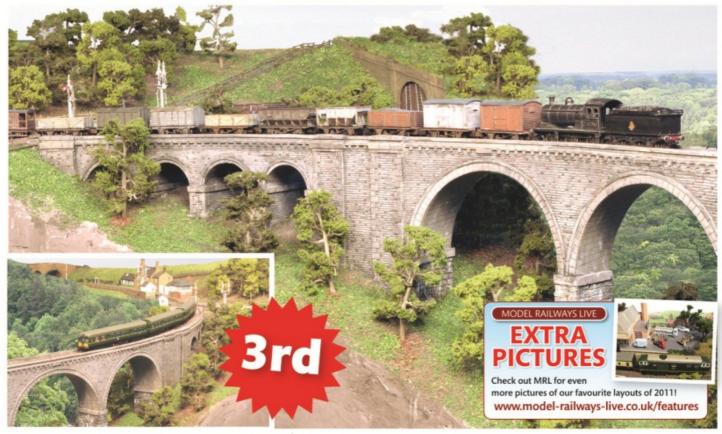
- Cheriton Bishop
- Burnfoot
- Monks Bay



- East Grinstead Town
- Farkham
- Helmthwaite & Chapel Lane
- - Burnham-on-Sea
 - Cherry Orchard
 - Chillingbourne



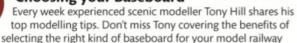
In third place is Lambley Viaduct, the excellent extension of David Smith's N gauge Alston layout. Second is the fabulous Hospital Gates, an extremely well-modelled recreation of certain elements of the Whittington Hospital Railway in 7mm scale by the East Riding Finescale Group. But this year's winner of the Cyril Freezer Memorial Award for Best Layout is Rowlands Castle, the OO gauge recreation of a small village in wartime, brought to life by the expert skills of Peter Goss. Congratulations to Peter - he will be receiving his award in due course. BRM



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Great Modelling Tips on 'Choosing your Baseboard'



project. MRL TV also includes a mass of extra free content including Readers' Layouts, Modelling Advice, Top Layout Videos and loads of mustsee funnies!



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Reviews - Tony Wright's Hornby B1 We review the third new B1 to be received from Hornby, no. 61243 Sir Harold Mitchell. This represents a member of the class later in life with full AWS gear and a moved coal division plate in the tender. The model also has a later smokebox door and is fitted with dummy electric lighting.

WIN STUFF - WIN A HORNBY B1 Every month we give you the chance to win some great railway modelling prizes. This month don't miss your chance to win the superb Hornby B1 featured above!



Features -Blast from the Past: Hornby Heyday

We go back to British Railway Modelling's December 1996 ISSUE and recall the 'magical' Hornby Gauge O System.

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Points Arising

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LETTER OF THE MONTH

Power for the nation

Ref 'Power for the Nation' on page 80 of the September 2011 BRM, I joined Babcock Power at Renfrew as Chief Work Study Engineer in late 1975, during the later stages of the Grain contract. Alas for the author, it was standard practice to ship power station components in red oxide finish. From memory, this was the same shade as the word 'News' on page 30 of the magazine. The cradles were part of this load as the vessel would have stood in them in the site store until erected in position. All the openings would have been covered with sheet metal cans to protect the joint faces, and to prevent wild life, etc, entering the interior, the cans being sealed with 'Duck' tape (silver metallic).

It was not a steam drum, which would be about three metres in diameter, with fewer and larger openings leading to banks of internal cyclones used to separate the steam and water droplets. Fudging from the numerous small branches, I would take it to be the superheater manifold. This lead the steam from the steam drum via the small branches through the furnace roof panels into the superheater tube bank. Unfortunately, most power station boiler drawings tend to show a side elevation which shows only the ends of the various manifolds.

By the late 1980s, the Renfrew works held a slide library of over 10,000 colour slides of its many products and processes. A trawl on the web may unearth where they are now. The engineering magazines of the day regularly carried write ups, including the transport to site of the various major components. From my 1950's trainee days, I also recall some interesting items being shipped from the various Sheffield forge companies including continuous grain flow crankshafts fror large diesel generators and cast steel bogie frames. Not all covered by anonymous sheeting.

Thank you for a stimulating magazine, there is usually some item I can relate to from my past.

Eric A Marshall, C Eng. FIET Gourock, Renfrewshire

Thank you Tony

I have just read the news about Tony's retirement in the latest edition of BRM. Like many I have missed Tony over the last few months but it is good to know that he is still with us. Although I have never had the pleasure of meeting Tony in person I feel like I know him through his numerous DVDs and articles.

Tony has to be one of the most amusing and inspirational (for me) modellers out there. His infectious enthusiasm will be greatly missed although I look forward to his occasional contributions to BRM. Please allow me to wish Tony a very long and happy retirement and to thank him for all the enjoyment he has brought to me and many others.

Paddy Coleman (by email)

Graffiti - the last word!

I have been following the somewhat Pythonesque exchange concerning graffiti. As someone who has modelled graffiti, I have to say that I find it unbelievable that such issues should excite the readership as much as it has. In my case, the graffiti was on the harbour wall of my County Gate layout. It states 'vote Moseley'. It is an exact copy of one I photographed on a bridge wall in Devon during the early '60s. I have received

over 20 angry complaints, mostly due to the fascist connection. The fact was that in 1935, a significant percentage of Britons favoured the Black Shirts. Are we supposed to filter out the parts of British history that we find uncomfortable?

Our model railways are for the most part built to please ourselves. If we wish to paint graffiti all down the sides of our coaches, why not? For God's sake let us keep political correctness out of our compositions! How many modern image model railways include the correct ethnic and cultural mix in our little people on the platforms?

Recently, I completed a layout for a customer which included piles of litter in the railway sidings - including supermarket trolleys and an old mattress. The client was delighted! It takes all sorts and long may it continue.

John de Frayssinet

This correspondence is now closed.

Parkside praise

I am writing to say, and hopefully share with your readers, a great big 'thank you' to the fabulous team of staff there are at Parkside Dundas. I am new to O gauge and kit building and I have had a few problems with my first

This month on facebook.

At last a retooled 67 in the Hornby 2012 range. Hopefully it will be to the standards of the 56 and 60. Robert Hambridge

I'd love to see the next British Railway Modelling, but unlike some other model railway magazines it's not published in electronic format. My resolution is no more paper! Ken Adams

Check-out www.model-railways-live.co.uk where you can now download BRM as a Digital Magazine! Ed

Phwore! The Hornby B1 looks great but I'd feel less guilty modifying, renumbering and weathering the Bachmann B1.

Sylvian Greumach

Just had a quick look at the monthly E-Newsletter. Plenty to keep me busy. Thanks BRM. **Gary Yemm**

Make sure you sign-up to our monthly E-Newsletter at www.model-railways-live.co.uk! Ed

Reader Poll

What is the most exciting new model announced by Hornby this year?

- · GWR Heavy Freight Tanks 33%
- · Class 67 21%
- · The 01 21%
- · Push-Pull Coaches 10%
- · Thompson Non-Corridor Coaches 5%
- · Still waiting for a 2011 release 10%

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couple of build attempts. I contacted Parkside Dundas during the Christmas period, for some assistance with damaged parts (my fault) and some missing transfers, expecting a reply early in the New Year.

Not only did they respond between Christmas and New Year they managed to get the required items to me in the same period! With very knowledgeable staff I was given some excellent advice on how not to make the same errors. Hopefully I can now complete the kits doing them the justice they deserve. A very big thank you to the staff at Parkside Dundas.

Matthew Gale (by email)

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Diary Dates

Please send full details of forthcoming events to the Diary Dates Editor, British Railway Modelling, The Maltings, West Street, Bourne, Lincolnshire PE10 9PH, fax them on 01778 425437, email to jeanw@warnersgroup.co.uk or post them on our website at: www.model-railways-live.co.uk. Closing date for the April 2012 issue is February 16, 2012, and March 20, 2012 for the May 2012 issue. Suitable for disabled visitors.

EXHIBITIONS

Friday 2 March to Saturday 4 March

Northern Modelling Exhibition Event City adjacent to the Trafford

Centre, Manchester Friday: 10.00 am - 5.30 pm Saturday: 10.00 am - 5.30 pm Sunday: 10.00 am - 5.00 pm Prices: £8.00 adult, £7.00 concs, £3.00 child, £11.00 family (3+1) or

£19.00 (3+2) Contact: Avril Spence

Web: www.northernmodellingexhib ition.co.uk

Saturday 3 March

Gauge O Guild - Spring Show

Kettering Leisure Village Thurston Drive, Kettering, Northamptonshire NN15 6PB Saturday: 10.00 am - 4.00 pm Contact: Alan Jones Tel: 0845 603 6213 Web: www.gauge0guild.com

West Bromwich Model Rail **Club Exhibition**

The Old Post Office, Holyhead Road, Wednesbury, West Mids WS10 7DF Saturday: 10.00 am - 4.30 pm Prices: £3.00 adult, £1.50 child,

£2.00 OAP

Contact: Les or lan Miles Tel: Les 07906 478460 or lan 0121

Email: ian.miles2@mypostoffice.co.uk

St Anslems Church

St Anselm Church and Halls, Ventnor Avenue, Harrow HA7 2HU Saturday: 10.30 am - 5.00 pm Prices: £4.00 adult, £8.00 family Contact: Roger Pidgeon

Tel: 01923 242226

Email: lamontplan@btinternet.com

March & District MRC

Westwood Community Junior School Maple Grove, March, Cambridgeshire PE15 8JT Saturday: 10.00 am - 4.30 pm Prices: £3.50 adult, £1.50 child, £3.00 concessions Contact: Brian Wakeling Tel: 01354 680032

Abingdon & District MRC

White Horse Leisure & Tennis Centre Audlett Drive, Abingdon, Oxfordshire

Saturday: 10.00 am - 5.00 pm Prices: £6.00 adult, £4.00 child, £14.00 family (2+2)

Contact: Peter Warwick

Email: peterfay@toucansurf.com Web: www.admrc.org.uk

Saturday 3 March to Sunday 4 March

Preston & District MRS

Sports Hall, Preston College, St. Vincent's Road, Preston, Lancashire

Both days: 10.00 am - 5.00 pm Prices: £6.00 adult, £4.00 child,

£15.00 family (2+2) Contact: Neville Davies Tel: 07775 326204

Email: preston.exhibition@talktalk.

Web: www.PrestonandDistrictmrs. org.uk

Rainhill MRC - Model Rail 2012

Rainhill Village Hall, Weaver Avenue, (behind shopping precinct, off Warrington Road), Rainhill, Merseyside L35 4LU

Saturday: 10.00am - 5.00pm Sunday: 10.00am - 4.30pm Prices: £3.50 adult, £2.50 child, £2.50 concessions, £9.50 family (2+2) Contact: Brian Davis/Peter Hughes

Tel: 01925 226266 (Brian) Email: brian@andertondavis.fsnet.

co.uk / pghughes@bl Web: www.rainhillmrc.org.uk

Saturday 3 March to **Sunday 4 March** North Kent MRG

Homewood School, , Tenterden,

Saturday: 10.00 am - 5.00 pm Sunday: 10.00 am - 4.00 pm Prices: £4.00 adult, £2.00 child, £3.00 OAP, £10.00 family (2+2) Contact: David Wills

Tel: 07803 229235

Email: davidwills@hotmail.co.uk

Saturday 10 March to Sunday 11 March

Brierfield (St Lukes) MRC

St. Lukes Church Hall, St. Jamess St, Brierfield, Nelson, Lancs BB9 5JW Saturday: 10.00 am - 5.00 pm Prices: £3.00 adult, £1.50 child Contact: David Carter

Tel: 07770 331348

Email: cartersdad@ntlworld.com

Basingstoke & North Hants MRS

Aldworth Science College, Western Way, (off Brighton Hill roundabout), Basingstoke, Hampshire RG22 6HA Saturday: 10.00 am - 5.00 pm Sunday: 10.00 am - 4.00 pm

Prices: £5.00 adult, £4.00 concessions, £14.00 family (2+3)

Contact: Rob Score Tel: 07768 728684 Email: robsscore@aol.com Web: www.bnhmrs.hampshire.org.uk

Wyre Forest MRC

Perdiswell Leisure Centre, Bilford Road, Worcester, Worcestershire WR13 8DX Saturday: 10.00 am - 5.00 pm Sunday: 10.00 am - 4.00 pm Prices: £5.00 adult, £2.50 child, £4.00

OAP, £12.50 family (2 + 2) Contact: John Williams Tel: 01562 515152

Web: www.wyreforestmrc.com

Birtley Model Railway Engineers Birtley (CC) Model Railway Engineers

Birtley Community Centre Ravensworth Road, Birtley, Gateshead DH3 1EN United Kingdom

Saturday: 10.00 - 17.00 Sunday: 10.00 - 16.00 Prices: £3 adult, £1 child, £2.5 OAP

Contact: Alan Grav

Tel: 0191 487 1110 Saturday 10th March

Northampton Model Railway Exhibition

Malcolm Arnold Academy, Trinity Avenue, Northampton NN2 6JW Saturday: 10.00 am - 4.00 pm Prices: £5.00 Adults; £4.00 Concessions; £10.00 Family (2+2).

Contact: Nobby Clarke (Show

Email: nobbyclarke2@btinternet.

Web: www.northamptonmodelrai lwayshow.co.uk

Saturday 10 March

Scout Rail

Settle Primary School (Near Railway Station), Settle, North Yorkshire Saturday: 10.00 am - 5.00 pm Prices: £2.50 adult, £1.00 child Contact: D Burrows

Tel: 07815 461213

Wealden Railway Group

Arundel 1st Scout Hall, off Canada Road, Arundel, West Sussex Saturday: 10.00 am - 5.00 pm

Prices: £3.00 adult Contact: Andrew Knights Tel: 07714 101015

Email: wealdenrailwaygroup@google

Web: www.wealden.weebly.com/index.

Swindon MRC - Modrail 2012 Gorse Hill Baptist Church, Cricklade

Road, Gorse Hill, Swindon SN2 1AA Saturday: 10.00 am - 5.00 pm Prices: £3.00 adult, £2.50 child, £10.00

family (2+3) Contact: Ian Burbidge Tel: 07880 654755

Email: imburbidge@btinternet.com Web: www.modrail.org.uk

Narrow Gague North 2012

Benton Park School, Harrogate Road, Rawdon, Leeds LS19 6LX Saturday: 10.00 am - 5.00 pm Prices: £5.00 adult, £1.00 child, £10.00

family (2 + 2)Contact: Mr R Redman Tel: 01132 583722

Web: www.narrowgaugenorth.org.uk

Saturday 17 March to Sunday 18 March

Perth Green (Jarrow) MRC

Perth Green CA, Inverness Road, Jarrow, Tyne and Wear NE32 4AO Saturday: 10.00 am - 5.00 pm Sunday: 10.00 am - 4.00 pm Prices: £4.00 adult, £2.00 child, £3.00

Contact: John Forster Tel: 0191 489 3743 Email: j.forster1@sky.com

Web: www.perth-green-mrc.webs.co.uk

Saturday 17 March to **Sunday 18 March**

Moray MRG - The Great North of Scotland MRX

TA Centre, Edgar Road,

Morayshire Saturday: 10.00 am - 5.00 pm

Sunday: 10.00 am - 4.00 pm Prices: £3.50 adult, £2.00 child, £2.00 concessions, £9.00 family Contact: Norman Millar Tel: 01343 830928

Email: dusty.lynne@virgin.net Web: www.moraymrg.org.uk

Saturday 17 March to Sunday 18 March

Mottingham MRS

Harvey Hadden Sports Complex Bilborough Park, Wigman Road, Nottingham NG8 4PB

Saturday: 9.30 am - 5.30 pm Sunday: 10.00 am - 5.00 pm Prices: £8.00 adult, £2.00 child, £7.00 OAP, £7.00 concessions,

£18.00 family (2+2) Contact: Ian Trivett

trivett01@btopenworld.com Web: www.nottinghammodelrailway.org.uk

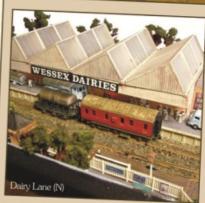


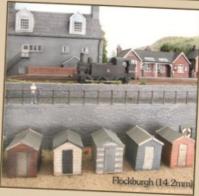
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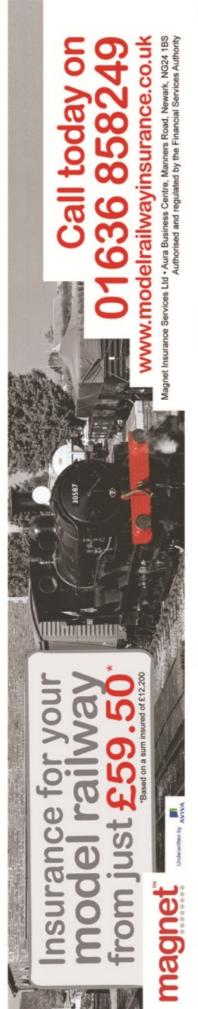
Or call **01778 391123** (Mon – Fri 9am – 5pm)



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Saturday 17 March

North Downs Model Railway Circle

The Good Shepherd Church Hall Station Approach Road, Tadworth, Surrey KT20 5AE

Saturday: 10.00 am - 5.00 pm Prices: £5.00 adult, £3.00 child (-16), £4.00 OAP, £10.00 family (2+2)

Contact: Stuart Robinson Tel: 07758 458827

Email: stuart.robinson27@ntlworld.com

Web: www.ndmrc.info/

Chesham MRC

Elgiva Theatre, St. Marys Way, Chesham, Buckinghamshire HP5 1LL Saturday: 10.00 am - 5.00 pm Prices: £3.50 adult, £2.50 child, £3.00 concessions, £10.00 family

Contact: Nigel Clark Tel: 01494 782347

Email: nigelclark477@btinternet.com

Saturday 24 March to Sunday 25 March Keighley MRC

Victoria Hall, Victoria Park, Keighley

BD21 3JN

Saturday: 10.00 am - 5.00 pm Sunday: 10.00 am - 4.00 pm Prices: £4.00 adult, £3.00 child, £3.00 OAP, £12.00 family (2+2) Contact: Mick McNamara Tel: 07771 565617

Email: mickmcnamara@btinternet.com Web: www.keighley-mrc.org.uk

The London Festival of Railway Modelling

Alexandra Palace, London N22 7AY Saturday: 10.00 am - 5.00 pm Sunday: 10.00 am - 4.00 pm Prices: £11.00 adult, £5.00 child (-14), £32.00 family (2+3)

Contact: Warners Tel: 01778 391123

Email: exhibit@warnersgroup.co.uk Web: www.model-railways-live.co.uk

Saturday 24 March

Tring & District MRC- Tring-Rail

The Red Cross Hall, Town Centre, Tring, Hertfordshire HP23 5AZ Saturday: 10.30 am - 5.00 pm Prices: £2.50 adult, £1.50 child, £1.50 OAP, £6.00 family (2+2)

Contact: Robert Longman Tel: 01525 850703

Email: r.longman@btinternet.com Web: www.tdmrc.co.uk

Cornish NG Railway Modellers Narrow Gauge Expo

Threemilestone Community Centre, Truro, Cornwall TR3 6DP Saturday: 10.00 am - 4.00 pm

Prices: £3.00 adult Contact: Tom Snook Tel: 01747 861977

Saturday 31 March

The Strettons Railway Society

Silvester Horne Institute and URC Hall, High Street, Church Stretton, Shropshire

Saturday: 10.00 am - 4.00 pm

Prices: £3.00 adult, £1.00 child (-18),

£2.50 concessions Contact: Alan Wildblood Tel: 01694 723756

Email: alliz3@btinternet.com

Saturday 31 March to Sunday 1st April South West Model & Hobby Show

Bath & West Showground, Shepton Mallet BA4 6QN

Both days: 10.00 am - 5.00 pm Prices: £10.00 adult (2 day £15.00), Kids go free (under 15)

Model railway layouts covering over 1,400sqm. Book tickets online to get £2.00 off.

Saturday 31 March to Sunday 1st April

Maryport Model Club

Netherhall School, Netherhall, Maryport, Cumbria CA15 Saturday: 10.00 am - 5.00 pm Prices: £3.50 adult, £1.00 child, £2.50 OAP, £8.00 family (2 + 2) Contact: Trevor Austin

Tel: 01900 813661/Eric Farragher 01900 608210

Email: maryportmodelclub@hotm

ail.co.uk

Association of 16mm Narrow Gauge Modellers - National **Garden Railway Show**

The Showground, Peterborough, Cambridgeshire

Saturday: 10.00 am - 5.00 pm Prices: £8.00 adult Contact: Richard Cable Web: www.16mm.org.uk

Tendring Hundred MRC

Brotherhood Hall, St Osyth Road, Clacton-on-Sea CO15 3BW Prices: £2.50 adult, £1.50 child, £1.50 concessions, £6.00 family

Contact: R Halls Tel: 01255 812993

Carlton Railway Society

The Courtyard, Boothferry Road,

Goole DU14 6AE

Saturday: 10.30 am - 4.00 pm Contact: Richard Morley Tel: 07840 777197

Email: rmorley@live.co.uk

Belper MRG

Strutts (opposite Babington Hospital) Derby Road, Belper DE56 1UU Saturday: 10.00 am - 5.00 pm Prices: £2.50 adult, £1.50 child (-16), £2.00 OAP

Contact: Ray Williams (Secretary)

Tel: 01773 825043 Email: manage@parwichps. wanadoo.co.uk

OPEN DAYS

Sunday 11 March

St Neots MRC

Buckden Millennium Community Centre, Burberry Road, Buckden

PE19 5UY

Sunday: 10.00 am - 4.00 pm Prices: £1.50 adult, £1.00 child

Contact: Dave Smith Email: d_smith80@sky.com

Saturday 17 March

West Sussex Area Group of the **N** Gauge Society

Sompting Village Hall, West Street, Sompting, West Sussex BN15 0BE Saturday: 10.00 am - 4.00 pm Prices: £1.00 adult, 50p child Contact: Nigel Appleton

Email: n.appleton888@btinternet.com

Web: www.wsng.co.uk

MEETINGS AND TALKS

Thursday 1 March

Lutterworth Railway Society

The United Reformed Church George Street, Lutterworth, Leicestershire LE17 4EF Thursday: 7.30 pm Contact: Dave Hanger Tel: 01455 203307

Friday 2 March

Kettering & District Locomotive Society

Cornmarket Hall, London Road, Kettering, Northamptonshire

Friday: 7.45 pm Contact: lan Lyman Tel: 01536 514640

Email: kdls@railwayclocks.freeserve.co.uk

Monday 5 March

Plymouth Railway Circle St

Edwards Church Hall, Home Park Avenue, Peverell, Plymouth PL3 4PG

Monday: 7.30 pm Prices: £2.00 adult

Contact: Barrie Lanvon/David Tel: 01752 651014 (Barrie) / 01752

569179 (David)

Email: barrielanyon@hotmail.com

Tuesday 6 March

East Anglian Railway Museum North London (Enfield) Branch

First Floor Meeting Room, The Drill Hall Sports Club, Old Park Avenue,

Enfield EN2 6PJ Tuesday: 8.00 pm - 10.30 pm

Prices: £2.50 adult

Contact: Roger Elkin/Kenneth Crane

Tel: 0208 363 0697

Email: rogerelkin@btinternet.com / k.h.crane@hotmail

Web: http://www.earm.co.uk

Southern Electric Group - South Hampshire Branch

Eastleigh Railway Institute, Romsey

Road, Hampshire Tuesday: 7.30 pm Prices: £2.00 adult Contact: John Goodrich Tel: 023 8067 0028

Web: www.southernelectric.org.uk

Wednesday 7 March

Mirfield Railway Enthusiasts Society

The Navigation Tavern, Station Road, Mirfield, West Yorkshire WF14 8LG

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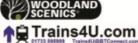
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Admission Prices: Adult £8.00 Child (5-14yrs) £3.50 Opening Times: Saturday 10.00am-5.00pm Sunday 10.00am-4.30pm

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Diary Dates

Wednesday: 7.30 pm Prices: £2.00 adult

Contact: Pete Whitworth /Barry

Lavcock

Tel: 01924 498451/01924 521931 Email: petesyl12whitworth@hotm

ail.com

Friday 9 March

Purbeck Railway Circle Harman's Cross Village Hall Friday: 7.00 for 7.30 pm

Contact: Bob Taylor Tel: 01929 421913

Email: r-i-taylor@hotmail.co.uk Web: www.swanagerailway.co.uk

Sunday 11 March

Rusper MRC

Hayes/Pickering, Bromley Area Contact: Angela Crumplin Tel: 01323 848051

Email: angela@angelacrumplin1.

orangehome.co.uk

Web: www.rusper-mrc.co.uk

Monday 12 March

Southern Electric Group - Sussex Branch

Deall Room, Southwick Community Centre, Southwick, Hampshire Monday: 7.30 pm - 10.00 pm Prices: £3.00 adult Contact: Peter Jones Tel: 01273 504791

Tuesday 13 March

Pewsey Vale Railway Society

Woodborough Social Club, Smithy

Lane, Woodborough, Pewsey,

Wiltshire Tuesday: 7.45 pm Contact: Max Wilkinson Tel: 01672 851478 Web: www.pvrs.org.uk

Thursday 15 March

Lutterworth Railway Society

The United Reformed Church George Street, Lutterworth, Leicestershire LE17 4EF Thursday: 7.30 pm Contact: Dave Hanger Tel: 01455 203307

Saturday 17 March

Caledonian Railway Association

- Annual General Meeting Hallmark Hotel, Carlisle Saturday: 11.00 am Contact: William S. Cooper Tel: 01357 521540 Email: wils@wscarchitect.co.uk

Web: www.crassoc.org.uk

Monday 19 March

Plymouth Railway Circle St

Edwards Church Hall, Home Park Avenue, Peverell, Plymouth PL3 4PG

Monday: 7.30 pm Prices: £2.00 adult

Contact: Barrie Lanyon@hotmail.com Tel: 01752 651014 (Barrie) / 01752

569179 (David)

Email: barrielanyon@hotmail.com

OTHER EVENTS

Saturday 3 March to **Sunday 4 March**

Pendon Museum - John Ahern **Anniversary Weekend** Long Wittenham, Pendon

Saturday: 2.00 pm - 5.30 pm Sunday: 2.00 pm - 5.30 pm Contact: Catherine Watsham Tel: 07786 210177 or 01235 364510 Email: catherine@cawmarketing.co.uk Web: www.pendonmuseum.com

TOY & TRAIN FAIRS

Saturday 18 February

Barry Stockton Fairs - Wrexham Wrexham Memorial Hall. Wrexham LL12 7AG

Saturday: 10.30 am - 4.00 pm Prices: £1.5 adult, £0.5 child Contact: Barry Stockton or Albert

Tel: 0151 334 3362 (Barry) / 0151

638 3915 (Albert

Email: Brrvstcktn@aol.com Web: www.barrystocktonfairs.co.uk

Sunday 19 February

Ray Heard Model Railways

Newton Abbot Racecourse. Newton Abbot, Devon, TQ12 3AF Sunday: 10.00 am - 3.00 pm

Prices: Adult £2.00 Contact: Ray Heard Tel: 01823 480097

Email: rayheard66@btinternet.com

Sunday 4 March

Reading Vintage Toy Fair-The Big Southern Vintage Toy Fair

Rivermead Leisure Centre, Richfield Avenue, Reading, Berkshire RG1 8EQ Sunday: 10.30

am - 3.30 pm

Prices: £3.50 adult, £3.00 OAP,

£7.00 family (2+2) Contact: Tony Oakes

Tel: 01270 841558 / 07825 631323

Sunday 4 March

Barry Stockton Fairs - Manchester

George Carnall Leisure Centre. Kingsway Park, Urmston, Manchester M41 7FJ Sunday: 10.30 am - 3.00 pm Prices: £2.00 adult, 50p child Contact: Barry Stockton

Tel: 0151 334 3362 Email: Brrystcktn@aol.com

Web: www.barrystocktonfairs.co.uz

Saturday 10 March to Sunday 11 March

Barry Stockton Fairs - Merseyside Hobbies, Toy & Model Railway Exhibition

Pacific Road Arts Centre, Pacific Road, Birkenhead CH41 1LJ Saturday: 12.00 to 4.00 pm Sunday: 10.30 am - 4.00 pm

Prices: £4.00 adult

Contact: Barry Stockton or Albert Pyper Tel: 0151 334 3362 (Barry) / 01051

638 3915 (Albert)

Email: Brrystcktn@aol.com

Web: www.barrystocktonfairs.co.uk

Sunday 11 March Mike Cook also modelled Welsh narrow gauge.

Anyone who has ever been to the York Model Railway Exhibition will have been in some way affected by the efforts of Mike Cook. Mike died just prior to Christmas 2011, still anticipating the 2012 show which would have been his 50th. A service was held for him at York Crematorium on December 30, 2011, which was attended by many of those who have been

long associated with the York show, including a number of Gauge O Guild members.

Mike was born in North Yorkshire and went to school in Pickering. After Army service, he enrolled on a teacher training course and spent the greater part of his life teaching at schools in York. He was a bachelor and avid producer of school pantomimes, occasionally taking a role himself. Railway modelling became a hobby which he passed on to boys in the school, some of whom are involved in the York show today. In later years Mike became involved in Morris Dancing and regularly played melodeon for some local groups, even having a Morris Men team of

his own. During what I seem to recall was the mid '80s, Mike organised a Gauge O Guild convention for the North East, held at the York Railway Institute. He was probably the Constituency Rep for the Guild at that time. His railway interest was chiefly that of the South Devon lines in the GWR era, starting in 4mm scale. He later moved to 7mm and subsequently

From the early days of the York Show at the Assembly Rooms, later also hiring the De Gray Rooms, the York show, under his direction, moved into the York Racecourse stands and later into the Knavesmire Suite which is used today. He had his hand on the tiller for this year's show, which will go ahead as planned at Easter.

To say that he kept a grip on the York show would be an understatement! Throughout the show's existence, Mike negotiated all of the venue bookings, trade, layouts and accommodation. In addition, the social side was legendary, with many of the exhibitors being bussed to the North York Moors Railway on chartered coaches on the Sunday evening of the show, for a ride on the railway and a meal and sing song until late hours!

A few years ago, Mike was honoured with an Order of Merit by the Gauge O Guild for his contribution to the hobby and the Guild in particular. He was subsequently to suffer from deteriorating health which forced him into sheltered accommodation and later, also into a wheelchair. For the last three years or so he was still very much at the helm but was backed up by a great team of helpers, who will ensure that the York show continues in his memory. Mike leaves an only sister, to whom we send our condolences

Derek Mundy

Ashfield Toy & Train Fair

Festival Hall, Kirkby-in-Ashfield, Nottinghamshire NG17 7DJ Sunday: 10.00 am - 3.00 pm Contact: Malcolm Townsend Tel: 07951 072790

Sunday 18 March

Barry Stockton Fairs - Wirral

Hulme Hall, Wirral CH62 5DH Sunday: 10.30 am - 3.00 pm Prices: £1.50 adult, 50p child Contact: Barry Stockton Tel: 0151 334 3362 Email: Brrystcktn@aol.com

Wednesday 21 March

Joe Lock Model Railways

Sheredes School, Cock Lane, Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire EN11 9JY Wednesday: 7.00 pm - 9.00 pm

Contact: loe Lock

Tel: 01992 467967 / 07866 641215 Email: joseph.lock105@btinternet.

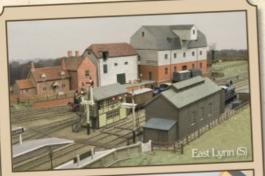
Wednesday 28 March

Burton Upon Trent Toy & Train Fair The Town Hall, Burton Upon Trent

DE14 2EB

Wednesday: 6.30 pm Contact: Malcolm Townsend Tel: 07951 072790

■ While every care has been taken with the compilation of 'Diary Dates', entries are published in good faith - from information supplied by the organisers - and British Railway Modelling does not accept responsibility for any cancellations or errors. It may be advisable to check with the club or venue before travelling. 'Diary Dates' entries are published free of charge to bona-fide model railway clubs and societies.







Admission Prices BRM Subscribers £9.00 (max no. 2)

Show Opening Times Saturday 10.00am-5.00pm Sunday 10.00am-4.30pm

Doors open at 9.30am for pre-booked ticket holders

ult £10.00 Child £4.50

On the day Adult £11.00

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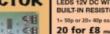


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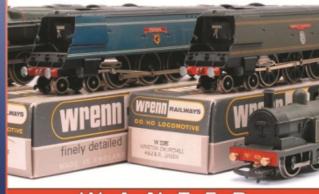


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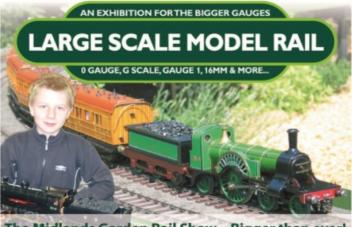
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We think its better to let those who use our decoders talk about them because the proof of the pudding is in the eating!

We could go on for a long time talking about DCCconcepts Decoders and their quality, high power handling, great reliability, excellent slow running & more... but that would only tell you about the features and things that WE think are important in a decoder.

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My 5 pack of TS4 decoders was delivered in 2 days. I immediately fitted 2 of them, 1 to a Proto SW8 and the other to a Proto GP20. Both these locos are over 10 yrs old and therefore well run in. I also added the DCCconcepts Stay-Alive.

They were stress-tested at a recent 3 day exhibition. The GP20 ran in 3-hour stints for 3 days with a full train while the SW8 shunted constantly.

Both performed flawlessly with never a stutter or jerk. The smooth running was exceptional at any speed and slow running is as good as any I have experienced in 16yrs of operating with DCC.

The TS4's are right up there with the very best!.

By the way, I use all Peco insulated frog points and the TS4's with DCCconcepts Stay-Alive caps powered the locos thru them with never any hesitation or stopping even at slow shunt speed.

My future non sound decoder requirements will certainly be filled by DCCconcepts decoders.

Ian - South Australia

I've now installed four DCCconcepts S4SA decoders and they work really well in all my Locomotives.

Among the loco's I've installed them in (complete with stay alive) are 2 big heavy Japanese brass locomotives.

I tested both on the rolling road with power supplied to only one roller as I think that is a real test of a decoder - in a loco with minimal pickup.

The locomotives ran very well. Better than they had before installation.

I must admit - at first I was a unsure about installing the small S4SA decoders into such big heavy locomotives but both have worked a treat.

Other loco's, including Piko & Roco, run really well with these decoders.

Peter - London



Information on the complete range of DCCconcepts Decoders, including an easy to understand 16p "Plain English" Instruction guide can be found on the web at WWW,DCCCONCEPTS.COM

> DCCconcepts Decoders are available from Gaugemaster Ltd DCC Supplies, Digitrains, Bromsgrove Models, The Hobby Goblin & other fine model railway retailers throughout the UK.

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DCCconcepts Pty Ltd, 3/13 Lionel Street, Naval Base, WA 6165 Australia. Web - WWW.DCcconcepts.com. Email - Sales@DCcconcepts.com. Telephone +61 8 9437 2470 (Time zone GMT + 8hrs)

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R2 R2

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R2

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R2

R1:

	ALL AT DISCOUN
$\overline{}$	HORNBY BR STEAM LOCOS
R2742	
1001.40	L/Green liv New
R2745	Southern schools cl. no 902 (Wellington)
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R2394	LMS CI 8F stanier 2-8-0 black liv no 8453
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M2726	(private W Woods) decoder fitted New £85.99
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R2244	no 92151 New
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2156	BR Jinty 3F 0-6-0T I/black liv no 47458
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		no 75069 no box	
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		(berkely) No box. Good con	
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	25-200	loco New	
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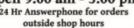
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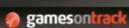
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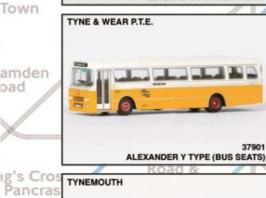
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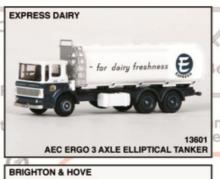










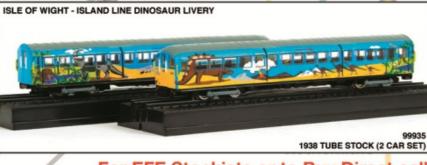














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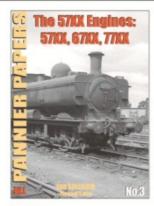
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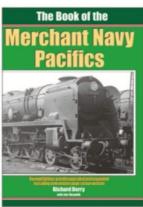
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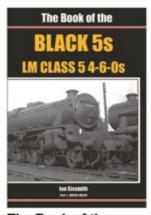
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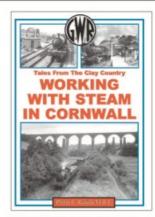


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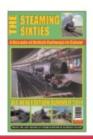
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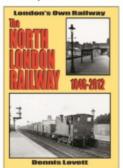
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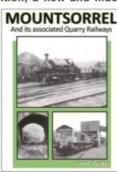
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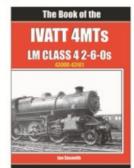
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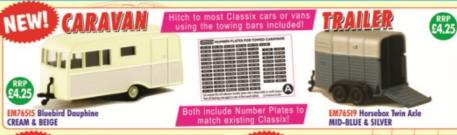


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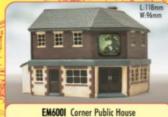


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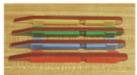
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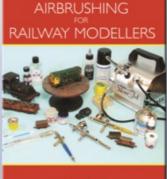


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37-711Z	Pack of 3 GWR Cattle wagons	£27.20	R2952	Imperial Airways	£159.50	R608	Curve 3rd Rad.	£1.70	31-003	Robinson LNER	£94.99	32-901 CL108 DMU - NSE £58.50
	Weathered		R3059	Tornado Train Pack	£128.45	R609	Double Curve 3rd Rad.	£1.95	32-209 32-216	Pannier BR Pannier BR	£50.99	32-902A CL108 Br Blue/Grey £64.75 32-910 CL108 Blue/Grey £74.95
	TTA Shell Black 5172 TTA Shell Black 5178	£10.85 £10.85	R2797M R2887M	The White Pullman The Thames Forth	£95.99	R610 R614	Short Straight LH Diamond Crossing	£1.15 £8.50	32-231	Fowler BR Black	£49.95	32-926 CL150 Central £63.50
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	All Weathered		R2986	Date with the Duchy	£179.90	R617	Uncoupling Ramp	€2.30	31-457	Ivatt 2MT Black	£54.45	31-511 CL158 Arriva Wales £66.75
37-730Z	GWR Vent Vans Weathered	£25.45		HORNBY		R618	Double Isolating Rail	€5.95	31-975A	3MT BR Black	€61.45	31-026 CL166 £74.75
97 67611	Set of Three	e20.05	DIE	SEL ELECTRIC LOCOMOTI	VES	R620	Railer Uncoupler	£3.95	31-11700	4MT BR Black 4MT BR Green Late	£79.45 £69.20	31-027 CL166 £74.75 32-467 CL170/4 ScotRail £89.99
	Mobil set of Three Benzole set of Three	£29.95 £29.95	Dogge	Dallers CMD	550.00	R628 R643	Half Curve 3rd Rad. Half Curve 2nd Rad.	£1.70 £1.40	32-359	Class 4MT BR Black	£64.50	32-803 CL47 £58.95
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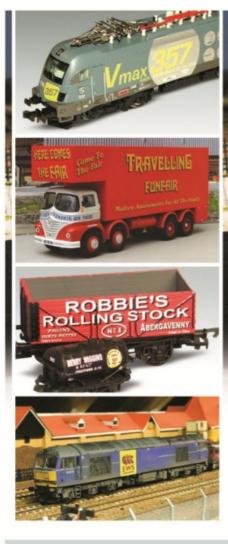
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32 42605 32 42905 32 42905 32 465 32 467 32 603 32 603 32 67805 32 9714 32 9036 32 979 3512 3513 3614 4000	Class 24 Diesel DSOR BR 2 See Gm Indicator Dis- C24 DSF00 BR Pills Gm Frisht Vision Panel DCC. Class 1704 3 Car DMU Cores Greetly. Class 1704 3 Car DMU ScorPhil Class 220 4 Car Cross Country. 20017 Class 221 5 Car DMU 261733 Cross Country. Class 251 5 Car DMU 261733 Cross Country. Class 160 15 Car DMU 261733 Cross Country. Class 160 3 Car DMU 26173 Cross Country. Class 160 3 Car DMU 26173 Cross Country. Class 160 10 Car DMU 2617 Car Design Warning Panels. Class 1601 DMU 2617 Engional Rahayan Sprinter. Class 1602 DMU 2617 Engional Rahayan Sprinter. Class 1602 DMU 2617 Engional Rahayan Sprinter. Class 1607 DMU 2617 Class 1604 17 Walcolm Rd. Class 1604 DMU 2617 Class 1604 17 Walcolm Rd. Class 1604 DMU 2617 Engional Rahayan Sprinter. Class 1607 DMU 2617 Engional Rahayan Sprinter. Class 1607 DMU 2617 Engional Rd. Walcolm Rd. Class 364 Hambo D7061 in BR Blue with full yell ends. CJ 36 Hambo D7061 in BR Blue with full yell ends. CJ 36 Hambo D7061 in BR Blue with full yell ends. CJ 36 Hambo D7061 in BR Blue with full yell ends.	£116.43 £123.37 £85.68 £90.00 £92.52 £110.91 062.32 £130.28 £83.81 £83.81 £83.98
32-4290S 32-465 32-467 32-668 32-678 32-678 32-6780S 32-6780S 32-6780S 32-996 32-996 32-999 3512 3513 3514 4000	CI 24 DS100 BR Plain Cen Front Yellow Panel DCC Class 170 3 Ce PUM Cross Country Class 170 14 3 Cer DMU Scoss Country Class 170 14 3 Cer DMU Scoss Country Class 201 4 Cer Cross Country 2001 7 Class 201 5 Cer DMU 22113 Cross Country Class 24 5 15 Cer DMU 2213 5 Cross Country Class 16 18 Section BR RIAs spit Head Code Boxes CI 45 Decel D55 Royal Signals BR Green (DCC) Class 160 3 Cer DMU BR Cen Yellow Warning Panels Class 160 10 AU 2 Cer Frei Northwestern' Class 150 10 DMU 2 Cer Frei Northwestern' Class 150 2 DMU 3 Cer Frei Northwestern' Class 150 3 Cer Min 1 DMU 3 Cer F	£123.37 £85.68 £90.00 £92.52 £110.91 £62.32 £130.28 £83.81 £83.81 £83.98 £83.98
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32-467 32-609 32-628 32-677A 32-678DS 32-978 32-908 32-909 32-979 3612 3613 3614 4000	Class 1704 3 Car DMJ ScotPail Class 2014 Car Cross Courthy 20017 Class 2014 Car Cross Courthy 20017 Class 2015 Car DMJ 20135 Cross Courthy Class 45 45120 BR Ruls spilt Head Code Boxes Cl 45 Deckel D05 Royal Signals' BR Green (DCC) Class 160 3 Car DMJ ER Gm Yellow Warning Panels Class 160 10 AU 2 Car First Northwestern' Class 1500 DMJ 2 Car First Northwestern' Class 1504 TMJ 2 Car First Northwestern' Class 1504 DMJ 2 Car First Northwestern' Cla	£90.00 £92.52 £110.91 £62.32 £130.28 £68.95 £83.81 £67.94 £63.98 £68.95
32-467 32-609 32-628 32-677A 32-678DS 32-978 32-908 32-909 32-979 3612 3613 3614 4000	Class 1704 3 Car DMJ ScotPail Class 2014 Car Cross Courthy 20017 Class 2014 Car Cross Courthy 20017 Class 2015 Car DMJ 20135 Cross Courthy Class 45 45120 BR Ruls spilt Head Code Boxes Cl 45 Deckel D05 Royal Signals' BR Green (DCC) Class 160 3 Car DMJ ER Gm Yellow Warning Panels Class 160 10 AU 2 Car First Northwestern' Class 1500 DMJ 2 Car First Northwestern' Class 1504 TMJ 2 Car First Northwestern' Class 1504 DMJ 2 Car First Northwestern' Cla	£92.52 £110.91 £62.32 £130.28 £68.95 £83.81 £67.94 £63.98 £68.95
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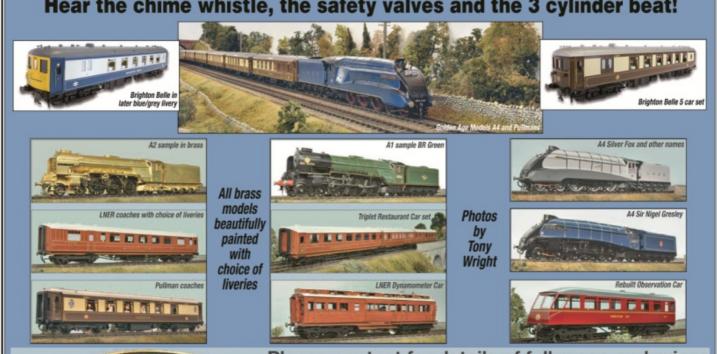
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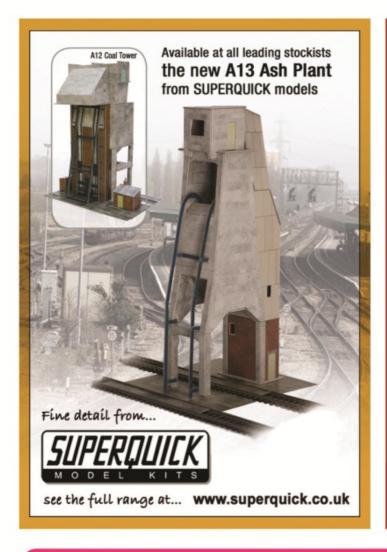
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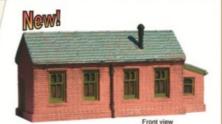
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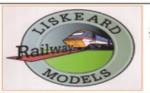
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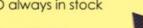
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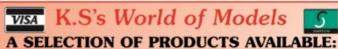
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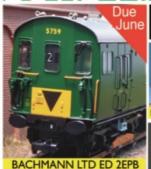
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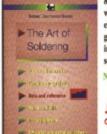
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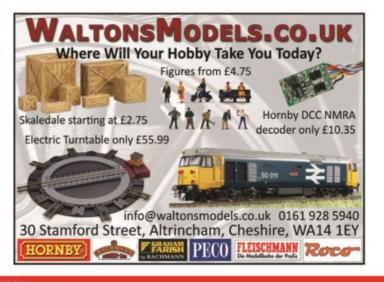
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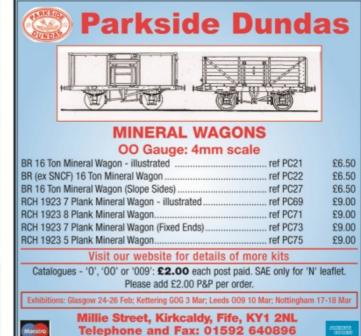
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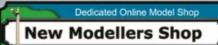
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Dapol Limited, Gledrid Industrial Park, Chirk, Wrexham, LL14 5DG

'N' releases in February



Introducing Dapol "Easi-Shunt" Magnetic Couplers for NEM Pockets



For the *first time* in British N Gauge truly hands free Shunting



NSPARE7: Coupling (1 Pair)

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Fits all UK outline models with NEM Coupling Pocket









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DRAW AWAY

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Also released this month include;

ND-201e - Class 66 Children's Livery

ND-111e - Network Rail HST Power Cars 43014 + 43062

ND-128a - A4 'Andrew K McKosh' LNER Blue 3

ND-128b - A4 'Silver Fox' BR Lined Green Early Crest 60017

ND-129a - A3 'Lemberg' BR Lined Green Late Crest 60045

ND-129b - A3 'Papyrus' LNER Apple Green 2750

2F013001 - L M S Gunpowder

2F013004 - L M S Gunpowder Weathered

2F071003 - SR 7 Plank

2F071004 - SR 7 Plank Weathered

NB-115c - Express Dairy 6 Wheel Milk Tanker 49

NB-115d - IMS 6 Wheel Milk Tanker 27

All product release dates correct at time of going to press

'OO' releases in February

D1000b - Class 22 BR Blue Split Box Full Yellow End D6326

D1000e - Class 22 BR Green Split Box Small Yellow End D6314

D1000d - Class 22 BR Blue Split Box Full Yellow Panel D6319

D1000e - Class 22 BR Blue Split Box Full Yellow Panel D6327

OOSIGN1 - GWR Signal Home Motorised

OOSIGN2 - GWR Signal Distant Motorised

OOSIGN3 - LMS Signal Home Motorised

OOSIGN4 - LMS Signal Distant Motorised

4F036002 - BR Bulk Grain X 5 Multi Pack Weathered

4F060001 - BR Bauxite Grampus

4F060002 - BR Bauxite Grampus Weathered

4F030001 - BR Bauxite 16T Steel Mineral

4F030002 - BR Bauxite 16T Steel Mineral Weathered

8859a - MRA Side Tipping ballast Wagon 5 Car Set Network Rail

8859d - MRA Side Tipping ballast Wagon 5 Car Set Network Rail Yellow

COSTC - 57FT Stannier Coach Non Corridor Comp LMS Margon Lined







The following retailers carry stocks of all new monthly products

ALTON: Alton Models tel: 01420 542244 ARUNDEL: Gaugemaster tel: 01903 884321

AVIEMORE: Strathspey Railway Co tel: 01479 810725 AXMINSTER: Buffers Model Railways tel: 01297 35557

BARROW IN FURNESS: Crafty Hobbies tel:01229 820759 BIDEFORD: Osborn's Models tel:01237 423453

BRISTOL: Model Railways Direct tel: 01275 774224 BURTON-ON-TRENT: The Tutbury Jinny tel: 01283 814777

CAMBORNE: Kernow Model Railway Centre tel: 01209 714099

CARLISLE; C & M Models tel: 01228 514689

CHELTENHAM: Cheltenham Models tel: 01242 523117

HEREFORD: Hereford Model Shop tel: 01432 352809

KIDDERMINSTER: DMB/Footplate Models tel: 01562 750076 LIVERPOOL: Hattons tel: 0151 733 3655

LIVERPOOL: Hattons tel:0151 733 3655

NANTWICH: Trident Trains tel: 01270 842400

NOTTINGHAM: Total N Gauge tel: 01623 758968

PETERBOROUGH: Trains 4 U tel: 01733 895989

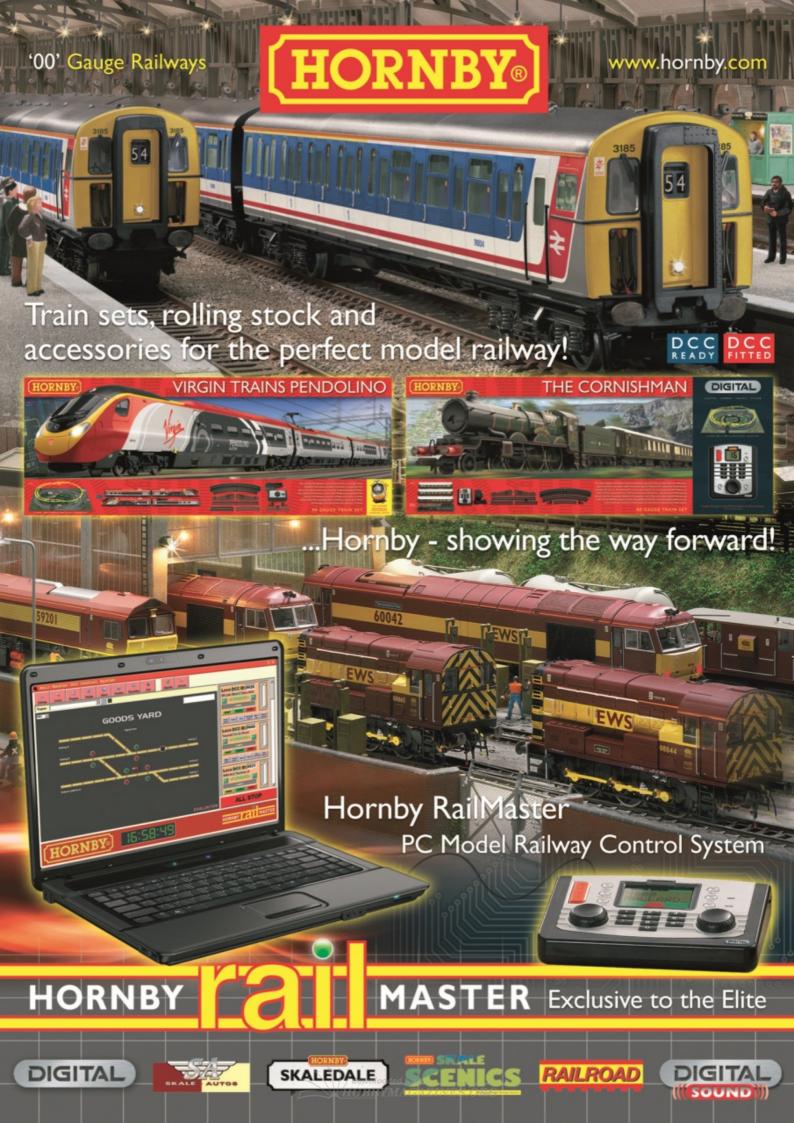
ROCHESTER: The Signal Box tel: 01634 826370 SHEFFIELD: Rails of Sheffield tel: 01142 551436

STANLEY: Durham Trains of Stanley tel: 01207 232545

STROUD: ANTICS tel:01453 825381

SHEPTON MALLET: East Somerset Models tel: 01749 880651

YORK: Monk Bar Model Shop tel: 01904 659423





An introduction to...

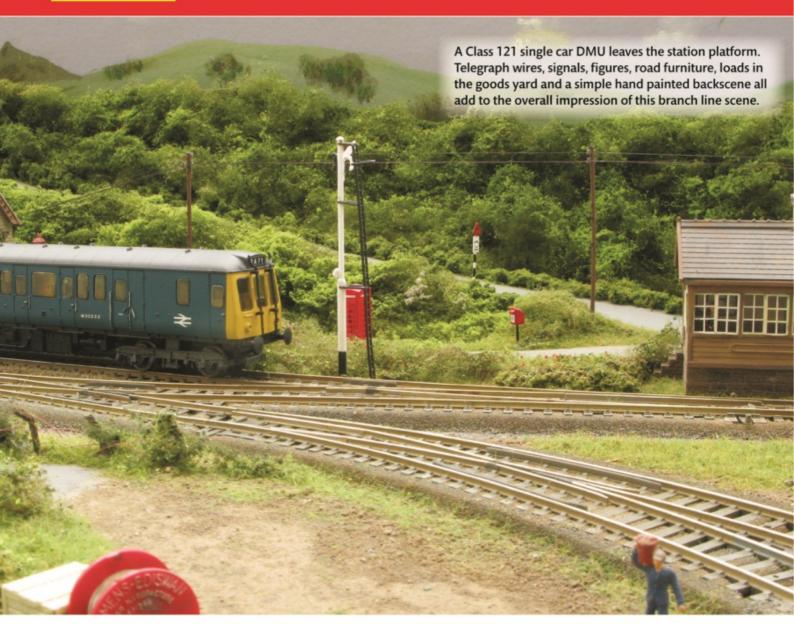
Scenery



FREE with March issue of

BRITISH RAILWAY
MODELLING





Scenery

This booklet introduces the newcomer to the fascinating range of scenic products and material available from Hornby

Scenery turns baseboards and track into a realistic model railway. Building scenery is not as difficult as some would imagine it to be, and many have been surprised at how satisfying and how much fun building scenery is. This is especially true today because there is a huge range of good quality scenery-making products available to modellers made by Hornby.

The SkaleScenics range

Hornby are well known for their models of locomotives and rolling stock but for a long time were not a major player in the world of scenics. That changed several years ago with the introduction of their SkaleScenics range of products – one of the biggest releases of scenic products at one time in the history of model railways! Usually, manufacturers release a

few products at a time but Hornby pushed the boat out and introduced a vast range of colours and textures.

The Hornby SkaleScenics range includes two ranges of trees, foliage, ground cover, ballast, poly fibre strands, tall grasses, tree kits and much more, all supplementing Hornby's more general range of scenics.

Ground cover and grass tufts scatter materials come in

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numerous shades including greens and browns, and all are competitively priced. Some of the greens in the scatter materials look rather bright but by using them in conjunction with other colours, a realistic colour can be used. There are also various gravels and rocks plus tall grasses.

The tree ranges are Eco Tree for value for money packs. and Pro(fessional) Trees for the higher quality models. In addition there are Tree Kits that include ready assembled tree trunks and branches with packets of foliage to represent the leaves. This is not the whole tree range as there are also tree armatures that can be bent to the desired shape.

Whilst SkaleScenics was a late arrival into the world of quality scenics, because of its selection and good value for money it is a good range for any modeller to consider when building scenery. For more information about SkaleScenics visit: www. hornby.com

Step-by-step landscaping

Landscaping a model railway turns your baseboard into a work of art! Don't be too timid

Roads look a lot more realistic with the addition of signs. Hornby Skaledale make various packs of signs including classic and modern signs. Just push a hole into the scenery then a dab of PVA glue in the hole and the sign will be fixed in place. Make sure that the sign is vertical.





Subdued colours are best for scenery. Here a weathered and detailed Hornby Railroad Class 06 0-4-0 diesel locomotive stands in a neglected siding. The layout is only 15 cms deep at this point but because it has a simple backscene the scene looks much deeper.

to have a go at modelling the scenery - it's a lot of fun! Here is our step-by-step plan for you to make scenery that you will be proud of.

 Cuttings, embankments, and rock faces all need good foundations on which to fix the grass, trees, bushes, rocks, etc. Plywood or thick card formers can be used to form the contours of the scenery around the layout.

- Crumpled newspaper can then be pushed between the landscape formers to give support for the landscape. Chicken wire is another suitable material. Alternatively, polystyrene blocks can be cut and shaped to produce the contours of the ground.
- To form the 'land' use Hornby Modelling Plaster Bandages cloth impregnated in plaster. Cut into strips and soak in a bowl of water for a few seconds, then lay it across the top of the foundation material the cloth will stay workable for a few minutes. Smooth down the cloth whilst it dries this can be a messy process!
- Once fully dry (generally next day, but within several hours if you are working in the summer) the result is quite rigid. Paint the landscape to prevent the white plaster showing through

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(HORNBY)

subsequent layers of scenic materials. The cheapest paint you can find will usually be suitable – ideally non-gloss brown, grey, black or green. Acrylic, poster colour or water based emulsion paint can also be used.

- When the paint is dry cover the landscape with a layer of scatter material by brushing on slightly watered down woodworking PVA adhesive (white glue sold in plastic bottles of various sizes at DIY, hobby and art shops) then sprinkle on scatter material.
- Use two layers of scatter material to give depth and variety to the ground cover. For the first layer use SkaleScenics Fine Ground Cover.
- Wait until the first coat has dried then shake off or brush aside - keep any excess scatter material.



Station platforms can be made much more interesting with the addition of passengers, lights, signs, luggage, milk churns (depending upon the period that you are modelling the layout), crates and much more which are available from the Skaledale range. The roundabout sign in the distance is another Skaledale product.

- Recover most of the area
 with adhesive again and sprinkle
 on Coarse Ground cover. Mix
 the colours ground cover is
 never a consistent colour. Again
 remove any excess (when fully
 dry) and save it.
- To add further variety use Fine, Medium and Coarse Green Tufts to give a little more height (eg: weeds). These can be sprinkled onto more spread PVA glue or on top of 'extra hold' unscented hair spray – a great adhesive for making scenery!
- Use Hornby Cork Bark or DIY products such as Polyfilla to make rock faces. Photos of prototype rock faces are a useful source of information.
- A variety of paints can be used to finish the rocks once dry eg: acrylics. Use SkaleScenics Rocks and Gravel to represent fallen rocks. Sprinkle these onto the scene and then dribble slightly diluted PVA over them to fix them to the layout.
- Dry brush darker and lighter shades of acrylic paint onto the rock faces to give contrast and depth.



Hornby J94 'Austerity' locomotive on an embankment near a Skaledale Toll House. Scenery looks so much more realistic where the ground levels vary. An embankment provides a good view of passing trains.

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- Add further texture to the completed landscape, grass banks, rock faces, etc. Dab a few spots of glue, at random, to take some of the Foliage Fibre Clusters. These will represent small bushes and weeds.
- Include taller grasses to add height to the scene – these are available as SkaleScenics Field Grass. Just cut the grasses to length and dab them into a blob of glue.
- Add SkaleScenics trees either ready-made or from kits.
- Put Skale Autos on the roads and Hornby figures on the pavements - just a small dot of PVA adhesive on the car tyre of



Skale Autos Land Rover forms the centrepiece of a cameo scene. Such scenes are good to make the layout come alive.

feet of a figure will fix them to the layout

Then stand back and admire your little piece of the English

countryside at home! The techniques that have been described here can be used in most scales.

What is needed to make scenery?

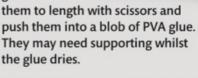


Three different types of Skale Scenics products add texture and colour variation to the scenery. Pictured are Foliage Fibre Clusters, Grass Tufts and Ground Cover Turfs, These are available in various shades and size particles so that they can be used for weeds, grass and ground vegetation.

- Cardboard and plywood for the landscape formers
- Plenty of PVA woodworking adhesive
- · Extra hold unscented hairspray
- Selection of acrylic paints
- Paintbrushes for spreading the adhesive and paint
- Hornby Modelling Plaster Bandages

- · Bucket or bowl to wet the bandages
- Medium sized pair of scissors to cut the bandages
- Skale Scenics scatter materials of different colours and texture
- Field Grasses, Grass Tufts, Rocks and Gravel
- · Skale Scenics Eco and Profi trees

Skale Scenics Field Grasses come in a number of colours. They are good for making reeds alongside water or tall grasses. Cut





Small details make a huge difference to the scenery. Here a Skaledale AWS box makes a simple addition to the scene. It comes ready weathered and just requires a blob of glue on its underside to fix it to the layout.





A 'HOW TO' PROJECT...

Making a rail overbridge

Hornby Skaledale railway bridge (R8570) in OO scale was used as the centrepiece for this diorama. The resin Hornby product is well made and came ready weathered and just needed to be merged into the surrounding landscape to make typical railway scene.

To form the foundation of the rail embankment I used polystyrene to make the trackbed stand 80 mms above the baseboard. PVA adhesive was brushed onto the polystyrene and the Hornby bridge to fix them to the baseboard and to each other.



Skaledale bridge in position with polystyrene forming the basis of the trackbed of the embankment. These parts were fixed together with PVA adhesive.



Once the PVA was fully dried I used packing from a parcel to form the basis of the embankment. The packing material was then covered with plaster-impregnated cloth (Hornby Modelling Plaster Bandage). When the plaster had dried after a few hours I used black ready mixed poster paint to colour the entire ground surface.

PVA glue was brushed on the embankment and then scatter material sprinkled on to the glue whilst wet. Taller foliage and

Above: Packing from a parcel was used to form the basis of the embankment. It was pushed alongside the polystyrene blocks and the trackbed was covered in mounting cardboard.

Right: The crumpled packing was covered in Hornby Modelling Plaster Bandage which was then left to dry overnight. Because the bandage dries white it needs to be painted so that the white does not show through the scatter materials.



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materials including Skale Scenics

Foliage Fibre Clusters.

and the second



weeds was added from a variety of products including Skale Scenics Field Grasses and Foliage Fibre Clusters.

The road was brush painted with acrylic paints. The winding strip of replacement tarmac was made simply from just dragging my finger along the drying paint and highlighting the edges with a soft pencil. The road sign is from the Hornby Skaledale range.

Left: The road sign is by Skaledale. The leaves on the foliage were added by spraying the foliage with extra hold hairspray then sprinkling on Skale Scenics Fine Turfs.

Below: A Class 37 locomotive crosses the completed bridge. This small scene took about 4 hours to make excluding the drying time of the materials.



So there we have it. A quick scene to model but one that was enjoyable to make and good to look at.



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