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Next Month: We've a vintage theme next month with features on the Rev. Peter Denny's TVLR, a look to see how structure modelling has changed and the Editor builds a kit from the back of the cupboard.



VIEW FROM THE END OF THE PLATFORM



Putting on a show

few weeks ago, I took part in the Hornby Open Weekend that took place in the, now empty, factory at Margate. I'd been asked by one of the directors to bring along some large-scale modelling as part of my display, and was happy to oblige with a 6ft long table full of 16mm and G scale models.

The visitors weren't your typical model railway gricers, but nearly all families and people who wouldn't normally rush to a traditional show. The chance to see inside the iconic building and also get close to the full-size railway items now stored on site had attracted a wider and more varied crowd.

This was good news as for many, this was the first time they'd seen the sort of models found in Garden Rail, especially with the chance to chat to someone who could explain where they came

from and how much fun it is to have a small railway in your garden.

One surprise for many was the modest cost of getting in to larger scales. Mind you, when you can buy an LGB starter set for the price of a top-end OO loco, and one company has released a 4mm scale train set with a price a shade under £1000, even a single steam locomotive can look economic. I just don't mention the comments from a certain Mr Gorton that one steam loco usually find itself a friend no matter how much you intend to just have one!

At the same Hornby even was the owner of this month's feature layout - Callum Willcox. Callum is one of those who destroy the refrain that the

Last month I showed a couple of "ugly" Isle of Man locomotives, so it seems only fair to present a beauty this time. Freshly renovated Sea Lion runs around her train at the end of the Groudle Glen Railway on July. There's not much more space in the full size cab than the Accucraft 7/8th scale version!

The most unusual visitor at Hornby was this Panther Chameleon who normally rode around on his owners hat He seemed quite happy to swap for our box van though. hobby is ageing, being many years younger than your Editor. A mere whippersnapper! He's very active on social media with his own YouTube channel. and not the first to use video to publicise our hobby either. Several of our feature

models have been found this way. I'm sure that traditionalists will be horrified, but nowadays, people like to show their models and it's certainly very pleasant to spend time watching

the trains go by on your computer, especially if you are supposed to be working at the time.

We've a couple of usual features this month. Ben Bucki builds a model that is as much art as engineering and fascinating because of this. More traditionally, we take a look at large scale tramway modelling. My father has had an interest in this for years and I know from reading some of the material that it's possible to build a tramcar in exactly the same way as the prototype. After all, they are generally wooden and powered by electricity, just like many of our models.

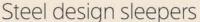
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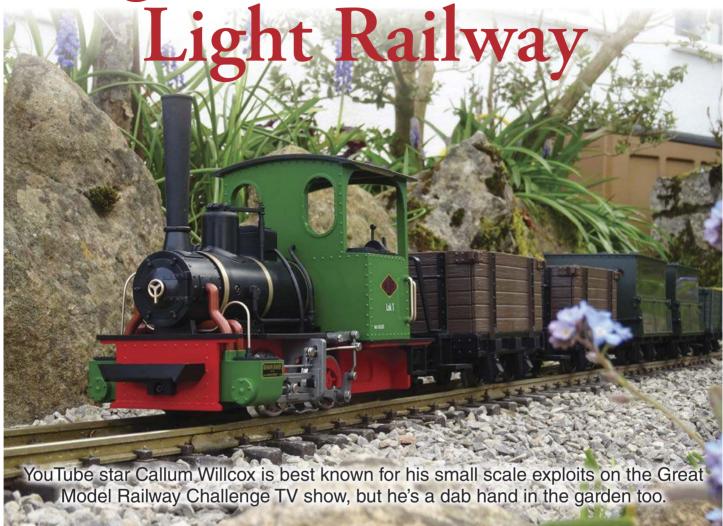
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Blagdon & Butcombe



across a model shop, called Buffers, near

Axminster. At the time the store had a

wide selection of LGB and other Large

Scale items, with a sky track which ran

around the shops walls. As you can

INTRODUCTION

My first encounter with G Scale was when I was around 9 Years old. We often had family trips down to the Devon Coast, such as Seaton and Beer. On one of these occasions we came



THE LAYOUT

My venture into the Garden came about after experiencing a number of hot spelling during the summer back in 2015. The hot weather meant it was too hot to work on any of my 00 projects in the loft, my mind once again turned to thinking about a railway in the garden, and I started looking up LGB G scale starter sets.

After consulting the gardener (my grandfather John), I was surprised to be given the green light for a railway, in a small area near the pond. My initial idea was to build a small railway in the nearby flower bed, however when my grandfather then suggested that we should incorporate the pond our ideas really started following.

The layout originally started out as a basic loop around and over the pond,

LGB corner with an O&K loco alongside a couple of Stainz.







via a home-made suspension bridge, featuring a small station with passing loop and a pond-side siding. However, the following year an extension was adding, incorporating another part of the flowerbed, featuring a second siding, which almost doubled the size railway.

THE BLAGDON & BUTCOMBE **LIGHT RAILWAY**

The name Blagdon & Butcombe Light Railway or B&BLR for short, is based on two local villages, in which my grandparents grew up and meet. The villages are on shores of Blagdon Lake, which supplies water to surrounding area Bristol, and grandfather's side family have also connection played a causal roll in the lakes construction

and history. I though name would suit the garden railway well, with the pond acting as part of the lake.

Of course this is B&BLR is complete factious railway, however, after purchasing an LGB O&K 0-4-0T, turned out to have a bit of truth to it! My grandfather recalled as a boy, that were was once a narrow gauge construction railway, which was built to aid the construction of the lake. After the lake was finished, it was then briefly used by the water works to maintaining the site, before the track was removed, and the little steam engine was abandoned in a hedge row near the entrance to the lodge. He only remembers seeing it once or twice before it disappeared, during the midTop Left: The Mogul crossing the suspension bridge. This is based on a scaffolding plank and has recently needed significant work as while cheap, these aren't very well protected from the elements.

Top Right: My Accucraft Caradoc passes the lighthouse. This loco has been fitted with radio control as it's a bit lively on my sharp curves to leave to its own devices.

Avove: Bachmann L&B loco passing through Valley View station.

40's, most likely for scrap metal. I've tried doing some research for info on this lake railway, but so far have found nothing, but still the story is a very interesting one.

LAYOUT FOCUS



The facilities at Valley View station are a bit basic - I've been too busy to build anything bigger!



LGB Feldbahn diesel with a suitable train of short wagons circles the pond. Like most of my locomotives, this has been the star of a video my YouTube channel.

CONSTRUCTION

This was our first time at building a railway in an outdoor environment, so everything was new to us. After studying a number of forums and websites for the basics, such as track laying and general maintenance, we got started.

One condition for the build was that railway could be removed and the garden restored to it's original format

Crossing the bridge over the flowerbed, the Mogul looks great head on. if need be. This meant a concrete base Into this we then hammered a number

would be out the question.

After a bit of testing, we found an excellent solution for laying the tracks. We first dug out a few inches of soft soil from beds, removing bulbs and other weeds from planned route as we went.

The exposed area was then covered with a weed net, before being re-filed with sand and chippings for drainage. of wooden stakes at intervals, which were levelled and the track (a mixture of LGB, Piko and Peco) was then screwed to the top. The track bed was finally cover with loose fine chipping, acting as ballast.

EMBANKMENTS & CUTTINGS

As the flower beds on which the railway is based on is on a slight slope, a number of cuttings and embankments have had to be created to keep the running line as level as possible. One of the biggest construction projects of the build, was creating the embankment between the two bridges. This section of the flowerbed had to be raised by nearly 2ft! This was achieved by building a rockery, filled in with lose material, into which the supports for the track where hammered in.

On the other side of the pond, and



Some of the track needs regular work as despite our best efforts, the soil is home to some pretty, but invasive, plants. The chippings used for ballast have gradually compacted in the rain and need topping up, but at least this provides a solid base for the track.



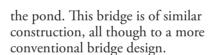
on the extension this was a slightly different story, as the flowerbed, was higher than the running line. For this we dug out a number of cuttings, lining them with rocks and garden boarders, before planting a number of small shrubs, to bring it all to life.

BRIDGES

The most iconic feature of the B&BLR, has to be the suspension bridge, which crosses the pond. This home-made bridge, build by my grandfather, has a span of just over 1.5 meters. The deck is an old scaffold plank, with two timber towers at either end, while the supports and railings created from plastic coated gardener's poles. Once the bridge was in position, I also added lighting, which runs along the chains and under the deck, as you can imagine, this really is a sight during late evening running.

As well as the suspension bridge, there's also a second bridge, which crosses the flowerbed in front of My pair of LGB Stainz. All G scale layouts have to include one of these in the fleet.

"Lyn" heads to the suspension bridge with a pair of Newqida bogie coaches.

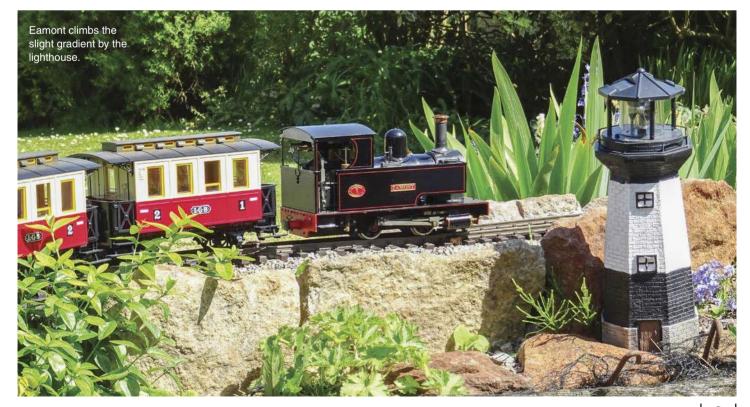


MOTIVE POWER & ROLLING STOCK

The railway has a real mix of motive power, including battery and trackpower models, as well as the recent addition of two live-steam locomotives.

The track-powered fleet consists of a number of models from Manufactures such as LGB, Bachmann and Piko, and include locomotives such as the classic Stainz, Baldwin 2-4-2T "Lyn" and White Pass 2-6-0 Mogul.

Many of these models are sound fitted, with functions operating via track





We do run in the snow though, as this picture of Konrad shows

magnets. Battery locos consist of the Playmobil radio controlled diesel, which is very handy for quick running sessions for when young family member visit, plus the controversial Newgida 2-6-2T, which was an impulse purchase.

Live-Steam is quite a recent addition to the railway, and one that I thoroughly enjoy. My first live steam locomotive was a Regner Konrad. This little geared Locomotive is perfect for the railway, handling the LGB radius 1 curves and point-work with ease.

The second loco to join the fleet, was my Accucraft Caradoc, fitted with radio control. Being a more conventional design of locomotive, I knew it would have to be fitted with radio control, to negotiated curves and gradients on the railway. For me, this

locative has been a real game changer and my often go too engine.

As for rolling stock, like the locomotives, it's a good mix of leading manufactures, some of which has been modified to recreate a more British look. This includes a number of LGB ToyTrain open and van wagons, which have been repainted in B&BLR Grey Colours, as well as a rake of Newqida bogie coaches, which now carry a chocolate and cream livery, giving them a sort of Welshpool & Llanfair Light Railway vibe.

OVERVIEW

As my first venture into garden

learned along the way, but there's always been a friendly and helpful community to point me in the right direction and improve on things.

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EX13 7NF

The construction of the layout has been documented on my YouTube Channel SDJR7F88, and features a number of other videos relating to the subject, as well as many of my other model railway antics.

The suspension bridge can be illuminated

with some light ropes at night.

railway, I feel the layout has turned out quite well. As with many first attempts, there have been things I've Our Regner Konrad has proved to be perfect for the railway, handling the LGB radius 1 curves and pointwork without R/C.

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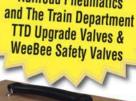
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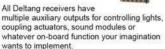
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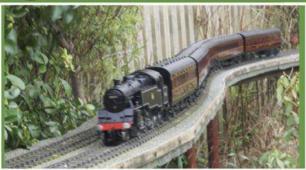
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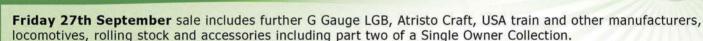
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Gauge 1

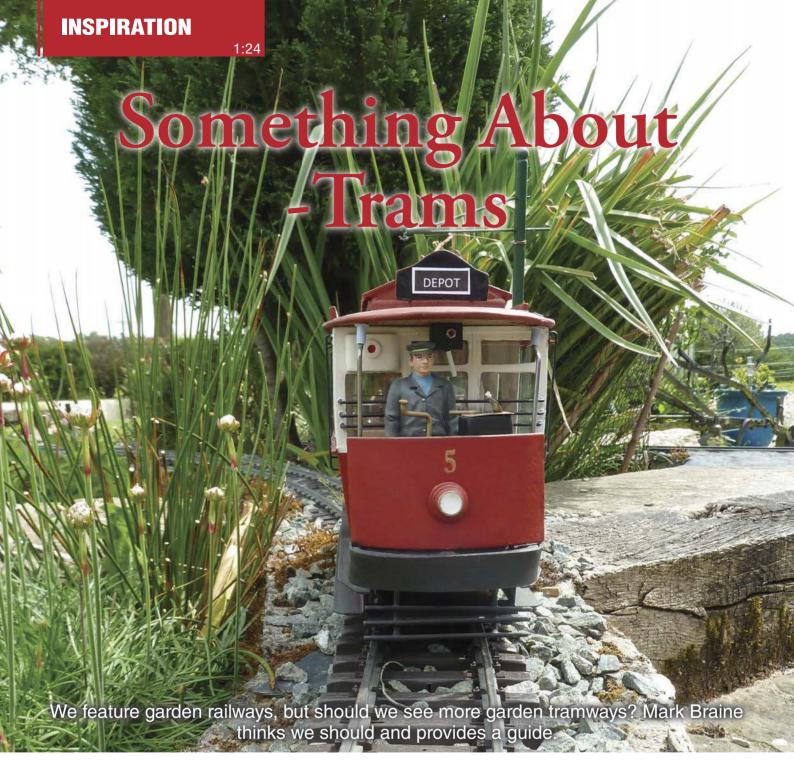
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f all the branches of our garden railway hobby one, namely trams, seems to have been strangely overlooked in recent years. In over a decade trams have rarely featured in the pages of Garden Rail, this is a shame as trams have a charm all of their own.

The mainstream garden railway hobby is well served by ready-to-run models, kits and lots of "how to do it" articles which ensure that the newcomer to the hobby is well served, and the many fine layouts featured in the magazine reflect the resources available.

During the 1950's and 1960's modellers of trams built to our garden scales were numerous and well documented: the 3/4" scale (1:16) garden trams of Richard Elliot, Peter Hammond, Leo Taylor and the like, with the well known George Oakley in 5/8" scale, often featured in Model Railway News, Model Railway Constructor and other model rail periodicals of the day. Today, most tramway modelling is small scale and located indoors, which is a pity, as the garden, as we all know, offers an opportunity to work in the larger scales.

Long term readers of Garden Rail might remember "Out of Africa" in issue 247 (March 2015) describing the Arcadia Government Railway, my extensive 16mm/ G45 garden railway here in France. This remains active.

However, I also run trams, both on this and an indoor tramway, 1:24,

running on approximately 40 feet of G45 track. This has been made possible by the fact that my models are battery powered, the overhead wiring system, although modelled, is purely cosmetic. That way, the models get to stretch their legs outside in addition to running on the pure tramway.

Whilst it is true that there isn't much ready- to-run equipment, Bachmann, under the brand 'Lilliput' market a 4 wheeled saloon tram, both those and LGB examples can sometimes be found on eBay. These are built to 1:24 and 1:22.5 scales respectively.

Moreover, it is entirely possible to create trams by scratch building and run them on standard 32mm or 45mm track. My intention is to show how feasible

this really is, and it is entirely possible to create a robust model, using easily obtainable materials and simple tools.

So, although having established the paucity of commercial offerings in large scale, we cannot overlook the excellent OCCRE kits of various prototypes, in laser cut plywood, with numerous metal detailing parts, making up into several European 4 wheel prototypes, including one British model, an LC open top 'B' class (the full sized original is at the National Tramway Museum, Crich).

These kits are the same 1 2/4th scale as my scratch-built models, and are designed to run on the same 45mm gauge track system.

These are not cheap, but are high quality with a skill level required in construction similar to some of the, IP laser cut coach kits. The models are unpowered, but motorising chassis are available (24v) of the Playmobil/Piko variety are available from OCCRE at extra cost. These kits are well worth a look, check with Hobbies Ltd of Norwich, who are the British agents for OCCRE. Hobbies, of course, are a long established woodworking/modelling company who today market a wide variety of models.

But we've established that we would prefer to create our own models in the heroic tradition of scratch-building haven't we? Don't be put off by this concept, as it can be little more complicated than putting together a good quality wood kit. It is also highly rewarding to know you've built a unique model from raw materials.

It is perfectly feasible to create a freelance model, but to do so it will be necessary draw a sketch plan of the general arrangements, and be perhaps inspired by a "real life" example, without slavishly recreating full size. Sometimes, in the garden scales, it is the impression that counts.

My Number 12 is such a car, inspired by the kind of tram which once ran in the North East of the UK. It follows no prototype, yet somehow captures the atmosphere.

Over the last 4 years, I have built several other examples based on real life prototypes. Even then, some licence is necessary, as we garden railway modellers know, instinctively that strength of construction, operational durability, and

Grimsby and Immingham no.1 running on the French garden line.





the lack of easily lost, fragile detailing parts are the key to successful long term operation in the garden.

The best source of tram plans is undoubtedly Terry Russell, trading as Terry Russell Trams. I have been buying tram parts and plans in smaller scales from Terry since 1963-and ordering from Australia, too-and can vouch for the quality of his products (usual disclaimer).

Terry lists several hundred plans for numerous tramway prototypes and although I specify 12/4th scale, he will adapt the plans to any scale you may request.

In the second instalment of this article, I shall outline the process of a step by step construction of a tramcar in this scale, using simple tools and materials.

Firstly, it might be of interest to review some of the 'mixed bag' of trams that I have built. Already mentioned is the North-east inspired Number 12. This was the first model constructed, using a plan I drew myself-thus there are some quirky features!

Next, is Grimsby & Immingham Electric Railway Number 1. This was one of the last 'first generation tramways' to close, succumbing in 1961 (the street section in Grimsby was abandoned earlier, in 1956). Always operated by the railways, firstly the Great Central, which built it to serve the docks it had created at Immingham.

Always an interurban tramway (with some railway characteristics), it became part of the LNER at the grouping in



1924, and finally, British Railways in 1948, who operated it until closure. An unrelated, but perhaps more important detail is that Grimsby is my wife's home town, and she remembers being taken by her grandfather on the final run in 1961.

No excuses, then!

Number 1 is one of the original trams,

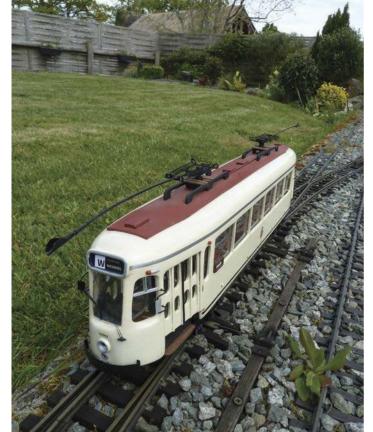
in their day the longest first generation trams in the UK. It is powered, like all my models, by a single Mabuchi type motor in one bogie. The components, motor, gears and wheels are sourced from IP Engineering and have proven to be very reliable; the trucks being fabricated from aluminium strip bolted together, faced with dummy truck sides from 3mm MDF. MDF is an important source material in the fabrication of these trams and I will return to this in more detail.

The 3rd tram, using a Terry Russell drawing is the revolutionary (for 1953) Leeds railcar Number 602. Powered by advanced control methodology, using cardan shaft driven inside frame trucks, it remains Britain's most modern 1st generation tram. It lives today at Crich museum, sadly a static exhibit in the Exhibition Hall there.

Constructional procedure is similar to the Grimsby tram and it is similarly powered by an IP motor. I should mention at this stage, that all models are glazed with real glass, as I feel only this can replicate the real thing, I source



Freelance Crossbench car no.5





Left: Belgian 'Vicinal' car no.10483 (Brussels area)

Above: Brussels modernised 4 wheeler car no. 9057

mine from a picture framer who is only too pleased to use up the off-cuts! Glass adds strength, rigidity and overall weight to the model, thereby enhancing its running characteristics. Most of these trams weigh in at 6 - 12 lbs in weight, depending on prototype.

The next two models are Belgian prototypes. First Number 10483 an SNVC (Vicinal) "N" Class metre gauge Brussels area tram, originating in the 1950's. It is a metre gauge prototype (where 45mm track helps - enabling standard and metre gauge trams to run together on the same tracks.)

This is nowhere more apparent in Brussels Number 9057, a rebuilt 4 wheel tram of 1960. Several of these still exist in the Woluwe Tram Museum in Brussels and these were an attempt to re-body older cars. Their 4 wheel

chassis, despite a new modern body, ensured a lively ride!

A further freelance car, a cross bench four wheeler is, again, created from MDF, the intricate parts necessary are a challenge to cut from MDF! Its prototype is vaguely Manx (although 4 wheeled) or possibly a Portuguese Brill type car, even with its skeletal build, the weight is considerable which aids running.

In addition, there is a works car, free lance, but similar to those which once operated in Melbourne, Australia; its purpose in real life was to flush with water the often unmade streets, or in more modern times, to "flush out" the track grooves and point mechanisms. Its main claim to fame is a "water tank" fabricated from a piece of plastic drainpipe!

The most recent model, just

completed is an extremely long Blackpool Number 5, one of their celebrated rebuilds in the 1970s, creating 13 one-man-operated trams to reduce crew costs (especially in winter when the tram service is sparse).

These were rebuilt English Electric "railcoaches" from the 1930's and, using a 1970's Government "OMO" bus grant, were created at low cost. They gave sterling service for nearly 20 years and undoubtedly "saved" the tramway during a difficult period. Two exist today, one kept at Blackpool, the other (in store) at Crich Museum.

One of the problems with these cars, a feature replicated on the model, is that although greatly lengthened to accommodate a front entrance, the bogie centres remained as originally installed in the "railcoaches". Hence, after several years the ends began to droop and the bodies started to work loose, contributing to their demise in the 1980's.

Works car 5W, a freelance water carrier based on an Australian tram.





Bachmann/Lilliput 4 wheeler. This car extensively modified with IP Engineering based chassis and battery conversion. Included here for comparative purposes- the only 'commercial'

This model is extremely heavy, weighing in at over 14lbs, but still within the capabilities of the single motor. It runs well, both on the indoor tramway and the outside track also.

A word about power: as already explained, these are battery trams, the overhead, although used, is for appearance only. No speed control is fitted, a simple on/off/reverse DPDT switch suffices; the weight and sheer mass of the bodywork gives a tram-like steady speed.

IP motors are designed to run on 3-4 volts, a low voltage, but the torque of these motors is enough to give adequate traction. On the outside track, the trams operate around a large circuit and can be left unattended, to circulate steadily. Inside, a 40 feet run gives sufficient space for an out and back operation, with direction changes at each terminal.

Here then is, I hope, suitable raison d'etre to give tramway modelling a try: there is much in common with

On the indoor



railcar building in say, 16mm scale and you will have the pleasure of creating something unique to you - there a lot of similar looking railways out there (including my own) using proprietary components - why not try something different?

I will examine building methods, both for the trams themselves and their infrastructure, such as overhead next month.

Of course, it is perfectly feasible, as mentioned at the beginning, to run these battery powered models without any overhead wires at all on your garden layout, just like some modern battery powered trams, such as those in Birmingham.

Garden Rail Resource

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rash, bang, rumble rumble, "what's that Dad?" rumble rumble "its an old tram station" rumble crash wobble. We hurtled off the old wooden decked Rother bridge. Dad had been looking forward to the twisty road between Rye and Camber Sands and had his foot on the floorboards. Never mind that the old Austin ten was

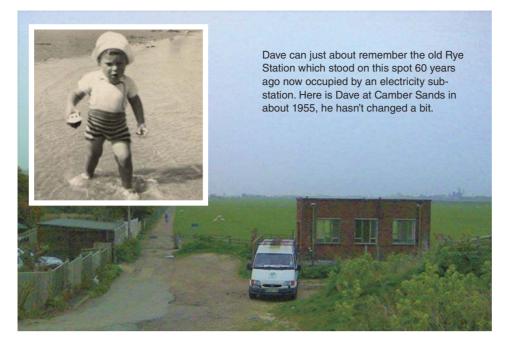
loaded up with 3 adults, 3 excited boys, picnic food sufficient to withstand a short siege and two equally excited dogs, one of whom was, I recall, a rather large, rather smelly Old English sheepdog called Fluff. This was my introduction to the Rye and Camber Tramway, but it was to be fifty years before my questions were finally answered.

It was chaos on the Vale of Weedol Tramway while local Government contractor Invidious PLC got on with construction of the new station at Llatireggub. Is that a corpse we can see in the skip?

Revelation was delivered in a rather small, Roneo printed booklet with murky photos, furthermore this literary gem was also my introduction to Colonel Stevens and his cheapskate railways. The first station building on the Vale of Weedol Tramway was a model of that very tram station. It was scaled from a murky screened print, and the corrugated iron recreated with corrugated cardboard on a hardboard core.

With just two buildings my storage capacity was exhausted, and it was evident that larger buildings would in future have to remain outside. Despite examining the late and sainted Peter Jones's brave efforts at weatherproofing

The first ever Llatireggub station was inspired by Dave's childhood holidays with his family at Camber Sands and seeing the long since demolished Rye Station.





plywood buildings by scorching them with a blow torch, there seemed to be no option but weatherproof materials. The buildings would have to be sufficiently rugged to resist the wildlife, including next door but one's notorious Tom Cat (see GR passim).

The parts were drawn out on hardboard to make what is called in the industry a "soft" tool which is not intended to last. It took a while to get used to doing everything in mirror image and reverse texture. There were endless modifications where I forgot to make things in reverse but with persistence I succeeded.

I rather wanted to achieve a model building which had a wall texture approximating to one which is built using quite large granite or slate blocks with rounded edges. A full-scale example from a barn near Coniston in the Lake District illustrates the effect I wanted. I created the lines of pointing using a small glue gun which formed a raised line which would become a depression in the surface of the part once moulded.

In retrospect I think I could have been more ambitious and gone for even finer blockwork. The surfaces were filled with low cost interior grade filler and water-

Above: Applying the glue using a small glue gun to the lines of pointing between the blocks. In retrospect these could have been even finer defining even smaller blocks.



paint. A polyvinyl alcohol release agent was also



Right: This is not an instructional article but if you decide to have a go it is is important to read the health and safety data provided by the supplier. Dave uses a digital kitchen scale to measure the resin and hardener which are mixed in the base of polypropylene milk bottles.



to be lots of things wrong. Dave tried filling the defects, but it was no good the pattern and part had to be remade.



A layer of resin was applied to the tool and allowed to partly cure. Another layer containing filler, was applied then three layers of glass fibre and resin The patterns/tools did not survive.

The completed sections were bonded

reinforced with strips of glass fibre and

together with exterior adhesive, and

Dave worked out that for his full programme he would require 11 roofs. A roof section sized to match the largest planned building was made up from slates cut from mounting card stuck to hardboard and cast in silicone rubber.

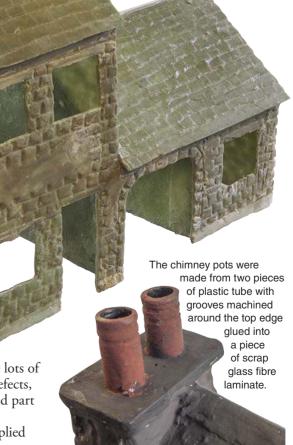
soluble emulsion paint which dissolves in water. A polyvinyl alcohol release agent Llewellyn Ryland RA10 from MB Composites which is also watersoluble was applied.

This is not an instructional article but if you decide to have a go it is is important to read the health and safety data provided by the supplier. Wear blue nitrile gloves from easy Composites when handling resins and note that it is vital to measure the correct ratio of resin and hardener, too much hardner or too large a mix and the resin will catch fire, too little and it will not cure. I use a digital kitchen scale to measure out the materials, but not Pauline's scale from the kitchen you understand.

The resin and hardner are mixed in the base of polypropylene milk bottles. The filler is a silcate so wear a face mask when mixing and ideally, work outside. The moulded part will have sharp edges so wear heavy gardening gloves and by the way it is well worth wearing a face mask and safety glasses when trimming and cutting.

The first attempt at a part was poor, there seemed to be lots of things wrong. I tried filling the defects, but it was no good the pattern and part had to be remade.

This time a layer of resin was applied to the tool and allowed to partly cure







Patterns for the door and window were made up from plywood and free coffee stirrers. Tools were cast from silicon rubber for the doors and windows

then another coat of resin containing Fillite silicate filler powder from MB Composites, was applied. Three layers of 600 gsm glass fibre and General laminating resin with 1-2% MEKP catalyst from Easy Composites were then applied. The parts came out reasonably well with just a little extra filling.

For my full building programme I would require 11 slate roofs so I decided to invest in a silicone rubber tool. A roof section, which was sized to match the largest planned building, was made up from mounting card slates stuck to hardboard. The roof pattern was filled with thinned filler, taking care to ensure there was no loss of slate definition. It was then sealed with sanding sealer and painted with grey primer.

The mould was cast using CS25 Condensation Cure Rtv Silicone Rubber from Easy Composites although I prefer Polycraft GP-3481-F Silicone rubber from MB Fibreglass which is softer and a pretty pink colour. The roof sections were made from the now standard laminate of resin/filler and 3 plies of glass fibre.

The completed sections of the building were trimmed and bonded together with exterior grade adhesive from Kingfisher International Products but bought from B&Q hardware stores

The double door to the booking hall is modified from a pair of door mouldings, Dave needed eight windows and three doors for the station buildina.

When laying out the station platform pattern, it had to be drawn in reverse which can be mind blowing. A good trick is

The quaint edge of the canopy was cast using polyurethane resin into a plasticine mould laid on a sheet of aluminium. The brackets too were cast into plasticine moulds.

and then the joints reinforced with strips of glass fibre laminate.

to imagine it upside down. Work starts with building up the

platform edges and the solid block walls.

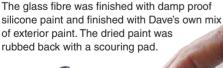
I found I had to make made 8 windows and 3 doors for the station building alone so tools were required. Patterns for the doors and window were made up from plywood and free coffee stirrers, ensuring that all

gaps were sealed and so



Above: The solid block retaining walls are designed to match the retaining walls of other features on the railway. The kerbstones and platform edges are to the smaller pattern used for the station building.

The platform laminated from glass fibre and ready to be remoulded.





CONSTRUCTION

the mould came out well. I should have observed real buildings more carefully. My windows are wider than they are tall, like modern windows whereas the old windows were taller presumably to aid the alignment of the sliding sash.

I had intended to make the windows and doors from translucent polyurethane resin which would simulate glass however I found he only had opaque materials in stock and was not in the mood to spend more money. The opaque polyurethane was Xencast P2 from easy composites although a clear resin such as Water Clear Polyurethane Casting Resin also from easy composites which would be better but eyewateringly expensive.

I wanted a canopy on my station even though canopies are quite rare on the narrow gauge. That quaint edge was cast in polyurethane in a plasticine mould laid on a sheet of aluminium. The brackets too were cast in plasticine moulds.

The glass fibre was finished with damp proof silicone paint. I had problems getting a grey exterior paint of the right shade and eventually had to mix my own based on a light grey exterior paint and added black acrylic. The paint dried very dark and then lightened over several days. Frustratingly I still didn't not get the right finish until I started to try and rub off the old paint using a pan scourer. I stopped for a cup of tea and when I returned I had exactly the effect I required entirely by accident.

Laying out the station platform tool was again done in reverse. A good trick is to imagine it upside down or even lie underneath it when the neighbours



are not looking, to check that the orientation is correct.

The platform edges and block walling edges were added from scrap materials and then detailed using the glue guns, the small one for the smaller blocks to match the station building and the large one to match the retaining wall blocks. The retaining walls are designed to match the sandstone walls of the bridge design described in GR294 Feb 2019. The cleaned up platform was painted again with silicone paint, then finished either with sandstone coloured masonry paint or my mixture of exterior paint. The blocks on the platform edge were again scoured to emphasise the texture.

Wooden blocks to hold down the station building were screwed through from underneath

The foundations for the platforms were made up from breeze blocks, bricks and the odd bit of wood which will no doubt rot in time but by then the platform should be well bedded in.

The platform was installed, the

building screwed down and the tracks carefully adjusted levelled and ballasted and I think it looks great. So now for the detailing, but that as they say is another story.

So as I sit on my rustic park bench outside the Sheep Shearers arms I can sip at my pint of Fine Auld Phagbutt and consider just what other wondrous projects I can now make to fill the newly vacant space in my storage shelves.

Garden Rail Resource

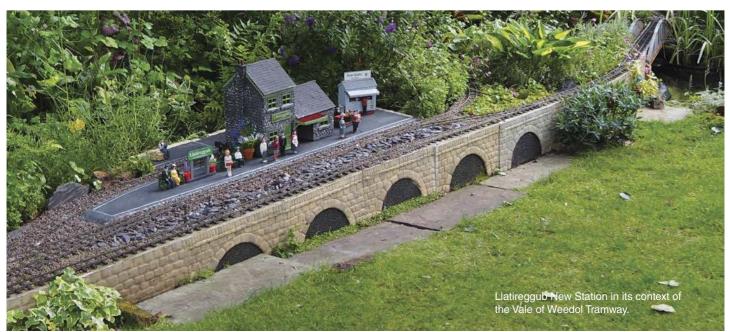
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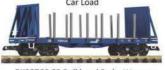
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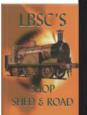
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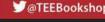
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Choosing my religion

details

like the circular

windows near the

replace it with another entrance.

What swung it for me, was I noticed

Placing this roof support at exactly the right location is critical to

the build, otherwise the roof will not fit correctly.

Mark Thatcher chooses to build a 1/19th scale 16mm Welsh Methodist chapel from Modeltown

₹hey say, never talk about religion or politics, so apart from the vague homage to the band, REM, I am not going to.

Instead I'll talk about building and painting this model of a Methodist chapel made by Modeltown. There are around 1600 Methodist churches and chapels dotted around the UK, so there are plenty of pictures and information to gen up on. These chapels often were located in remote areas with very small congregations, so they did not need to be big buildings. Also, in my experience, I find them quite austere. They are frugal, almost primitive structures to my mind, and certainly there is not much stained glass to be seen. That possibly would have been seen as a frippery.

So, at first glance, this looked

like a very nice kit, with lots

LOTS OF ARCHES

of nice deep mortar apex of the roof on the lines, and inend sections. As well built mould as receiving the basic four walls and two roof sections, I also received a one-piece vestibule moulding. This could be incorporated into the building as a second side entrance (but covering the middle window) on the side walls, or added over the main entrance door (covering it up), or indeed left off completely. This did present me with a quandary, as I wanted to keep the feel of this building as simple as I could. I certainly did not want to cover up the main entrance on the front elevation, just to

The main carcass of the chapel seen here complete. The 'rafter' formers create a ledge that the two roof sections will locate on, later in the construction process.

moulded into the vestibule, was a highly detailed Methodist symbol. So I opted on adding this vestibule to the right hand side of the building, when viewed from the front where the main door is located. There are a lot of really nice arched windows to paint in this kit, and also provided is a generous amount of plastic glazing material which has faux leading printed onto the surface. So, I broke my normal rule and did indeed glaze this model as the glazing was too nice not to use.

Building the four walls first, after gluing them together, I inserted the mouldings of the rafters into each end of the building. These serve two purposes. They add strength to the overall construction and they also provide a 'shelf' for the roof sections to sit on. I clamped these components so they set square and true. They need to be, as if they sit too proud, the roof will not fit flush to the capping stones on the wall sections.

CONSTRUCTION



Left: The building ready for the paint shop. Note the low-tack masking tape added to where the roof will abut to the main

> Right: The interior was simply and quickly sprayed with a coat of Halford's grey

primer. brighten things up when it came to the colours featured elsewhere. It's almost like the painter took one look at this

Before painting the building I did mask off the sections of these that the roof would be eventually bonded to, as I wanted a paint-free surface for the glue to grab onto. I dusted a coat of grey primer inside the chapel, and used a dark grey (almost black) etchbased primer for the exterior. As I said earlier, I wanted a real dark looking stone effect, so just sponged over some dark grey onto the walls, just picking the odd stone out here and there with

some lighter grey. I did however want to

WEDGWOOD BLUE

needed cheering up a bit!

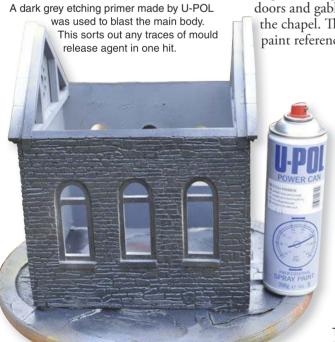
John Wedgwood, of the famous family of potters (Stoke-on-Trent, not Hogwarts obviously) was an active Methodist, so in recognition of this, and as I also happen to like Wedgwood blue jasperware, I thought

foreboding structure and thought that it

would use this colour to brighten things up on the doors and gable ends of the chapel. The Valspar paint reference is

actually called 'Something Borrowed' and isn't quite Wedgwood blue, but it's close-ish! I used the colour 'Faded In time' for the windows, and matt white for the window sills. There was quite a lot of painting on this kit, which I achieved in one long four-hour stint, and I think this task was made easier by clear delineations on the mouldings between the windows, doors and stonework.

When it came to painting the roof, I wanted to create a weather-worn look so sponge-painted matt white over the





CONSTRUCTION





dark grey undercoat, then whilst the white was still wet, sponged in some mid grey. I generally work diagonally over the roof so that the tiles don't look too uniform in their appearance. I did not over think this process, and had to work pretty quickly before the paint dried. I also used a ton of my favourite low-tack masking tape from Tamiya. It is not cheap, but comes on a dispenser and I find this tape invaluable for masking awkward areas (Editor: Cheapskates like me buy the refills as they are cheaper). It allows you to cut in with a paint brush, comes off really cleanly, and the end result is usually very good.

Left: The mixing and matching of light and mid-grey on the roof to create a weather-worn

Right: Quite a lot of masking tape was used in the creation of this model.

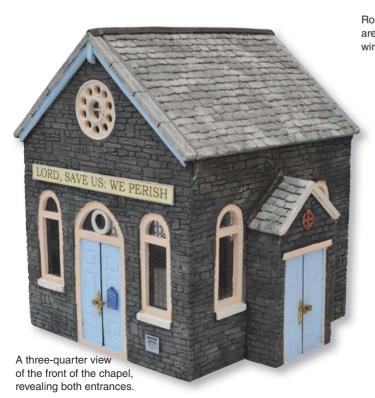
Below: Fitting the glazing with nice faux

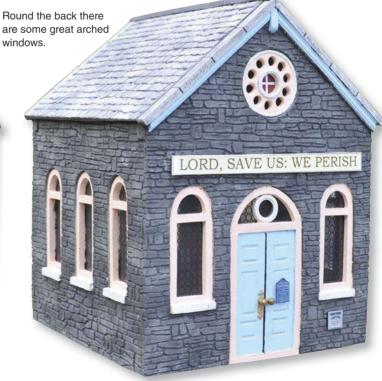


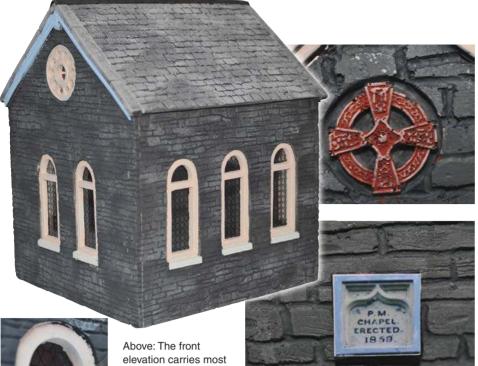


It comes in three widths: 6, 10 and 18mm.

As I said earlier, I generally do not add glazing to the buildings I make and review, as if used in anger on the line, it will get very grubby, sometimes go brittle, sometimes fade and even fall out. Also I don't like the reflections from the windows during the summary photo-call. I made an exception to the rule here though, thanks to the nice faux lead glazing which is included. Modeltown provide a generous supply of this in the kit. After placing the glazing in situ, and holding it in place with masking tape, I used a 'dries-clear' glue to secure it into position. You can buy 'canopy glue' favoured by model











Details abound: the 18mm-diameter moulded-in Methodist emblem, the church sign and added door knobs, the Methodist emblem to the round windows, the chapel foundation stone (it looks 3D but actually isn't).

of the extra detail as that is where the eye will be drawn to on this model.

Left: The printed glazing does a good job of replicating leaded glass windows.

Right: Real lead leading was used on the apex of the roof and over the vestibule roof

> application. As well a leading the roof, I also added some more lead across where the vestibule roof joins the stonework. I think it is quite effective and it is very malleable so can be worked into whatever surface it is applied to.

So, now it was time to add the final details, printed signs, emblems and embellishments. I added two round Methodist symbols to the high round windows at each end. These were scaled by my wife on Photoshop as were the other signs: the blue sign on the vestibule door and the date inscription to the right of that. The religious inscription was researched online and did exist. This was also made on Photoshop.

I added door knobs and locks to both doors. These are doll's house shop finds, and a little over-scale at 1/12th, but provide a fair representation of the real thing. Finally I picked out the Methodist emblem that was moulded in above the vestibule door. This was no mean feat as it only measures 18mm in diameter. This emblem in itself embodies the lengths and attention that

aircraft modellers. They use it to secure the see-through cockpit canopies on scale aircraft.

LIFTING MY SPIRITS

The final two jobs were to secure the roof sections in place and hide the join at the apex of the roof. The sections were a tight fit, and I did end up filing a couple of millimetres off each end to achieve a snug fit. They sit on the 'rafter' formers previously installed, but also have to sit flush with the capping stones present on the chapel's end walls. It was an easy job to do this, and the only time I needed to use my file in anger throughout this construction.

A length of 'L' shaped plastic strip was supplied in the kit. This is common to most of Modeltown's offerings. However on this occasion I wanted to model a lead bead running the length of the roof. I have in stock some real lead on a roll. This came from a friend who had it in stock for years and was going to throw it out. The lead comes can be cut with a scalpel and has a sticky back to it, making it perfect for this

Modeltown goes to in order to create buildings that not only look right, but feel right too. Their range carries some very finely moulded components, but they also capture the essence and flavour of the real thing sublimely. Painting that emblem really lifted my spirits as I saw it ping to life. I had hardly even noticed it before. How on earth they can mould a detail that small, yet with so much crispness out of resin simply astounds me.

I loved constructing this kit and also making it my own. And you don't have to have a Welsh-themed garden railway either to make use of this chapel, as they abound everywhere. The northernmost chapel in the UK is located at Portessie, just to the west of Fraserburgh in Scotland; the southernmost is in Penzance. So you see, there really is no excuse not to add this great model to

your own railway! ■

Garden Rail Resource

Modeltown

6 Station Road, Halton Holegate, Spilsby, Lincolnshire, PE23 5PB www.modeltown.co.uk Welsh Methodist chapel kit, unpainted - £65.00 + P&P

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A Four wheel Brake Van for Hambleden

liked the idea of a full brake for my Hambleden Valley Railway and the Accucraft IoM 'E' Van seemed to fit the bill very well.

However, those that know me know never like to run anything straight out of the box with an identical model being seen over and over again on different layouts. Since I don't actually model the Isle of Man railway, I was not concerned that the brake would not be a true reflection of that railway, so made a number of changes to the model.

First for the chop, literally, was the block under the buffer beam for the chopper coupling. Accucraft model the Isle of Man stock to 15mm to the foot. To achieve a balance between true scale and the required buffer height, the chopper coupling is mounted on a block below the buffer beam that I feel seriously detracts from the model. Hambleden Valley is modelled in G scale at 13.5mm to the foot and all coupling heights are set to 25mm above the top of the rail.

Howard personalises the Accucraft Isle of Man model

The coupling height on the coach is set through a combination of 'W' iron height and wheel size. Conveniently, Accucraft has mounted the W irons on spacers between these and the coach floor. These were removed and the W iron screwed directly to the coach floor. The 32.5mm diameter Accucraft wheels were replaced with smaller 24.5mm diameter steel wheels.

A combination of the smaller wheels and removing the spacers lowered the coach body sufficiently to enable the removal of the block under the buffer beam and to mount the chopper coupling in the correct place on the beam. Accucraft had already made two pre-drilled pilot holes in the beam to facilitate this.

I wanted to change the roof from a very smooth satin finish in a plain grey colour, presumably to represent a steel roof, to a white painted canvas roof. This has been done for other stock on my railway and the process is very straightforward.

A piece of white cotton cloth, in my case, a piece of an old white shirt which was first ironed to smooth it out and remove any creases covers the roof. It



This spacer piece was removed from under the 'W' irons.



top of the coach sides so be gentle with it and try not to break them.

Next the plastic roof top was sprayed with 3M photo mount spray adhesive. This is a very fine adhesive, but don't use other types of spray adhesive as some of them are very thick and can make a real

The cotton fabric was stretched across the glued surface and any wrinkles were smoothed out from the centre towards the edges. The roof was turned over and using a sharp knife or scalpel and a steel rule, the fabric was trimmed to leave about 1cm all round. After a quick pass of the 3M spray along the edge, the cloth was folded over and pressed down and held for a minute until it stayed in place. Excess overlapping material at the corners was trimmed back with a knife to allow the material to lay flat at the corners.

To represent metal strips covering what would be joins in the canvas, two pieces of 2mm wide, 60 thou Plastikard strip were cut to the width of the roof and fixed down with superglue to divide the roof into three equal sections. When all was dry, the roof was lightly over-spayed with matt black from a car aerosol until the desired level of sooty roof colour was achieved.

Two 2mm holes were drilled in the roof above the guards compartment and a GRS lamp top and ventilator were fitted. Also, a piece of 1.5mm brass wire was bent and inserted into the roof to make a grab handle. On the brake end of the coach, three GRS coach steps and

> a brass handrail were fitted. Before refitting the roof, the sides of the coach were masked off and both the ends were sprayed matt black and weathered with track colour.

The lamps on the ducket roofs were carefully prised off and discarded and the remaining roof piece was covered with a small piece of 10

Close up of new roof covering, lamp & ventilator over the guards compartment and the lamp removed from the ducket roof.

GRS Coach steps and brass handrail. The complete end colour was changed from the original maroon to matt black.

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thou Plastikard to cover the rectangular hole left by removing the lamps.

The roof was re-affixed to the body, carefully locating the plastic pins in the sides and refitting the two end bolts.

The lower of the two footboards was removed as these foul the platform edges on my layout and I prefer the look of only one footboard in keeping with other coaches on my layout.

Finally the coach was lightly weathered with a few passes from an airbrush of track colour across the underframe and lower side panels

So a few simple mods and you have a coach that is different from the rest of the crowd, unless of course you are modelling the Isle of Man.



'm slowly developing a collection of stock for a planned garden **I** railway; something simple to loop around the garden whilst I'm sat with a G+T of an evening. I did however want a theme of some sort, and after leaning towards something science fiction (see the railcar I built, back the March issue, for a hint of how things might have originally turned out) I decided to return instead to something I was working on a few years ago, a model inspired by "Alice's adventures in Wonderland" and "Through the Looking Glass" by Lewis Carroll.

I had my interest in the books re-ignited both through reading them for my foster daughters, and through a sculpture show I got involved with. Knowing I was a fan, back in 2015 my friend Clare asked me to, "come up with something Steampunk- maybe an interpretation of the Jabberwock" for an "Alice"-themed arts trail she was organising at Rydal Hall in the Lake District.

For those who might not have come across Steampunk before, basically it's a kind of Victorian-themed sciencefiction which is often characterised by implausible technology, airships, chaps in top hats, women in goggles, clockwork automatons, much polished brass, and lots of imagination. It encompasses cosplay, jewellery making, sculpture, art, all sorts, and I'm an enthusiastic follower of it.

To cut a long story (of much hammering, nailing, scrounging of materials, sawing, swearing, and sleepless nights) short, I ended up 8 months later with a massive, by my usual standards, 2/3rds scale sculpture of a semi-derelict, steam-powered crane on caterpillar tracks, which looked suitably monster-like when viewed from the front.

I'd reckoned during research that railmounted breakdown cranes with their long necks and projecting stabilising feet looked quite dragon-esque; however, practical reasons stopped me doing a railcrane for the full sculpture in the end.

Come 2019, after several years stored in the loft, my frankly, hastily built proof of concept model for the Railway Jabberwock was in a bit of a state, so I decided that it would be better to start again. In any case, whilst Steampunk often pays lip service to such trifling concepts as "practicality" and "plausibility" the concept model (inspired by the DeWinton vertical boiler locomotives) didn't look at all right to me now.

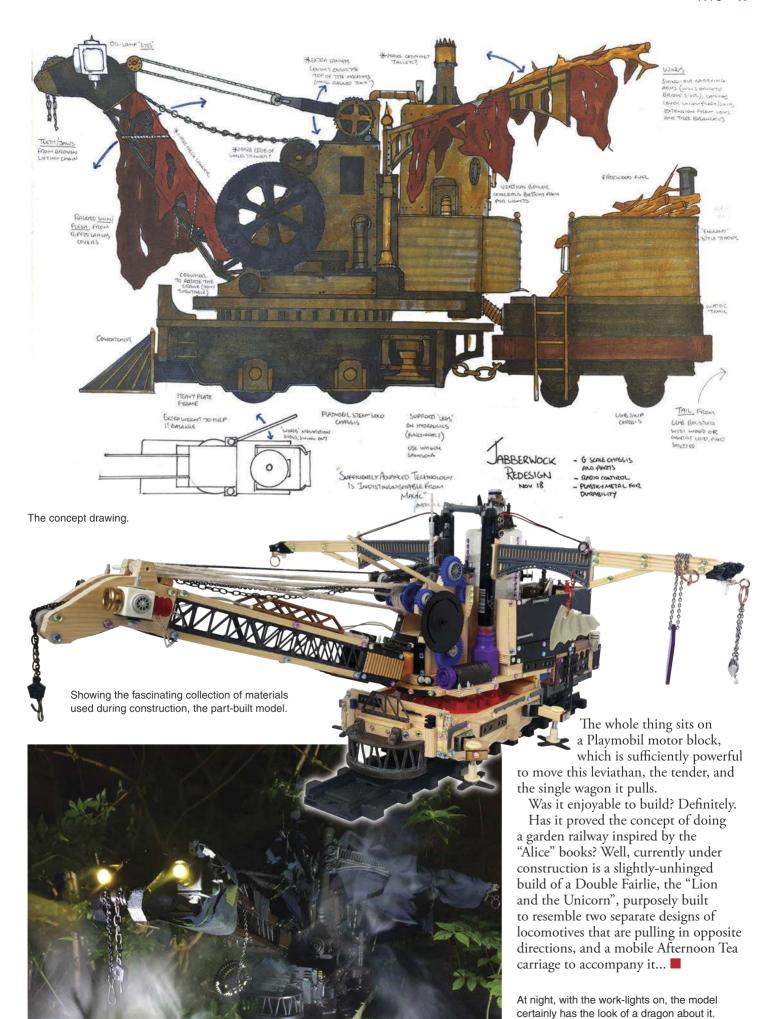
For this new model, the inspiration would come from a vertical-boiler steam crane at a museum in Scotland; still implausible as a narrow gauge

prototype, but from an arty point of view I wanted to channel slightly the tall, top-heavy looks of an Emmett cartoon. I spent an enjoyable month or two using this as a distraction from more serious projects, and at the end I had something that better resembled my initial ideas for the Rydal sculpture.

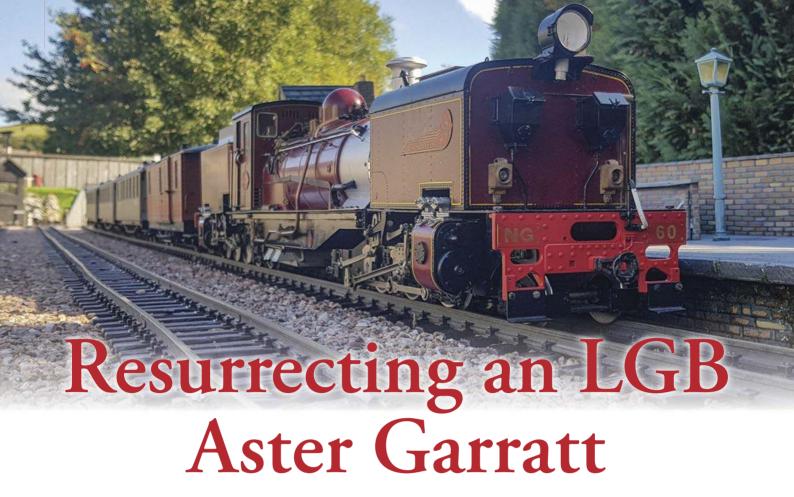
One important element this time was to make it a bit less blatantly monsterish, if that makes sense. The Rydal sculpture, and the early designs which led to it, varied between being actual cranes, to things much more bio-organic.

This time I wanted something rather more obviously a slightly derelict crane-locomotive which, when viewed from certain angles, looked subtly like a monster. As with the full-sized sculpture the ragged remains of tarpaulins would give the impression of skin, two (prototypically unlikely) side jibs would give it wings, side stabilisers would be a bit leg-like, and the long neck with it's oil lamps would resemble a head.

The accompanying pictures should give a good indication of build, following my usual methods of creating a fairly solid base from plywood and repurposed household items, then gluing on as many random bits of plastic, broken toys, model-kit components, and electrical/plumbing gubbins as I can find lying around.



rden-Rail.co.uk | 302 October 2019 | 37 |



Mike Duffy bought a new locomotive that seemed like a bargain, but found out it needed more than a little work.

was being good. Sitting with my daughter in a wedding planners shop and listening to the pounds being liberated from my wallet by my daughter, my wife and my daughter's future mother-in-law. Then it happens. My phone starts making a noise. The ladies looked towards me with a silent order to ignore the call. Next, I get text message and then a Facebook notification At this point, No.1 daughter says, "You better get that dad, it's going to be important, maybe a loco or something." The problem with bringing your children up in a home filled with sarcasm is they get very good at it.

I thought, it could be something else, after all, the call wasn't from a close friend. Elliot had left messages and voicemails so I thought I better ring him.

"Mate you need to log onto Facebook now, a guy's selling an Aster!" I cut Elliot off mid sentence. "I'm in a wedding planners show with my daughter several other women who like spending my money matey, I don't have Aster cash any more, not after today."

Elliot said the magic words that broke the spell. "It's a grand."

What? Were? When?

It seems a seller has an Aster Garratt for sale for the princely sum of £1000. Or nearest offer.

Now I've been accused of many many things in my lifetime but not of being stupid. So I looked at the advert, then I put my poker face on and walked back into the shop. No.1 daughter looks straight at me. "It's a train isn't it dad?" Future mother-in-law looks suitably abashed. "Oh you get used to this", my daughter tells her.

"Well, actually it is sweetie."

Jenny (wife2.1) says, "How much, and can you afford it?" Future motherin-law must be wondering what her son will be getting in to.

I decided that honesty was best policy, because I'm terrible at poker. "It is Jenny. It's an LGB Aster Garret for £1000."

This next bit is why I love this woman. "Have you got one? Can you afford it?" To which the honest answer is, no I haven't got an Aster Garret. As for the money, well that's what the rainy day fund is for isn't it?

So I messaged the seller who lives in Portsmouth to see if I could buy it. No offers, not at this price.

After a hour he replied yes, but it's sold as seen. It hasn't run in years. It did run. Now it didn't. He's selling it for a mate.

Given the price of any Garratt for sale normally, I think I can risk it. I'm thinking two new motors and a Massoth XLS sound chip. Maybe a few bit and bobs. So £300 on repairs should do the job.

After a nervous four days, the parcel arrived. I realised I'd paid a guy on Facebook £1000 on the value of four



The loco as delivered.

photos. The voices in my head went in to overdrive. It could be a con. It could be anything. But the postman delivered a large wooden box with a single sheet of brown paper wrapped around to

On inspection I was relived to see a Garratt. I was more relived to put it on the test track and hear the sound unit kick in. The lights worked. The flickering firebox worked as well.

Unfortunately not much more worked. The rear motor block tried to move but it was clear to me this was going to be more of a resurrection than a repair job.

The salty air had started to attack the metal loco. Blisters of corrosion were evident. The previous owner had tried to cover this up with matt paint liberally applied all over the running plate and chassis.

The front buffer beam had been damaged and the cow catcher was glued on, as was the cab roof which came off in my hands when I lifted it off the track. I had one of those moments. What the heck had I done? My wife asked the same thing when she saw it. "It's going to need a few bits isn't it." Yes dear...

The first job was to ring my favourite LGB specialist, P+S Hobbies in York and say I was bringing the locomotive over.

While waiting for a day to nip over I searched Modell-land, an on-line retailer in Germany who stocks a lot of the older LGB parts. Luckily for me they listed quite a lot of the Asters





The sad front end damage visible.

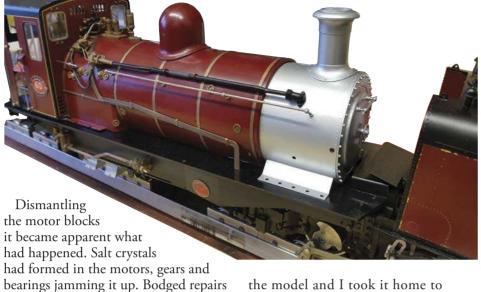
parts too. Not all of them but a sizeable amount. After a good look at what I had, and what was available, I placed an order.

The date arrived to go see Paul Lamming at P+S and I headed off with a big box in the car. It turned out to be a full day. Paul's a mind of information and his knowledge of parts was my saviour.



The original sound unit is staying, as is the original chip, yes it was factory fitted MTS.





the model and I took it home to refurbish it.

I used LGB smoke fluid and cotton buds to get rid of the grime build up. It lifted the colour and it looks better. I decided to repaint both end chassis to match Paul's work on the boiler chassis, and this is when I dropped a clanger.

I used low tack masking tape on the tanks/coal bunker while spraying. Unbeknown to me the smoke fluid had

> loosened the lining on the front tank and after removing the lining tape I realised my mistake. A few choice words were used.

Talking to a few friends, I was advised to get some Trimline lining tape. Once it arrived I watched a few on-line videos and decided I couldn't make things

Garden Rail Resource

Modell-Land

Hauptstraße 17, 29389 Bad Bodenteich, Germany www.modell-land.de

P&S Hobbies

4 Walmgate, York YO1 9TJ www.pshobbiesandmodelshop.co.uk

Please mention **Garden Rail** when contacting suppliers.

Chassis repainted, boiler cleaned up, it's starting to look as good as new.

any worse. I removed all the remaining bits of lining left on the front end and following the advice I cut the lining too long. Instead of cutting down onto the tape and into the paintwork, I lifted the tape up to a sharp craft knife. And it worked!.

I was surprised how well it went. A light waft over with some satin aerosol varnish sealed it all.

Meanwhile the bits from Germany finally arrived. A new front buffer beam. New brass badges for the buffers. I had decided against using the cow catcher as supplied, instead I ordered two extra rear tank steps and bolted them on. It was all coming to get her rather nicely. A new crew were fitted in the cab. New cab roof hooks were fitted with suitable bolts and I think we are there.

The cost? All in £1230 - And yes .I'm happy with that!

New wheels as well, the chrome was falling off. I replaced the skates and pick up bullets as well. We striped and cleaned the rear motor block replacing the skates and bullets on that too. Otherwise it was good. Mechanically, Paul suggested

hadn't helped and it looked like the

model had been left in a damp place.

motor block. A new Mallet gearbox,

Mallet gears, Crocodile axles for the

extended counterweight to fit onto.

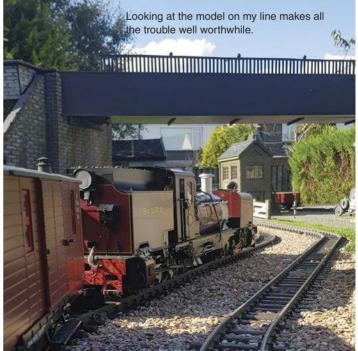
With Paul's help we rebuilt the front

cleaning off the running plate/ chassis and respraying it. I agreed and what a difference it made. We rebuilt

Trimline tape is supplied on a roll of several different widths. A wide range of colours is available - try model boat suppliers to buy it.

The front end after a session with the Trimline tape.





www.modeltown.co.uk



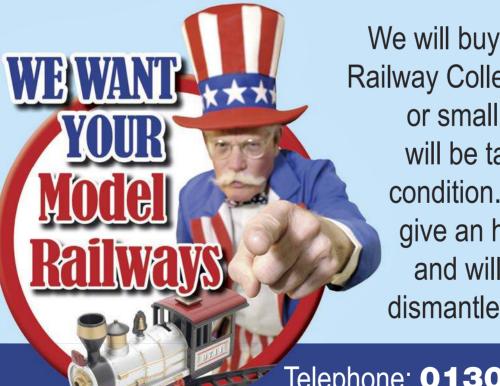
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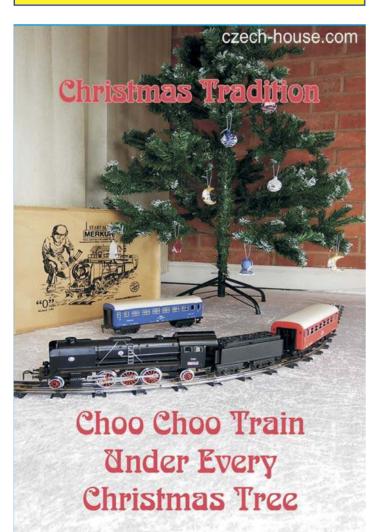


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The Yorkshire Garden Railway Show - Sunday 28th September

After a year away, the Yorkshire show returns to the Elsecar Heritage Centre in Barnsley. As well as the railway exhibition, visitors will find an interesting variety of craft workshops, artist studios, antique centres and a full-size steam railway.



Elsecar Heritage Centre, Wath Rd, Elsecar, Barnsley S74 8HJ

Below: Roche Junction





Useful Links

www.yorkshire.16mm.org.uk/ Yorkshire16mmShowhomepage.html

www.facebook.com/yorkshire16mm/

Please mention Garden Rail when contacting suppliers.



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16mm Association Modular Layout

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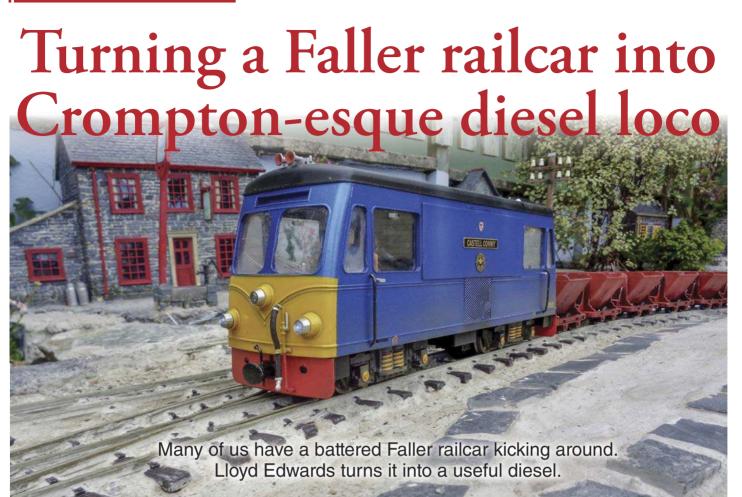
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ROUNDHOUSE









t all started with a red plastic Faller railcar body, rough scale 1:24, spotted on eBay. I bagged this relatively cheaply and decided to make it work for the the Duloe Light Railway.

When we have tea outside we like to run a loco on the line whilst admiring the garden. It's a simple pleasure that is oddly fascinating. We have some very good diesel locos for the job, pride of the fleet being the Mamod Boulton, a great strong loco that is often out on the line in the evening.

Sometimes in life we want a change though; a U-Turn, another wind direction, after all it could become a boring line to watch, if we let it.

Modelling is an art form and carried on a breeze of whimsy, the direction we take is often random and inspired by many aspects. That's why I like a read of this magazine, to take inspiration from what others are up to.

I have many hobbies but the stable one is modelling, particularly 16mm garden rail modelling. This small project lasting no more than five evenings is just a ditty as I'm busy with other things right now. As small piece of model art to be shared.

The painting canvass was started for me, with the red plastic body in hand. Now all I had to do was cobble some bogies together and wire it all up. Adding detail and painting it would take it from a toy to a model.

The bogies were the hardest part as I wanted to keep the costs down. An eBay trader under the name "phillseddy" - another small one man band cottage industry, makes power bogies at a very good price. These have metal frames and wheels with a good. strong motor.

I thought two motors would help drive and these were duly ordered along with Swift Sixteen's detail parts, namely side frames for the bogies, driver and vacuum parts.

What I do like about simple projects like this, is they use the spares that normally rattle around the workroom drawers. I mean I often open a draw

diesel.

The drive units from "phillseddy" on eBay. They are designed for 4-wheel diesels, but with the edition of a pivot, they work well under a bogie

Inside the body, you can see the motor behind the driver and the simple power supply. Bit of a birds nest with the LED light though.

look at a useful part and put it back? A year in and I start to think shall I give it away? Can I use it on what I have? If the answer is no to these questions, then having the item seems a little sad. This kind of project eats the parts bin and clears out draws which is all very positive in my books.

The bogies arrived, made for a small 0-4-0 shunter. Metal sides and metal wheels, good value for what they are and the work involved. I added hardwood centres to each bogie to fix a pivot bolt through. A small springs slide over the bolts, then they were bolted to the plastic body floor.

I did have to cut out curved holes for the motors to poke up inside. This weakened the floor some, so I glued in some alloy extrusion to strengthen it back up.

Next, a Tamiya RC car manual speed controller was soldered onto a good quality 4.8V battery pack. LED R/C car lights to add interest to the front along with Mamod buffer beams. These were braced behind with thick ABS plastic.

I did add some ABS to the front window frames to cut away from the rail car look. Also I filed the side window frames and panelled both sides loosing the central door. I did want a Crompton-style diesel look after all.

As I was keeping the costs down I found old car-touch-up paint and sprayed the model. When we make



things on the cheap there can be compromise and we are not always pleased with the end result. I say this as the blue was not quite BR blue and 'in hindsight,' it would have been better to buy the correct paint. Worry not too much, we can always fiddle or re-paint later on after we have had a play.

The side frames from Swift Sixteen were simply glued on and add lots of interest to the model. I was lucky with the wheel spacing on these and very pleased with the results.

Now the interesting part to share. I had a 'head wobble' with the loco rather like someone's gesture with agreement. It was annoying as the side to side oscillation would not stop. I set it off on the track and a bump stated the side to side wobble but it seemed to carry on and on!

The bogies pivot on a bolt but sit on a small spring over the bolt to allow allangle-bogie movement, for bends and bumps in the track. It took me half an

hour to stop this. When I tightened the bolt and thus the spring, it then came off the track on tight bends or uneven places. The answer was, to tighten up enough but not too much and to always have one bogie tighter than the other. I just thought this might be useful to share to anyone else making their own Bo-Bo loco or railcar if they get a similar 'head-wobble on.'

Conclusion, it's good to cobble a loco together bringing in random parts to make something acceptable and often unique. I wanted a cheap project and it still stood me in 150 pounds. I mention this as it just goes to show that when you look around the shows and think, "why is that so expensive?" Well, the answer is that it adds up.

I also think that the time in the cottage industry is often at a reduced rate. When we make things on small runs or smaller quantities it all takes so much time. So, I'm grateful to the Cottage industry we have where I can buy detail parts or power bogies etc. Yes they seem expensive but they are not, when you work it all out.

Grateful for the parts, grateful for the interest in sharing and grateful for this hobby.

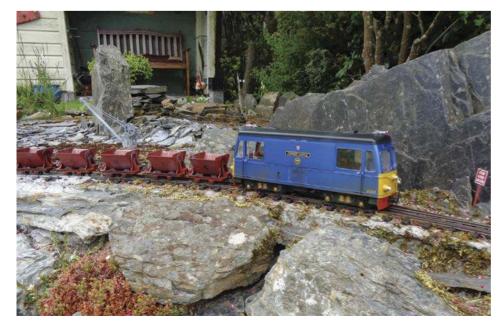


Swift Sixteen

10 Waun Road, St Dials, Cwmbran, Gwent, NP44 7JN www.swiftsixteen.co.uk

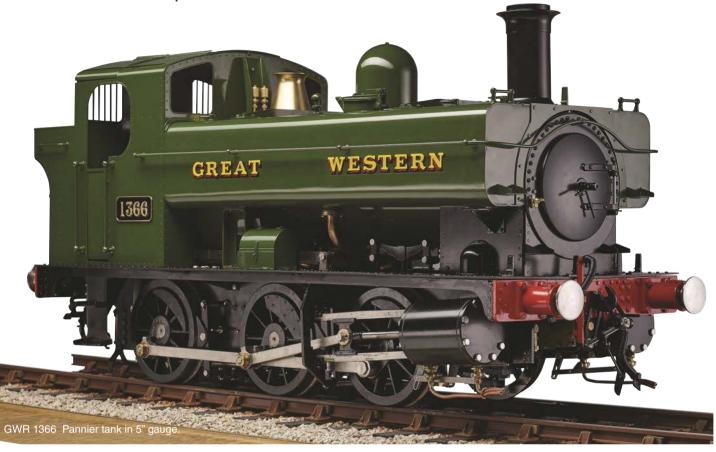
Please mention **Garden Rail** when contacting suppliers.

Working in the quarry to reduce the spoil heap hauling Tri-ang skip wagons and definitely looking more Crompton than railcar with its yellow warning panel and a dodgy shade of BR Blue!



Scale Kings Maybe?

Mark Thatcher drops in on Silver Crest Models to check out their latest releases.



have known of Silver Crest Models since they launched in 2010. In L that time their range has grown from a Gauge 3 Britannia locomotive to many other models now embracing Gauge 3, 3 ½", 5" and 7 ¼" gauges. I am fortunate enough to own the very first Gauge 3 Britannia they produced (although purchased second hand), plus their class 14XX models in both Gauge

3 and 5" gauge, both of which sport the GWR livery. So, yes, I was already a convert and when Jon Spalding, their MD, offered me a guided tour of his set-up I took him up on this generous offer.

When Jon launched Silver Crest Models, he had many irons in the fire and ideas for this new venture. He had even created a 1/6th scale prototype

model of a Tiger tank! But as the company established itself, it was clear that the main driving force was going to be the production of reasonably-priced high quality live steam engines.

Of course 70000 'Britannia' was the obvious choice to launch the 'Kingscale' range of models. The BR Standard Class 7, as it was also known, was designed by Robert Riddles for use by British Railways for mixed traffic duties. Fiftyfive were constructed between 1951 and 1954. These were built at Crewe Works, before the publication of the 1955 Modernisation Plan which mooted the move to diesel motive power and the electrification of some main lines.

The first batch of these Britannia models sold out very quickly. Much of the success of this was down to the solid partnership that Jon formed with expert model engineer, Mike Pavie. Mike is well-known and highly respected in model engineering circles and his bespoke steam models are legendary and command a tidy sum indeed.

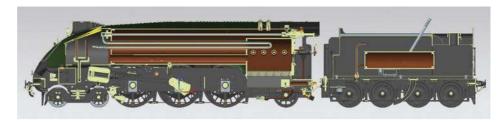
However, Jon approached his own

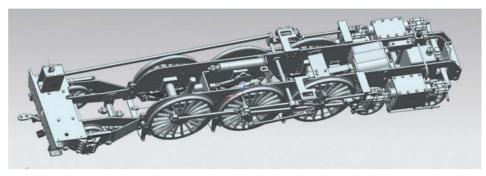


Hot off the press, the first pictures of the new LNER A4 Gresley Pacific in Gauge 3 with three cylinders and correct conjugating gear.

engineering challenge with a new focus. Rather than producing bespoke models, Jon intended to put Mike's engineering prowess and design skills to use but then produce the models in limited batch runs. These models would be inevitably made in China. This process not only means that each model has had Mike's input, but they are now more affordable too. For instance, Kingscale's Gauge 3 14XX 0-6-0 locomotive retails for a modest £2495.00. This is pretty good value when compared with the price of 16mm RTR locos from the Roundhouse and Accucraft stables, and a great starter loco for the Gauge 3 modeller into the bargain.

It is not as straight forward to





replicate this class 14XX in other scales, as drawings and parts do not naturally scale up, but Kingscale have done just that and this model is available in 5"

and 7 1/4" gauges for £4,995 and £9,995 respectively.

And, as if there is not enough variety there, the company has also moved to 3 1/2" gauge and produced a most delightful model of 'Duchess' class mainline loco, named 'The Duchess of Hamilton'. This is a four cylinder coal-fired model with a silver-soldered copper boiler. For those with a penchant for the larger scales, then there is a class 45XX and a Standard 4 class in the 5" range to tempt you also. And if you want a seriously big boy's toy then you can hop up to 7 1/4" and grab the 14XX or their 'Evening Star' in 5" gauge – a very imposing model.

I have personally worked with Chinese factories in the past, and it is fair to say they have had mixed reviews. But certainly over the last decade, quality has dramatically improved. There were a few small teething problems with the first batch of 'Brits', but these were soon resolved, and certainly today, all the models coming from this manufacturer are first rate. My own models have performed flawlessly and the only issue I had was with the washers perishing on the manual water pump in the tender and on the steam whistle on my Britannia. In any case, when each model hits the shores of the UK, they are personally inspected and tested by Mike Pavie before they are sent to the customer.

So, are they worth the money and who buys them? Certainly if you visit one of the many model engineering clubs' track days or a Gauge 3 Society's open day, there is a high chance that you will see a Kingscale product on the track.





MANUFACTURER

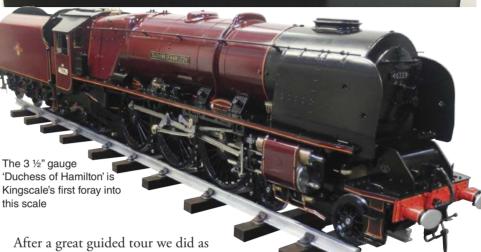
Initially there may have been a view taken by some of the more dyed-inthe-wool model engineers that if it is not hand-built then it is chequebook modelling, but the truth of the matter is that not all of us (me included) have the sufficient time, skills or equipment to build one of these models. Some engineer-built models can take decades, so this range allows folk who want to get up and running quickly to do so.

When I mentioned this to Jon he replied that he has actually sold models to those very model engineers, who have a long-term project on the bench, but wanted something to steam in the meantime. I personally see no stigma to buying RTR off the shelf. After all, coming up from live steam in 16mm there are lots of companies who sell RTR models without any complaints.

The other thing to consider is, to equip a workshop with lathes, presses and pillar drills will see you forking out a considerable amount of cash and unless you have amazing boilermaking skills, you will probably end up spending between four and six grand for a 5" boiler, for example. So taking all that into account, then yes, I think they are good value, if, albeit, a considered purchase. I am also sure however that many of these fine models do end up under glass as shelf queens too. Nothing wrong in that.

I could not comment on these as investment pieces, but Silver Crest do offer a buy-back service on certain selected models (usually the first 10 or so of each batch), provided they have not been steamed, and the second hand page on their website shows some models that are available due to customers moving up to a larger scale. So there clearly is a buoyant market that Kingscale are reaching.





all good folk do and repaired to the hostelry. This is often where a pint loosens lips and I did indeed get my scoop of the day from Jon. The next model not yet announced until now is an LNER A4 in Gauge 3 no less! This looks like being a super engine and a sneak preview picture has been included

in this article. Remember you read it here first in Garden Rail!

So what's next on my shopping list? Well they have a Gauge 3 coal-fired Britannia for sale and I have always wanted to learn to coal-fire a model... ahem.



The 3 ½" Gauge Britannia prototype

Garden Rail Resource

GardenRail Resource

Silver Crest Models Limited Bragborough Hall Business Centre, Welton Road, Braunston, Northamptonshire, NN11 7JG. www.kingscalelivesteam.co.uk

Please mention **Garden Rail** when contacting suppliers.

From the Works

Trade information on new products for the garden railway modeller... If you are a trader with any new product, then contact phil.parker@warnersgroup.co.uk Please mention Garden Rail when contacting suppliers

RESURGAM ROLLING STOCK

1:19 South African Railways 'NG-Y-1 **Ballast Hopper Wagon**

These magnificent vehicles were originally constructed for the project to upgrade the Avontuur Branch and were considered a miniaturised version of their 3ft 6in Gauge equivalent.

Two batches were built by Hudson (SA), the first in 1968 and the second in 1976, and featured variable side discharge doors and were braked on both bogies. Whilst they were often seen in large block trains behind double headed 'NG15s', they were marshalled into smaller rakes as required, sometimes being cut into other regular services for operational convenience.

Many of these eminently useful vehicles have survived, with some having made their way to the UK, being found on the Ffestiniog & Welsh Highland, Lynton and Barnstable and Vale of Rheidol Railways.

The new kit is highly detailed and features Resurgam

The new kit is highly detailed and features Resurgam's proven 'hidden slot and tab' construction. This is complimented by a number of 3D printed parts, for the internal hopper bays and the various vacuum brake components, making for simple and easy construction; the vacuum pipe stands are also included in this kit. Whilst ideal for those modelling SAR or

one of the preserved lines

mentioned, they would look at home on all but the very smallest of freelance operations. It will be available to view on the Resurgam Rolling Stock stand, at the Exeter Garden Railway Show on the 26th of October. • Laser Cut MDF or Plywood producing a suitable set of decals.

NG-Y-

2023

• Hidden Slot and Tab Construction with 3D printed parts for easy accurate construction

• Available for 32 or 45mm Gauge (Please State When Ordering)

Requires wheels, bearings, couplings and decals to complete. Endon Valley Custom Decals will be

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Resurgam Rolling Stock

www.facebook.com/ResurgamRollingStock E-mail: davidlwilliams42@btinternet.com

BACHMANN USA

G scale 'Eggliners'

For 2020, Bachmann have announced two new paint schemes for their Eggliner Motive Power line. For those not familiar with these models, an Eggliner is a self-powered car that runs on DC track. It has a can motor with all-wheel drive and knuckle couplers.

There is a polarity selector switch so you can choose NMRA Standard or Large Scale polarity.

The Police (Item No. 96286) and Fire Rescue (Item No. 96287) Eggliners will also feature flashing roof lights along with operating headlights and marker lights. They should be arriving late 2019.

MSRP of \$249.00

Bachmann USA

1400 East Erie Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19124, USA www.bachmanntrains.com



PAUL FLETCHER

Vinyl lining

Paul is able to supply custom vinyls for the Mamod steam tram and the Roundhouse Clarence. These vinyls are computer designed and self adhesive as used on full size traction units

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Mamod - £16 a set

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Other sets can be custom made at similar prices on request, just send him an e-mail.

Paul Fletcher

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Price: £8

S & B Models

www.ebaystores.co.uk/S-and-B-Models



JAMES HILTON CUSTOM MODEL RAILWAYS

Hudson Hunslet 24hp in 16mm

After the success of his run of 7/8ths scale Hudson Hunslets James Hilton has now announced plans for a 16mm model to be produced in 2020, the slightly later design 24hp Hudson Hunslet.

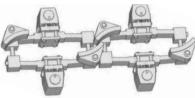
James specialises in designing custom models using CAD, laser cut and 3D printed plastics and etched metal combined with traditional model making and scratchbuilding techniques.

These models will be handmade at his workshop in North Wales and will feature 32mm gauge Slaters wheels of the correct size and pattern, compact gear-head motor and Delrin chain drive to both axles, like the prototype.

Control will be by a Deltang based radio control system with both receiver

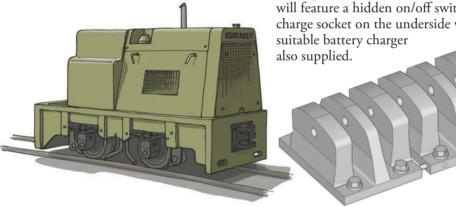


and transmitter supplied and bonded. Power will be from an onboard rechargeable battery and the model will feature a hidden on/off switch and charge socket on the underside with a



The batch in 2020 will be strictly limited, each model is anticipated to cost £750, but a firm price will be provided to all customers once their individual specification is made.

Expressions of interest can be made to: enquiries@jameshilton-cmr.co.uk James Hilton Custom Model Railways www.jameshilton-cmr.co.uk





layers of LifeColor acrylic paint to adhere to a surface.

LifeColor are water soluble acrylic colours for modelling and hobby. LifeColor is excellent for paint brushing or airbrushing on plastic, resin, metal, vinyl, wood, cloth and ceramic.

This set includes (6 x 22ml):

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- BC03 Primer Olive Drab
- BC04 Primer Tank Interior
- BC05 Primer Burned Base
- BC06 Primer Panzer Yellow

Price: £22.50 per set. £3.70 per 22ml pot.

The Airbrush Company Ltd

79 Marlborough Road (East), Lancing Business Park, Lancing, West Sussex **BN15 8UF** www.airbrushes.com

PRODUCT NEWS

BOWATERS MODELS

16mm rolling stock kits

New from Bowaters: BMB-106 Bowaters Paper Railway 20 Ton Coal Wagon BME-007 Bowaters Paper Railway Hudson Hunslet 'Victor' BMH-011 Welsh Highland Railway Observation Coach 'Glaslyn'

These are scale kits coming complete with bogies in the gauge of your choice

(32mm or 45mm) and Accucraft couplings where appropriate.

All kits include postage to mainland UK only with shipping to other countries being at cost.

Please note, these are sold as advanced scratch aids and will require some details to complete them although they are designed to be run as is for those who wish to do so.

The images shown are of the first prototypes and as such do feature errors that have since been corrected.

The models are available now except for Glaslyn which will be available at Exeter.

Prices: Glaslyn £130 Victor £160 Coal Wagon £55

Bowaters Models

www.bowatersmodels.co.uk







GARDEN RAILWAYS LIMITED

Regner in-line filter for water or gas This inline filter has been developed by Regner for their servo controlled water pump and their steam powered water pump and protects the pump from impurities in the water.

Regner have found they are having to service these pumps quite often and the cause of failure is water quality, so fitting one of these before the pump will ensure the pump is kept clean.



The filter can also be used in a gas line keeping the gas jet clear. The filter bowl unscrews to replace the filter core. These are the same filters available for hand rolled cigarettes and there are four included in the pack. Thread size M5x0.5 the filter is 33mm long and 23mm deep.

Regner WGL-Filter 20222 Price: £22.00

Garden Railways Limited

3 Plaw Hatch Close, Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire, CM23 5BL www.gardenrailways.co.uk



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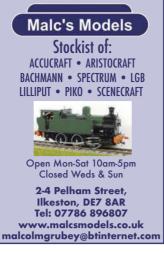
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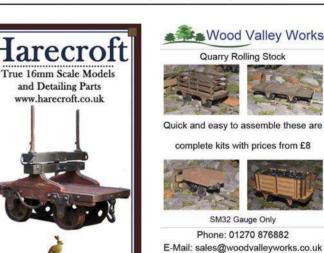


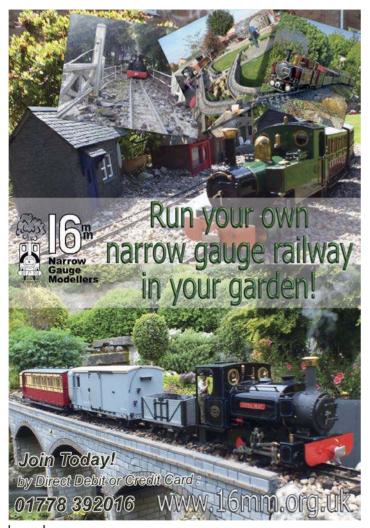














Website: www.woodvalleyworks.co.uk



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MODELS

Timpdon Coaches



For the ones not familiar with our coach range, they're available as a kit or as a finished ready to run model - which are proving very popular.

It's now becoming quite common for people to reorder more stock, telling me (and hopefully others within earshot) how pleased they've been with their purchase. In fact over the years we've only had one complaint - that they were too cheap! (I offered to rectify this for just that one customer, but he immediately withdrew his comment).

They are available as a tiny one compartment, right up to the four compartment bogie version. A Parcel Van, Guard's Van and Composite Coach compliment the passenger coaches perfectly so you can make a train to suit your line.

Of course they all have real glass (even in the little windows of the guard's duckets) and the hardwearing nylon wheels make for smooth running.

Kit: Not too hard to make, with easy to follow illustrated instructions. Everything's included.

Pre-Made: Available in either maroon or green.



Visit the website to see the full range and click on the pictures for a clearer view. Be warned though, my photography skills are pathetic and the colours really do match across the range - just not in the pictures.

and more at: www.timpdonmodels.co.uk

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Letters are welcomed on any aspect of large scale railway modelling. Please e-mail the Editor: phil.parker@warnersgroup.co.uk or post to The Editor, Garden Rail Magazine, Warners Group Publications, West Street, Bourne, Lincolnshire, PE10 9PH

RAILCARS

Referring to your "View from the End of the Platform" column in this month's Garden Rail. I enclose a photograph of my model of the NATS Wickham railcar used on the Isle of Man. Completed in June last year, it was scaled from photographs

obtained from the Internet.

Having a small garden layout, 14' x 5' 3", I am restricted to small rolling stock. I had intended to model the IOM "Cabbage" but decided that with only a couple of suitable bogie coaches it would be too large for my layout.

Having just completed a motor coach, I find that this struggles on my layout's

two foot radius curves. I hope that it will run better at a friend's get together on his good sized garden railway next weekend.

Neil Helsby

Editor: I knew that NATS railcar would make a nice model!





A LOW COST SIGNAL BOX

I could not find a suitable signal box kit at GRS and can not afford a Brunel Models version.

Looking through my old bound volumes of Model Railway News, I

located a suitable set of drawings which I scaled up to 1:32 for Gauge 1.

All of the wood and ply was from offcuts in the spares box and the doors and windows came from a Postman Pat coach.

The steps came from another model passed on from the grandchildren.

Railings are made up from cooking sticks from Waitrose.

So the only cost to date has been the ivory spray paint from the local art and craft shop.

Painting to be completed later, and I hope to locate suitable brick and tile paper next time we see a dolls house shop.

John Perkin

Editor: Windows from a Postman Pat coach, railings from cooking sticks – I never cease to be amazed by ingenuity of Garden Rail readers.





DIARY DATES

Date: 28th Sept

Event: The Yorkshire Garden Railway Show

Venue: Elsecar Heritage Centre, Wath Rd, Elsecar, Barnsley

Organiser: The Yorkshire Group of 16mm Narrow Gauge

Modellers Ltd

Date: 12th October

Event: GIMRA Trade Show and AGM

Venue: Statfold Barn Railway, Ashby Road, Tamworth,

Staffordshire. B79 0BU

Organiser: The Gauge One Model Railway Association

Web: www.glmra.com

Date: 17-20 October 2019

Event: Midlands Model Engineering Exhibition

Venue: Warwickshire Event Centre, A425, Southam Road,

Leamington Spa, CV31 1XN

Organiser: Meridienne Exhibitions Ltd Web: www.meridienneexhibitions.co.uk

Times: 10am – 5pm (Thurs-Sat) 10am-4pm (Sun)

Admission: Adult £10.50 Senior £9.50 Child £4.00 (on-line

booking discount available)

Exhibitors: See website for full details Additional info: Free parking, refreshments Date: 26 October 2019

Event: Exeter Garden Railway Show

Venue: The Matford Centre, Matford Park Road, Marsh

Barton Ind Estate, Exeter, EX2 8FD

Organiser: South Devon Garden Railway Group Limited

Web: www.exetergardenrailwayshow.com

Times: 10:30am – 4:30pm

Admission: Adult £7 Concessions £6 Child free

Exhibitors: 25 layouts and 40 trade stands. See website for

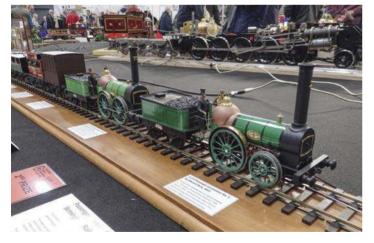
Additional info: Being all on one level the venue is wheel chair friendly and there is an excellent restaurant on site.

SUBMISSION NOTES

Garden Rail welcomes articles submitted via posted disc, e-mail, Dropbox (or other large file sending system on-line). Please ensure that your name, e-mail address, telephone number and postal address for payment on publication are included. Send to phil.parker@warnersgroup.co.uk or to the contact address on

Articles should be submitted in MS Word or other word processing format. Please do not use fancy formatting or embed photos in the piece, these should be sent separately at the highest resolution possible and in JPEG format. Printed photos of a historic nature will be accepted. Captions for all photos should be included as part of the submission. You must own copyright to any material submitted.

Preview: Midlands Model **Engineering Exhibition**





The MMEE is established as one of the leading model engineering exhibitions and the second longest running show of its kind in the UK. At four days in duration it is a comprehensive and full exhibition for everyone to enjoy.

Over 45 of the leading suppliers to the Model Engineering world will be present. The exhibition showcases hundreds off models from nearly 40 societies and clubs.

There are also a wide range of outside attractions to see, like the well regarded 5" gauge outdoor track, operated by the Coventry Society of Model Engineers and the Polly Owners Group. The magnificent Fosse Way Steamers will also return with a varied display of model traction engines. There will be also be a full programme of demonstrations and lectures focusing on foundry work, gear cutting, 3D

printing, 3D modelling and an EDM machine to name a few topics - full details will be published in September on the event website.

The exhibition remains focussed on the core model engineer modellers who have a real passion for what they do - whether they be new to the hobby or experienced and acknowledged modellers.

For more details, see: www. midlandsmodelengineering.co.uk





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O Gauge Class A3 & A4 Locomotives



Hatton's has teamed up with Heljan to produce O Gauge models of the Gresley Class A3 & A4 locomotives as well as accompanying Gresley Teak coaches in a variety of liveries.

We have been working in conjunction with the National Railway Museum to ensure that these iconic locomotives are brought to life in O Gauge so people can have a piece of the National Collection in their own home.



Each locomotive will measure around 50cm in length and weigh in excess of 2kg.

Variations available to order

Class A3 4-6-2 - £750

H7-A3-001 2750 "Papyrus" in LNER Grass green

H7-A3-002 4472 "Flying Scotsman" in LNER Grass green

H7-A3-003 2745 "Captain Cuttle" in LNER black

H7-A3-004 60072 "Sunstar" in BR Express blue

H7-A3-005 60035 "Windsor Lad" in BR green with early crest

H7-A3-006 60077 "The White Knight" in BR green with late crest

H7-A3-007 60103 "Flying Scotsman" in BR green with late crest



Class A4 4-6-2 - £750

H7-A4-001 2509 "Silver Link" in LNER silver

H7-A4-002 4468 "Mallard" in LNER Garter blue - Record Breaking condition

H7-A4-003 4468 "Mallard" in LNER Garter blue - As Preserved

H7-A4-004 4489 "Dominion of Canada" in LNER Garter blue

H7-A4-005 4464 "Bittern" in LNER Garter blue

H7-A4-006 60007 "Sir Nigel Gresley" in BR express blue

H7-A4-007 60012 "Commonwealth of Australia" in BR green with early crest

H7-A4-008 60009 "Union of South Africa" in BR green with late crest

H7-A4-009 60008 "Dwight D Eisenhower" in BR green with late crest



For more information check out our website at: www.hattons.co.uk/recordbreakers



been left turned on and I hadn't used it for months. No surprise then that the batteries were completely flat and nothing happened when I tried the loco.

What really worried me was connecting up my "smart charger" and finding it wouldn't recharge the batteries. Phrases like 'deep discharge', and 'unrecoverable power pack' rattled through my head. However, it seemed worthwhile to have a go at resurrecting the Nickel Metal Hydride batteries, and the following is the straightforward tale of what I did it.

To start with the battery wagon switch was set for "charging", with a spare charging plug in the wagon socket and a voltmeter used to carefully measure the battery pack voltage. When doing this measurement care had to be taken to ensure the voltmeter probes didn't short circuit the batteries. I got a reading of 0.3 volts from a pack that should have been giving around 14

Now, I knew my smart charger was capable of charging different numbers of batteries. In my simplistic way, I reasoned it must measure the

pack, and perhaps the current it's supplying, to work out how to fully re-charge the pack.

Therefore, again simplistically, if I'd connected the charger to a pack with an output voltage of 0.3 volts it wouldn't bother to try to re- charge it.

I decided to use an old, simple, power supply to try to get some charge into my dead battery pack. With any luck I would then be able to use my smart charger to complete the recharging

Not wanting to damage either of my chargers, I cut one wire of my charging lead and inserted an ammeter which allowed me to monitor the charging current that, according to the writing on the back of my smart charger, should be up to 500mA.

The old charger allowed me to select 2, 5, 8, 12, or 15 volts. I started with 2 volts and worked my way up through the stages. At each stage the charging current rose initially (but never above 500mA) and then after a few minutes fell away. When I'd finished I replugged in my spare charging plug and

The battery tow vehicle with test plug inserted (Photo: Brenda Waters)

used the voltmeter to confirm I was now getting volts from the battery pack.

Finally came the big moment: trying the smart charger. To my relief I got the normal light sequence from the charger light (flashing reds and greens followed by a steady red that confirmed charging was taking place).

After a few hours the green "fully charged" light came on; however, I thought it wise to let the pack rest for a bit and then re-connected the smart charger. It took a couple of hours for the charge light to turn green, so I repeated the process one more time.

I'm happy to report that our battery electric Double Fairlie has now done numerous laps of our track.

Quite "smart" really, except that it wasn't really "smart" to leave the truck turned on in the first place!



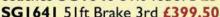
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CMD1895 SR (ex LSWR) Brake Van £140.43





This range represents a snapshot of our current Gauge 3 stock, new models are always in preparation, old ones are often improved and reintroduced, please check our website for the latest developments







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NEW! Cavan & Leitrim 4-4-0T Kathleen or Lady Edith, available in lined C&L Green GSR Grey or Satin Black versions, 45mm gauge only Man £1950, R/C £2250, 2020 or later





NEW! Talyllyn 0-4-2ST Due Early 2020 or later, estimated price £1650, 32 or 45mm gauge, available in TR Green, Indian Red or Black



NEW! Lawley Beira/SAR 4-4-0 tender, due late 2020 or later, estimated price £2950. available in Beira Green, SAR Green and SAR Black



In Stock. 7/8ths Bagnall 0-4-0 ST Man. £1250, R/C £1550



In Stock Exe, Taw or Yeo electric only, £1550



In Stock IOM Mona 2-4-0T, Ailsa Green only. Electric £1325 (4 weeks delivery)

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Talgarth 0-4-0T Booking Now Delivery expected 3nd Quarter 2019 or later.



Sabrina 0-4-0ST Booking Now - Delivery expected 3rd Quarter 2019 or later

Talgarth and Sabrina new prices - Manual Control: £1050 Radio Control: £1350 for preorders only, if ordered when in stock Man. £1095, R/C £1395. (Note: Blue not available on production locos).

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All Roundhouse Diesel locomotives are now built to order with approx. 11 weeks delivery



NEW! Hercules 0-4-0D Radio control £550



Little John 0-4-0D R/C Battery electric, £602 Merseysider R/C £755, with sound £875

Harlech Castle 0-6-0D R/C Battery electric £919, with sound £1055, FR yellow band additional £40

Darjeeling NDM6, 0-4-0D, R/C battery electric £1252, sound £1355

Bulldog 0-4-0D R/C Battery electric £634

Roundhouse Live Steam **Booking Now**



Darjeeling Garratt with 2.4GHz R/C, Nov 2019, £3875



Silver Lady 0-6-0T Mar 2020 Manual £1700, R/C £1915



Katie 0-4-0ST April 2020 Manual £1345. R/C £1585



Fowler 0-6-2 tender, Apr 2020 Manual £1625, R/C £1850



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L&B Bogie brake van in Light Grey Data Only, in stock....£85



Brown, in stock.....£80



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L&B Box vans, SR brown, L&E grey, SR brown data only, £60



W&L Brake Vans, W&L grey livery, light or GW Grey data only.... £75

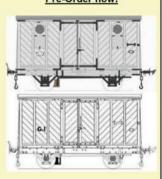


L&B coaches, 2 types in



IN STOCK! L&B 'Howard' van, Aug 2019, or later, SR Brown 4 numbers, L&B Grey data only..£100

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G-45 48" radius points L&R.	£66.14
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