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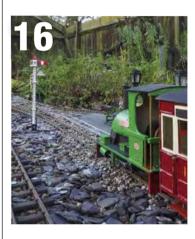
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Next Month: If you've got to the lighthouse you've gone too far. We take a trip to the northern end of the Isle of Man to visit the Lighthouse Gorsebank and Bride Railway built by Ian Beech.



VIEW FROM THE END OF THE PLATFORM



Meeting your maker

couple of months ago, I had the chance to take a tour around Mamod's factory in the West Midlands.

It was absolutely fascinating.

The models we see on the shelf are wrangled from stocks of materials by a team who have all been with the firm at least ten years, several for considerably

Nearly all the operations are carried out in-house, using a mix of ancient and modern machinery. A BSA automatic feed lathe from 1927 sits next to a cutting edge multi-tool CNC machine. All this equipment allows the firm to design and produce new models, something we've been seeing over the last few years. They can also provide spares for old ones, so if there is a Mamod steam engine sitting on a shelf, you can restore it.

If you believe we don't manufacture anything in the UK, a visit to this corner of Smethwick proves otherwise. I'm in the process of arranging a longer trip for a feature in Garden Rail, so watch this space.

In the meantime, Andrew Charman, editor of our sister magazines Narrow Gauge World and Engineering in Miniature, has been to Barrett Engineering to see how they developed and now produce, an extensive range of Gauge 1 locomotive kits.

As someone with very limited engineering skills, the idea of starting with bits of metal and creating a loco from scratch is little more than a dream. I simply don't have the time to develop the skills, nor the money to buy in the equipment to use them.

However, I can wield a screwdriver and spanner. Soldering doesn't scare me either so I can see a Barratt kit would be within my capabilities. Producing a kit that someone like me could confidently tackle though, isn't an easy job. Someone has to do an awful lot of thinking and designing before any metal goes in the post.

We're talking here about only two of the many suppliers for our



A tray of Mamod rolled boilers awaiting the next stage of the process that will turn them in to pressure vessels.

hobby. I could ramble on about a trip to those helpful chaps at Roundhouse who showed me around their factory, or any of the other suppliers, but that is for another day. What I can remind you is that as Mick Blowfield explains, we should all be making tracks to Peterborough shortly to chat, look at inspirational models and flex the credit card at the National Garden Railway show.

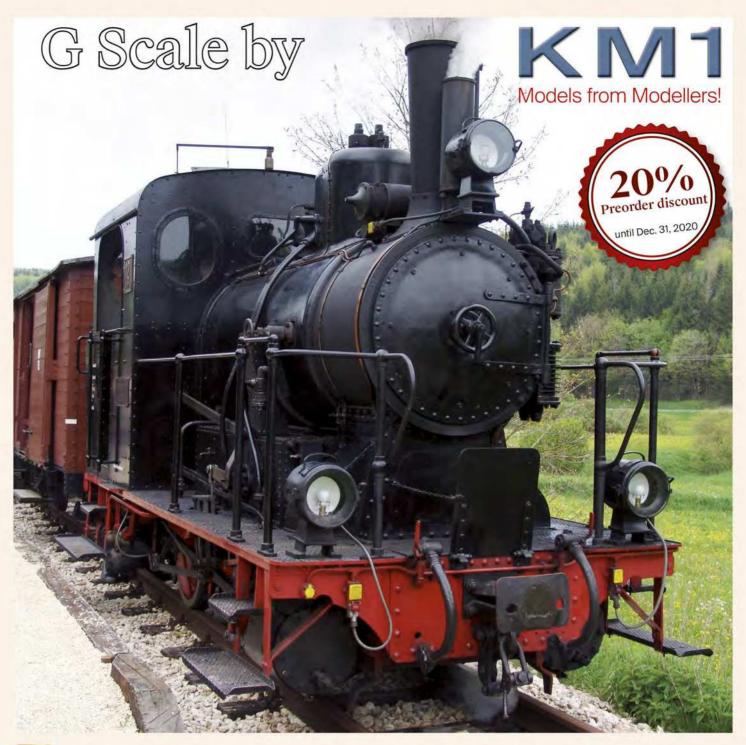
While there, you'll be needing something to carry all your purchases around in, and fresh from the catwalk at all the latest haute couture fashion

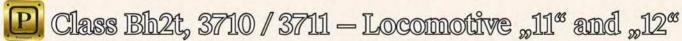


shows, we have the new, super-strong, ultra-stylish Garden Rail bags. Grab them quick as when people spot these, they are sure to sell out fast!

I'll be on our stand with (hopefully) another garden railway built in a day. Look for the one slumped in a corner looking tired and covered in compost. With a bit of luck, a feature of the display will be models from GR regulars Dave Skertchly and Mark Thatcher. A chance to enjoy a closer look at some of the things you've seen featured on these pages. Now, where is my box of plastic track...







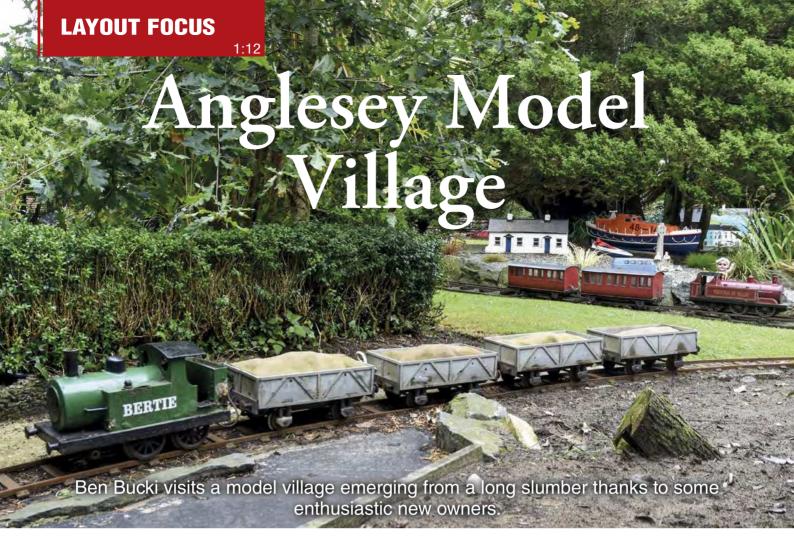
Original: The locomotives 3710 and 3711 were built in the year 1913 by the "Maschienenfabrik Esslingen". They were originally designed for the famous "Haertsfeldbahn", that was part of the South German Railways. It connected the Royal Wuerttemberg Railways with the Royal Bavarian Railways on a 1 meter narrow gauge track, routed between Aalen and Dillingen. These steam engines are today still operated by the Railway Museum of "Haertsfeldbahn", which is located in a picturesque area, starting from the Neresheim Abbey. The locomotives were in service until 1964. They managed the route with a maximum slope of 3% and were equiped with a Heusinger valve gear and superheaters. You can still experience a run under steam with "Locomotive 12" today. (www.hmb-ev.de)

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y introduction to model villages was a childhood visit to the example at Himley, in the West Midlands, during the early 90's. This attraction was built well after the 'golden age' of such miniature utopias had been and gone, and it followed the depressing pattern that many of these attractions endured; it opened to much local fanfare in the 1980's, struggled to attract visitors, closed down, and sat abandoned. It ended its days derelict and overgrown, until the early 2000's when it was cleared and bulldozed.

The reason I mention that is because, past the top left-hand corner of Wales so beloved by railway enthusiasts like myself, is another model village. This one, on the island of Anglesey, followed a similar pattern to Himley, albeit it apparently attracted a steadier stream of visitors whilst it was operating. But, whereas Himley was flattened apart from a few salvaged buildings, happily the Anglesey Model Village was saved in its entirety, has recently reopened, and is being progressively restored.

HISTORY

The Anglesey Model Village was opened in 1992, the creation of Jim Lympany and his wife Anne, and comprised from the outset buildings based on local landmarks. The carefully landscaped grounds nicely showed off the structures, and whilst the village was at the smaller size of attractions compared to, say, Bekonscot or Babbacombe, it was, and remains, a very uniform place. Built to the scale of 1/12th, the structures were made to a high quality with a good eye for detail and an impressive consistency.

The Model Village did well on the island, perhaps surprisingly so, given

its relative isolation. But, when the original owners looked to retire in 2014, they tried to sell it as a going concern, unsuccessfully, and it closed and lay abandoned for some years.

As Himley had before, it took on the appearance of a miniature "Day of the Triffids", however the structures had been built to last and when the

A typical scene in the model village; the buildings are well-spaced out in the attractive grounds.









Above: The goods train, hauled by "Bertie", makes another circuit of the line. beside the slightly higher-level inner passenger circuit.

new owners Nick Bowler and Larry Chambers took over with a new team, they were able to get stuck into refurbishing the place.

THE RAILWAY

Like all the best model villages, Anglesey features a railway winding its way around the grounds as a means of getting movement into an otherwise pleasant but static scene. I've always thought that the railways in model villages, and maybe the whole attractions themselves, appeal to the nostalgic part of a modeller's mind, that remembers an old childhood train set with a brightly-coloured tank loco racing around the carpet, Indeed this line at Anglesey evokes some of the atmosphere of old tinplate model locomotives trundling about.



Top: Bertie brings the goods train through the flowerbeds, on the approach to the station.

Above: Waterway, complete with abandoned shopping trolley.

Oddly enough the week before we visited Anglesey we'd done Bekonscot, the daddy of all model villages, thanks mainly to the article in Garden Rail in early 2019. Their railway is justly famous for its impressive mainline atmosphere, computer-control, and long trains of Mk.1's weaving through the place.

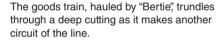
But, there is some inconsistency in the appearance, understandable of course given when it was built, with the railway being Gauge One, and the village being to a rather larger scale. Other model villages do the same; the use of more commercially available Gauge One trains, and of course G Scale, often leads to some strange sights where a bucolic English village has a still often underscale - LGB Stainz and

The goods train, hauled by Bertie, pauses at the station, a good representation of Llanfair P.G.

LAYOUT FOCUS

One of the local landmarks represented in the model village, the Marquess of Anglesey's Column. The real column, visible from the Britannia Bridge onto the island from the mainland, was built to commemorate the service of Henry William Paget at the battle of Waterloo (his country estate is on the island, Plas Newyd).





continental carriages rattling past. If there is a British-outline train anywhere, it will probably be a Bachmann Thomas the Tank Engine.

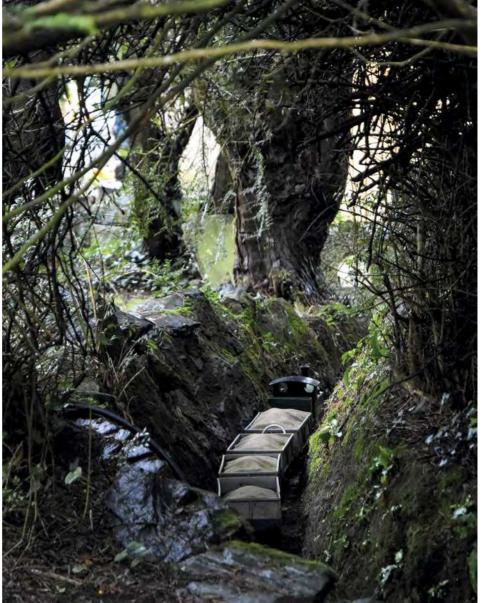
At Anglesey though, the same creativity which was applied to the buildings was applied to the railway, with the trains scratch-built in scale to

the structures. And the atmosphere too is different to other model villages, with a simple pair of trains to amble slowly around the independent circuits. It's all decidedly more bucolic; Ivor the Engine rather than the Island of Sodor perhaps.

The buildings are noticeably spreadout compared to other such attractions, with carefully manicured trees and flowerbeds, and it seems somehow very right for a tank loco and short train of four-wheelers to be pottering through

Perhaps inevitably given the emphasis on local buildings for the island, the only station on the railway is Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwllllantysiliogogogoch, whose station building is a lovely recreation of the prototypethe only thing missing was the model footbridge, which I gather had been damaged in a storm and was being fixed when we visited.

There are two 1990s-built tank locomotives, which have been the mainstays of the railway. On my visit the goods train, with the green tank loco Bertie, was making regular circuits of the longer line. The passenger train with Princess of Wales, a Jinty-esque 0-6-0, was parked up on static display rather than running; at the time of writing though this elegant loco had been restored to at least partial operation for the autumn season, and was covering all of the services whilst Bertie was away being restored.







the 0-6-0 tank loco Princess of Wales was posed on static display during my visit.

On the inner, passenger, circuit of the railway

The locomotives are freelance designs, in pleasantly chunky metal which gives them something of a vintage Hornby tinplate atmosphere. They have heavyweight motors which are recycled items (I gather they originated as car parts) and chain-drives to the axles.

Power for the motors comes via exmotorcycle batteries concealed in the wagons/carriage of the trains. These are recharged on each circuit by an ingenious device built into the station area, a magnet hidden behind a stack of suitcases on the platform. Thus held, a copper strip in the track recharges the train batteries using equipment inside the station building, until a timer, concealed in the second carriage, releases the train after four minutes.

According to Nick Bowler, one of the new owners, 'When the set up works well, it is a great way to keep the train operational all day whilst visitors are on site as no human intervention is required.' Illustrating a problem with operating a railway in area of high rainfall and salt-laden sea air, though, he continued 'we have however encountered difficulties with wet weather impairing the efficiency of the charging point, meaning that the battery recharge is only partial, which can result in the train gradually running out of power as the day progresses.'

At Anglesey the interesting trackwork keeps to the bespoke, home-made nature of the village, and interestingly both loops feature noticeably different sleeper/rail styles. There are two independent circuits which lap the village, a shorter inner loop and a longer

Bertie makes another circuit of the longer line, and passes the level crossing near the wooden caravans. The removed front wheelset, and the consequent slightly odd wheelbase, is more apparent in this shot, but it didn't impede the progress of the locomotive.

run with cuttings, a tunnel, and a nice bridge shared by the two formations over a water feature.

It is however giving the new owners of the village a bit of a headache; it's all over twenty years old, which would be a good record for a garden railway built with commercial components, but here when a rail breaks the team can hardly nip to the model shop for a bit of LGB track and maintenance is all made harder by the age of the models.

During my visit *Bertie* was running as a rather ungainly-looking 0-4-0 with the front axle missing, not that it seemed to be affecting the running. Nick said "The age of the trains is now showing; maintenance interventions are nearly on a daily basis."

He added "the plan for the trains during the first year following reopening of the model village was simply to patch them up to get them through the year, with a view to moving to an off the shelf set-up (even if that meant changing gauge to something else), in order to make maintenance more straightforward. Initial research into

this is proving that moving to an off the shelf solution is a costly exercise, hence the latest approach to rebuild the trains, whilst funds can be found and perhaps a better cost-effective approach discovered."

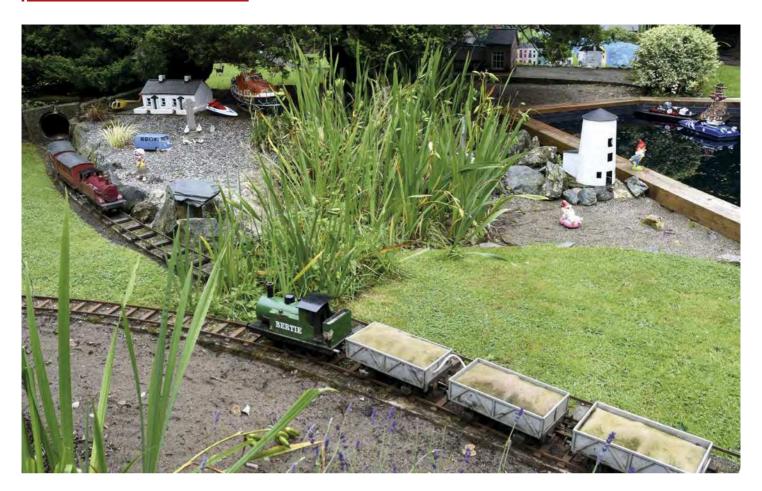
All of which is sad but understandable perhaps; I know from my own time as a DT Technician that it's hard enough to keep an old piece of kit running, harder still if there isn't a manual and the person that originally designed and built it has left. These are bespoke model trains at Anglesey, built with upcycled automotive parts which are themselves probably hard to acquire three decades on. Rebuilding and updating the electronics inside will get you so far of course, but with only two locomotives, there isn't the spare cover if something breaks, and that's before you get to having to relay home-made track.

THE WIDER MODEL VILLAGE

There's fewer buildings than many other such places I've seen or researched, but actually I thought it was nicely uncluttered and pleasantly understated; I think it's the same as with any model railways, if you don't fill every last inch of space, it looks and feels like the trains are running from somewhere to somewhere else, particularly when you take into account the trees and other scenic features here at Anglesey.

When it comes to details, it also strikes a nice balance between the likes of Bekonscot (you just can't escape





The goods train, hauled by Bertie, heads away from the pond on the long outer circuit of the railway. On the inner, passenger, circuit is the 0-6-0 Princess of Wales.

the shadow of the place when writing about model villages) where figures and vehicles are mostly specially made, and some others which are chockedfull of large toy cars of varying scales and nationalities. Given the relatively new appearance of Anglesey with the restoration of it all, a few shiny toy cars look oddly in keeping with things.

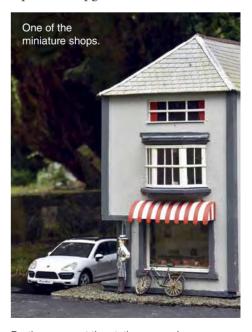
There are also a few interactive

features like radio-controlled boats, and to be honest the only things which stood out a bit were the gnomes, which were part of a trail for younger visitors to complete. Oddly enough the most theoretically outlandish item, a large red dragon, was happily in keeping with the Welsh atmosphere.

The original owners did an impressive job with the model village, and the new owners want to build on this legacy and expand the place. The initial efforts focussed, logically enough, on the visitor facilities such as the café and toilets, whose importance can sometimes be

overlooked by heritage and tourist attractions. Recognising this, the Anglesey Model Village have installed some very nice, modern facilities, and even on the overcast, drizzly day we were there, the small but well-equipped café was doing a good trade.

After having been abandoned to the elements, the model village has needed repairs and upgrades, and Nick was



Bertie pauses at the station, a good representation of Llanfair P.G. with the extralong running-in board and station name board.



Another railway item on the site, a coin-operated out-and-back miniature railway which runs along the edge of the maze.

enthusiastic about the Five Year Plan for the place. "New models have begun to appear, as well as a continuing effort to introduce more sound, movement and visitor interaction. The 21st century model village has the benefit of being able to tap in to modern technologies, e.g. microcontrollers, wireless networks and so on, enabling us to enhance the visitor experience and add a much needed level of detail to the displays."

The importance of the railway in all this is obvious, just from watching how visitors reacted as the train ambled into view, and the sound was an important factor too. A proper rumbling, clattering, rattling noise as the big metal train slowly rolls past. It would be a shame to see the original trains replaced, but I can also appreciate the problems in keeping the old models working efficiently.

I suppose that the relative isolation of the Anglesey Model Village adds to the atmosphere of the place it seems



less relentlessly commercial than some model villages. It's not completely cutoff; we popped in after a visit to the nearby Sea Zoo, and the two attractions make for a nice combined day out. It will be interesting to see the place develop, and the village itself expanded. I certainly wish it well, and plan to return the next time I'm on the island.

For their assistance in the preparation

of this article, I'd like to thank the team at the model village, particularly Nick Bowler, and also the model village historian Tim Dunn.

More information

For more details, visit the website of the Anglesey Model Village: www.angleseymodelvillage.co.uk





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24141 Field Railroad Locomotive KJF



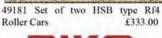
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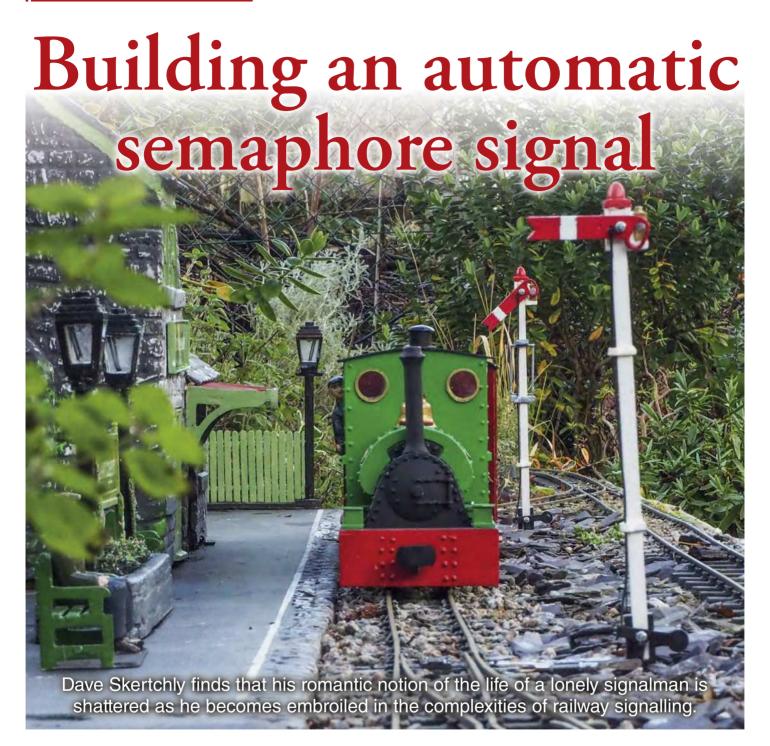
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e all have in our mind the image of the lonely signalman brewing his tea and puffing at his ciggy, patiently waiting for the next movement. I too held to this romantic notion until curiosity got the better of me. Struggling through Signalling in the Age of Steam by Michael A. Vanns, I must admit to being no wiser, except for developing a deep admiration for those with the talent, teamwork and diligence to mix express and goods trains to a tight schedule on hundreds of miles of complex main lines.

As for the narrow gauge, it all seems a bit hit and miss. Literally. An accident

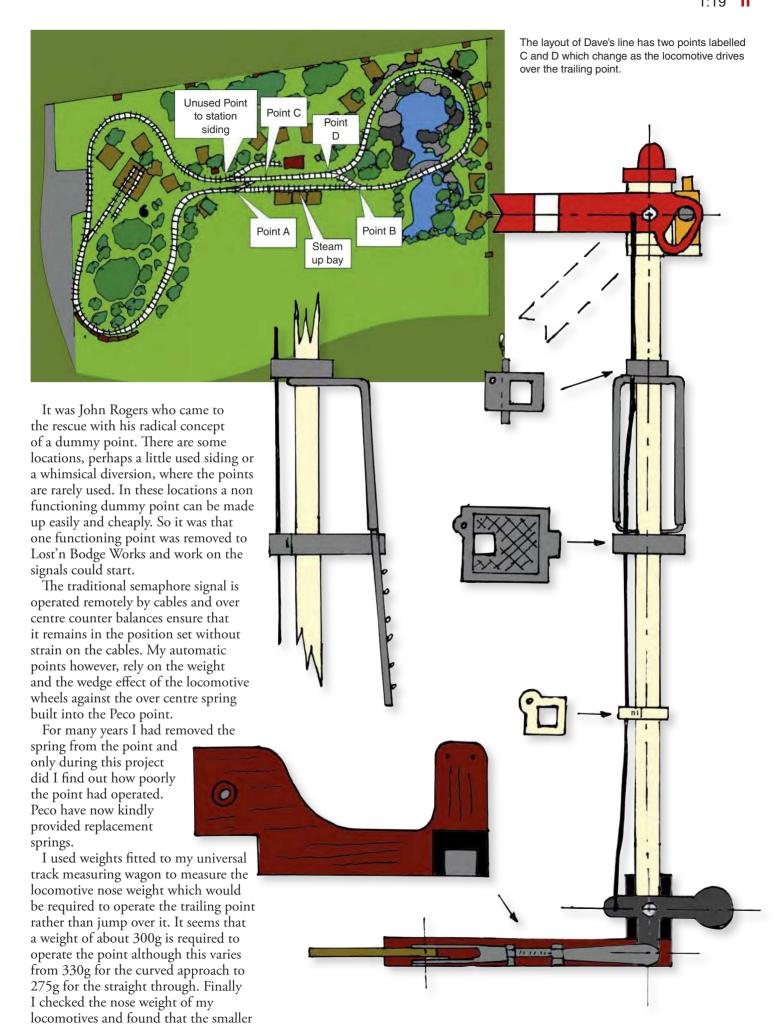
at Glan-y-Pwll Junction in 1897 highlighted the lack of operational discipline when after a head on collision, which it seems may have bent the buffer beam of a locomotive, the signalman was found to have the line tickets in his pocket and to have never even seen the line staff.

The Vale of Weedol Tramway comprises a simple dog bone and passing loop which can be converted into a circuit. With reference to the track plan, points A and B are manually operated and allow access to the steaming bay.

Points C and D are operated by the locomotive wheels and hence flip from left to right as the trains pass over causing the trains to run in alternate directions. This is not the same as automatic tram points which are biased to one direction by a spring or balance weight.

With my battery electric trains running effectively six route options, it made for pleasant running. However, as I sat on my rustic park bench outside the Sheep Shearer's Arms I could not see which route the next train would take.

To develop a point indicator signal I first needed a set of points to work with in my workshop but the asking price of over £50.00 is a substantial sum to be taken from my meagre pension.







locomotives required additional weight of between 50 and 100g.

926

0-4-0

Blake

To operate the pushrods I decided to try model aircraft quick-links which are used to connect the control surfaces to the radio control equipment. They have an M2 thread and fit to a long bolt from which the head has been

330

Curve



removed. With two lock nuts I had a kind of turnbuckle. The quick-link which interfaces with the Peco point operating rod has its pin cut off and the hole opened up to 2mm. I bought three types from Sussex Model Centre and eventually settled on the metal type.

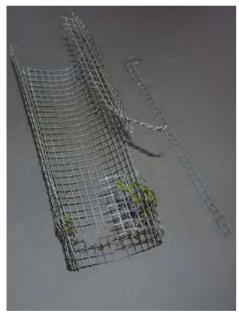
of the pushrod and bell crank.

I started the signal by building a secure base and solid interface to the Peco point. Providing clearance for the pushrod was difficult and resulted in a rather lop sided design but gradually by a process of bodging I arrived at the final design. This point is for SM32 but the same principal could be applied to any size of track, indeed a common component could be moulded with trim lines marked on the moulding for different point types.

I checked the heights and clearances between the largest locomotives and carriages before designing the

Checking the heights and clearances between the largest locomotives and carriages was essential before finalising the base and the signal pole design.





was cut from dismantling to make the a nut feeder mould. that had been wrecked by squirrels.

by squirrels. The lamp and finial were cut from ply and seem most effective.

It was obvious that the detailed signal parts would soon rot and distort. I would also need two signals and so rather than cut the parts from Plastikard, I chose to make a mould and cast them from Polyurethane resin. The wooden prototype was finished off before dismantling to make the mould. Prototype parts were fitted into a moulding box and silicone rubber tool taken using my favourite soft grade.

The set of moulded plastic parts from the mould tool are just fine.

Everything needs to be painted because the polyurethane plastic is prone to ultraviolet degradation, so they were sprayed with grey rattle can primer.

The base was painted to match the Peco track and the masthead fitting and lamp painted up in an appropriate white with details. The signal semaphore was painted in what seems to be an appropriate colour but who knows if the colour coding is correct?

The prototype signal version 1 was installed in the garden and left out in the winter rain with no ill effects but the hard steel garden wire was difficult to

form into joggles and eventually tended to buckle. Version 2 used two supports for the pushrod and I found I could use softer copper wire without removing the black plastic covering. Joggles could be easily formed at both ends and the adjustment done with the turnbuckle. The masthead details did not change between versions. The space for the joggle is however very tight.

I had noticed that semaphore signals often have a platform presumably for the lamp Lighter or maintenance technician. A platform and extra guides were made from a crude moulding



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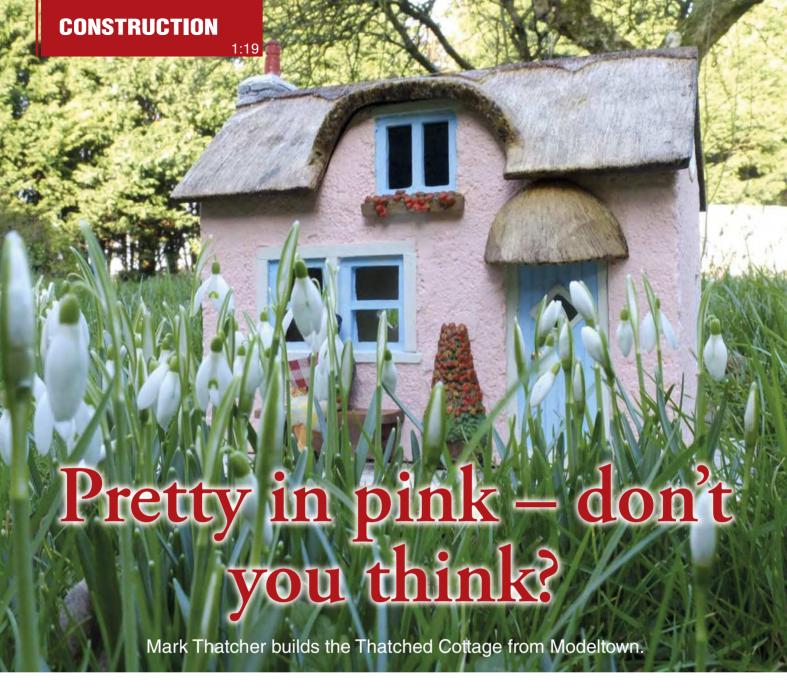




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n 2016, the quaint village of Finchingfield was voted the best place to live in the UK. I can see why, with its charming chocolate box houses set around a beautiful green.

Back in 1971, as a ten-year-old lad, I was less than impressed being dragged up there on a four-hour round bus trip from Hornchurch. A few months earlier I had taken my first long-haul flight on the newly launched Boeing 747 to New

> York, then onto Seattle, and this may have skewed my viewpoint somewhat.

New York, Seattle, Finchingfield? Hmmm

In my latter years I have a rekindled interest in these quaint old buildings as I often research them for my ramblings in this magazine. I certainly have come to be very impressed with the scale and breadth of

Coach & Wagon Work's clamps and clamping squares are pressed into action. They really do take the guesswork out of squaring up the corners of the building

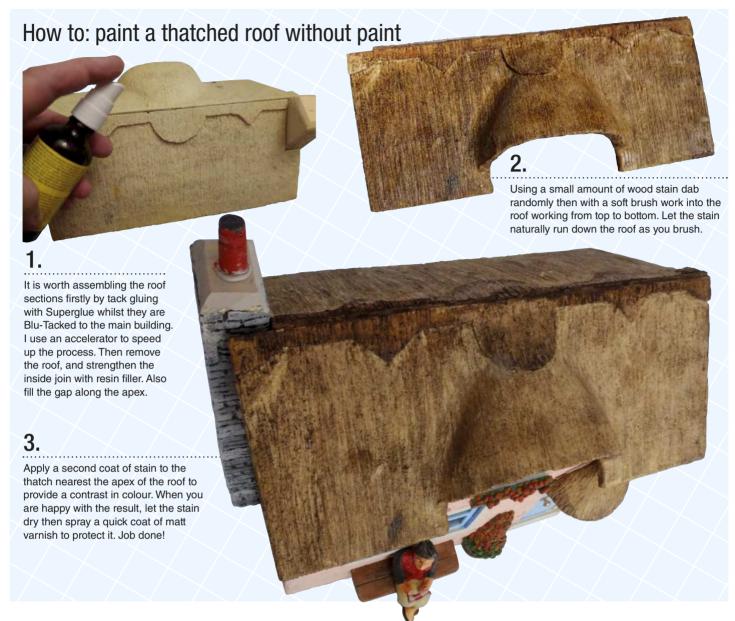
Granny must have shares in Miracle-Gro judging by the size of her snowdrops!

English architectural design over the centuries, and now Finchingfield is a far more attractive proposition for me than any location over the other side of the big pond.

YOUR VERY OWN GRANNY

A first look at this thatched cottage reminded me of the events above. Often I draw inspiration from these past experiences and they help me to add my own twist when building and painting these kits. This cottage is of course designed to be twee and cute, and in this respect the rendered finish of the walls is a step away from the more usual brick, stone or wood rendering found on other kits in Modeltown's range.

What I also noticed with this kit was I did not just get the cottage itself, but there were several other embellishments



including a separate thatched porch (located over the front door), a chimney, a cute window box to be located under the dormer window on the front elevation, a shrubbery which can be placed where you fancy, a wooden bench for your Granny to sit on, and even your very own Granny is included too. These details not only add a certain verisimilitude to the overall scene, but are easy to paint and detail as they are all separate parts.

The cottage itself can only be built one way, with the chimney (moulded into the side wall) sitting to the left of the front elevation. This, in turn, allows the thatched dormer roof to sit over the dormer window. My rather blaze attitude to modelling allowed even me to get this wrong. Never over-estimate your abilities, and I certainly ran out of talent here, if you look at the pictures you will see this initially! It was soon corrected though.

The front and rear elevations overlap the sides of the buildings. This is common practice in the Modeltown range. As usual everything fits perfectly too. However, the rendered finish did mean the joins on the corners were more visible than on a stone or brick wall. With these finishes I would use a Dremel to etch extra mortar lines into the each corner of the building, to take the eye off the join, but with this rendered finish I had to come up with a plan B.

Rather than just use Superglue to gloop the structure together, I reverted back to Isopon P38 sanding car body repair filler which is a good gap-filling adhesive.

When this was dry, I added a thin fillet of Isopon between the seam edges and used a scouring pad to add a textured stipple before the resin had fully cured, which made these joins far less visible. It is worth then blowing

over the joins with a grey primer, which will give you an indication of how well this has worked, and repeat the gapfilling process above if you need to.

THE ANGLE OF THE DANGLE

I was sent some very useful right angled clamping squares and clamps to try from Coach & Wagon Works. These are invaluable little tools as they greatly aid aligning the building corners to ensure they are set at 90 degrees. (Editor: I've a set of these kicking around my modelling board too and they are a very useful tool in all scales)

If you are using Isopon or a two-pack resin based product, you really need to get the angle of the dangle on the corners of the building right first time before the resin hardens, as even with Modeltown's generously thick resin walls, you will crack the component before you break the resin bond.

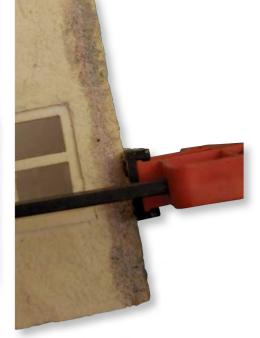
If a mistake is made, your only answer

CONSTRUCTION



The first step to disappear the corner join is to add some Isopon P38 filler to the seam.

Then scrape off the excess with a Stanley knife or similar before the resin goes off. Then just dab it firmly with an old scouring pad to create a stippled effect.



Look closely and you can see remnants of the green fibres of the scouring pad stuck to the render. That is fine as it adds texture and will be easily hidden by the top coat of paint.

is to saw them apart with a model saw. And yes, I have had to do this on a few occasions too. Hopefully, now that is a thing of the past with these great clamping squares.

THE THATCHER'S THATCH

I guess I must have come from a family of Thatchers originally, but have never held a clump of this stuff in my life.

Furthermore in all my kitbuilding years I have never attempted to replicate thatch on a model. Getting this wrong

would be a deal-breaker on this kit, as the thatched roof will be the first thing the eye will be drawn to so I did a lot of research and soon discovered that whilst newly-laid thatch has a yellow hue to it, this soon dissipates, and the thatch takes on quite a greyish or brownish tone.

Also, the overall colour of the roof can be affected by the material used: usually straw, water reed, sedge, rushes, heather, or palm branches. So I initially thought that grey, with lighter yellow highlights, finishing this off with a darker grey wash might work.

I noted the colour of the resin itself was quite close to the lighter colour of thatch, so wandered if I could apply a wash of something directly onto the bare resin. I have never tried that in my life but I gingerly applied Colron Georgian Medium Oak wood stain with a small brush dabbing this on randomly and then worked it in down the pile of the thatch. It worked well and was a five

Then I just gave the roof a squirt of matt varnish from a rattle can so seal in the wood stain. You know how I like to keep things simple. So what I thought would be the biggest challenge of this kit turned out to be the easiest.

CHOCOLATE BOX COLOURS

Clearly this model is as far from an industrial model as a fish is from a bicycle, and I wanted to reflect that in the colour scheme, particularly as I would be painting the flowers in the tub and window box, and of course Granny herself.

For the main walls I chose Valspar's 'Darling': a light pink. This was accented with Valspar's 'Something Borrowed': a light blue

that I had in stock from making Modeltown's Welsh chapel kit. This was used for the windows, but the outer frames were painted in white. The chimney was sponge painted in a mixture of greys, starting with the darkest shade first.

I did need to clean up around the

The shell of the building is complete and just waiting for a visit to the paint shop.







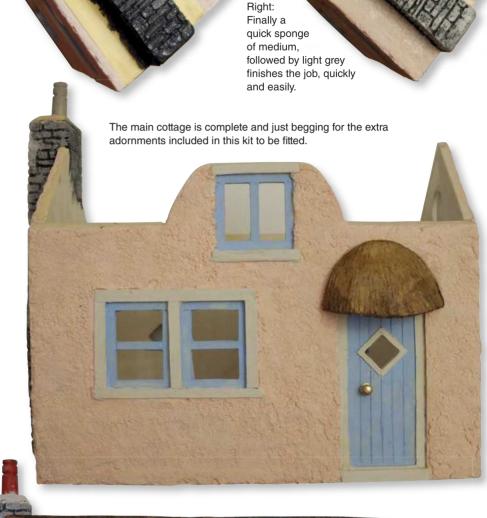
It is worth masking up the chimney area so when sponge-painting the black and grey on the chimney, you don't splodge it over the render on the walls.

inside of the window frames a little. This was quickly achieved with a scalpel just to remove any sharp edges from the inside of the frames. The whole kit went together very well, although as I said earlier, you will need to spend time getting the corners faux render to match, but it is worth spending the effort on this step as you will regret it after painting the model if not doing so.

The roof was a good fit. Tip: BluTack the roof sections in situ, then run a bead of Superglue to tack-glue the roof sections together (but don't glue the roof to the walls). Then once set, you should be able to remove the roof and reinforce inside the apex with resin. That way you can paint the roof separately and know that when coming to refitting it, the pitch of the roof will be correct.

It probably took as long for me to paint Granny and the other bits of detail than to make the actual cottage, but then it is these details that really bring this model to life,

The final result. It looks like Granny is very content sat there crocheting her gingham tablecloth! The only addition I have made is to add the brass door knob. Everything else is provided in this very comprehensive kit.



Left: Here the black exterior emulsion has been added.





and personally this is the bit of the building process I like best.

I suspect this kit is one of Modeltown's earlier kits but still has the tried and trusted Modeltown feel to it and stands up very well to their later offerings.

I am sure it could also be re-purposed as a general store or post office even, if that takes your fancy.

But, it looks like Granny will be tucked up warm and cosy tonight, thanks to the thatched roof, made by a Thatcher who can't thatch. And that is what I love about this engrossing hobby like ours. However long you have been modelling, there is always a new trick or technique just waiting to be discovered.

Try as I might, whilst painting buildings are fine by me, it is a known and much joked about fact, but for some reason I struggle with these little people. Perhaps I should enrol in a figure painting class with The Games Workshop.

Garden Rail Resource

Modeltown

6 Station Road, Halton Holegate, Spilsby, PE23 5PB www.modeltown.co.uk Thatched cottage, with embellishments and Granny - £49.00

Coach & Wagon Works

2 Dobles Terrace, Dobles Lane, Holsworthy, Devon, EX22 6HW www.coachandwagonworks.uk Clamping squares, three sizes from £2.50 to £4.00 for a packet of four

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The rear elevation, by

the very nature of the

property holds less visual

interest, but still makes

for a pleasant elevation





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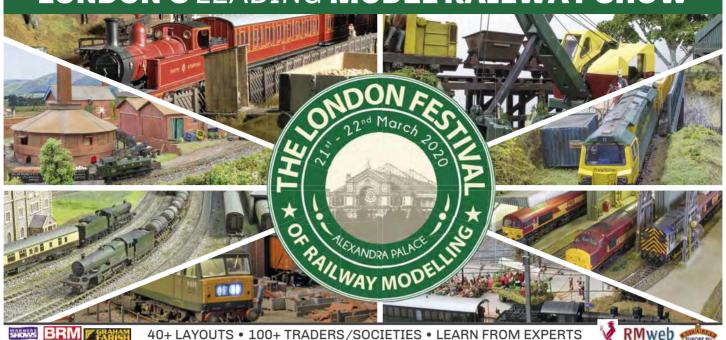
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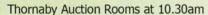


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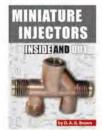
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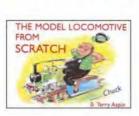
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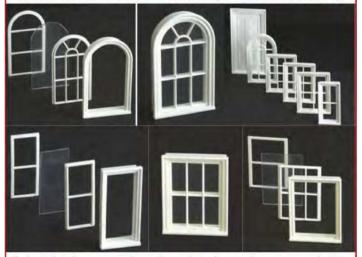








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any a model show visitor has enjoyed watching the methylated spirit and coalfired locomotives in action on the Gauge 1 Association's huge oval layout, and perhaps desired a loco of their own and been tempted by the kits available in this scale. But how much time, skill

and expense is involved in building one of these kits – are they beyond the means of the 'average' modeller?

To find out I visited a long-established manufacturer of Gauge 1 kits - Barrett Steam Models celebrates its 40th anniversary this year. The innocuous exterior of the Barrett works, based in

a former telephone exchange, conceals a hive of activity within the compact premises.

First some history; the company came into existence like so many others in our hobby - Steven's father John Barrett, on being made redundant, decided to keep himself busy while looking for new employment by building LBSC's Chingford Express 0-6-0 from a set of plans he had been given years before. He took his finished loco to a Gauge 1 get-together and was asked if he could make another, and another...

Eight years on John was set up in a workshop in his double garage, spending on average 10 hours a day six days a week at his bench and producing mainly scratchbuilt, readyto-run designs. Each took some time to develop from hand-drawn artwork they included a few etched brass components, while John had been using laser-cutting since the mid-1980s, working on one of the first such machines installed in Liverpool. His knowledge extended to basic pattern work and casting, but each model was usually a one-off production on a custom basis.

A major advance was when Steven returned from university with a



Jamie, Sheila, Steven and Richard, Graham was on holiday.

knowledge of CAD, and using an early 286 computer he was able to draw up masks for etching. He went off "to do a proper job" in industry for a while, but when in 1995 he was asked to take on a night-shift fitter role he decided against it. "Dad said I needed to support my wife and mortgage so while looking for another job I started on the lathe making bits and pieces for a coal-fired Britannia. I've been here ever since and I still have a wife and mortgage!"

For a while Barrett was just John, Steven and his brother but once they moved into the former telephone exchange the firm gained some employees. "There were eight of us at one time, we took it in turns to breathe! We've shrunk a bit in the last couple of years as one of our 70-year-olds moved out of the area, the other 70-year-old retired and we persuaded the 80-year-old to take it easy too!"

The staff are somewhat younger now, numbering five. Company founder John died in 2015 and today Barrett Steam Models comprises Steven, his wife Sheila, Graham Coombes, Jamie Steane and Richard Morris. The latter two were both taken on as apprentices and put through college to teach them machining and engineering skills.

Richard has been with Barrett for two and a half years and is still training as a model builder, while seven-year veteran Jamie now looks after the machines. "One job might last a day, others two or three – he sets the machine and produces an afternoon's worth of parts then likely does a totally different job the following day. This keeps the interest – Jamie knows mates who left the college course with him and are still pushing the same buttons on the same machines."

BARRETT KITS

Barrett's first kits were the result of increasing demand for more extensive

detail on the ready-to-run commissions, which inevitably pushed their price up. "In the mid 1980s prices for such models were getting towards £4,500-£5,000 each, while many customers were still in scratchbuilding mode and increasingly asking us for parts.

"Dad had produced a basic kit for 'City of Truro' some time previously, supplying a set of plans, rough castings,



a set of etched parts and the bolts, nuts and springs. In 2000 we resurrected it – with digital cameras it was simple to produce a pictorial instruction set which made it much easier to explain to non-engineers or model makers how to assemble these engines. To read a traditional set of model engineering plans is an art in itself, they are not even like industrial drawings."

Barrett was soon producing more and more kits, but inevitably prices rose out of the reach of especially several of those newer to the hobby, who were looking for cheaper options; "We were often getting people say 'It's a lot of money for one of those and I don't think I have the skill to build it."

The result was the first Barrett Starter Kit, the J38 0-6-0. This was chosen

because of its simple design with straight sided tanks and no rivet detail to emboss, a simple chassis with six driving wheels, a tender with plenty of space for water and meths fuel, and a large boiler which generated plenty of steam ensuring the loco was easy to

"There were no splashers or lots of other curves and we decided what curved parts there were, such as the boiler wrapper and cab roof, we would supply finished. It was a really simple starter kit and sold very well," Steven adds.

The J38 was soon followed by the Midland 2P 4-4-0, slightly more complex with its leading truck and more complicated tender design. This loco also includes a combined splasher and cab side which would be a quite difficult part for the home builder to form in sheet metal, so Barrett worked



NUFACTURER

Jamie hard at work assembling a tender.

with its casting supplier to supply this part finished.

Today's Barrett models cost from around £1,200 to £3,200 and the range still includes highly detailed 'top-end kits' such as the coal-fired Royal Scot, but the starter kits remain perennially popular. The current starter range as of early 2020 includes the J38, the Midland 2P, a Great Eastern Railway I65 0-6-0T and a Great Western Railway 14xx 0-4-2T – so is the firm catering for a generally less-skilled market or a much wider one?

"It's wider, all ages," Steven believes. "We have model engineers who have built 5-inch and 7- inch gauge locos downsizing and very often trying a starter kit at about £1500, to see both if they get on with Gauge 1 and trying us out for not too much expenditure. Then they will come back and buy one of the top end of our range, because they can build it and they like what they get."

At the other end of the scale is what Steven describes as the 'Airfix' modeller, previous experience confined to assembling plastic kits; "When a new customer comes in I try and ask them a few questions to see where they are on the scale between Airfix and scratchbuilt. Newcomers to the hobby I will point towards our less complicated kits and tell them the complex model they are tempted by they can do later -'Let's get you up and running on your new hobby.

"In the past 10 years we have seen a lot of baby boomers and those with pension pot payouts looking for a new hobby, and they come in looking to buy something like the Royal Scot and I have to gently explain that's not where you start.



WHAT'S IN A KIT?

According to Steven the great appeal of a kit such as Barrett supplies compared to traditional live-steam loco construction is that while there is plenty involved in the building, a model can be completed and running in a much shorter time – around 200 hours for a starter kit. And this can be done without requiring a full workshop as there is no machining involved, only

drilling, tapping, some edge filing and soldering. This is mostly lead plumber's soldering, some electrical soldering for detail components and a little silver soldering of fittings onto copper pipe.

"In terms of workshop equipment you need a decent bench vice, some files, a hand drill, bench drill, some taps and dies and somewhere to do some soldering. It's probably around £250 to set yourself up, and this appeals both to new starters and older modellers who might have downsized their home or even moved into a care home, and no

> longer have access to a workshop." A kit comprises all the mechanical components needed to build a steam engine; "everything except paint, solder, transfers and patience!" Kits

> > include two or three

sheets of etched components, each measuring 2ft x 1ft, and a number of cast pieces that need cutting off

Described as an "advanced kit", this GWR 72XX tank is available in static and spirit fired forms.

their moulding plug, filing, trimming and preparing for soldering into subassemblies.

The boiler is built and tested by Barrett; "This is the one bit that puts many off building a loco, because it is a pressure vessel, so we look after that and supply it complete."

From the starter kit, the range stretches up through a number of models, each described on the Barrett website with its difficulty level indicated. The top-end models appeal to the established model engineers; "They need to be fairly skilled in filing, fettling, drilling and tapping, sheet metalwork forming, soldering - there's enough to keep an experienced model engineer interested while providing them with a loco in quite a short time."

All kits are supplied in stages; "We like payments over 12 months and we deliver a pack every quarter," Steven says, adding that every kit comes with technical backup and advice available at the end of a phone.

Currently some 20 locos are listed on the website - all Barrett models are produced in batches for economies of scale, and what is on offer changes as batches of models are completed; "Once we have done a batch we might leave it five years or so for demand to grow again," Steven says, and admits that the firm's product is quite wide ranging;

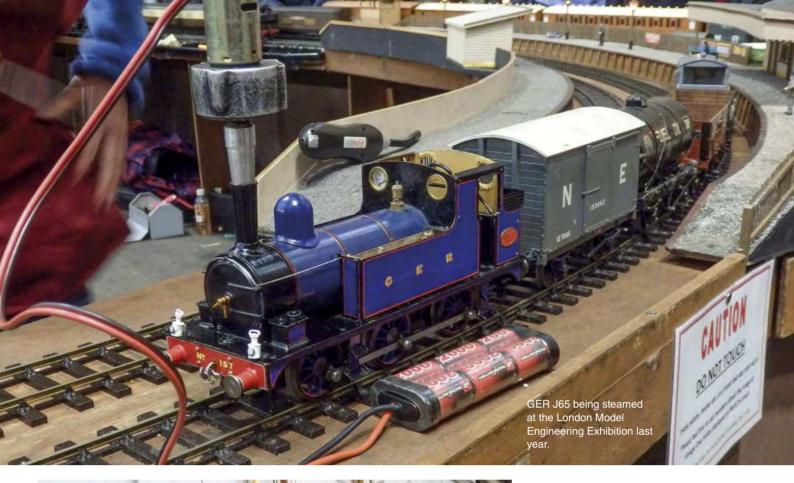


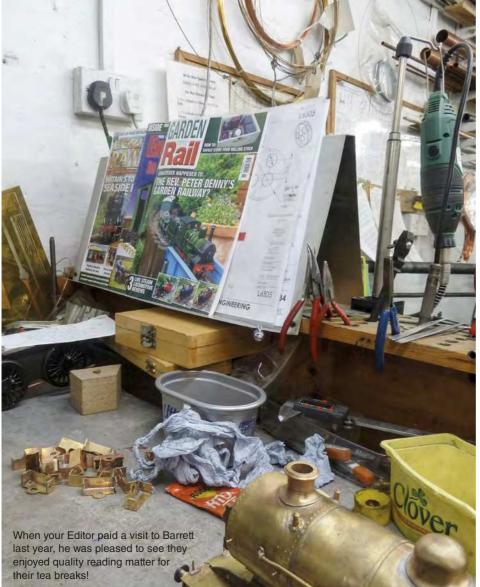
"Dad was brought up in Bath and his principle was that if it ran on the Somerset & Dorset he'd make a model of it - that covers a lot of regions!"

Steven sees the Gauge 1 scene as pretty healthy right now and adds that this has been helped by the likes of Accucraft with ready-to-run models.

These introduce many to the hobby, who then move onto something more complex such as a kit. While the likes of the Accucraft models are gas-fired, most of the Gauge 1 scene has remained using either meths or coal, not following the move to gas as has for example 16mm scale.







FUTURE PLANS

Barrett expects to add new models to its range in 2020, including an expansion into Gauge 3, 2-inch gauge with again an 0-6-0 tank as a starter kit. In Gauge 1 a GWR Dean Goods and a Midland Johnson 2F could be on the cards, plus possibly another prototype depending on the number of orders for each batch.

And of course there is also an anniversary to celebrate, both by attending lots of shows and staging a special get-together. This will be at the Chasewater Railway, in north Birmingham on 13th-14th June. Barrett model owners will be encouraged to bring along their locos and run on the firm's portable track, 'Midsummer Norton', which will be set up in the railway's heritage centre – a fun weekend to celebrate a special birthday.

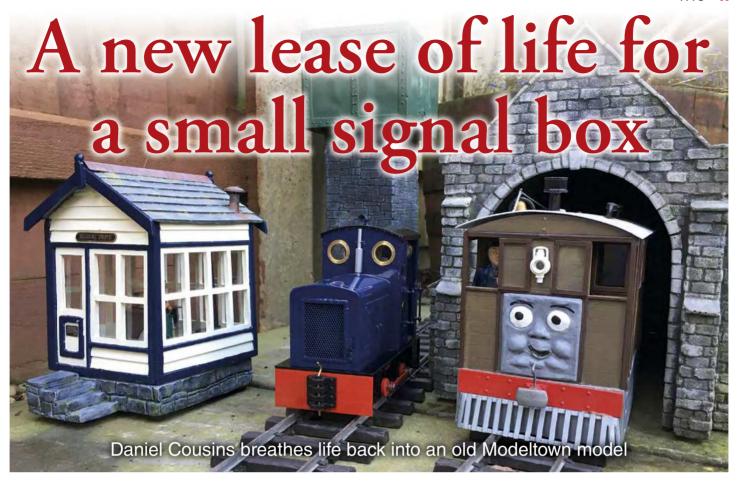
Many Garden Rail readers will know that writer is basically a narrow gauge man but I left Barrett Steam Models sorely tempted to build one of the firm's kits! If you are too, more details are on the website.

Garden Rail Resource

Barrett Steam Models

The Old Exchange, 47A Coronation Road, Pelsall, Walsall, WS4 1BG www.barrettsteammodels.co.uk

Please mention Garden Rail when contacting suppliers.



The subject of this article is a small signal box by Modeltown, and like the Jaguar I wrote up in GR300, I ended up purchasing it and giving it a new lease of life. As with the Jaguar, I wasn't looking for a signal box the time, planning to carry

on using two plywood

buildings

that my father and I built a few years ago, but yet again, I gained a tremendous amount of satisfaction saving it from ending up in the bin.

Earlier this year I bumped into Mark Thatcher a couple of times: once at the National Garden Railway Show then later at Upwell Church where Mark was displaying some of his models at an exhibition about the Wisbech & Upwell Tramway.

> Mark is well known in these pages and I am sure most

readers will already know that from his articles and building reviews. However, he also started my local model railway club, the Wisbech Model Railway Club from his conservatory. Club membership grew and after a few years the club out-grew the conservatory, moving to new premises in Wisbech, and we lost contact for a while. After the second meeting we promised to keep in touch and that's exactly what we have done.

The rather forlorn looking signal box after eleven years spent in Mark's garden.

MORE BUILDINGS NEEDED

I have now started planning a new garden railway as the last one had to be lifted due to a house move. The new railway needed more buildings and Mark mentioned that he was going to sell his collection of Cain Howley concrete buildings along with some others. I was interested in building up my own collection so we met up and shortly afterwards I had a small village!

Amongst the buildings I purchased from Mark was this Modeltown signal box. He had owned it since 2008 when he first built it for the Dovecote Light Railway and it has been outside ever since.

The model had faired quite well and truly it looked worse than it was, as it was structurally sound. The most obvious thing that needed doing was a good scrub to clean off the moss and replace the glazing as this had yellowed considerably.

My first task was to attack it with a small stiff brush to remove all the dirt, grime and moss using warm soapy water. I then removed the fascia boards so they were easier to paint and I also separated the body of the cabin from the stone base. The old glazing was removed and thrown away and the whole building was sanded in preparation for a

The newly installed interior, complete with a signal woman. You can just make out the glow from the stove too.

new paint job.

The first part of the building to be painted was the roof and this was completed by Mark during one of our meet ups using the sponge painting technique. I did weather the roof slightly using a yellowish colour to represent the moss that accumulates on roofs, then I painted the

CONSTRUCTION

Sponge painting technique was used to repaint the roof and weathered further using yellow paint to represent the moss that grows on roofs. The chimney was weathered a rusty colour and rust streaks were added to the tiles underneath. fascia boards with Humbrol blue, No 15. After the fascias had dried I refitted them, then turned my attention to the stove chimney. I painted the stove chimney a rusty black colour and added some rust streaking on the roof tiles below the chimney.



Mark had previously added two brass signs to the cabin, one a notice and one that says 'SIGNAL DEPT.' These were carefully removed and polished. I painted the cabin in my chosen colour scheme of dark blue and cream, then cut out and glued in some new glazing. That just left the stone base to be

This building has windows on all four walls so an interior was essential as it will be easily visible from the outside. Mark had added some lever frames and a stove when he initially built the

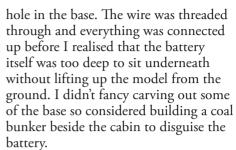
> building and I decided to keep these features. I gave the lever frame blocks some black paint and painted two levers blue

for points, one yellow for a Distant Signal and finally one red for the Home Signal.

The floor received a coat of wood colour and once it was dry I added a wash of black to bring out the planking. I had in stock a pot bellied stove from Trenarren Models which features a working light. It was painted a satin black and once dry I set about fitting it to the base and wiring it up. The stove is designed to be wired up to a 9v battery and a 9v snap on connector is included.

I worked out where I planned to pass the wiring through and drilled a

Compare this to the first shot before the restoration. Quite an improvement!



Luckily for me, Mark had in stock some small pyramid shaped rubber feet from B&Q, six of these were added to the base giving the model enough clearance for the battery to fit underneath. Mark also kindly gave me some small slate tiles for the stove to stand on and a plastic token machine.

SIGNAL BOX TOKEN MACHINES

I Googled signal box token machines and found a green one similar to my one which provided painting details. A suitable female figure was found, painted and fixed in place.

Just inside the door I modelled a door mat from a small piece of brown fabric and glued it down with some PVA glue. The PVA glue soaked into the fabric slightly then dried a darkish colour and it looks very effective thankfully.

Behind the signal woman. I scratchbuilt a desk from scrap wood and painted it a dark brown colour. On the desk I placed a tea cup, saucer and clock, all doll's house items, and some timetables which I cut out from some O gauge posters I received free in a modelling magazine some time ago.

The final job was to refit the two brass signs and reattach the main building to the stone base. Sitting back and admiring the small signal box, I experienced the very same satisfaction I did when I saved the Jaguar knowing I have given a second model another lease of life, hopefully for at least another 11 vears or so!

Garden Rail Resource

Modeltown

6 Station Road, Halton Holegate, Spilsby, PE23 5PB www.modeltown.co.uk Low level signal box with wood or slate base - £45.00

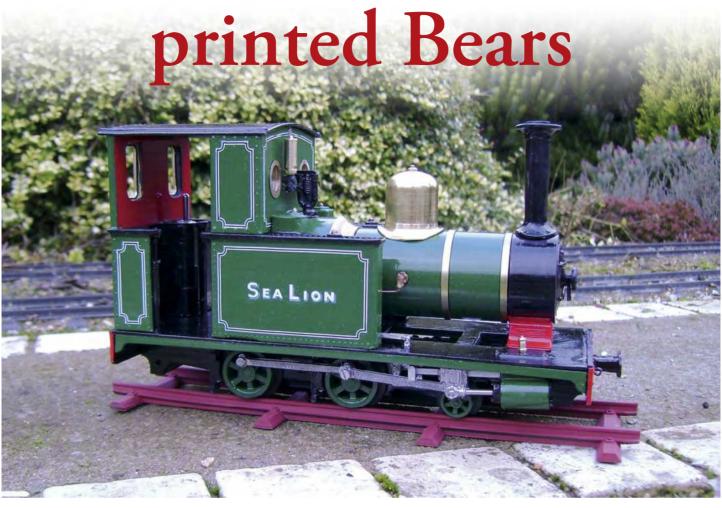
Trenarren Models

2 Brynglas Walk, Tywyn, Gwynedd, **LL36 0BB** www.trenarrenmodelsonline.co.uk

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Sea Lion and the 3D



If you want to be sure of your article appearing in Garden Rail, just build a model of the Editor's favourite locomotive as Nick Midgley has done.

√he Groudle Glen Railway (GGR) in the Isle of Man is a true pioneer in that, unlike most narrow gauge railways, it was never built as a common carrier or for industrial purposes. It was one of the first lines built exclusively for hauling tourists.

Had it been built a few years later it would probably have been a 15inch gauge miniature railway but in 1894 such things were unknown so it was laid to the more common 2ft gauge.

The owner purchased a diminutive 2-4-0 tank loco from W.G. Bagnal & Co. called "Sea Lion" and, when traffic increased, a slightly larger sister loco: "Polar Bear". The railway closed down in the 1960s but, thanks to a small band of volunteers on the island, is now very much thriving again.

My main modelling efforts lean towards the Isle of Man Railway in 45mm gauge, to a scale of 16mm/ft (which is a long story...) however, most of my friends seem to be obsessed with 2ft gauge railways on 32mm track, which is a problem for me as it is a pain to re-gauge my locos when I visit them. I did build something Welsh to run but my heart isn't really into rock hauling.

Being an idiot, it took far too long for me to realise that a model of a GGR loco would give me something different to run and be of a railway I was really interested in. I decided to model their new loco, Brown Bear, which is a replica of Polar Bear, as I had a small part in its building and already had some of the drawings available. Brown Bear and Polar Bear are also longer than Sea Lion (by 3 inches) so there would be more room for the gubbins.

Although a live steam model would

be possible as an engineering project, the diminutive boiler wouldn't have a very long duration and wouldn't be very practical operationally amidst the hurlyburly of the average 16mm Association meeting. Also, I have recently bought a 3D FDM printer so it would be a good way of testing my limitations.

One of the disadvantages of 3D print is that it is difficult to make changes post print so everything really needs to be right first time, which means a lot of Computer Aided Drawing (CAD) work, hopefully before spending hours printing scrap parts!

I find the design aspect of modelling more fun than the tedious cutting of the parts by hand so this suits me fine. The part drawings for this article have been rendered to make them clearer but this makes my elderly PC cough quite a bit so I usually work in "wireframe" mode,



are blocks front and rear for the couplings to screw into. Plus 21 other holes and slots for assorted screws and tabs. It's easy just to add a few more fixings on the drawing when you know

that you don't have to mark out and drill each one! The front battery connections

The little red and black dots over the batteries indicate the polarity. They are short lengths of coloured filament pressed into holes and were added once I worked out which way round the batteries needed to be to match the wiring at the other end! The rough inner face of the smokebox can be seen but it is hidden when slid onto the boiler.

where all the parts are see through but this is harder to visualise.

The parts are shown in the accompanying sketched as exploded but everything was actually drawn it its rightful place to check the fit. I also apologise for the lurid colours, my CAD has a limited palette and I need to make each part stand out!

The first problem to address was: where are all the bits going to go? A live steam loco can be designed to almost any scale but the design of an electric model using off the shelf components is more restricted. First I needed to find out if the batteries and motor would fit.

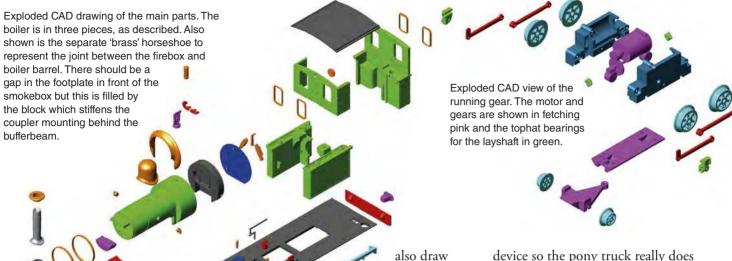
One advantage of drawing in 3D CAD is that one can build up a library of common parts, so it was easy to produce an outline 'envelope' and insert virtual batteries, motor and gears. I

wanted to use AA 1.5V cells as they are common to my R.C. equipment and I hoped to fit at least 3 rows of 2 cells in a triangular formation to give 9 volts. Unfortunately that would have resulted in a boiler shell thickness of only 0.2mm. and my printer has a minimum resolution of 0.4mm.

So, the loco has 2 rows of 2 batteries side-by-side. The overall length of the batteries meant I would also have to extend the firebox into the cab further than scale but hopefully this isn't too noticeable.

The driving wheelbase is only 2ft 6ins (40mm) which meant that even the small 6V can motor I used wouldn't fit between the wheels. I wished to drive both axles by gears as the coupling rods would be printed and I didn't want the plastic taking any of the driving

swing into place on a screw.



forces. The motor therefore sits in the firebox above the rear wheels and drives a layshaft through spur gears, with worm drive to the wheels.

After fiddling around with various combinations of virtual gears, I ended up with primary gears of 16 and 30 teeth to the layshaft and worm gears of 16 teeth on the axles, making a total reduction of around 30:1. The motor has a no-load speed of 10,000 RPM at 6V, so the light engine speed would be about 20 metres per minute, or a scale 13mph. Not fast, but neither is the full size Brown Bear.

The gearbox was designed as a complete unit, split in half lengthways with a keeper plate underneath to retain the driving wheels. The layshaft bearings were printed separately as little tophats (although they have square flanges to stop them turning, so should strictly be called mortar boards). The whole gearbox rocks fore and aft on two screws through the loco frames to form part of the equalised suspension.

I'm a great believer in making all vehicles run as smoothly as possible so I always give my locos 3-point suspension, to make sure all the wheels bear their fair share of the load but stay firmly on the track and all carrying wheels have side control to steer the loco round curves.

There are formulae on line for calculating the correct pivot point of the pony truck in relation to the wheelbase. (Search for "Baldry's Rule") but I

diagram" in plan view to show the worstcase swing of the pony truck at the minimum expected curve radius. I

a "curving

checked that the pony wheels of BB just miss the crossheads and motion bracket at 600mm radius.

The calculated point for the pony truck pivot puts it just ahead of the leading driving wheels (strangely enough, right where it is on the full-size loco!) so it was made as is part of the gearbox. The weight of the front of the loco bears on a vertical screw through a frame stretcher directly above the pony wheels onto 2 inclined planes printed as part of the truck. The inclines rise less than 0.5mm from the centre to

maximum swing but

form a simple self-

centering

device so the pony truck really does guide the loco into curves. The couplers are almost scale size and even the front one doesn't buffer lock the coaches.

To balance the batteries and ensure that most of the weight is over the drivers and not over the pony wheels, there is a rectangular brass ballast weight under the cab. I didn't overdo the ballast as I would rather the wheels slip than overload the motor. Unfortunately the weight fills the space where the cab footwell should be so I will have to saw the driver's feet off.

Although it is possible to print everything above the footplate as a single piece, it isn't really practical. The late Donald Boreham, one of the pioneers of large scale narrow gauge modelling wrote: "if it can be taken apart it can be painted easily". Mistakes can also be corrected more easily if printed in sections and if one part messes up the whole model isn't lost.

Some of the parts take around 10-15 hours to print so there is a temptation to leave the printer to get on with



This is what all those CAD drawings emerge as after a few hours on the printer. Of course, there are more parts than this ...

CONSTRUCTION

The start of a printed Groudle train. The coaches are also printed. The seats should have flip-over backs but they are a bit thin for printing and will have to be made in brass. Three coaches was the usual load but there are four different designs and I want to make at least one of the other types for variety

air because the feed has jammed or printing a ball of string where the part has broken free or fallen over.

Separating the model into parts also means that the prints can be oriented to give the best quality. Printers leave a 'grain' on the surface equal to the vertical steps in the print layers (0.1mm in this case). On curved surfaces this leads to a nasty stepped finish. Reorientating the parts on the bed helps but then they still need a flat face to stand on.

Because of this, the boiler was printed on end so the grain runs around the circumference rather than end to end. It is made in 3 sections: the main barrel and firebox, which is flat against the front of the cab; the firebox inside the cab, which is flat at both ends and incorporates channels for the battery terminals and wiring; and the backhead which has a flat front and the firedoor and fitting detail on the back. Long screws inserted from the backhead draw all the parts together and clamp the boiler to the cab front as a subassembly.

The other aspect to consider with 'domestic' printers is the support needed for overhangs and blind holes. These take the form of a printed mesh and leave a rough face where they touch



the printed part. More sophisticated printers have two nozzles, one of which can print soluble supports, but mine prints the support as a web in the same material as the part. If supports can't be eliminated I try to avoid them by designing in hidden 45 degree fillets (the minimum angle the printer will print without support), which I did with the tank beading and handrail brackets, or burying the rough face inside another part, such as the smokebox.

As a further experiment for Brown Bear, I split the parts into different colours. It makes the design and assembly more complicated but avoids the need for a lot of masking off for painting. I also printed the loco in coloured plastic, which was a bit of a novelty but not intended as a final finish as the colours fade over a long period in sunlight.

The PLA plastic I used for the print is tougher than polystyrene but doesn't glue very well so most of the parts are screwed together using M2 setscrews. I find that if I print the part to be threaded with undersize holes then the screws will self tap quite easily. Details too small for screws have tabs and slots or spigots in holes so that any glue used (superglue or epoxy) acts as a retainer in shear rather than being in tension.

At time of writing, Brown Bear is still in bare plastic (mainly because, having got it working, I am still having fun 'testing' it). The yellow is one of the authentic liveries for Polar Bear but Brown Bear should be something akin to Stroudley "Improved Engine Green".

Meanwhile, I was sidetracked into building Sea Lion. The cab spectacles are round instead of rectangular and, due to the 3in reduction in length, the batteries have to poke into the cab still further but otherwise it was a fairly painless modification to just a few of the parts.

After a trial assembly, I did paint Sea Lion. The base is several coats of automotive high-build primer, carefully rubbed down between coats using fine wet-and-dry paper rubbed across the grain, and a rub with a fibreglass brush in the tricky areas. The final undercoat is spray primer, not rubbed down, to give a smooth surface.

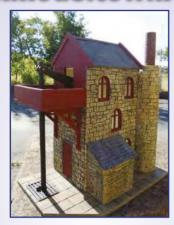
Top coat is brush applied from a very old tin of Humbrol "SR Stock Green", which is a fair approximation of Sea Lion's 1980s "Sellafield Green" (Although, with hindsight, I think it should be "Middle Brunswick"). Lining is Fox Transfers' 7mm scale LNER loco lining. The dome, whistle and boiler bands are turned from brass, while the other sundry brasswork is spray metallic finish.

Despite my best efforts, I have enough semi-reject parts left to build another loco as a static model so I'm in the process of building Polar Bear to complete the set.



For the 1961 and 62 seasons, Groudle stock received the so-called "fairground livery". Your Editor challenged me to apply it to one of my models. The result is certainly "interesting."

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Receivers and controllers operate on 2.4GHz using the popular Spektrum DSM2/DSMX protocol. Receivers have a short wire aerial some are available with extended aerials for use in totally enclosed metal bodied locos

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All Deltang receivers have multiple auxiliary outputs for controlling lights, coupling actuators, sound modules or whatever on-board function your imagination wants to implement

Batteries

On-board batteries can be NiMH or LiPo for best size/capacity ratio. LiPo cells can be charged in the model and frequently topped up when the loco is resting. Most locos do not need the full 12V - 4V or 8V from 1 or 2 LiPo cells is usually sufficient. For space restricted installations, a single LiPo cell can be used with a small booster to give 9V or 12V

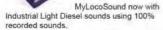
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A range of hand-held controllers, from simple, single loco to multi-train units. All are pocket sized and available with forward / reverse on one knob or full-range throttle and R/C Receivers separate direction control. See our web site. for details. We can build bespoke controllers with knobs, switches, push buttons to match



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Mtroniks or MyLocoSound sound modules can be used to complement your R/C installation. Receiver outputs control motor sound and trigger bell, whistle, horn.



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lumes of steam on a cold morning; icy fingers fiddling with cold cab controls. No, it isn't a British summer steam-up: it's winter nudging at spring. In this part of the world, that not only means little dragons emerging from hibernation: it also means the National Garden Railway Show will soon be upon us. Saturday 4 April to be precise, at the East of England Arena in Peterborough.

The Show, run by the Association of 16mm Narrow Gauge Modellers, is one of the garden railway world's major events. Last year, the Show hosted the first public running of Roundhouse's stunning Double Fairlie and Accucraft's Dolgoch was on display ahead of its launch a few months later. This year, 2,000 or more visitors can expect to see new models from manufacturers large and small. They will not only be able to see up close the new Davenport, have the chance to win a Talgarth or Sabrina in the prize draw, they will also be able to see what is in the pipeline from the thriving smaller manufacturers, such an important part of the audience's enjoyment.

Variety is one of the main things that attracts people to the Show. The Arena offers space to mingle and chat without constantly feeling you are in someone's way. And this year, there will be over 100 traders and exhibitors to visit. On-line is OK, but there is nothing quite the same as being able to talk with real human beings about the models,

offering tips and exchanging experiences in a busy but friendly environment.

As well as the chance to talk to traders, numerous railway societies can update you on their activities and at the time of writing, the Show organisers are hoping to finalise a special exhibit connected to one of the latest loco engineering adventures. There will also be stands manned by some of the hobby's most skilled modellers.

You don't have to be a modelling wizard or even an experienced modeller to have a good chance in the Model of the Year competition. This year, there is a special Newcomers' Trophy for people who have not entered the competition before plus manufacturersponsored prizes for Junior Cup winners and runners up. There are classes for locomotives, rolling-stock, buildings and flights of fancy, including categories for both scratch-built and kit-based entries. Your local bingo hall never offered chances to win like this!

Speaking of winning, entrants to the Prize Draw can win a share of roughly £6000-worth of railway-related prizes in return for buying a £1 ticket. Top prize is a Roundhouse Silver Lady, pimped up with expert lining and a full complement of loco detailing. Over 20 prizes are made possible by generous discounts and gifts from sponsors including five ready-to-run locomotives, expertly painted and constructed buildings, figures and rolling stock, a complete rail set, and vouchers for

accessories, bridges and loco-lining so that you can make your layout that bit

The 2020 Landmarks Display focuses on the high quality work of small manufacturers and will have locomotives built by DJB, Finescale, Tolhurst Model Engineering, Wrightscale and many others.

And then there are the layouts - 19 of them in all. The opportunity to see garden-scale railways in action and see the handiwork of other modellers is a big attraction, and this year layouts range from the G1 colossus, Anglia Roads, to the tiny Aberwym which is only three metres long. Most of the layouts feature live steam, although there are examples of battery- and track-powered as well. Rhydypendren, which has long hosted an assortment of interesting locomotives, is making its final appearance after two decades on the exhibition circuit. Other layouts such as Fen End Pit, Kew Bridge East and Tor Halt are making a welcome return after five or more years' absence, and it is safe to say that at least three layouts have never been seen before because they will be built on the day!

The full list of layouts, traders, prizes, competitions and exhibitors can be found on the Show's website - www. nationalgardenrailwayshow.org.uk. Advance tickets are available online at a £2 discount. There will be enough variety to inspire you for another summer of activity in the garden with trains.

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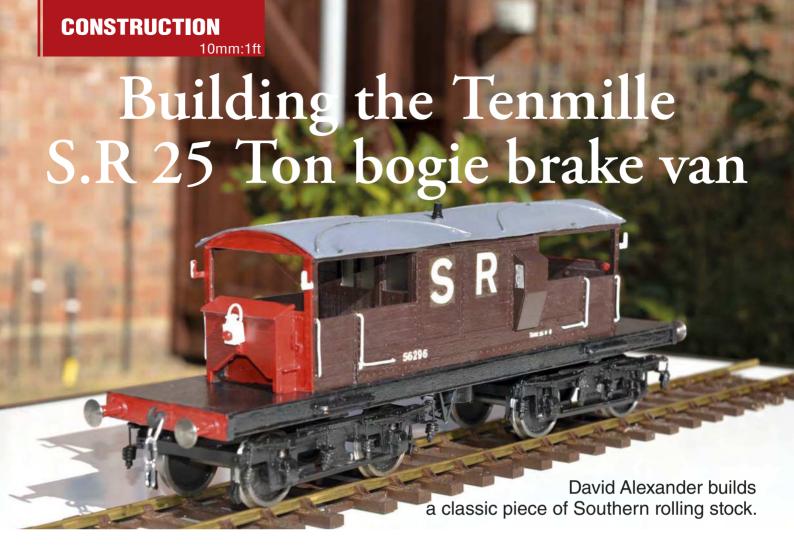
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hen it comes to running Gauge 1, I find hauling freight is much more entertaining that watching rakes of coaches. There's so much more variety and detail that can be put into the wagons, the many different loads one can add and a wide range of liveries. I appreciate that "your mileage may vary"

but if we were all the same it would be a very boring world.

I managed to acquire the Tenmille SR Queen Mary brake van kit from the Bring and Buy stall at a G1MRA running session. It still needed to order the parts that don't come as standard, such as the transfers, bogies and wheels.

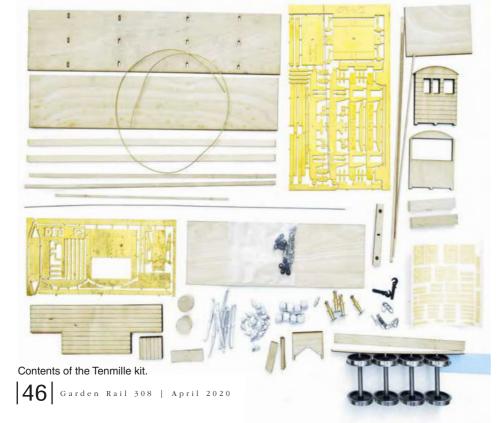
While I waited for those to arrive, I

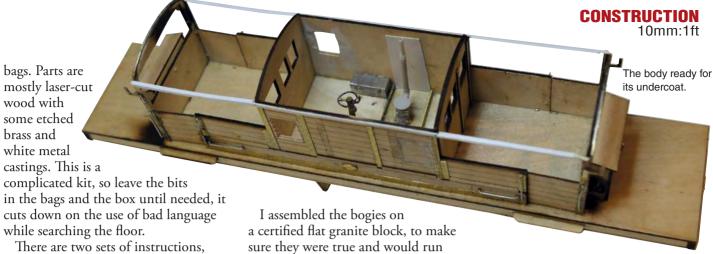
started by reading the instructions and doing some research. An hour spent this way is never wasted. I look for diagrams, photographs, colour schemes and background history; anything that could provide insight or inspiration for additional details I could add to the build. If I find anything, I add notes to the kit instructions to remind me when to add them and acquire any parts that aren't already in my 'bits box' from previous projects.

I'm not someone who counts rivets and insists that every last detail must be perfect, this is a wagon that I hope will be reliable for 30 years of running. I enjoy adding some details but If it looks right going past from about a metre away and people enjoy watching them, that's fine by me. Does that make me a 'rivet approximator'?

The SR 25 Ton vacuum-braked vans were designed in the 1930s for use on express vacuum brake piped/fitted goods trains, such as fish and milk from the West Country up to London. They had an emergency vacuum brake valve and gauge as well as the traditional mechanical brakes. The Queen Mary nickname, alluding to the ocean liner, came from their enormous size.

The kit comes in a cardboard box with the smaller components in sealed





one for the wagon and one for the brass bogies. A cast white metal version of the bogie kit is available, easier to build but heavier and doesn't look as good to me. The instructions are normally pretty good in Tenmille kits but this set are not of the best clarity. Plenty of pictures give context and you need to study them carefully.

The wood parts are well finished, have some tabs to help with assembly and the planking is etched where it will show. The brass parts have rivets embossed and etched detail. There is steel and brass wire for adding brake rods, handrails and rain strips to the roof. Some fine fettling will be required so a craft saw, some files and the usual cutting implements are essential. I also use wire wool, emery paper and a fine wire brush to gently clean up the brass before I start. It's much easier to solder, clean and paint if you do.

Work starts with assembling the floor, solebar and subframe parts. These go together with some very minor trimming. You can use cyanoacrylate adhesive but I'm 'old school' and use PVA, which I think is more durable in the long term and doesn't leave me stuck to the kit or myself by mistake. It does mean waiting between stages of the build but I worked on constructing the bogies while the glue dried.

I use brass blocks as weights to ensure good contact between wooden parts and also to align them correctly. The right-angles keep parts in position until the glue sets. I also use magnetic corner clamps for joining ends to sides and keeping it all square.

The SR used bogies originally designed for their coaches and Tenmille supply those from their own coach kits. Subtle differences required for the the brake van are not described in the instructions, look carefully at the pictures to spot that there is a step, supplied in the van kit, that needs to be fitted to each side of the bogies.

properly once finished. It's much easier than trying to 'tweak' the end result flat afterwards. Please don't ask me how I know this. An old toothbrush and washing up liquid cleans the flux and muck off once finished, ready for undercoat.

This is a fiddly build and not for the faint-hearted, but the only way to learn how to solder brass kits is by having a go. Think about the order of assembly so that the joints requiring most heat are done first. This avoids inadvertently unsoldering small parts later in the build process.

When assembling the cabin, I added extra detail. The brass duckets are soldered up and glued to the cabin sides. I like to cut out the woodwork underneath them so you can look through their windows into the cabin. I also paint them before adding their glazing.

Some pictures of the interior found on-line were a reference to add detailing; a scale chair, stove, and manual brake wheel. I bought a tool chest from Barrett Steam Models and made a stove base and fireback, brake lever and vacuum gauge from brass, wire and wood scraps. It's not perfect but if you look through the windows it looks right.

The toolboxes on each end of the veranda do not have backs as supplied in the kit. Their tops stand proud of the ends and when I offered them up in trial fit I could see a gap that would be visible at the back, so I used an off-cut left over from a previous kit to fill it in.

Before fitting the roof I glue some stirring sticks, kindly donated by my local coffee emporium, to the top edge of the inside walls of the cabin to give a larger area for the glue holding the roof on to adhere to. I file the edges to give a profile similar to that of the curved cabin ends to ensure the roof edge is aligned correctly.

Fitting the chimney, rain strips and

buffer casings is the last job before painting. I leave adding the buffer and couplers until after painting and varnishing to avoid the risk of the varnish affecting their smooth

The painting is straightforward and the instructions are worth following. Rattle can primer works fine, then spray the chassis and bogies black. I used Phoenix paints for the SR colours to finish.

The kit does not contain details of the decals required, but a quick search uncovered details of the serial numbers (56282-56306) and Tare (25-9-0). I use Microsol and Microset to help make them look right on the model. Once finished I mask the Perspex windows and use several coats of matt varnish to protect the decals and paint and as a final touch I added a tail light from MvLocoSound.

For those who would like to know more the vans are described in An Illustrated History of Southern Wagons - Volume Four, by Messrs. Bixley, Blackburn, Chorley and King; Published by The Oxford Publishing Company, 2002. ISBN 086093 5647. ■

Garden Rail Resource

Tenmille

The Workshop, Ash Cottage, Offton Road, Ringshall, Stowmarket, Suffolk, IP14 2QA

www.tenmille.com

Barrett Steam Models Ltd

The Old Exchange, 47A Coronation Road, Pelsall, Walsall, WS4 1BG www.barrettsteammodels.co.uk

Phoenix Precision Paints

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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

WOODBURY MODELS

Gauge 1 NER hopper wagon

The prototype was introduced by the NER in 1902 as diagram P7 and continued in production with minor changes as LNER diagram 12 until 1930 over that period of time almost 25,000 wagons were produced and 12,628 past to BR ownership. Many even survived in NCB use until the 1980s.

This 10mm:1ft kit is a multimedia kit and comprises of laser cut suitable Baltic birch ply, laser cut steel, etched brass, 3D SLA printed and white metal detailing parts, they are fully sprung using the popular Peter Korzilius underframe suspension units. It is designed to be robust to allow for everyday running yet fully detailed to give a true impression of the original.

Parts are included to enable the kit to covering the majority of variants including the NER's distinctive Central Division end hand brakes.

The kit is complete, except for wheels, transfers, paint and adhesives.

Price: £97.50 Discount will be available on multiple orders.



STRIKALITE

Piko shunter battery pack replacement Strikalite has developed a rechargeable

battery pack in conjunction with Garden Railways Ltd to be a replacement for the dry cell battery and holder in the Piko Shunter. The

> pack is capable of giving about two hours of continuous running time in a light engine situation.

The battery pack needs to be removed for charging and a braid loop is

incorporated in the design to make removing it easier.

Included is an adaptor for the Axtronics charger so you can use an existing charger for this and other locos.

There is no need for modification to the model to make the pack fit.

Chargers are also available with the specified PP3 adaptor.

Strikalite

3 Laurel Drive, Rugeley Road, Burntwood, Staffordshire, WS7 9BL www.strikalite.co.uk



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Talyllyn 3 plank open wagon. Kit is supplied with wheels (32mm gauge only) and all detail parts.

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Aberllefenni quarry wagon. Kit is supplied with wheels (32mm gauge only) and all detail parts.

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IP Engineering Ltd

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THE AIRBRUSH COMPANY

Flake King Corroded Metal Mini Shaker Kit

Flake King Corroded Metal kits are designed so that you can apply the extremely dense, heavy Vintage Iron and Corroded Copper powders directly to wet paint or clear coat.

Next, the modeller sprays Corrosion Activator directly to the surface and waits - the longer you leave it on the more corroded it will become.

When you're happy with the level of corrosion, just wash the off corroder and leave to dry.

As this is an organic finish, if you do not protect it, it will continue to corrode. A clear protective coating, for example a matt or gloss varnish

would work fine. The makers suggest that working on a couple of test pieces would be a sensible move before attacking precious models.

The kit contains: FK50 Surface Binder Vintage Iron pot - with shaker Corroded Coppa pot - with shaker Patina Sponge Corrosion Activator Price: £24.60

The Airbrush Company Ltd

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



PRODUCT NEWS

BOWATER MODELS

15mm scale Isle of Man Steam Railway coaches

The first models in a new range, the initial release covers the first bogie coaches to arrive on the island in the form of the 1876/1881 bogie coaches that later became known as part of the 'Small F's

These items will fit in with any of the many Isle of Man Railway engines that have been released over the years including the various 2-4-0Ts from Accucraft UK. All coaches are scale lengths and will look perfect with the four wheeled and Pairs coaches from Accucraft UK. The initial range consists of the following items:-

BMI-001 Isle of Man Railway 1876 Brown Marshall 'Small F' Guards Coach F.1-F.6

BMI-002 Isle of Man Railway 1881 Ashbury 'Small F' Guards Coach F.7-F.8

BMI-003 Isle of Man Railway 1881 Brown Marshall 'Small F' Non Guards Coach F.9-F.12

These are scale kits coming complete with bogies that can be built in the gauge of your choice (32mm or 45mm) and Accucraft couplings. It is also available without these options.

Every kit comes with one of two bufferbeams, either the prototypical one which will mount the couplings at the correct IoM height or one that enables them to be mounted lower





at 16mm height. The customer can choose at the time of ordering which one they would like.

Price:

£105 to £110 per coach in MDF. £120 to £125 in Plywood.

16mm scale Sandy River and Rangeley Lakes Railroad Caboose

Due to popular demand, the latest member of the Sandy River and Rangeley Lakes Railroad Range is the smaller caboose design of 556 to 558 (Caboose 557/558 in this case).

Like the coaches in the range, it features the new handrails designed for these cabooses and passenger cars and is smaller than the existing members in the range.

This kit includes bogies in 32mm or 45mm and Accucraft couplings.

Price: £90 in MDF. £105 in Plywood.

Bowaters Models

www.bowatersmodels.co.uk



KS LASER DESIGNS

G Scale platelayers hut

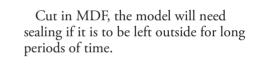
A small Platelayers Hut that can be placed in many locations alongside railway track.

Modelling era can span from the steam days right up to present day.

The window and door can be modelled in an opened or closed position but are not hinged.

There is no chimney supplied in the kit, from photographs on the web they seem to be a simply cylinder style which would be easy to scratch build by the

modeller.



PRODUCT N

Price: £30.60

KS Laser Designs

South Benfleet, Benfleet SS7 1LT www.kslaserdesigns.com

MOTLEY MINIATURES

16mm scale Loco crew and cricketers Described as a Darjeeling Himalayan Railway crew, the figures are available as either a driver and fireman, or crew of five, with sanders and coalman.

Strictly a limited edition, this cricket team will look perfect on some freshly cut lawn assuming the weather plays ball.









Body £5 + each head £1. All figures are supplied as unpainted resin items. Painted versions are available for an extra £9 per figure.

Motley Miniatures 20 Bradley Rd Warminster Wiltshire BA12 8BP UK

www.motleyminiatures.co.uk

DIARY DATES

Date: 14-15 March

Event: Midlands Garden Rail Show

Venue: Warwickshire Event Centre, A425, Southam Road,

Leamington Spa, CV31 1XN

Times: 10am to 4pm

Admission: Adult £9.00 Senior £8.50 Child (5-14) £4.50 –

Discounted tickets are available on-line. Web: www.midlandsgardenrailshow.co.uk

Layouts: 16mm Association Modular Layout, Ballygornal Junction, Buckinghamshire Garden, Railway Society "Whiteleaf Light Railway", G Scale Society Publicity Layout, Gauge 1 Vintage Tinplate Trains Group, Hambleden Valley Railway, Hampton End, Lough Motive Power Depot,

Mendip Vale, Roche Junction, Stanley Midland.

Trade: Accucraft UK Ltd, Airframed Glass Display Cases, All Components, Anything Narrow Gauge, Aster Hobbies, Barrett Steam Models, Blackcat Bridges, Bole Laser Craft, Bowande Live Steam UK, Brunel Models, Chalk Garden Rail, Chuffed 2 Bits, Coach & Wagon Works, FineScaleBrass (UK), Garden Railways Specialists, G S Model Supplies, Hafix Industrial Products, IP Engineering, John Sutton Books and Models, Just the Ticket, Loco Boxes, Malcs Models, Mamod Ltd, Model Earth Design, Modeltown, Sandringham Garden Crafts, SMTF Model Shop The Sparesman, Steve Currinn Books, Tony Green Steam Models, Vale of Rheidol Railway.

Aditional info: Free parking. Refreshments.

Date: 14 March

Event: Narrow Gauge North

Venue: Pudsey Civic Hall, Leeds, LS28 5TA

Times: 10:30am to 4:30pm

Admission: Adults: £8.00, accompanied children under 16:

£1.00

Web: www.narrowgaugenorth.org.uk

Additional Info: Layouts include the 16mm Poppleton Nursery. Hot & Cold refreshments available. Plentiful free parking. Disabled access to all areas except the stage. Proceeds to Sue Ryder Care - Wheatfields, Leeds.

Date: 21 and 22 March

Event: London Festival of Railway Modelling Venue: Alexandra Palace, London, N22 7AY Times: Sat 10am to 5pm. Sun 10am to 4.30pm **Admission:** Adult £1 $\hat{3}$ Child £6.50 Family ($\hat{2}$ +3) £39 -Discounted tickets are available on-line.

Organiser: Warners Exhibitions.

Web: www.world-of-railways.co.uk/information/the-

london-festival-of-railway-modelling

Aditional Info: Layouts include the G scale Whiteleaf Light

: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 the Contents page.

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.

Date: 4 April

Event: National Garden railway Show

Venue: Peterborough Arena, East of England Showground,

Peterborough PE2 6XE **Times:** 10am to 5pm

Admission: £12.50 on the door (under 18's and carers admitted free), however buying in advance (online from 9th

December) will save you £2.00 per ticket.

Organiser: The Association of 16mm Narrow Gauge

Modellers

Web: www.nationalgardenrailwayshow.org.uk Additional Info: 19 layouts, in scales including 16mm to the foot, 7/8ths, 7mm narrow gauge, G, G1 and G3 running a mixture of live steam and electric powered stock. 100 trade stands including suppliers you simply don't see anywhere else as well as major manufacturers launching new products, information stands and heritage railways. Model of the Year Competition, Member to Member secondhand sales and lots more.

Date: 10 - 13 April

Event: Easter Eggsperess, 16mm running weekend Address: Bure Valley Railway, Aylsham Station, Norwich Road, Aylsham, Norfolk NR11 6BW

Organiser (BVR): Bure Valley Railway – 01263 733858, also on Facebook

Organiser (16mm): alan.butcher34008@gmail.com e-mails only please as I cannot be contacted via the BVR **Web:** www.bvrw.co.uk

Times: 10.00-17.00 or until last departure from Aylsham if

earlier

Prices: Free access to 16mm layout, normal prices for train rides etc.

Layouts: Aylsham Minor will be available for Association

members to run on **Additional info:** Bring a locomotive to run whilst the

family ride the rails.

Date: 18 April **Event:** Quarry day

Venue: Woodseaves Garden Plants, Sydnall Lane, Woodseaves, Market Drayton, Shropshire TF9 2AS

Times: 11am to 6pm

Web: www.woodseavesminirail.co.uk

Additional Info: The Woodseaves Lake Light Railway is a 32mm gauge line with over a scale mile of track located within the grounds of a garden nursery and miniature railway. Prototypical running for the theme is preferred (quarries). Parking and other facilities are on site. Refreshments available.

Date: 25 April

Event: GIMRA Spring Show

Venue: Shepshed High School, Forest St, Shepshed,

Loughborough LE12 9DB **Times:** 10:30am to 4:30pm

Admission: Adult £10. Ûnder 15 free

Web: www.g1mra.com

Additional Info: Dobson Bridge Gauge 1, 16mm layout

and trade stands.



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BATTERY LIGHTING FOR COACHES

Following on from my equipping the Bachmann tram with Christmas lights as seen last month, I wanted to fit battery lights in a couple of other coaches.

I went back to the web and ordered some "20 white light" sets which were as before operated from a small 2 coin style battery case. 20 lights was far too much for even a Bachmann USA combine and

so I took the plunge and discovered that this light string can in fact be cut to size.

The lights are unlike old style Christmas lights whereby they all had to work and the wires definitely made a circuit. Here the circuit goes as far as each light soldered between the wires and the wires can therefore be cut to length after the required number of lights.

I started with 12 and ended up with 10 lights fixed along the clerestory roof line (using Plastikard cut to size) at each side. The battery case is in the luggage section of the combine fixed to the side wall with some Plastruct angle. I can open the sliding door and switch the lights on. These then stay on whilst the train is moving or stationary just like the real thing. Another marvellous advance in science!

Stephen Wise





PARRY PEOPLE MOVER

My PPM 50 is my only scratchbuilt item of rolling stock. It has survived many years of crashes and attention from grandchildren and is therefore a little "workworn". It had spent some years in London Midland colours but I decided it was time to move on the West Midlands Trains livery.

Although this vehicle is quite old and battered I thought it would be relatively easy to give it a quick repaint. I removed the doors and then spent half a day masking all the glazing. After a rub down and a few airbrushings of paint I removed the carefully applied masking and found some very clouded over windows which was rather disappointing. When I looked closely the misting was on the inside. With hindsight it was of course obvious that I should have covered the door space as the paint had got inside through the door space and ruined the glazing. It's amazing how we can all make schoolboy errors.

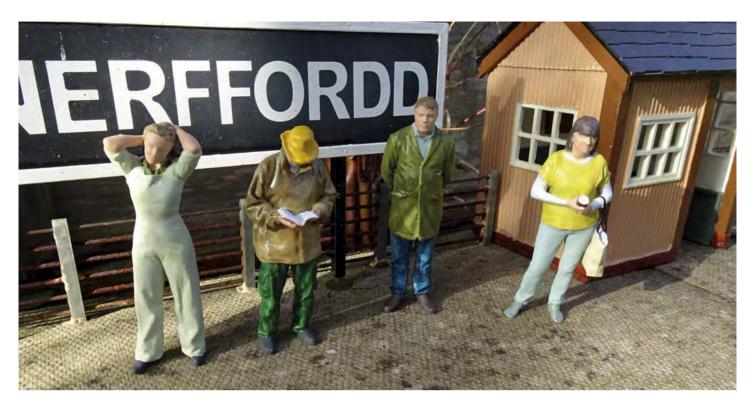
All the windows had to be removed and replaced with plastic from Peco point packaging, which on turn damaged some of the bodywork. After a little cursing my PPM 50 is back in full working order now and sort of looks OK if you stay more than 10ft away from it. I just hope West Midlands Trains don't loose their franchise....

Forgot to mention that I built the

PPM 50 long before the Stourbridge shuttle. The Stourbridge shuttle is run by class 139s which are PPM 60s. Basically the same machine but about a metre longer, one extra side window and capacity for 60 passengers (that's going to be a crush) instead of 50. You can see the new livery if you Google Class 139.

Chris Morris





PEOPLE

In Garden Rail Issue 305 for January 2020 Peter Bakke said of our railways' travelling or lineside population that he is not personally fond of caricatures. I had been looking for a source of realistic scale figures at 1:19 so I too have tried Hardy's Hobbies with whom he has had good service and results.

Their website shows a wide range of figures in realistic poses, available in a range of scales. I have bought four as a trial. The 3D printed figures are hollow with small holes in the underside of their shoes.

To keep them upright

whilst on duty on the railway, without the need for visible support in the form of a baseplate, I have fitted brass tubes of 2.3mm external diameter in one of these holes secured by epoxy resin and flush with the underside of the shoe. Each tube has to have a paper cap glued at the upper end to stop the epoxy running back into the tube, a touch of clear glue will do for this. Possible tube length varies by the shapeliness of the figure's leg, but 4mm is the minimum I have found.

Brass pins fit in these tubes. The pins locate in other brass tubes glued flush into holes in the platform or road surface. To

avoid having the pins protruding they are removable so that the figures can be propped up anywhere and the surface they stand on does not have permanent raised pins. The figures can be moved around both by facing in varying directions on their pins and by providing a selection of tubes along platforms and roads.

All figures are spray painted with white primer (from Halfords) whilst standing on temporary longer pins. They can also be parked on these supports between applications of coloured paints.

Julian James





Reading your editorial on R/C, I think there's room for both shelf and self build systems.

Myself, I'm a great believer in the Deltang system, so simple & small. I have attached a photo of a Phil Sharples loco which people said could not be radio controlled. I would like to see someone build a system to fit this Loco.



The rear overhang might be a problem on tight radius lines







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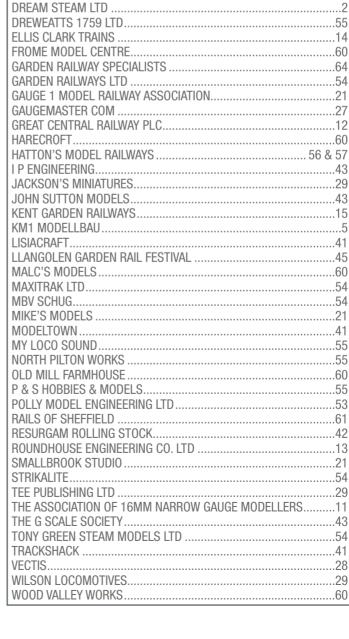
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The Jurby Light Railway & Navigation Co.

Andrew Storey has sent us some photos of his line.

t all started with a restored Mamod SL1 locomotive, which burnt the Living room carpet and left a circle of oil behind. Both my train and I were evicted, dispatched to the garden, my wife allowing me to use a corner of the plot. All I had to do was strike a balance of locomotives, rolling stock, infrastructure and budget!

The line steadily grew over three years with a fleet of live steam and battery powered models running on dead Peco SM32 rails. I decided to try to give my line the industrial feel and look of a narrow gauge working mine

and quarry, so in the sidings, I've used second hand O gauge track.

Trucks are built with whatever I can get my hands on. My margarine tub

rubble skips are now infamous! They are left outside all year round. Nothing weathers trucks better than real weather and the tattier they look, the better.

Although small by some standards, on a Sunday BBQ with friends, family and a cold beer, I can sit and watch trains trundle round with out straining my neck or chasing runaways.

The hobby suits us. I get to run and build engineering landscapes and my wife Cheryl designs and plants the garden. Her involvement seems to increase the budget, so my tip is to get your wife involved with your line. The canal was Cheryl's idea and the low level is under construction again we sort of have an idea no plan just adjust as we go along.

The garden railway is never finished.







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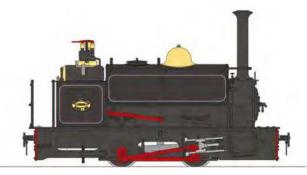
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The more generous proportions of the 'Large' type Quarry Hunslets will prove beneficial to the locomotive's run-time although to avoid compromising the look of the model we will only be offering it in 32mm gauge. The model is gas-fired and fitted with a water top up valve, water check valve, miniature pressure gauge; constructed of stainless

steel and etched brass with a copper boiler, the model will, as usual, be covered by our two-year warranty. The anticipated UK RRP is £1595.00 (subject to the usual provisos), available Q3 2020.









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