

GAUGEMASTER Ruby DCC Decoders



The decoders in the Ruby range are extremely reliable and have been specially chosen to cover as may eventualities that may arise when you are running DCC locomotives.

The decoders have a whole host of features, including:

- 2 Digit and 4 Digit Addressing
- 128 Speed Step Operation (14 or 28 steps can also be used)
- 3 Step Speed Tables set start, mid, and max voltage for custom controls
- 28 Step Speed Tables with 256 level resolution for precise control
- Torque Compensation for smooth silent running
- Constant Brightness Lighting with directional or independent control, with effects
- Advanced Consisting
- Direct mode programming
- Decoder Reset CV with or without speed table reset
- Motor Isolation Protection helps prevent damage to your decoder
- Direct plug socket for DCC99 PowerPal (DCC90/91/94/95 only)



DCC99 PowerPal for use with DCC90/91/94/95

The PowerPal is designed to keep your locomotives running through dirty or dead track sections. Once a bad bit of track is detected the capacitors kick in and keep the motion, lights and sounds alive until power is restored. The time period can change depending on the decoder that the PowerPal is fitted to.

40mm (L) x 14mm (W) x 8mm (D). Harness length 110mm.

£22.50 each



DCC90 2fn Standard Decoder 8 Pin

A 2 function, 1.5A - 2.0A max decoder with 8 pin

27mm (L) x 17mm (W) x 7mm (D). Harness length 25mm.

£20.00 each



DCC91 2fn Standard Decoder 21 Pin

A 2 function, 1.5A - 2.0A max direct plug 21 pin

21mm (L) x 16mm (W) x 4mm (D).

£21.00 each



DCC92 2fn Small Decoder 8 Pin

A 2 function, 1.0A - 1.5A max decoder with 8 pin harness.

12mm (L) x 10mm (W) x 3mm (D). Harness length 45mm.

£21.00 each



DCC93 2fn Small Decoder 6 Pin

A 2 function, 1.0A - 1.5A max direct plug 6 pin decoder.

10mm (L) x 11mm (W) x 3mm (D).

£25.00 each



DCC94 6fn Pro Decoder 8 Pin

A 6 function, 1.5A – 2.0A max decoder with an 8 pin harness.

27mm (L) x 17mm (W) x 7mm (D). Harness length 25mm.

£31.50 each



DCC95 6fn Pro Decoder 21 Pin

A 6 function, 1.5A – 2.0A max direct-plug 21 pin decoder.

21mm (L) x 16mm (W) x 4mm (D).

£31.50 each









GM360 Gaugemaster Catalogue £5.00

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Richard Foster
I'd love to have seen
No. 4079 on the East
Coast Main Line in 1925,
showing the LNER how
to do things properly!



George Dent
A fabulous baseboard
kit has just arrived from
Tim Horn, so I've started
planning my latest layout
project in earnest.



Chris Leigh
I'm mentally planning
the next project while
building this one. I need
a Christmas break! Will
there be a Christmas?



Chris Gadsby
With the house
renovation complete, I'm
busy working on my next
big project, this time for
the magazine!



Chris Nevard

Our ace snapper is building a name for himself on the folk music circuit. Is there no end to his talents?



Peter Marriott

Peter is our jet-setting scenic guru. He knows what products are available and how to get the very best from them.



Dave Lowery

Professional modelmaker Dave works on top secret projects for train builders and model manufacturers.



Paul A. Lunn

Paul is full of ideas for innovative and exciting layout designs with almost endless possibilities.



Ben Ando

Ben is a seriously talented modeller and 'N' gauge expert. He's also started making his own RTR models.

Get in touch: E-mail the magazine at *modelrail@bauermedia.co.uk* or call 01733 468000

Life's better with Model Rail

Here's why: Starting as a supplement in *RAIL* magazine, *Model Rail* went 'standalone' in 1997. Each issue we bring you easyto-follow modelling projects that you can complete without breaking the bank, inspirational photographs of the best model railways and thorough, unbiased reviews so you can make the most informed choices when spending your money. Don't forget our own model ranges - see pages **104-107**.



How many times have you heard someone say that, having bought a certain locomotive or unit, they *had* to build a layout on which to run it?

This issue, we've taken that one step further by offering you the best locomotives

that will inspire lots of layouts! What do I mean by that? Well, take our '16XX' for example – buy one locomotive and you can build layouts depicting industrial South Wales, rural England or the highlands of Scotland.

There's something incredibly intriguing about seeing a locomotive away from its natural home. This is mainly something that steam enthusiasts can enjoy, as most diesel and electrics were designed for nationwide use. The biggest exception that springs to mind is the sight of Class 73s, built for the Southern Region, trundling up the West Highland.

It's why the 1948 Locomotive Exchanges are so fascinating. Locomotives were designed for use on home metals so it must have been a wonderful thing to experience a 'West Country' in Scotland or an 'A4' on the South Western main line.

This is a fascinating subject and when you start researching, more keep springing to mind. We've had to ignore isolated cases – such as Hawksworth '94XX' No. 9401 visiting the Great Eastern in 1957 – but, sadly, space limitation means that we've not been able to include them all (see the Maunsell 'Ns' used in Ireland above). Have a look to see if we've included your favourite.

Richard Foster Editor

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The place to share your projects with the Model Rail community.

According to Chris...
Chris discusses the research involved in our upcoming '16XX' exclusive model.

Inspiration

Layout: Mallingford
Kevin Mitchell has merged a location
and a film to create 'Mallingford Colliery Halt'.

Lots of layouts: Ivatt '4MT'
Richard Foster takes a look at a post-war
classic that seemed to get everywhere.

Lots of layouts: Class 73
Chris Gadsby looks at the popular electro-diesel that's started to spread its wings.

Lots of layouts: 'Terrier'
The story of these cheeky Victorian survivors is like no other.

Lots of layouts: Class 25
Chris Gadsby takes a closer look at the versatile Type 2 locomotive.

Lots of layouts: '16XX'
Richard Foster takes a look at
a branch line warrior.

Lots of layouts: The rest Richard Foster shares ten of the best locomotives for operating on lots of layouts.

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Bachmann's '2-HAP' EMU and Class 159, Dapol's prototype HST, Cavalex's BBA steel carrier, Murphy Models' Class 121, Graham Farish's HKA wagon, Peco's FR 'Small Birminghams' and a mini test of the best products for modelling rocks.



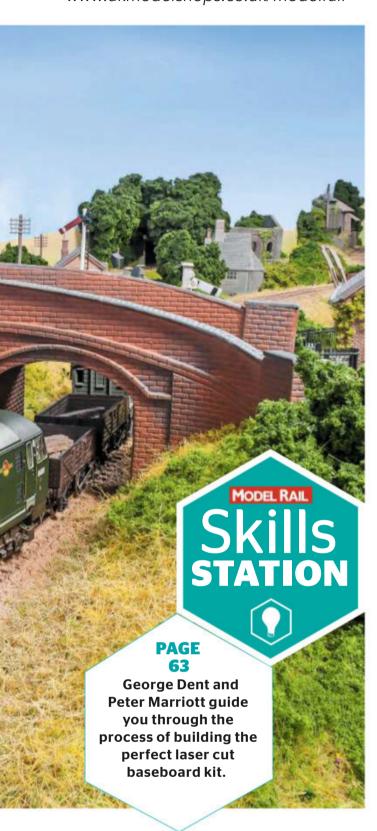
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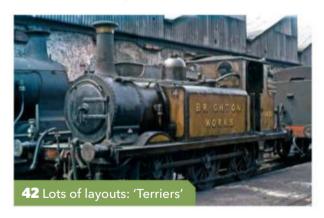
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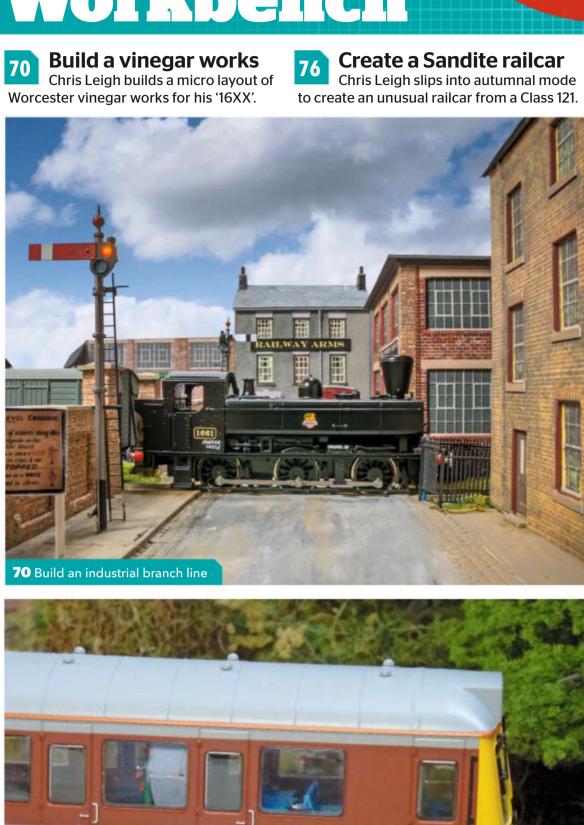
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The latest happenings from the world of model railways



The Big Picture

Remember the days when every town and city had its own gas works? David Vaughan does, and now uses his layout 'Gasworks Basin' not only as a nostalgia trip, but also to help educate younger people as to what life used to be like before the days of offshore gas. You can read all about it in the next issue of Model Rail. Photography: CHRIS NEVARD



'73/9' POWERS ONWARD

MS Railtech is in talks with Accurascale to produce both versions of the Class 73/9 in 'OO' gauge. However, the project - to produce the two '73/9s' rebuilt for Network Rail by RVEL and the 11 rebuilt by Brush for GBRf - will only go ahead if enough people register their interest.

A final specification is yet to be decided but it is expected that the model will be offered in NR, GBRf and Caledonian Sleeper liveries and will feature a heavy die-cast metal chassis, etched metal and plastic detail parts, a five-pole motor with two flywheels and a fully detailed lighting pack. It is also planned



that the model will contain a backup power capacitor to give up to ten seconds of power-free running with uninterrupted lighting and sound.
The RRP is expected to be
£179.99 (£269.99 for sound).
To register your interest, go

to www.kmsrailtech.co.uk/content/22-class-73-9

◆ To learn more about the Class 73/9 turn to page 36.

HOPPER SHOWSTOPPER

Retailers KMS Railtech and Trains4U have joined forces with Cavalex Models to fill one of the biggest gaps in the ranks of up-to-date modern image 'OO' gauge wagons - the HAA coal hopper.

BR built over 11,000 of these distinctive-looking coal hoppers between 1964 and 1982 for 'merry-go-round' operations between colliery and power station. The ability to load and unload on the move revolutionised BR's coal operations, and these vehicles were in use until 2010.

Cavalex's model is set to include a zinc alloy chassis, 26mm axles for easy conversion to 'P4' and 'EM', NEM

Cavalex HAA coal hopper What's planned?



HAA, Coal Sector yellowHAA, EWS livery

HFA, Coal Sector yellow

HFA, EWS livery

Price? TBC

When's it due? Q3 2021

What stage is it at? Tooling

Where can I find out more? KMS Railtech
Web: www.kmsrailtech.co.uk Trains4U Web: www.trains4u.com

coupler pockets and sprung buffers. The first batch of HAA and canopy-fitted HFAs will be joined at a later date by original stainless steel body types and the CDA china clay variant. These models are exclusive to Trains4U and KMS Railtech and cannot be ordered through any other retailer.



ORE-INSPIRING

KRModels has announced plans to produce the bogie ore wagons used on the famous Consett-Tyne Dock workings in both 'OO' and 'N'. BR built 30 of these 36ft 5in long wagons at its Shildon Works. They're best known for working with '9Fs', which had to be fitted with air pumps along the running plate to operate the wagon's discharge doors.

CAD design work is nearly complete and KR expects the models to be in stock in Q3 2021.

A triple-pack retails for £67.00, but a full length nine-wagon pack will be available for £199.00. For further details, see www.krmodels.co.uk



AUTHOR OMISSION

Gremlins got into our Class 13 'Masterclass' last issue. Tinsley and the Modernisation of Sheffield's Railways was written by Chris Booth AND Alex Fisher. Apologies for any inconvenience caused.

Keep up to date with Model Rail News online.



TREAT YOUR TRACKSIDES

Scale Model Scenery has released a number of new laser-cut timber and 3D-printed products, including **Train Protection and Warning** System (TPWS) grids, rivet strips, gas bottles and a small barn. All are available from www.scalemodelscenery.co.uk

What's available? KX057-OO Barn/store

Price: £7.49

LX349-OO TPWS Mini-grids/Transmitter loops

Price: £4.49



LX348-OO TPWS Grids/Transmitter loops

Price: £4.49

LX337-OO Rivet Strips (8mm wide) **Price:** £4.99 AX134-OO Red gas bottles **Price:** £4.79

ncoming Updates on exciting new ready-to-run model projects

OO HATTONS FOUR-WHEEL COACHES

What's planned? Five Compartment, Four Compartment and Brake in GWR, GNR, LBSCR, LNWR, LNER, Midland and Southern liveries.

Price? From £30.00 When's it due? Q2 2021

What stage is it at? Engineering prototype



REVOLUTION TRAINS IPA CAR CARRIER

What's planned? Flat twin sets and flat twin sets with stakes are being offered in STVA grey or red, covered twin sets in STVA red and covered quad sets in STVA grey, STVA red and Groupe CAT blue, and most versions are available with at least two running numbers.

Price? £60-£120 When's it due? 2021

What stage is it at? Engineering prototype

OO HATTONS SIX-WHEEL COACHES

What's planned? Five compartment, Four compartment with lavatory and brake, Full Brake in GWR, GNR, LBSCR, LNWR, LNER, Midland, Southern and BR

Departmental liveries. Price? From £30.00

When's it due? Q2 2021

What stage is it at? Engineering prototype



REVOLUTION TRAINS MTV/ZKV 'ZANDER'

What's planned?

- MTV, BR bauxite
- ZKV, BR bauxite
- ZKV, BR 'Dutch' grey/yellow
- ZKV, BR 'Dutch' grey/yellow, Mainline branding

Price? £19.95-£59.85 When's it due? 2021 What stage is it at? CAD design



REVOLUTION IWA 'HOLDALL'

What's planned?

- Norsk Hydro livery
- Cargowaggon livery
- Unbranded

Price? £70.00 (twin pack)

When's it due? 2021

What stage is it at? Engineering

prototype



REVOLUTION 'REFNOOS' BOGIE

What's planned? Timber wagon converted from IWA 'Holdall' van, to be offered in Touax blue livery but with different running numbers.

Price? £70.00 (twin pack)

When's it due? 2021

What stage is it at? Engineering prototype



In Brief

CEMENT CLASSIC

Osborn's Models has released a modern cement lorry as its next 'N' gauge model under its British Commercial Classics brand. Available in white, orange and unpainted, the lorry is available exclusively from Osborn's Models.

What's available?

- A3D103 Cement lorry, white Price: £16.95
- A3D107 Cement lorry, orange **Price:** £16.95
- A3D106 Cement lorry, unpainted **Price:** £13.95

Availability:

www.osbornsmodels.com



TIMODEL SHAKES IT UP

Timodel has produced a new paint shaker to thoroughly mix modelling paints and avoid streaks and flakes. Rather than inserting a stirrer and mixing internally, the Timodel shaker mixes the pot by externally shaking it once the bottle or jar has been strapped in place. The shaker will be available in model shops from November with an RRP of £27.95, you can also order online at www.timodel.co.uk

NEW DECODERS

Rails of Sheffield has announced a new range of four DCC decoders, three of which are available now. Created by DCCconcepts and available exclusively at Rails of Sheffield, the decoders offer support for coreless motors and contain brown-out protection for smooth motor operation. On sale now is a 21-pin six-function decoder, a six-pin, two-function nano decoder and an eight-pin, four-function nano decoder, all priced at £19.95



Show & Tell

The place to share your projects with the Model Rail community.



Track to the future

This is my latest project, an 'O' gauge freelance layout. The previous owner had called the station Bluebell Park, and one of the first things I've done is add more track for greater operational possibilities. **Kev Goodsell**



To try and make chassis building easier,

building a machine to cut my own gears.

I'm having a go at designing and

Julia Adams

Stepping it up a gear

Coach conversions

My time has been spent finishing two former Brecon & Merthyr Railway coaches, which were initially LSWR stock, by converting them into their GWR guise. As well as the pictured six-wheel First, I've adapted a Brake Third.

Gareth Haines



Wagon winner

I took part in a 'shelf queen' competition to complete unfinished projects, which really helped me to get this 'O' gauge PAA sand wagon completed. I'm pleased to say it came in third place!

Andy Sollis



Keep up to date with Model Rail News online.

Class act

I've declassified one of the new Farish 'N' gauge First Open coaches and I even remembered to remove the First Class labels from the inside of the windows! Behind it is the now-condemned, much hacked-about, old tooling conversion I did some years ago, which is now destined for the parts pile.

John Upton



Splashing out

I've added this paddling pool to one of the gardens on my layout. It was 3D-printed by Jumble Lane Printing and then I filled it with resin and added some figures.

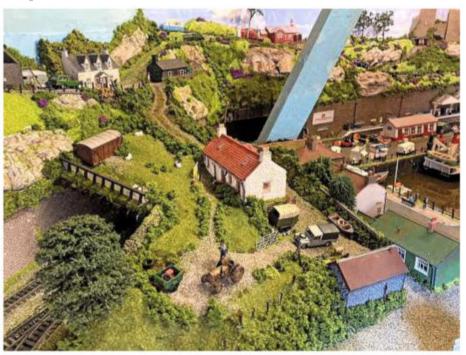
Peter Gower



Toning things down

Although my layout has been scenically covered, I've been refreshing some of the scatter with new, more realistic blends of static grass as I feel the top left section is far too bright!

Gwyn Lishman



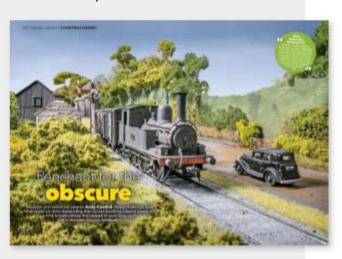
Letters

Family connection

I was delighted to read the article regarding Andy's 'Courtmacsherry' layout (July 2020). My wife and I know Courtmacsherry very well and have researched a lot of the Cork Bandon & South Coast Railway, in particular the line from Clonakilty Junction. We have a family connection to this line as my wife's grandfather was once the stationmaster at Clonakilty junction, and that is where my wife's mother and father met.

The village of Gaggin was extensively photographed and I used these to model the church and stationmaster's house, plus I had old photos from which to work out how to build the station. There is a track plan for the junction in Ernie Shepherd's Cork Bandon & South Coast Railway book. All that remains in the

village of Gaggin, where the junction was, is the main road which had been the track bed and the stationmaster's house and an old lamp shed which is now a garden shed. The houses opposite are very much the same but the village itself has many new houses. The pine



trees that are in the old photographs are still there by the road side. That is the side where the station shelter is, with the main building opposite and the signal box also on the platform.

I followed most of the track bed from the junction to Courtmacsherry and photographed what's left. There is a mile marker in the wall by the church in Courtmacsherry and, of course, the station buildings and some platform. The old locomotive shed is still there but is now a boat store.

David Beck

Modelling maestros

In MR270, you spoke about your modelling heroes. Well, I have modelled in numerous scales ('N', 'OO', 'OO9', 16mm, 7¼in gauge) for over 50 years. I was also a volunteer at the Bala Lake Railway in the 1990s.

Two of my heroes were the late Henry Holdsworth, of Lynton & Barnstaple 'Lynbridge' fame and the late Malcolm Savage, hero of 5.5mm scale narrow gauge.

I knew Malcolm quite well. As well as seeing him at numerous

exhibitions, he came down to Bala a few times when I was on the footplate. I remember letting him onto the footplate for a ride from Llanuwchllyn station platform down to the coaling point/water tower. After taking numerous pictures of all parts of the



locomotive, he asked if he could have a footplate ride back to the train.

"Yes," I said, "once you've put your foot out!"

He had stood in the hot clinker that had just come out of the firebox and not noticed that he had set his shoe on fire. That's something you don't get on a model!

John Harrison

www.model-rail.co.uk

Opening the box



Motoring ahead

The latest addition to my Colchester shed layout is a CDC Design, 3D-printed 'J68' on a 'J69' chassis with 15mm spoke wheels from SE Finecast. I found that the chassis did need very slight alterations to fit the body, and the small Mashima motor with a gear box driving the centre wheels fits easily inside.

Paul Goldsmith

Clay time

Inspired by Chris Nevard, I've used a surplus piece of track to test his method of using DAS clay for the yard on my layout. Evidently there is a lot of work still needed but I'm learning all the time!

lan Shawyer



Branching out

Recently I have begun a new build of a Southern Railway branch line. The station was once just a through line to another village, but that was closed a long time ago. This isn't based on anywhere in particular as I've focused on operational interest, rather than a prototypical scene.

Jonnie Pay

Ground work

This is my new layout of a terminus station which I was inspired to create from an article in *Model Rail* a few months ago. At the moment I'm just laying track and marking out the positions of buildings, but I'm looking forward to making more progress!

Paul Slyfield



Letters

Clean break

Thank you for the great advice in MR274, especially 'Tidy your Railway Room'.

As soon as the lockdown period commenced, I set to with a duster, brush, and vacuum cleaner to take away all those carefully deposited layers of dirt and dust that had settled on the ballast, scenery, and buildings. Unless you look closely you often don't realise how grubby everything becomes over time. Having completed those tasks I then set about testing, running and cleaning locomotives and

rolling stock.
I now know where
everything is and
I also now know
exactly what I've got,
and (almost)
everything runs
beautifully.
During the process
I discovered
locomotives and
wagons I'd
forgotten about.

Tidying up the railway room was always a high priority

on the list of jobs, as my ever-patient wife kept reminding me, but I never got round to it. Without the lockdown, when would these jobs have been done?

Cleaning the railway room is now a weekly task.

John Holmes

That way inclined

I really enjoyed reading 'Masterclass' in MR275 about 'Big Bertha' operating on the Lickey Incline. My parents moved to a house close to the coaling stage of Bromsgrove shed in 1946.

As a six-year-old, you can imagine how huge this locomotive seemed. Some of my schoolfriends' fathers were banker drivers so there were lots of thrilling cab rides – just as long as we were not spotted by the signalmen or station staff. I spent many happy days and holidays spotting at Garringtons bridge.

For many years I have collected 'OO' gauge model trains of that area, including an LMS Garratt which I intend to renumber as the one which took 'Bertha's' place while it visited Derby Works in 1933.

lan Stokes



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HST-P



20-027-001 - HST-P Power Car Pack 1 Prototype Passenger Livery DMBs 41001 & 41002



2D-027-002 - HST-P Power Car Pack 2 Departmental FYE DMBs 975812 & 975813



2P-007-001 - HST-P Saloon Pack 1- 2 TF 11000 & 11001 & 2 TS 12000 & 12001 2P-007-002 - HST-P Saloon Pack 2 - 2 TF 11002 & 11003 & 2 TS 12002 & 12003



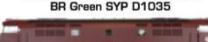
2P-007-003 - HST-P Buffet Pack - 10000 Buffet TRSB 10100 Kitchen TRUK



Western



20-003-012 - Western Yeoman



2D-003-014 - Western Dragoon BR Maroon SYP D1034



2D-003-016 - Western Gladiator

BR Maroon FYE D1016

20-003-013 - Western Harrier BR Maroon Yellow Buffer Beam D1008



2D-003-015 - Western Duke BR Chromatic Blue SYE D1034 Large Double Arrows



2D-003-017 - Western Prince BR Blue FYE D1041 DCC Versions also available



7F-037-001 - GWR Conflat 39860 **BD2 Chocolate Container** B-2020 Door to Door



7F-037-004 - BR Conflat A B735200 **BD** Bauxite Container 46577B Door to Door



7F-037-003 - GWR Conflat 39326 **BK2 Choc Container** BK-1829 Furniture Removal



7F-037-006 - BR Conflat A B735819 **BD Crimson Container** 73581 British Railways

Conflat &

7F-037-002 - GWR Conflat 39612 BD2 Chocolate Container B-1788 Door to Door

7F-037-005 - BR Conflat A B735364 BD Bauxite Container 47324B Door to Door

7F-037-100 - GWR Conflat 36692 12 Tons Tare 6-1

7F-037-101 - GWR Conflat 36508 Non Vacuum H9

> 7F-037-102 - BR Conflat A B735201 13 Tons Tare 6.13

7F-037-103 - BR Conflat A B735233 13 Tons Tare 6-0

Class 121 7D-009-001 - Class 121 W55020 BR Green Speed Whiskers 7D-009-002 - Class 121 W55027 BR Green SYP 7D-009-003 - Class 121 W55029 BR Blue/Grey 7D-009-004 - Class 121 W55023 BR Blue 7D-009-005 - Class 121 W55020 GWR 150 Chocolate & Cream DCC and DCC & Sound Versions also available

7F-061-001 - Bogie Bolster Wagon E BR 923358 Bauxite TOPS BEV 7F.061-003 - Bogie Bolster Wagon E BR 923444 Bauxie TOPS YNV 7F.061-003 - Bogie Bolster Wagon E BR 923528 Bauxie TOPS YRV S&T 7F-061-004 - Bogie Bolster Wagon E BR 923791 Bauxite TOPS YNV

7F-061-005 - Bogie Bolster Wagon E BR 923962 Bauxite TOPS YRV S&T 7F-061-006 - Bogie Bolster Wagon E BR 924327 Bauxite TOPS BEV

7F-017-005 - Lime Van ICI L24 Red 7F-017-005W - Lime Van ICI L24 Red Weathered

2S-012-013 - Terrier A1X 32650 BR Lined Black E/Crest Ex IOW Fishbourn 2S-012-014 - Terrier A1 Gipsyhill 643 Marsh Umber Brown

25-012-015 - Terrier A1X 32635 Brighton Works Imp Eng Gm 25-012-016 - Terrier A1X No 72 Newhaven Harbour Company Lined Black

4F-050-002 - 0 & K JHA End Hopper Foster Yeoman 19311 Early 4F-050-003 - O & K JHA End Hopper Foster Yeoman 19306 Late 4F-050-004 - D & K JHA End Hopper Foster Yeoman 19313 Late 4F-050-101 - D & K JHA Middle Hopper Foster Yeoman 19335 Early 4F-050-102 - 0 & K JHA Middle Hopper Foster Yeomen 19337 Early 4F-050-103 - O & K JHA Middle Hopper Foster Yeoman 19349 Early 4F-050-104 - 0 & K JHA Middle Hopper Foster Yeoman 19361 Late 4F-050-105 - D & K JHA Middle Hopper Foster Yeomen 19370 Late 4F-050-106 - 0 & K JHA Middle Hopper Foster Yeoman 19398 Late

4F-050-001 - 0 & K JHA End Hopper Foster Yeoman 19303 Early

2P-005-323 - MK 3 GWR Green 1st Class 41149 L HST 2P-005-339 - MK 3 **GWR** Green 2nd Class 42579 E HST 2P-005-340 - MK 3 **GWR** Green 2nd Class 42300 F HST

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According to Chris...

...lt's no coincidence that our models exhibit a particular suitability for extraordinary settings

ecently, a reader remarked on Model Rail's Facebook page that he could not recall having ever seen '16XX' 0-6-0PT No. 1661 carrying the chalked Vinegar Castle name when he used to see it in Worcester. We research all our exclusive models very carefully and in this instance the model accurately

So far, all our exclusive models, the Sentinel, 'USA', 'J70' and the '16XX' have been researched by the editors at

represents No. 1661 as it appears in Irwell Press' The Pannier Papers No. 5.

the time, Ben Jones and Richard Foster. They had input from me and from several experts outside the editorial team. But, for my part, I'm less interested in the individual detail differences between members of the same class than I am about the settings in which they operated. Whether those settings helped to influence the choice of prototype, I'm not sure, but looking back over them, they are all so special that they would have been hard to ignore.

I recall, when the Sentinel was first mooted, Nigel Harris drew my attention to a picture of an Eastern

> Region Departmental Sentinel dwarfed by a huge stack of sleepers at the Lowestoft Works where wooden sleepers were impregnated with creosote. The locomotive on which we based the Sentinel

was the preserved example at Quainton Road. This was formerly *Isebrook*, which operated at a quarry in Burton Latimer, near Kettering, Northamptonshire. My son lives in Burton and taught for a while at the Ise Academy in Kettering. The quarry site is a short walk from his home but has disappeared under a large Morrisons depot. I found a photograph of *Isebrook* in battered green paint still with its name, and operating as an unpowered brake van. I have a Model Rail Sentinel set aside for a conversion. We chose not to issue our Sentinel as *Isebrook* because it seems not to

have run as a locomotive in green as named and **be**cause it had some locally made alterations. However, I'm pleased **to** see that Dapol has produced an **'O**' gauge *Isebrook*.

The idea to model the **'U**SA' 0-6-0T really appealed to me, mainly due to a visit I had made, as a teenager, to Southampton Docks. I had (to my eternal dismay) not taken a single number of a 'USA' despite the fact that I probably saw



Dapol's 'O' gauge Sentinel Isebrook shunts a Minerva Models gunpowder van on my Oakworth layout.

them all! I was too captivated by the ships, particularly the RMS Queen Elizabeth, the SS United States, and SS Bremen. I would still like to model a major dock scene one day.

The 'J70', of course, prompted my little model based on Newcommon Bridge at Wisbech with H.B. Brown's general store and the Wisbech & Upwell tramway on its doorstep. I used a Tim Horn baseboard so that it will be easy to extend that little diorama. I particularly want to model the chapel in Elm, with the tramway right outside.

Now, the '16XX' project is nearing its climax with the arrival of production models from China not too far off. Again, we've chosen a locomotive class which is right at home in some very special settings. On a personal level, I have a couple of my brother's photographs of a '16XX' at Kemble with the Cirencester-branded 'Toad' brake van. Tetbury branch freight traffic had ended by then but a lightweight '16XX' had been required for that branch, not for Cirencester. No. 1664 performed its last duty on the Tetbury branch just a couple of days before complete closure of the line. It worked the end of term special for Westonbirt Girls School, hauling a full brake and two LMS Stanier coaches.

Outside my personal experience, the '16XXs' worked in some idyllic locations, particularly on the minor routes within the Forest of Dean, the Cleobury Mortimer & Ditton Priors Light Railway and the so-called Vinegar branch at Worcester. Here, the railway served the world's largest producer of vinegar, much-needed for preserving food in the days before widespread access to refrigerators.

As if that wasn't enough, two members of the '16XX' class emigrated to the north of Scotland to work the lightly laid branch from The Mound to Dornoch when the indigenous Highland Railway 0-4-4T suffered a broken crank axle and the '16XXs' were the only available locomotives with a light enough axle loading.

For more on the Vinegar branch and the remarkable Hill, Evans & Co vinegar works, turn to page 70.

66 To my dismay, I didn't take a single number of a 'USA', but probably saw them all! >>

Railtours often visited several branch lines and the motive power needed to suit the branch with the lightest weight restriction, so '16XX' 0-6-OPTs often got the job. No. 1658 is approaching Malmesbury on the branch from Little Somerford with a typical WR railtour. **DON LOVELOCK**



Modeller CV: Chris Leigh

Time to start thinking about where the Brighton 'E1' 0-6-0Ts worked - they had it painted on their tank sides!

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Atribute to 1764 Atribu

Combining a real world location with a fictional movie locale is no mean feat, but **Kevin Mitchell**'s homage to a movie classic has been crafted with skill and finesse.





'N' GAUGE LAYOUT MALLINGFORD COLLIERY HALT



Real twigs with Woodland Scenic foliage glued to them have been used to make the trees.

uilding layouts with television and film themes is nothing new. Just ask Chris Leigh who has *Outlander* and *The Railway Children*-inspired layouts or dioramas in his house (including more we have probably forgotten)! It's important to decide early on whether you're building a scene of a movie or a layout with movie cameos, otherwise you run the risk of it being neither one nor the other.

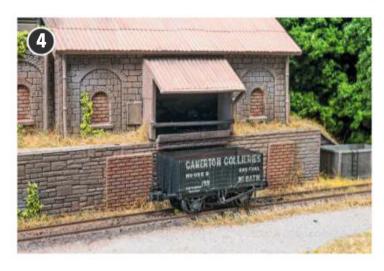
Long-term readers of *Model Rail* may recognise 'Mallingford' from issue 180, in 2013. Like many layouts, after a while it was in need of an overhaul, and this gave Kevin Mitchell the perfect opportunity to make some desired alterations, inspired by one of his favourite railway movies.

Set in the 1950s/60s on the Limpley Stoke to Camerton branch line in North Somerset, 'Mallingford Colliery Halt' is a combination of the real world and one of Kevin's favourite places on the big screen.

"I really like the Ealing Studios comedy film The Titfield Thunderbolt, which was filmed on the closed Limpley Stoke to Camerton branch in the summer of 1952. The story is about how a branch railway is closed by British Railways then taken over and run by the villagers of Titfield, but with opposition from the local bus company. This led to research into the history of the line, and the Somersetshire Coal Canal that preceded it.

Mallingford is the name of the terminus of the Titfield branch line in the film. Dunkerton Colliery Halt was a real station on the Camerton branch serving a large colliery, hence the name of the layout.

"My modelling skills have increased greatly since >

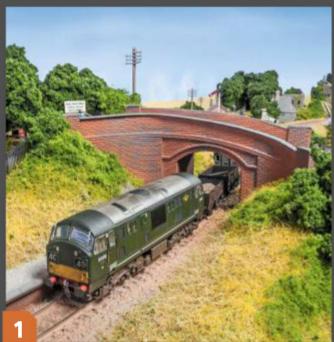




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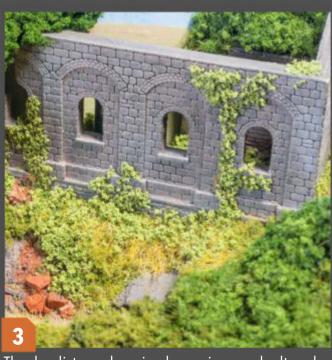
3 things we like



The overbridge is a miniature replica of the real thing at Dunkerton Colliery Halt on the Camerton branch.



The gravel surfaces are made out of used tea bags. The tea leaves are emptied out, dried, then stuck down with PVA and painted.



The derelict canal engine house is a much-altered Ratio locomotive shed.

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'N' GAUGE LAYOUT MALLINGFORD COLLIERY HALT

I started the original 'Mallingford' in 2011, so a couple of years ago I decided to start afresh. There were several reasons for this, varying from just wanting a change to being dissatisfied with some of the areas I'd built first time around. I spent ages trying to come up with a new layout and eventually came to the conclusion that the layout did everything I wanted it to do, I just wasn't happy with the way it looked."

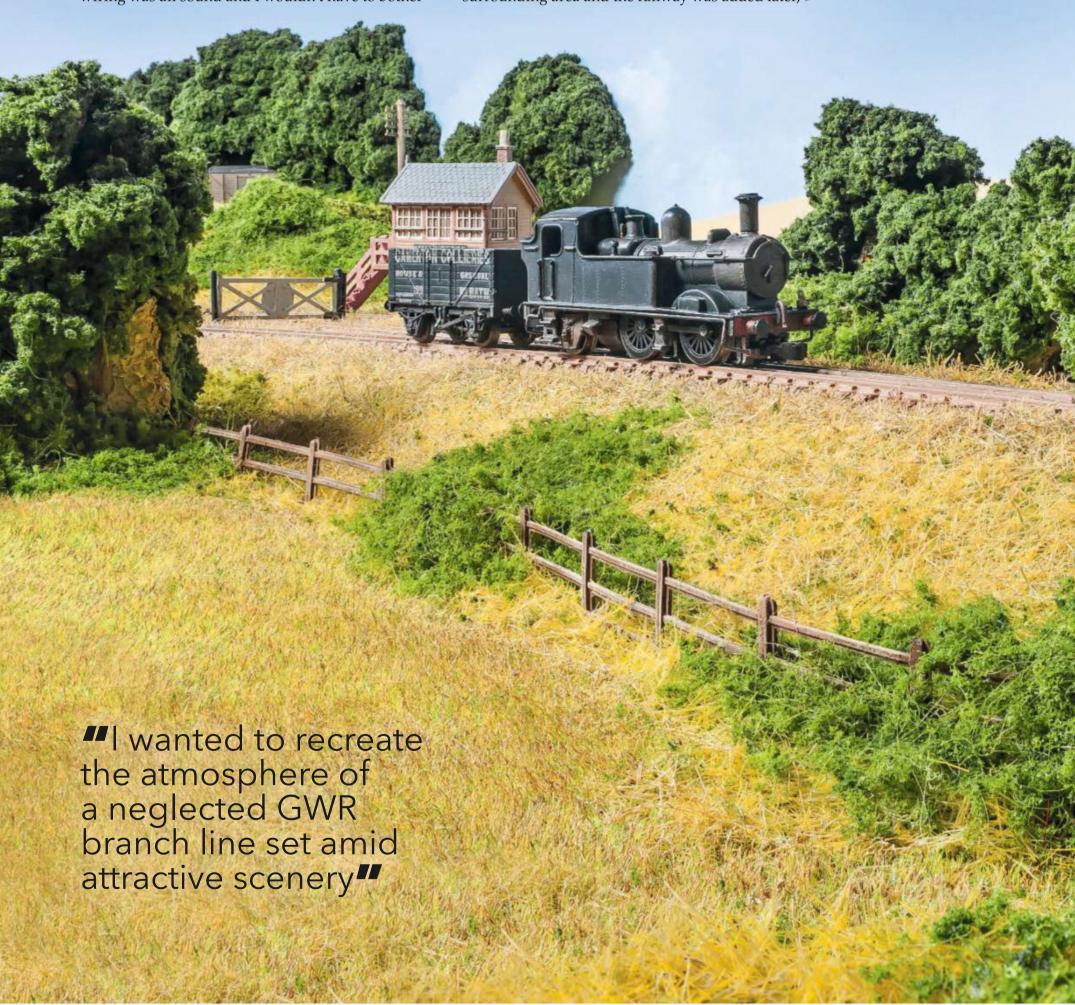
With this fresh perspective, Kevin stripped all of the old scenery from 'Mallingford' and left only the baseboards and track, saving him a lot of time and potential headaches.

"By leaving the track in place I knew that the wiring was all sound and I wouldn't have to bother

with new holes in the baseboard for dropper wires. Since I prefer planning and making scenery to operating layouts, it allowed me to get straight on with my favourite parts. I wanted to recreate the atmosphere of a neglected GWR branch line set amid attractive scenery, and also include the coal industry, the reason the line was built in the first place."

SCALE AND SCOPE

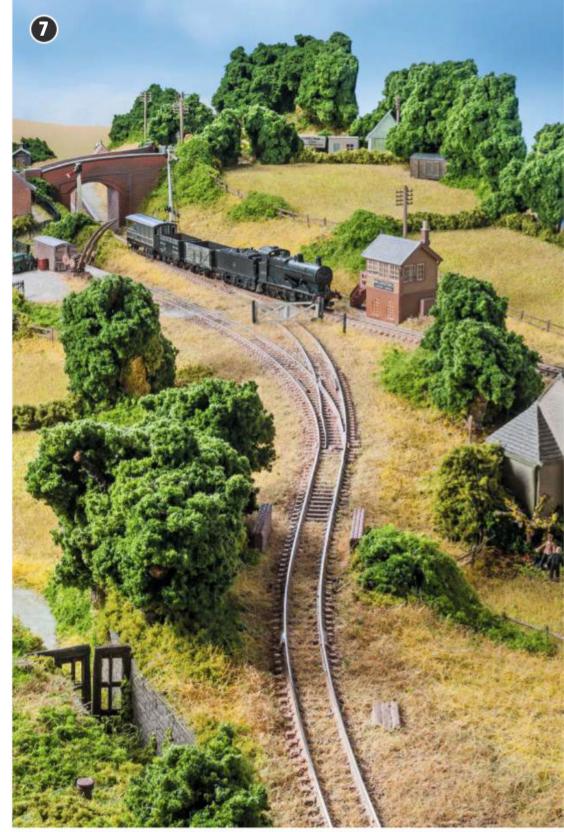
Arguably the main advantage of 'N' over 'OO' gauge is being able to portray a larger area in the same space. In an area of the country such as North Somerset, where the landscape dominates the surrounding area and the railway was added later,











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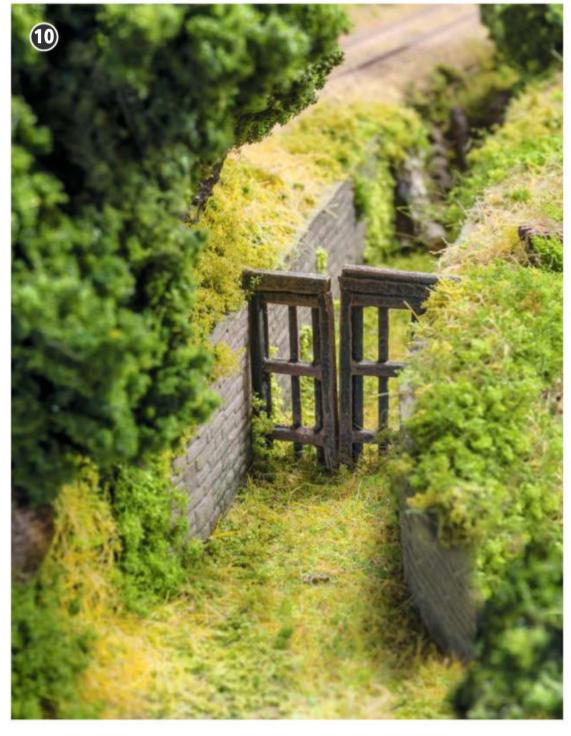


this advantage is magnified. In the modelling hobby where we tend to add the track before anything else, this can be a difficult area in which to achieve an authentic look. An open-frame baseboard, as Kevin has used, is a great way of achieving this.

"Using the open-frame baseboard allowed me to form landscape above and below the track to give the impression that the railway followed the flattest contour possible, exactly as was done on the prototype. I made the scenery with polystyrene off-cuts, including spare ceiling tiles, and once the basic shape was formed the whole lot was covered with papier-mâché to create a natural, undulating look. Although some modellers may shy away from using them, I've found a grass mat really helpful for covering large areas and then, where longer grass was needed, I could add various shades of static grass for variety."

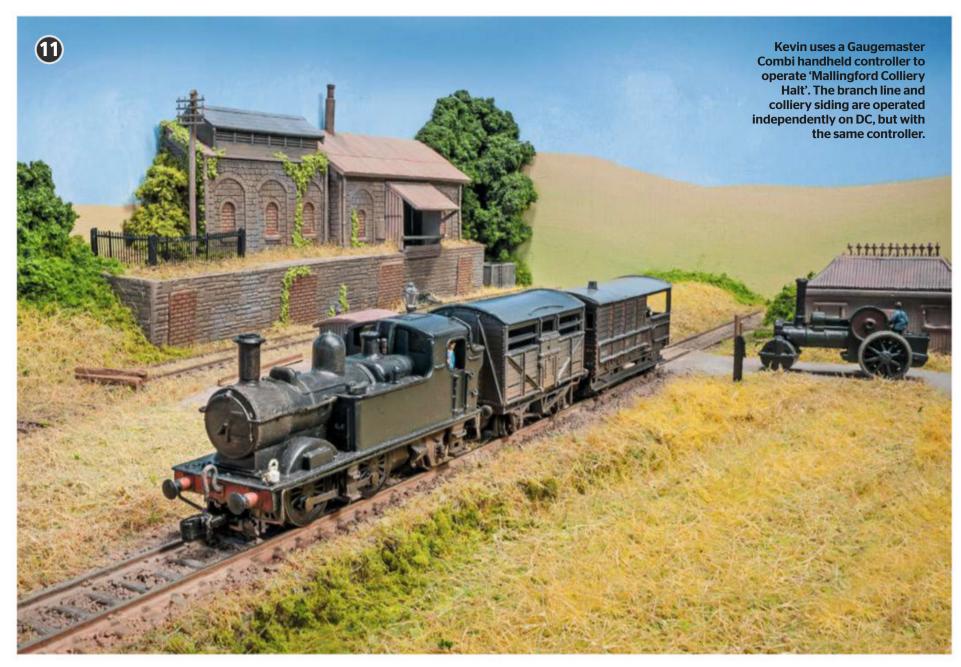
Kevin wasn't completely happy with some of the overall colour palette of the scenery once he'd finished, so he lightly dry-brushed the fields and other grassy areas with yellow emulsion, which highlighted the tips of the grass and created a late summer look. Once the scenery was finished he could concentrate on the infrastructure.

"I don't do a lot of scratchbuilding but set myself the challenge of replicating the road bridge as the original was built to an unusual design, with one straight and one curved face to fit the alignment of the road. To make it even more difficult, the road is on an incline. Even though I'm modelling in 'N' gauge I used 4mm scale flexible plastic brick sheets as I felt the 2mm scale bricks were just too small and would not be noticeable. Luckily the prototype still exists so I was able to photograph and measure it. All of the other structures are out-of-the-box or kit-bashed, such as the colliery buildings which started out as a Ratio goods shed but with a new corrugated iron roof. Finally, the platform running-in board



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'N' GAUGE LAYOUT MALLINGFORD COLLIERY HALT









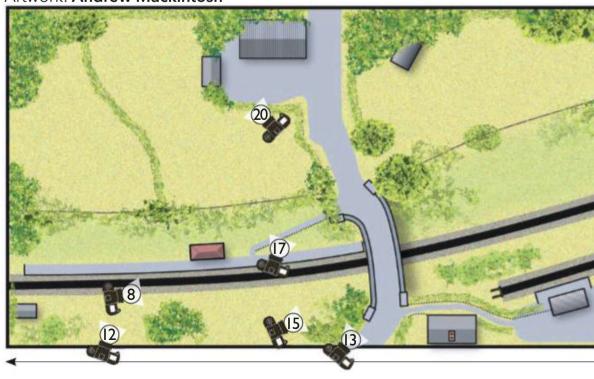
was printed on a colour laser printer and this gave me the opportunity to enhance the film cameo scenes as well."

DOCTORING THE DETAILS

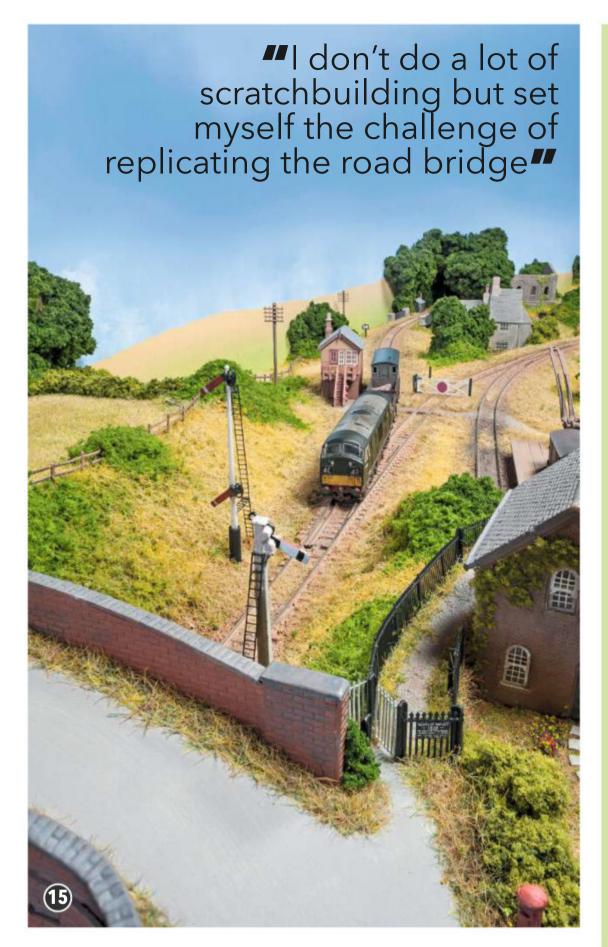
As a fan of *The Titfield Thunderbolt*, Kevin also took the opportunity to insert some cameo scenes at 'Mallingford Colliery Halt' which viewers who have watched the film will recognise. With the colour printer it was easy to personalise the buildings exactly how he liked and, thanks to a gift from a friend, there's also one which is a bit more out of this world.

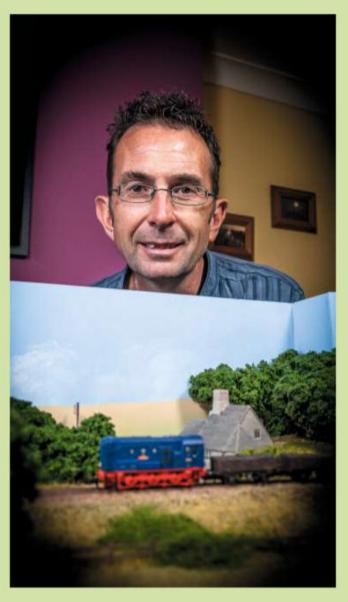
"I was given a 2mm-scale TARDIS and wanted to include it somewhere on the layout, but not where it is too obvious, so it is hidden inside the derelict canal engine house. Possibly one of the strangest places The Doctor has landed! Aspects seen in 'Titfield' include a replica of the bus garage belonging to the villains Pearce & Crump, with an Oxford Diecast Bedford OB bus repainted in their colours and a car crashed into

Artwork: **Andrew Mackintosh**









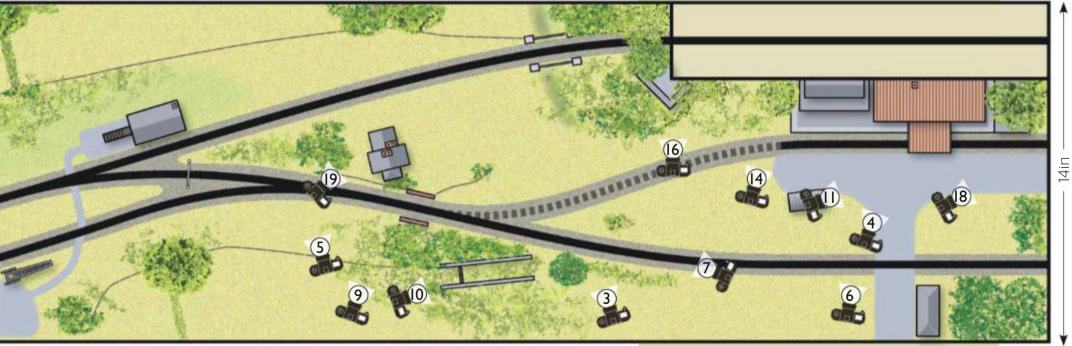
MODELLER CV: KEVIN MITCHELL

My other interests include real-life railways from the steam and early diesel periods, ships, old films, photography and painting. I also enjoy hiking and exploring old railway lines (much to my wife's dismay).

FACTFILE: 'MALLINGFORD COLLIERY HALT'

Gauge and scale: 'N'

Size: 6ft by 14in



'N' GAUGE LAYOUT MALLINGFORD COLLIERY HALT







a road sign reading 'Mallingford: Careful Drivers Welcomed', this raises a smile if anyone spots it."

Although Kevin has included some cameo scenes from the film, this doesn't detract from the rest of the model, and care has been taken to keep the detail as realistic as possible.

"Although the film is clearly a part of the layout I didn't want it to come across as though it was a layout of the film, so made sure I added other aspects too. For example, the now-disused colliery siding. The sleepers here are matchsticks cut to size and by placing those before adding the static grass, I made it look as though the railway is being reclaimed by the landscape. The abandoned canal lock is based on those still seen at Combe Hay on the Somersetshire Coal Canal."

Getting the right balance between creating a layout with a few movie-inspired quirks and a layout which looks as though it is *about* a movie can be tricky, but Kevin has pulled it off. Even if you've never seen the film you'd appreciate the layout as the hints aren't overpowering, yet if you are familiar with them they'll make you smile. Maybe your layout has space for a movie-inspired cameo?







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D. FORYSTHE/COLOUR RAIL

1937: London Midland & Scottish Railway officials start to investigate the possibilities of building a 2-6-0, based on Fowler's 2-6-4T, to replace elderly 0-6-0s.

1944: First sketch of a new Class 4 2-6-0 appears. It's essentially a Fairburn 2-6-4T with the tanks removed.

1945: Henry George Ivatt takes over as LMS' chief mechanical engineer following the death of Charles Fairburn.

1946: First of Ivatt's Class 2 2-6-0s emerges from Crewe Works. It's a rugged, well-proportioned locomotive, fitted with a business-like taper boiler, commodious cab and the running plate sits just above

the driving wheels. Obviously inspired by the wartime US 'S160' 2-8-0s, it sports labour-saving rocking grates and hopper ashpans to suit the post-war railway.

1947: Pioneer Class 4 2-6-0, No. 3000 is unveiled at Horwich. It's an even more radical design than the '2MT'. The boiler is fixed at the smokebox end but supported on brass rubbing plates at the firebox end: the cab is attached to the back of the boiler rather than the frames. The running plate is noticeably high, leaving the wheels and valve gear completely exposed to ease maintenance. Even the regulator rod is visible.

Wheel diameter (tender): 3ft 6½in **Cylinders:** 26in by 17½in (2)

Boiler pressure:225lbs/sq in

Tractive effort:24,555lb

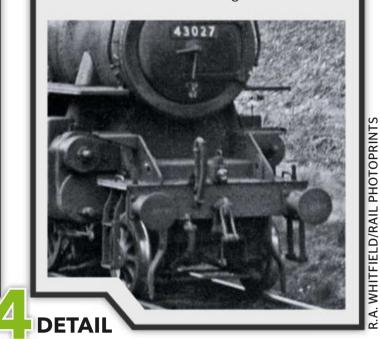
Smokebox

((box out plus pic 5: Credit)) lamp iron was moved to a lower position on the smokebox, although not all received this modification. However, some '4MTs' overhauled at Swindon and Eastleigh circa 1964/1965 not only received this but also had their smokebox door handrails removed and the numberplate fitted onto the top door strap, or just above. Some were also fitted with shorter door straps.



Guard irons

Nos. (4)3000-43106 were built with guard irons fixed to the main frames. From No. 43107, locomotives were built with guard irons fixed to the pony truck. All '4MTs' were modified during the 1950s.



SHED SNAPSHOT

IN NUMBERS

162 built

3 builders

1 survivor

Here are the first sheds for all 162 Ivatt '4MTs':

London Midland Region: Bletchley, Workington, Derby, Bristol Barrow Road, Sheffield Grimesthorpe, Leeds Holbeck, Nottingham, Nuneaton, Sutton Oak, Lancaster Green Ayre, Saltley, Leicester Midland,

Eastern Region: Peterborough New

Skipton, Cricklewood

England, South Lynn, Melton Constable, Yarmouth Beach

North Eastern Region: Middlesbrough, Scarborough, Heaton, Darlington, Hull Dairycoates, Selby

Scottish Region: Eastfield, Carlisle Canal, **Polmont**

DID YOU KNOW?

M&GN '4MTs' were fitted with tablet exchange equipment, mounted in a recessed panel. The cab handrail followed the same curved profile as under the footplate.

Tenders

DAVE COBBE/RAIL PHOTOPRINTS

D. FORSYTHE/COLOUR RAIL

Nos. (4)3000-43019's tenders had a square edge to the footplate and a toe hole above the step. From No. 43020 onwards, the edge under the footplate curved inwards to form a step. From No. 43050 onwards, the rear ladder stopped at bufferbeam level and a rear handrail was fitted. All tenders received the later modified side vents and, with the exception of Nos. 43000-43019, the curved-under footplate step.



Chimneys

DIFFERENCES

Nos. (4)3000-43049 were built with double chimneys, while Nos. 43050-43161 were fitted with a modified 'Black Five' pattern chimney. As a result of experiments at Swindon Works, the whole class was fitted with a new design of chimney, 1ft 6in tall, between 1953 and 1956.



1949: Enginemen soon find that the Ivatt '4MTs' were poor steamers but it takes until April for a serious study of the issues. No. 43027 is used in trials between Crewe and Holyhead. The results prove that a single blastpipe is better and a chimney based on that of a 2-6-4T is fitted.

1950: Doncaster Works outshops its first Ivatt '4MT' (No. 43050) in July, with Darlington producing its first (No. 43070) in August. Arthur Peppercorn had been designing a new, small 2-6-0 for the Eastern and North Eastern Regions but BR management decided that the Ivatt design was preferable.

1951: South Lynn shed's No. 43094 moves

to Swindon Works to see if the class' steaming issue can be resolved. It undergoes tests on both Swindon's April 1952, gives authority to fit new single chimneys based on the work at Swindon. Conversions don't start until April 1953. **1968:** No. 43114 becomes the first '4MT' to be withdrawn when it is condemned from start of 1968, only six - Nos. 43006, 43008, 43019, 43027, 43033 and 43106 - are left in

June, only No. 43106 remains in service, although a minor derailment at Colne back in April means that it's actually laid up at Lostock Hall. Withdrawn on June 23, it's bought by a group of young enthusiasts and, in August, moves to the Severn Valley Railway.

2011: It's a moment that East Anglian railway enthusiasts have waited nearly 50 years to see: an Ivatt '4MT' back on the M&GN. No. 43106, which returned to steam after a lengthy overhaul at the SVR in 2009, makes its first visit to the North Norfolk Railway in August - in fact, it's the locomotive's first visit to another preserved line.

testing plant and on trials between Wantage Road and Filton. The trials are successful and Job No. 5658, issued in Normanton in November 1963. Withdrawals came thick and fast and, by the

service. All are based at Lostock Hall but, by

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'4MTs' IN THE NORTH

The Scottish Region received ten Ivatt '4MTs' in 1951; Nos. 43132-138 went new to Eastfield and Nos. 43140/141 to Polmont. The furthest north Ivatt '4MTs' were recorded was Aviemore (August 9 1952) and Perth (September 17 1952), although Nos. 43132, 133, 135 and 137 spent May and June 1953 working the Fort William-Mallaig line. Other Scottish sheds to host '4MTs' include Kipps, Parkhead, Grangemouth, Bathgate, Dawsholm, Greenock and Hurlford. In order to maximise economies by pooling parts and expertise, Nos. 43132-138, 140/141 were transferred to the North Eastern Region in 1963; nine BR Standard '4MT' 2-6-0s were transferred to Scotland in their place.

No. 43139, meanwhile, went new to Carlisle Canal shed, where it spent ten years working the branch from Riddings Junction on the Waverley Route to Langholm and through to Carlisle. Canal shed, which transferred to the London Midland Region in 1958, closed in 1963 and No. 43139 moved to Kingmoor.

Kingmoor '4MTs' could be found on the Langholm branch, most notably pioneer No. 43000 and No. 43011, which was photographed at Langholm on October 10 1963 with the 3.28pm to Carlisle.



'4MTs' IN THE SOUTH

No Ivatt '4MTs' were allocated to either the Western or Southern Regions (No. 43094 was allocated to Swindon 82C during its trials) but Devons Road depot, in east London, supplied '4MTs' for working cross-London freights from the Southern Region yards at Feltham and Hither Green, duties that they shared Cricklewood-based classmates.

Further south, however, Ivatt '4MTs'

could be seen among the Southern Region paraphernalia at Bournemouth West. Bristol Barrow Road shed received Nos. 43012 new from Horwich Works in April 1948 and was obviously borrowed a lot for Somerset & Dorset Joint services that, by January 1949, it had been loaned to Bath Green Park. No. 43013 followed that August and they were joined by brand new No. 43036 in June and then

No. 43017 in December. However, the lvatts were not a success on the S&D and all had been transferred away by the end of 1953.

Although not working as far south as Bournemouth, No. 43012, now based at Saltley, made a return to Bath Green Park on June 23 1962, where it worked the 12.20pm to Bristol, formed of Southern Region coaches.



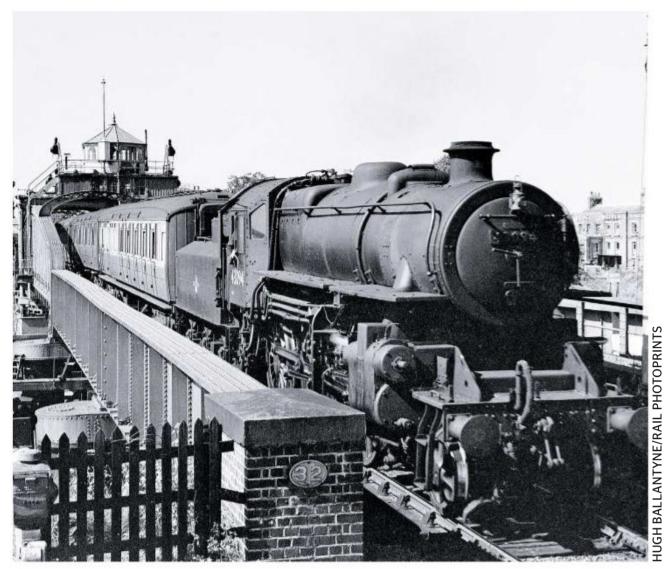
HUGH BALLANTYNE/RAIL PHOTOPRINTS

'4MTs' IN THE EAST

Although Eastern Region '4MTs' made it as far as London King's Cross or onto the Metropolitan/Great Central Joint, it was the former Midland & Great Northern Joint Railway where the class had its biggest impact. This system, which stretched from Peterborough and Little Bytham, south of Grantham in the west to Great Yarmouth and Cromer in the east, had always been a problem to operate, thanks to its heavy traffic but weak bridges. The '4MTs' were perfect for the M&GN and over 50 were allocated to the system, bringing a degree of standardisation of which other BR managers could only dream.

No. 43094 crosses one of the line's most distinguishing features, the half-road/half-rail swing bridge across the River Nene at Sutton Bridge, with the 12.58pm Peterborough-Yarmouth Beach on August 30 1958. No. 43094, new to South Lynn shed in December 1950, carries the Whitaker tablet catcher in a recess on the tender.

The M&GN, however, was one of the first high-profile closures, pre-dating the Beeching 'axe'. It ceased to be a throughroute on February 28 1959, although sections remained open for goods traffic - and Sheringham-Cromer is still part of the national network.



PATTERSON/COLOUR RAIL

'4MTs' IN THE WEST

Ivatt '4MTs' were a familiar sight along the northwest coast. Sheds at Carlisle, Workington and Carnforth supplied '4MTs' for workings around Morecambe Bay and the Cumbrian Coast. This association started in 1948 when Nos. 3006-3009 went to Workington in 1948 where they were to replace '4F' 0-6-0s on freight trains to Carnforth; their indifferent performance meant that they were better suited to the

passenger work on which they soon found themselves.

Dieselisation forced greater numbers of '4MTs' to migrate to the northwest in the 1950s. Class pioneer No. 43000's story was fairly typical. From Devons Road shed in 1951, it moved to the Midlands (in this case Nuneaton) before reaching Kingmoor in 1961. The late summer sun illuminates No. 43000 as it

passes Grange-over-Sands on September 3 1962.

The north-west's allocation hung on to almost the end of BR steam. Kingmoor's last, No. 43028, was withdrawn in December 1967 while Workington kept hold of No. 43006 until January 1968 when it moved to Lostock Hall, near Preston. The final six gathered here for the last few months of BR steam.

33

Build it! Stainmore Route

From the millstone grit of the West Riding to the collieries and slag heaps of Tyneside and the tourist hotspots of the Yorkshire coast, Ivatt '4MTs' played a huge role in keeping the North Eastern Region moving. Its initial 36 Ivatts were hemmed in by the Rivers Tees and Humber, but they soon spread their wings across the whole region, from Blyth and Hartlepool to York and Leeds.

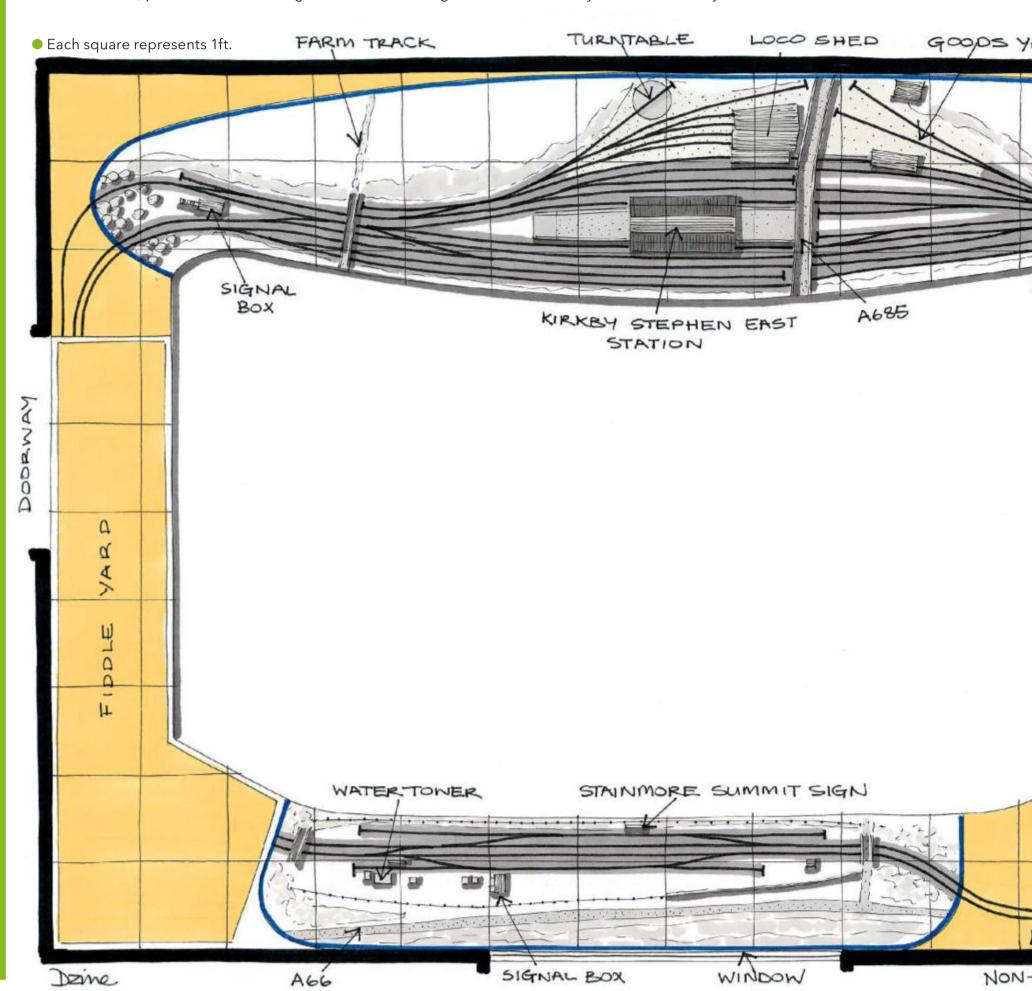
But one classic railway that the '4MTs' called home was the Stainmore Route. As the Lancaster & Carlisle Railway pushed what would become the West Coast Main Line north, pressure was mounting

to link the railways of east and west.

The South Durham & Lancashire Union Railway was an offshoot of the Stockton & Darlington with the intention to do just that. And it did, the result being a tortuous route over the 1,370ft Stainmore summit to link Darlington and Bishop Auckland with Tebay and Penrith. It was opened in 1861 and featured gradients as fierce as 1-in-60 in some of the country's wildest terrain. It has captured the imaginations of railway enthusiasts ever since.

The route was laid out by Thomas Bouch, the engineer who would later be disgraced when his bridge across the River Tay collapsed. But his engineering reputation was redeemed slightly as this similarly constructed iron viaduct across the River Belah survived until closure.

Following infrastructure improvements that were finished in April 1955, '4MTs' were employed on heavy coke trains. Six '4MTs' were transferred to Kirkby Stephen – Nos. 43038, 43055, 43122, 43124, 43128 and 43130 – while others moved to West Auckland. '4MTs' from Tebay and Carlisle Kingmoor would continue the class' links with this remote and wild railway until it closed as a through-route on January 20 1962.



ONE LOCOMOTIVE: LOTS OF LAYOUTS NO. 1



Left: Stainmore Summit was 1,370ft above sea level and marked by this distinctive cast iron sign. A replica now stands sentinel over the moorland and is visible from the arduous A66 route, which has been built over the railway in places. There was no official station at the summit but an untimetabled stopping place served nearby cottages. TREVOR OWEN/COLOUR RAIL

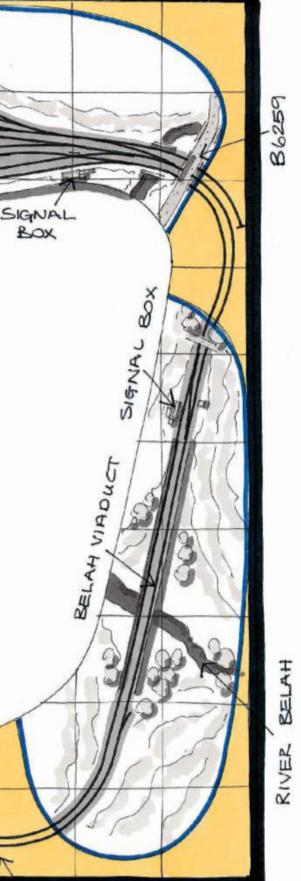




Above: Kirkby Stephen East was one of the most attractive stations on the Stainmore Route and, happily, is the headquarters of a bustling railway museum. Ivatt '4MT' No. 43056 leads Standard '4MT' No. 76050 on an eastbound train on August 12 1961. TREVOR OWEN/COLOUR RAIL



One of the Stainmore Route's most famous structures was the iron viaduct over the River Belah, which was designed by infamous bridge engineer Thomas Bouch of Tay Bridge disaster fame. Standard '4MT' No. 76045 leads an Ivatt classmate over the structure - which is now but a memory - with a holiday special returning from Blackpool to the North East in the 1950s. CECIL ORD/RAIL ARCHIVE STEPHENSON



SCENIC SECTION

CLASS 73

Chris Gadsby looks at the popular electro-diesel that's just started to spread its wings.



 Length over buffers:
 53ft 8in

 Height:
 12ft 5in

 Width:
 8ft 2in

 Wheel diameter:
 3ft 4in

 Power:
 1,420hp

 Tractive effort:
 42,000lb



10 KEY DATES

1958: The Southern Region's Kent
Coast electrification scheme brings with it
a requirement for locomotives to work
goods and parcels services. The new 'HA'
Bo-Bo electrics combine third-rail shoes
and overhead pantographs in order to
cope with some of the issues with gaps
between conductor rails and electrified
lines in yards. However, combining a
diesel engine and third-rail pick-ups is
considered a more suitable solution.
1962: Eastleigh Works turns out six

revolutionary electro-diesels.
E6001-E6006 are built to the restricted
Hastings line loading gauge. Each is fitted
with a 600hp engine and puts out 1,420hp
on electric. These locomotives, classified

'JA', are deemed a success and British Railways places an order for a further 43 locomotives from English Electric, to be built at the Vulcan Foundry.

1965: The first of the new batch, E6007, enters service in October. Deliveries continue until E6049 enters service in October 1967. The design of the 'JBs' is virtually identical but minor technical differences prevent them from working in multiple with 'JAs'. Other key differences are that the 'JBs' have a higher tractive effort and maximum speed (90mph).

1968: BR first sees Southern Pacific

Railroad's Total Operating Processing
System and subsequently buys it for its
own use. The resulting new classification

Headlights

((box out plus and are high) intensity headlights did little to change the '73's' face. However, several have received new light units in very different styles: GBRf and RVEL's Class 73/9s have horizontal light clusters with a central high-level headlight. Network Rail's has a pair of raised single lights. Its headcode panel has been plated over and a central headlight mounted here too. 73133 was fitted with light clusters when turned into a route learner locomotive in 1997.



Headcode panel

The Class 73s were built with a two digit route indicator panel between the two cab windows, just like the Southern's EMU fleet. EWS started to remove the redundant indicator panels on some of its '73s' and it's become a feature of various '73' rebuild programmes: both versions of '73/9' have had theirs glazed to improve visibility but the Caledonian Sleeper locomotives', 73966-971, windows are fitted with a small wiper.



IN NUMBERS

49 built

2 builders

10 scrapped

SERVICE SNAPSHOT

Here are the operators for all of the Class 73s still in service:

Nemesis Rail: 73114/34 **GB Railfreight:**

73107/09/19/28/36/41, 73201/12/13, 73961-71

Network Rail: 73138,

73951/52

Gatwick Express: 73202 **South Western Railway:**

73235

Body sides

RAIL PHOTOPRINTS

PJ HUGHES/COLOUR RAII

Throughout the service life of the Class 73 there has been a wide variety of body sides with differing window and grille arrangements. The majority sport either one or two side windows, although 73952 has been fitted with four while in Network Rail yellow. These body side detail differences can be easily seen if you look at Dapol and Hornby's Class 73 'OO' gauge models.



Engine

The 'JAs' and 'JBs' were built with the same English Electric 4SRKT Mk II engine fitted to the 'Thumper' units. RVELs Class 73/9 rebuilds are fitted with Cummins QSK19 750hp engines (the same engine that's fitted to the 'Voyager' units) whereas GBRf's Brush-built Class 73/9s have MTU 1,600hp V8 engines.



DID YOU KNOW?

Class 73 were not the Southern's only electrodiesels; the ten Class 74s were created from Class 71 electrics. When they were withdrawn in 1976/77, the '73s' were the only electro-diesel locomotives on the network until the introduction of the Class 88 in 2017.

system leads to the 'JBs' becoming Class 73. The initial six locomotives are planned to be classified as Class 72s. However, they're so similar that they become Class 73/0 and the later build become Class 73/1.

1972: On January 8, an engineer's train, headed by two Class 73s, passes a signal at danger at Horsham and hits the rear of a passenger train. Luckily, there are no fatalities but the lead Class 73, E6027, sustains enough damage that it's stored and then withdrawn the following February. It becomes the first '73' to be scrapped; only nine others suffer the same fate. 1991: The 150th anniversary of the

London-Brighton main line is celebrated

in fine style when 73101, named the

Brighton Evening Argus, is outshopped in full Pullman umber/cream livery. 73101 becomes a Class 73 celebrity; it still carries the iconic livery, although it's in store at Eastleigh.

DIFFERENCES

2009: Faced with shifting thousands of tons of spoil from Imberhorne cutting as part of its push to East Grinstead, the normally 100% steam Bluebell Railway hires the Class 73 Locomotive Preservation

2012: 73211 and 73104 are completely rebuilt by Rail Vehicle Engineering Limited in Derby. The biggest change is the removal of the 600hp diesel engine and addition of a pair of 750hp Cummins engines to significantly increase the power of the

locomotive when running in diesel mode. These changes bring about a new sub-classification of Class 73/9.

2013: GB Railfreight also launches a refurbishment programme for its Class 73s. They also use the '73/9' sub-class but the work that Brush carries out is very different to those of RVEL. 73961-965 are turned out in GBRf livery for south of England operations, whereas 73966-971 are allocated to Caledonian Sleeper.

2016: On August 13, 73130 hauls the first passenger train to depart Finmere station, on the GC's London Extension, since it closed on October 5 1964. The '73' has since left the site as it's become a construction depot for HS2.

Company's 73136 for the year.

CALEDONIAN SLEEPER

The lines around the '73's' spiritual home of Stewart's Lane are a rising, tumbling tangle that squeezes among neighbouring buildings. A '73' looks at home here... but now some '73s' call the vast expanse of Rannoch Moor 'home'.

When Caledonian Sleeper's new operator, Serco, joined forces with GBRf to supply motive power,

Britain's longest passenger train got even more interesting!

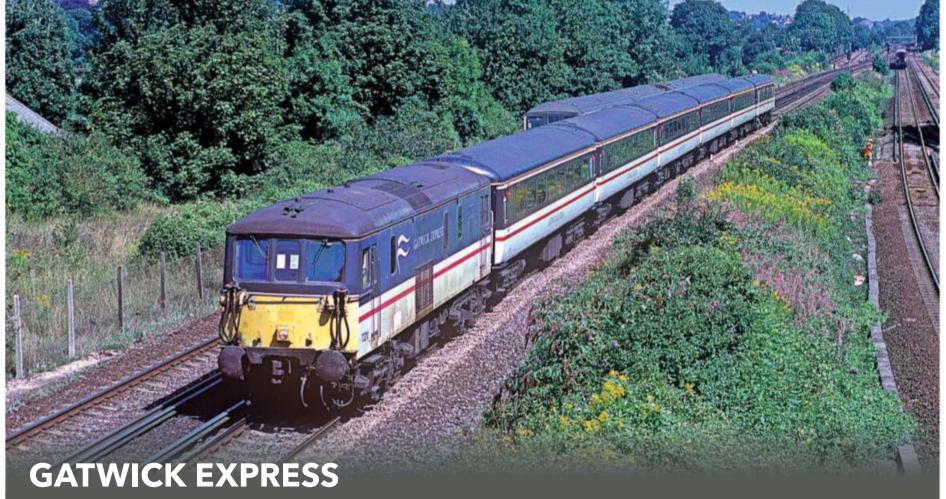
GBRf's Class 92s were perfect for hauling the 16 coaches between London and Edinburgh. But what about the non-electrified lines to Fort William, Aberdeen and Inverness? The only suitable locomotives in GBRf's arsenal to haul passenger trains over these

lines were the heavily rebuilt '73/9s'.

GBRf has five '73/9s' at St Leonards but it had 73005/006/117/105/103/207 rebuilt as '73/9s' and outshopped in Caledonian Sleeper's handsome livery, complete with stag logo and transferred to Craigentinny depot, some 400 miles away from traditional Southern territory. Yet they still retain their third-rail pick-up shoes!



LAMY



When Gatwick Airport railway station opened in June 1958, the only service was provided by London to Brighton stopping services. This was still the case nearly 30 years later, despite Gatwick becoming Britain's second busiest airport. Clearly something had to be done and the Class 73 came to the rescue.

Gatwick Liaison Group's long-term aim of forming an express service

between London Victoria and the airport came to fruition in May 1984. Mk 2 coaches were modified with Southern push-pull equipment to become Class 488; redundant '2-HAP' driving cars were turned into Class 489 General Luggage Vans. To work these vehicles, a pool of 12 push-pull Class 73s were created and, after modifications were

made, these became the Class 73/2.

It was advertised that this new service would complete the journey in 30 minutes, although 35 was more accurate. Despite this, Class 73s played an important role in getting holidaymakers to their destinations until 2005. Although Gatwick Express now uses Class 387/2 EMUs, trusty 73202 is still retained as a 'Thunderbird' rescue locomotive.

EUROSTAR

Doesn't the idea of Eurostar still sound futuristic? You get on an airline-style train in London, it speeds under the sea and you get out in Paris. Its Class 373 units looked like something out of *Buck Rogers* when they were unveiled over 25 years ago, so it was a surprise that Eurostar had to rely on 1960s diesels!

Eurostar's base was at North Pole Depot, near Paddington and, along with 12 Class 37s, it had 73118 and 73130 to rescue failed Eurostar sets or to haul them over the then non-electrified sections of railway between the depot and the electrified line to the Channel Tunnel.

The two '73s' looked handsome in two-tone grey with circular logos but they were heavily disfigured by Scharfenberg coupler units and other equipment was needed to haul Eurostar sets. As this photograph of 73118 at Kensington Olympia on July 13 2001 shows, all the

equipment almost obliterates the yellow warning panel.

After the opening of the Channel Tunnel Rail Link in 2007, Eurostar's trains moved to a new depot - Temple Mills. With no more non-electrified sections to deal with, the two '73s' were surplus to requirements.



MERSEYRAIL

Britain's various rapid transport systems, such as London Underground or Tyne & Wear Metro are fascinating and interesting networks, but their trains don't... well, they don't look like real trains.

That's where Merseyrail is different. It's a metro system for full-size trains. It's also a third-rail system so when it required a fleet of locomotives for Departmental duties, the most economical solution was to transfer Class 73s to Merseyside. Four Class 73/0s (73001/2/5/6) went north (as well as 73004 for spares) to Birkenhead North TMD. Of the quartet, 73001 and 73006 received Merseyrail's distinctive yellow colour scheme. This

pair also received Sandite discharge equipment. All four were disposed of in 2002.

But don't let the Merseyrail branding lead you to think that these '73s' were restricted to Liverpool and Birkenhead. Not so, for they made it as far west as Warrington and even Crewe, where 73006 was photographed in 1994.



MIKE JEFFRIES/RAIL PHOTOPRINTS

Build it! Merseyrail

The origins of the current Merseyrail system can be traced to the Mersey Railway, which opened in 1886 between Green Lane station in Birkenhead to Liverpool James Street. Key to the system was the tunnel under the River Mersey. Between 1886 and 1891, the route was extended to Liverpool Central and to the Wirral Railway, as well as a branch that connected with the Birkenhead Woodside to Chester line.

It's a sad fact that the Mersey Railway's story is not as well known as that of other contemporary companies but it has been the source of several key milestones in British railway history. Most notable is the fact that it was electrified in 1903, becoming the world's first example of full electrification of a steam railway, pre-dating electrification of parts of the Metropolitan Railway in London by two years.

Had it not been for the people of Merseyside, the Mersey Railway may well have closed at the hands of Dr Beeching as he recommended that only Liverpool Lime Street should remain open and suburban commuter services be halted. This would have left a lot of people with transport difficulties and Liverpool City Council proposed a rapid transit network to replace the lost services. The Merseyside Passenger Transport Authority, later named Merseytravel, was formed in 1969 with

representatives from all Merseyside local authorities taking responsibility for the rail lines identified to be incorporated into the new network, to be known as 'Merseyrail'. At that time, the lines out of Liverpool Exchange, Liverpool Central Low & High Levels and Liverpool Lime Street stations were completely separate.

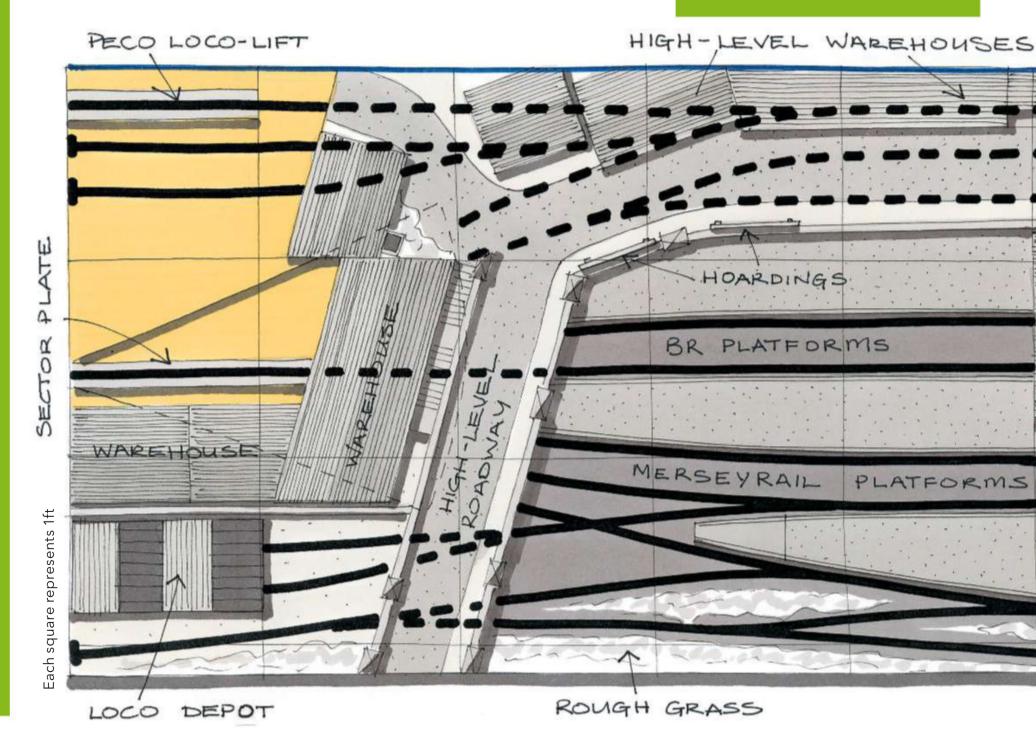
Today, Merseyrail is a franchise, operated by Serco-Abellio. It comprises three key routes - the Northern Line, the Wirral Line and the City Line - that Southport in the north to Chester in the south with central Liverpool. And, unlike other British metro systems, it's maintained by Network Rail.

Liverpool Lime Street is the major terminus of Merseyrail with the City Line starting and ending here, as well as a stop on the Wirral Line as part of the James Street, Moorfields, Lime Street and Central loop. ALAMY

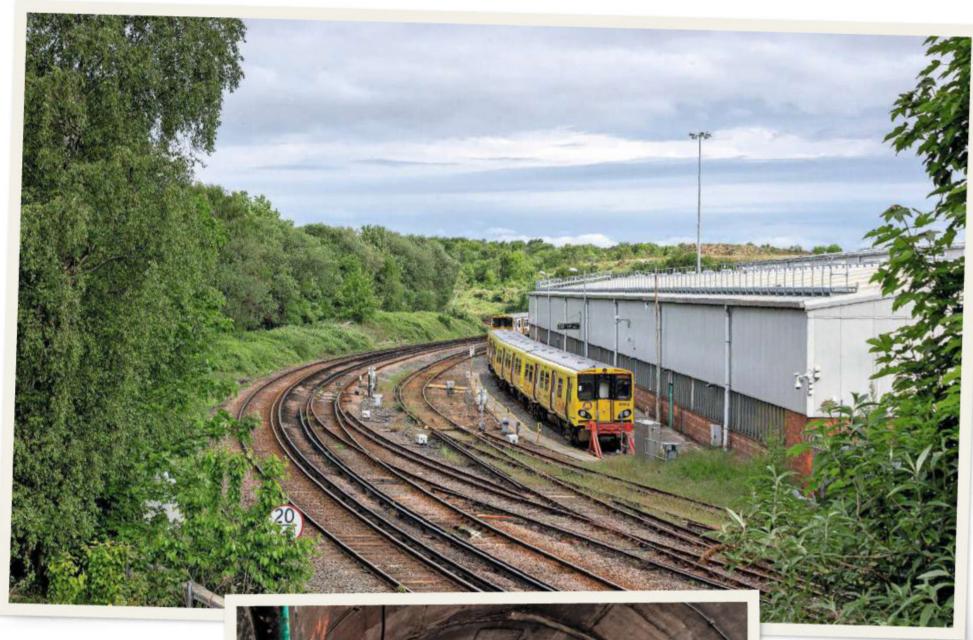


By Paul A. Lunn

"This 6ft by 3ft 2in 'OO' gauge layout comprises three Merseyrail platforms and a small Merseyrail depot with two BR platforms towards the rear scenic section. All five platform faces feed into a 2ft long sector plate. This also links to low-level non-scenic sidings, at the rear, with a high-level scenic section above. Anticipated train length is a two-car unit or Class 73 and a handful of permanent way wagons. The track plan is designed with Peco Streamline in mind, including short and/or medium points, where space permits."



ONE LOCOMOTIVE: LOTS OF LAYOUTS NO. 2



MLS35 T 5.5 T 5.5

Above: Birkenhead North TMD was the base for Merseyrail's four Class 73s. The three and four-road sheds now house Merseyrail class 507 and 508 EMUs, which are due to be replaced by new Class 777s being built by Swiss firm Stadler. ALAMY

Left: Six and a half miles of the Merseyrail network is below ground. In fact, the route of the original Mersey Railway is the world's oldest underground railway outside London. ALAMY

Below: The departmental duties for the Class 73s took them across the Merseyrail network. Here, 73006 waits at Hall Road depot north of Crosby for its next duty. J.D. CABLE/COLOUR RAIL



OVERA

Dzine

LBSCR Terrier 0-6-0T

The story of these cheeky Victorian survivors is like no other, as **Richard Foster** explains.



'A1X' vital stats

Built:1872-19	00 (50, all built at
	Brighton Works)
Length:	26ft 0½in
Height:	11ft ¾16in
Width:	8ft 3in
Wheel diameter (driving):	4ft 0in
Wheelbase:	12ft 0in
Weight:	28ton 5cwt
Cylinders:	20in by 12in (2)
Boiler pressure:	150lbs/sq in
Tractive effort:	7,650lb



10 KEY DATES

1869: The Highland Railway produces a new 0-6-0T, using a set of old wheels and an old boiler. It's the first 100% new design produced by the HR's 36-year-old locomotive and carriage superintendent William Stroudley.

1870: William Stroudley takes up the post of locomotive and carriage superintendent of the London Brighton & South Coast Railway. The LBSCR is in poor shape; it has no money and its motley collection of locomotives is unfit for the traffic levels at the time.

1872: The first of six new 0-6-0Ts enters service on September 7. Classified 'A' (later 'A1'), they were the first of a new

design that had to combine speed and power for the heavy traffic on the South and East London lines but had to be light enough for the LBSCR's poor-quality trackwork. Inspired by that first HR design, the 'As' were far superior to any locomotive of Stroudley's predecessor, J.C. Craven, and a further 44 were built between 1874 and 1880.

1878: LBSCR steamer *Honfleur* leaves Portsmouth on March 30 with newly built 'Terrier' No. 40 *Brighton* on board. No. 40 is displayed at the World's Fair, in Paris, along with Alexander Graham Bell's telephone and the completed head of the Statue of Liberty. *Brighton* would win

'A1X' rebuild

((box out plus pic 5. Credit))

designed a new boiler for the 'Terriers'. With the dome further forward, it also boasted a larger, drum-head smokebox, which required an all-new smokebox saddle, rendering the distinctive wingplates redundant. Most - but not all - also received new sandboxes under the running plate. Rebuilding started in 1911 and the locomotives were reclassified from 'A1' to 'A1X'. Rebuilds to 'A1X' standard were carried out by companies that had bought second-hand 'Terriers'.



Condensing apparatus

The 'Terriers' were originally fitted with condensing apparatus, whereby exhaust steam was diverted from the smokebox back into one tank, across the boiler and through the other before being exhausted. This helped raise the feedwater temperature to improve thermal efficiency and thus save coal. However, the travelling public was then showered in hot, sooty water. Stroudley's successor, Billinton, had the apparatus removed... but Marsh had it reinstalled.



IN NUMBERS

3,265 miles between Brighton and Waddon's preservation home in Canada

50 built

RAIL ARCHIVE STEPHENSON

10 survivors

DETAIL MAIN

DIFFERENCES

2-4-0T

The LBSCR trialled two 'Terriers' on push-pull duties in 1905. As well as receiving push-pull gear, Nos. 81 Beulah and 82 Boxhill were converted to 2-4-0Ts. The original splashers and sandboxes were initially retained but the latter was later moved to behind the leading wheel. Both locomotives were detuned, with cylinder dimensions reduced and Boxhill's boiler pressure reduced to just 130lbs/sq in. Both were rebuilt as 0-6-0Ts in 1913.

conversions



SHED SNAPSHOT

Here's how BR's remaining 10 'Terriers' were allocated 60 years ago, in September 1960:

Southern Region:

Brighton 75A (Nos. 32635, 32636, 32662, 32670); Eastleigh 71A (Nos. 32640, 32646, 32650, 32661, 32678); Lancing Works (DS680)

DID YOU KNOW?

The nickname 'Terrier' first appeared in print in 1873. They were also known as 'Rooters', which was taken by some to mean 'little pigs', but 'Terrier' was, apparently, Stroudley's preferred nickname for the class.

Extra step

O.J. MORRIS/RAIL ARCHIVE STEPHENSON

MORRIS/RAIL ARCHIVE STEPHENSON

As well as extended bunkers, three Isle of Wight 'Terriers' received extra footsteps in front of the tanks. A complementary handrail was fitted to the front of the tanks. The extra steps and handrails were fitted to the three 'Terriers' that remained on the island after 1936 (BR Nos. 32640, 32646 and 32677). The extra steps and handrails were fitted to No. 32662, which was never an island 'Terrier', presumably during the same works visit as when it received the island extended bunker.



a gold medal for engineering excellence. **1899:** The Isle of Wight Central Railway buys No. 75 Blackwall for £800. Although No. 72 Fenchurch has been 'sold' to the Newhaven Harbour Company the year before, this was a 'paper transfer' rather than an actual transaction. But the IoWCR's purchase was the result of years of negotiation, aware that the LBSCR wanted to reduce its 'Terrier' fleet. In total, 22 'Terriers' would go on to find new owners, with the final sales taking place in 1937. **1948:** British Railways inherits 11 operational 'Terriers' from the Southern (plus three Departmental locomotives), No. 5 from the GWR and one from the

Kent & East Sussex Railway. It also becomes responsible for officially preserved 'A1' Boxhill.

1960: As the Bluebell Railway Preservation Society is trying to operate a service on an old stretch of LBSCR metals, a 'Terrier' is a must-have locomotive. No. 32655, formerly Stepney, and two coaches are bought for £750 and they arrive at Horsted Keynes on May 17. **1963:** Brighton shed's last 'Terrier', No. 32678, is made redundant by the closure of Newhaven's West Quay in October and only the Hayling Island branch keeps 'Terriers' employed. The branch, however, closes on November 4

and, on the same day, BR officially withdraws the last five 'Terriers' it has on its books from Eastleigh.

ARCHIVE STEPHENSON

1973: The Wight Locomotive Society negotiates for the loan of No. 32640 from Butlin's. It becomes the first 'Terrier' on the Isle of Wight since 1949 when it is unloaded at Ryde Works on January 27. 2022: Could five 'Terriers' be in steam to celebrate the 150th birthday of the class? It is possible that the Isle of Wight's No. W11 Newport and Bressingham's Martello could be joined by the KESR's Bodiam and Knowle and it is hoped that the Isle of Wight's No. W8 Freshwater might also be back in action.



BRIGHTON WORKS

When Brighton Works restored *Boxhill* to full LBSCR condition in 1947, there happened to be enough golden ochre paint left over to repaint No. 2635 (formerly *Morden*) too. Coincidence?

Brighton often plays second fiddle in terms of prominence to the Southern Railway's ex-LSWR works at Eastleigh, just as Horwich is often overlooked in favour of Crewe, or Darlington slips behind Doncaster. But Brighton was responsible for some of the most beautiful steam locomotives built in Britain. It also built Bulleid's ill-fated 'Leader' and the design office played a key role in developing the BR Standards.

Two things raised Brighton Works' profile: the overlooking cliffs provided a vantage point for photography. The other was 'Terrier' *Morden*. It was transferred to

the Southern's service department in 1946 as a replacement for *Boxhill* as Brighton Works' shunter. The repaint was one of the most famous liveries carried by a 'Terrier' - Stroudley golden ochre with the legend 'Brighton Works' on the tank side. So popular was the livery that *Morden* carried it when it returned to the main fleet as No. 32635 in 1959. It still wore the livery until it was withdrawn in 1963.

HAYLING ISLAND

Weight restrictions or tight curves on branch lines kept some ancient locomotives operating beyond their natural lifespans. That's great news for enthusiasts, but it caused a headache for railway management!

Hayling Island's sandy beaches and sea breezes have long made it a popular holiday destination, but holidaymakers now cross the waters at Langstone Harbour by a road bridge; at one stage, the only crossing was the 1,100ft timber trestle bridge (including its short steel swing section) built by the Hayling Railway in 1872. The 'Terriers' were perfect for the 4½-mile branch, and ruled the roost from 1890. In the 1950s, summer Saturday traffic was so heavy that it required three 'Terriers', plus a fourth acting as spare. The Hayling Island branch became the last line in the country with 'Terrier'-hauled passenger trains but the estimated £400,000 required to repair the Langstone Bridge combined with increased car usage forced BR's hand. This 'Terrier' outpost closed on November 4, 1963. Here, in happier times, former Isle of Wight 'Terrier' No. 32640 rumbles across the bridge with four coaches and a van bound for Hayling Island on August 23 1959.



ISLE OF WIGHT

What makes the Isle of Wight so special is that it feels as though all the best bits of the English landscape have been squeezed into 146 square miles. It's only the 21st-century bustle of Newport and Ryde that destroys the illusion that crossing the Solent is a portal to a simpler time.

Its 55-mile railway system mirrors this illusion as, even just after the war, it was worked by three standard classes -'Terriers', 'E1s' and 'O2s' - all of Victorian vintage.

'Terriers' were an almost perfect fit for the island. Southern Railway green suited their dumpy shape and complemented the island's lush landscape, and local settlements -Freshwater, Carisbrooke and Bembridge - were immortalised in the

form of slim nameplates on the locomotives' tank sides.

The Southern's island 'Terriers' were rebuilt to 'A1X' standard but stood apart by retaining the splasher sandboxes and extended bunkers that, some argue, made them even more attractive. Here, No. W11 Newport shows off its handsome lines at Newport on March 17 1936 with a train to Freshwater.



KENT & EAST SUSSEX

The idiosyncratic railways of Holman F. Stephens and the 'Terrier' go together like fish and chips. The 'Terriers' were lightweight yet powerful and, more importantly, cheap. We could focus on any number of Colonel Stephens' railways here - the Shropshire & Montgomeryshire, the Edge Hill Light Railway or the Sheppey Light Railway. But there really is only one choice: the Kent & East Sussex Railway

If you searched for 'bucolic branch line' in an encyclopedia, the definition would be 'Kent & East Sussex Railway'. This beautiful yet somewhat ramshackle system, originally called the Rother Valley Railway, bought 'A1s' Nos. 70 Poplar and 71 Wapping in 1901 and 1905 respectively. They became Nos. 3 Bodiam and 5 Rolvenden. Both became life-expired in the 1930s so they were combined into one good locomotive in 1932, which returned to service as No. 3 Bodiam, which was photographed outside Rolvenden shed in 1936. It was fitted with a unique bunker and received an 'A1X' boiler in 1943. It became BR property in 1948 when the line was nationalised and worked the final train on June 11 1961 along with No. 32662. Happily, Bodiam still calls the KESR home.



M. JARVIS/ONLINE TRANSPORT ARC

Build it Weston Clevedon & Portishead

Why are we Brits always drawn to the underdog? The Weston Clevedon & Portishead Railway was certainly a railway underdog: impractical and run-down, yet it casts an intriguing thrall and continues to fascinate to this day, more than 80 years after it closed.

Everything about the railway was wrong. All three towns were served by the GWR, but that didn't stop the promoters from building a new railway. Weston to Clevedon opened in 1897 - after ten years' work. It took a further decade to reach Portishead.

The stock was second-hand and presented a sorry yet somehow compelling sight. Train times were painfully slow and they were flagged across roads. Yet who cares?

The line was built on a shoestring budget and lost money from the start.

Consequently, it spent most of its working life in the hands of the receivers and, in 1911, they appointed light railway champion Holman F. Stephens as general manager, and with whom the line is most associated.

Despite the best efforts of Colonel Stephens and his successor, William H. Austen, the fortunes of the line steadily declined and the receivers finally pulled the plug; the last passenger train ran on May 18 1940. It passed into the ownership of the GWR, which used it for extra siding space.

The rails were removed in 1942/1943, which was an inglorious end to a charismatic little railway that made the railway map just that little bit more fascinating.

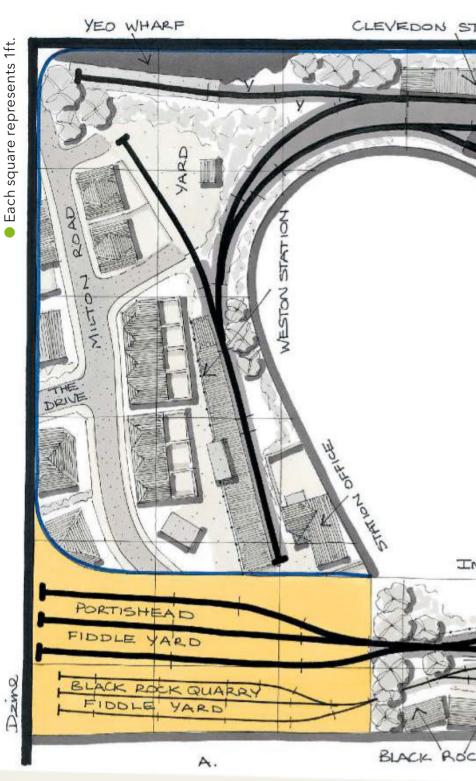


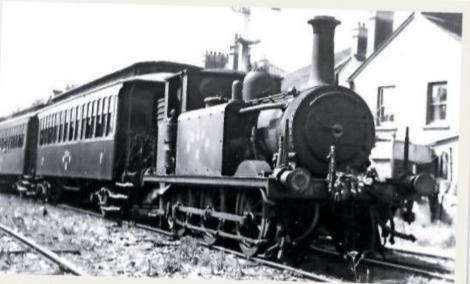
Above: The Weston Clevedon & Portishead Railway had many charms but its two 'Terriers' probably spring to mind first. They were bought from the Southern Railway in 1925 and 1937 respectively and became No. 2 *Portishead* and No. 4 on the WCPR. Both passed into GWR ownership and received GWR livery, becoming Nos. 5 and 6. WCPR No. 4 (formerly LBSCR No. 53 *Ashstead*) was photographed among the modern semi-detached houses at Clevedon on October 4 1937. R.G. JARVIS/ONLINE TRANSPORT ARCHIVE/RAS

Right: Another WCPR oddity was the six 'Wild West' bogie coaches with verandahs. They were built by the Lancaster Carriage & Wagon Works for Argentina, but the export order fell through and they were bought by the WCPR instead. The final three coaches in service were scrapped at Swindon Works. This photograph reveals the WCPR's lightly laid permanent way. CHRIS LEIGH COLLECTION



Above: Clevedon station was the railway's nerve centre, with locomotive and carriage sheds and, just a few hundred yards further on, a siding to the town's gas works. WCPR No. 4 stands outside the shed on June 25 1938. One of the tracks in the foreground curved round behind the shed to reach the GWR's Clevedon station. CHRIS LEIGH COLLECTION







Left: Facilities at both the WCPR's termini were pretty basic. The wooden platform at Weston station replaced an earlier, ground-level affair. Along with the wooden shelter, the main station building comprised a wooden building with a corrugated iron roof. although traffic manager E.R. Wintour lived in a fine stone house next door! CHRIS LEIGH COLLECTION



By Paul A. Lunn

"This plan uses Peco 'OO' and 'OO9' Setrack and depicts a simplified terminus at Weston with a fictitious loop shared with Clevedon station. Near the latter, there's a kickback siding to Yeo Wharf, extensive locomotive facilities, a connection to the GWR and two non-scenic sidings.

"There's a further section of the Portishead line, running through streets near Triangle, then to the interchange at Black Rock and Nightingale Quarries, and to the main fiddleyard beyond. I anticipate the layout will be situated against two walls along the short Weston end and longer Clevedon side. Access is via a central operating well and walkways A. and B., at least 2ft wide, along the quarry interchange and Triangle sides."

WHAT PECO TRACK YOU'LL NEED

- ST-200 Straight x6 @ £1.80
- ST-201 Double straight x21 @ £2.85
- ST-202 Short straight x4 @ £1.55
- ST-203 Special short straight x1 @ £1.55
- ♦ ST-225 R2 curve x6 @ £2.60
- ◆ ST-226 R2 double curve x7 @ £3.30
- ◆ ST-227 R2 curve x1 @ £1.80
- ♦ ST-238 Curved large radius x2 @ £2.50
- ST-240 R/hand point x5 @ £12.00
- ◆ ST-241 L/hand point x10 @ £12.00
- ◆ ST-244 R/hand curve point x1 @ £19.00
- ST-401 Standard Straight Pack (8) @ £17.25
- ◆ ST-411 Double straight x4 packs (16) @ £16.20
- ◆ ST-413 Wired straight x1 @ £9.45
- ST-412 R1 Curve Pack x1 (6) @ £16.70
- ◆ ST-405 R/hand point x3 @ £13.00
- ▶ ST-406 L/hand point x2 @ £13.00

Total price: £496.10*

*Prices taken from www.kernowmodelrailcentre.com

GWR No. 5 in action

Arguably, the most fascinating twist in the 'Terrier' story was when WCPR Nos. 2 and 4 were taken over by the GWR. They became Nos. 5 and 6 respectively. No. 5 was fitted with a new crank, GWR 8mm injectors, a sight feed Juhricator steam

brake and GWR whistle. No. 6 was withdrawn in January 1948 but, in December that year, No. 5 went to Taunton, followed by a move to Newton Abbot in January 1950. It was stored at





Chris Gadsby takes a closer look at the versatile Type 2 locomotive.





10 KEY DATES

1958: British Railways unveils a new Bo-Bo diesel electric fitted with a Sulzer 6LDA28 engine. Pioneer D5000 runs from Derby Works to Marylebone station in July for official inspection by the BR Board. A further 150 are built by Derby, Darlington and Crewe Works until 1961. Originally dubbed Sulzer Type 2, the class ultimately becomes '24' on TOPS.

1961: One of the Sulzer Type 2's shortcomings is its 75mph top speed. The Sulzer engine is uprated and D5151 emerges from Darlington Works in April. Outwardly, it shares the same body as the '24/1s' that Darlington has just finished building, but it has a top speed of 90mph.

A further 24 are built (D5152-D5175). These become Class 25/0 on TOPS.

1963, January: A further batch of '25s' has been ordered from Darlington Works and the first, D5176, appears in January. It features improved traction motors and other minor modifications. D5176-D5232 become Class 25/1 on TOPS.

1963 December: BR has deemed that gangway doors are no longer necessary and D5233, outshopped from Derby on the 21st, reflects this: the nose has been redesigned without doors. Other key changes include revised cantrail grilles. The locomotive is also outshopped wearing a handsome new two-tone green

Airhorns The first Class 25s had the same body as the Class 24s and that included the bufferbeam-mounted airhorns. Starting with D5176, the horns were mounted either side of the headcode panel. Some received a revised design with the horn moulding being flush with the panel's wings.

End doors

Class 24s and some of the early
Class 25s were fitted with end doors with
a folding corridor connection behind. This
was to allow for access to the train heating
boiler when working in multiple so that the
boiler could be shut down 15 minutes
before it was detached from the train. After
the rule requiring this was no longer in force,
the doors were sealed up, but as new
locomotives didn't require them the end was
redesigned. The Class 25/2s sport this new
cab end arrangement.



SHED SNAPSHOT

20 survivors

IN NUMBERS

327 built

4 builders

Here are the sheds for the remaining 325 Class 25s in March 1974.

London: Cricklewood, Willesden

South Eastern Region: Laira, Bristol Bath Road

Midlands Region: Bescot, Toton, Tinlsey, Longsight Diesel, Springs Branch

Northern Region: Kingmoor

COLOUR RAIL

Welsh Region: Cardiff Canton, Ebbw Junction

Scottish Region: Eastfield, Haymarket

3 Side air louvres

ż

G.M. WARD/COLOUR RAIL

COLOUR RAII

The other principle area of alteration for the Class 25/2 was the side louvres (air intakes). Comparison tests were undertaken between a Derby-built Type 2 and a BRCW Type 2 concerning the air quality in the engine room. The Derby-built Type 2 design allowed much more debris to get through the filters. A redesign was commissioned with the intention of giving a less cluttered appearance to the exterior and saving money over the course of the service life.



Removable blanking plates

DIFFERENCES

After a particularly cold winter in 1963, the Class 25s struggled with the water and steam heating systems freezing and causing breakdowns. To solve this, removable blanking plates were fitted to the large bodyside grille adjacent to the train heating boiler.



DID YOU KNOW?

D5278 was the first Class 25 to be withdrawn after it was involved in an incident near Peak Forest. It remained there for six months and was broken up on site.

livery. D5233 is unique in that it has a steam-heating boiler: D5234-D5299, D7500-D7597 are built without them.

1966: Construction of the final 80 machines begins at Derby. The batch was to be split between Derby and Beyer Peacock but, owing to financial issues with the Manchester builder, Derby takes on construction of the whole batch. Tweaks to the electrical equipment leads to D7598-D7677 becoming Class 25/3 on TOPS. To make life even more complicated, some Class 25/3s are dual-braked, whereas others are just vacuum only.

1976: BR has already made great

1976: BR has already made great reductions to the Class 24 fleet and now

starts on the '25s'. But withdrawing so many locomotives at once causes logistical problems. Swindon, Doncaster and St Rollox are at full capacity, so BR calls in private scrap dealers. Vic Berry is one such scrap dealer and famously creates a stack of 30 Type 2s (Class 25 and Class 27) bodies at its Leicester HQ.

1983: Three '25s' are turned into mobile generators, dubbed ETHELs, to electrically heat coaches on steam railtours. They're used until 1991 but not scrapped until 1994. **1985:** The Class 25/9 sub-class is created from the 12 locomotives of the 25/3 sub-class with the lowest engine hours. These are primarily used for mineral trains in

the north west and although they have their top speed limited to 60mph in an attempt to extend their life, and are planned to be in service for another three years, withdrawals commence just one year later, with the last two examples condemned in March 1987.

1991: After withdrawal in 1987, celebrity 25322 becomes part of BR's training fleet

1991: After withdrawal in 1987, celebrity 25322 becomes part of BR's training fleet and it moves to Holbeck depot. There, it's beautifully restored as D7672 and is used for special duties until finally withdrawn on March 30.

2007: A Class 25 returns to the main line! The North Yorkshire Moors Railway's D7628 'Sybilla' is passed for running between Grosmont and Whitby.



Whether you intend to ride on it or just watch trains, a visit to the Settle & Carlisle is a must. The undoubted highlight is the

stretch from Ribblehead station that curves over Ribblehead Viaduct and to the isolated signal box at Blea Moor before the line plunges into the depths of the tunnel of the same name, ending almost 15 miles of climbing at 1-in-100 - and all flanked by the Yorkshire Three Peaks.

This is the landscape of 'Royal Scots' and 'Jubilees', of Class 40s and 'Peaks'. But the '25s' were no strangers to the 'Long Drag', nor were the lines west from Settle Junction to Carnforth, Lancaster and Heysham.

When BR steam ended in 1968, Leeds Holbeck had a sizeable fleet of '25s' (23 in total) as did Carlisle Kingmoor, which would explain their regular appearances on the S&C. They were still a common

sight in the 1980s, as Longsight's 25186 illustrates when captured heading north from Ribblehead in March 1982.

It was fitting that celebrity '25' Tamworth Castle was used on specials designed to increase patronage on the newly saved S&C. It reminded people what a '25' could do by breasting Ais Gill summit unaided with 520 tons on February 24 1990.

interesting layout, even if modelled as

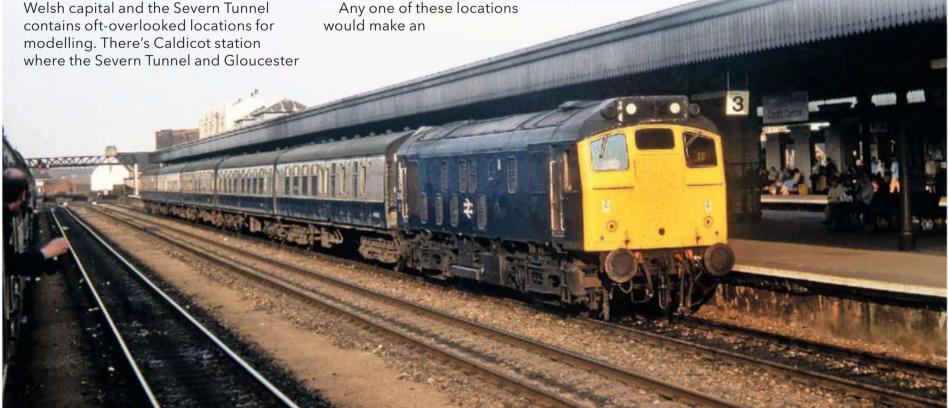
SOUTH WALES

The memories of '25s' powering their way over Talerddig en route to Aberystwyth are so strong that it's easy to overlook the fact that the class was also used in South Wales too. Six '25s' (D5179-82, D7624/25) were transferred to Ebbw Junction in 1970/71 in order to replace NBL Type 2s.

The stretch of main line between the Welsh capital and the Severn Tunnel

lines diverge, the yards at Severn Tunnel Junction, Newport station and the bulk of Llanwern steelworks. After leaving Newport, the line travels in a near straight line through vast open fields, with the Severn on the left before entering Cardiff Central, where 25245 was photographed in 1980.

they are today. But just imagine those locations in the days when '25s' ruled supreme, with heavy steel traffic and blue/grey Mk 1s - what more could you want?



J.B. SWALE/COLOUR RAIL

THORNABY

It's often forgotten that the first Class 25s went new to the North Eastern Region and to Thornaby depot in particular. When this photograph of class pioneer D5151 passing through Thornaby station was taken on April 24 1962, the adjacent depot had 23 of the 25 machines in service (and the other two were at Gateshead!). The '25s' played a huge part in helping the Region get rid of steam as

they replaced elderly NER and LNER 0-6-0s and 0-8-0s on the myriad goods trains to and from the docks, collieries and heavy industries.

Thornaby depot is another underappreciated modelling subject. It opened in 1958 in order to replace sheds at Stockton, Haverton Hill, Newport and Middlesbrough. Built of brick and concrete, it cost over £1m.

Although impossible to model the whole site, even in 'N', you could concentrate on the 12-road straight shed, or the rare open-roof roundhouse or even the 200,000gal water tank and 350t coaling stage. It has plenty of scope to feature both diesels and steam locomotives on the same scene between 1961 and 1964, when the first diesels arrived and when it closed to steam.





MANCHESTER VICTORIA

Manchester Victoria would often reverbate to the sound of a Sulzer 6LDA28 engine in the 1970s and 1980s. Anyone who would trainspot there could almost quarantee ticking off at least one Class 25.

The handsome little Bo-Bos could be seen passing through with everything from a rake of oil tanks to cement wagons. Red Bank carriage sidings was

another regular source of traffic, especially parcels and newspaper traffic and a scruffy blue '25' hauling a mixture equally scruffy blue CCTs and GUVs was a common sight.

But '25s' were also regularly employed on pilot duties as there could be as many as three sitting waiting to give trains a shove up the formidable Miles Platting Bank, which, at its steepest, was 1-in-47.

Manchester Victoria has undergone a multi-million-pound revamp in recent years which has made it a much nicer place from a passenger point of view. Sadly, the atmosphere that it had in the 1970s/80s has vanished. Gone are many of the through roads, as is the imposing trainshed over Platforms 12-17 (along with the platforms). Parcels trains and blue '25s' are just a memory too.

JOHN E. HENDERSON/COLOUR RAIL

Build it!

Hemyock branch

During the final year of the Hemyock branch, a Class 25 was occasionally used for railtours with a couple of brake vans attached to the milk train. Heljan's Class 25 and Class 25/3 would be useful on this 'O' gauge layout deisgned by Paul A. Lunn.

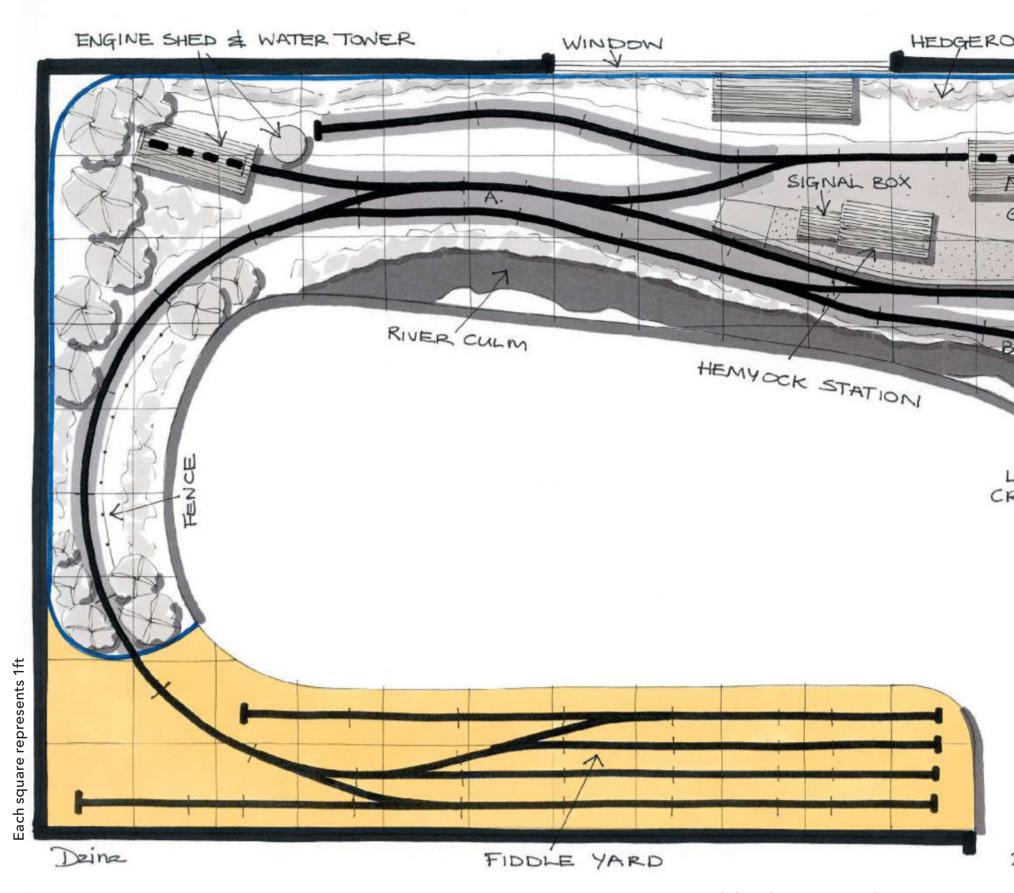
"Here's an 'O' gauge interpretation of the branch terminus at Hemyock and its associated creamery", says Paul. "I've modified the track plan to suit Peco Setrack geometry, increased the main run-round loop for improved train length, and wrapped the design round on itself to fit into a large room or, with slightly increased width, for a 16ft by 10ft garage.

"I've tried to stick to the basic track sections as made, but have suggested a few modifications by cutting some standard curves and straights in half to create a gentle curve or to stretch a straight run towards the end of a baseboard, respectively. I particularly want to draw your attention to the double track curve at A., part inner curve from a 2nd radius section and the outer, at 3rd radius, from

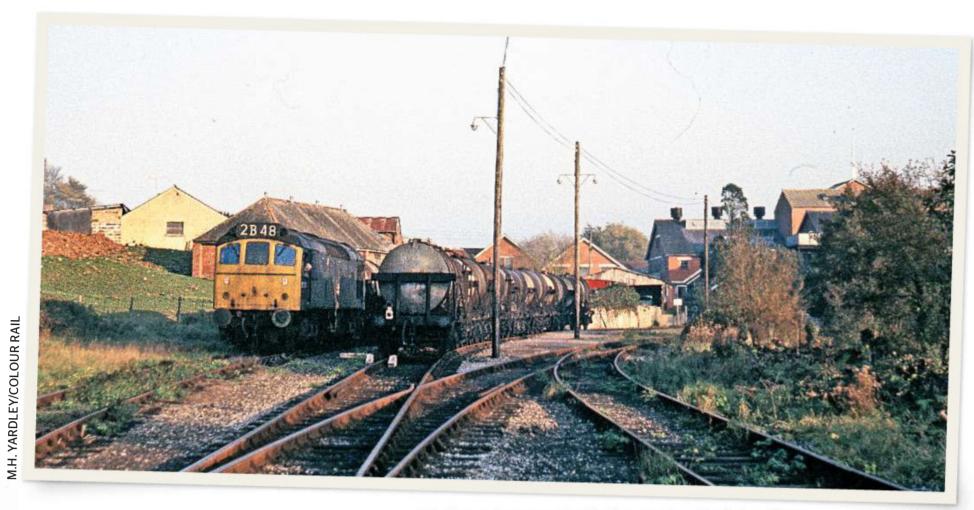


flexible track. The length of both will determine the angle as tracks head along past the platform.

"In discussion with Ben Jones at Heljan and staff from Dapol, there's a general consensus that Class 25s, '14XX' 0-4-2Ts and six-wheel milk tanks will all negotiate Peco's 40in radius Setrack curves." The Class 25s were seen across the whole of the country, including Dawlish. Here, 25224 hauls a long passenger train past the bustling car park of Dawlish Warren on Saturday, June 26 1976. COLOUR RAIL

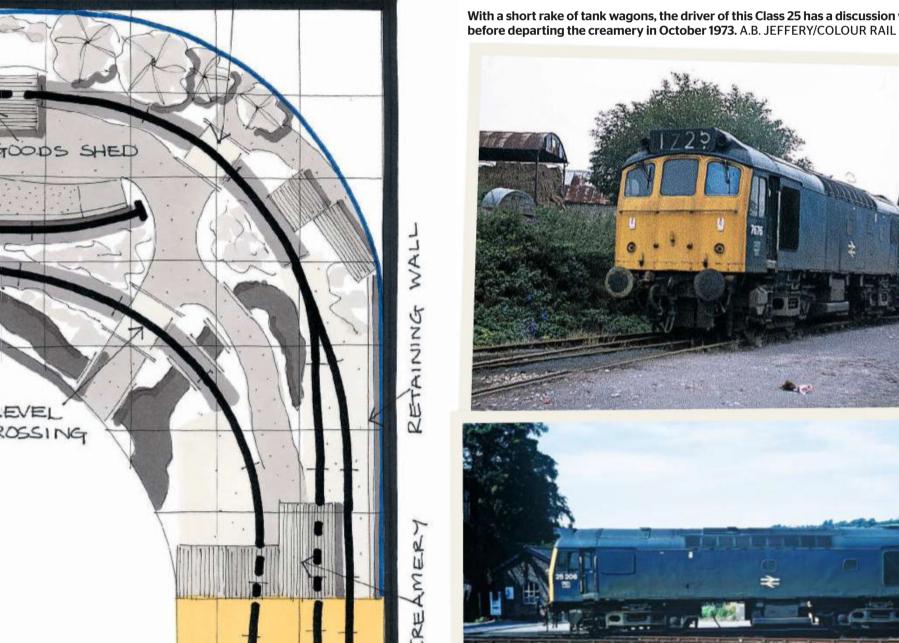


ONE LOCOMOTIVE: LOTS OF LAYOUTS NO. 4



The Hemyock creamery kept the line open long after it closed to passengers. Running from Tiverton junction to the creamery, the Class 25s were an important part of the operations until the line closed in 1975. Here, 25215 travels with a rake of tank wagons in October 1975.

With a short rake of tank wagons, the driver of this Class 25 has a discussion with a colleague

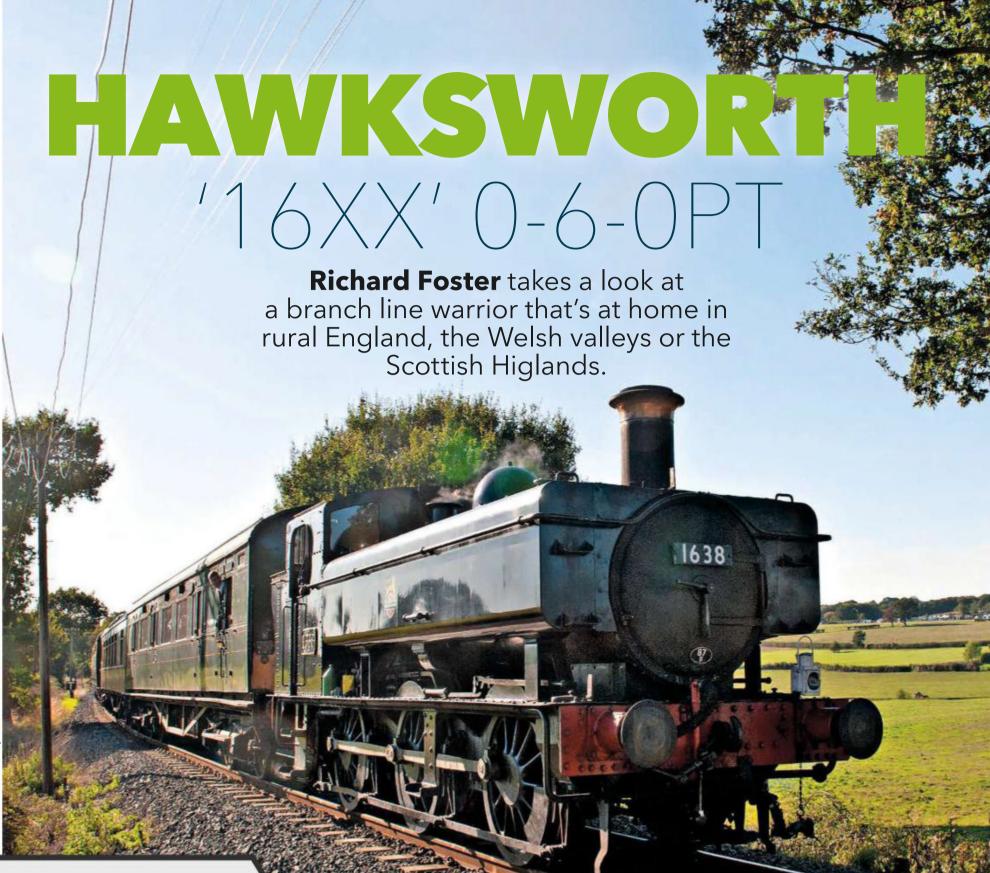


LEVEL, CROSSING

Class 25s weren't merely used for main and branch line work. The versatility of these locomotives meant they could also do shunting work. In Truro, 25206 shunts the yard in August 1979. JOHN E. HENDERSON/COLOUR RAIL

www.model-rail.co.uk

DODRWAY



'16XX' vital stats

Built: 70 (1949-1955, all built at Swindon)
Length (over buffers): 30ft 2½in
Height (over chimney): 11ft 5½in
Width: 8ft 7½in
Wheel diameter (driving): 4ft 1½in
Coupled wheelbase: 14ft 8in
Total weight: 41 tons 12cwt
Cylinders: 16½in by 24in (2)
Boiler pressure: 165lb/sq in
Tractive effort: 18,515lb



10 KEY DATES

1897: The first of a new range of 0-6-0STs emerges from the Great Western Railway's Wolverhampton Works. It has a larger firebox than its predecessor and is classified '2021'. As Wolverhampton's chief George Armstrong retires this year, should the design be credited to him or William Dean, who is in charge at Swindon? These saddle tanks are rebuilt with pannier tanks during the 1920s.

1941: Frederick Hawksworth is appointed chief mechanical engineer in July, following the retirement of Charles Collett. Hawksworth has always worked for the GWR and has some ideas to improve locomotive design and construction.

Wartime demands mean that the first of his 'Modified Halls' appears in 1944, followed by his 'County' 4-6-0s in 1945 and the first of his pannier tanks in 1947.

1948: British Railways comes into being on January 1 but GWR locomotive construction continues with new 'Modified Halls', '2251s', 'Large Prairies', '57XX' and '54XXs' emerging from Swindon. On top of that, was it common sense or a typical GWR response to nationalisation to also lumber BR with orders for 280 new pannier tanks to three different designs?

1949: The '16XX' is an all-new pannier tank design that is essentially a like-for-like replacement of the old '2021'. It features

Chimney

((box out plus pic 5. Credit)) 1616, 1623, 1629 and 1661, received spark arrester chimneys for working yards and depots where an errant spark could be problematic, including Gloucester docks and the munitions depots at Ditton Priors, on the Cleobury Mortimer & Ditton Priors Light Railway.



Lamp irons

Nos. 1646 and 1649 were sent to Scotland in 1957/58 with the GWR's L-shaped lamp irons, and they retained them for some time. However, at some point - and the date has gone unrecorded - both received standard pattern straight



IN NUMBERS

70 built

5 years shortest working life

1 survivor

DETAIL **DIFFERENCES**

SHED SNAPSHOT

Here are the final shed allocations for all 70 Hawksworth '16XXs': **London Midland Region:**

Croes Newydd

KEITH JONES CRESSELLEY COLLECTION/RAIL PHOTOPRINTS

Scottish Region: Helmsdale, Perth South

Western Region:

Abercynon, Barry, Cardiff Radyr, Didcot, Ebbw Junction, Gloucester Horton Road, Hereford, Llanelly, Neath Court Sart, Neyland, Oswestry, Oxford, Slough, St Blazey, Swansea East Dock, Swindon, Whitland, Worcester

Spare lamp irons

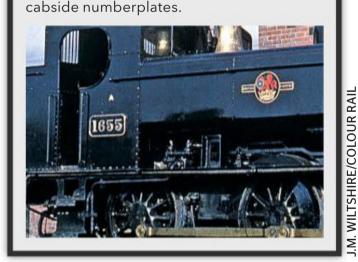
COLOUR RAIL

The main difference between the three batches of '16XXs' was the position of the spare lamp irons on the running plate: two - later three - over the leading axle (Nos. 1600-1629); three over the centre axle (Nos. 1630-1649); three over the leading axle (Nos. 1650-1669).



All 70 '16XXs' were delivered in unlined black, complete with black chimney caps and safety valve bonnets. They remained in this livery until withdrawal, with the BR 'cycling lion' replaced by the later emblem. However, there were one or two variations: No. 1655 has received a brass safety valve bonnet while photographs suggest that No. 1623 received red-backed

Livery details



DID YOU KNOW

No. 1600 was bought by the NCB after being withdrawn in 1959. It was withdrawn again in 1963 and scrapped.

a new boiler, welded tanks and rounded Collett cab but its underpinnings are still Victorian. It shares the '2021's' 4ft 11/2in diameter wheels and even retains slide valves. Pioneer No. 1600 emerges from Swindon in October and goes new to Barry shed. A further 19 are built this year.

1955: Bristol St Philips Marsh shed receives the last '16XX', No. 1669. This completes Lot No. 417 of 20 locomotives delivered between November 1954 and May 1955 (Swindon had built a further 30 between June 1950 and May 1951). More significantly, it's the last GWR-designed steam locomotive to be built at Swindon. **1959:** BR withdraws the last '2021',

No. 2069, from Birkenhead Mollington Street, in April. Such is the pace of dieselisation and the reduction of suitable work that the first of the '2021' replacements, No. 1603, is withdrawn from Oswestry shed just under two months later. **1963:** Boundary changes mean that Croes Newydd shed near Wrexham becomes part

1966: The Western Region had withdrawn its last '16XXs' by the end of 1965 but the London Midland Region still has three, all based at Croes Newydd. No. 1660 is withdrawn in February, followed by No. 1638 in August. Happily, miniature railway enthusiast Robin Butterell organises a fund to buy it from BR and it moves to Tyseley. No. 1628 is the last '16XX' in BR service when withdrawn from Croes Newydd in September.

1969: No. 1638 isn't the only '16XX' still in existence; No. 1607 is at the National Coal Board's Cyndiedre Colliery. However, it's condemned in September.

1992: Despite having been a resident on the Buckfastleigh branch for more than 20 years, the newly formed South Devon Railway Trust cannot afford to buy No. 1638 from its Dart Valley owners; the locomotive is instead bought by the Kent & East Sussex Railway. It's still a KESR favourite, nearly 30 years later.

of the London Midland Region.

SEVERN & WYE

The Forest of Dean is a very special place. It's been a royal hunting ground since before the Norman Conquest and is Britain's second largest crown forest.

That's all very lovely, but what's in it for railway enthusiasts? Scratch beneath the surface and the Severn & Wye Railway offers some of the most intriguing stretches of railway in the country as it served the coal mining industry that

blossomed among the trees. Tunnels, junctions and quaint stations - everything you could want from a railway, all given an extra air of mystery thanks to its woodland location. Lydney shed regularly hosted '16XXs' for working the ex-S&W - and ex-GWR lines - in the forest.

But the other intriguing feature of the S&W was the great bowstring viaduct

over the River Severn, which had become part of its network following the absorption of the Severn Bridge Railway in 1894. The bridge was famously demolished by a runaway barge in 1960 but, on June 20 1964, in glorious sunshine, No. 1664 rumbled over the mothballed rails to Severn Bridge station, on the north bank, with the 'Severn Boar II' railtour.



WELSH WONDERS

The '16XXs' were perfectly suited to branch line work, which conjures images of these little panniers trundling through rolling hills with a couple of wagons in tow... but there was one line where a typical load was a dozen 16t mineral wagons loaded with coal.

Mention the Burry Port & Gwendreath Valley Railway and most enthusiasts will probably think of double or triple-headed Class 03s or 08s bringing heavy coal trains down this twisting and turning

route, whose canal origins made it a headache for the GWR and BR to operate. But before the cut-down diesels arrived, this idiosyncratic line was in the hands of the '16XXs'.

At least a dozen '16XXs' were recorded to have worked the line between the arrival of the first in 1949 and the final delivery in 1955. They were shedded at **Llanelly** and Burry Port where they worked passenger trains (until this ceased on September 19 1953) and the quarter of

a million tons of coal that the collieries around Cwmmawr produced annually.

After ex-BPGVR 0-6-0T No. 2198 was withdrawn in 1959, the line became one of only two in the country to be exclusively worked by '16XXs' (see right). Sadly, by the time this photograph of No. 1651 passing the remains of Pembrey Halt on August 13 1965 was taken, the writing was on the wall for steam on the BPGVR - the first diesel-hauled train ran on October 4 and steam officially ceased on November 1.



TREVOR OWEN/COLOUR RAIL

TETBURY & CIRENCESTER

Listing lines that played host to '16XXs' results is a veritable 'who's who' of the GWR's most famous branches in Gloucestershire, Wiltshire and the Vale of White Horse. We can even include the old Midland Railway Dursley branch on that list.

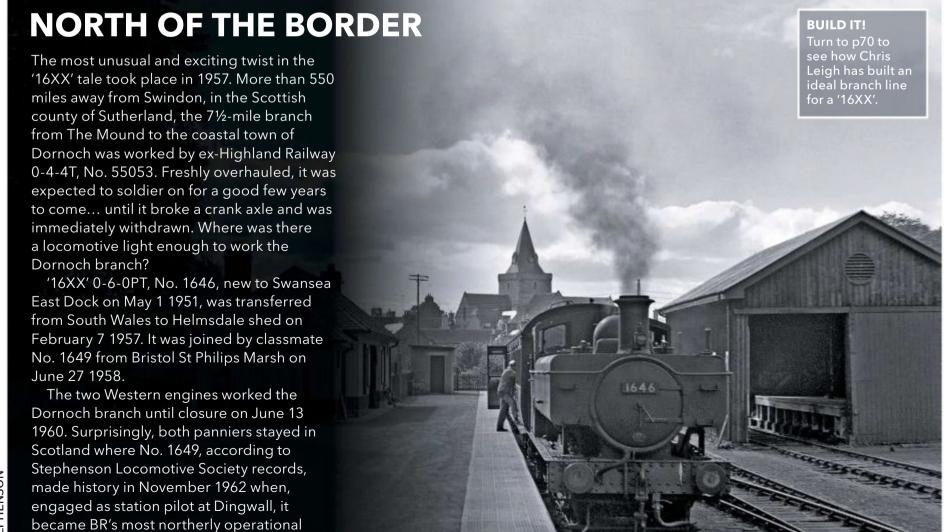
There's a joint 'winner' at the top of that list and they are the two branches that radiate out from Kemble: the seven-mile branch to the delightful market town of

Tetbury and the five-mile line to the former Roman seat of Cirencester. Of the two, the Tetbury branch is arguably better known for its single road engine shed clearly inspired Wills' offering, which has starred on GWR branch line layouts for generations.

'16XXs' were necessary for the Tetbury branch, which had weight restrictions. No. 1648 was a Tetbury favourite when allocated to Swindon shed (1951-1954) while No. 1664 became famous in the branch's latter years. It moved to Swindon from St Blazey in December 1961 and took over all the goods workings.

Here, it shunts Cirencester Town goods yard circa 1962 alongside railbus W79978, which has arrived from Tetbury. No. 1664 worked the last goods trains to Tetbury in 1963 and the last ever Westonbirt school train on April 2 1964.





steam locomotive. Both panniers were

withdrawn that December.

AND THE BEST OF THE REST...

There are lots of locomotives and multiple units where buying one model opens up the potential for operating it on lots of different layouts. **Richard Foster** shares ten of the best.



1 GCR '8K' (LNER 'O4') 2-8-0

What are they? The Great Central Railway built 126 of locomotive superintendent John G. Robinson's 2-8-0 between 1911 and 1914 for the heavy traffic from its new deep water port at Immingham. The design was chosen as the ROD's standard locomotive and a further 521 were built between 1917 and 1919. After the war, many were sold off cheap to British and overseas operators.

Who operated them? BR (WR, ER), LNER, GWR, LMS, CR, HR, LNWR, GER, LSWR, SECR, NER, GCR

Four classic routes they worked:

1. Birkenhead Docks-Shotton steelworks

- 2. Oxford-Honeybourne
- 3. Great Northern-Great Eastern Joint
- 4. Manchester-Sheffield-Wath 'Woodhead Route' (pictured above).

When were they last used? BR withdrew its last in 1966, whereas the last Australian examples were withdrawn in 1973.

Have any worked overseas? North Africa, France, Low Countries, China, Australia.

Can I see one? GCR '8K' No. 63601 is part of the National Collection and based at the Great Central Railway; three ROD 2-8-0s survive in Australia.

OPERATOR KEY

CR: Caledonian Railway HR: Highland Railway

SECR: South Eastern & Chatham Railway LSWR: London & South Western Railway LMS: London Midland & Scottish Railway LNER: London & North Eastern Railway GER: Great Eastern Railway

GWR: Great Western Railway ER: BR Eastern Region ScR: BR Scottish Region

SR: BR Southern Region LMR: BR London Midland Region WD: War Department, including

Longmoor Military Railway WR: BR Western Region



2 GER 'R24'/'S56' (LNER 'J67'/'J69') 0-6-0T

What are they? This family of GER 0-6-0Ts was introduced by James Holden in 1890 for its hugely intensive 'jazz' suburban passenger traffic and cross-London freights, via the East London Line. The design evolved with higher pressure boilers and larger tanks to form, under the LNER, four distinct sub-classes ('J67/1', 'J67/2', 'J69/1' and 'J69/2').

Who operated them? BR (ER, LMR, ScR), LNER, GER, WD, Industry

Four classic routes they worked:

- 1. Wrexham, Mold & Connah's Quay Railway
- 2. East & West Yorkshire Union Railway
- 3. Lauder Light Railway
- 4. Kelvedon & Tollesbury Light Railway (pictured above).

When were they last used? BR withdrew the final nine from Stratford in September 1962.

Have any worked overseas? No

Can I see one? 'J69/1' No. 68633, restored as GER No. 87, is part of the National Collection and is displayed at Bressingham Steam Museum.



3 GWR '57XX' 0-6-0PT

What are they? Having relied on old 0-6-0STs rebuilt with pannier tanks, Charles Collett introduced the GWR's standard shunting locomotive in 1929. It became one of the most numerous British locomotives, with 863 built up to 1949. Aside from ten with condensing gear, the only major difference was a more rounded cab from No. 8750 onwards.

Who operated them? BR (LMR, SR, WR), GWR, LT, NCB

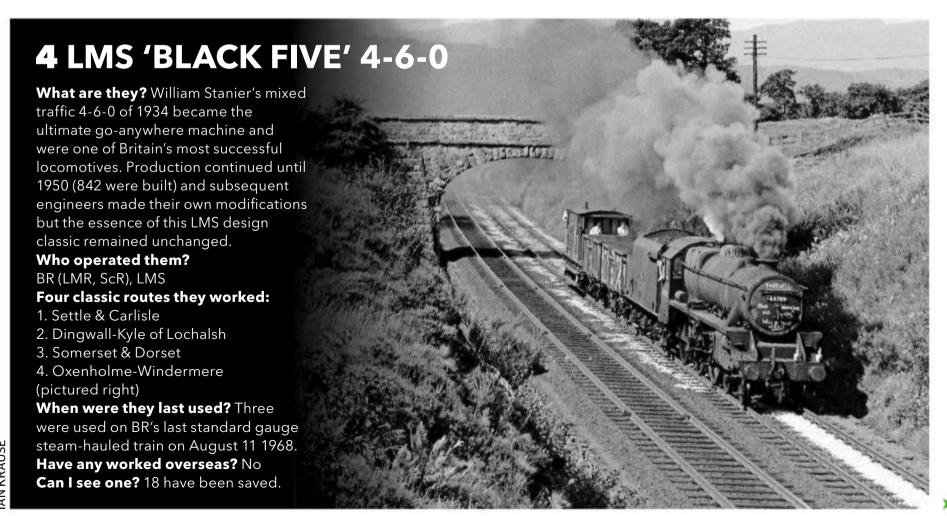
Four classic routes they worked:

- 1. Folkestone Harbour Branch
- 2. Watlington Branch
- 3. Weymouth Tramway
- 4. Neasden to Croxley Tip (pictured above).

When were they last used? BR withdrew its last in 1966, London Transport in 1971 but the last NCB '57XX' was not retired until 1975.

Have any worked overseas? No

Can I see one? 16 '57XXs' have been saved.



IAN KRAUSE

GEOFF PLUMB



5 LONDON UNDERGROUND **1938 STOCK**

What are they? This is the London Underground's classic 'Tube Train' EMU, which did away with the motor cars of earlier designs. That classic 'face' would, with some slight modifications such as destination blinds and wraparound windows, grace all subsequent tube train builds up to the 1983 Stock. Despite this, the 1938 Stock retains the pre-war essence that its successors never managed to capture.

Who operated them? LT, BR (SR), LNER Four classic routes they worked:

- 1. Epping-Ongar branch
- 2. LT 'Deep Tube' network
- 3. Alderney Railway
- 4. Ryde Pierhead-Shanklin (pictured above)

When were they last used? The last were due to be withdrawn shortly after this issue hit the news stands.

Have any worked overseas? No

Can I see one? Aside from the sets in use on the loW, there's one at the London Transport Museum's Acton store that is occasionally used on railtour duties.



6 BR CLASS 04 0-6-0DM

What are they? Drewry's 204hp 0-6-0DM became the most successful of the myriad four and six-coupled diesel shunters that BR ordered in the 1950s; 140 were built between 1952 and 1962. Predominantly built for Eastern and North Eastern Region, batches with larger wheels went to the Southern Region where they were a common sight at Dover docks.

Who operated them? BR (ER, LMR, NER, SR), NCB, Industry

Four classic routes they worked:

- 1. Derwent Valley Light Railway
- 2. Yarmouth Union Railway
- 3. Ford Motor Company, Dagenham
- 4. Wisbech & Upwell Tramway (pictured above).

When were they last used? BR withdrew its last in May 1972 but they survived in private hands until the 1980s.

Have any worked overseas? At least three were exported to Italy.

Can I see one? 19 '04s' survive in the UK.

7 WD 'AUSTERITY' 2-8-0

What are they? It took just five months for Robert Riddles and his team to design a version of Stanier's '8F' suited to wartime production. Fabrication was employed rather than casting, welding replaced riveting, and a parallel boiler with a more straightforward round-top firebox apparently saved some 6,000 man-hours of construction. Incredibly some 933 were built by North British and Vulcan Foundry.

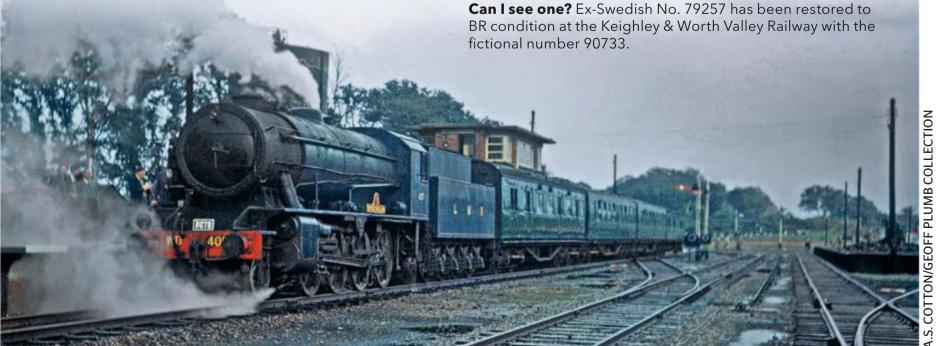
Who operated them? BR (ER, LMR, ScR), WD

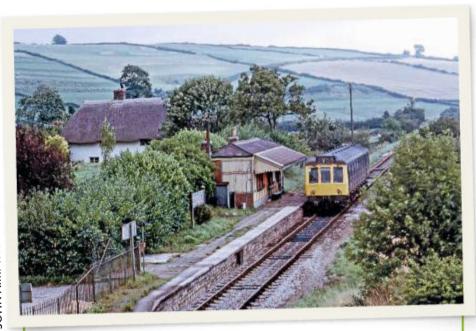
Four classic routes they worked:

- 1 Dundee-Aberdeen
- 2 Buxton-Matlock
- 3 Middlesbrough-Seaham-Sunderland
- 4 Longmoor Military Railway (pictured below)

When were they last used? BR withdrew its last 'WD' 2-8-0 in 1967.

Have any worked overseas? France, Belgium, Germany, Netherlands, USA, Hong Kong, Sweden





9 BR CLASS 121/122 RAILCAR

What are they? Pressed Steel built 16 for the Western Region to work alongside 20 similar vehicles built by Gloucester RC&W Co. in 1958. They outlived most branch lines they were built to serve but generations of operators continued to make use of their rugged design and simplicity.

Who operated them? BR (LMR, ScR, WR), Railtrack, Network Rail, Chiltern Railways, EWS

Four classic routes they worked:

- 1. Aylesbury-Princes Risborough
- 2. Staines West-West Drayton
- 3. Dundee-Carnoustie
- 4. Bridport branch (pictured above)

When were they last used? Chiltern Trains withdrew its last Class 121s on May 19 2018.

Have any worked overseas? No

Can I see one? Eight Class 122s and 15 Class 121s survive.

BUILD IT! Turn to p76 for a Class 121-inspired modelling project.



10 BR CLASS 158/159 DMU

What are they? BR's final design of 'Sprinter' brought the economies of diesel multiple unit operation to long-distance services. Capable of 90mph, you can see the 161 '158s' from Cornwall to the Highlands while 30 Class 159s still regularly ply the West of England main line to Exeter.

Who operated them? BR ScotRail, Regional Railways, InterCity, West Yorkshire PTE, Network SouthEast

Four classic routes they worked:

- 1. Far North Line
- 2. Leeds-Settle-Carlisle
- 3. South Devon Main Line
- 4. Cambrian Coast (pictured above)

When were they last used? Still in service

Have any worked overseas? No, but BREL built six virtually identical units for export to Thailand in 1990/91.

Can I see one? In service with ScotRail, Transport for Wales, East Midlands Railway, GWR, Northern, South Western Railway.

JOHN A.M. VAUGHN/RAIL PHOTOPRINTS

JOHN CHALCRAFT



Consett Ore Wagon

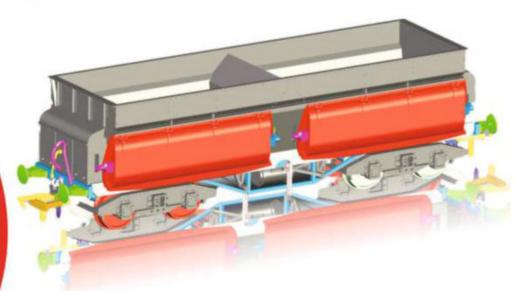
Today we launch our latest wagon. Having had this suggested to us and following a poll on our Facebook page, we are going to produce the 56t Iron Ore Wagon, used in Consett.

Available in OO and N. Delivery is expected 3rd Qtr 2021.

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A brief look at the Tyne Dock -Consett iron ore workings Class 9F's 92060 - 92066 & 92097 - 92099 Class 24's 24102 – 24111

https://www.krmodels.co.uk/products/ consett-iron-ore-wagon



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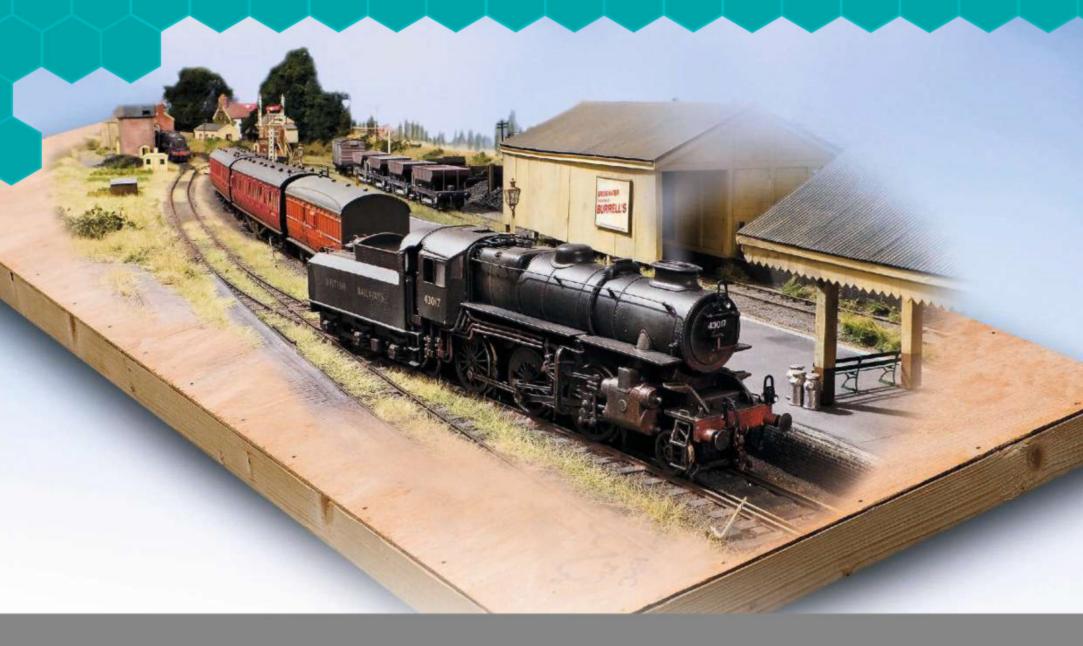
easy to follow, bite-sized chunks, learning the same skills. We'll busting myths along the way. Join our Facebook group

Welcome to the second part of skills, our team of experts will and you can post your pictures George Dent's baseboards Skills split a modelling task or skill into and chat to fellow modellers all offer friendly feedback and tips to make you even better!

Richard Foster Editor



Join our group on Facebook by searching for **Model Rail's Skills Station**



THE ESSENTIAL GUIDE TO

Pt 2: Baseboard kits

If saws, planes and drills give you the heebie-jeebies, there's a growing range of baseboard kits available that require few tools or woodworking experience. George Dent and Peter Marriott explain how they work and how they go together.

Join Skills Station at www.model-rail.co.uk/skills-station

CONVENIENCE IS KEY

After discussing the basics of building your own baseboards in last month's Skills Station, we can now shed light on one of the most welcome innovations of recent years: the laser-cut baseboard kit. These are becoming more widespread, with a number of manufacturers offering a range of off-the-shelf or bespoke products to suit a vast array of layout needs.

Most often supplied in flat-pack form and rendered in Medium Density Fibreboard (MDF) or plywood, they're designed like any other decent kit, with the parts slotting together and being secured with regular wood glue, plus a few nails and/or screws.

The various boards featured here, from the Tim Horn range (www.tim-horn.co.uk), are perfect examples of the genre. Cut from high-quality materials, the framework uses a tab and slot arrangement to provide strong joints, while large diameter holes in the internal cross-members reduce weight and allow cables to pass freely along the underside of the baseboard top. Many different sizes are available, with or without backscenes, while there's also the choice of curved sections and fiddleyard boards. As they're all precision-cut, multiple boards can be connected with ease, especially as pre-formed recesses are provided for alignment dowels and bolts.

Kits definitely take the fear out of building baseboards. There's no need for any fancy tools, nor is there any stress regarding



Above: All-plywood or MDF baseboards can be extremely robust if designed correctly. Large holes in the internal cross-members greatly reduce the overall weight. CHRIS NEVARD

Inset: A typical laser-cut plywood baseboard kit consists of individual frame members, plus a top and all necessary fixings. This is a Tim Horn 3ft by 1ft board kit in birch plywood. PETER MARRIOTT

accurate saw cuts and perfectly-aligned corner joints. A typical 4ft by 3ft board can be assembled in an evening, with little dust or mess to clear up afterwards. The cost is surprisingly low too, especially when compared to the cost of good quality raw materials from your average DIY store.

What you will need



100L3

- Screwdrivers
- Hammer
- Spirit level
- Clamps
- Paintbrushes
- PVA glue

MDF VS PLYWOOD

MDF offers a cheaper, slightly lighter option but it doesn't always cope well with damp conditions. However, special water-

proof grades are available and some baseboard kit makers use this material (it has a greenish colour), so check before ordering.

Good quality plywood is a strong,

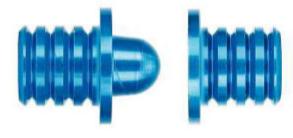
stable material which can withstand a greater degree of fluctuation in temperature and humidity, especially once painted or varnished. It's a little more expensive and denser, but is recommended for layouts in sheds, garages, attics and those likely to be transported regularly. It's also an easier material to work with than MDF and is, therefore, the recommended option.

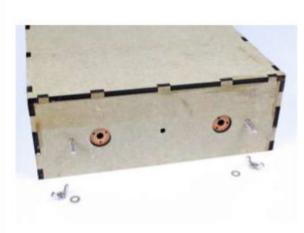


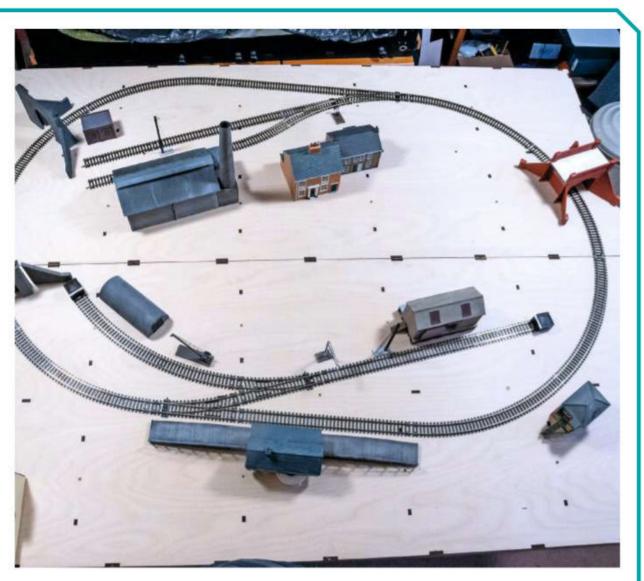
JOINING BOARDS

Multiple boards can be accurately joined together with the use of metal alignment dowels such as these, available from

DCCconcepts. Apertures for alignment dowels are pre-drilled into the ends of Tim Horn baseboards, along with holes for securing bolts.







ASSEMBLING BASEBOARD KITS



As with any kit, studying the instructions before assembly begins is recommended, taking note of the construction sequence. Also, take the time to familiarise yourself with the various components and how they fit together.



Trial-fit the parts together to check they slot together cleanly. The MR team have built many such kits in recent years and have yet to encounter any issues with poor fit, but it's always worth checking before applying glue.



Apply a decent amount of glue to the mating faces of one part, making sure that it covers all of the edges of the tabs and slots of the joint. Don't worry about excess glue oozing from the joints as this can be cleaned up easily.



The instructions will explain the recommended build sequence, but it often entails the fitting of the cross-members to one side. It's important to assemble the board on as flat a surface as possible.



After adding the other side, double-check that the frames are square before adding the ends before slotting the top into place. Ensure that the tabs are pushed fully into the slots.



Drive the supplied screws into the pre-drilled and countersunk holes. This serves to close up the joints, eliminate any gaps and clamp everything into place.

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More glue will be forced out of the joints as the screws are tightened, so wipe away the excess with a damp cloth. A spatula or spreader tool will help to drag errant glue out of any awkward corners.



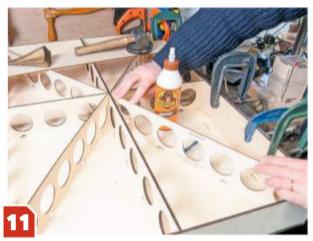
The corner joints can be reinforced by driving the supplied pins home with a hammer. Keep the nails straight so that they don't emerge from the sides and cause a hazard to your fingers.



Whether your kit is MDF or plywood, it's best to seal it with paint, varnish or oil. A few coats of Danish Oil is a convenient option for plywood boards. Allow the liquid to penetrate into the wood, then wipe away the excess with a cloth.



Carefully flip the baseboard over and add the screws into the holes pre-formed into the top. Self-drilling screws are supplied with Tim Horn's kits, so there's no need to drill any pilot holes into the cross-members.



After allowing the initial assembly to dry, the board can be inverted again and any diagonal braces that may be supplied can be glued into position. Alternate the orientation of adjacent diagonal braces to create a strong board.



Check for any twisting of the frame by placing two straight lengths of wood or a pair of spirit levels at each end. Place your eyes level with the surface and check that the two objects are precisely level with each other.



Placing weights over the upturned framework helps to hold the diagonal members in position while the glue cures overnight. Dumbbell weights and tools have been used here, but piles of books will work equally well.



With the baseboard complete, we're now ready to lay the track and make a start on the scenery. Opting for a baseboard kit allows modellers to fast-track to the more exciting tasks and get the trains running much sooner!

CUSTOM FEATURES

Baseboard kits can offer more than just a flat baseboard, with backscene

modules and lighting pelmets also available, all of

which involve similar assembly techniques. This custom-order board from Tim Horn features the backscene and pelmet options, as well as a dropped section to allow for the creation of a river beneath the trackbed.



WHAT NEXT?

Backscenes, pelmets, sector plates and traversers are the subject of next month's Skills Station.

Show us what you've learnt on our Facebook group - https://bit.ly/2TEmHKA

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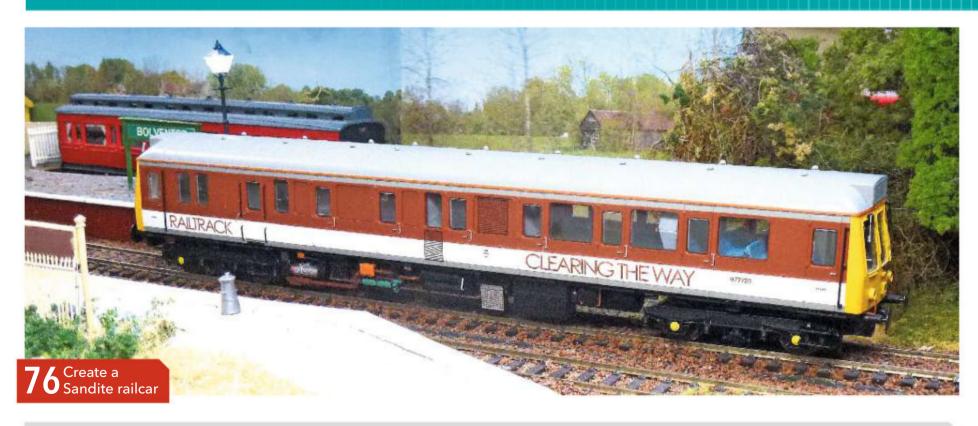


PAINT EASY THE HARDER WAY





10 pages of projects, advice and top tips that show you how



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od and chips twice, please."
"Salt 'n' vinegar, Duck?"
This is the extent of the conversation that goes on in my local chippy.

Fish and chips, that British staple, is probably one of the few meals which still involves vinegar in any quantity. But that wasn't always so. In the days before refrigerators, many foods were preserved by pickling them in vinegar.

Hill Evans & Company, based at Lowesmoor in Worcester, became the world's largest vinegar brewer, with an output that



reached over two million gallons annually, a record it held for a century. Its closure in 1967 was, no doubt, largely a result of the change to preserving foodstuffs by refrigeration, particularly the post-war expansion in domestic fridge ownership.

I never knew the Vinegar Works branch at Worcester and, to my eternal regret, I rejected an opportunity to do so. During a railtour to Worcester Shrub Hill in 1965 behind No. 4079 *Pendennis Castle*, my colleagues took a brief look at Worcester shed and the works before setting off to walk the branch. I had never heard of it and it did not sound very interesting, so I stayed behind to take a good look at Nos. 1420, 6435 and 4555 that were being overhauled for the embryonic Dart Valley Railway.

Looking back now, I made the wrong choice.

The impending arrival of our '16XX' No. 1660, complete with 'Vinegar Castle' graffiti, offered the opportunity to model a favourite railway scene, that being the

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I used a 3ft 6in by 1ft 6in baseboard. The main flat ground areas are raised 25mm off the top, using 15mm thick Woodland Scenics risers with two layers of 5mm foamboard on top. Black marker was used to rough out the plan.



In the foreground the risers/declines drop the track level down to the baseboard top on the main track and the stub siding. A couple of continuous 'beads' of Foam Tack Glue are sufficient to hold the risers in place.



Ground level was varied by reducing the layers of foamboard or by using two of the incline pieces, one reversed, as at the top of this view. For economy, much of the rest is supported on strips of foamboard.



Once the top surface of 5mm foamboard was in place, it was secured with Foam Tack Glue and held with Foam Nails until the glue set. I marked the positions of the main buildings with chalk.



With the track laid - Peco 'OO' bullhead with Code 75 flat-bottom medium radius points - I built the loading dock from strips of 2mm mount card and Velo-Set quicksetting PVA.



I made this wall from Metcalfe Models stone paper glued to a double layer of mount card. The building is a Walthers plastic kit modified to fit. Crates and barrels are from Harburn Hamlet and Merit (Peco).



At the other end of the board, the road is 2mm mount board edged with Wills cobbles. The area between the cobble strips was surfaced with Woodland Scenics Smooth-It, sanded then painted with Omen Miniatures acrylics (MR279).



The wall alongside Shrub Hill Road was made from mount card and covered with Scalescenes download-and-print brick paper. The 'border' piece was laminated onto a plain piece. The ornate gatepost tops are made from card.

view along the street in Worcester to the Vinegar Works branch level crossing protected by semaphore signals. However, lack of research material meant that it would need to be a model inspired by the Vinegar branch road crossing rather than a slavish re-creation.

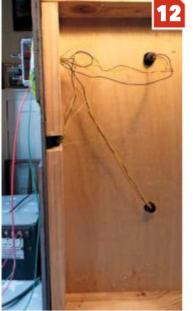
With winter fast approaching, I decided to install Dapol's working lower quadrant signals and to light the pub with a nice warm glow on the ground floor to provide a nice wintry look for photographs. Just the right kind of atmosphere when hot fish and chips would be most welcome.

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Workbench inspirational projects



The waterway is varnish over plaster, painted with Omen acrylic greens and browns. The bridge is made from Plastruct girders and strip. I wanted it to be obvious that the bridge was the reason that the branch was weight-restricted.



The electrical test was successful. Though they

all look the same in the photograph, the green

low-relief and flat structures round the edge.

and red indications work well to the human eye.

In order to get a hemmed-in look, I started to add

Dapol's signals are easy to install. You need a 12V DC power supply (you can buy them from Gaugemaster). The red and black wires are the positive and negative wires, respectively, and the yellow wires go to the switch.



I lined the canal with Scalescenes dock and harbour sheet. Buildings were constructed separately and tested in place at intervals in the search for other possible photographic angles – see p75 to find out how I built the warehouse.



To control the signals, all you need are the sprung centre, momentary contact types. You can buy packs of five from Hobbies (RRP £7.95, www.hobbies.co.uk). I mounted them in a small panel which I made from styrene sheet.



I decided to add a mill as one of the buildings round the edge and I modelled it on memory of the sluice under the Lino Works at Staines which I remember from childhood. The rushing water is a piece of aquarium filter wool.



I used three of the Dapol Easi-Fix GWR round post home signals. These were the most expensive parts (RRP £33.50) but I really like them. The baseboard had to be drilled for the bases – a drill around 14mm diameter is needed.



The pub lighting was just two grain-of-wheat bulbs, which I wired to a controllable 12V transformer. Running at 12V blew two bulbs so I turned the power down to 8V, which also made the night scene much more subtle.



I coloured the canal bank with Woodland Scenics Turf. I painted the landscape with PVA and sprinkled it in place, trying to vary the shades. I applied scatter along the sidings in the yard too, to look a little unkempt.





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Build it! Worcester's Vinegar branch

Hill Evans & Company was founded in 1830 by two Methodists, William Hill and Edward Evans, who used the waste material from local winemakers to brew vinegar. So successful was their enterprise that by the mid-19th Century distribution was proving to be more of an issue than production. The distinctive Filling Hall, built in 1850 contained the world's largest vat. It was 39ft high and capable of holding nearly 115,000 gallons. Like most brewed products, vinegar was despatched in barrels and distribution by horse and cart was soon overwhelmed.

The company needed to make use of rail transport and in 1870 the Worcester Railway Act allowed the extension of the line which served the Worcester Engine Works, for 672yd into Hill Evans' six-acre factory site. The new railway started at the point where that siding crossed the Virgin's Tavern Road and required a level crossing at Shrub Hill Road, a bridge over the Worcester & Birmingham Canal and a second level crossing at Pheasant Street. Completed in 1872, it was known as the Lowesmoor Tramway or the Vinegar Works branch, though the Act allowed construction of a siding to serve a mill as well.

Today, Hill Evans' site is occupied by modern industrial units and an Asda supermarket. The branch's course can be followed on Google Earth, and the canal bridge is still present, though now apparently carrying a road within a private factory area. Virtually all the buildings have gone, too, including the distinctive Railway Arms public house, which appears in the background of some pictures of trains on the crossing. The Filling Hall is now a listed building but the giant vat is no more, and the building is used by the Territorial Army.

The branch seems to have had signals for



each direction on the railway, a Home and Distant, plus at least one shunt arm. Road traffic was famously controlled also by a pair of semaphore signals. Originally the road signals were slotted-post wooden affairs with the arms to the right of the posts. These were illustrated on roadside notices which explained them to road users, there being no Highway Code at the time.

The end of the branch had no run-round loop and written accounts suggest that the locomotive was uncoupled once the train had cleared the road crossing, and run into a stub siding. The wagons were then allowed to roll forward past the locomotive and the locomotive was released behind them to shunt them into the various sidings within

Apart from the semaphore-signalled road crossing, the other feature which will always be associated with the Vinegar branch is the Great Western's American-style spark

Left: The only colour picture I could find of the GWR signals and the full frontage of the Railway Arms. At some point, the original signals were replaced with standard GWR lower quadrants on tubular metal posts. Photographs show that they had spectacle plates and glasses but no ladders, so they must have been electrically lit. Ladders would be an unnecessary temptation and hazard. I used Dapol's GWR signals and retained the ladders. CHRIS LEIGH COLLECTION



Above: RNAD Ditton Priors would certainly have warranted a spark-arrester-fitted locomotive so it was more likely that a Busby pannier simply worked the vinegar branch on days when it wasn't required to go to Ditton Priors. No. 1629, seen on shed at Worcester, sports the Busby chimney. R.C. RILEY/TRANSPORT LIBRARY

arrester chimney, nicknamed 'the Busby'. My studies of the branch in recent weeks have convinced me that the association between the branch and the chimney is a fallacy. There are as many photographs of locomotives with regular chimneys working the branch as there are with the Busby.

Why would the branch locomotive have needed a spark arrester? Vinegar is not flammable and nor were the other products that came in and out of the area. On the other hand, Worcester shed did also supply locomotives for the Cleobury Mortimer & Ditton Priors Light Railway, which served a Royal Naval Armaments Depot.



SHRUB HILL ROAD LEVEL CROSSING NOTICE Foot Passengers & Drivers of vehicles along this Road are warned to observe the Signals on the Left hand side of the Road. When the arm is in this position or when a RED a tight is shown, a train is about to cross & all traffic along the Road is STOPPED. When the arm is in this position or a WHITE tight is shown the Road is clear.

Above: Can you imagine 21st-century road users following these instructions when some won't even stop at a barrier level crossing? SCIENCE & SOCIETY PICTURE LIBRARY

The Busby was easily switched between locomotives. No. 1629 is without it as it crosses Shrub Hill Road, returning from Hill, Evans. The first wagon is a shock open branded 'Empty to Worcester WR'. Maybe for glass bottles? **NEVILLE STEAD/TRANSPORT LIBRARY**

Workbench inspirational projects

Going retro

I spent several days scratchbuilding the Railway Arms pub and realized that I could not hope to make all the large buildings that the layout needed. I needed a shortcut.

In my stash, I found several Bilteezi sheets. These are 4mm:1ft scale building kits printed on thin card. Intended for mounting on a card base, they were unique to Hambling's model shop in London and they are probably at least 60 years old. I love the artwork on these, by Vacy-Ash Ltd but they are very 'flat' by modern standards.

An internet search showed that Antics Online (www.anticsonline.co.uk) offers a limited supply so, as I could not be certain of a source of supply and wanted to preserve the integrity of my original sheets, I scanned them and used copies printed on A4 paper for the models illustrated.

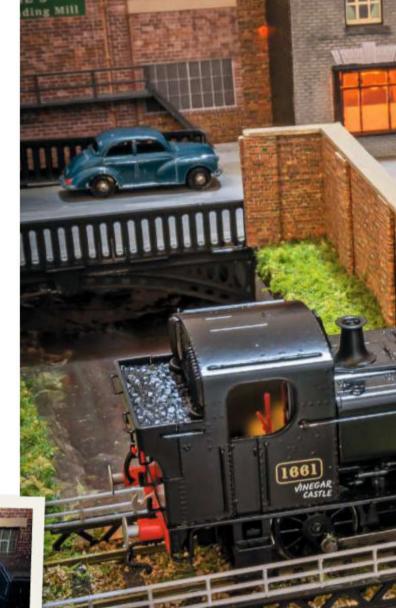
Bilteezi sheets would give the layout a 1960s look and so I decided to 'go retro'. I dug out some 1:76 scale Dublo Dinky vehicles that had survived from my childhood train set and added one of Hornby's current centenary versions. I even found a couple of Matchbox cars to enhance the retro look.

The Dublo Dinky vehicles are either play-worn or, in one case, have been restored but using matt paint rather than gloss. If you don't have any of your old toys lying around there are plenty on eBay and can be found for only a few pounds.

With the rolling stock, I found two open wagons, which I felt would add a little colour to the project. The yellow United Glass wagon is Hornby-Dublo but I replaced the old cast metal chassis with a more modern Dapol one (Dapol chassis 'WChass10'). I reasoned that the vinegar company would need glass bottles and the United Glass livery appealed because that company had its head office in Staines when I lived there.

The red ICI salt wagon also appealed because of its colour - and salt is another good condiment connection to the layout! I suspect, however, the real thing carried road salt. The model was by British Trix and the best modern underframe I could find was from a Bachmann 'Clay Hood' but is slightly short for the body.

A typical Bilteezi sheet. I particularly like the artwork on this example, which builds Cotswold cottages or a small hotel. Antics Online offers a limited supply of Bilteezi kits.

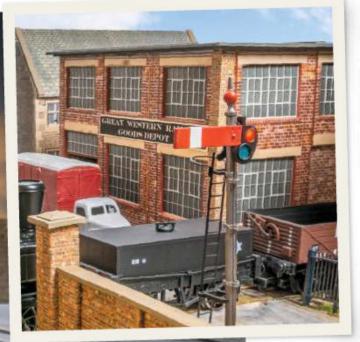




Right: This Dublo Dinky lorry dates from my Hornby-Dublo layout pre-1960. I resprayed it in matt grey many years ago. The bed was stretched to accommodate Hornby's paper-covered wooden container which was quite a bit over-scale compared to the modern Peco plastic version.

HARDER & STEENBECK www.harder-airbrush.eu





WESTERN RAILWAY

GOODS DEPOT

UPGRADE BILTEEZI SHEETS

Once I had decided to use the Bilteezi sheets and to create a 'retro' look, I realised that I would need to adapt them to suit the angle from which they would be viewed. They were designed to be used flat and viewed from the front, but I would be using them in a scene where the flatness would be too obvious. Looking at them obliquely, I would **n**eed to recess the windows and doors, and to provide windowsills, doorsteps and a roof overhang.



I would need to adapt the kits, so I began by scanning them and printing off the parts I needed on A4 sheets. If originals had been available, I would have used them. I began by cutting out the windows and doors.



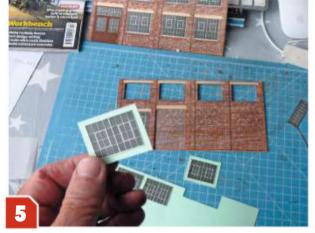
I then mounted the wall on 2mm mount board, which I had previously cut to size. 3M Spray Mount can be used for this, or Velo-Set or Speedbond PVA glue, which tend to be a bit more permanent than the Spray Mount.



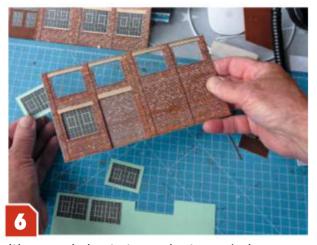
Using a steel rule and a sharp new blade in my Swan-Morton craft knife, I cut the window and door openings out, following the edge of the printed sheet and avoiding cutting into it. The short steel rule is favourite for this job.



The exposed card edges around the openings were painted with Omen Miniatures brick base colour. You can mix a colour to match the brickwork or use a darker shade to emphasise the recess.



I mounted the windows and doors I'd cut out onto thin card and cut out with a border wide enough to fit behind the aperture. The frames are shaded. The lighter colour goes to the bottom, the darker (for shading) at the top.



It's a good plan to try and return window frames to the same aperture they came out of to ensure a good fit. I replaced one large door opening with a panel of brickwork cut from another sheet.



Side walls. The one with the bricked-in panel has recessed windows and will be towards the front of the layout. The lower wall is in original condition and will face the layout's rear. This saved time as I was up against a deadline.





Designed to apply grippy surface treatment to leaf-prone railheads, **Chris Leigh** slips into autumnal mode to convert an unusual railcar from Dapol's Class 121.

R faced a problem following the end of steam and the decline in heavy freight traffic. Lineside embankments were no longer being managed by permanent way gangs and, by the 1970s, lineside growth had started to cause problems, particularly during the leaf-fall season. The newer, lightweight multiple units, particularly those with disc brakes, were heavy enough to crush fallen leaves into a slurry but not sufficient enough to clear it away from rails and wheel treads.

It simply stuck, polished to a glass-like surface, and made trains slip and slide as they braked. This, in turn, led to wheel flats and units required more frequent tyre turning, increasing costs and shortening tyre life. Worse, leaf-fall in the wrong place could lead to a train sliding past a red signal – a so-called SPAD (Signal Passed At Danger).

A solution had to be found, preferably one that did not involve wholesale clearance of lineside trees. All this was brought sharply to my attention on April 21 1982 when, while driving to work in Shepperton, a news report came over the car radio that there was a train

MODEL Dapol 4D-009-009 Class 121 | AVAILABILITY Dapol Railtrack livery ◆ Price £145.00 | stockists or www.dapol.co.uk | 5hrs | 1111

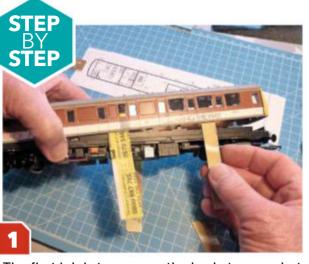


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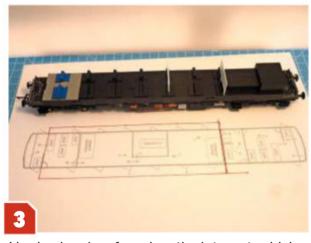




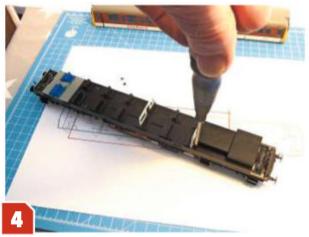
The first job is to remove the body to see what internal detail there is. The body simply unclips and the easiest way is to insert strips of plastic between the body and the solebar. I use cut-up bank cards for this.



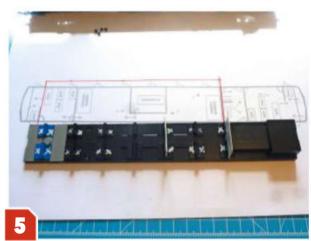
With the body off we can see that the interior has its original passenger seats. Four at the front are picked out in blue to represent the seats used by route-learners, but they are in the wrong place for that job.



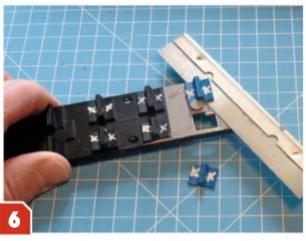
I had a drawing, found on the internet, which I copied and enlarged to 'OO' size. I marked the area needing attention in red. The guard's area will not be touched as that is filled with all the electronics.



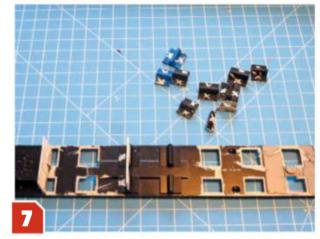
Four tiny cross-head screws attach the interior moulding to the chassis. To avoid risk of damage to the mechanism I undid the screws and lifted off the plastic interior moulding, setting the screws aside safely.



Next, working from the drawing, I used a small brush and white paint to mark all the seats that needed to be removed. I planned to leave the seats in the generator area as they would be entirely hidden.



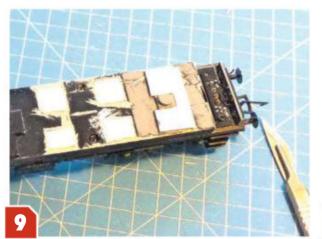
Using a sharp razor saw with a very finetoothed blade, I cut off all the marked seats at 'floor' level and set the best ones aside for possible future use. Care is needed. If the blade slips you may cut your fingers.



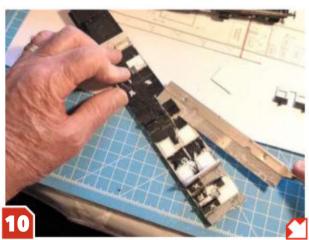
With the seats removed, I was left with a series of odd-shaped holes in the floor. I neatened these up with a file to give me straight edges and remove any loose swarf from the sawing.



I cut rectangles of .040in styrene sheet, shaped to fit tightly in the holes, and secured them with Plastic Magic. I had to raise one or two to clear obstructions on the chassis - these were cut oversize and glued over the hole.



I check-fitted the interior a couple of times to ensure that none of my new infills was fouling components on the chassis. In the end, only the infill around the front bogie pivot area needed to be raised.



It became apparent that the walls around the generator would be easier to fit if I removed one more seat unit. By this time I had already started to re-fit seats in their correct positions for the route-learner.

Workbench inspirational projects

in the High Street! I imagined something on a low-loader had got stuck on one of the village's sharp bends. I wasn't really prepared for the sight of the leading coach of a Class 508 four-car EMU that seemed to have jumped over the brick wall and had gone far enough into the street to knock over one of the traffic lights!

It transpired that technicians at Strawberry Hill maintenance depot had been carrying out tests of leaf-fall treatments. These had involved coating the rails in a leaf-slurry equivalent and applying experimental treatments. The slippery coating was supposed to be removed long before the first public train of the day... but it hadn't.

The driver of the first Down train couldn't stop the train. It struck the wooden stop block attached to the brick wall so hard that it lifted the concrete plinth on which the wall was built, and the section of track, creating what amounted to a launch ramp.

My colleagues and I spent the day watching the skill with which Wimbledon's 75-ton crane was manoeuvred in an incredibly tight space to gradually draw the coach back onto the track.

BR's eventual solution was Sandite, a compound of sand, antifreeze and steel shot, applied to the rail-head to improve adhesion, usually after high-pressure water jetting had been used to remove the leaf residue. For this operation it required special equipment. At first, an assortment of spare multiple-unit cars were converted but in later years the specialized, locomotivehauled Rail Head Treatment Train undertakes this filthy duty.

For a decade or more around the end of the 20th Century, Sandite application ensured the survival of a handful of elderly diesel railcars, even ensuring that several of them lasted long enough to find their way back into preservation.

Though the first production run of Dapol's Class 121 and 122 railcars were all passenger versions, the second run included several vehicles in departmental condition. Among these were 55012 in Loadhaul livery (a Class 122 route-learner) and two route-learner/Sandite cars in Railtrack livery, one in light brown and white as 960021 and the other in lined coaching stock maroon as 977858 (formerly W55024).

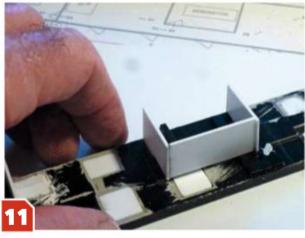
The latter two models carry a good rendering of the Railtrack livery but they are otherwise just the model of the passenger car with most of the seating painted black so that it does not look too obvious through the windows. Only those seats that were retained for the driver trainees are picked out in blue.

As I have various models of W55021 it seemed only right to have a model of the ill-fated railcar in its final livery. However, I was never very happy with the 'fudged' interior detail and determined to replace it with something more like an actual Sandite car.

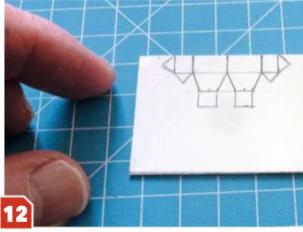
The calamitous effect of a leaf-slurry slip

The 75-ton breakdown crane from Wimbledon recovers the leading coach of 508 031 after it ran through the stopblock at Shepperton having been unable to stop at the platform. CHRIS LEIGH COLLECTION





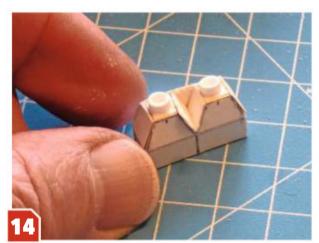
I fitted three walls of .040in styrene sheet around the generator area. The seats within this were left as this area cannot be seen once the body is back on. A small cut-out was left in one of the rear floor infills to clear the flywheel.



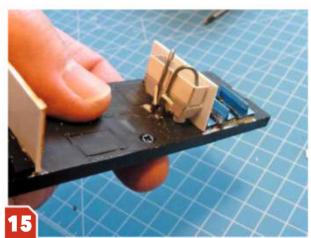
Attention then moved away from the model as I decided how best to make the Sandite hoppers. These are quite tiny so I decided to draw them out and fold them up from postcard.



So far, the hopper unit is one piece of folded postcard. I drew it with tabs that could be folded back in order to attach it to a postcard backing piece. I used Velo-Set quick-drying PVA for assembly.



Small pieces of postcard completed the tapered sections of the hoppers, the middle piece folded to a 'V'. Small slices of Evergreen styrene pack 224 1/2 in tube were fitted but nothing below these owing to Dapol's raised 'floor' level.



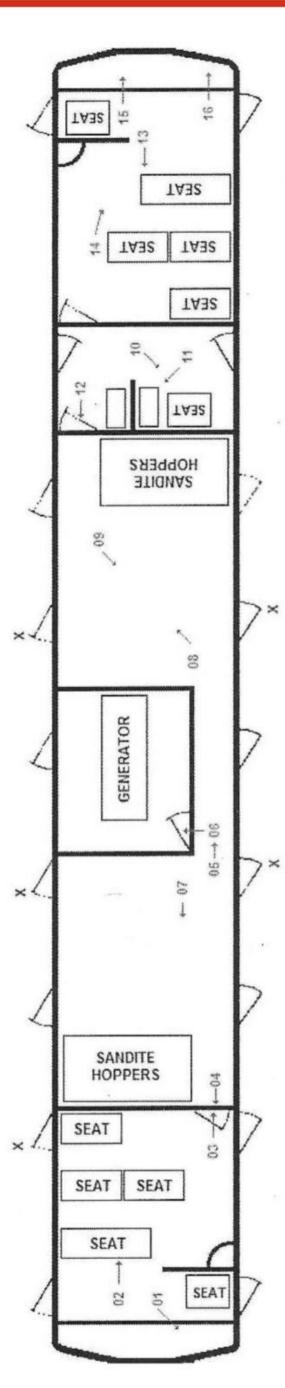
Trimmed to shape, the hopper unit was fitted to the bulkhead and glued in place. Feed pipes are bent from solder with valve operating levers from slivers of card. The hopper unit at the other end is identical.



I then painted the hopper units. Flexible green plastic pipes are used on the real thing, with the valve levers painted orange. Most of the interior seems to have been unpainted aluminium sheet or, perhaps, pale grey paint.

HARDER & STEENBECK





What's special about 55021?

The answer to that question, is 'Nothing, really', except to me. When, in 1962, I first ventured down to Staines West station to catch the 'pull-and-push' to West Drayton, this was my first sighting of the branch train. Snapped on my Kodak Brownie, the Pressed Steel single-unit railcar on branch duty that day was W55021.

I cannot say that I followed its career from that moment, although I did always take an interest in the 16 Pressed Steel and 20 Gloucester RC&W railcars, which were the mainstay of many branch and local services on the Western Region. I can find no real evidence that W55021 ever went west and it seems to have remained in the Thames Valley throughout its career. It lost its dark green livery for blue, then blue/grey,

before it received Network SouthEast colours in the late 1980s.

In 1992, it was taken out of passenger service and converted to a routelearning and Sandite car. It remained in NSE livery until taken over by Railtrack and repainted into a light brown and white colour scheme. It was renumbered in the unit series as 960021 and on its sides as vehicle No. 977723, in which form it is represented by the Dapol model.

I last saw 55021 when it was stored out of use at Aylesbury in 2009, together with much of the DMU Sandite fleet. Several of those railcars found new homes with preservation societies, but W55021 was not one of them - it was dismantled and scrapped at Aylesbury in 2011.



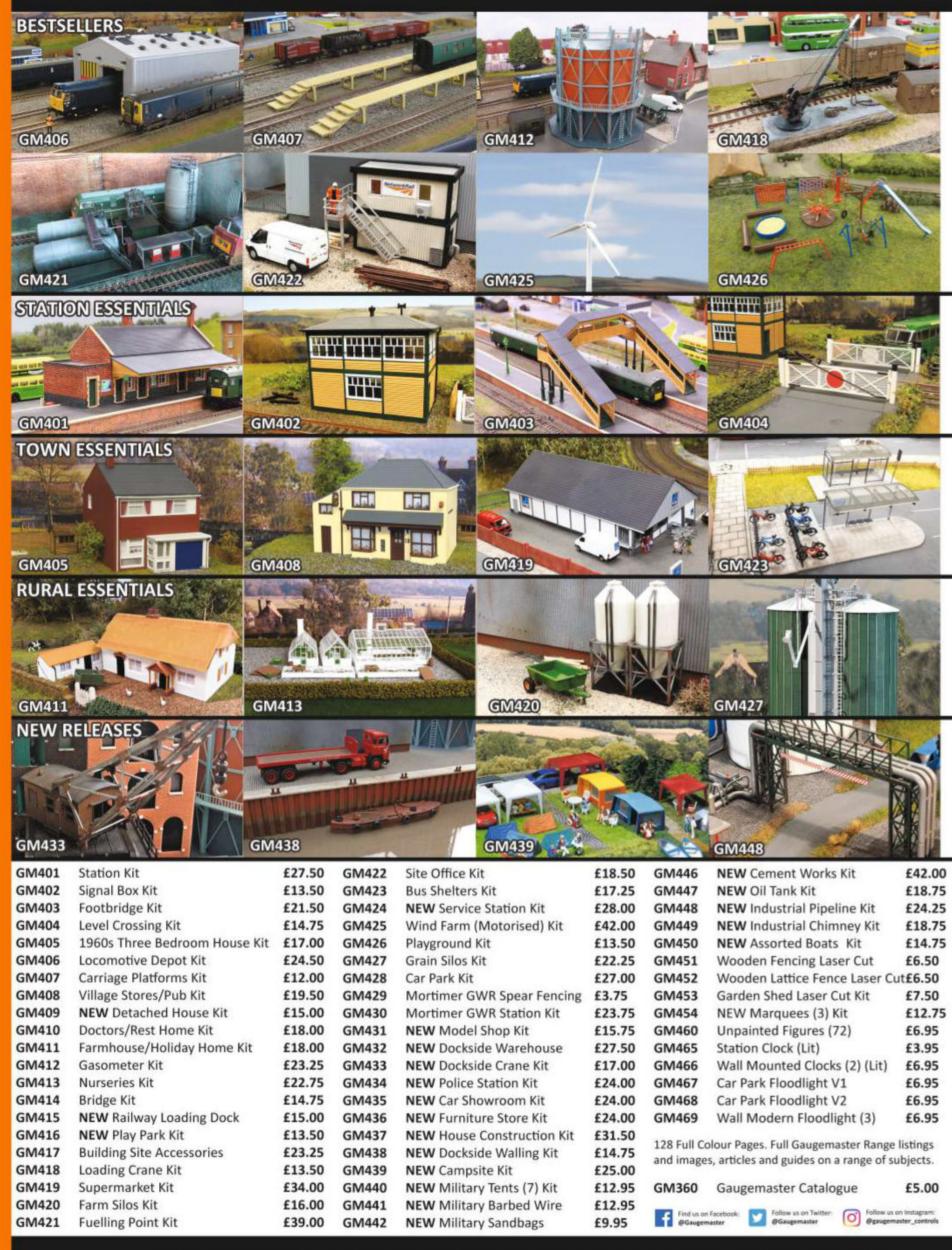


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- Bachmann '2-HAP' EMU
- Dapol prototype HST
- Cavalex BBA steel carrier wagon
- Murphy Models 121 Class
- Graham Farish HKA wagon
- Bachmann Class 159

Peco FR 'Small Birminghams'



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Richard Foster

His forte is steam locomotives.

Chris Leigh

Wrote his first review in 1964 and hasn't stopped since!

Ben Ando

Model Rail's 'N' gauge specialist.

Peter Marriott

Model Rail's scenic expert.

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LOOKS	9/10
PERFORMANCE	9/10
FEATURES	8/10
DECORATION	9/10
VALUE FOR MONEY	6/10
TOTAL	82%

How we test

At *Model Rail*, we pride ourselves on the quality, thoroughness and unbiased nature of our reviews. To do this, we judge models against prototype images and historical texts. We also run them on our test track, which features 1-in-30 and 1-in-60 gradients in both 'N' and 'OO', not to mention numerous challenging track configurations.







Bachmann '2-HAP' EMU

◆ GAUGE 'OO' ◆ MODEL Bachmann Branchline 31-391 Class 414 two-car EMU 6063, BR blue/grey ◆ PRICE £259.95 ◆ AVAILABILITY Bachmann stockists

y one surviving *Abc* Combined Volume shows that my observation of '2-HAP' units was patchy, to say the least. The tiny unit numbers, placed in the middle of the ends, made Southern Region EMUs something of a spotters' nightmare. On an eight-car train comprising four two-car units, one would be lucky to read the numbers on any more than the front and rear units when moving at speed. However, my predominance of 'cops' in the series above unit 6145 suggests that later-built '2-HAPs' were

present on the Western Section, though the rest of the class was prevalent in the central and south-east suburbs.

Nevertheless, there is something refreshingly familiar about Bachmann Branchline's latest third-rail EMU release. The sample that Bachmann has kindly supplied for review is finished in Rail blue and grey as 6063 and it is immediately recognisable as a spot-on rendering of one of these very basic, ordinary trains.

Once you have a Southern EMU chassis, it is not difficult to adapt it to suit a variety of units, just as the Southern Railway and Southern

Region did over much of the 20th Century. Bachmann has done just that, with the chassis that was developed for Kernow MRC's Class 205 diesel-electric unit and Bachmann's own Class 411 '4-CEP', for which the '2-HAP' is the perfect companion.

IN DETAIL

Like the '4-CEP', this model captures the character of the real thing exceptionally well and boasts some stunning details. The cluster of separately fitted jumpers and cables on the cab ends reminded me of the hisses and

bangs as trains were joined or divided at Staines Central.

It is not just the end detail that impresses. Printed detail on the electrical equipment made me look twice to see if it was moulded or merely printed on, and most of the underframe components are separate fittings.

Simple shapes are often the most difficult to capture accurately, but the very plain Mk 1 non-gangwayed body looks the part, the only distraction being the inevitable prismatic effect around the multitude of flush-glazed windows.

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Starting with its Class 121 (MR273) and '117' (MR277), Bachmann seems to have moved its paint finishes up to a new level this year. The Rail blue and grey paintwork on this model has an excellent satin-matt finish, which matches well with my memory that this livery was seldom shiny, even when freshly applied.

21-pin DCC socket

It is, however, the printing that is impossible to overlook. Corporate image lettering was, of course, upper and lower case, so the lower case letters are particularly small.

The crowning glory is on the ends again - and take care not to break the jumper cables while looking for it!

Yes, partly hidden behind the cables below the driver's windscreen is the WD depot sticker for Wimbledon printed in black. Almost behind the cables on the other side is a Rail blue and grey label reading 'Class 414/3'. Many of us 'Southerners' could never really get to grips with TOPS class numbers, and it seems depot staff were similarly affected, for one had neatly painted '2HAP'

6063

immediately below it in black freehand and Bachmann has painstakingly reproduced it.

The chassis and mechanism used here is similar to that used in the '4-CEP' and the Class 419 'MLV'.

rather than the newer, low-height design used in the recent WR diesel units. Thus, we merely have directional-controlled lighting behind the two-character headcode panels at the front >

Performance

I'm always fascinated by how much 'at home' Southern EMUs look when standing in the main station on my layout. As one might expect from a Bachmann product with this particular chassis arrangement, the '2-HAP' ran faultlessly.

It was smooth and quiet from the word go and it really did not seem to require any running-in for optimum performance. I did not test it for haulage capacity but I did try it for compatibility running with a '4-CEP' and it performed faultlessly throughout the speed range.



The grey panels are correctly positioned and the fine white outline is neat, even over the door recesses.



The trailer vehicle's fine, fulllength brake rod is typical of the high-quality chassis detail.



From the 'Load 1 ton evenly distributed' beside the quard's door, to the 'No Smoking' labels on the windows, all the printing is spot on, neat and legible.



System

Other items to complement this model...

EMU

Bachmann's first EMU is still one of the best EMUs around, and every third-rail fan should have at least one. Four new liveries are now in stock. **Price:** £419.95-£449.95 **Availability:** Bachmann stockists



Factfile: '2-HAP' EMU

Prior to the re-classification of all BR locomotives and multiple units to suit the TOPS system, the Southern Region's class system for its multiple units could be a little confusing. Consisting of a number and three letters, some, such as the '5-BEL' (five-coach 'Brighton Belle' Pullman units) were self-evident.

Others, such as '2-HAP' for a two-

car non-gangwayed units with buckeye couplers and electro-pneumatic brakes, were much less easy to translate, particularly as the designation covered two batches of units with distinctly different body styles.

The first units to receive the designation were 60 two-car sets with express gearing (numbers 5601-60) built in the post-war years to the Southern Railway's Bulleid body design and profile. For these, the Southern did as it so often had before and re-used old underframes.

Bachmann's model represents the second incarnation of '2-HAP' as these were the BR standard design to the C1 body profile, matching BR Mk 1 stock. Representing the classic 'Eastleigh' styling they featured the less-than-aerodynamic flat front end which could be found on a 57ft non-gangwayed BR Mk 1. These units (numbers 6001-6173) were for fast intermediate services with limited stopping patterns. As such, they were intended to be fully compatible with the 90mph Mk 1-based stock for the Kent Coast

electrification and were geared accordingly. BR's '2-HAPs' - later Class 414 on TOPS - were built between 1957 and 1963. Withdrawals started in 1982 and ten DMBS were turned into luggage vans (Class 489) for Gatwick Express services. The final 'HAPs' lasted in service until 1992.



1: BR '2-HAP' 6063 pauses at Kemsing, near Sevenoaks, on December 19 1962. Each unit consisted of a semi-saloon Driving Motor Brake Second seating 84 passengers and a Driving Trailer Composite with 19 First Class and 50 Second Class seats. Only passengers in the composite coach had access to a toilet! COLOUR RAIL

2: '2-HAP' 6078 leads a ten-car EMU through Bearsted in May 1983. '2-HAPs' 6001-6142 were later renumbered in the 42XX series (as Class 414/2) and 6043-6173 took numbers in the 43XX series (Class 414/3). RAIL PHOTOPRINTS

3: Two renumbered units have been preserved, both a long way from the third-rail electrified lines on which they worked: 4311 is in store at Peak Rail, whereas 4308 has undergone extensive restoration at the National Railway Museum's Locomotion outstation and now carries BR blue/grey on one side and Network SouthEast livery on the other.

SCOTT WIGGLESWORTH/LOCOMOTION

ROLLING STOCK

If you've bought yourself a '2-HAP' and a '4-CEP', you might as well get yourself one of the excellent Class 419 Motor Luggage Vans too!

Price: £149.95 Availability:
Bachmann stockists



ACCESSORIES

Don't forget some typical Southern Region infrastructure for your EMUs. One of Bachmann Scenecraft's Art Deco signal boxes (product code 44-064) is ideal... if you can find one! **Price:** Not available new **Availability:** Bachmann stockists







and rear. The motor coach carries the '84' headcode and the trailer the two red bars which formed the tail light on SR units.

The bogies are similar to those used on the '4-CEP' with excellent depth of detail, including

JARGON BUSTER

- Route 84 (Central Section): Victoria and Epsom Downs via Streatham Common and West Croydon
- Route 84 (Eastern Section): Charing Cross and Paddock Wood via Greenwich, Strood and Maidstone West

separately fitted shoe-beams. Electrical connection between the two vehicles is by the same clip-fit plastic bar as used on the previous EMU, rather than the more cumbersome multi-pin plug used on the DMUs.

The motor is concealed in a black-painted metal casting within the 'van' area of the motor coach and drives the outer bogie by way of a Cardan shaft and gearbox. It's this area which harks back to criticisms of the '4-CEP' model and some of Bachmann's other multiple units, because it

intrudes into the passenger area and is visible through the windows. On the '2-HAP', it blocks approximately one and a half seating bays but then there are various electrical components and other chassis parts which, though they are below window level, take up further interior space, filling a total roughly half the car length. These are less conspicuous, despite being highlighted by the interior lighting of the coach.

Bachmann has done everything possible to produce the '2-HAP' to its highest possible 21st-century

standards, given the use of an existing chassis design. It has succeeded, but the model is held back by the intrusion of so much chassis and electrics into the passenger area, which is a pity, and why it misses out on a 10/10 for looks and for features. (CJL)

REVIEW VERDICT

PROS. Accurate body shape, smooth, quiet chassis.

CONS. Mechanism visible in passenger saloon.

LOOKS	9/10
PERFORMANCE	9.5/10
FEATURES	7.5/10
DECORATION	9.5/10
VALUE FOR MONE	Y 9/10
89%	6

BACHMANN '2-HAP' EMU

OVERVIEW Manufacturer: Bachmann Ref. No. 31-391 Unit No. 6063 Scale/gauge: 1:76 scale, 16.5mm gauge '00'

Body: Plastic Chassis: Metal/plastic Weight: 392g (motor coach), 183g (trailer) Min. curve radius: R2 (438mm)

Wheel back-to-back: 14.5mm

Electrical system: 12V DC two-rail DCC ready: 21-pin socket

MECHANISM

Motor type: Can motor

Lights: Directional and interior

ELECTRICS

Drive system: Chassis-mounted motor with shaft drive to one bogie

Flywheel(s): One Traction tyres: No

DIMENSIONS	PROTOTYPE	1:76 SCALE	MODEL
Length (over buffers)	63ft 11½in	256mm	256mm
Height (over chimney)	12ft 41/2in	49.5mm	50mm
Width (over footplate)	9ft 0in	36mm	36mm
Wheel diameter	3ft 6in	14mm	14mm
Bogie wheelbase	8ft 6in	34mm	34mm

SERVICING

Where to oil: Factory lubricated; instructions suggest further lubrication after running-in.

How to dismantle: Body unclips.





Dapol prototype HST

◆ GAUGE 'N' ◆ MODEL Dapol 2D-027-001 High Speed Diesel Train prototype twin-pack ◆ PRICE From £150.00 ◆ AVAILABILITY www.dapol.co.uk

he High Speed Train is not only one of Britain's most easily recognised trains but it's one of the most successful, and its 45-year reign as 'Top Link' power is only now just coming to an end. Not surprisingly, models of the HSTs have been produced by numerous manufacturers in both 'OO' and 'N' gauges over the years. But the prototype HST, in its attractive reverse blue grey livery, has never been produced in ready-to-run form before... until now.

Dapol teased us with the possibility of the prototype HST power cars at 2015's International N Gauge Show, announcing that it was working with Project Miller, the group which

restored National Collection 41001 to working order. The project then went quiet for a while, before Dapol relaunched the project, complete with coaches this time, but only if enough pre-orders were made. Happily, those orders materialised - and now the model is here.

The prototype power cars differ from the production versions in several areas; the most obvious external ones are that they're shorter, the roof panels are different and that the front lacks that distinctive Kenneth Grange-penned nose; instead, the prototype has buffers, the rake angle is slightly less and the head and tail lights are enclosed within a taller front windscreen panel. The Dapol







66 The bogies and underframe are very finely detailed and are coloured brown, as is correct for this version of the BR corporate image >>>

model captures these characteristics very well and compares well with the prototype dimensionally.

All glazing is clear and the lights are very effective, being located behind the lower panel of the front windscreen. For the 1970s they should probably be more of a golden yellow colour than the bright white fitted, however this is a very minor quibble.

Above the windscreen the airhorn recess is open and the horns can be seen; when built these were hidden by a small grille but evidence suggests the power cars usually operated without the grille in place. Dapol has included pre-painted photo-etched grilles for any customer who wishes to fit them, which is a rather neat touch.

The reverse blue-grey livery with yellow ends is well painted. The BR double arrow symbol is, correctly, revealed by gaps in the blue bodyside band, rather than being a separately applied white symbol, as was normally the case at this time.

The bogies and underframe

are very finely detailed and are coloured brown, as is correct for this version of the BR corporate image. Air tanks, control boxes and fuel gauges have been picked out in white and



orange,

and the >





The bogies feature a wealth of fine detail.



The cab front profile looks absolutely spot-on.

The model features a smooth-running chassis and has a factory-fitted Next18 decoder socket for those who wish to use digital control. The dummy power car has axles in pin-point bearings with electrical pick-ups. My example was not especially free-running, but the power car certainly had enough power to overcome any resistance.



Factfile: HST-P

In the early 1970s, British Rail considered the electric, tilting Advanced Passenger Train - developed from the successful APT-E prototype - to be the future of high-speed train travel but, with full electrification expected to take some years, the British Railways Board authorized the parallel development of a 'stop-gap' diesel train, known as the High Speed Diesel Train. The HSDT would have aerodynamic power cars at either end of a train of new coaches, to be designated Mk 3.

Two prototype power cars were built by British Rail Engineering Ltd at Crewe, with Derby responsible for the ten prototype coaches. Initially, the power cars were considered as separate locomotives, given the designation Class 41 and

numbered 41001 and 41002. However, the entire train was reclassified as Class 252.

Trials on the Eastern and Western regions proved successful, with the HSDT setting a new world speed record for diesel power - and with the APT-P project stuttering - an order for just under 200 power cars, to a slightly different design, and nearly 850 Mk 3 coaches was authorized.

When the production HSTs entered squadron service, the Mk 3 prototype coaches were amalgamated into the main fleet, while the power cars were assigned to BR's research team at Derby. 41002 was scrapped in 1990 but 41001 became part of the National Collection.







1: Prototype High Speed Train 252001 blasts into the sunshine from the depths of Twerton Tunnel, near Bath, with the 1830 **London Paddington-Bristol on July 26** 1975. 252001 set a speed record of 143.2mph on June 12 1973 but further records were curtailed as they threatened to steal the limelight from the APT! A production HST set the world record for diesel traction in 1987 when it reached 148mph. GRAHAM SMITH/ **RAIL PHOTOPRINTS**

2: How the mighty hath fallen! Prototype HST powercar No. W41002 - now known as ADB975813 - was photographed dumped in the snow at Derby in 1986. Although out of use, it was not officially withdrawn until 1988 and was finally scrapped in 1990. GORDON EDGAR/RAIL PHOTOPRINTS

3: 41001 fared rather better; after cosmetic restoration it moved to the National Railway Museum where it was on display until 2013 when the 125 Group's Project Miller team took it to Ruddington for restoration to operational condition. It moved under its own power for the first time on May 31 2014 and hauled its first passengers that November. PAUL BIGGS

wheels have cosmetic photo-etched brake discs fitted, adding an air of refinement. The RP25.72 profile wheels look very fine and the usual 'N' gauge coupling units are mounted in NEM pockets.

As well as the etched horn grilles already mentioned, Dapol has included numerous bufferbeam detail parts for the modeller to fit. Also included is a small sheet of waterslide numbers to allow the cars to be depicted as 252001 or 252002.

There were only ever two prototype HST power cars and one of those was scrapped three decades ago - so most 'N' gauge enthusiasts probably never dreamt they'd see a ready-to-run version. Dapol is to be hugely applauded for proving them wrong with a fine model of a stylish, historic and visionary train.

Get your order in quick, for production numbers are strictly limited! (BA)

REVIEW VERDICT

PROS. High-quality model of an iconic and historic vehicle.

CONS. Little of note.

LOOKS	9/10
PERFORMANCE	9/10
FEATURES	9/10
DECORATION	9/10
VALUE FOR MONEY	9/10

DAPOL HIGH SPEED DIESEL TRAIN PROTOTYPE TWIN PACK

OVERVIEW	Body: Plastic	DIMENSIONS	PROTOTYPE	1:148 SCALE	MODEL
Manufacturer: Dapol	Chassis: Alloy with plastic parts	Length	56ft 4in	116.0mm	115.8mm
Ref. No. 2D-027-001	Weight: 81g	Height	12ft 10in	26.4mm	26.4mm
Locomotive Nos. 41001, 41002	Min. curve radius: R1 (263.5mm)	Width	9ft Oin	18.4mm	18.5mm
Scale/gauge: 1:148 scale, 9mm	Wheel back-to-back: 7.3mm	Wheel diameter	3ft 3in	6.9mm	6.9mm
gauge 'N'		Bogie wheelbase	N/A	N/A	N/A
ELECTRICS	1				

ELE

Electrical system: 12V DC two-rail Lights: White headlights, tail light. Motor type: Five-pole DCC ready: Yes, with Next18 socket

MECHANISM

Drive system: Power to both bogies Flywheel(s): Yes via Cardan shafts Traction tyres: No

SERVICING

How to dismantle: Unclip body and lift carefully away. Where to oil: Pull-out bogies and oil worm/drive gear.



System builder Other items to complement this model...

PROTOTYPE COACHES

Dapol has tooled new Mk 3 coaches to reflect the differences the prototype vehicles had over the production versions. These include recessed door handles, a lack of window bezels and different roofs. Saloon Pack No. 1 contains Trailer Firsts 11000, 11001 and Trailer Seconds 12000 and 12001.

SALOON PACK

You'll also need the Saloon Pack No. 2 that contains Trailer Firsts 11002 and 11003 and Trailer Seconds 12002 and 12003. Product code: 2P-007-002 **Price:** £120.00 **Availability:**

www.dapol.co.uk

COMPLETE THE SET

Bring your prototype HST up to its full length with Dapol's Buffet Pack, which contains Trailer Buffet 10000 and Trailer Kitchen 10100. Please note that these are standard Dapol Mk 3s painted in the prototype livery and don't incorporate any tooling changes. **Product code:** 2P-007-003

Price: £50.00 Availability: www.dapol.co.uk





Cavalex BBA steel carrier

◆ GAUGE 'OO' ◆ MODEL Cavalex BBA01 BBA steel carrier wagon ◆ PRICE £45.00 ◆ AVAILABILITY Cavalex Models Web www.cavalexmodels.com

ritish Rail's key steel-carrying wagon of the air-braked era was the BBA, with over 500 examples built at Ashford Works between 1974-1981. Featuring a 50ft underframe, a 75t payload and a stepped, perforated deck, the wagons were designed with the carriage of hot steel slab, strip or coil firmly in mind.

Employed on traffic between various British Steel works, the wagons soon became a common sight on the South Wales main line and Marches routes, as well as the West Coast Main Line between Crewe and Ravenscraig (North Lanarkshire). They could also be found on flows emanating from Shotton (North Wales) and between Teeside and Corby, being hauled by a variety of BR traction, especially Classes 37, 56 or 60, as well as pairs of Class 20s. Long-distance haulage over the WCML could also feature Class 86/87/90 traction.

Along with the similar - but shorter - BAA, many BBAs have remained in service long after privatisation, with EWS and, more recently, DB Cargo maintaining a fleet in frontline service. Various modifications have been carried out over the years, including the fitting of new bogies and load decks, with a variety of TOPS codes being allocated across the fleet to reflect the changes in specification.

CONTINUING SUCCESS

Cavalex's debut model - the PGA aggregate hopper - garnered wide acclaim and this second release not only provides modellers with the chance to recreate another important prototype, but also boasts plenty of detail to admire.

The first thing that grabs the attention is the etched decking, which features super-fine perforations and the correct corrugated profile. The chassis frames and the distinctive reinforced ends are rendered in metal, giving the vehicle a satisfying amount of mass while maintaining a delicate profile.

The plastic bogies are exceptionally well produced, featuring crisply moulded relief and they even include the brake callipers, which enclose each wheel. The wheels themselves also feature

brake disc detail to their external and internal faces. The prototypically shaped bolsters add an extra touch of class, allowing the bogies to pivot and rotate freely. Performance is ultra-smooth, the axles being extremely free-running and the brake callipers don't impede the axles in any way. Handbrake discs are etched metal and the NEM coupler pockets are discreetly incorporated into the outer framework.

Beneath the chassis, there are various brake reservoirs and actuator gear, all linked together with an impressive array of pipework and the Oleo heavy duty buffers are sprung. A slight disappointment is the pro-

nounced mould seams across each buffer head which would greatly benefit from a little work with a flat needle file. Separate lamp brackets and grab handles adorn the ends and a full complement of vertical stanchions is pre-installed along the outer edges of the load deck.

All-metal chassis

Livery application is topnotch, with the orange-red ends capturing the distinctive prototype shade accurately. The various TOPS panels, instruction legends and Railfreight logos are all neatly applied, although the raised builders' plates have been left unadorned.

A small bag of extra detail



66 Livery application is top-notch, with the orange-red ends capturing the distinctive prototype shade accurately **99**



fittings is supplied, including a spare set of brake calipers (to help with 'EM'/'P4' conversion) and extra vertical stanchions, plus brake hoses and cosmetic screw couplings. Thoughtfully, Cavalex has also included a pair of blanking plates for the NEM pockets, which tidies up the appearance of a wagon that has been shorn of its tension lock couplers; just the thing for the end of a fixed rake.

As well as this BR Railfreight black/red scheme, the BBA is also being offered in the original freight brown livery. The BLA variant, which features large steel coil-carrying cradles, has also been reproduced by Cavalex, as an exclusive



model for Rails of Sheffield.

Considering the amount of development work that has gone into this model, as well as the high level of finesse in its production, the Cavalex BBA offers superb value for money, especially in today's market. It's sure to be

popular and, with the addition of a suitable load and a grimy weathered finish, it'll make for an eye-catching addition to a late BR-era layout. 'N' gauge modellers will be interested to know that a 2mm-scale version is currently in development. (GD)



3 things we like



See-through mesh decking.



Brake discs and calliper detail.



Brake pipes and equipment.

REVIEW VERDICT

PROS. Superb level of detail, excellent value, Important prototype.

CONS. Mould seams on buffers.

LOOKS 9/10
PERFORMANCE 10/10
FEATURES 9.5/10
DECORATION 9/10
VALUE FOR MONEY 10/10

95%



Murphy Models 121 Class

◆ GAUGE 'OO' ◆ MODEL Murphy Models MM0135 121 Class Bo-Bo B135, CIÉ grey/yellow ◆ PRICE £27.50 ◆ AVAILABILITY Murphy Models stockists

nother month, another 'OO' gauge '121' to review. But if you were worried that a third manufacturer had followed Dapol and Bachmann, you can rest easy. What we have here is as far removed from BR's Pressed Steel railcar as it's possible to be.

This is Coras Iompair Éireann's 121 Class, a historical turning

point in Ireland's railway history, for it was its first main line diesel to be built in the USA, paving the way for all subsequent Irish main line diesel locomotives. It's also a fitting way for Murphy Models to complete the quartet of ready-to-run US-built Irish diesels in 'OO'.

In today's world, where anyone with enough money can commission a ready-to-run

model, it's easy to forget that Murphy Models was a pioneer in that field. It first worked with Lima in 2003 to produce the 201 Class and then joined forces with Bachmann in 2007/2008 to offer the 141/181 Class. Since then, it's gone direct to China for its locomotives and coaches. MM's standards are incredibly high, so a new model is always eagerly awaited.

The wait for the '121' has been long but, once you've lifted the model out of its web of foam packaging, it immediately impresses. Viewed with British eyes, CIÉ's grey and yellow livery looks a bit odd, but it can't hide the design's US switcher origins.

The shape looks spot on, from the angled nose to the way that the bonnet dips down towards the cab. That cab 'face' set the



standard for the look of all subsequent Irish diesels, and the model really captures that character.

CLEAR ADVANTAGE

The glazing reveals a well-finished interior and doesn't suffer from any prismatic effects. In fact, the black paint around the edges, to simulate the rubber seals, is fabulously fine and perfectly executed. The icing on the window cake is the beautiful metal wipers.

There are so many eye-catching features. The tablet-catching equipment on the cabside is a separately fitted item, and though arguably a little undernourished, it is commendable that this hasn't been moulded as part of the cabside. Hand and grab-rails are a mixture of thin plastic and metal wire and all look great, particularly the correctly angled rails on the cab nose. There are also, correctly, grab rails on one of the large bodyside grilles on one side and not on the other.

That leads us nicely on to the subject of those grilles. They are some of the finest etched items we've seen on a 'OO' gauge diesel and, with one on each side, they let in a huge amount of daylight. They're complemented by a chequer grille on the bonnet

that's just as finely etched. The problem, however, with letting so much light inside is that the drive to the bogie gear towers and the bogie mounts is visible. It's difficult to tell from prototype photographs of '121s' in this livery whether the grilles are painted black or that it's an optical effect caused by the darkness from inside the bonnet.

Given how fine the etched grilles are, it's a shame that the louvres on the body and on the solebars lack a little depth and the footsteps are a touch on the thick side. The shape and finish of the door louvres is not correct, but that and the fact that the lamp irons are missing front and rear are the only disappointing aspects of the model.

The good work continues below solebar level. The distinctive bogie frames are beautifully moulded with the spring detail clear and visible. Brake linkages are separately fitted and if you do catch one with an errant finger, they are easy to pop back into place.

The axle ends rotate and there's plenty of space between the bogie frames to fit prototypical 21mm gauge axles. Although the wheels look odd, spaced to 16.5mm gauge 'OO', the wheel flanges are very fine and put those from more established manufacturers to shame!

NEM pockets are fixed to the bogies and move as they move. There are holes in the valances and blanking panels are included

Very fine and put those from more established manufacturers to shame!

in the bag of bits for those who want to replace tension locks with three-link couplings.

The bag contains several finely made parts, from coupling hooks to lamps. Sadly, the brief instruction sheet doesn't explain where all these pieces go.

As one would expect, not only from a 21st-century diesel model but also a product from Murphy Models, the '121' has a full suite of lighting and sound options. Three white marker lights are illuminated when moving forwards, along with the two high-intensity headlights, and there is a prototypical difference in the amount of light that is chucked out. A single red shows and is very effective.

LIGHTTOUCH

One very neat touch is how you access the inside. The exhaust/ silencer unit clips in place and, removing it, reveals a bank of tiny switches. Once you've removed the protective yellow film, these switches allow non-DCC users full control over the lights.

Prise the surrounding panel away and you get full access to the 21-pin decoder socket. Murphy Models has developed a bespoke decoder and sound decoders, due to the fact that there's not a lot of space inside the narrow bonnet. It's worth pointing out that problems caused by using non-MM decoders are not covered under the warranty.

3 things we like



Cab interior includes lots of printed dials.



There's even separately fitted pipework on the fuel tank between the bogies!



The radiator filler sticks out from the nose, just like the prototype.

Performance

Brass wipers press against the wheel backs and transfer current to the centrally mounted can motor. There are Cardan shafts to gear towers on each bogie.

The mechanism is to the standard one would expect nowadays, and was silent and smooth straight from the box. There's oodles of power too, and our sample easily handled 13 Hornby and Bachmann bogies coaches around the level sections of the *Model Rail* test track, dismissing the complex area

of tight pointwork and crossovers with ease. Adding a motor-less Bachmann Class 66 to the rear of the train caused some minor slippage but, other than that, it didn't impinge on B135's progress on level track.

Moving onto our 1-in-30 incline, B135 comfortably handled four coaches and then six. Eight bogie coaches caused some minor slippage but we couldn't add any more coaches to the train as B135 was dragging them off the track on the very tight curves!



Factfile: CIÉ 121 Class

The Great Northern Railway (Ireland) jointly owned by Ulster Transport Authority and CIÉ, operated cross-border services until it went bankrupt in 1958; both parent organisations quickly took control of their respective lines. CIÉ had started to replace steam with diesel in the mid-1950s and now, faced with replacing steam locomotives for which it hadn't budgeted for, it hurriedly placed an order with General Motors for 15 Bo-Bo diesel electrics.

The result were typical North American 'switchers', with a long, narrow bonnet and a single cab, but with a top speed of 77mph. The body was modified to fit the smaller Irish loading gauge and the bogies were modified to suit Ireland's lower axle loading. It was GM's first European export order.

The 'B Class' machines - later classified '121' - entered service in 1961. They were a vast improvement from ClÉ's questionable British diesels. The only issue was the single cab ('121s' were regularly turned on turntables) so ClÉ ordered a twin-cab version (the '141' Bo-Bos) in 1962. Thus, all subsequent diesels were built by GM.

The '121s' became the prime motive power for ClÉ's six-coach push-pull outer suburban trains from 1984 until the 201 Class entered service in 1994. Withdrawals started shortly afterwards, but the last two '121s', 124 and 134, survived until 2008. They are the only survivors: 124 is owned by the Irish Traction Group and 134 is part of the Railway Preservation Society of Ireland's collection and is under restoration at ClÉ's Inchicore Works.

RECOMMENDED READING

◆ Locomotives Compendium Ireland by Colin Boocock (Ian Allan, 2009)







1: B121 carries CIÉ's grey/ yellow livery as it shunts Mullingar in June 1961, shortly after delivery from General Motors. The class were delivered with 950hp 8-567 engines and louvres on the solebar but no solebar handrails. COLOUR RAIL

2: '121s' 124 and 122 stand at Limerick with a railtour on September 13 1986.

Work had started to equip the '121s' with 1,100hp engines. The solebar handrails are visible, as are the multiple working sockets just above the buffers. BERT WYNN/ RAIL PHOTOPRINTS

3: larnród Éireann started to refurbish the '121' fleet in 2001/2002. 124 has lost its solebar louvres and has had two cab front windows plated over. Only 123, 124, 131 and 134 were refurbished before CIÉ decided to withdraw the '121s' instead. COLIN BOOCOCK

System **builder**

Other items to complement this model...

SOUND

Bring your '121' to life with a Murphy Models sound decoder (rrp £122.91). Or, if you don't want sound, a standard MM decoder costs less than £35. **Availability:** www.irishrailwaymodels.com

ROLLING STOCK

With Murphy Models' Irishliveried Lima Mk 3s thin on the ground, why not recreate the Limerick push-pull services with MM's Mk 2Ds instead? **Price:** £52.25 each **Availability:** www. kernowmodelrailcentre.com MM's factory has applied ClÉ's curious yellow and grey livery well and you can easily overlook the fact that the handrail knobs on the bonnet ought to be grey. ClÉ's 'flying snail' logo and the running numbers are the right size and weight and the tiny General

Motors worksplate brings a welcome - though incredibly tiny - splash of colour.

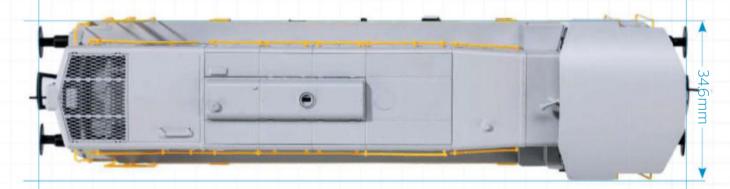
The quality of Murphy Models' locomotives and coaches can tempt even the most ardent of British-outline steam enthusiasts to consider modelling the Irish diesel scene – and the '121'

makes it even harder to resist that temptation! Its competitively priced, good looking and performs superbly. What else could you ask for? Get your order in quick because the '121s' are unlikely to hang around for long.

And it begs the question: what will Murphy Models do next? (RF)









ACCESSORIES
Control your
'121' with the
excellent range
of Irish signals,
both semaphore,
colour light and
ground, from Studio Scale Models.
Prices start from
€7. Availability:
www.studioscale-models.com



REVIEW VERDICT

PROS. Another Murphy classic: good looks, fine attention to detail, great features.

CONS. Some minor niggles.

LOOKS	8.5/10
PERFORMANCE	10/10
FEATURES	10/10
DECORATION	9/10
VALUE FOR MONE	Y 9/10

93%

MURPHY MODELS 121 CLASS

OVERVIEW

Manufacturer: Murphy Models Ref. No. MM0135 Unit No. B135 Scale/gauge: 1:76 scale, 16.5mm gauge '00' Body: Plastic with metal parts Chassis: Metal with plastic parts Weight: 339g Min. curve radius: R2 Wheel back-to-back: 14.4mm

ELECTRICS

Electrical system: 12V DC two-rail Motor type: Central can Lights: Directional DCC ready: 21-pin socket CURRENT CONSUMPTION Max. speed: 0.4A Stalled: 0.7A

MECHANISM

Drive system: Cardan shafts to bogie gear towers

Flywheel(s): No Traction tyres: No

	DIMENSIONS	PROTOTYPE	1:76 SCALE	MODEL
ı	Length (over buffers)	39ft 101/4in	160mm	160mm
ı	Height	N/A	N/A	54mm
ı	Width (over footplate)	N/A	N/A	34.6mm
ı	Wheel diameter (driving)	3ft 3in	12.8mm	12.8mm
ı	Wheelbase	N/A	N/A	31.96mm

SERVICING

How to dismantle: See instructions

Where to oil: Factory lubricated; instructions suggest further lubrication after running-in.



Graham Farish HKA bogie hoppers

stock.

GAUGE 'N' MODEL Graham Farish 373-812 HKA hopper, National Power debranded and weathered; 373-813 HKA hopper DB Schenker red

◆ **PRICE** From £45.95 ◆ **AVAILABILITY** Graham Farish stockists

ational Power, the owner of Drax power station, joined Foster Yeoman and ARC in operating its own trains in 1994 It too ordered Class 59s from General Motors but it also needed its own wagons and, therefore, placed an order for 85 large bogie coal hoppers in 1995, which were delivered from Powell Duffryn's French factory. These wagons, coded JMA under TOPS, were later used as the basis for Freightliner's new-build bogie coal hoppers.

In 1998, the National Power fleet was acquired by EWS and, as coal traffic has declined, the JMAs have been used more widely for carrying aggregates. The National Power logos, on

the centre of the bodyside, were patch-painted out. A batch were given improved bogies in 2009 and recoded HKA; they were otherwise left unchanged.

HKA conversions carried out from 2014 also included the bodies being refurbished and given a new coat of DB Schenker red. At this standard time, they were also method of given an additional numbering **RIV** international series railway rolling

number and given both the TOPS code HKA and the UIC code 'Fabnooss'.

Graham Farish has long had the Freightliner version of the JMA design in its range. However, it hasn't simply fitted new bogies to the existing tooling; to truly do justice to the HKA, it's produced new body

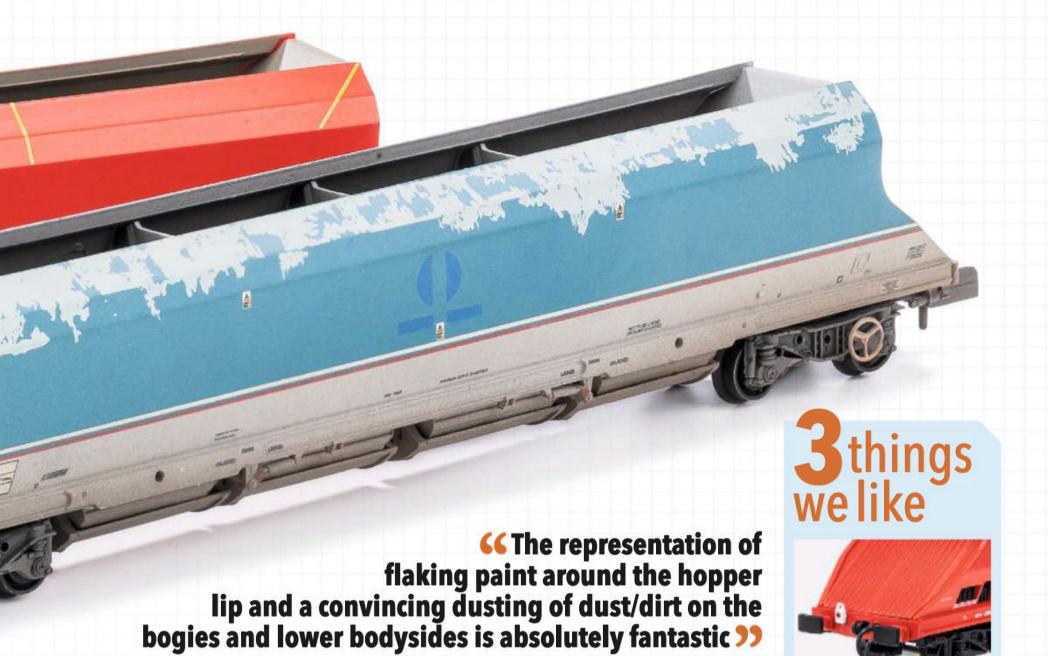
mouldings as there are numerous subtle differences between the two types. Farish's Freightliner HHA is still a superb model even though it's 13 years old and the new HKA continues to maintain the high standards both in terms of shape and

appearance but levels of detailing.

While the DB red model is certainly eye catching, the weathered

debranded National Power version is really quite superb. The representation of flaking paint around the hopper lip and a convincing dusting of dust/dirt on the bogies and lower bodysides is absolutely fantastic and, with an RRP of £49.95, only costs just a few pounds more than the 'pristine' version. The only missing decoration is the contrasting maroon colour on the bogie axleboxes.





FAULTLESS RUNNING

Under test, the HKAs ran faultlessly and with no perceptible wobbling. The couplers are mounted in NEM pockets mounted on the bogies and there is no close-coupling mechanism.

When built, the prototype wagons were either configured as 'outers', with conventional drawgear and buffers, or 'inners' with buckeye couplers. As supplied, these models represent 'inners', however also included is a bag of detail parts including cosmetic couplers, operating levers, air pipes and push-fit buffers to enable the models to depict 'outers.' An



instruction sheet is also provided to illustrate where these parts can be fitted.

The result is another excellent modern wagon with high levels of detailing and superb livery rendition. (BA)

REVIEW VERDICT

PROS. Impressive and useful addition to the array of modern freight wagons.

CONS. Little of note.





Also included is a delightful, fully painted tail lamp which,

although not functional, will

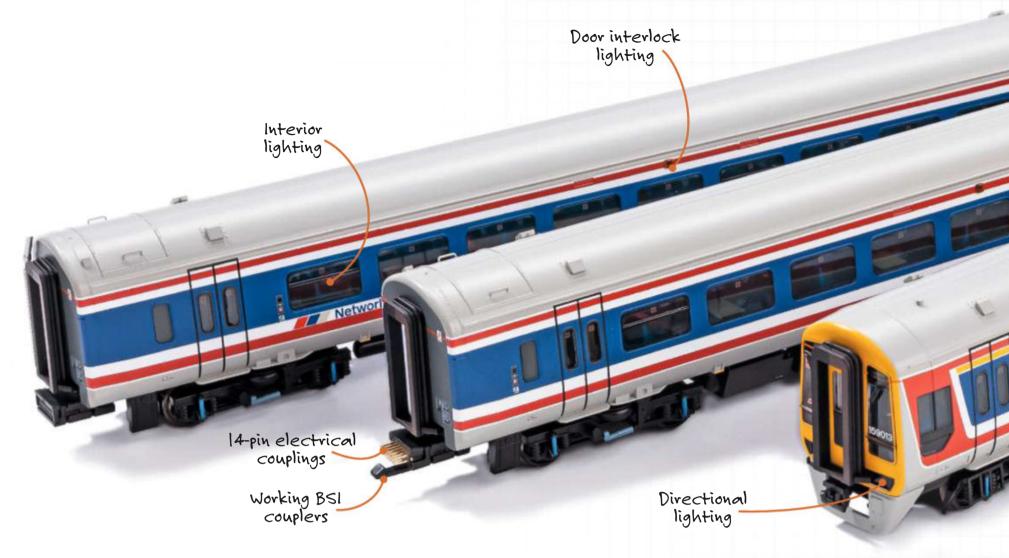
enhance any wagon marshalled

The level of underframe detailing is excellent, especially around the discharge chutes.



The standard of printing is very high, with all but the very smallest lettering legible.





Bachmann Branchline Class 159

◆ GAUGE 'OO' ◆ MODEL Bachmann Branchline 31-520 Class 159 DMU 159013, Network SouthEast livery ◆ PRICE £339.95 ◆ AVAILABILITY Bachmann stockists

t's all very well
a manufacturer saying
that it's going to produce
an all-new version of 'X'
but sometimes that's easier
said than done. So it was when
Bachmann decided to produce
a new version of its Class 158.
This new model has been
designed from the ground up,
although not without its
headaches, for it took eight
years to arrive on the shelves.

Unwanted as that timescale might have been for Bachmann, the result was worth it and George Dent and Chris Gadsby found much to praise in their review in the April 2020 issue

(MR272). The shape, the finish, the features; the '158' scored highly in every category.

But while Bachmann's design team were hard at work producing the definitive 'Express Sprinter', why not go the whole hog and produce the '159' too? Well, that's exactly what Bachmann did and here it is. Superficially the same model, we decided that we'd like to cast an eye over the '159' and Bachmann very kindly loaned us 159013 in the striking colours of Network SouthEast.

NSE started to struggle with the unreliability of its Class 50s on services beyond Salisbury to Exeter in the 1990s. Of all the possible solutions, the most economical was to add 22 three-car sets to the Class 158s that Derby Litchurch Lane Works was churning out by the dozen. The problem was that NSE demanded a higher quality interior and larger First Class saloons than BREL was fitting into the '158s'. NSE was forced to choose an outside contractor and Babcock at Rosyth Dockyard undertook the upgrade, which also fitted retention toilets as the originals were unsuitable - flushing onto the live third rail was a bad idea!

Suitably modified for their

new, long-distance role, the '159s' entered service in 1993. They were joined by eight Class 159/1s in 2006/07.

Visually, aside from the different TOPS numbers, the only clue that this is a '159' is the orange First Class band above the windows on Driving Motor Composite 52885. First Class accommodation was installed during the conversion process. On the windows are tiny First logos. Look inside and the First Class seats are painted red, whereas Standard Class seats are blue. However, the model retains the 2+2 First Class seating of the





3 things we like

All but the very smallest

lettering is legible, albeit from under a glass.

The central door locking lights can be illuminated.



The working BSI couplers are mounted on cams.

'158' rather than the 2+1 seating that NSE specified.

The '159' also gives us the opportunity to study a Motor Standard centre car. Unlike the real thing, it's unpowered but the underframe bristles with beautifully moulded engine, transmission and ventilation gear.

The centre car shape looks spot on and compares well to photographs in *Modern* Locomotives Illustrated No. 190. It certainly matches the high standards set by the two Driving Motor cars. The roof features the same separately fitted ventilators and access hatch handrails and, while the non-exhaust end looks particularly bare, it matches prototype photographs.

FACE VALUE

Everything else is as per our Class 158 review. The 'face' looks absolutely spot on, the underfloor mechanism is a work of engineering genius and the way the engine/ transmission unclips to reveal the PluX22 decoder interface is incredibly user-friendly. It also has the 14-pin coupling system, just like the '158', with a special coupling tool. In fact, you know you're looking at truly excellent model when the



Class 159 159013 approaches Paignton on June 12 1994. As Network SouthEast couldn't agree a deal with BREL to modify the Class 158s to '159' specification, the work was carried out by Babcock at Rosyth shipyard in Scotland. A new depot in Salisbury was created to service the new trains. COLOUR RAIL

only discrepancy you can spot is that the hatch on the valance that hides the multiple working socket is raised when it should be flush!



Network SouthEast livery looks striking on any train and the '159' is no exception. Bachmann's rendition looks effective, although the lower band of grey looks a lot darker than images in MLI suggest that it ought to. That said, the colours are beautifully applied with razor-sharp lines between the various shades.

Modern image 'OO' gauge Southern Region modellers may not have an awful lot of choice when it comes to ready-to-run models, but Bachmann has thrown them a considerable bone with the Class 159. It might not be 100% perfect, but it's one hell of a model and several ought to grace any 1990s and 21st-century layout depicting the South Western main line from London to Exeter. (RF)

REVIEW VERDICT

PROS. Looks, high-quality finish, lots of fine detail, superb performance.

CONS. Little of note.

LOOKS PERFORMANCE FEATURES DECORATION 9.5/10 **VALUE FOR MONEY 9/10**

Peco FR 'Small Birminghams'

- ◆ GAUGE '009' ◆ MODEL Peco GR-551 'Small Birmingham' First, FR green ◆ PRICE £27.50
- ◆ AVAILABILITY Kernow Model Rail Centre Tel 01209 714099 Web www.kernowmodelrailcentre.com



he Ffestiniog Railway
has some of most
recognisable
locomotives around.

It is, therefore, easy to overlook
the fact that some of its coaches
are just as distinctive... and
interesting. It's often forgotten,
for example, that the first bogie
coaches in Britain to enter
revenue-earning service were
those of the FR.

The news that Peco has joined forces with Kato to produce both the England O-4-OSTTs and the 'Double Fairlies' will, no doubt, have delighted narrow gauge enthusiasts. It has, arguably, also overshadowed the fact that Peco has planned an extensive range of FR coaches.

The first of that range to arrive is one of the most recognisable - the famous four-wheel 'Bug Boxes'. It is believed that record-breaking Eastern Region driver and long-time FR volunteer Bill Hoole gave these wonderfully idiosyncratic vehicles their nickname but they're more correctly known as 'Birminghams' or 'Small Birminghams'.

It's easy to see where the 'bug box' sobriquet came from. They're just 10ft long and 6ft 3in wide and the fact that the floor is just 8in above the rail only adds to their tiny, box-like nature. The wheels and underframe were tucked up inside the frames and the passengers sat back-to-back on a knifeboard seat.

Peco has done a good job to recreate the 'Bug Box's' distinctive shape. The wheels tuck neatly up inside the body and those bowed ends are well moulded (the coach sides were 9in shorter than the overall length!).

The six 'Small Birminghams' were delivered by Brown, Marshall & Co. in 1864 and comprised two closed Firsts and four closed Thirds. Our review sample depicts a closed First. Both Firsts, Nos. 1 and 2, were rebuilt as open observation cars. No. 1 was scrapped but No. 2 was restored to First Class standard in the 1990s.

James I.C. Boyd describes the Firsts as having two windows flanking a central door, whereas No. 2, after its preservation rebuild, has a pair of windows each side of the door. This is how Peco has modelled the coach, although our sample is finished in the 1950s livery of green and

Author of *The Festiniog Railway* Vol. 2 (Oakwood Press)

ivory with red ends, when the real No. 2 was still an observation car.

The paint finish on this 'Bug Box' is good and the Ffestiniog emblem looks OK from normal view distances but doesn't stand up to close scrutiny.

The bogies on Peco's Lynton & Barnstaple coaches (MR189) are also tucked under the body and can be a bit tricky to put on the track. However, despite having an even more exaggerated 'tuck', this 'Bug Box' was easy to place on the rails. Despite its featherweight, it ran well and also coped well with Peco's 'OO9' 'Crazy Track' and Electrofrog points.

Anyone familiar with Peco's narrow gauge stock will know what you get for your money. These are well moulded but simple models with a modicum of moulded detail and a decent paint finish, but they're not the all-singing, all-dancing products you get from China.

That said, the mouldings are clear and crisp and the overall effect is convincing. And that's one isolated coach sat on a desk. Just imagine a rake of them bumping along behind a 'Double Fairlie' on a 4mm:1ft scale take of one of Wales' most spectacular narrow gauge railways. (RF)



REVIEW VERDICT

Roof can be prised away to

access the interior.

PROS. Decent looks, effective finish, made in Britain.

cons. First's body shape not 100% accurate for chosen livery.

LOOKS	8/10
PERFORMANCE	9/10
FEATURES	7/10
DECORATION	8/10
VALUE FOR MONEY	9/10

100

04%

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Mini Test

Every month, we test five modelling products to help you make the most informed choices

Making rocks

Peter Marriott examines the variety of products available for modelling rockfaces and cliffs.

There are several methods of making rocks, rockfaces and cliffs, including Polyfilla or other plaster products sculpted with a knife, and cork bark pieces. If cork bark is bedded into the landscape with foliage, plaster and talus (small rocks) it can be quite effective. Usually it

is best to colour the bark using thin washes of acrylic paints, watercolours or modelling dyes. Most proprietary products are easy to work with and the results can be good. Some products are best for portable layouts because they are lightweight and they're suitable for virtually all scales.



Woodland Scenics Hydrocal and moulds

PROS Moulds mean little mess. **CONS** Easy to add too much water.

Product Woodland Scenics Rocks Learning Kit

Price: £19 Availability Woodland Scenics stockists



Rock pieces of varying sizes can be made using Woodland Scenics Lightweight Hydrocal powder and Rock Moulds. The moulds are flexible rubber pieces that are shaped into different rock shapes. They are sold in numerous shapes and sizes. Simply pour the mixed Hydrocal powder into the mould, leave it to dry for a while then take out a hardened piece of Hydrocal that mirrors the mould. I find that making rocks with these products is simple and the end product is very good indeed. One word of caution do not add too much water to the Hydrocal powder because it may never set properly.



Ease of use	00000
Good results	00000
Value for money	00000



PROS Very quick to create.

CONS Very expensive for what it is.

Product Noch Winkle Rocks **Price** £15.75 per sheet **Availability** Noch dealers

This recently introduced product is a fun way to make rock surfaces. It comes as a printed photograph of a particular type of rock face and can be crumpled in your hands to create the 3D effect. The result is really impressive

Ease of use

Good results

O O O O O
O
Value for money

and a few blobs of hot glue or PVA on the reverse fix it onto the scenery formers. It is available in a number of rock types, it is just a pity it is so expensive.









PROS Strong material but can be moulded with hands.

CONS Expensive for a sheet of foil.

Product Heki Rock Foil Price £21 a sheet Availability Heki dealers

These plastic-based sheets have a ripple effect, and they're painted and highlighted to represent various types of rock. The foil sheets are sold in pieces either 18cm by 40cm or 35cm by 80cm in slate, dolomite, stone, sandstone and granite colours and different strata shapes. The material is very

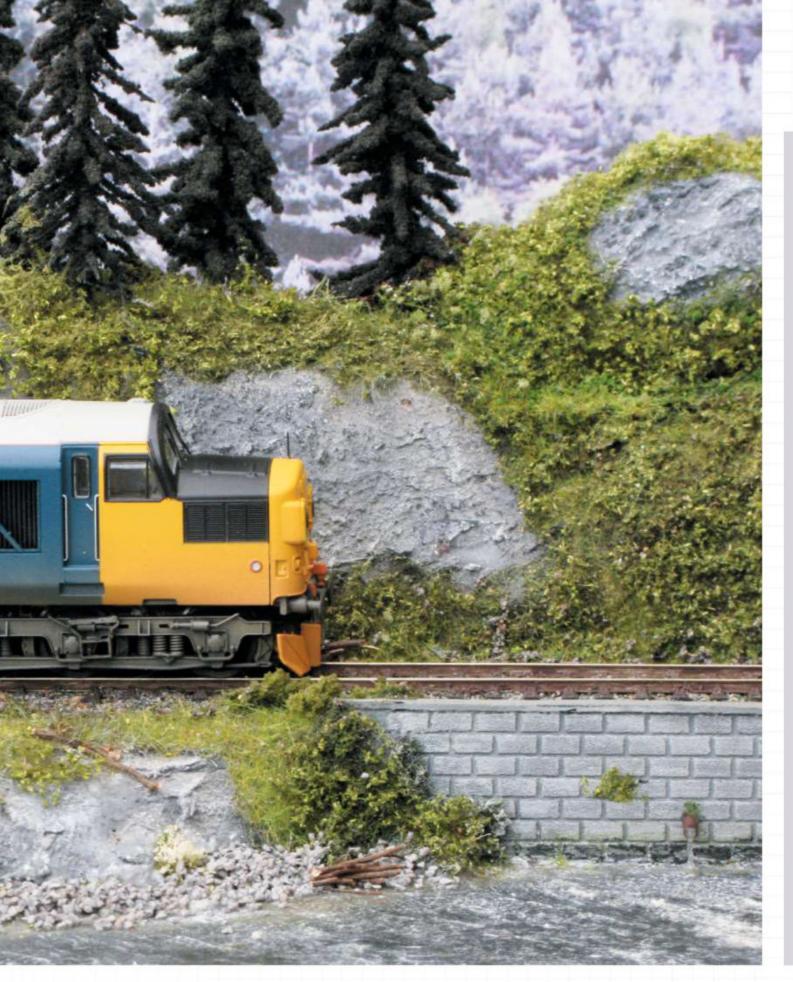
Ease of use

Good results

Value for money

strong and can be moulded in the hands. Use acrylic paints to enhance the rock foil further and use dry-brushing techniques to highlight the rugged nature of the strata.





Expert tips

- The appearance, colour and structure of real rocks varies tremendously. Study photographs of real rocks of the area you want to model and work to these photographs as you make the rocks for your layout. Similarly, use the same colours and types of rock on a layout. It's very rare to see different types in a small area.
- A hot glue gun can be used to fix pieces of rock to the landscape to speed up the scenery-making process. Another method is to use some of the rock compound to fix the rocks to the landscape.
- Colour the rock pieces in several stages. Use thin washes of different shades of colour to get a 3D effect. Allow darker wash to trickle through the crevasses.
- Add foliage, static grass and scatter material to the horizontal areas of the rock faces to represent weeds, wild flowers and grass.
- In real life, pieces of a rockface break off and fall to the base. Model this in miniature using talus or small pieces off the main rocks. Colour them the same as the main rocks and plant a few weeds in them.

Busch Rock Sculpting Compound

PROS Good working time.

CONS Can take a long time to dry.

Product Busch Rock Sculpting Compound **Price** £6.36 **Availability** Busch stockists

The powder compound needs to be mixed with a little water until it forms a creamy compound. Err on using less water as you mix it, then spread the compound onto the area with an old kitchen knife or a flat wooden stick. Push it into the landscape so it has a firm fix. As the mixture begins to dry, sculpt the

rockface with an old knife or a wooden lollipop stick. The material begins to set within 15 minutes but stays workable for about two hours. Once the mixture is fully dry the surface can be painted.



Noch Hard Foam Pieces

PROS Just cut and paste onto your layout.

CONS Can be messy.

Product Noch Hard Foam Pieces **Price** £22.75 for six pieces **Availability** Noch dealers

BEST FOR THOSE IN A HURRY

Noch produces ready-shaped and coloured hard foam pieces to represent granite, sandstone and slate rocks. These rock pieces are made from hard foam that just needs to be cut off the backing board with a craft knife. The rocks can be reduced in size to make more by dividing the pieces using a hobby saw or

a long sharp blade such as a Woodland Scenics Foam Knife. The rock sections can then be glued to the landscape using PVA or hot glue.



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04

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Specification list

Made by: Rapido Trains

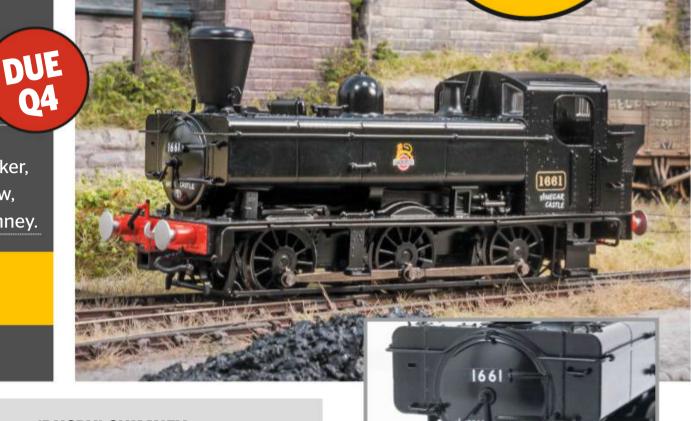
Motor: Five-pole

DCC socket: Next18

Features: NEM coupler pockets, factory-fitted speaker, sprung buffers, firebox glow, 'Busby' spark arrestor chimney.

£149.00

£134.10 price for subscribers



BR BLACK, EARLY EMBLEM (PRISTINE)

- ◆ MR-301A: No. 1609
- ◆ MR-301B: No. 1623
- MR-301C: No. 1624
- ◆ MR-301D: No. 1657
- ◆ MR-301E: No. 1664
- ◆ MR-301F: No. 1658
- MR-301G: No. 1668
- ◆ MR-302A: No. 1646

BR BLACK, EARLY EMBLEM (WEATHERED)

- ◆ MR-302B: No. 1649
- ♦ MR-303: No. 1604

BR BLACK, LATE EMBLEM (PRISTINE)

- ◆ MR-304A: No. 1636
- ♦ MR-304B: No. 1655

BR BLACK, LATE EMBLEM (WEATHERED)

- ◆ MR-305A: No. 1627
- ◆ MR-305B: No. 1628

GWR GREEN

◆ MR-306: GWR green No. 1638

Please note: These are pre-production evaluation samples. They do not represent the factory-finished models.

'BUSBY' CHIMNEY

- ♦ MR-307A: BR black early emblem pristine, No. 1616
- ◆ MR-307B: BR black early emblem pristine, No. 1629
- ◆ MR-308: BR black early emblem weathered, No. 1661

NCB GREEN

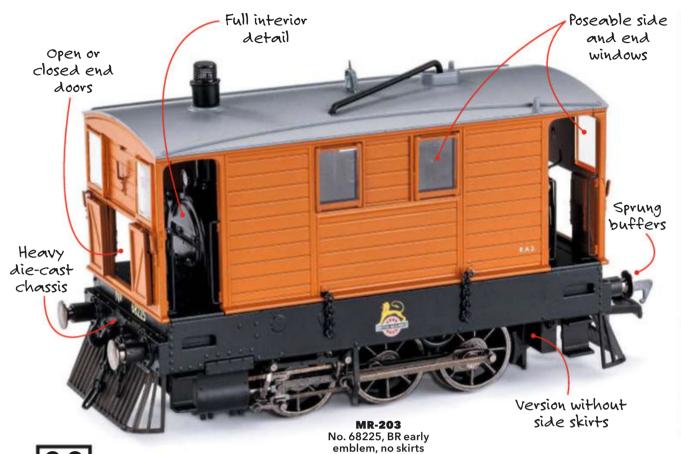
- ◆ MR-309A: NCB green, No. 1600
- ◆ MR-309B: NCB green, No. 1607

PRESERVED GREEN

- ◆ MR-310A: Green early BR emblem, No. 1638
- ◆ MR-310B: Green 'Dart Valley'



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Specification list

Made by: Rapido Trains

Motor: Coreless

DCC socket: Six-pin

Features: NEM coupler pockets, space for sound speaker, sprung buffers, removable cowcatchers,

posable windows and end

doors, etched worksplates.

£127.50

£114.75 price for subscribers



LNER 'J70s'

NINE TO CHOOSE FROM

For immediate delivery!



MR-203 No. 68225, BR early emblem, no skirts



MR-204 No. 68226, British Railways lettering, no skirts



MR-201 No. 68219,

MR-205 No. 68223, British Railways lettering, full skirts



MR-202 No. 68222, BR early emblem, full skirts



MR-206 No. 7128, LNER wartime livery, full skirts



MR-207 No. 8223, LNER post-war livery, full skirts



MR-208 No. 7126, LNER lined livery, no skirts



MR-209 No. 7137, LNER unlined livery, full skirts



MR-210 No. 7139, LNER lined livery

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Roof ventilator



Specification list

Made by: Bachmann/Kader

Motor: Three-pole

DCC socket: Six-pin

Features: NEM coupler

pockets, two types of cab,

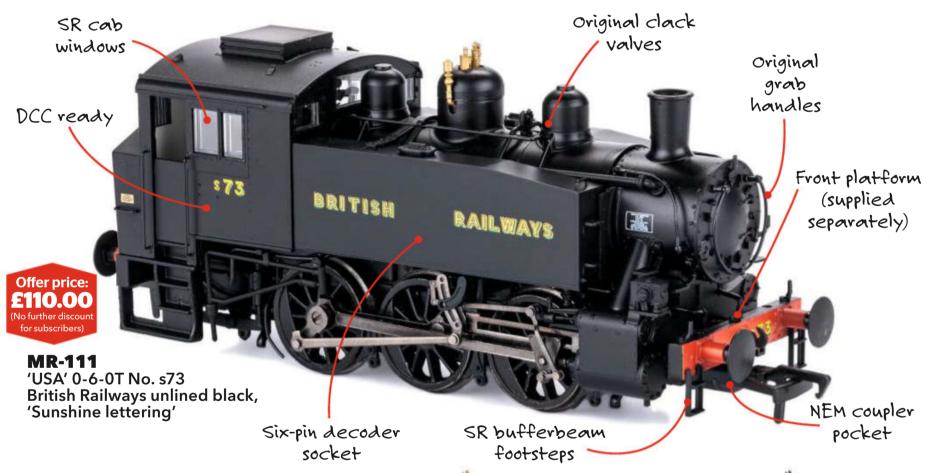
footsteps, separately fitted

different smokeboxes, different

hinged platform.

MR-111 and MR-104A

£116.95 price for subscribers



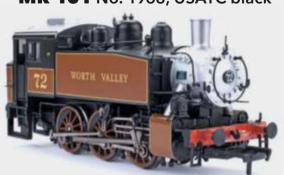
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OO BR Class 11 0-6-0DE

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• Order book for these new models not yet open. Keep an eye out in *Model Rail* for updates.

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With the festivities just around the corner, we build layouts for the festive period. Whether it's a circle of track to go underneath the tree or a 6ft by 4ft layout you can build with your children, *Model Rail* shows you how to enjoy modelling this Christmas.

Christmas

layouts

PLUS

The final episode in our essential guide to baseboards. See www.model-rail. co.uk/skills-station-

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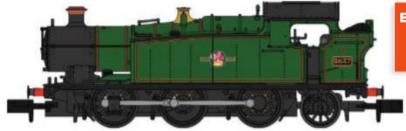
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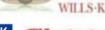








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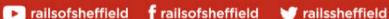
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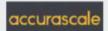
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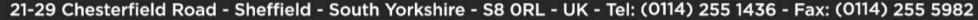
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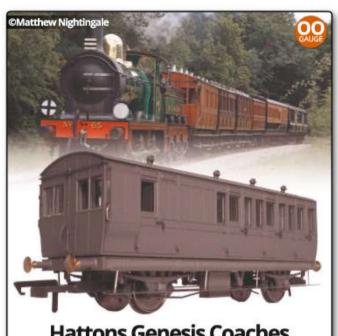




THIS MONTH AT Compiled between 8th September & 8th October 2020



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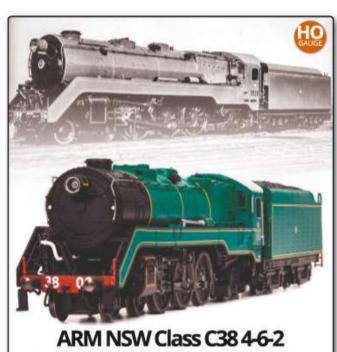
We've shared images of the first engineering samples for each of our 4 & 6 wheel Genesis coach body styles! Pre-order yours on our site now.

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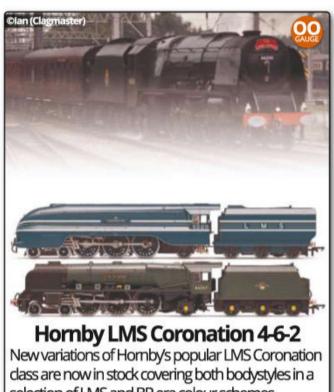
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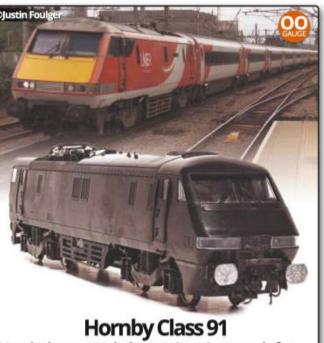
Homby are supplying the newly tooled NSW Class C38 locomotive, produced by Australian Railway Models, Available to pre-order now!

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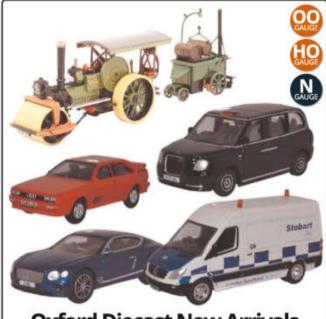
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Homby have revealed an engineering sample for their newly tooled OO gauge Class 91. EP shownmodifications still to be made. Pre-order yours now!

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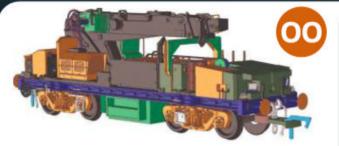
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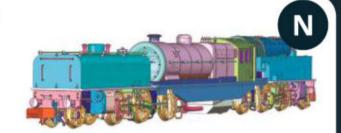


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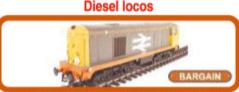


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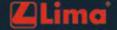
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32-806 Class 47/0 Diesel Locomotive No. D1842 BR Two-Tone Green		
32-830A Ivatt Class 2MT 2-6-0 Steam Locomotive No. 6418 LMS Plain Black	32-753DS Class 57/0 Diesel No. 57 007 'Freightliner Bond' Freightliner. Sound£189	9.99
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34-630B BR Mk1 Suburban Second Brake Coach No. M4301 BR Lined Maroon. £24.99 34-700C BR Mk1 Suburban Composite Coach No. M41014 BR Lined Maroon. £24.99 37-097 Coal Trader Pack. 3 x 5 Plank Wagons, weathered. £37.95 37-114 7 Plank Fixed End Wagon Baldwin, weathered. £12.95 37-115 7 Plank Fixed End Wagon I.C.I. Chance & Hunt Ltd. £11.95 37-327D 90 Ton JGA Bogie Hopper BLI 19215 Buxton Lime, weathered. £32.95 37-529B 20 Ton Brake Van No. 182897 LNER Oxide, weathered. £18.95 37-535C 20 Ton Brake Van CAR No. B955016 BR Railfreight. £17.95 37-535C 20 Ton Brake Van CAR No. B955016 BR Railfreight. £17.95 37-552C 46T POA Mineral Wagon TRL 5320 'ARC TIGER', weathered. £15.95 38-105 Triple Pack 34 Ton PNA Wagons Railtrack 5 Rib, weathered. £15.95 38-243 MBA Megabox Bogie Box Wagon No. 500036 EWS, weathered. £30.95 38-245A MOA Low-Sided Bogie Box Wagon No. 500336 EWS, weathered. £36.95 38-400A SR 25 Ton Pill Box Brake Van No. 56462 SR Brown. £18.95 38-404A SR 25 Ton Pill Box Brake Van ZTO No. DS56471 BR, weathered. £18.95 38-553A Midland 20 Ton Brake Van BR Grey (with Duckets). £17.95 38-553A Midland 20 Ton Brake Van No. 134900 LMS Bauxite without Duckets. £17.95 38-554 Midland 20 Ton Brake Van No. 4623 Midland Railway Grey. £17.95 38-503 21 Ton Grain Hopper No. 23 Bass Charrigoton. £16.95 38-9002 Twin Pack BR Mk2A BFK HST Barrier Vehicles BR Blue. £54.99 39-025E BR Mk1 SK Second Corridor Coach No. 35329 Network SouthEast £27.95	32-830A Ivatt Class 2MT 2-6-0 Steam Locomotive No. 6418 LMS Plain Black£9	9.99
34-630B BR Mk1 Suburban Second Brake Coach No. M43301 BR Lined Maroon. £24.99 34-700C BR Mk1 Suburban Composite Coach No. M41014 BR Lined Maroon. £24.99 37-097 Coal Trader Pack. 3 x 5 Plank Wagons, weathered. £37.95 37-114 7 Plank Fixed End Wagon Baldwin, weathered. £12.95 37-115 7 Plank Fixed End Wagon I.C.I. Chance & Hunt Ltd. £11.95 37-327D 90 Ton JGA Bogie Hopper BLI 19215 Buxton Lime, weathered. £32.95 37-529B 20 Ton Brake Van No. 182897 LNER Oxide, weathered. £18.95 37-535C 20 Ton Brake Van CAR No. B955016 BR Railfreight. £17.95 37-535C 20 Ton Brake Van CAR No. B955016 BR Railfreight. £17.95 37-535C 20 Ton Brake Van CAR No. B955016 BR Railfreight. £11.95 38-105 Triple Pack 34 Ton PNA Wagons Railtrack 5 Rib, weathered. £15.95 38-105 Triple Pack 34 Ton PNA Wagons Railtrack 5 Rib, weathered. £41.99 38-243 MBA Megabox Bogie Box Wagon No. 500036 EWS, weathered. £30.95 38-245A MOA Low-Sided Bogie Box Wagon No. 500336 EWS, weathered. £36.95 38-400A SR 25 Ton Pill Box Brake Van No. 56462 SR Brown. £18.95 38-404A SR 25 Ton Pill Box Brake Van ZTO No. DS56471 BR, weathered. £18.95 38-550A Midland 20 Ton Brake Van BR Grey (with Duckets). £17.95 38-553A Midland 20 Ton Brake Van No. 134900 LMS Bauxite without Duckets. £17.95 38-554 Midland 20 Ton Brake Van No. 4623 Midland Railway Grey. £17.95 38-590 20 Ton Brake Van & SR Pill Box Twin Pack NSE. £36.95 39-002 Twin Pack BR Mk2A BFK HST Barrier Vehicles BR Blue. £54.99 39-025E BR Mk1 BSK Brake Second Corridor Coach No. 35329 Network SouthEast £27.95	32-992 Wickham Type 27 Trolley Car BR Engineers Yellow£48	5.95
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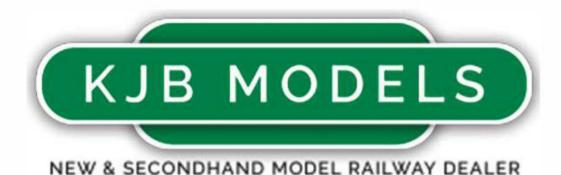
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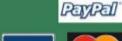
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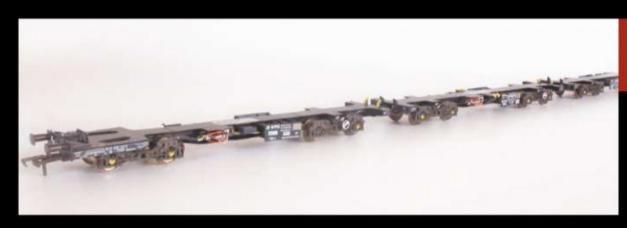
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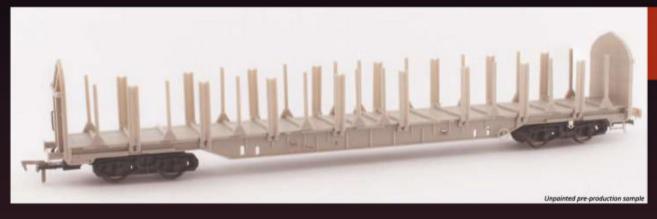
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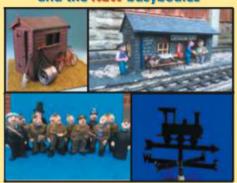


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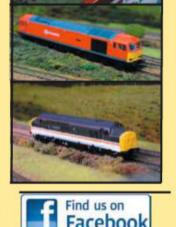
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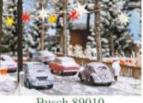
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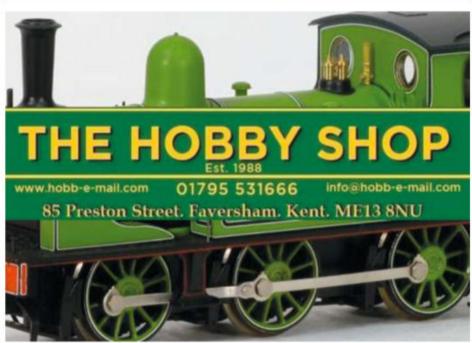


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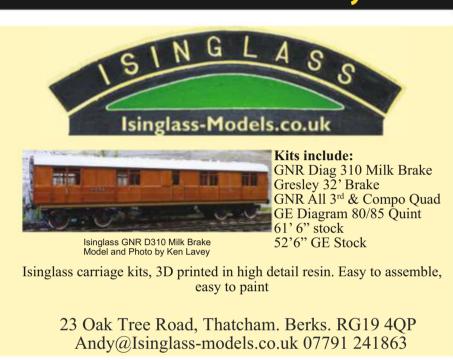
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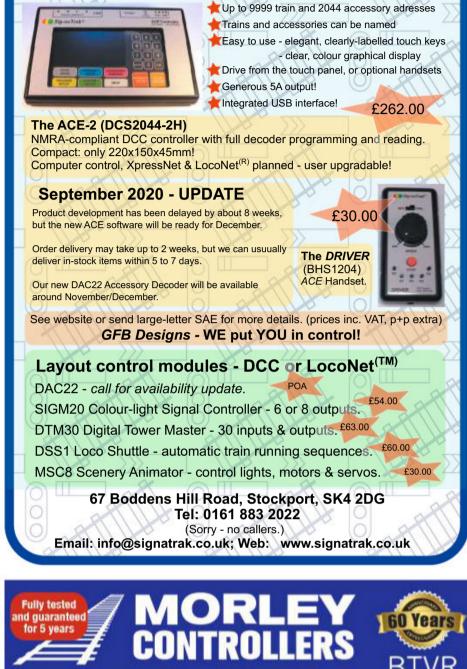
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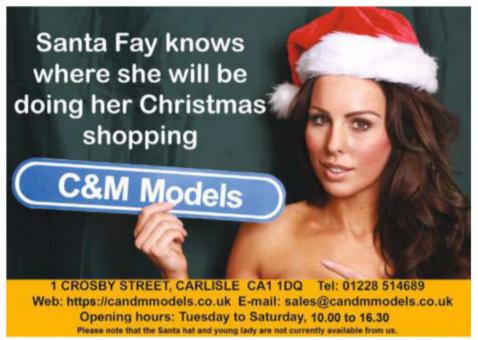
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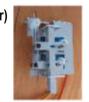




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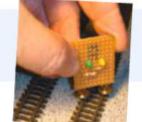
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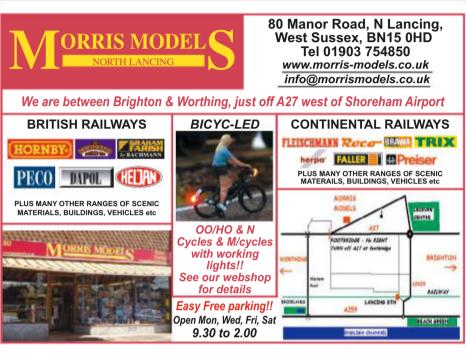
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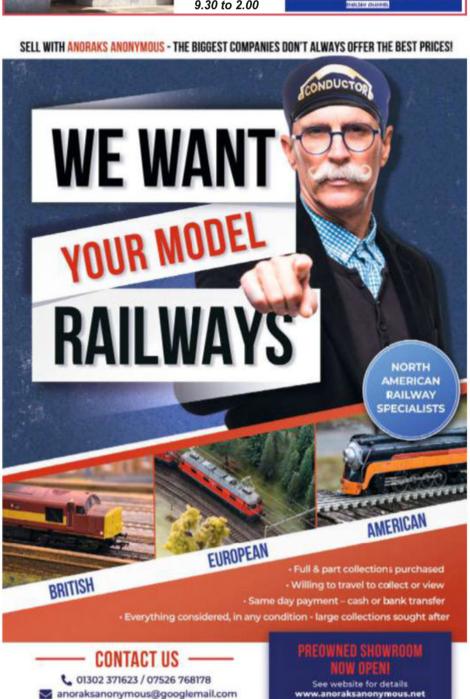
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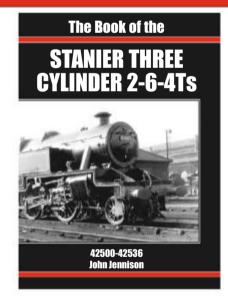




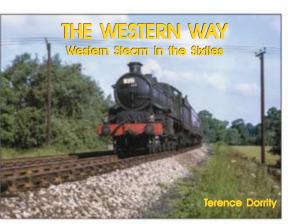


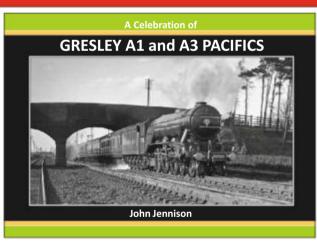
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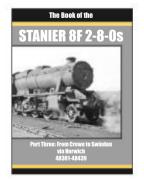
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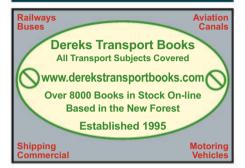
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Editor: Richard Foster
Deputy Editor: George Dent
Consultant Editor: Chris Leigh
Staff Writer: Chris Gadsby
Model Consultant: Dave Lowery
Editorial Assistant: Jane Skinner
Art Editor: Matthew Hunt
Production Editor: Shane Collins
Sub Editor: Richard Hampson
Photography: Jacques Portal, Chris Nevard
Artist: Andrew Mackintosh

PRODUCTION

Telephone: 01733 468377
Print Production Manager: Richard Woolley
Advertising Production: Zoe Bellamy
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Business Park, Launton Road, Bicester, Oxon OX26 4QZ

ADVERTISING

Senior Sales Exec Display: Gemma Smith 01733 366379 Group Sales Manager: Lucy Scott 01733 366434

MARKETING

Telephone: 01733 468000 Marketing Manager: Emma Glanville Head of Newstrade: Leon Benoiton Newstrade Marketing Manager: Karen Caruso

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Present your case

If there's a locomotive that you think needs to be offered ready-to-run, here's the place to voice your opinion...

Locomotive: Great Eastern Railway 'R24'/'R24 Rebuilt'/'S56' (LNER 'J67'/'J69') 0-6-0T

Gauge: '00'

Proposed by: Steve Pearce, Chelmsford

What is it?

The 'Buckjumper' is famous for working the Liverpool Street 'Jazz' suburban passenger services and was a capable shunter used throughout the GER area and beyond.

The last were withdrawn by BR in 1962.

This 0-6-OT was produced in large numbers; 140 'R24s' were built in 1890-1901, (100 for passenger duties) while 95 'R24s' were rebuilt between 1902-1921 with larger side tanks and fireboxes. A further 20 'S56s' were built in 1904 with higher pressure boilers and larger side tanks.

In the 1920s, with the arrival of the N7 O-6-2, the LNER converted 59 of the passenger 'J69s' to shunting locomotives by removing the Westinghouse brakes and condensing gear.

What would make it viable?

COLOUR RAIL

How about this for a start? This locomotive has never been available as a 'OO' gauge ready-to-run model before, although it has been the subject of a number of kits.

As well as variations in the side tanks and

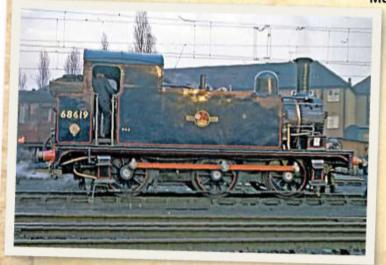
cabs, brakes and condensing gear, there were changes in chimneys, cab roofs, coal rails, safety valves, buffers and toolbox positions, these could provide opportunities for models with a small number of add-on parts or production variations on the basic chassis. A change of cab and chimney could even produce the 30 GER 'C72' (LNER 'J68s').

It is an attractive small locomotive that lasted in various guises for over 70 years. Originally a GER design, between the 1930s and 1950s they were allocated across most of the LNER, including Scotland. Their use on the East London Line would make them useful for SER and LBSCR modellers too, while, in 1940, the War Department purchased five 'J67s' and eight 'J69s' for use at Longmoor and Melbourne, which also widens their scope.

There's a whole host of liveries to offer, from GER blue, LNER green and BR lined black to the fabulous Great Eastern-inspired livery that Liverpool Street pilot No. 68619 carried in its final years.

Can I see a real one?

'J69/1' No. 87 (BR No. 68633) is preserved as part of the National Collection and is currently on display at Bressingham Steam **Muse**um in Norfolk.



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Behind the Backscene

Model Rail fires the questions at master modeller Pelle Søeborg, creator of some of the most realistic miniature US railroads ever.

Pelle Søeborg
is a graphic
designer,
modeller and
a contributing
editor to
Model Railroader
magazine.

66 I never go outside without wearing a felt hat >>

1 What was your first train set/model?

My first train was a blue Märklin sleeping car. For my tenth birthday I received a locomotive to pull it!

2 Are you working on a layout now?

No. Unfortunately, I don't have space in my apartment in Copenhagen. I have built a module on top of a book case but it's finished and I don't have any new projects planned.

3 Have you ever finished a model railway? Yes, I have built and finished four layouts.

4 What model have you've always longed for? Models of modern cars – Hondas, Toyotas, Nissans, Hyundais – that you see in the US – and, of course, some American cars!

5 Favourite trainspotting location?

Rochelle, Illinois where the Union Pacific and BNSF (formerly Burlington Northern & Santa Fe) main lines cross.

6 Favourite locomotive?

EMD 'F-Units' in Santa Fe 'war bonnet' livery.

7 When did you start working in the model railway industry?

I had my first layout published in *Model Railroader* magazine in 1996. My first book for Kalmbach Publishing Co was published in 2006.

8 What did you do beforehand?

The same as I do now – run my own graphic design business.

9 What modeller has influenced you the most?

It's hard to say. Chuck Hitchcock with his 'Argentine Division' layout and David Barrow with his 'Cat Mountain & Santa Fe' come to mind.

10 Strangest thing you've ever eaten?

Generally I don't eat strange things, but I have had snails in France. It's not something I became addicted to.

11 What is one of your weird quirks?

I never go outside without wearing a felt hat.

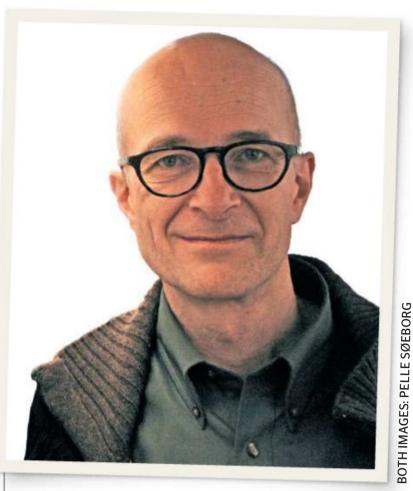
13 What book are you reading at the moment? Kids' books... to my grandchildren.



12 If you were stranded on a tropical island, what two things would you want with you? My phone and an old fashioned cocktail.

13 What piece of modelling are you most proud of?

The grain elevator complex on my Midwest layout. That layout is now owned by model shop TrainLife, in Provo, Utah.



14 What have you done that you are most proud of?

Created a family... but in relation to model trains, it is definitely my first cover of *Model Railroader* magazine.

15 What is your favourite song?

Mozart's clarinet concerto.

16 First record you bought?

I don't really remember. It might have been an Elvis Presley single.

17 What is the best advice you ever had?

Never spend money before you have it in your hand.

18 What is one meal you wouldn't want to give up? Salmon with new potatoes and green asparagus.

19 If you had access to a time machine, where and when would you go?

Back to when my son was four years old. I remember it as the best time in my life.

20 What was your favourite cartoon show growing up? Disney Show. We had to go to the cinema to watch it as we had no TV when I was little.

21 Favourite film?

Gladiator.

22 Temptation you wish you could resist? Expensive red wines.

23 What is your best childhood memory?

Day trips with my dad, sitting at the front of his bike

24 The hidden talent which would surprise people? I have written short stories... but I've never tried to have them published.

25 If you could pass any new law?

That only politicians with at least some work experience can be elected to the Danish parliament.

26 What do you drive?

A parking spot is a rare commodity where I live now so I don't drive a car any more. I gave my car – a Mazda 6 – to my son.

27 Perfect Sunday?

A summer day in the park with my son, daughter-inlaw and the grandchildren.

28 What actor would you like to play you in a film? Not a clue. It will not be easy to find someone who looks even a bit like me – and it wouldn't be the most attractive role to play.

29 How would you like to be remembered? As a good father and grandfather.

Next month Train-Tech's founder and electronics whizz David Palmer

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FREE VISITS - Visits by our valuers are possible anywhere in the country or abroad, in order to assess more valuable collections. Please phone for details.

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EXCELLENT PRICES - Because of the strength of our customer base we are in a position to offer prices that we feel sure will exceed your expectations.

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Warwick & Warwick Ltd., Chalon House, Scar Bank, Millers Road, Warwick CV34 5DB England

Tel: (01926) 499031 • Fax: (01926) 491906 Email: richard.beale@warwickandwarwick.com