



Risborough and District
Model Railway Club

Jan - Mar 2024 Winter

FOOTPLATE



Front cover: Mellin Parva at our Haddenham Exhibition. Photo by Paul

Who's who!

President	Rob Thompson robm.thompson@btinternet.com
Chairman & Footplate Editor	Paul Wright 07484 718477 rdmrc@btinternet.com
Secretary & Haddenham Manager	Roy Norton royrdmrc@gmail.com
Treasurer	James Aitken jag_aitken@hotmail.co.uk
Members Reps.	Mick Moignard Richard Neil Tim Peacock Gary Day
Publicity and Social Manager	Gary Day garyday@2dayrail.co.uk
Railex Manager	Tim Peacock schoonertim@gmail.com
Risex Manager	Mark Bacon mark.bacon63@yahoo.co.uk
Haddenham Manager	Roy Norton royrdmrc@gmail.com
Webmasters	James Aitken / Mick Moignard jag_aitken@hotmail.co.uk mick@mickmoignard.com

WELCOME

Our Haddenham show was at the end of Sept and was organised by Roy. This was again a very successful show which gave us a good income. The show is small and easy to put on with low costs. Thanks to everyone who helped.

In October, I took the shunting puzzle to Slough. This was a small show, (smaller than Haddenham) split over two sites with a vintage bus running in between. The museum had some interesting displays on the Slough Trading Estate. I spent the time supervising trainee operators, young and not so young, of the puzzle and talking about railways and modelling in general.

The AGM was in November and you will get the full minutes, probably about the same time as this edition of Footplate. You still have the same Trustees and Rob has agreed to stay on as President for the next three years. Subs remain the same as they are covering the basic costs of the club. This will be

reviewed when we have our own clubroom at Quinton. Our finances are looking healthy with a good income from shows at present so we will be spending a small amount on new projects.

There was a request for workshops and talks at the AGM, so we are organising these. You will need to give us detail about what you want to learn not just a broad subject. We can then organise the workshops.

We have had two test track sessions which are always popular. We will try to make this a regular once a month event. The next date is Jan 12th.

Paul

From the Internet

NOT A COWCATCHER?! What is it then? | Railroad 101

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mdj28Cu98jk>

How to Build a Railway – A New Turning Loop at Peter's Railway

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QPFS1mqwFBo>

The Greatest Garden Railway of all time - with the Biggest Working Steam Locomotive in the UK.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rcJ4NbY1eeg>

How to Clean and Recondition your Paint Brushes. Paintbrush Restoration for Acrylic Paint.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nxHqc_GtM48

STOP messing up your Brushes

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WCWd1TPHZOw>

One of the most authentic model railroads of an East German chemical plant with industrial railways

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W2ewRshCjRQ>

The ULTIMATE in LOCO CHANGES! A4 replaces DELTIC..! York 23/11/23

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uT1tmX3Lu7g>

The Oldest Steam Locomotives in the World

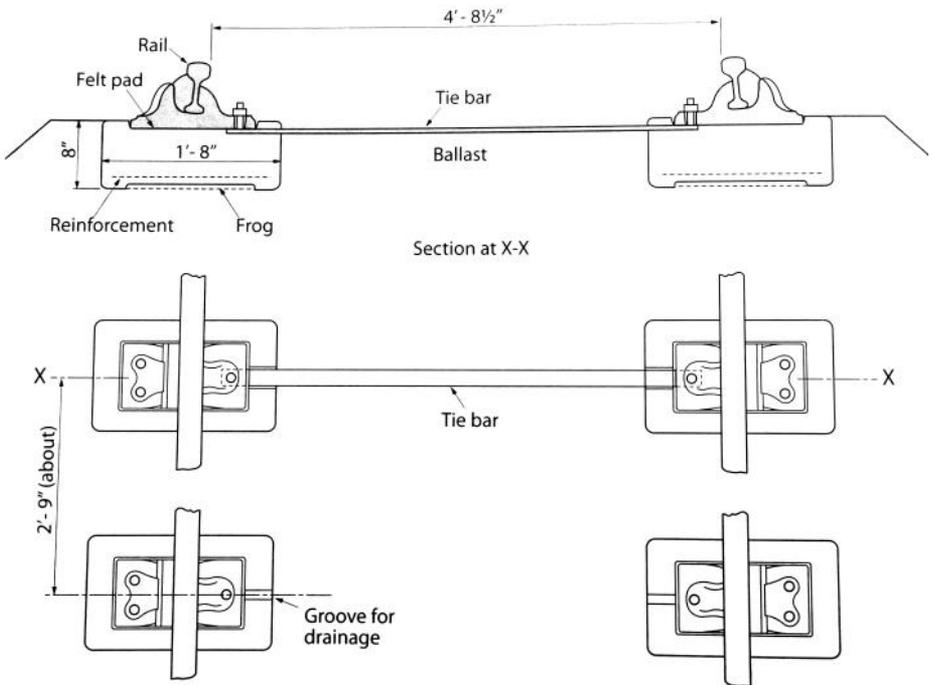
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3BCaywklqBg>

Pot Sleepered Track

The Friday night regulars know that I am progressively building an S scale layout inspired by Exe Quay on the River Exe in Exeter.

The Quay never had a railway, as the main Exeter Docks developed alongside a canal to the west of the Quay which connected to the river downstream. These docks were served by a branch of the Great Western. My model assumes that the City of Exeter who own the Quay, decided to build a railway to it connecting to the LSWR's Exmouth branch. The railway development is imagined to be in three phases, a couple of simple sidings serving the medieval quay area, an expansion in the late 1800's to both the dock and railway facilities and finally an expansion of the dock during WW1.

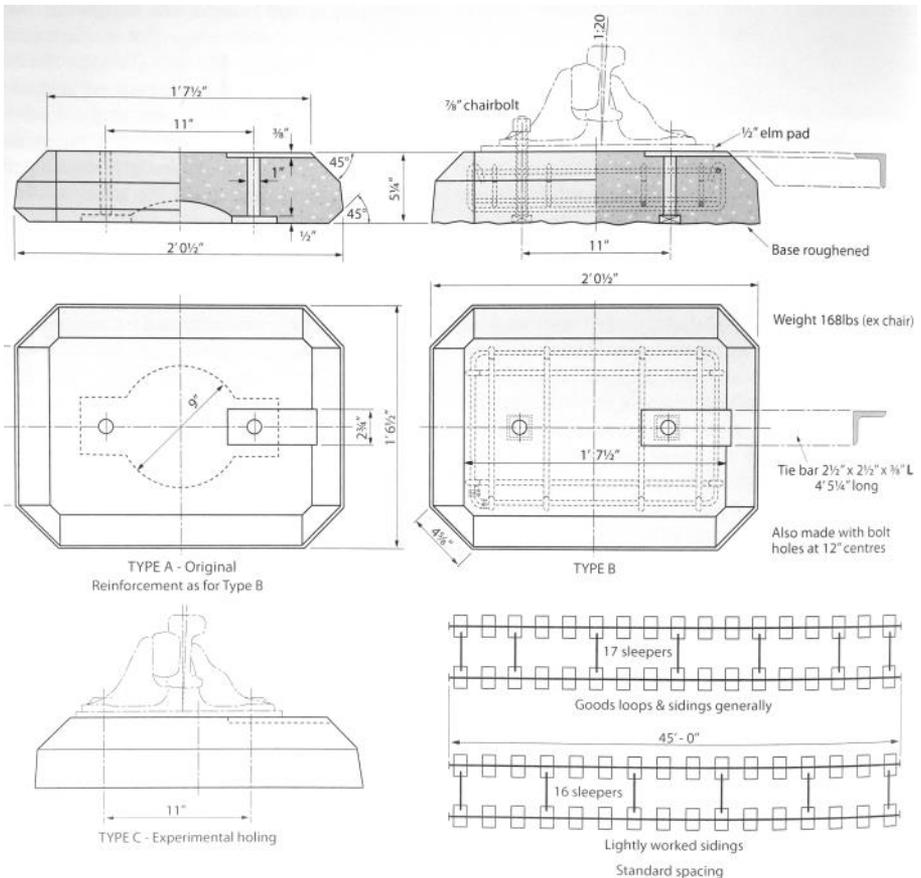
Whilst for the earlier developments the track is embedded in cobbles, for the later extension I wanted to have some sleepersed track the assumption being that the later development was essentially to provide more wagon storage; the



LSWR Pot Sleepers (Andrew Dow, "The Railway, British Track Since 1804")

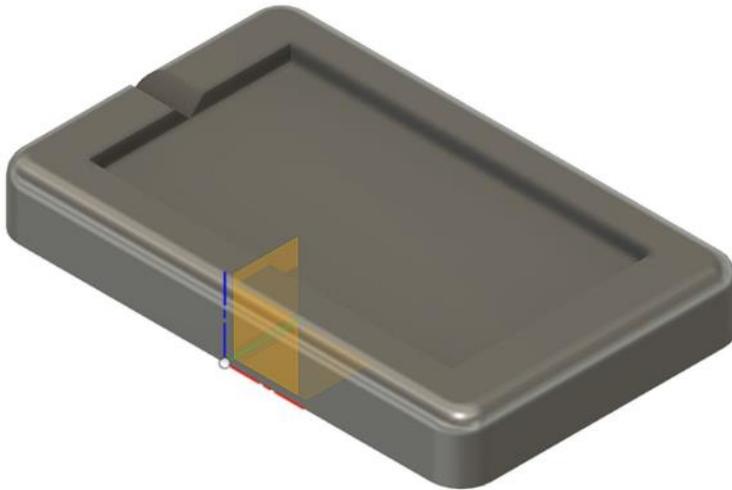
reality was I wanted to have a go at building some bullhead track using the S Scale Society's components (an S Scale version of the C&L system). Having started the first two sidings with conventional timber sleepers, I decided that the final siding could be made to appear as a further development by using pot sleepers.

Pot sleepers are usually associated with the Great Western, but in fact the LSWR started using them for sidings from 1917 due to the shortages of suitable timber. These were essentially rectangular held to gauge by tie bars. The GWR version was developed some time later, the inference in Andrew Dow's book "The Railway, British Track Since 1804" being that it followed the publication in 1944 of a British Standard covering concrete sleepers. The GWR pot sleepers were an altogether more complex shape as can be seen from the diagrams below.

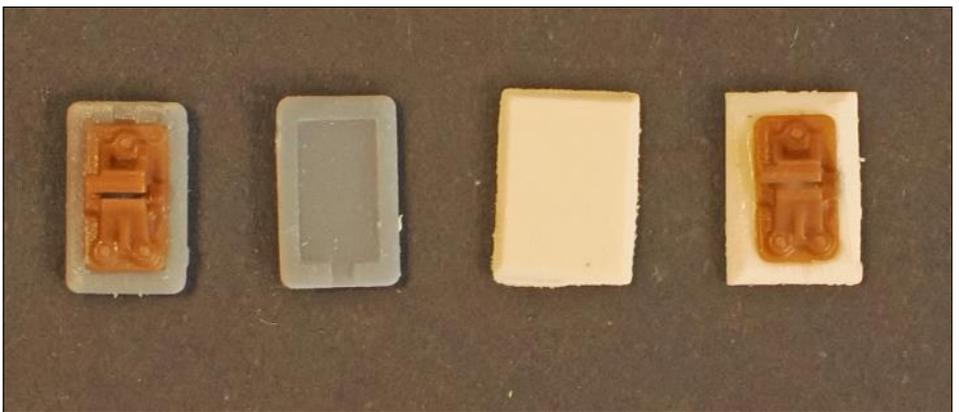


GWR Pot Sleepers (Andrew Dow, "The Railway, British Track Since 1804")

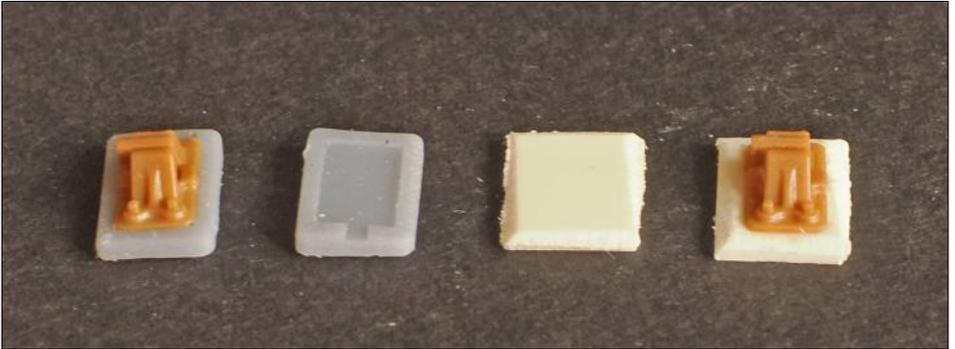
My first attempt at pot sleepers followed Ian Rice's suggestions using 20 thou Plasticard cut to the correct size with a slight bevel on the edges. But, having laid the siding this way, the short comings of this method became obvious. The first problem was that I hadn't used enough care to get all the pots the same size, whilst the bevelling was also uneven. Secondly, I hadn't managed to get the chairs glued to the pots consistently; some were at a slight angle whilst others weren't central. Whether anyone would have ever noticed this is a mute point, because I knew it wasn't right. So, attempt number two used 3D printed pots, modelled in Fusion 360.



These had a central pocket to locate the chair which was fixed using Butanone. The cut out in the pocket is for the fixing of a Plasticard strip to represent the tie bar. The chair and sleeper assemblies were then threaded onto the rail and



secured to the cork underlay using superglue. The photographs below illustrate the differences between the Plasticard and 3D printed results.



The final two pictures show my trial piece (less tie bars) with some more sample 3D prints and the final installation.





Above: the finished track.

Patrick

Aylesbury LNWR Update

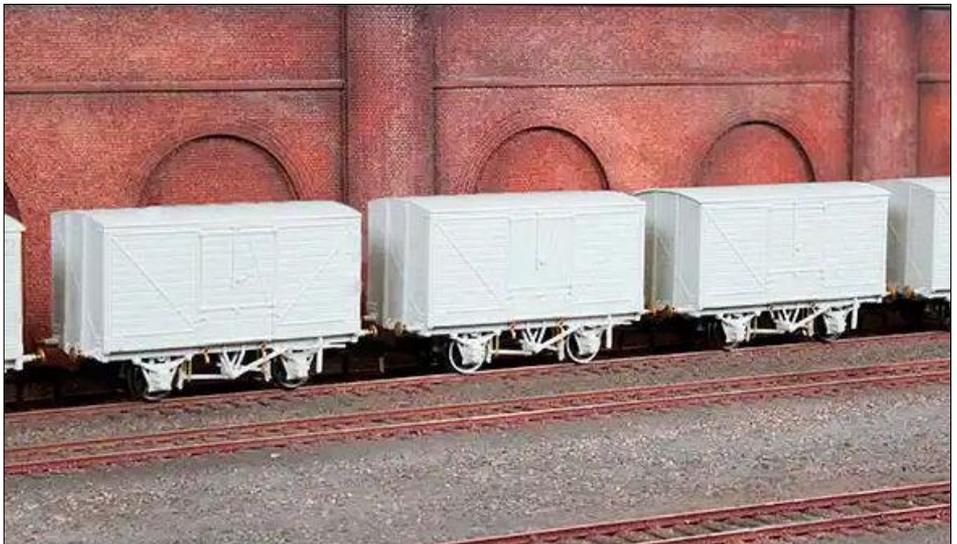
Currently in progress we have the following: D33 van, D90 open, horse boxes, D77 picnic saloon, 3x PO wagons, OCT, and full brake. Quite a list.

I do have a few kits left if anyone wants to build a wagon. Once all the kits we have are finished we will take a break until we get the layout reassembled and working. At that point we can assess what we need.

Rapido Trains UK has announced its first LNWR wagon, the OO Gauge LNWR D88 Covered Van.

“The Rapido Trains UK D88 van has been designed using a combination of archival materials, works drawings, and an onsite survey at Chatham. A number of variations within the range will be available, including alternate designs representing wooden or iron roofs, square or incurved headstocks, 1-rib, 2-rib, or 3-bolt buffers, unfitted or through-piped, cupboard doors with both horizontal and vertical planking, flat and bulbous axle boxes, split-spoke or solid wheels in brass bearings for smooth, and free running and NEM coupling mounts. These will be finished in a variety of liveries covering the wagon's lengthy history.”

Engineering prototypes have arrived and Rapido has stated it is extremely pleased with the progress made so far.



Haddenham 2023

At the end of September we ran our second show at Haddenham. This is our smallest show but was a successful day and contributed well to our funds. Here are a few photos from the day.









N scale bookshop

This building was constructed from 3 Tilly Models kits. These are resin cast with 3D printed details such as window frames and downpipes. All 3 kits are copies of buildings in Delft that made up the Vroom & Dreesman dept store. The store occupied more buildings but only these 3 have been modelled by Tilly. Just for a change I built them as the manufacturer intended. V&D have now moved from this complex of buildings which have become 2 cafés and a hairdresser.



Above: The front of the building, just needing the name of the bookshop.

As I already have a dept. store, I decided to make this a book shop. The window displays are all genuine window displays but not necessarily from the Netherlands. In reality, the building on the left is on the right of the corner building. The real buildings form an L but this straight arrangement fits my city better. If you look at Google Maps you can see all the extensions at the back of the building as it has been increased in size over the years.

The cast parts were mostly straight but are easy to flatten with hot water if required. The 3D printing works well for the thicker windows but the finer ones show some distortion. I don't think this is an issue on an old building. Most of the downpipes were too twisted to use so were replaced with brass

wire. These downpipes are too fine for 3D printing to be successful.



Above: The end of the bookshop. The window displays are printed paper.

Most of the time is spent painting. I mostly use Coat d'Arms paint from Black Hat Miniatures with a few Games Workshop colours and especially their washes. Coat d'Arms is made by the same manufacturer as the Railmatch range. Painting takes much longer than sticking the kit together! I use a range of brush sizes and shapes but all are fairly cheap brushes from model shops, Hobbycraft etc. the important thing is that the brush has a good shape. Small flat brushes are particularly useful, as is a good selection of fine masking tape.

Once I think the building is nearly finished, I always take photos. I find I can stare at a model for hours and not see anything wrong with it but can spot a problem in a photo in a matter of seconds. Then I touch up the defects using a very small brush (5/0 or 10/0). It needs a dust and then I can install in the city centre.



Above: The back of the building which is not as interesting. The real building has had a series of extensions which expand the ground floor of the shops.



Above: the building in place in the city next to the town hall (Kibri) from Purmerend, which is just north of Amsterdam. The small building in between is a transformer house from Arnhem (Tilly Models). The large church is actually from Bonn.

Paul

Rubbish and Recycling

Recycling will be collected each club night, this includes card, plastic bottles and cans. Please leave it in the kitchen or the box/bag provided.

Please remember to put a black plastic bag in the dustbin before use and empty it when full. There is a black wheelie bin in the carpark. Please put bags in there when they are full. Spare bin bags are in the cleaning cupboard.

Mellin Parva Update

Mellin Parva has had some refurbishment and was running well at Haddenham. Rob will be creating a manual on how it all goes together to simplify the erection and dismantling of the layout. The backscene will be cleaned and repaired early next year. The cars are a Citroen 11CV which I built for Okehampton and a Renault 4CV. Both are from Heller kits. Rob will be providing some people for the layout.

The big project is going to be building the Clyde Puffer which sits in the small dock at the front of the layout. I do have a 3D scan of a Puffer so it may be possible to use this and 3D print a model. Or we could find a set of plans and scratch build from wood.

Club refreshments

Tea and coffee are free. The cups at the church hall are a bit small so bring your own if you like large mugs of tea.

Please make sure you wash up any mugs and spoons used and return them to the correct cupboard or drawer.

Articles for Publication in Footplate

Articles can be on any subject including, model reviews or construction, places you have visited, your own layout etc, and should be sent at least 1 month before publication dates, i.e. beginning of March, June, September and December for publication in April, July, October and January. Plain text, no formatting, photos as high a resolution as possible.

Gala at the Great Central

This year the autumn gala at the Great Central Railway coincided with Tim's birthday so we decided to go along and support them. We chose a Thursday which is our usual get together day and set off with 5 of us, Roy, Michael Lane, Tim, John Hipwell and me.

The day was overcast and looked like rain, but luckily the rain held off for the day. We were treated to a couple of engines we'd not ridden behind before, namely "Lady of Legend" no 2999, the recreated Saint class normally resident at Didcot, and Witherslack Hall, renamed to Swithland Hall no 6988.

We started at Quorn station and enjoyed a late breakfast snack and a cuppa at the station café, then joined the morning train to Leicester North pulled by the Saint.



Above: Lady of Legend

This was steaming very roughly as if the valve timing was way out. I have since had it confirmed by a loco driver friend that the valve timing was way out when the engine was at the Severn Valley in the summer and had been adjusted there. Perhaps it had moved again.



Above: Locos being moved cold around the yard
Below: Swithland Hall



The train then took us to Loughborough where we stopped for lunch and a look around the engine shed area where the 9F and Std locos were being moved by an 08 diesel.

We boarded the train behind Swithland Hall which took us smoothly to the other end of the line and back again. The contrast between the two engines was marked. Returning to Loughborough we had time to quickly look in the Emporium where the second hand books were kept before boarding the last train of the day, double headed by Lady of Legend and Swithland Hall.



Above: Double headed

I certainly had never been behind a double header before. It was real treat. Because of the length of the available run round at the Leicester North station the engines had to run round the train one at a time, and I overheard the staff complaining that the 15 minutes allowed for that movement wasn't really long enough. However, not long after our scheduled departure we were off again, back to Quorn where we'd started the day.

John had booked us into the pub opposite the station entrance for a meal, which was an excellent end to the day. It avoided us trying to get back home when the traffic was at its busiest. All in all a great day out.

James

Pendennis Trophy

At the AGM we awarded the Pendennis Trophy to Roger for his work behind the scenes of a challenging Railex 2023. The nomination reads: "For his efforts at organising accommodation for layout owners attending Railex. This was done at fairly short notice and was accomplished smoothly and efficiently. Careful thought was given to identify rooms to layout owners and on the day any problems were entirely down to people not reading their joining packs!?"



Above: Roger (right) is awarded the trophy by our Chairman.

Farewell 1700

After 33 years NS ran its final train with the class 1700 electric loco on December 9th. Some of these locos will continue to operate with other companies. They were introduced in 1990 and were based on the class 1600 which in turn was based on the French BB7200.



Laser Cutting Materials

In stock we have:

0.5, 0.75, 1, 1.5 & 3.2mm white plastic (Rowmark) with some 1.5 & 3.2mm in black. Sheets are 1220 by 610mm.

Clear acrylic in 0.5 & 1mm. Sheet sizes vary but some are 1000 by 1000mm.

MDF in: 1.5, 2, 3.2, 4 & 6mm, sheet sizes are 1220 by 600mm

Club Diary 2024

Jan	6	Marlow, Maidenhead & District Model Railway Club Cox Green Community Centre, 51 High Field Lane, Maidenhead SL6 3AX.
	12	Test Track
Feb	16	Risex setup
	17	Risex , Princes Risborough Community Centre.
	17	NMRA Winter Meet, Stokenchurch Community Centre, Bartholomew Tipping Lane, Stokenchurch HP14 3RX
Mar	2-3	Abingdon & District Model Railway Club Abingdon & Witney College, Wootton Road, Abingdon OX14 1GG.
	30-31	York Model Railway Show, York Racecourse, Racecourse Road, YORK YO23 1EX.
Apr	1	York Model Railway Show.
	20	De Havilland Model Railway Society, Methodist Church, Ludwick Way, Welwyn Garden City AL7 3PN.
May	11-12	EM Gauge Society, Bracknell Leisure Centre, Bagshot Road, Bracknell RG12 9SE.
	24	Railex setup
	25-26	Railex , Stoke Mandeville Stadium.
Jun	6	Marlow, Maidenhead & District M.R.C., Knowl Hill Village Hall, The Terrace, Knowl Hill, Reading RG10 9XB.
Jul	13	Enfield Whitewebbs Railway Modellers, The Whitewebbs Museum of Transport, Whitewebbs Road, Enfield EN2 9HW.
Sep	21-22	Scalefour Society, Cressex Community School, Holmer Lane, High Wycombe, HP12 4QA.