



Risborough and District
Model Railway Club

Jul - Sept 2025 Summer

FOOTPLATE



Who's who!

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WELCOME

Wheeltapper was an excellent display of modelling skill and we had an interesting talk by our judge Karl Crowther. We had many different winners. See page 14.

Aylesbury LNWR was operated for 3 days at the Quanton Thomas event. It was running very well with minimal issues. The Friday and Saturday were very busy while Sunday was quiet as expected. Well done to everyone who has helped with this project. Our next goal is to operate the layout when QRS is open for steaming and event days and it has been operating on Sundays throughout June. It is a good opportunity to promote club events. All club members are welcome to join in the operating sessions or the work visits, which are usually on Mondays.

Railex was a fantastic show with great layouts and some new traders. Well done to everyone involved. We passed our break even point so made a surplus on the door. The secondhand team did an amazing job selling and raised just over £2.5k for club funds. In total we made approx. £6k.

Our next event is the Openday in conjunction with the Risborough Festival on 12th July. You will be pleased to know this is a small and relaxed event. We will have the test track, an Aylesbury LNWR display, Okement Quarry, a small secondhand table and a few modellers. And most importantly tea, cake and chatting!

Paul

From the Internet

New Trains on the Central Line (in 1903)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZJXY2clOJFw>

Cab Ride - Early Spring Interlaken to Lauterbrunnen Switzerland - Train Driver View - 4k 60p hdr

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tKRQu0Afx4M>

Class 121 Bubble Car DRIVERS EYE VIEW: Aylesbury to Quainton Road

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-JLkf8HGp1A>

Masterpiece in Rail Transport Modeling: A Multi Level Model Railroad Layout in HO scale

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MJzkuGP2PKg>

Railex 2025 Model Railway Exhibition

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ABdMX-5YjA8>

Painting Figures Is Easier Than You Think! Simple Figure Painting Tutorial For Scale Models

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UsHF0__BNvc

Front cover: one of the many miniature exhibits at the Steam & Classics day at Quainton in May. Photo by Paul

Aylesbury LNWR Update

In April we had a 3 day running session at Quanton as part of their Thomas weekend. We had a lot of members there and the layout ran very well. We have 2 radio throttles and 2 fixed throttles available for running sessions.

We have added a few more details:

Street light outside the pub: this turned out to be a Mikes Models No. 20 gas lamp and I was able to buy a set. John A assembled and painted it.



Signals: there were a pair of signals missing from the approach to the station. These have now been replaced with a pair made from a Ratio kit. These need the painting to be finished, the black parts will be brown. At some point we will refurbish all the signals and get them working using servos and MERG electronics. We have tested one ground

signal and the servo control works so now we can connect all the signals that are in good condition and refurbish the others. Tony E is making the MERG kits.

Another wagon has joined the fleet, a 12t tank wagon for Pratts Spirits. They had a depot at Aylesbury which is shown on the backscene just by the goods shed. This is an Oxford Rail model converted to EM.

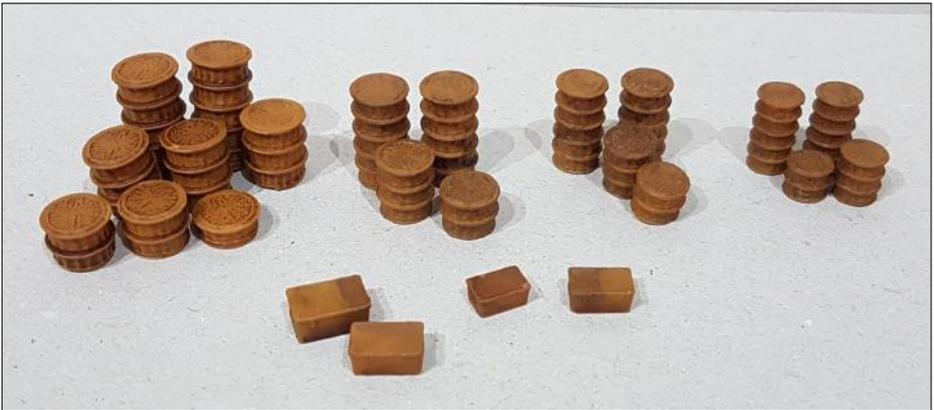


The conversion to EM was reasonably easy. I had to remove the brake mouldings which are a push fit and just glued to the brake lever. I then filed down the front of the fixing pegs and added a little plastic to the rear to keep the same size pegs. Then I pushed them back in and glued them back to the brake lever. The wheels are a direct fit although a little loose. The wagon is supplied with tension hook couplings which simply pull out and the 3-link couplings can then be clipped in place. The livery is as preserved but looks the part. It will need weathering, which Tim is doing.





We also have a pair of D77 picnic saloons completed by John Compton.



Above: we now have fruit baskets of various sizes thanks to David L & Terry who have created the artwork and 3D printed them for us.

Below: the fruit baskets in position.



Below: a couple of new figures produced by David Lane. These are created from photos of staff at Aylesbury pre WW1.



Below: one of the many animals we have added to the layout. There are foxes, cats, dogs, hares, rabbits, sheep, cattle and horses. It all adds the the realism of the scene.





Above: we added a shunting horse and some figures, (modelled by John A), the stables for 3 horses are on the backscene (top left in the photo).



Above: the roses on the platform now have flowers.

Paul

Making The Roses

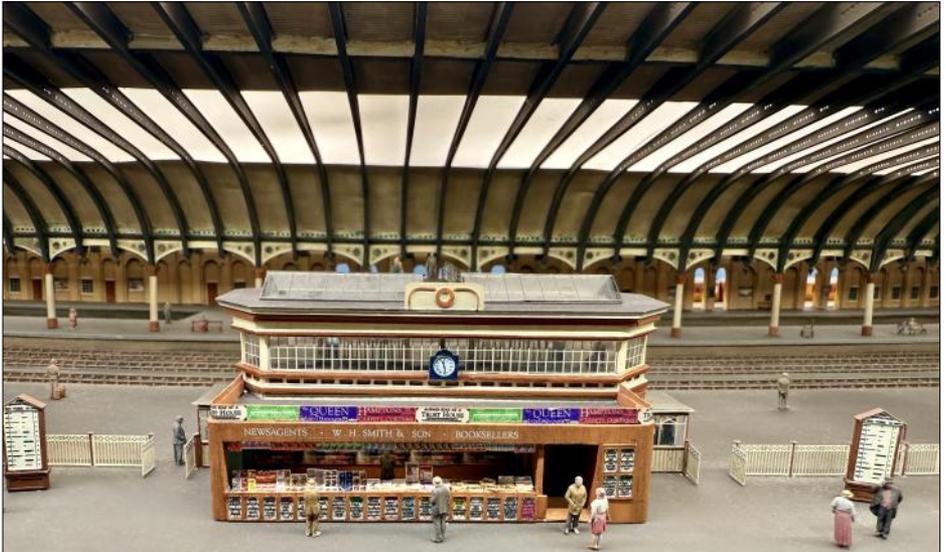
Firstly search out ground elder plants usually growing in uncultivated areas of the garden. Pick or cut the newly emerging flower heads rather than the mature flowering heads.



Search out a suitable piece of non adhesive foil or paper. Squeeze small droplets of PVA at intervals onto the paper. Then trim the stems of the florets leaving a short stalk and push them into the PVA droplets. Allow the PVA to dry.

Paint the florets with undiluted acrylic paint according to your choice of colour. After the paint is dry, seal the painted florets with a suitable preservative spray

Railex 2025



Two views of York in 2mm.





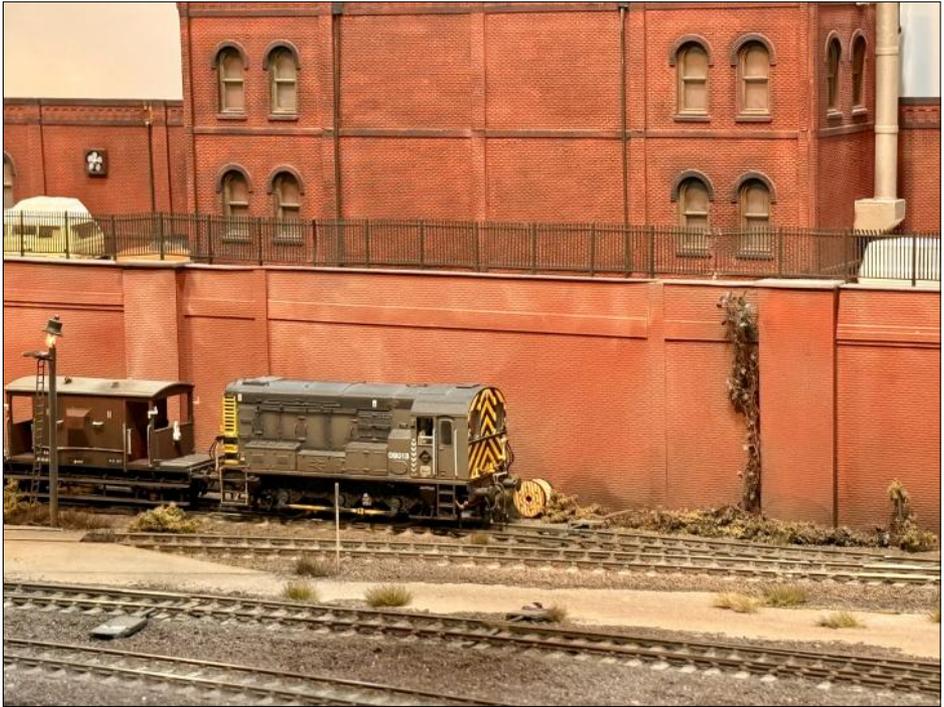
Here are some photos of Railex layouts taken by Graham.

Above: Moors View.

Below: Inchyra Paper Mill







Club refreshments

Tea, coffee & squash are free. Canned drinks will be in the fridge. The cups at the church hall are a bit small so bring your own if you like large mugs of tea.

There is a water boiler on the wall to the left of the sink and the new larger mugs are in the cupboard above the microwave.

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

Wheeltapper 2025

Well done to all the entrants, there was an excellent display of models. Here are photos of the winners from each category.



Above: the winners from steam (James) and diesel (Tony B) locos categories.
Below: Roy's Southern Royal Mail vans.



Below: the joint winner in the freight stock category by James.





Above: John's winning entry in the road vehicles etc category, a GWR Horse Drawn Delivery Van and right. Being presented with the trophy.



Below and below left: Ken's winning model of a smock windmill in the



structures category and the trophy being presented.





Above: John Ashby's diorama of a horse plough won the dioramas category.



Above and right: Steve Walker's 7mm LNER 12ton 6plank Coal Wagon and Steve being presented with the trophy by Karl Crowther.





Above: John Compton's Denaby Coal Wagon for Aylesbury Town, and right being presented with the trophy.





Above: Paul's PO wagon for Aylesbury LNWR.



Above: Gary's grounded coach body which won the Chairman's Cup.



Above: James won the Wheeltapper Trophy with the GWR Rectank which was also the joint winner in the freight stock category.

Left: Carl presents James with the Wheeltapper trophy.



That Station!

It all started innocently enough, however,

My layout, which is making glacial progress, is based in Cornwall and set during the inter-war years. Now there is a thing!! Obviously a station is needed, by convention at least, and for some reason I fixed upon the Helston branch from Gwinnear Road on the main line and to fit into the space I had available I chose Praze station. So simple so far. I had found photographs and a book on the branch (courtesy Robin Eccles) which included scale drawings. My first challenge was to replicate the “castellated” (I am sure there is proper architectural name) brickwork round the doors and windows. I was pondering on how to do this when someone suggested laser cutting would be the answer. Problem number two, I know absolutely nothing about the process. After chatting about this one club night Jennifer stepped into the breach and offered to produce all the necessary CAD drawings for the laser cutter. I passed to her the photocopied pages of the book with the relevant dimensions on them. A few weeks later Jennifer gave me a box containing something totally unexpected, a kit of parts for the whole station!! Doors, windows, surrounds for these and the building walls and floor, talk about above and beyond, thank you very much Jennifer.

Due to a whole variety of reasons the construction did not progress at all quickly, in fact if glaciers melted at the rate of my progress, the world would not be in the pickle it is now. Club members will be well aware of how little was achieved from week to week.

There is an inner shell to the building and this did go together quickly, obviously!. The various subassemblies for the windows and doors were next. Then we came to the fitting of the doors and window surrounds to the relevant components of the outer carcass. This all sounds very straight forward, however, as many of you will know this took many, many, many months. Eventually this was all completed and the outer shell was all done. Using spacers provided in the kit the outer carcass was attached to the inner.

The next phase was to clad the whole with “stone” embossed plastic sheet, courtesy of Southeast Finecast. This necessitated marking out on the reverse the positions of all the windows and doors and then cut out the apertures – at this time I should have thought ahead and done the same for the quoins on the corners, but I did not! Following the use of Vallejo acrylic filler the finished product did not look too bad and covered the little deviations between the apertures and the windows and doors. The quoins were fashioned from .005” plain white plastic sheet and glued to the embossed sheet.

Next came the painting and as can be seen the doors are “standard” GWR colours. The finish is, I hope, a fair representation of Cornish stone. Travelling around Cornwall the “stone” colours do vary from north to south coasts and even to the interior.



The last phase was to construct the roof and chimney stacks, here I was on my own. The roof was formed from ordinary card overlaid with slate (Un-weathered) strips from Scale Model Scenery. The chimney stacks were formed from embossed plastic sheet. On the advice of Mike Morley (who I have to thank for his encouragement and useful suggestions) I made a former/inner core to which I fixed the sides. This worked well, also the stacks go down to floor



level for stability reasons.

And here is the finished article. There are many detail elements, with hindsight and better planning I could have done “better”, however, it has been a worthwhile journey, from my point of view.

Once again thanks Jennifer and everybody else who has given me guidance, help and encouragement.

Neill

Okement Quarry at Kempton Park

The Gauge O Guild now runs a summer show for us enthusiasts in the south of the UK, in Kempton Park. This year, they invited us to show Okement Quarry in its incomplete state, to advertise the Guild’s modular layout concept.

The concept is to allow clubs such as ours the opportunity to display a layout coupled to a huge roundy roundy fiddle yard, something which it would not be easy for us to do on our own. The Guild supplies the end curves, the point work and the fiddle yard, while we merely provide the scenic side. You can build a 12 or 24 foot module. We opted for 12 feet and designed it to represent a cut down version of Meldon Quarry, in keeping with our Okehampton layout. There are a couple of reasons for the 12 feet choice. One is that it fits into an estate car, with 2 operators in the front. The second is that at the moment it is not really practical for our club to be building a 24 foot layout.

John Hipwell and I left home early on Saturday morning with the 3 layout boards in the back of the car, controllers and buildings in a box, and made it to Kempton in plenty of time to setup. This took us about 15 minutes, with the help of Rob Thompson, who had volunteered to steward at the show.

I took a couple of locos and a few wagons, again concentrating on the hoppers which would have loaded the stone from the quarry.

Here we can see a model of the original LSWR hopper wagon on the left, with the later SR built version coupled to an ex LSWR ballast plough brake van.

There was a great deal of interest in these vehicles, many people asking about whose kits they were. The LSWR pair are from Southwark Bridge available from Roxey Mouldings, the SR one from PRMRP. This is actually their BR Sealion kit but heavily modified to make it into the SR wagon. I now only use the etched parts, making the bogies, buffers, vacuum cylinder and parts of the hand-wheel supports myself.

The O gauge team, consisting of me, John, Rob and Michael Lane had added a



lot of scenic features to the layout in the few weeks available to us before the show, including grassed banks, the road bridge, a platelayers hut and smoother ground surfaces.



The hut was made by Russ Burridge, originally for Okehampton, but fits perfectly here. Michael has grassed it in. It looks fabulous.



The bridge is looking really good now. It still needs buttresses, which have been made but not yet fitted, and coping stones which will come in time. Michael has been busy, making the engine shed, coal stage and water tower.



Ric Lee made the signal box, with parts designed and cut out by me. We have added a retaining wall around the cut out in the embankment for the box to sit in. John did the walls and coping stones for this feature. We were kept busy pretty much all day with a steady stream of interest, both in the layout and the stock. We had taken along some parts to glue in place so that we could work on the layout if it was quiet. We didn't manage to do

anything in the end. It was a long day but very worthwhile, and Okement Quarry has its first layout attendance badge!



The engine shed and coal stage, with Jon showing me how to use Digitrax's latest controller. We were both puzzling about how to do an emergency stop! The other John scratching his head as he doesn't know either! (Emergency Stop on a DT602 is the bottom right button. Hold it down for a second or so until it beeps. Mick)

James

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.

Tree Workshop April 2025

In April we had another tree making workshop, which I plan to repeat again towards the end of the year. There are 6 places on each course, where we make 3 different trees.



Club Diary 2025

July	12	Club Openday and Risborough Festival.
	19-20	Chatham & District Model Railway Club, Slip 5, Main Gate Road, The Historic Dockyard, Chatham ME4 4TZ
	20	Letchworth Model Railway Society, The Priory School, Bedford Road, Hitchin SG5 2UR
Sept	20-21	Scalefour Society, Cressex Community School, Holmer Lane, High Wycombe, HP12 4QA
	27	Haddenham Show , Haddenham, Village Hall, Banks Road, Haddenham, Aylesbury, HP17 8EE
Oct	11-12	Warley Model Railway Club, Statfold Barn Farm, Ashby Road, Tamworth B79 0BU
Nov	15	High Wycombe & Dist. Model Railway Society, Cressex Community Centre, 203 Cressex Road, High Wycombe HP12 4PZ
	22-23	Warners Group Publications, Hall 5, National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham B40 1NT

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.