



Risborough and District
Model Railway Club

July - Sept 2026 Summer

FOOTPLATE



Who's who!

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WELCOME

Railex was a great success despite a few last minute changes due to layouts dropping out. Well done to everyone who helped create and run the show, your efforts are much appreciated. We also made some money for the club.

Aylesbury LNWR continues to entertain and educate our visitors. We have now moved Okehampton to the Brixton building and cleared the other end of the coach. We have installed 2 work tables, shelving and a bookcase. This area will be available to support the 2 layouts at Quainton and for members to work on projects. I will be creating a full list of all club equipment so you will know what is available. It is also our refreshment area.

Our next event is the Openday in conjunction with the Risborough Festival on

Saturday 11th July. We will have the test track, Okement Quarry, second hand and members with displays and demos. Refreshments will also be available.

Paul

From the Internet

MASSIVE 70ft Eastfield TMD 'O' Gauge Layout: Mick Worrell's Eastfield TMD

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FlvFyUL8OH4>

New Loco Hauled Chiltern Railways Trains!

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

WE GOT A STEAM ENGINE!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BqbEse3z2Tw>

York Model Railway Show 2026

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QTBDI0JhWgA>

RAILEX 2026 One of Britain's Best Finescale Model Railway Exhibitions

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hCxa5A2ulPE>

World's Longest Curved Wooden Trestle (N-scale)

https://www.youtube.com/shorts/6cl_rQfPpNg

Railex 2026 Model Railway Exhibition

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z76vIVO7S34>

RAILEX 2026 Aylesbury.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K3oDb_YsB0A

Building A TT:120 Model Railway - Episode 1: The Plan & Laying Track!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NsplxznORTM&list=PLrxCs5t2FkmwORIf4ZAU7jUUFK2fsx056>

Front cover: Llawryglyn, at Railex 2026, photo by Peter Edwards.

Reeds & Ripples

I have been adding more bullrushes and reeds to the lake areas of my layout. The bullrushes are laser cut paper plants from Model Scene which I have previously written about. The other reed type plants I made from different



colours of Grass/Reeds from Model Scenery Supplies. Woodland Scenics also have a similar material.

The water in the small lake now has ripples added. This is produced by covering the clear styrene (painted on the underside) with a thin layer of Mod Podge Gloss. This is a thin PVA type material and dries colourless with a nice gloss shine.

The technique is to pour on the Mod Podge and then spread it around with a large flat brush, being careful not to get it up the sides of the lake edging.

The brush can be used to create texture or you can blow through a straw to get the effect you want. Then let it dry.





The clean but flat lake surface.



Pour on the Mod Podge.



Spread it out into a thin layer and add texture with the brush.



The lake covered and the water lilies added at the right.



When dry the lake has ripples.



Now the water lily flowers are added.

Aylesbury LNWR Update

Aylesbury has been running quite well this season and we now have the rear goods sidings in operation. This in turn means we can now run 11 wagon goods trains compared to the 8 wagon mineral sets and the wagons can be shunted into the correct sidings. The 4 nearest the front are officially coal sidings and those at the back are goods sidings.

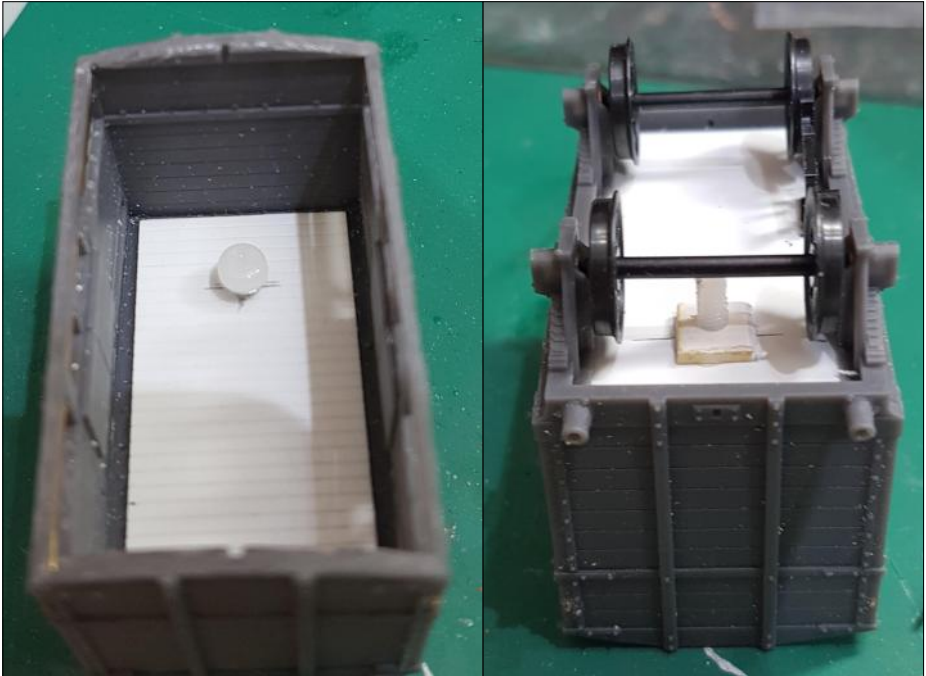
We did find an issue with the articulated D13 timber wagon. This is made up of 2 identical bolster wagons with a permanent connection. The connection in the model is similar to the prototype being a bent metal rod. What happened was, when pushing with the D13 in the middle of the train, this fixed link applied a sideways force on the connection so the wagon derailed over a less than perfect joint. To fix this I replaced the solid link with fine chain. This means that when pushing, the 2 halves of the wagon are pressing against rubbing strips (made from wine bottle foil) on the wagon ends and there is no sideways force to throw it off the track.. When pulling there is a small gap between the wagons as before.

D20 cattle wagon. This is a 3D print scratch-aid body I bought on eBay from Brislostworld. It is a 1 piece print of the body and underframe. You need to supply: wheels, bearings, brake gear, buffer heads, floor and roof.



The 3D printing is very good with some very faint vertical lines which disappear under the paint. I added a floor from Evergreen planked plastic

sheet. The wheel bearing holes are actually slots which puzzled me for a while but I found I could use this to make the suspension rock. The holes at one end have a small piece of plastic added to set the bearing height to be mid slot. At the other end I drilled a 2.5mm hole in the floor and then tapped this to M3. I then used a plastic screw to level the wagon and provide a pivot point for the axle. It also provides a little friction. We found that the siding to the cattle dock has a slope, so the wagons run away from the train and then recouple. So we need to add some braking as the wagons are too free running.



The brake gear is spare from the Ratio LNWR wagon kits (never throw anything away). The roof is thin plastic sheet which I bent in the oven over a suitably sized metal tin. This works best if you heat the oven and tin and then add the plastic sheet. Wheels, bearings and buffer heads are from Alan Gibson. The 3D printed W irons have some reinforcing behind them which is a good idea to add strength.

This was an easy model to build and looks good with the other cattle wagons. It is slightly different to the D20 from London Road Models, as it has the metal grills at the lower side rather than the plank with gaps. I will probably add a bit more weathering but I am not sure about cattle yet.

Another other wagon to join the fleet recently is the LNWR 4 plank built by Chris Bomken from a Ratio kit.



Also joining the fleet is a Caledonian Railways D8 horsebox, above right. I bought this as a part built EM project from eBay. Then I discovered why it was part built! The etches are wrong so I had to take it apart and start again. Terry 3D printed the roof detail for me as this was missing. I also had to make the curved plastic card roof by heating a sheet of styrene in the oven. After a bit more effort than I expected it is a decent wagon. We also have 4 more horse boxes under construction and a few more opens.



Another addition is this LNWR prize cattle wagon purchased from Pendon. Just in are D&S white metal kits for LNWR ventilated vans and a 51L etched kit for a LNWR horse box if anyone would like something to build.

Paul

Creating a workshop.

Aylesbury LNWR occupies just over half the coach with a small refreshment area and storage at the other end. This is now changing. Okehampton has been moved to the Brixton build freeing up space. We now have 2 work tables which came from the Brixton building and 4 of our chairs so we have space to work to support the 2 layouts we have running. These tables can be used for loco cleaning and stock repair. There will be a multi gauge rolling road and DCC programming area. This also gives us more space to have tea or lunch.



We have now installed 3 sets of shelving and a bookcase to store all our books and equipment. The club equipment I have at home will be moved to the coach and everything will be sorted and organised and more easily accessible, so you will then be able to access the items and use them in the coach or take them home.

There is still a lot of sorting to be done but the aim is to have this finished by the end of July.

Paul

New RISEX Management Team

A new Management Team is now in place to support RISEX, the Club's highly successful annual Winter show held in Princes Risborough's Wades Centre.

Paul Wright will continue to oversee the catering and liaison with the Centre, while **Andrew David** is now RISEX Manager, overseeing all other aspects of the show - with administrative support from fellow-Club-member **Paul Seward**. The Team has begun planning for the 2027 show, the success of which also depends on the loyal support of Club Members - prior to the show and on the day - and we will be calling on you to contribute in the usual way nearer the time. However in the meantime we are on the look-out for locally-based layouts and traders to be part of the show, so if you are at a show and see a layout (or trader) that you think would be suitable for RISEX, please get details to us; or indeed for any queries, ideas or suggestions regarding the show, please contact the Team at **rdmrc.risex@gmail.com**



Andrew David
Paul Seward
RISEX Management Team

Railex 2026

This years Railex was a great show, well done to everyone involved. Here are some photos from the weekend. The first 4 pages were taken by me and the others by Peter Edwards.



Above: Roshven

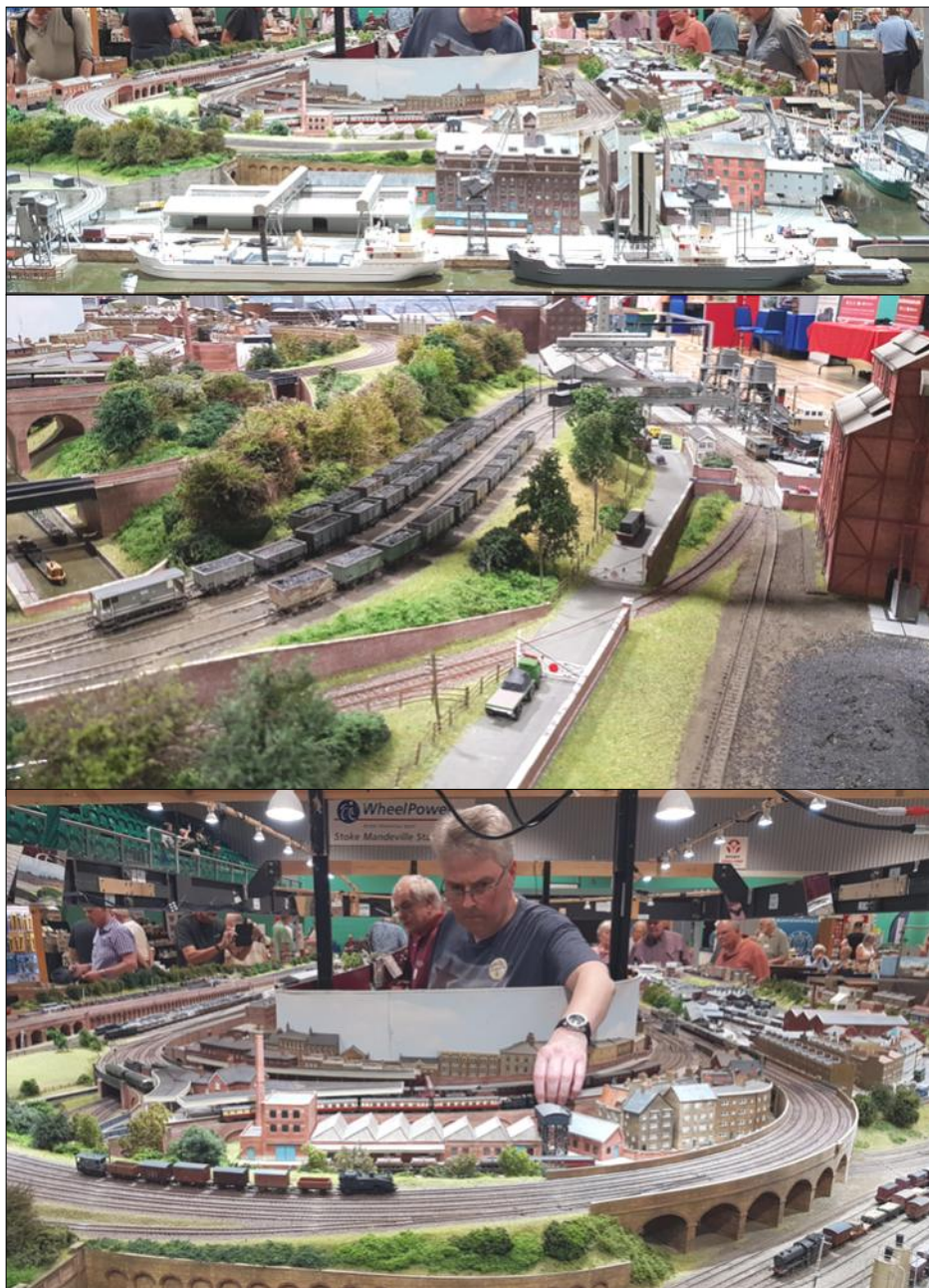
Below: Rossiter Rise



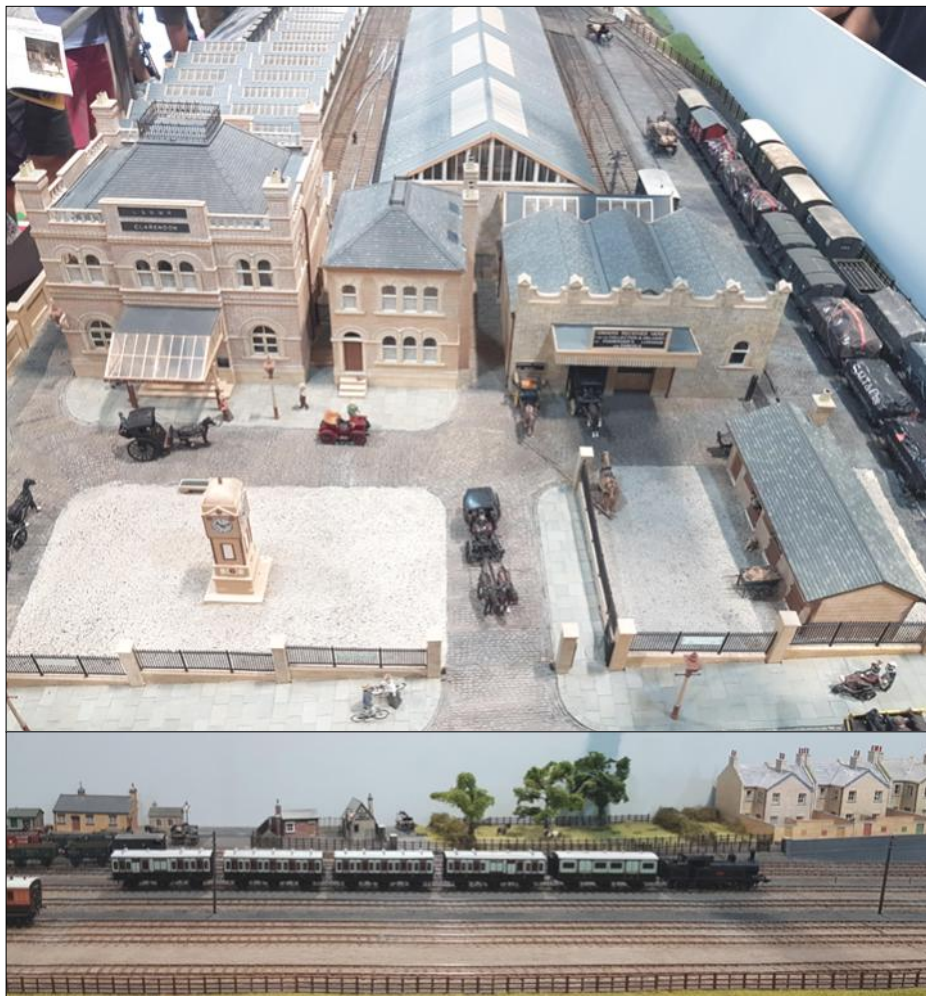
Below: Sydney Gardens.



Below: 3 views of James Street, the large N gauge layout.



Below: Clarendon.



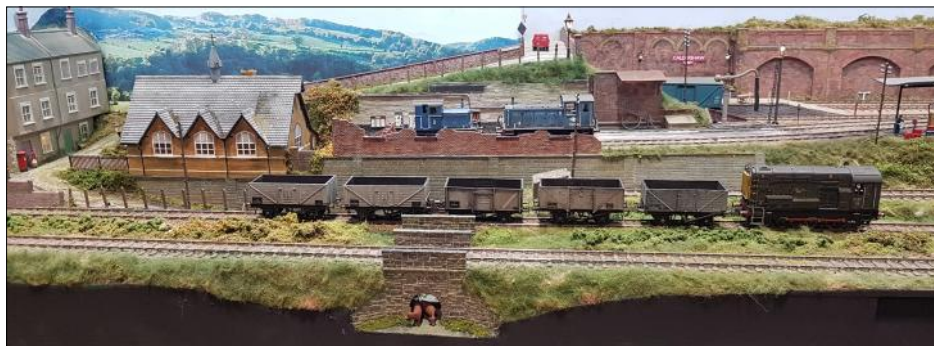
Test Track Nights 2026

Here is the list of proposed test track nights. Richard will require help getting the test track to the club on these evenings.

10 July, 14 Aug,
18 Sept, 30 Oct, & 11 Dec.



Above: Burnham on Sea
Below: Caldershaw



Club refreshments

Tea, coffee & squash are free. Canned drinks will be in the fridge if we have any. 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.



Above: Devils Bridge, photo by Peter Edwards.



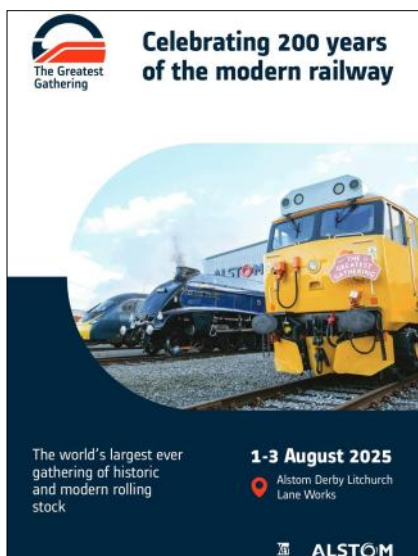
Above: Trowland, photo by Peter Edwards.

Paul

Rail 200 ‘1825 and All That four half-century celebratory events’ Part three: 2025 – The Greatest Gathering.



In Parts One and Two of this account we re-visited the 50th, 100th, and 150th anniversary celebrations to mark the opening of the Stockton and Darlington Railway in September 1825; Part Three is a personal account of the 2025 Greatest Gathering.



It is Spring 2025 and I find myself too late to purchase a ticket to The Greatest Gathering - a Derby-based event to celebrate 200 years of UK rail-travel – already SOLD OUT but as luck would have it, and by popular demand, further tickets go on sale, and I snap mine up.



August 3rd, and my train to Derby passes hard by the UK's last surviving coal-fired power station, now no longer operational, at Ratcliffe-on-Soar – symbolising the shift from steam to diesel and electric traction on the UK rail network.



... and on arriving at the Greatest Gathering it is immediately clear that this shift is indeed reflected in the make-up of the participating motive power: the 1925 event had been billed as a 'locomotive procession' boasting just one petrol driven item - the Locomotion No. 1 replica – and one electric locomotive - North Eastern Railway (NER) Electric Bo-Bo (0-4+4-0) No. 9 which had to be hauled through the parade by a steam shunter because the line was not electrified. 1975 saw a 'Steam Cavalcade' with a minority of one non-steam unit - the HST Prototype number 252-001. At the Greatest Gathering diesel and electric motive power out-numbered steam motive power by around four to one.



..... and significantly, it was billed as a 'Gathering' - rather than a procession or cavalcade, with most exhibits being static, although some were under steam, and a few mere token steam-hauled rides of a few hundred yards: 'Moving

trains!?' 'Far too much of a health and safety risk for the 21st Century public!'



Diversity of ownership of the exhibits was in marked contrast to the greater uniformity of the previous events, reflecting not only the range of traction but also of course the post-1996 privatisation of the UK Rail network - the event being hosted at the premises of Alstom, Britain's leading rail manufacturer and a French multinational company.



.... and Location says it all: Derby Litchurch Lane Works, home to railway production since 1840 is the UK's last remaining railway design and build facility (the only other two centres - Hitachi Rail in County Durham and CAF



in Newport - being considered as assembly and maintenance facilities). This location underlines the overall theme of the Gathering: celebrating modern UK railways of the 20th and 21st Centuries – and beyond.

While the 19th and early 20th Century history of UK rail travel was also acknowledged at the Gathering, the main focus of celebration of this era took place in September in the Shildon area in County Durham – see Part Four of this article.



The Gathering attracted 40,000 visitors, show-casing over 140 items of motive power and rolling stock, a comprehensive list of which may be found in a separate Addendum to this article. Here, I outline my personal selection of high-lights from the event.



1863-built Furness Railway 0-4-0 No. 20 is Britain's oldest working non-replica standard gauge steam locomotive (one of four surviving Furness Railway locomotives, including one buried underground). No. 20 was stationary but in steam at the Gathering - and in resplendent and immaculate condition.



I was able to take a short ride on a train pulled by Ffestiniog Railway 0-4-0TT Prince, also built in 1863, and the world's oldest operating narrow-gauge locomotive.



The beautifully preserved 1888 LNWR Webb Coal Tank no. 1054 stood resplendent in her black shining livery atop the works turntable, but alas inaccessible to visitors close-up, and only stationary.



The 1896 Ravenglass and Eskdale 0-4-0 Katie Mill also offered short passenger rides.



Sarah Siddons, one of twenty Metropolitan Railway Metro-Vickers Bo-Bo 1920s locomotives, had appeared in the 1975 Cavalcade, being actually still an item of Transport for London stock, although maintained by the London Transport Museum.



The 1971 built 0-4-2ST Trangkil of the Statfold Barn Railway, and the last steam locomotive to have been built commercially in Britain – for export to a Java Sugar Mill – also offered short passenger rides.



The "Inspiration" Railway 200 Exhibition Train, aimed at educating the public on the past, present, and future of rail - with a focus on inspiring the next generation:

<https://railway200.co.uk/inspiration/>

Part Four of this Article, covering the September 2025 S&DR200 Festival, along with the National Railway Museum's Vision 2025 project, will appear in a future edition of FOOTPLATE.

Andrew David

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.

Club Diary 2026

July	11	Club Openday in Princes Risborough.
	18-19	Chatham & District Model Railway Club, Slip 5, Main Gate Road, The Historic Dockyard, Chatham, ME4 4TZ
Sept	5	Tring & District Model Railway Club, The Cottesloe School, Church Street, Wing, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 0NY
	19-20	Scalefour Society, Cressex Community School, Holmer Lane, High Wycombe, HP12 4QA
	26	Haddenham Model Railway Show , Haddenham Village Hall, Banks Road, Haddenham, Aylesbury HP17 8EE
Oct	3	Abingdon & District Model Railway Club, Didcot Civic Hall, Britwell Road, Didcot OX11 7HN
	10-11	Warley Model Railway Club, Statfold Barn Farm, Ashby Road, Tamworth B79 0BU
Nov	7	High Wycombe & Dist. Model Railway Society, Brunel Engine Shed, Station Approach, High Wycombe HP13 6NE
	21-22	Warners Group Publications, Hall 5, National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham B40 1NT

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. There are also bins outside you can use.

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.