Greenfield Sidings

Greenfield Sidings is the F & D MRC's OO gauge layout. It represents an area on the outskirts of a town where the lines of two different railway companies run alongside one another to a common station (now disused) in the town centre. The OO Group's members are a mixture of "runners out of the box" as well as builders of locomotives and trains. So the layout was planned with this in mind. However no compromises were to be made in respect of the layout itself, its operation, the landscape and track-work.

The layout is set on twelve 4 ft x 2.5 ft boards plus two 2ft x 2.5ft boards covering an area of 20ft x 11ft, with a public viewing side of 20ft and 2.5ft deep. The visible track-work consists of four separate circuits, plus sidings, which are connected at both ends to a fourteen road fiddle yard at the rear and which is capable of holding over forty trains. The sidings off the inner lines feed cassettes at the side of the layout behind the "Town".

The layout was originally designed to be non area specific giving the members with interest of diverse parts of Britain the opportunity to run their own choice of trains, both passenger and goods. However since the layout was commenced, to accommodate recent RTR Southern Region electric multiple units we have installed third rail electrification to the inner lines of the layout, thus moving the area to somewhere in or around Southern territory.

However no time period has been set, so there is no prior knowledge of what might appear from the tunnels at either end of the layout. As some of the members are collectors of certain trains we can run theme trains as well as steam trains, no pun intended.

The scenery graduates from suburban/industrial to agricultural.

To the left of the layout the track work emerges from a bridge which was formerly part of a now disused station on the outskirts of a small town. The remnants of the station platforms are still visible before the bridge entrances.

The town is represented by a variety of buildings which form the scenic break at the end of the layout. Industrial connections with this town are dependant upon the particular type of goods traffic generated at any specific running session. Also here was a small goods yard but the track to this has long since been lifted, and the nearby remains of a castle keep have now been overgrown by ivy.

As in nature, the landscape in the central area is constantly evolving with features appearing and trees growing as time goes by. The area between the inner and outer tracks contains part of the farm's fields, being grazed by a herd of cows. The area is accessed by a narrow track over a small steel girder bridge to reach the fields where there is a small pond bordered by reeds; this pond provides suitable drinking water when the herd arrives.

At the right side of the layout the tracks enter two tunnels under the farm. The farmer has parked his Landrover by the barn and his yard is strewn with the usual clutter of agricultural implements. Oblivious to the farmer, trains continue to pass through the tunnels below, ranging from branch line, suburban and main line services , inter regional expresses, excursions, pick up goods and heavy coal and oil trains in addition to parcel services. Its all there. At a pinch the Group Members can probably rustle up anything you would like to see as no set timetable exists.

Our overall intention is to keep trains moving to entertain the public!

Information for Exhibition Managers

- Scale = 4mm OO gauge
- Location = Within the area of potential SR electrification
- Size = 20ft x 11ft : 6.1m x 3.35m
- Total plan area = 22ft x 13ft
- Number of operators = 8 persons operating in shifts of 4/5 people
- A rope barrier is attached to the front sections
- Tables = 2 required for stock (Exhibition to provide)
- Transport = 35cwt Luton van + two cars
- Electrical supply = 1 no. 13A 220 volt socket drawing 6 Amps for whole layout
- PAT test = Tested annually
- Value = C£5000 (excluding locos and other stock)

Greenfield Sidings Track Plan
(Diagrammatic & not to scale)

Operating Well

Town over.

Farm over.

Riches'
Folly