

WHISTLEBLOWER

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE FARNHAM & DISTRICT MODEL RAILWAY CLUB

10 January 2021 – Edition No 1/21

EDITORIAL – Jon Faulconer

Happy New Year to all and here we are back into another national lockdown. Not the nicest way to start the new year, but hopefully it will buy time for the various vaccines to do their work and help bring this awful COVID virus under control.

The lockdown means that we still cannot meet as a Club and, whilst complying with the requirement to stay at home, I admit that I have not ventured out to my man-shed for a couple of months, although that is due to a knee op. My layout that is still work in progress, even after a couple of years; the track circuit and the storage yard are wired up, as are the points. However, this week I needed to test run a new loco, so wrapped up well, took out the fan heater and was pleasantly surprised that everything worked well. So, my New Year's resolution is to get the layout finished – if any layout ever really gets to that state – and to complete many of the kits that I also have stockpiled. I am sure that there are many of you that have made similar resolutions – lets have the stories and pictures as the projects come rolling off the modelling boards.

The next Club Zoom Call is scheduled for Sunday 17 January at 3 pm. Access details are listed below, see you on-line. Likewise, the Next Whistleblower will be Sunday 24 January, so please forward your inputs to me for Saturday 23 January.

Stay safe

Next Zoom Call – Julian Evison

Topic: Farnham Club Meeting

Time: Sunday Jan 17, 2021 15:00 London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7862331543?pwd=VUcrY3I5TURWTHVkem1KVVA4Tml3Zz09>

Meeting ID: 786 233 1543

Passcode: Farnham

To join by phone: 0203 481 5237

Meeting ID: 786 233 1543

Passcode: 5837533

NEW LAYOUT PART 4 – Jim Edwards

Jim has forwarded some more pictures as he moves on with his new layout, as you can see he is making great progress:



Track laying is now complete on all boards and the fiddle yard turntable.



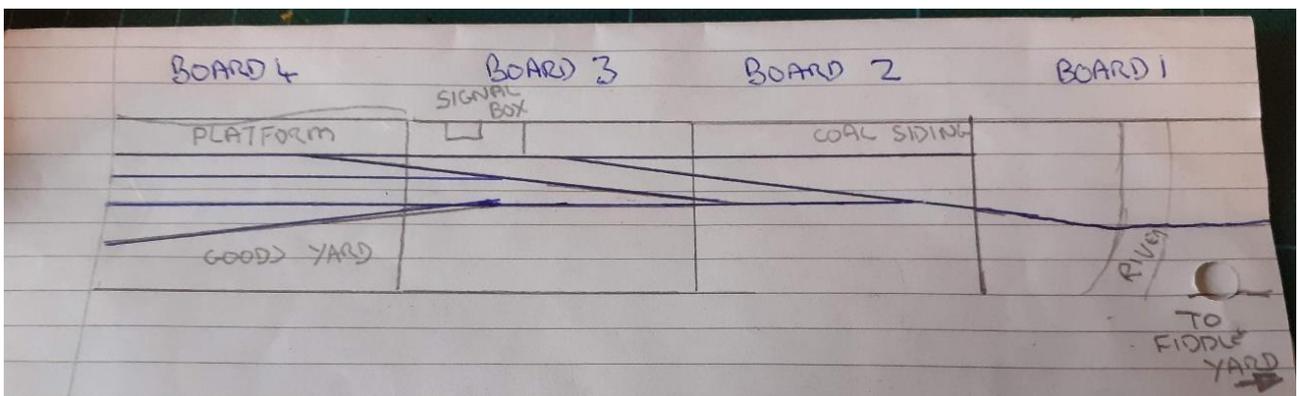
Board 2 has now been wired with DCC track bus.



Boards 3 and 4 track and sleepers been hand painted brown.



Prepared station area height for platform side and level ground work for goods yard.



HORNBY RANGE ANNOUNCEMENTS 2021 – Mike Le Marie

Although I am not a OO modeller, my part-time job at Kernow Model Railways means that I am expected to keep abreast of all new developments across all gauges. Hornby are now the only major manufacturer to announce a full year's programme in the January of each year and in the case of new models, some are due for delivery within weeks of the announcement.

I will concentrate on the items which required new tooling. There are lots of re-issues and new liveries for existing models.

Steam Locomotives:

1. The LNER A1/A3 4-6-2 Pacific is retooled and will be available in LNER and BR liveries.
2. A BR ex LMS Coronation Class Pacific will be released under the Hornby Dublo banner. It will have a diecast metal body and a plastic bodied tender just as the last of the original range did. RRP is a eye watering £269.
3. The SR/BR un-rebuilt Merchant Navy is retooled and will be available in both SR and BR liveries.
4. The LNER experimental P2 2-8-2 locomotive is to be released as Prince of Wales (currently under construction by the A1 Trust and due to be completed by 2025), Earl Marischal and the fully streamlined Lord President.
5. The BR 9F is retooled with various running numbers including 92220 Evening Star. An interesting decision given the Bachmann version. Hornby have indicated that a Crosti boilered version may follow along with one fitted with a Westinghouse Pump as used on the Tyne Dock – Consett iron ore trains.

Diesels:

1. A newly tooled Class 153 diesel unit representing the newly modified version with space for up to 20 bicycles soon to be introduced on the West Highland line.
2. A Ruston 88DS 0-4-0 Industrial Shunter in various liveries.

Wagons/Coaches:

1. SR luggage van.
2. SR Maunsell Dining Saloons in SR and BR liveries.
3. A complete range of BR MkIV coaches plus a DVT in LNER, BR I/C, GNER and Transport for Wales.
4. A full range of 4 and 6 wheel coaches available with or without lighting. 4 wheel coach liveries include GNR, LSWR, GWR and LB&SCR. 6 wheel versions include LNWR, BR, LNER, SR and NBR. This looks to me like a slap in the face to Hattons with their Project Genesis range. Deliveries are reportedly due by the end of the January!

Skaledale:

Several new releases in the range with several having a Scottish theme. These include a croft, a stone circle and West Highland line station building.

Children:

A completely new range of train sets aimed at children aged 2 years upwards are to be released. These will have a playmat, plastic track and the locomotives will be battery powered with a radio controller. Trains will be easy to put on the track and the set is designed to be taken apart and put together numerous times. An ideal present for young Grandchildren.

Other:

Although not technically a new item Hornby are releasing an HST power car set and all the necessary coaches to make up a complete set representing the newly preserved all 1st class set running with a retro Midland Pullman livery.

I may have missed the odd item but the above gives a flavour of things to come. Inevitably, prices go up yet again and to purchase a complete train is now a major financial purchase (and not only in OO). It is good to see Hornby coming out of the doldrums with a management team committed to the future and not a bunch of corporate asset strippers.

OO9 VALE OF RHEIDOL BRAKE VAN – Alex Holt

Over the Christmas break I've been working on a Dundas Models kit that I got for Christmas. The kit is based off some of the brake vans that ran on the Vale of Rheidol railway in the early 1900s but also works quite well with the Dundas Glyn Valley Tramway Coaches which are the same size. It's a very simple kit with only a few parts to it so assembly didn't take too



long, couplings aren't included with the kit but I've used Woodworm 2014 couplings on this brake van for better compatibility with the rest of the coaches that I've already built.



The construction of the kit doesn't take very long because of how simple it is to construct, so most the time making this brake van has been spent on painting the kit. The kit has been painted using Vallejo paints, Dark Sea Grey for the body sides, Gloss Black for the running boards and frame brackets, Burnt

Sienna for the window frames, Rose Gold for the handles and White for the roof. I've gone for a Southern freight grey livery over anything prototypical as I felt it would look a bit more unique and interesting rather than just having it brown all over.

The transfers I've used are a set of Railtec SR Goods Wagon transfers, the 2 Tons transfer on the side was cut down from a 12 Ton transfer as even the smallest weight restriction of 8 Tons seemed like a bit too much for a van of this size. Although this pack of transfers didn't include any transfers for a Guards door I've used some white Guards door transfers from a set of Modelmaster BR Blue transfers to correctly label this. The model has then been finished in a coat of Vallejo Matt Varnish to give it a uniform finish with the rest of the narrow gauge coaching stock. The final step of the build was to stick the roof on permanently.



TOUGHPRINT INKJET PAPER – Noel Leaver

I bought some of the Toughprint Inkjet Paper to try out - it is advertised as waterproof as well as crease and tear resistant. The Ordnance Survey was cheaper than other places I looked at, though still 70p a sheet:

https://shop.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/toughprint-waterproof-paper-for-inkjet-a4/?qclid=CjwKCAiAz4b_BRBbEiwA5XIVVnKEniJMPI5VLoJZM4VbG7AfGx7IAFgPCF4bA7HnlfeDRyFv3IGfvBoC6isQAvD_BwE

I was thinking about using it for printing modern wagon sides like these:
<http://www.scot-rail.co.uk/photo/scaled/9884/>

I printed on my fairly old Epson printer (XP-312, which claims 5760 x 1440 DPI). I tried several settings, the one shown is matt paper and photo mode which was the best I found. Specifying it as plain rather than matt paper gave slightly me slightly lighter (not worse) colours but lower resolution. Specifying best photo, the box lines disappeared though the colours were better.



The print was waterproof and was not affected by butanone either. The finish is matt, at the satin end and very smooth, a good finish for a wagon. I found I could stick it to styrene strip with butanone, so it must bond to the slightly rough finish. The bond is strong.

The sheet itself feels like thin plastic sheet, slightly more flexible than paper but springs back to shape. It can be creased, but if straightened you can hardly see it, though it will tend to bend on that line again. It is 175 gsm (0.22mm thick).

The print quality was good, in fact better than I get on photo paper. As a test print, I used artwork from a sheet of NGS decals which are colourful and have small print. The three images attached show it as printed, the original artwork converted to a .jpg at 1200 DPI, and the decals printed by Railtec from the artwork. The red/blue NACCO sign is 11.5 mm x 2.2 mm, the white on black lettering represents 2" high letters in N gauge.

All in all, it seems a promising material, though as I don't model modern wagons, I can't think of anything I need it for at the moment!

Ed's Note. Having never come across butanone previously, Noel explained it is a chemical that used to be known as Methyl-Ethyl-Ketone or MEK. There was then a scare that it was bad if you inhaled it, and they changed to something else which is not as good. Then it was realised (2005) it was not a serious health risk and it was approved for general use, as butanone. It is sold under this name both as a chemical and by some model companies

F&DMRC DIARY

Recent changes in **yellow**. Running starts at **14:00** in WCC (Wrecclesham Community Centre) Hall.

Heading 'Run'g' = Priority use of Hall from 2pm; ALSO Tidy/vacuum Club Room AND Lock up

DIARY 2021 – ALL will change once vaccine rolls-out past Tier-4		
Date	Run'g	Event / Layout at Exhibition/Show
Wednesdays: Clubroom available from ~09:00 [use rear entrance]; Hall from 14:00.		
NOTE: Due to Gov't Lockdown, the Club's Programme is again SUSPENDED		

DIARY 2021 – ALL are subject to change / cancellation		
Date	Run'g	Event / Layout at Exhibition/Show
Jan	--	SUSPENDED except for Zoom chat – 17 Jan at 3 pm
Feb	--	SUSPENDED except for Zoom chat - TBA
Wed 03 Mar	O	Probably too soon after 1st Tier-4 vaccination and still LOCKDOWN
Wed 10 Mar	N	POSSIBLY 1 st Club Day of the New Year
Wed 17 Mar	OO	
Wed 24 Mar	009	
Wed 31 Mar	O	
Sun 04 Apr	--	Easter Sunday
More to add	--	<i>The following are known about events / Shows – all subject to change</i>
Mon 03 May	--	Early May Bank Holiday – usually a Group Open Day - TBA
Mon 31 May	--	Spring Bank Holiday – usually a Group Open Day - TBA
Sat 12 OR Sun 13 Jun	--	Farnham OO9 Show (other Clubs invited): WCC – Situation not yet clear
Sat 26 & Sun 27 Jun	--	Wickwar (N): Perth Show
Wed 06 Oct	??	Briefing for Show 18:30 in Clubroom/Hall
Fri 08 Oct	ALL	Set-up Show – from late afternoon
Sat 09 & Sun 10 Oct	ALL	F&DMRC Annual Club Show , Aldershot [Most of the layouts that were invited for 2020 will be attending.]
Wed 08 Dec		19:15 for 19:30 start - AGM (details to follow) [within 2 months of Club's year-end; voting only for paid-up 'Full' members].
Wed 15 Dec		Dinner (optional) 18:30 for 19:00 @ The Mill House, Odiham
Wed 22 Dec		Last Club Day of the year

DIARY 2022 – ALL are subject to change / cancellation		
Date	Run'g	Event / Layout at Exhibition/Show
Sat 05 & Sun 06 Feb	--	Wickwar (N): Alton
??		Brixcombe at a Show