

Layouts – (LC = Layout Coordinator)

- 1. Ashtown (N) – LC Martin Lockwood.** Gareth has completed the small warehouse mentioned in the last newsletter and has planted it, plus the still house and assorted tanks onto the rail-served works. The picture shows part of the works with the distillation plant to the right with the warehouse hidden behind it. Work has started on putting in bits of pipe-work. At the other end of the layout, an accountant's office has been built for the over-track station board and a start been made on a row of 4 terrace houses.



Graham has run into problems connecting the modified Control Panel to the Goods Board. He couldn't make the point motors fire from the CDU device supplied some years ago by his son Richard. Since then, the AC supply has failed, which may be the root of the problem. Research continues.

The plan for the next 2 months is to complete the integration of the control panel with the revised board and continue with the building works (we still have 50-odd buildings and structures to go) and scenery. Just when the task seemed daunting, however, help appeared and, Bob's your uncle (or, in this case, Bob's your new member) a terrace house is rising before our eyes.

- 2. NEWTON WHARF (was Yeaton) (N) – LC Greg Deacon/Ian Dodds.** The printed backscene is now in place along the entire rear of the layout. Just in front of the backscene and behind the station a raised section has been created and work has started on a retaining wall for this. Also, the canal bridge, created earlier, has been modified to become a tunnel mouth with path over and this has been fixed in place. Also, the bare bones of a bridge over the station have been planted in place. A Metcalf brewery has been purchased with a view to bashing it to fit in at the canal basin end.



- 3. Phoenix Park (OO) – LC Jeff Bamford/Pete Marshall.** Phoenix Park is moving forward having had the existing track lifted and the mainline and point-work re-laid. Locos have been run on the new track and it seems ok. Baseboard connections are then to be done as well as laying the sidings trackwork, which is proceeding well. Scenic work is also progressing well with embankments being formed and some rough grass stuck down, but now needs a lot of trimming before being coloured. As the baseboards are lifted for electrical work it may be that we take the opportunity to lower the legs by 4 or 5 inches.

- 4. Soarston Lower Level (DCC OO) – LC Jim Duckworth/Ian Dodds.** We are trying to achieve a goal. The layout has been provisionally booked for our next exhibition in April 2017. The aim now is to complete as much as we can on the lower level, so that the layout can be exhibited in **nearly finished but still some work to do** mode. We had a running session last week, the first one since the track was ballasted. This showed us that there is still some work to be done on point contacts. Neil is also helping us on the scenic construction.

- 5. Top Valley Goods and Rise Park Station (N) – LC Les Richardson.** The layout needed two trips to get it to and from the show, so a priority is getting proper travelling arrangements. Electrical fault finding has taken place since the show and there are only two track sections still to fix. Mechanical problems and scenery will be worked on until July at the earliest.

- 6. Victoria Road MPD (OO) - LC Bill Mossop.** Colour light signals are operating on the layout. Refurbishment of houses is taking place and roadways are being laid. All the main buildings have lights fitted.

OTHER:

- Chairman’s Report** The 2016 AGM was held Thursday 12th May. It was well attended and all the committee were re-elected. The Clubs finances continue to be healthy, particularly following the annual exhibition. The Treasurer introduced a change to the constitution simplifying the subscription system, which was agreed.

The Club is well represented at the Great Central Railway Event 17th – 19th June with three layouts and a Club Stand. Barry will run the stand – other volunteers would be helpful. If interested talk to Barry.

Under AOB, strong feelings were expressed concerning clutter in the Clubroom. It was unanimously agreed to appoint a new Committee Member “Clubroom Manager” who will be responsible for running the Clubroom. Jeff Bamford was elected for a trial period of one year. In the context of Clubroom Utilization the apparently permanent storage of several personal layouts in the clubrooms was raised. It was pointed out that most of these belonged to Paid Up Members who rarely attended & were therefore in effect paying rent. The insurance position of these non-club layouts will be investigated.
- Our Exhibition last month** was our largest ever, with 17 layouts and well supported by Traders. Substantially increased publicity and the use of the supermarket approach of offering a discount voucher on the fliers ,brought an increase in attendance of 73%. We made use of significant extra room upstairs that we had never used before. Despite problems of signage most visitors saw the whole exhibition and there were many positive comments made. Unfortunately we had our first theft from a trader’s stand this year and will need to be more vigilant in future. Very many thanks to all who helped. A successful show is a team effort. Next year’s show is a week later, April 22nd and 23rd. The target is to increase footfall again by another 200 at least.
- Les has an invite to Sileby** next year with his new OO layout “No Place”, so at last he has some incentive to finish the job. Electrically it is complete, with scenic work going on, together with experiments to find a suitable magnetic uncoupling system. As you see on the photo **No Place** is a **Real Place**



Diary Dates – *Please give Graham details of events of railway interest for the Diary.*

RCTS Nottingham meetings are held at The New Mechanics, 3 North Sherwood Street, Nottingham NG1 4EZ. Both Society members and non-members are very welcome to attend their meetings.
(We await the current program of events)

2016	
June 11/12	Peak Show, Bakewell, Boghampton
June 17-19	GCR Quorn. Whatton Parva, Hawthorn Dene, Boghampton. Club Info Stand.
Sept 4/5	Soar Valley exhibition, Loughbrough - Furtwangen Ost
Oct 29	Birmingham MRC, Castle Bromwich- Boghampton
Nov 14/15	Newcastle Model Rail Show, Heaton Manor School, Newcastle Hawthorn Dene
2017	
Feb 18/19	Sileby Show – No Place
April 22/23	Our Exhibition at Cotgrave Welfare.
July 29/30	GCR N (Ruddington) Boghampton
Nov	Warley, National Exhibition Centre Whatton Parva
2018	
Nov	Warley, National Exhibition Centre Hawthorn Dene