

Layouts – (LC = Layout Coordinator)

1. Ashtown (N) – LC Martin Lockwood. To focus our minds and our efforts, we have told Les that Ashtown will be available for the 2018 South Notts exhibition as a fully working and “sceniced” layout. In order to achieve that goal, the team had a get-together on the 15th September to list, prioritise and allocate the outstanding tasks. Meantime, some progress has been made on the layout, mainly, as usual, by Gareth who has drawn and substantially constructed a large low relief Victorian warehouse to be planted at the rear of one of the large baseboards. Bob has added pavements and a road in front of the four terrace houses that he’s built as well as starting work on another terrace house. Martin has continued with the row of four terrace houses that he’s building.

Graham, admitting he is old and dodderly, is re-doing the wiring from the control panel. The previous version created short circuits that proved difficult to eradicate and was difficult to follow. It had unconnected leads left loose, which may have been part of the problem. It WILL all be working by the next Newsletter!

The plan for the next two months is to have a prioritised list of tasks which need to be undertaken and, unless priorities are changed at the meeting, continue constructing buildings and getting the electrics working.

2. Newton Wharf (N) – LC Greg Deacon/Ian Dodds. The big step forward for Newton Wharf this month has been the purchase by the club of a digital controller and an "n" gauge loco at least initially to run on this layout. This has allowed testing of the track, points, the point control panel and the servo operated points. The result has been quite a lot of work to get everything working again after a long period of non-operation during which time a number of problems had built up but had been hidden. So quite a bit of forward progress has taken place making the layout more rewarding to work with.

3. Phoenix Park (OO) – LC Jeff Bamford/Pete Marshall. Phoenix Park continues to progress, with interest growing with each step forward. Analogue controllers have been installed for three main sections and trains can be run from sidings to both main lines. 5 locos were run Tuesday morning 13th with one hauling a magnificent rake of coal wagons, no derailments or dead spots were encountered. A switch panel has been installed that enables any section or all of them to be switched between analogue and DCC. The scenic side of things is also progressing well. A big decision was made by the people who are working on Phoenix Park - due to a lack of practical assistance it was decided that the layout will not be finished to a good enough standard for it to be available for the exhibition. Even if it were, it was felt that insufficient man power would be forthcoming for transportation and manning - thanks go to members of the 2mm section who offered help should it be needed. Let’s hope that should progress continue we will be able to exhibit 2017. Now that trains are running we must remember that work needs to be done and resist the temptation to play trains too much, although we do need to enjoy a break and do just that. Anyone wanting to get involved needs to get in and start whatever they fancy, guidance and help will be given should it be needed and no one should feel unable to help - learning starts with having a go we all make mistakes and learn from them and so improve on our efforts.



4. Soarston Lower Level (DCC OO) – LC Jim Duckworth/Ian Dodds. I have been working on retaining walls and embankments for some time now. These are about 75% complete. I bought some KD un-couplers so decided to try a running session – the first for a few months. The track had a good clean then I ran two freight trains to determine the possible movement of empties arriving in the yard and marshalling the forward wagons for dispatch so as to determine where the un-couplers should be fixed.

5. **Top Valley Goods and Rise Park Station (N) – LC Les Richardson.** Scenery is proceeding slowly, with the building site nearing completion, the road from the Market Place at the back now having its zebra crossing and the slope to the industrial estate being largely finished. The field with the beekeeper has a gate so he can get out, and the field next to it is populated with horses. Work proceeds on the war memorial. The Barton bus at the station bus stop has been replaced by a slightly under-scale Trent one, but we are hoping in time that someone will bring out a correct Midland General Lodekka or Bristol LS or MW. We also need a suitable Nottingham City transport bus for the Market Place.
6. **Victoria Road MPD (00) - LC Bill Mossop.** The track has been aligned at the Netherfield end and the road over bridge is under construction. Ground signals have been installed in certain areas of the Depot. Back Scenes are being prepared for the back of the layout.

OTHER:

- **Chester Road – David Page** My new layout has now reached the stage of electrical testing in the clubroom. So far so good. The servo driven Peco points are operating reliably using MERG SERVO 4 boards to activate them. The C & R signals also working using Heathcote Electronic modules, but the track circuit system in the station is unreliable when using my sound equipped Class 101 DMU, further investigation required in that department, all other loco's/DMU's operate correctly. The main traverser and the mini one are working after some adjustment. Thoughts now turn toward scenery development to create an outer (or inner) suburban feel to the goods yard and station area.
- **Cooperation – Barry Keens** On 3/09/2017 Pete George and I were able to offer our help to our friends at Soar Valley MRC for their Exhibition at Loughborough on Saturday 3/09/2016 as they were short of stewards. Our first job was to make sure that only People with Blue Badges could park in a designate area. Not a bad job apart from the rain! However we were called to operate an N scale, Sea Walls, layout as one of the operators had been taken ill. I think we did quite well until relief became available after a couple of hours. This was a very good exhibition and I know be both enjoyed it! Co-operation between Model Railway Clubs is an essential part of our hobby and must be fostered. I will miss this when I return to Oz!!! As many of you know I will be leaving for Australia in March 2017. I have a considerable quantity of 4mm/OO locos, wagons, accessories etc. that I can offer to Club Members. I will bring an assortment to each meeting but if you have any particular needs you never know what I have got if you don't ask. Much will be associated with LMS, BR(M) and GWR.
- **Les's Layouts: Furtwangen Ost** - Les has now sold the layout and delivered it to its new owner in the Swindon area. **Hawthorn Dene** This has been invited to Leamington & Warwick, Bristol, the GCR North, Peterbrough and Manchester next year. **No Place** This layout has now been added to members layouts on the club website, replacing Furtwangen Ost. Next year it will appear at Sibley and Sleaford shows.
- **Club Exhibition: Les Richardson:**



List of layouts confirmed is now as follows-

Burton Parva N	Victoria Road OO	Bridgford N	Tamaro N
Malmesbury N	Odstock OO	Annston N	Welham Yard OO
North Star Tramway OO		Harrowby Hill OO	Woodcroft EM
The Bridge T.			

Total 12 with three replies waited. Does anyone know of any SMALL 4mm layouts that are available, local, and not seen at our show so far? Flyers are available – take from the shelf not the box!

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.

2016	
Sept 27	RCTS 1930 - Steam Selection; forming the national collection - Mark Lambert
Oct 11	RCTS 1930 Branch AGM followed by a presentation of rare cine films by Stephen Harrison
Oct 25	RCTS 1930 Steam in Saxony - Bob Gellatly
Oct 29	Birmingham MRC, Castle Bromwich- Boghampton
Nov 8	RCTS 1930 The Butterley Gang Road Project - Trevor Griffin
Nov 12/13	Tyneside 2016 Model Railway Exhibition, Newcastle. Hawthorn Dene
Nov 22	RCTS 1930 The Mickleover Test Track - Dave Coxon
Dec 8	RCTS 1930 Marylebone out and back - Ken Grainger
Dec 13	RCTS 1930 Members Evening with coffee and mince pies
2017	
Jan 10	RCTS 1930 Steam on the Main Line, Part 2 1991 – 2004 Roger Jones
Jan 24	RCTS 1400 Afternoon meeting Swindon Works - The Golden Years (1880 - 1924) Rev Canon Brian Arman
Feb 14	RCTS 1930 Developments on the Welsh Highland and Festiniog Railways , Peter Johnson
Feb 18/19	Sileby Show – No Place
Feb 28	RCTS 1400 Afternoon meeting The amusing exploits of having the best job in the world as chief Engineer at NRM Richard Gibbon OBE
Mar 4/5	Leamington & Warwick MRS Anual Model Railway Exhibition, Leamington College Hawthorn Dene
Mar 14	RCTS 1930 Railways in a Cornish Landscape Part 3 - Stephen Gay
Mar 28	RCTS 1930 Steam and the Clerical Life - Rev David Fulger
April 22/23	Our Exhibition at Cotgrave Welfare.
April 25	RCTS 1930 Bristol to Didcot - Richard Binding
April 28 - 30	Bristol Model Railway Exhibition. Hawthorn Dene
June 3	Sleaford Model railway Exhibition, Osbournby No Place
June 16-18	GCR Model railway Event provisionally Rise Park
July 29/30	GCR Ruddington Model Railway Show Boghampton, Hawthorn Dene
Sep 2/3	Darlington MRC Hawthorn Dene
Oct 14/15	Peterborough
Nov	Warley, National Exhibition Centre Whatton Parva
Dec 2/3	The Manchester Model Railway Society Christmas Show . Hawthorn Dene
2018	
Nov	Warley, National Exhibition Centre Hawthorn Dene