

WESTON-SUPER-MARE MODEL RAILWAY SHOW 2023

Welcome to our show. This guide gives further information on the layouts and demonstrations you can see today.

1.Ashwood Basin O gauge

Ashwood Basin was on the 'Black Countries' Staffordshire & Worcestershire Canal and was the western terminus of the Earl of Dudley's Railway system, dating back to its opening in 1829. From Ashwood Basin the line ran to Shutt End, and the collieries at Corbyns Hall near Lenches Bridge. The railway's main purpose was to convey coal to the canal and this continued until the NCB stopped sending Baggeridge coal to Stourport Power Station via the canal in October 1953.

2.Oxford Road OO gauge

Oxford Road is a fictitious setting somewhere in West London in the mid 1980s to early 1990s. The layout contains a small depot, fuelling point, engineers siding and short platform which sees a sporadic service of garishly painted Network South East first generation DMUs. The Bakerloo Line runs on a lower level beneath it and has its own separate station.

The layout uses Peco code 100 track and is DCC equipped using an NCE Powercab system. Structures on the layout are a mixture of card and plastic kits and scratch built. Rolling stock is a mixture of Bachmann, Hornby, Lima and Heljan with some extra detail added.

3.Rossiter Rise OO gauge

Rossiter Rise portrays a fictitious through station somewhere in the suburbs of North West London in the mid-late 1950's. It includes platforms serving LMR suburban services, LMR branch line trains and a bay platform for London Underground shuttle services. In front of the station is a small LT depot.

Many of the structures are scratch-built, whilst others are kit-built or modified proprietary models. The majority of the rolling stock is not 'R-T-R off the shelf' but a collection of unusual and rarely modelled items, including conversions, scratch-built and 3D printed construction.

As well as the services mentioned above freight and light engine workings mean that almost anything can make a surprise appearance as motive power! The layout is designed to be operated in such a way that trains are moving!!! Also, the layout is operated from the front and stock can be viewed 'waiting in the wings'.

4.Bunkers Lane 009

Bunkers Lane is inspired by the Leighton Buzzard Narrow Gauge Railway. My model is an 18" gauge line built to carry sand runs through Linslade and out into the countryside to the sand pits.

The preservation society took over the line in the 1970s and now run passenger trains along its length. The layout is viewed from three sides, the track wrapping around a central

backscene with a fiddle yard at one end. Steam, internal combustion and battery powered locos haul the trains.

5.Axe Valley Mill O gauge

Axe Valley Mill is a fictitious location in the west country set in the 1950's and 60's. Elements of this layout are from places along the line between Yeovil and Exeter.

6.Robridge OO gauge

Robridge is a fictional layout based somewhere in the South West. Keep your eye out as you never know what might run through today.

7.Cheddar P4

The light railway act of 1896 meant railways could be built and operated at a lower cost; the line speed was 25mph, not a lot slower than a normal branch.

The Somerset & Dorset Joint Railway proposed such a line to Cheddar to tap into it's trade in tourists visiting the cliffs and caves, market garden produce especially strawberries and of course Cheddar cheese. After the line opened the quarries persuaded the S&D to rail connect them through the station so they could ship larger quantise of stone.

The scene shows Cheddar S&DJR in the 1920's with stone, coal, general merchandise and passengers arriving and departing. The Cheddar Valley Oxide & Ochre Mill was built after the line opened.

The layout was constructed as an entry in the Scalefour Societies 18.83 Layout Challenge, to build a layout to P4 standards in 18.83 square feet. The track plan is from the Wild Swan publication's book Layouts for Small Spaces by Iain Rice. Much use has been made of standard products; SMP phosphor bronze rail track, Ratio and Wills kits, Slater's Plastikard for the mill and Woodland Scenics for grass and foliage. Most locos, coaches and wagons are kit built. The back scene is one piece of heavy duty lining paper laminated mat on the front.

The S&D did not build this line, but this layout supposes it did. P4 railway modelling is 4mm to the foot scale with the correct track gauge of 18.83 mm. For more information on the 18,83 competition and P4 modelling visit www.scalefour.org.uk

This layout has featured in the Railway Modeller as layout of the month September 2007, also British Railway Modelling January 2009 and Model Rail August 2011; photo's on the Scalefour Society's web site.

8.Bridge Street N gauge

The layout so far is several years work and is still not finished. It is based on a layout from the 70's called Tamrig central and was built by the Taunton MRG to OO gauge standards.

The baseboards are all birch plywood and pecco code 55 track has been used throughout. The 4 track main line is analogue control but using some of the latest technical principles. Scenecraft buildings have been used to good effect for the urban back scene and many more including scratch built. I hope you like what you see and do ask questions.

9.Wantage Tramway 009 gauge – voted best 009 layout at Warley in 2015 and has appeared in the Railway Modeller

The Wantage tramway was a standard gauge railway that linked the town of Wantage to the GWR mainline which was two and a half miles from the town. The railway had some unusual locos and rolling stock for a British railway and the trainshed is pretty unique. Unusually the 'small engine shed' straddled the siding that fed the local gas works. This little layout is Richard's interpretation of what the upper yard at Mill Street might have looked like had the tramway been built as a 2 foot 3 inch narrow gauge line. The layout gives an impression of the area in the 1920's.

10.Burrow Mump 1/24 scale

1/24 Scale Layout, 2ft. Gauge, Built as a Showcase for Range 24

Range 24 supply a variety of models in 1/24 scale including a Lister rail truck and Vee skip wagons, and this layout was built to display them, although there are now some scratch built rolling stock as well.

This small demonstration layout shows what is possible in a large scale with minimal space, and is loosely based on the ex-peat tramways equipment preserved at Westonzoyland and Washford. Rolling stock also includes vehicles from the Gartell Light railway, Great Bush Railway and the Moseley Trust.

11.Jästra HO gauge

This layout represents a freelance continental small suburban centre with a circular route from the main city situated some distance behind the layout, and a small three track depot situated on the track at the rear of the layout.

Trams are mainly 4 & 6 axle. Museum and works cars, which are mainly 2 & 4 axle, have several outings along the tracks. Especially look out for the overhead cleaner/track scrubber.

All trams have been rewired to operate from the overhead, which is wired into a continuous circuit round the layout, except for a small section at the rear for the depot area, which is operated from another controller. The return is through both rails, which has sections inserted to stop the trams at the tram stops. I have installed semi-automatic sections for the tram stops. I am upgrading this layout all the time, so if you have already seen it, there is sure to be something different.

12.Bridgebury Gate N gauge

Quick facts. Bought from ebay as derelict - a restoration project in 2009. Softwood frame & legs topped with ply, mdf, chipboard etc and is quite heavy). It's entirely analogue control with quite a bit of wiring. Since being in my ownership it's had considerable works (some visible & some under the board). Starting with a full week to get it all "working", upgrading the point control to relay drive with some route setting (ask us!), lots of track reworking, some additional wiring to improve reliability and increase flexibility, in 2016 a total rewire! (~2weeks work), in 2017 middle section of mainline relayed and adding a crossover. Additional track sections and some wiring mods means we can now use 4 controllers at the same time. 2019 saw the completion of the fiddle yard upgrade - from 6 lanes to 9! 2021 saw the bridge replaced, 2022 saw the station area rebuilt – left to do is add more working signals and lights.

13.End of the Line O gauge

The End of the Line represents the distribution point of a very small coal mining operation in the early 1960s. Never very busy, the output of the mine is divided between distant industry, transported away by rail and local demand which is handled by road haulage.

The coal from the mine is delivered to the distribution point by a 2ft narrow gauge railway. The excellent K scale tipper wagons have been made to operate and discharge their load into either a conveyor or direct into a waiting standard gauge mineral wagon.

The narrow gauge and standard gauge locomotives are mainly kit built but there are also some 3D printed bodied models from Shapeways and ready-to-run models from Ixion and Bachmann Brassmasters.

The layout has a scenic area of 5ft x 3ft. The grass is a mixture of Polak and MiniNature static fibres. Control of locomotives is by DCC as is the operation of a very heavily modified Hornby motorised conveyor and the Tortoise point motors.

The road haulage lorries are radio controlled and have been converted from commercially available die-cast models. They are powered by a replacement battery for an iPod Nano, a motor gearbox designed for miniature robotics and a micro servo for steering. The control is by a Deltang receiver under the bonnet and a controller/transmitter from a toy indoor helicopter.

The layout was originally built by Giles Favell but the stock and the lorries shown today are by the current owner. If you have any questions then please feel free to ask any of the operators.

14. Burnbridge OO gauge

Burnbridge is located somewhere in the west country with running rights to both western and southern trains. It is set in the late 60's 1970's blue diesel era. Because of its location near to the coast it can receive the odd steam special.

15. Peasenhall West MPD N gauge

Peasenhall West TMD is a small loco and wagon maintenance facility with a small fuel point. Set in the modern day, it sees locos and stock from a verity of operators.

16. Red Hook Bay US HO gauge

American HO 1940's

Red Hook Bay is a fictitious busy fishing port on the coast of New England. Set in the late steam/early diesel era of the late 1940's. It is somewhere close to Route 1, which links Portland and Rockland in Maine.

Besides the local fishing industry, Red Hook Bay is host to a brewery and a dairy. The town is a major hub for the coastal islands of Maine and has ferry services from the wharf for both passengers and cars. This railroad town is a junction for the Boston & Maine and Maine Central. It is also served by a local tram service with a tram stop on Main Street.

The thirty structures include "limited-edition" craftsmen kits which have been deliberately constructed to look a little worse for wear. There will also be several boats and trawlers tied up on the dock including a typical sternwheeler. An operating water tower with sound services the thirsty steam engines.

The Thomas Point Lighthouse is actually located off the coast of Maryland but is similar to lighthouses that can be found in New England. The farm features a typical New England-style farmhouse with connected barn.

Where you find sailors you will find bars and other establishments catering to their interests.

Red Hook Bay is operated with a Digitrax DCC system, which allows independent control of

the locos, which are fitted with sound decoders. Switching (shunting) is accomplished by using Kadee automatic couplers together with magnets concealed underneath the track. A CD player with twin speakers provides the typical sounds of a harbour town.

17. Streatwell Green OO

A British Railways Southern Electric layout set in South London depicting a fictional terminus station with goods and carriage cleaning facilities. Track is Peco Code 100, buildings are all much modified kits and stock is mainly kit built. Control is analogue using Comspeed and Gaugemaster controllers.

18. Aberdovey (Aberdyfi) O gauge

Aberdovey was one of the principal ports situated in Cardigan Bay. The Aberystwyth and Aberdovey Packet Company, and The Waterford and Aberdovey Steamship Company were the two shipping companies that operated from Aberdovey, shipping to the major cities of Cardiff & Liverpool.

Situated on the north side of the Dovey Estuary, it fostered the shipbuilding in its own yards as well as the yards at Derwenlas; further up the river. Hence imports of timber and coal were essential. The main exports were slate, lead, leather goods and softwood timber for coal mining props.

This 7mm scale layout suggests that the narrow-gauge railways from Tywyn and Corris were extended to the quayside at Aberdovey so as to speed up the delivery of slate for oceanic transportation. In effect the arrival of the Aberystwyth and Welsh Coast Railway scuppered this solution leaving the slate trade to standard gauge transshipment at Tywyn and Machynlleth respectively.

The layout operates the standard gauge using DCC in the future. Narrow gauge being operated by analogue technology. A mixture of building techniques are used; mainly DAS modelling clay and plaster castings are hand-painted to provide realism.

Most of the NG stock is built from kits or uses commercially available chassis from the Bachmann American range.

19. Rolvenden P4 gauge

Rolvenden is a Colonel Stephens light railway it is modelled in P4 and it represents the station of that name on the Kent & East Sussex Railway in the mid 1920's. Using plans, drawings and photo's I have done my best to accurately represent the site within the constraints of the space available. Outside of the station limits I have used modellers licence to bring some typical Kentish scenes, such as an Oast House, a hop garden and a windmill to the layout. The layout and all the stock are all my own work and represent around 20 years work. Many of the trains run as mixed, putting off and shunting the sidings on their way through. The trains run from a Cassette storage fiddle yard at the Robertsbridge end through to an automatic turntable at the Headcorn end.

20. Sodam Hall 7mm scale 9mm gauge

Sodham Hall is a fictitious estate railway based off of the Haywood Duffield bank, Dove leys and Eaton hall lines the manor is loosely on Kingston lacey house in Dorset with buildings from the kitchen garden as a basis for the sheds. The rolling stock based on all real prototypes preserved on various small lines around the UK including; Fairbourne, Bure valley, Steeple Grange and a few 'regauged' prototypes from Groule Glen and North Ings farm.

The center of the layout is the workshops & station area below the walled garden and out into the estate grounds including a duck pond and grotto tunnel.

21. Have a Go Railway!

A chance to drive a train and shunt wagons in the sidings.

22.D1 Demonstrators Clapham & Portishead Modellers

So, what is 'Modern Modelling'? It is more than modelling the modern scene (as even the 1980's would be seen as 'history' to some, it is more the use of modern modelling techniques, often from other branches of modelling. John and Paul will be happy to discuss what they do and how they do it and will have on hand some examples of their modelling to demonstrate techniques used. Please feel free to take a seat and have a chat.

23.D2 Demonstrators A DCC demonstration from Barry & Penarth MRC

DCC demonstration showing basic wiring up to track, detection and automation using JMRI. Also includes DCC operation of servo motors and relays to control additional features such as lighting.

24.D3 G Scale demonstration track from BDMRC

A chance to see some big locomotives

25.BDMRC area

26.S1 Society Cheddar Steam Club

27.S2 Society Weston-Super-Mare N Gauge Society Area Group