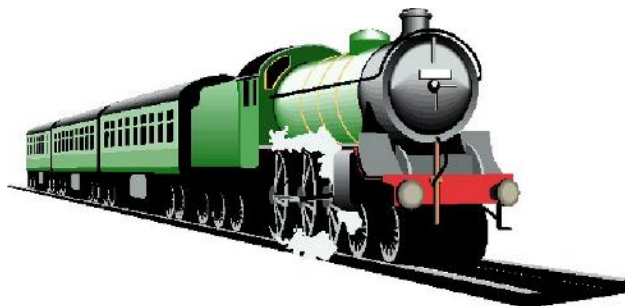


Newsletter



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Rules for Club Night Attendance

- Please park your vehicle with consideration for the flat occupants when parking outside the Kingsthorpe Community Centre.
- If you make a drink, please wash your cup/spoon up afterwards. Please wipe up any spillages.
- Have you paid your subs? The money is mainly used to pay our Wednesday night hall rental, plus the cost of drinks and biscuits. £1 per person please.
- Please put away any tools, layouts, tables and chairs you've used at the end of the evening.
- A clear passage way **MUST** be maintained in the entrance lobby area as an emergency exit. Also please keep **ALL** other emergency exits accessible at **ALL** times.
- Please sign in at each attendance. This ensures we know who to account for in the event of an emergency evacuation.

**There will be Saturday working at Kingsthorpe Community Centre on Saturday 6th April.
Time will be from 09:00 until 13:00**

Current membership :	6	Junior Members
(correct at time of going to press)	29	Senior Members

From the Editors Coach Window

2013 marks several anniversaries of events that took place on Britain's railways. The first notable one came on the 27th March 1963 which saw the publishing of the report by Dr Richard Beeching entitled "The reshaping of British Railways". In August we remember the 50th anniversary of the Great Train Robbery by Messer's Biggs and co.



In this newsletter we have another excellent article from Richard on using Townscene.

Don't forget our "design a Club logo" competition!

Colin

Club News

Date of next Committee Meeting

This will be on Monday 15th April. If there are any items for the agenda, please let Richard have them ASAP.

Email: rjd156@btinternet.com

Club Night Test Track

This will be operational on the following dates:

3rd & 24th Apr, 15th May, 5th & 26th Jun

17th July may be exhibition planning night

ALL DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE



Working with Townstreet Model Buildings

by Richard Deacon

When planning my layout based on Shrewsbury I had been looking for a long time for an appropriate product that looked realistic and would save time over scratch building a station building. I had seen the adverts for Townstreet and visited their stand at Warley in 2011. As they are based in Penrith, Cumbria many products in their range are random stone buildings and look very northern. They do however produce a brick built 3 road engine shed, with either north light or louvre vent roofs. As I need a shed I bought a north light shed there and then. Articles have appeared in Model Rail about building Townstreet models especially painting them.

Townstreet models are made of plaster, just like the plaster cast when you break a limb. As the detail is very fine, the plaster is much finer than plaster of Paris. When you buy a model it comes as a kit comprising panels of wall, roof etc with corner and mid posts. The parts need a bit of cleaning up, just a polish up with a very fine file. They fit together well using white PVA glue, just make sure you assemble the walls on a stiff flat surface, like thick card or hardboard or MDF. It is best to mark out the wall lines first on the card and set out the side walls at 90 degrees. It is easy then to build a long wall, panel by panel, knowing it is straight and side walls are square. When the walls are assembled, glued and happy they are square, slip a long rubber band around the complete building to hold it together whilst it dries overnight, using temporary cross bracing for strength if necessary.



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Townstreet recommend staining the walls with Colron wood stain rather than paint. Red mahogany shade, believe it or not results in quite a good resemblance to dirty red brick.

This should be done before assembly. I have put on hold the engine shed as Bachmann recently reissued their 4 road ready built engine shed. The Townstreet model is smaller and I will use it as sub shed. Before Christmas I switched to pushing on with the station and I ordered their main station called Citadel and an accompanying island platform building in the same style. As the real thing is built in stone.

I had no problem as the Citadel stonework is in ashlar or cut stone just like Shrewsbury. Printing off from Google Earth photos of the station at street level, I set out to find a matching colour. I found that none of the Colron range was any good as it was too light, ok for Cotswold pale buff, but Shrewsbury is a pale reddish brown. I thought then of emulsion paint and by buying a couple of match pots in Wilkinsons, their Earthly Hue is a perfect match- Assembly proceeded as above having first sealed the castings with dilute white emulsion, two coats of Earthly Hue and the windows glazed cut from those clear plastic discs that come in recordable DVD packs. The stone panel walls are glued to vertical piers which have cross struts to the rear wall, so the buildings are structurally strong. The roofs which are shallow hipped slate fit neatly behind the battlemented wall panels and on top of the upper cross brace which further strengthens the model. Having strapped it up overnight with several rubber bands, thoughts turned to some mods.

The station building is quite large but could be bigger! and the island building is very narrow for Shrewsbury . Following discussions with at Townstreet I ordered an extension to Citadel and additional panels for the island building to widen it. These extra parts duly arrived before Christmas and the extension proceeded. To deepen the island building, I had to cut through the cross bracing and glue plastic "I" section girder to bridge the gap. The roofs supplied are no good now as they are too shallow so I will have to make a new roof to fit within the walls that will give it structural strength . Until I do, it looks like Liveden Newbiel. It would also benefit from a floor to increase its structural stability.

On studying the architecture of the real station it was apparent that the model has similar features. When I rang Townstreet I told him of this and he said that although the model is based on Carlisle Citadel station it also has features of guess what... .. Shrewsbury . It seems he spent a lot of time on the station as a boy as he holidayed with relatives in the area! We had a long chat about the steam railway scene of the 50s and 60s and agreed what a magic place it was watch trains and see all the numerous types, which was precisely the reason I chose to model Shrewsbury!!



As a final touch, I bought from Wilkinson's before Christmas a battery powered LED lighting set for £3.50 and thought "that has a use, can't think what at the moment". Just after Christmas I had that Eureka moment and realised it was perfect for the station interior lighting. Being battery powered the LEDs are tiny and wired by thin copper wire that can be superglued/taped to the ceilings of the two storey building. "It doesn't come with ceilings" I hear you say. It does now. A trip to Hobby Craft secured some 2mm grey card, job done. It also strengthens the structure of the model. Wilko never seem to sell their Christmas lights off cheap post Christmas, all had disappeared by the 28th, so it looks as if the island building will have to wait for lights until next Christmas. Do look out for them, they are perfect for model buildings and cheap.



Note to the Editor—Yes the entire construction was done in the kitchen.

Notes from the Committee Meeting held on Monday 18th March 2013

Exhibition 2013

Its confirmed 24 layouts will be at the exhibition.

Daventry MRC are bringing an all new oval layout with the latest technology. Main advert in Railway Modeller [1/4 page] but 1/8 page

advertises in Model Rail, British Railway Modelling, Continental Modeller and Hornby Magazines.

Direction signs all need modifying for the new venue.

Various researches had been made regarding PAT testing with confusing results. The overall view is that all electrical appliances, (extension) cables and portable lighting should be visually examined and rejected if look to be patently unsafe.

At the moment, prima facie, no one in the Club is qualified to do anything further than that.



Any Other Business

The search continues for some premises we can "call our own"

Richard Deacon Club Secretary

Club Regalia

The polo and sweatshirts have arrived. Some of you have had them already. If you ordered any please attend on Wednesday night to receive yours. Unfortunately there has been a slight price increase from what we were originally quoted. Polo shirts are now £16.50 each and sweatshirts are £22.00 each. The price increase is because we are not VAT exempt which the suppliers thought we were.

Local Steam on the Main Line in 2013

Up to date information can be found at this web address:
<http://www.uksteam.info/tours/trs13.htm>

There may be other steam specials in our area not listed below as the web site summary does not list every place visited.

If any of you plan to see any of the localised steam specials mentioned in this newsletter, please check the web site above for any changes to timings or routes etc.

~~Sat 6th April~~ **The Buxton Spa Express** Loco: 70013
London Euston-Bletchley-Bedford-Melton Mobery-Edale-Buxton-Stockport **POSTPONED TO 25th MAY**

Sun 14th April **The Peak Forester** Loco: 34046
London Kings Cross-Peterborough-Stamford-Matlock-Rowsley & return

Sat 20th April **The Cathedrals Express** Loco: 60163
London Euston—Holyhead-Crewe

Tue 21st May **The Cathedrals Express** Loco: 60163
Banbury-Melksham-Exeter-Kingswear-Taunton-Westbury-Melksham-Banbury



34046 Braunton



60163 Tornado



70013 Oliver Cromwell

NOTICE BOARD



TOMBOLA

Stuart Barker has very kindly agreed to store any items for the 2013 Exhibition Tombola for us.

Will members please bring in a small prize gift each month for the Club Tombola. Keep an eye out for any supermarket special offers for example. A prize should be worth at least £1, be new or in very good condition and if perishable be 'in-date' by the end of July 2013.

Please give your items to Stuart Barker

Club Storage Room

The storage cupboard the Club uses at the Kingsthorpe Community Centre is for use connected with the Club, and NOT for individuals within the Club to use it as an overflow storage area of your homes! A recent tidying up in there has revealed many items that are not to do with the Club directly. If you want to leave something in the Club cupboard, that is not Club property, then you must now get permission from a committee member to do so. Any unauthorised items found will be removed and disposed of. **YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED**

Club Information

Committee Members

Les Pace (Chair Person)
Colin Tarry (Treasurer)
Richard Deacon (Secretary)
Bert Dewdney (Exhibition Manager)
Stephen Lloyd (Publicity)
Michael Castledine
Roger Whiffin

Web site: www.ndmrc.org
Email: feedback@ndmrc.org
Club Night: Wednesday
Meeting Time: 19:30—22:30
Venue: Kingsthorpe
Community Centre,
Thornton Hall Close,



Kingsthorpe,
Northampton, NN2 6PT

Secretary: tel: 01604 890275
email: rjd156@btinternet.com

Newsletter Editor

Colin Tarry email: ndmrc@cjv.org.uk

Club Subscription Rates

Club membership runs from the first Wednesday in August or part of the calendar year, and ALL expire on the last calendar day of July, becoming due for renewal on the first Wednesday in August. Membership £35 per year (with reduced rates on a pro rata basis if joining in or after November. Additionally there are reduced rates for junior and senior citizen members).

DISCLAIMER

Any views expressed in this newsletter are those of the individual contributors and not necessarily those of the Northampton and District Model Railway Club, its Officials or Members unless so stated.