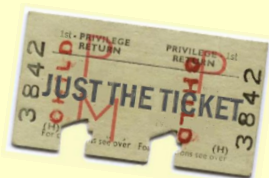


'JUST THE TICKET.' A new and independent 'shop window' for those supplying the coarse scale 0 gauge model train enthusiast.
Issue No. 2 June 2013

FEATURING IN THIS EDITION:





Many thanks to everyone who has written to me expressing their appreciation at the return of a newsletter in the form of 'Just the Ticket.' Some ask; how often do I propose to produce it and some wonder how long it will last. The answer is very much in the hands of the readership, who, will either, embrace and make use of it, or not. So long as I am

supplied with material to use then I will gladly do so, and if, on a monthly basis is achievable, then again, this I will do as I already know just how much the monthly Darstaed newsletters were appreciated. Again; when that was commenced, some wondered how long they would last, but I can confirm there was no difficulty in compiling a new edition every month. If you are considering dropping me a few lines then all I can do is encourage you to do so at the earliest opportunity as this gives me plenty of time to plan, which is always appreciated. One or two points-of-note were thrown up by the first edition and further-on in this newsletter you will find those points-of-note addressed. Enjoy the read.

As and when it proves possible, I propose to run a 'Spot-light on' feature and thanks to the hugely enthusiastic response to the introduction of this newsletter from UK MERKUR distributor Bruce Palmer and distributor Rob Giskes who trades in the Netherlands, here comes the first 'Spot-light on...'

David Upton

Spot-light on....



MERKUR
www.merkurtoys.cz



MERKUR history — taken from the pages of their latest catalogue. Photograph of Mr. Jaroslav Vancí, founder of the MERKUR brand.

MERKUR had been producing construction sets and gauge '0' metal/tinplate

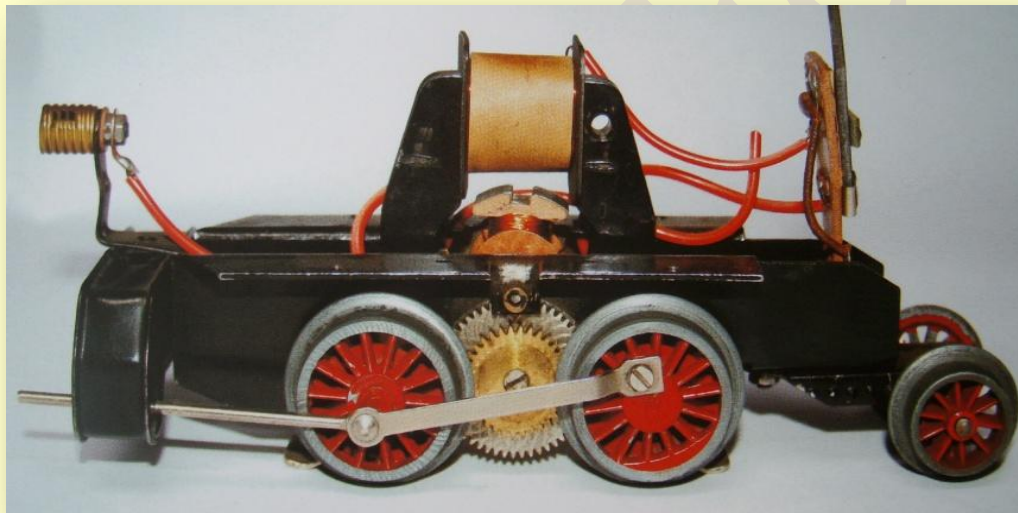


model trains for a long time. In the 1920's **MERKUR** started the production of metal construction sets. These sets were based on the metric measurement system (cm), while the biggest competitor of the **MERKUR** construction sets based its sets on the English measurement system (inches).

The **MERKUR** construction sets were, and are, very popular. The train that could be built with one of the construction sets was received so enthusiastically by the public that **MERKUR** decided to produce electric trains. Frantisek Jirman, the son-in-law of the owner of **MERKUR**, Mr. Vancí, designed the first locomotive. His design was

based on the very well known Mikado, an express steam locomotive. Soon the collection was supplemented by the production of 4 wheel passenger and service carriages and wagons. Whilst the public received the model of the Mikado very well, a new locomotive (the 1C1) was taken into production. The model trains were and still are robust and run easily. To say briefly this was the start of an era in which the model trains of MERKUR were particularly sought after in the Czech Republic.

During the Second World War there was a lack of raw materials. So, except a limited edition of wagons under the brand CMD/BTO, MERKUR was forced to stop their model train production. From 1947 it was possible to start the model train production again. The range was expanded with various models and in various designs, for example refrigeration cars, tankers and flat cars.



Mechanism of a locomotive circa 1945

In early 1950 the Czech government nationalized the factory. In 1953, the production was taken over by the district collective in the town of Broumov. This collective re-registered the MERKUR brand name in 1955 for the purpose of producing model trains and construction sets. The production of model trains was discontinued in 1968. In subsequent years the tools for creating the model trains were destroyed.



Mr. Pelunek and Jirman supervise despatch in 1949

In the 1990s, Mr. Kriz became owner of the MERKUR factories. He decided to resume the production of model trains and construction sets in 2001. After purchasing the necessary machines, equipment and design software the first electric model trains rolled out of the factory in 2002.



MERKUR company owner Mr. Kriz

This was the start of the new MERKUR era. An era where every year new locomotive models, carriages, wagons and material for the layout (including buildings), are released. Unique, is the range of the building sets of railway stations, buildings and other scenery material that have been released since 2002. All of these models are produced in full metal!

MERKUR has satisfied and enthusiastic customers around the globe. The high-quality craftsmanship, the sustainability of the electric motors and last but not least the sublime and high-quality transmission, ensures a lasting driving pleasure. The MERKUR models are equipped with DC motors and provide the option to choose between a two or three-rail system.

With the use of the MERKUR AC/DC transformer your locomotive slowly and steadily pulls up and down. All of MERKUR's locomotives can be digitally adjusted and if you wish to equip your model with a special coupling, that is no problem at MERKUR. MERKUR wishes you and your children to have a lot of fun driving your magnificent handmade models.



Latest catalogue.

I have to confess to knowing nothing about MERKUR as a brand until fairly recently. When I first began to see some of their product range, I was rather more taken with their Meccano-like construction sets, being something of a Meccano enthusiast as well as a coarse scale model train fan. The MERKUR range is distinctly continental in style – being produced in the Czech Republic it's hardly surprising, and so for this reason, their locomotives and rolling stock were somewhat lost on me at the time. A little later on, I discovered they were also producing line-side accessories in the form of all metal buildings, and because this sort of thing is unusual these days, I confess this was when the company's model railway activities really began to register with me.

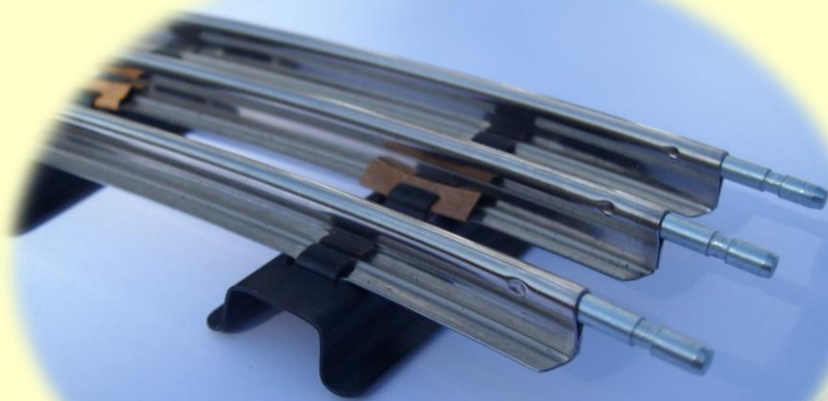


Then; very recently I came to realise the company was also manufacturing its own range of tin-plate style track, which at a glance looks very much like the Hornby O gauge original. Suddenly, this caught my eye because should I ever get an opportunity to create an indoor layout, this is almost certainly the sort of track system I would like to do it with. How very timely then that these newsletters have come along and I'm in a position to actually review the company and in particular its track products!

First contact concerning this article was made by UK MERKUR distributor Bruce Palmer, who on hearing about the concept of this newsletter was quick to get in touch and has been enormously helpful in me compiling this article. Also getting in touch is his European counter-part Rob Giskes who has very kindly sent me a copy of the company catalogue and two sample lengths of the track referred to. I can confirm it is every bit as good in the hand as it is in the excellent photographs which were all originally taken by Chris Graebe for an article in the HRCA Journal, so apologies to any HRCA members to whom this is old news!

There isn't really very much more that I can say about the track, which isn't conveyed in Chris' photographs. If you are used to track by the likes of Lionel or Hornby then you will find the MERKUR track very similar indeed.





MERKUR

TRACK

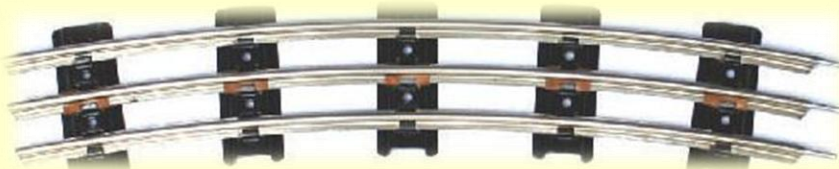


Track curves, all £3 each, plus postage at actual cost from Bruce Palmer.

2 ft, 625mm Radius - 16 to circle



2ft 6ins, 760mm Radius - 16 to a circle

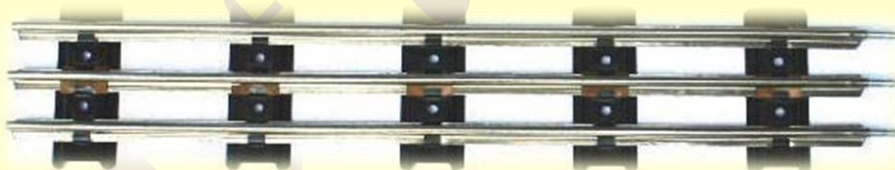


3ft, 900mm Radius - 16 to circle, this is the same as Lionel 072



Straights - all £3 each piece, plus postage at actual cost from Bruce Palmer.

300mm



235mm



170mm



55mm



NB: the 300mm is roughly 1 ft. and therefore longer than Hornby or Lionel.



Power Connecting Clip – lock-on. £4



TRACK

Points/Switches.

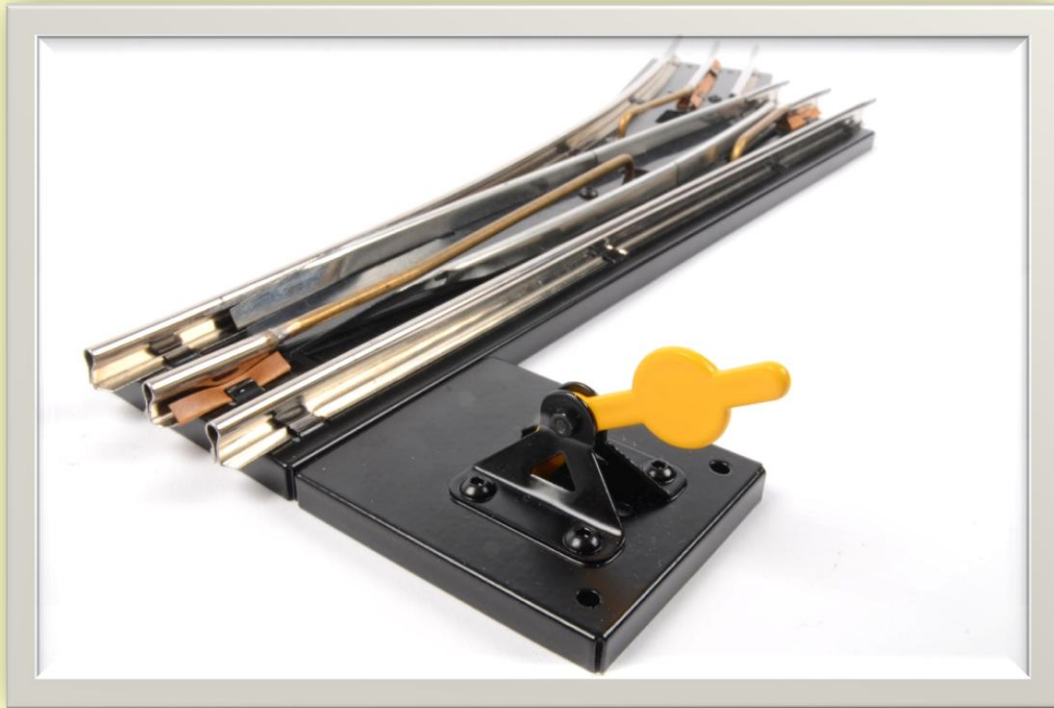
Following photographs courtesy of Chris Graebe.

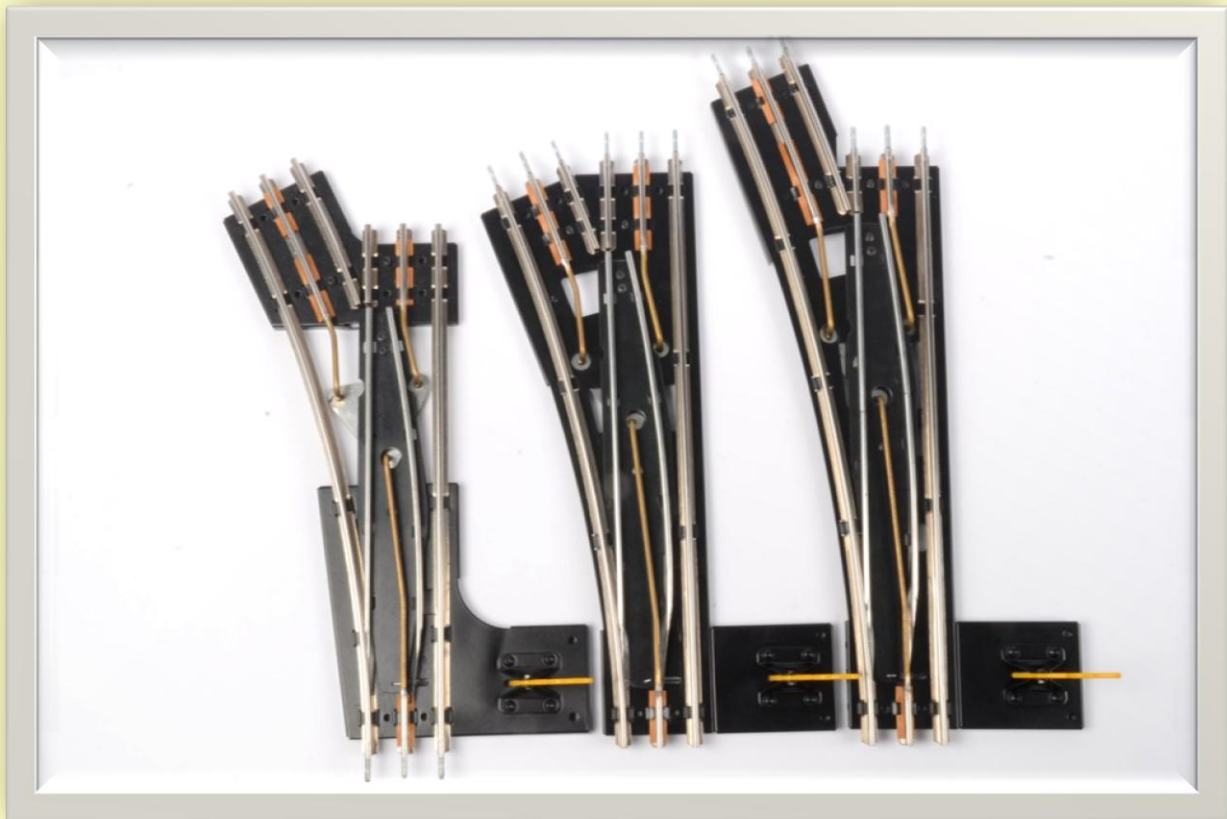


2ft, 625mm Radius £40

2ft 6ins, 760mm Radius, with reversible operating lever. £50

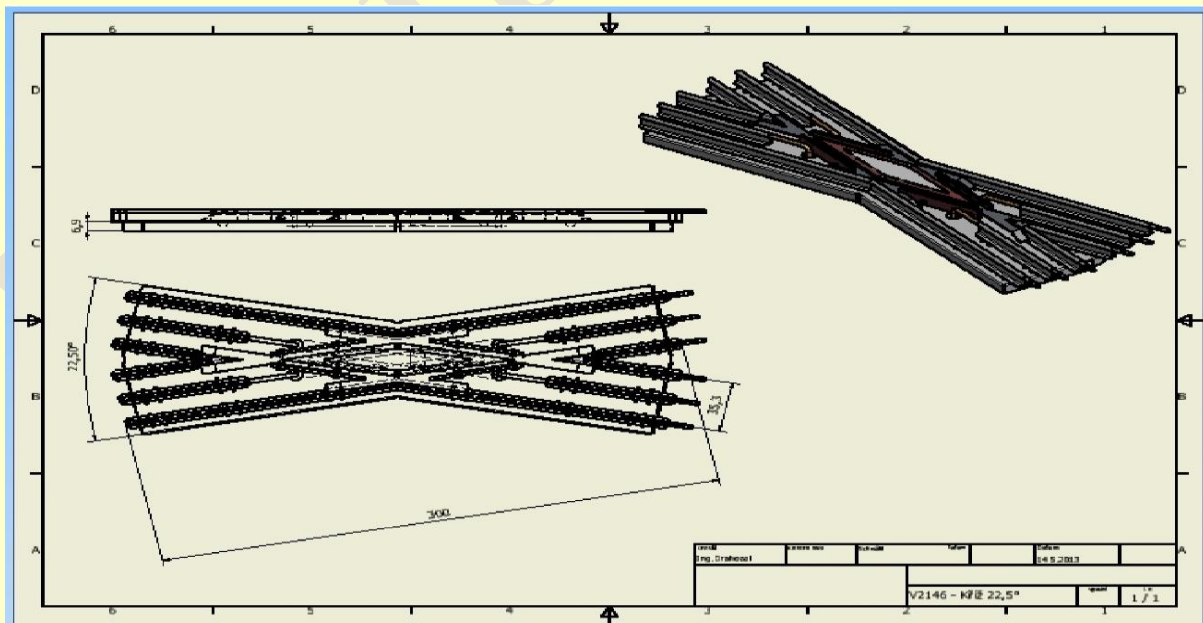
3ft, 900mm Radius, with reversible operating lever. £50

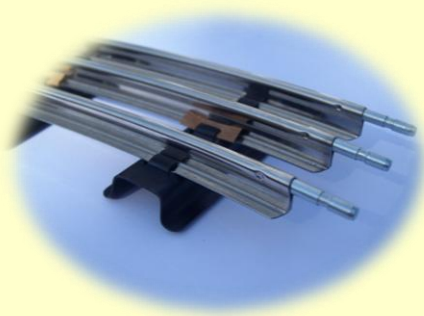




News just in....

MERKUR have quite literally just announced they are going to produce a diamond crossing, which will come in three variants: 22.5, 45, and 90 degrees.





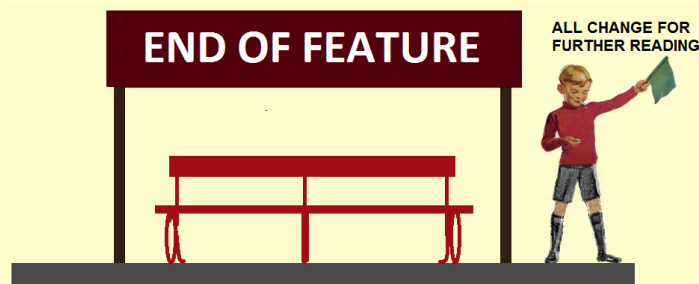
**So where does one purchase
this fine looking track?**

In the UK: Bruce Palmer. bpalmer498@btinternet.com

In the Netherlands & world-wide: Rob Giskes.
info@blik-en-speelgoed.nl

See also Rob's website: www.blik-en-speelgoed.nl blik (tin) & speelgoed (toys)

Eglantier 4
7421 CS DEVENTER
NETHERLANDS, NIEDERLANDEN, PAYS-BAS
M: +31682004165
ING (bank): 6029945
IBAN: NL26INGB0006029945
BIC: INGBNL2A
Chamber of Commerce: 38022945
BTW (VAT) nr: NL811366340B01



WJVintage

Head Boy, Paul Lumsden got in touch after the first 'Just the Ticket' was circulated and wrote to me saying:

To give you a little of my background, I have worked with toys (mainly diecast) for the past 20 years, firstly with Lledo then with Corgi and finally at Hornby.

During that time I worked with and became good friends with Len Mills and when he left Corgi to join Ace Trains I gradually became more and more involved in the development of Bassett-Lowke - albeit despite the best efforts of Corgi, then Hornby, to ruin it!

Following redundancy from Hornby in 2011 I started some freelance writing for a couple of hobby magazines but towards the end of 2011 I decided to broaden my work portfolio and move back into O Gauge. So I set up WJVintage.

Ever since I have been slowly building the business, making use of my contacts with ETS in Prague, as well as other contacts here in the UK. Last May I teamed with John Fowler of Seven Mill Models and between us we produced an O gauge arched girder bridge based on the Hornby Dublo bridge. We have since launched an extension bridge to use as a stand-alone or to join or extend the arched bridge.



Late last year as you may be aware I took the plunge and together with Colin at Raylo commissioned a run of 200 O Gauge Terriers from ETS. The first of these are due within the next few weeks. I have also recently launched a very limited run War Department Tank Wagon. This is based very much on the pre-war Bassett-Lowke style wagon and will hopefully be the first of a series.

WJVintage



Paul maintains an excellent web-site and monthly e-newsletter, both of which can be found here: www.wjvintage.co.uk and here is Pauls HOME page introduction:

WJVintage

Serious Toys for Discerning Boys

Established in October 2011, WJVintage is a new, small, friendly business created and run by enthusiasts with a passion for traditional, coarse scale, 'O' Gauge Model Railways. Our goal is to become a 'one-stop' shop for all of your 'O' Gauge requirements in 'ready to run' model form.

Our experience in engineering, marketing and product development, coupled with our knowledge of the model railway market and toy collecting in general, is second to none. We hope to combine all these skills to bring you, the railway

connoisseur, the very finest quality model engineering at an affordable, value-for-money price.



Our product range is unashamedly vintage in its appearance, evoking memories of some of the great 'O' gauge names of the past such as Bing, Marklin, Hornby and of course Bassett-Lowke. Construction of these models is largely from machine-formed, hand-assembled tinplate, with exquisitely painted and finished locomotives and beautifully lithograph-printed carriages and rolling stock.

We aim to offer the very best of the latest 'New' Vintage O Gauge offerings from



the likes of Bassett-Lowke, Ace, ETS, Along Classic Lines and Darstaed, as well as some original items.

Much of our stock is brand new, some is commissioned exclusively by us, some is pre-owned but 'as new' and some is used and 'play-worn'. Please

read the descriptions and study the photographs carefully. We will never try to be anything other than 100% clear and honest about our products. Stock is

constantly changing so please bookmark this site and check back regularly for exciting new items.

Alternatively why not register with us and we will periodically send you news of



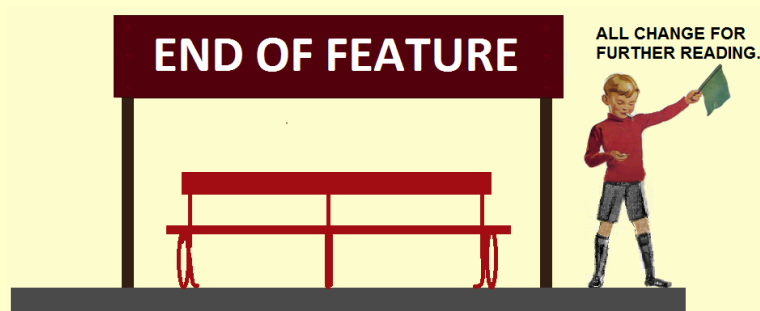
any new offerings we feel may be of interest. Please click on the 'Registration Form' icon and complete the simple online form.

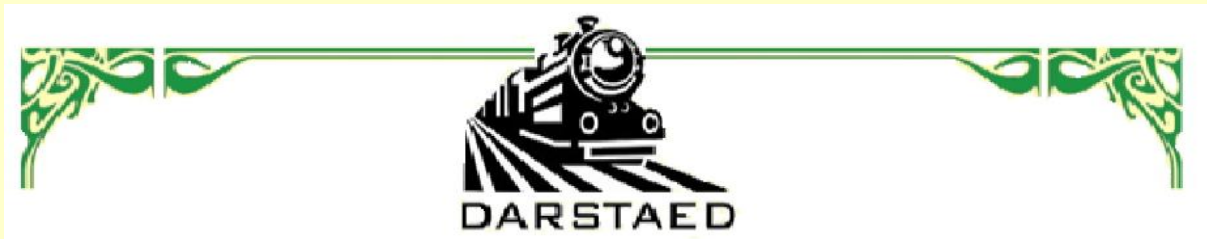
As our range develops and grows we intend to exhibit at many of the best known vintage model rail and toy shows the length and breadth of the UK. We want our collectors to be able to see and feel our

products first hand and to experience them running where possible.

Last but by no means least we want to meet our collectors in person so we can get to know you even better and likewise you can get to know us and to understand the passion and enthusiasm that drives **WJVintage**. In summary we want to make friends from our customers and customers from our friends!

Paul Lumsdon – Head Boy
www.jwvintage.co.uk





Latest news from Darstaed/Vintage Trains.

Darstaed Newsletter No. 21 June 2013



The A4 Pacific streamlined locomotive that Darstaed are currently working towards producing once again.



The 6 Wheel Coaching Stock Update.



TECHNICAL DETAILS:

- Based on 34 ft prototypes with appropriate number of compartments (e.g. 4 in 1st and 5 in 3rd class).
- Carefully researched liveries.
- Composition of rakes:
 - 1 x All 1st class
 - 1 x All 3rd class
 - 1 x 1st/3rd Composite
 - 1 x 3rd brake
- Each compartment glazed and individually lit; curtains in first class compartments.
- Clerestory roofs with detailed frosted glass and internally illuminated.
- Fitted interior seating in appropriate colours, including advertising panels.
- Wheel sets insulated for 2 or 3 rail running.
- Working tail Lamp.
- Teak coaches with teak coloured frames as prototypical.
- Full Brakes will also be available separately and in a set of three accompanied by two goods vehicles.

Andries Grabowsky reports:

Now finally that the 6 wheelers are nearing completion, we will continue with the mainline coaches. Perhaps if there is any demand we will make suitable Coronation stock for the Ace Coronation in 35cm. If there is any interest, please let your distributor or myself know.

The A4s are making progress as well albeit very slowly. However it is much more preferable to get it right at the beginning than to rush them to market and then have to rework them all, causing delays that may take years because of insufficient attention at the source. In our company we continuously strive to innovate our products and these innovations take time to develop.

Thank you all for your support, Andries, Darstaed. grabowsky@darstaed.com

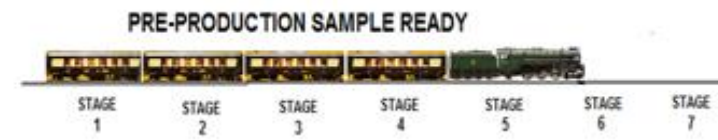
Production Stage updates.

ENGINE SHEDS

N.B.FINAL DESIGN AND PRICE NOT SPECIFIED AS YET

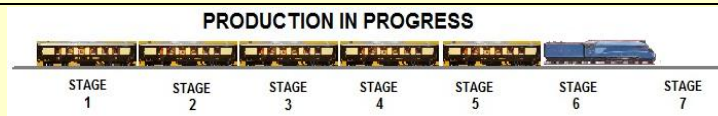


A1 & TORNADO LOCOMOTIVES A1 £685 TORNADO with A1 royalty £ 745
OR: Supplied in mahogany presentation box with royalty to the A1 Trust £850.



A4 PACIFIC LOCOMOTIVES

£685



0-6-0 JINTY TANK ENGINE 2 RAIL VERSION

£325



FRENCH 0-6-0 JINTY TANK ENGINES AVAILABLE WITH FRENCH 6Ws £325



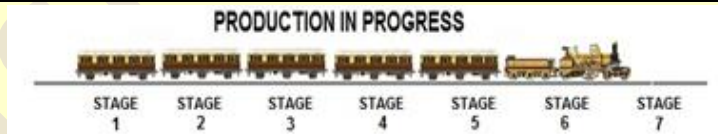
0-6-0 PANNIER TANK ENGINE 2 RAIL VERSION

£325



6 WHEELER COACHES

£245



CASTLE CLASS LOCOMOTIVES

£595* see page 12



NCB PANNIER TANK ENGINE

N.B. VERY FEW REMAINING

£295



0-6-0 PANNIER TANK ENGINE**N.B. VERY FEW REMAINING****£325****0-6-0 JINTY TANK ENGINE (BLACK)****N.B. VERY FEW REMAINING****£325**

The Jinty on/off switch is now available, £10 each, easy to fit. Contact your local distributor.

**0-6-0 JINTY TANK ENGINES (COLOURED LIVERIES)****N.B. AS ABOVE****£325**

NB: no further in grey

**2-6-2T ENGINES****£325****MINERAL WAGONS****£150 set of six.**

Singles £25 each unboxed.

**1ST SERIES ADVANS****£45**

Individually boxed

**HORTON/DARSTAED ADVANS (WHILE STOCKS LAST)****£39 each.**

Raylo Exclusive's £40 each.

**J19 0-6-0 TENDER ENGINE****£345**

Limited number of plain black with NE on tender at £365



PULLMAN COACHES & BAR CARS

£395

Set of 5. Single's and Bar Cars £89 each. With 3rd rail pick-up £99.



CANOPY STATIONS

AVAILABLE

£250



BUT VERY FEW REMAINING

Contact: www.trainshoover.com email: trainshoover@gmail.com

or: 'The O Gauge Guy': email: bluedja@gmail.com

'WARSHIP' CLASS 42 LOCOMOTIVE **NEW PROJECT IN 2 AND 3 RAIL VERSIONS**



CONCEPT & DESIGN



STAGE 1

STAGE 2

STAGE 3

STAGE 4

STAGE 5

STAGE 6

STAGE 7

DB CLASS V200.0 LOCOMOTIVE

NEW PROJECT 3 RAIL VERSION



PLANNING



STAGE 1

STAGE 2

STAGE 3

STAGE 4

STAGE 5

STAGE 6

STAGE 7



THE PRODUCTION STAGES EXPLAINED.

STAGE 1: CONCEPT & DESIGN. In this initial phase, the concept and viability is widely considered within the Darstaed Team looking at all aspect of how the model might be produced. Which versions and liveries might be made available, whilst inviting customers to indicate their thoughts on the proposal.

STAGE 2: PLANNING. The production of drawings and costings in respect of tooling and parts required.

STAGE 3: MOCK-UP SAMPLE & APPROVED LIVERY DRAWINGS.

IF AT THIS STAGE THERE IS INSUFFICIENT INTEREST WE WILL CONSIDER POSTPONING OR SHELVEING THE PROJECT. HOWEVER; IF THE PROJECT IS DEEMED TO HAVE SUFFICIENT SUPPORT AND VIABILITY, IT WILL BE GREEN FLAGGED THUS:



AT THIS POINT IN TIME, YOU THE CUSTOMER MAY FIND THE MODEL UNDER CONSTRUCTION WILL BECOME AVAILABLE AT A SPECIAL PRE-PRODUCTION PRICE.

STAGE 4: TOOLING UP.

STAGE 5: PRE-PRODUCTION SAMPLE READY AND BEING TESTED. If all goes well distributors should shortly thereafter have a pre production model to show prospective customers.

STAGE 6: PRODUCTION IN PROGRESS.

STAGE 7: AVAILABLE - RELEASE OF FINISHED MODEL & DELIVERY DATE CONFIRMED.



UK LONDON & SOUTH:

Authorised Darstaed distributor BRUCE

COLEMAN www.wonershtrains.com email: brelcol@talktalk.net Tel/Fax: 01483 892373 (South East)

"I normally have most models in stock, both current and out of production. Will split sets of coaches and wagons, depending on stock position. All postage by secure courier."



UK MIDLANDS:

Authorised Darstaed distributor COLIN TOTEN

www.raylo.co.uk email: colin@bhvccc.co.uk Tel: 01582 873460 *"I am happy to bring your purchase to any toy fair or exhibition I attend for you to collect in person or alternatively by post or courier as required"*.

UK NORTH & SCOTLAND: Authorised Darstaed distributor CHRIS REEVE Tel: 01557 860080 email: chrisreeve@sky.com *"I regularly visit HRCA meetings and other events in Scotland and the Borders with an extensive display of all available products"*.

GERMANY: Authorised Darstaed distributor HERR FRANK ELZE

MBW Spur 0 Modellbahnwerstatt email: Modellbahnwerkstatt@arcor.de

Tel & Fax: +49-208-30-18-814 Mobile: +49-178-656-2556 Website: www.MBW-Spur-0.de



U.S.A. & CANADA:

Authorised Darstaed distributor JOHN HOOVER

of TRAINS-HOOVER 1064, CRYSTAL BOWL CIRCLE, CASSELBERRY, FL 32707 www.trainshoover.com

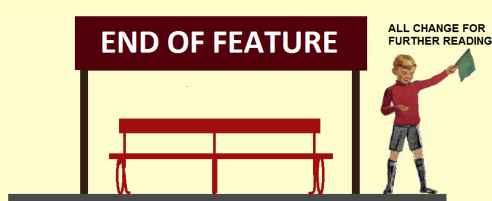
email: trainshoover@gmail.com



AUSTRALIA:

Authorised Darstaed distributor DAVE ALLEN

'THE O GAUGE GUY' www.theogaugeguy.com email: dave@theogaugeguy.com Mobile Tel: [0421778151](tel:0421778151).





Seven Mill Models

For information and sales contact our main agent;

DJH Engineering Ltd. Project House, Villa Real, Consett, England DH8 6BP

Tel: 01207 500050, Mon-Thurs 09:00 ~ 17:00 hrs. Friday 09:00 ~ 14:30 hrs. Voicemail all other times.

Fax: 01207 599757. E: sales@djhmodelloco.co.uk W: www.djhmodelloco.com

Sales Agents in UK: WJVintage, 29, Wood Road, Kings Cliffe, Peterborough, PE6XF T: 07711 092497

W: www.wjvintage.co.uk

Colin Toten, RAYLO T: 01582 873460 W: www.raylo.co.uk

Seven Mill Models

Out Spring 2013 - V2 2-6-2



Super V2 (double chimney) - BR Green Lined livery



V2 - BR Green Lined livery



V2 - BR Mixed Traffic Black lined livery



V2 - LNER Apple Green lined livery



V2 - Wartime Black livery

For information and sales contact our main agent;

DJH Engineering Ltd. Project House, Villa Real, Consett, England DH8 6BP.

Tel: 01207 500050, Mon-Thurs 09:00-17:00 hrs. Friday 09:00-14:30 hrs. Voicemail all other times.

Fax: 01207 599757. E: sales@djhmodelloco.co.uk W: www.djhmodelloco.com



Sales Agents in UK: WJVintage, 29 Wood Road, Kings Cliffe, Peterborough, PE6 6XF. T: 07711 092497 W: www.wjvintage.co.uk

Colin Toten, RAYLO. T: 01582 873460 W: www.raylo.co.uk



Seven Mill Models

Here come the latest photographs of the new **Seven Mill Models/DJH** Gresley V-2s courtesy of Roy James on whose layout these handsome models are photographed.



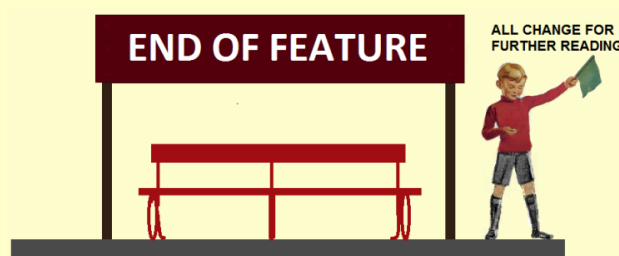
Above: Gresley V-2 60800 Golden Arrow. Below No. 60876



Seven Mill Models



Roy, who has just purchased these two models reports: ***Weighing in at over 3 kilos these substantial machines are certainly worthy of 21st Century coarse scale.***





Raylo is well known to many of you as the main distributor for Darstaed 0 gauge products, we advertise regularly in the HRCA magazine and attend a variety of exhibitions and fairs, we also offer many other Companies models and collectables and this new publication gives us the opportunity to bring these to your notice.

The web site has details of these suppliers goods all of which are carefully chosen for high quality and reliability, from time to time we also offer exclusive models made for us by manufacturers. In this first news letter we offer a brief review of our suppliers and their products and in subsequent issues we will update readers on the progress of new lines but only when we have confirmed delivery details.

Darstaed 0 gauge, items that represent excellent value for money and a good customer support for spares when needed, our latest delivery is the second batch of GWR and BR Castle class locomotives with the latest single motor / gearbox mechanism with steel gears, 26 different names and numbers at present.

Directory 0 gauge, mainly goods rolling stock made from brass etchings and finished in many liveries to a high standard, built in small batches and Series with a strong collector following, suitable for 2 or 3 rail operation.

Seven Mill Models, a recent manufacturer to enter the 0 gauge fraternity with strong support from two well known and established suppliers. A limited range at present but the quality and performance of their locomotives is a pleasure to see, three mainline locomotives now available in a variety of LNER and BR liveries, names and running numbers with the availability of factory fitted smoke units if desired, other models scheduled for delivery later this year and eagerly awaited.

MTH-RailKing. We are appointed retailers for all MTH-RailKing products, our main interest is in the European models including the Duchess Locomotives, L.M.S Maroon, and B.R., Maroon and Carmine and Cream coaches all with interior lighting and seating (please state if for 2 or 3 rail operation. Coming soon, Blue Coronation coaches to suite the Ace Trains Coronation locomotive. We also stock the very popular **Real Trax 0 gauge trackwork** and we can accept special orders for catalogued items we do not carry in stock.

Ace Trains. We are not agents for this Company but often have models produced by them from Probate or collections we have purchased.

Raylo Exclusives. Periodically we are offered the opportunity of an exclusive item, sometimes we join with a partner due to the not inconsiderate capital investment required, at present **Raylo** and W.J.Vintage have joined forces and have commissioned ETS to produce a Terrier tank locomotive. This will be available in most liveries beginning with 2662 in lined Southern Railways green livery, deliveries begin in May with further liveries, for example Boxhill, in Improved Engine green swiftly following. **Raylo's** last venture was with **Horton Series** for three exclusive Advertising Vans, Colmans Mustard, Colmans Starch and Palethorpes Sausages; a limited edition of 50 each of which very few are now left.

Obsolete Makers. We have numerous 0 gauge models produced by manufacturers who have ceased production, some of these are listed on our web site and include models from Hornby, Bassett-Lowke, Mills, Leeds. Bonds, Bing, etc. please enquire

General items. As we offer a probate and valuation service and also purchase large collections we accumulate a wide variety of other models including 00 gauge items by Hornby-Dublo, Triang, Hornby, Lima etc., also items by Dinky, Corgi, Britains (Farm, Garden, Circus and figures), Astra, Meccano, Bayko etc.

Horton Series. As the sole UK distributor we have taken on to stock and supply these colourful advertising vans originally produced in association with Darstaed so as not to disappoint customers who would like or have pre ordered them when announced late last year, we have a few left of the first designs and a further delivery due later this month (MAY) including Lyons Swiss Rolls, Slumberland, Beautiful Isles and the remaining, outstanding Palethorpes Sausages. Further issues will follow including Carter Patterson, Minic, Penguin etc.

PLACE YOUR ORDER NOW!

www.raylo.co.uk

£45

HORTON SERIES ADVERTISING VANS



First series - a few still in stock



Second series - only 50 of each made, last few remaining



Third series - arriving May 2013



Fourth series - arriving June 2013

Price shown does not include postage & packaging.
For more details visit www.raylo.co.uk
Email colin@bhvccc.co.uk Telephone 01582 873460



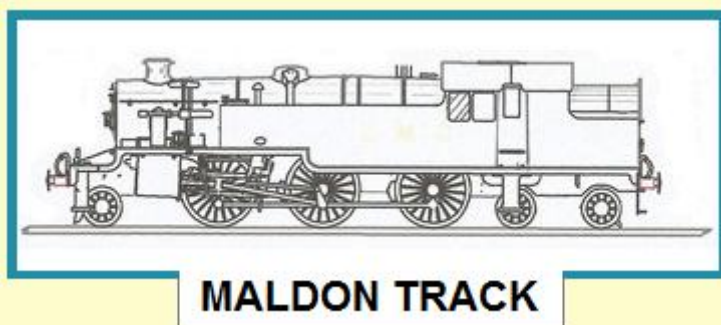
We can be contacted at www.raylo.co.uk or by telephone on **01582 873460**, we hope to bring you more news and product updates with the next edition of this newsletter and wish David Upton every success with his new undertaking. Colin Toten

www.raylo.co.uk

END OF FEATURE

ALL CHANGE FOR FURTHER READING.

www.raylo.co.uk



In the 1st edition of 'Just the Ticket' I carried an article written by Ron Fraser of **Maldon Track** and in the absence of more current material to make use of, featured the Website of the former Maldon Rail Centre. This has resulted in incorrect prices being published, as well as incorrect contact details for Ron. Readers need to note that Ron can be contacted via his email: fraseron@hotmail.com and that his track making business is now known as **Maldon Track**. I've now been forwarded a more current price list, dated February 2013. It is now a pleasure to draw attention to the **Maldon Track** brand new website, which Ron has constructed himself and is still working on; some of you will doubtless recognise some of the photographs he has chosen to make use of.

MALDON TRACK'S NEW WEBSITE: <http://maldontrack.weebly.com/>

Also in the article reproduced last month and formerly in the ACE Trains Newsletter, Ron made a reference to the high silver content in nickel silver steel. The significance of this statement was certainly lost on me, never having had the slightest interest in being a metallurgist, however other, more knowledgeable readers swiftly drew my attention to the way nickel silver actually has **no** silver in it. If this was the case, I wondered which bright-spark had adopted such a misleading title for the steel in the first place and launched an immediate investigation, which led me to the MD of the Sheffield based company which actually produces the many miles of model train rail in various scales. I was duly chastised for being so ill informed, and had it explained to me that indeed there is no silver to be found in the metal. For budding metallurgists, here are the two steel industry standards for nickel 'silver' steel:

CUNI12ZN24 and CUNI18ZN20 the 12 & the 18 refer to the nickel content %, the 24 & 20 refer to the Zinc content %. In both cases, the balance % is copper.

Having relayed my findings back to Ron, he decided the following need to be said:

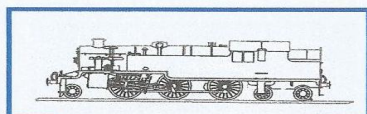
Dear reader

In the April issue of the newsletter I wrote a tongue in cheek article about model railway track. At one point, when talking about the metal that we use to make the rails of the track I indicated that it contained 88% silver, this is incorrect, I am very sorry if I misled anyone, it was completely unintentional. Once again I am sorry.

Ron Fraser

Do not worry Ron, all is forgiven and in fact as a result of this little incident, the above mentioning Managing Director has invited me to visit the factory to see for myself how the job is done. This I am very much looking forward to and will no doubt produce an illustrated article on the visit in due course.

Here then, is the **Maldon Track** current price list:



Maldon Track

Ron Fraser
102 The Causeway
Maldon
CM9 4LL
Fraseron@hotmail.com
01621 852642
0789 1916758

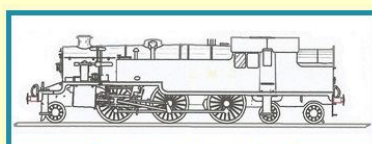
February 2013

February 2018

Code	Item	Unit		
Individual Components				
	36" (915mm) length of code 200 N/S rail	per length	£2.80	
	Individual sleeper, complete with centre chair	bag of 100	£27.00	
	Centre chair only	bag of 10	£2.00	
	Rail joiner strip, six rail joiners (fishplates)	per strip	£0.70	
Kit Prices				
HR3	To make 36 inch (915mm) length of Hornby style 3-rail track with 20 sleepers	set	£14.15	
MR3	To make 36 inch (915mm) length of Marklin style 3-rail track with 30 sleepers	set	£16.85	
			Hornby	Marklin
			Style	Style
R1	27" radius curved half rails	box of ten	£85.00	£110.00
R2	30.67" radius curved half rails	box of ten	£95.00	£118.00
R3	34.33" radius curved half rails	box of ten	£97.00	£120.00
R4	38" radius curved half rails	box of ten	£99.00	£122.00
R5	41.65" radius curved half rails	box of ten	£113.00	£136.00
R10	60" radius curved half rails	box of twelve	£152.00	£203.00
ST18	18" straight rails [half straight]	box of ten	£118.00	£151.00
ST36	36" straight rails [full straight]	box of ten	£216.00	
F8	Standard 38" radius isolating point, length 293mm; arc 18°; Right Hand	each	£78.50	
F9	Standard 38" radius isolating point, length 293mm; arc 18°; Left Hand	each	£78.50	
F10	Express, isolating point length 457mm; arc 9°; radius 2092mm Right Hand	each	£99.00	
F11	Express, isolating point length 457mm; arc 9°; radius 2092mm Left Hand	each	£99.00	
Accessories				
PC1	Power Clip rail joiner (2 or 3 rail)	each	£12.00	
BS1	Buffer stop (2 or 3 rail)	each	£24.50	
DBS1	Display track and Buffer stop	each	£36.30	

Note: Curved radius is measured to the inside face of the outer running rail and two boxes of curved track make up a full circle
** price on application

Terms Payment within 14 days of dispatch date in GBP
Carriage, packing and insurance costs charged in addition.
Goods/Services remain the property of Maldon Rail Centre Ltd until paid for in full
Maldon Rail Centre Ltd. reserve the right to change the unit prices without notice



MALDON TRACK



In the wake of last month's article, I felt it only right and proper that I gave Ron an opportunity to inform the readership a little more about himself and he has supplied the following article.

A Profile of Ron Fraser

I trade as Maldon Track; and am an Engineer and model-maker, in particular '0' gauge replica 1930's Hornby Railway Track.

Like most of us who have nearly been around the block once, I have had more than one career. I became a Technical Engineer in 1972, then a lecturer in engineering (1996) and later a teacher for adolescents with behavioural difficulties.

I was a professional Foster Carer with Essex Council, and was involved with Scouting for 42 years; being presented to the Queen for my work with young people in 1996.

I have had an interest in railways since 1980; however my family life limited my involvement in this hobby. I joined Maldon Rail Centre (model makers) in 2004 and started my own company in 2012.

Ron on Track

If you disagree with anything in this article please feel free to respond either to me or the news letter, I am very happy to talk and learn. Email maldontrack@hotmail.co.uk, [facebook](#) or www.maldontrack.weebly.com

Our hobby has many facets, some like to build a railway scenic display, others just to run a loco around a simple loop of track. Some are interested in history, others in heavy engineering and some just like the look of a loco.

Feelings can run high, soon after I stated work with Maldon Rail Centre a customer at Sandown Toy Fair told me off for having the audacity to sell 3 rail systems, when two rails was the only way to carry on!

In general most makes of tubular track are very similar, however there are many variations of profile track, code 143, code 200 and Atlas being the most common.

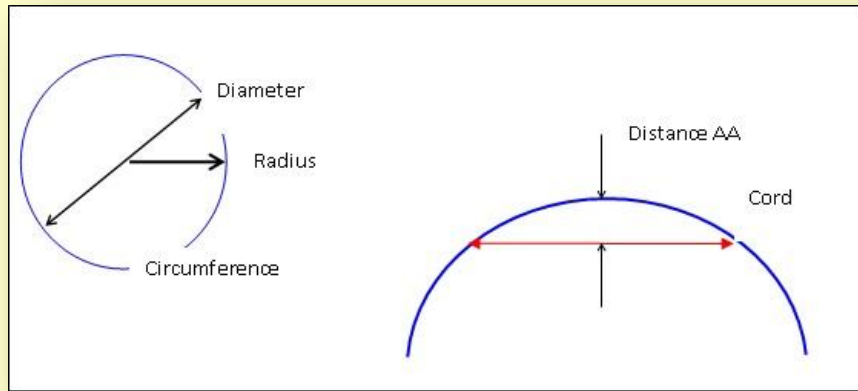
The distance between the rails, for 'O' gauge track this is 32 mm and called the 'back to back', if the back-to-back is too small the train cannot pass between the rail.

People buy the track that pleases their eye, others because it reminds them of another happy time. Whatever the reason, some track can show different aspects of a train layout. A very positive aspect of tubular track would be that you can run a much small radius track than with a profile track. A disadvantage would be that the traction and loco stability are far less than with profiled track.

To tackle each of those items in turn.

For this exercise I will consider that we are talking about an 0-6-0 loco with perfect drive wheels which are 110 mm (4 1/3 inches between centres).

The distance over the drive wheels is the 'cord of the circle.' On a large radius curved track distance 'AA' would be very small as the radius of the curved track gets smaller the distance 'AA' gets larger, this means the effective 'back to back' gap gets smaller. With a 6 wheel drive loco, when the distance 'AA' gets too large, the centre drive wheel will get jammed between the rails on a small radius track.



To help overcome this, some manufactures have rimless centre drive wheels; other manufactures have a floating centre axle.

With profile track the smallest radius is a 27" radius curve; for tubular track it is a 24" radius curve, the difference is for two reasons.

- The cord is longer by 10 mm for profile track

Tubular track only has one point of side contact with each wheel which means the cord is 110 mm, whereas with profile track there are two side contact points with the wheel, one at the front of the drive wheel and one at the back of the drive wheel so for the same curve and loco the cord on profile track is about 10 mm longer over all the drive wheels.

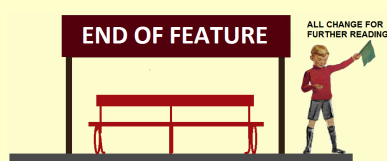
- The second reason is a lot simpler; on tubular track the wheel can slide up the side of the offside rail.

Traction and Loco Stability.

For traction and loco stability, the laws of physics would be on the side of profile track but the proof is far more that I could write. I also think that most tubular track enthusiasts would give me a very good argument for the reverse. However it is my experience that profile track could pull a greater load at a higher speed than tubular track.

The other difference between tubular track and profile is that tubular track does not handle gaps very well especially on curves, but the other big advantage of Tubular track is that it can very easily be laid onto carpet.

If you disagree with anything in this article please feel free to respond either to me or the news letter, I am very happy to talk and learn. Email maldontrack@hotmail.co.uk, facebook or www.maldontrack.weebly.com



SHAMROCK TRAINS

SUPPLIERS OF THE FINEST MODERN ERA, READY TO RUN, O GAUGE TINPLATE-STYLE AND DIE-CAST MODEL RAILWAYS

Shamrock Trains is a model train business owned by Martyn Pring to whom many of you will doubtless be familiar. As others have done, Martyn got in touch with me after the 1st edition of 'Just the Ticket' had been circulated and has very kindly forwarded me a comprehensive article which was done in connection with him a few years ago and once again, many of you may well recall the article. I am committed to reproducing the article, but as you can see at the way this 2nd edition has grown, I fear it is inappropriate to try and squeeze it in at the moment. Consequently, and with apologies to Martyn, his article will appear next month when all necessary space will be devoted to it. In the meantime, should you be unfamiliar with the name or the business, take a look on his very attractive website: <http://www.shamrocktrains.com/index.html>



Collectors Corner

An opportunity for readers to submit photographs of their vintage locomotives and/or stock.

Gosh, it's years since I used this. What is Macro?



Whilst the thrust of this newsletter is towards showcasing what's currently happening in the world of coarse scale O gauge, every now and again it's good to take a look at what our forefathers achieved. Alan Cliff has kindly submitted the below photograph. If others reader would like to follow

Alan's lead, you now know where to send your photographs and accompanying article.



Here is a photo of my LMS (ex L&Y) Hughes c/work 4-6-0 coarse scale model which once graced the late Norman Eagles' famous 'Sherwood Section of the LMS.' This beautiful model has deflanged centre drivers. It can thus take 0-62 track 2 feet 7 and one half inches.) You do not notice anything unusual either when the loco is stationary or running. It has its original Bassett-Lowke clockwork mechanism which gives it considerable power. She was built 50 years ago. The photo was taken on the Rhyl MRC's 0 gauge fine scale layout.



Alan Cliff

**Jack the Station Cat Limited, Registered Office: 18 Ruabon Road, Wrexham,
LL13 7PB**

Registered in Wales Company No. 04598705

<http://www.jackthestationcat.co.uk/>

JtT's mailbox



Email received from the USA:



Dear Dave,

I am happy to see a newsletter from you once again. It is something I really look forward to each month. I was quite disappointed when its demise was announced a few weeks back. It was a great surprise to see it resurrected in an even more interesting way. It is wonderful to be kept *au courant* of O gauge model railways in Britain. The newsletter is even better now that more companies are represented in it. Thanks also for the YouTube and other references given in the newsletter.

I am a high school history teacher in California, though I grew up in Canada. I suppose I am what one could call a "Weather Refugee." As your last North American writer (Mickey Whitney) noted about himself, I too grew up with Lionel trains – from their O gauge classic period. Even at a young age I preferred British outline locomotives and carriages, especially after travelling by train during our frequent trips to Britain during the twilight of the steam age. I found British locomotives so very colourful and interesting compared to their North American counterparts. A few of our own Canadian locomotives of those years had a certain, almost British look about them (the lovely Royal Hudson's, for example), but not as much of a British look as I would have liked. Fortunately, I have been able to purchase the MTH reproductions of the Royals in both the Royal Train (1939 Royal Visit to Canada), and in the Canadian Pacific liveries.

I have been collecting British O gauge since 2009. This collection is the fulfilment of a childhood dream. I now have a respectable assortment of Darstaed, ACE, and Bassett-Lowke locomotives, coaching stock, and goods wagons. I wish there were more British O gauge accessories available – semaphores, signal gantries, buildings, bridges, etc. I am not too keen about having to search eBay for the few second hand examples of these. Most of what turns up appears rather dilapidated and at ridiculous prices.

It has been a great bit of luck for us on this side of the Atlantic that John Hoover is now representing Darstaed in North America. His new web site is a gem, and John is always

ready to give collectors some great advice, excellent service, and interesting bits of news. His web site can be found on the internet at www.TrainsHoover.com

Thanks for the splendid newsletter. I am delighted that is again appearing.

Best regards, John Ross

Featured YouTube™ *uploads:*

In this edition I'm very grateful to Roy James for offering this very watchable film which is of his layout, known as Dream City Railway. It had been hoped to have a detailed article by Roy about his master-work, but it just so happens, he has just supplied an article to Alan Miller in the U.S.A. and the O Gauge Railroading Magazine. At some point in the future, 'JtT' will have its own article on Roy's wonder layout. If you have a film you'd like featured, drop me a line. d.upton355@btinternet.com

1royjames **TRAIN SPOTTING:**



<http://youtu.be/K6UeiolnUUM>

Bluecomet390 THE **CALEDONIAN RAILWAY BY ACE TRAINS:**

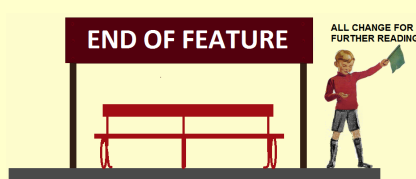


<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pk89rgocKto>

Geeppe's **BINNS ROAD VI**



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I5MtrrmVtal>



Famous Trains *and the routes over which they ran.*

The "3.20 Down Manchester," L.N.E.R.

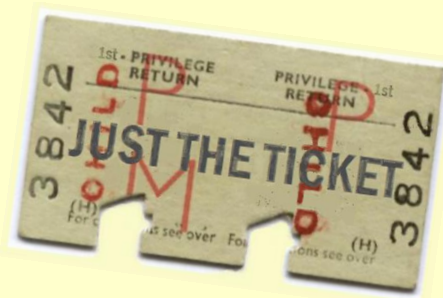
By Cecil J. Allen. M.Inst.T., etc.

No. 9 – "The 3.20 Down Manchester," L.N.E.R.

First published in the Meccano Magazine September 1927

In 1927 railway engineer and writer Cecil J. Allen commenced a wonderfully informative series of articles for Meccano Magazine under the heading 'Famous Trains'. I could not possibly improve upon his writing. Ideally I should like to treat the readership to reproducing these fascinating articles as it will surely go without saying that as model train enthusiasts you may well find the series just as readable as it was in 1927. Whilst I could simply reproduce the pages concerned, on occasions the print is not particularly clear so despite the time it takes I've decided to do full-justice to Cecil Allen's writings by re-typing the text. I'd like to run the articles in the same order he first wrote them in and readers in America, Canada and the Continent will be pleased to know that Cecil Allen also included 'famous trains' of your own. Put your feet up and have a good read with the additional PDF supplement you should find with your monthly newsletter.

PLEASE NOTE. If any reader wishes to print this e-newsletter or the Famous Trains series, please let me know and I will supply them on plain pages to avoid you having to use vast quantities of printer ink!



It's absolutely....

Keeping in touch.



Copies of these e-newsletters are freely available from me at the following address: d.upton355@btinternet.com

My YouTube channel:

<http://www.youtube.com/user/ARKWIRGHTIS?feature=mhee>



'THE CLASSIC O GAUGE FORUM' tinplate trains * coarse scale * 2 and 3 rail * worldwide. An independent forum covering *all* brands of coarse scale tin plate O Gauge: <http://www.spoornul.nl/tpforum/>

and postings of interest.



J&C Studios O Gauge Archive O Gauge / O Scale Forums and Individual Blogs for Model Railroading
<http://www.jcstudiosinc.com/Archive> It's on this site that I have my own 'blog' in which I post on any developments relating to my garden layout and all that runs on it:
<http://www.jcstudiosinc.com/BlogCategoryMain?catId=944>



O Gauge Railroading magazine On-Line Forum

O Gauge Railroading On-line Forum. <http://ogrforum.ogaugerr.com/forum/3-rail---o27-hi-rail-and-classic-o-gauge>



ACE Trains Owners Club

Brilliantly Old Fashioned

The forum for all things ACE Trains: <http://www.acetrainsownersclub.org.uk/>

