

Hi everyone, I hope you enjoyed at least some of the email contributions I have circulated.

Robin (from Bradford) has sent me a couple of images of his layout. See below



He has included the helix which carries the train from one level to the other.



Robin only joined in February following an invite from the Chairman. He claims to have enjoyed the 4 Tuesday morning sessions before the wretched virus put a stop to any further get togethers for the foreseeable future. Hopefully everyone is staying well and I have to think it is going to be a great plus for us all to be able to turn to working on our own railway layouts as a means of dealing with this lockdown and possible future restrictions on movement and general travel over the coming months. Anyhow with the help and advice I have received from Ron, the practical instruction on tree building from Harry and the Medcalfe model building tips and advice from Ian I have been able to advance the N gauge layout in the man-cave. The forest of various trees that are now made are waiting for all the

scenery to be applied, resin rivers and waterfalls to be made, grass and shrubs etc to be laid. I still have sleepless nights thinking about the electricals!

The helix is normally hidden by the mountain and the river. In fact all the necessary scenery sections are removable so I can work on each one in turn without being a contortionist! (for those of you who cannot identify Robin Davies. He lives in BOA and was working with me to fix all the rear track on the 00 layout).

Chris Patrick has been working on his fixed layout entitled Stageby. He says he is really pleased with the little lady in red just 7/8" tall even with high heels on. (This is the raised West End of the layout)



The figures, being chinese are now allowed to associate and their number grows slowly. Although they come painted, the paint is just slopped on and needs tidying up.. The single track line to Sategby runs around the foot of the raised area. The verical wall (paper stuck on to card with wallpaper paste) needs painting brick red. I don't think I will cover it with brick paper.

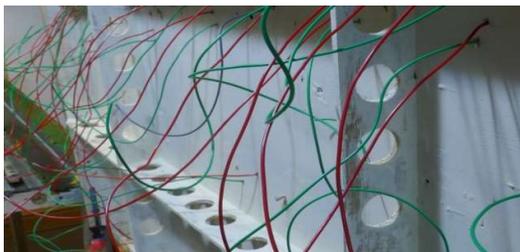


Doug's Homework is an HO gauge Lilliput Swiss ballast hopper, bought cheap with no ballast or handrails.



I have soldered the end rail from .45 nickel silver and created a handbrake lever as well as adding side rails – note the oil feeder can on the deck below the handbrake for lubricating the gearboxes on the opening mechanism for the doors. I have done this a few times at Avon Valley Railway. I have also adapted a couple of unpainted Preiser figures and given them a paint job. I have also painted all the yellow areas as per prototype (They were grey on the model). There is deliberately no coupling on one end as its going to be a Loco+railbolster+ballast wagon maintenance train shuttle and will be used as a standby set in case one of the coach sets fails.

I have also not been hanging around. I mentioned last time that it was DCC so only two wires!



When soldering wires to the track on n gauge I find it easier to cut out one of the ends of the sleeper to ensure good contact.



All the track has been laid and I have had to use old points. All of them apart from one worked perfectly, but I must have slightly bent this one when removing it from the last layout. A replacement was needed. Most mail order shops showed the point as out of stock, apart from Rails of Sheffield. I remembered that Ian also needed a point. Having got the details of his requirements I then discovered that his 00 point was "on order", so I just went on to order mine, only to find that the last one had been sold in the 5 minute gap whne I checked with Ian. So now its wait until it comes into stock again in ??????



At least all but one point on the siding is attached. Next job is to wire the points.