



BRITISH RAILWAY
MODELLERS OF NORTH AMERICA

The BRMNA Journal

No.372, Jul/Aug 2016



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Articles in the JOURNAL provided by BRMNA members may be published in any other club magazine on the understanding that the original author and the JOURNAL are credited.

The Editor is not responsible for the content of any article or advertising published.

Members' private advertising is published free of charge. Members' commercial advertising is published at the rate of \$40 per page, \$25 per half page or \$15 per quarter page per appearance.

The current membership year is 2015/2016 from September 1, 2015 to August 31, 2016, This year's membership card is grey and the directory is white. The number in parentheses after your name on the address label used to mail your JOURNAL shows your dues situation.



THE SIGNAL BOX.....

By The Editor

Well my summer has been a particularly busy one this year, but I still found, or perhaps I should say made, some free time for railway modelling. Being summer, it's mostly jobs relating to my outdoor garden railway. Making some long awaited rail built buffer stops, renovating some rotted out track supports and a bit of reconditioning work on a live steam locomotive. This last job gave me the opportunity to do some serious Silver Soldering, (also know as Hard Soldering or Silver brazing). I set up a hearth with refractory bricks, on my outdoor BBQ. It worked out well and minimized the risk of me burning the house down.

My O Gauge layout has also been receiving some attention on the scenic side of things with some much needed fencing and hedging being fitted where needed. Back in the Jan/Feb issue #369, I made mention of a new single road, kit bashed shed, to replace my old two road one. I thought I would share a photo of the results with you. It has yet to be permanently bedded in situ so it still gives the impression of floating.



Cover Photo.....

Boscarné Cottage.

Or cat on a cold tin roof. by **Roger Marler**. Fine modelling and the result of international cooperation. I love the whimsical Moggie.

Forum update.

Our plans for the Forum weekend are moving forward and we have almost nailed down our full program of Presentations and Clinics.

There is one very important thing to let you know which was not made clear in the last Journal. We will not be able to accept registration at the door on Saturday. So to avoid disappointment, **those wishing to attend must register before October 12th**, as this is the date the food order has to be placed with the caterers. Payments should be made to our secretary, Dave Venables, using one of the options that are available to pay your annual BRMNA membership dues, which can be included if convenient.

Members will also be able to go to the Members Zone of the BRMNA web site, for further information and updates on the new Forum page.

Directory Updates:

Updates:

Maurice Pimlott, New Brunswick
New email: mpimlott@rogers.com

Roger Eaton, Ontario
New email: eatonroger750@gmail.com

New Members:

Craig Parry, Ontario
Address: 190 James Street, Belleville, ON, K8P 3L6
Phone: 613-962-7832
Email: thrustanparry@kos.net
Interests: Industrial NG-Victorian to WW1-FS32NG, 16mm, O14, On30-DC/DCC-8-60-C

William Seabrooke, Ontario
Address: 116 Kelso Private, Ottawa, ON, K2V 0M1
Phone: 613-883-4216
Email: wmseamac@rogers.com
Interests: CNR-pre 1970s-HO and O (3rail)-DC and DCC+battery-100-100-N

Boscarne Cottage.....Roger Marler.(AB)



Photo by Peter Richards

Many years ago, Peter Richards, now an ex-signalman from the Horsted Keynes 'box and residing in New Zealand, and I made initial contact when I was researching the history of Sheffield Park Station, on the preserved Bluebell Railway line. We have maintained contact ever since and in 2013 he asked me to model a pair of semi-detached cottages for his OO scale layout of Boscarne Junction, in central Cornwall, now part of the Bodmin and Wenford preserved railway. He sent me a handful of photographs of the building taken in 1964 as it used to be, and as he wanted it modeled. It has apparently undergone significant renovations and expansion since then.

We also exchanged a sketch drawing with dimensions and questions. Peter, like so many other modellers, had a precise space for the model on his layout and this determined the overall size of the model. Accordingly, the sketch was drawn up with that space firmly in mind. My dimensions are in red, with many spaces for peter to fill in, which he did in blue (*Page 327-5*). From all this information I was able to build the model fairly accurately, especially the windows and doors.

As with all my models, the external finish of the prototype determines the material I use for the model; in this case, plaster finish meant that card stock was to be used because it produces the best results and also because I can find nothing suitable and available commercially in vacuum formed styrene. Therefore, the main part of the model is made out of 1mm thick artist's board sliced

through its thickness with the exposed interior rough surface representing the plaster finish. It was important to use the thinnest slices of the card as they produce a whitish finish, as opposed to the grey/brown from the thicker slices. The structural framework of the model is also out of 1mm thick card stock with pieces of spruce or basswood as strengtheners.

In the modeling process, I like to make and finish all the wall panels separately before assembly. With the card approach this leads to some very careful sanding at the 4 corners to hide the joints. Close inspection after assembly may reveal that this sanding is not always foolproof, but from a distance...

As the windows in the prototype appear to be unique, and again are not available in miniature commercially, I made them all from scratch using other card stock that is almost as thin as paper. These are now quite fragile but are a reasonable facsimile of the originals. The doors are also scratch built using scribed basswood to simulate plain boarding doors; the added hinges, latches



and letter boxes are all from Scalelink's brass frets. Some pieces have been left as raw brass while others have been spray primed with Tamiya "Surface Primer" and then hand painted gloss black. I wash and air dry all these brass pieces thoroughly before doing anything more with them; and thereafter only handle them with tweezers. Oily fingerprints on brass do not like being painted!

The rainwater gutters are made from half round brass sections, from Eileen's Emporium, soldered to supporting brackets of plain brass strip, all of which are painted as above and then glued to the underside of each roof piece before final assembly. The downpipes are micro bore, hand bent, brass tubes with masking tape used to simulate the joints and supporting brackets. (My only regret is that I cut the masking tape somewhat oversized and the end result is not as convincing as I would have liked.) Brass, pipe or solid rod, is much easier to bend than steel of the same diameter, and retains its shape after bending, whereas styrene does not.

The chimneys are made out of solid basswood covered in more of the split card stock. The gable end framework is also made from basswood. The roof tiling material is from York Modelmaking and represents Cornish

Slate from Delabole, which is near the north coast of Cornwall between Camelford and Wadebridge at the site of a massive quarry and the deepest hole in England! York Modelmaking is a fairly recent discovery for me and means that I will not go back to making these fiddly things by hand any more. The product is very good, comes in different scale sizes and colours, and is easy to use.

<http://yorkmodelmaking.co.uk>

The television aerial is a brass piece from another Scalelink fret with simple black darning cotton used to represent the cable going to the TV set. The lead Gashing, which is perhaps a bit too overt, is made from a hand napkin container, the kind you get with a take-out meal. This was turned inside out to reveal the appearance of lead, and then dry brushed with a couple of Tamiya greys to dull it down a bit. The shed at the rear is made from individually stained spruce planks glued to a basswood frame and was somewhat more freelance than the cottages because accurate dimensions were unobtainable. The roofing material here is Campbells' corrugated steel sheets weathered with pastel chalks, which always resist adhering to the metal. The cat is a sheer whim.



Quick buildings – for free! Tom Schwarzkopf (ON)

Sometimes you need a structure that is quick to build and will do as a placeholder until you can take the time to build a more detailed one. Or maybe you need some in the far distance that only need to have a minimum of detail. Or you really just like to operate and are getting tired of people calling your layout Plywood Forest. Well, in that wild world of the internet, there are several sites that offer structures with the above requirements (or lack thereof) and best of all they are FREE.

Card Models by Tony .

cardmodelsbytony.weebly.com/

offers: Houses, Shops, Pubs, Industrial, Low Relief, Urban Decay, The Posh End and others. Click, download the pdf and print. Assembly is easy – usually cut out, score, bend the tabs and glue. Roofs are separate and often offer two styles, and have separate chimneys though those are a bit fiddly and the chimney pots might be better replaced with a painted soda straw. There is no relief in the facades, but I am sure with a little imagination and some bits from the scrap box, you could inset the windows and doors. There is a lot of advertising on each page interspersed between the models, but I have not found any obnoxious unintended downloads.

Hall Royd Junction is another source

www.hall-royd-junction.co.uk/

run by Nigel Trafford. From the Home page you can find free downloadable buildings to make which include a house in Todmorden, LYR Type 6 and LNWR signal boxes, an LMS-style asbestos lamp hut, garage block kits, and a 1930s-style small factory (Bellington Road). He also offers them professionally pre-printed in four-colours on good quality 335 gsm white card for a cost. Some are available in 2mm, 3mm, 4mm &/or 7mm scale for free download; some only in 4mm. Some pages have instructions, some are self evident.

Railway Scenics

www.railwayscenics.com

Free you will find a nice brick-built 2 stall lockup garage in OO. They used to have a platelayers hut also for free, and some members (myself included) still have that file.

Wordsworth Model Railway

www.wordsworthmodelrailway.co.uk/index.html

has free kits: Backscenes, Brick Paper, Rail Side & Town Scene. Don't be confused by the apparent tab underneath these saying The Free Kit Section is Here – it means that all those tabs above are Free downloads (just in case I am not the only one that clicked on that tab). The site owner (Mike) started to make his own kits and then offered them for free to further the hobby. There are also a number of How to videos on You Tube from this page.

Model Railway Buildings

www.modelrailwaybuildings.com/

offers free downloadable kits in O, OO, HO, TT, N & Z Click on the scale at the left and go to your favorite scale page. Within that page are many categories and in a category, click on the image to get the download. There are bars of ads interspersed between the images – hey someone has to pay for the web space.

Beginners Model Trains has a free kit section BUT it is in HO only

www.beginnersmodeltrains.com/freetitsection/

Scroll down the page past the printing instructions to see the kits. These have separate doors and windows so some relief is possible.

Scalescenes

<http://scalescenes.com/> has several free downloads: Weighbridge/Coal Office, Low Relief Warehouse and an Inspection Pit. They are offered in OO and N and in several textures. They do want your email address and you put the free models in your cart, proceed to checkout and 'buy' but there is no charge and he sends you the file. I have built the Low Relief Warehouse and it is up to the quality of all the other for purchase kits and makes a good three dimensional kit – lots of detail/relief.

I am sure there are many more out there: some entice you to buy other structures in their line, some are just talented modelers that have shared their creations. I can't vouch for all these as I have not (yet) built them, but I have tried Scalescenes, Railway Scenics, and Tony's, and we will be using Hall Royd Junction as well as Tony's models for our Public School Railway Modelling Club – if a 7-year old can do it, then probably I can too.

BRMNA rates and other administrative matters for membership year 2016-2017.

Annual membership dues:

For the next membership year which runs from September 1st, 2016 to August 31st, 2017 the rates will remain unchanged as follows:

Journal version:	Printed	Electronic
For members residing in:		
Canada	\$18.00	\$4.50
USA	\$21.00	\$5.00
Overseas	\$30.00	\$6.00

The different rates reflect the cost difference between printed and electronic versions of the Journal and the postage costs differences between the domestic rate and those to the US and Overseas. The difference in rate for the electronic version reflects the different mailing cost for the directory and membership card. We have decided to continue with a printed version of the directory for the foreseeable future as an important safeguard to protect member confidentiality.

New members incur a \$15.00 surcharge for the one time costs for their engraved name badge and embroidered crest in their first year. Members returning after a break in their membership will incur a \$5.00 setup charge when no badge or embroidered crest is required otherwise the \$15.00 surcharge will apply.

Members for whom we have an email address will receive an email to advise them of their dues status in early August. Members who

.....by the Treasurer

subscribe to the printed version of the Journal will see that their dues status appears at the end of the first line of the address label. Payment can be made through traditional methods such as cheques or money orders made payable to BRMNA or through electronic methods such as PayPal and Interac using the account treasurer@brmna.org. Payment for multiple years is encouraged. Please note that membership dues must be paid by October 1st, 2016 to ensure that access to the Member Zone of the BRMNA web site continues without a break.

Advertising rates:

Members private advertising will continue to be published free of charge.

The per appearance rate for commercial advertising will remain at: \$45/page, \$30/half page and \$20/quarter page.

Administrivia:

Please let the Secretary know as soon as possible if you:

- do not plan on continuing your membership;
- would like to switch from the printed version to the electronic version;
- would like to switch from the electronic version to the printed version;
- change your email address;
- change your mailing address;
- change your phone number; or
- change your interest information.

SUN YOUTH COMMUNITY SERVICES PRESENTS The Montreal Model Train Exposition

**Held at the Sun Youth Centre,
4251 St Urbain Street, Montreal, Quebec, H2W 1V6
On September 24th and 25th, 2016
10:00 am to 5:00 pm Saturday and Sunday.
Admission: \$8.00 for adults, \$6.00 for children
Free parking at HOME DEPOT, 100 Beaubien street
west, with free shuttle bus to the show.**

**For more information contact BRMNA member:
Ivan Dow** (cell. 514 918-1501; home 514 636-9665;
i.dow@videotron.ca)
www.MontrealModelTrainExposition.com

This year's show features the largest collection in North America of model railroads that children can operate.

And yes, they can be played with by the general public. More than 40 model railroads will be on display, including Thomas the Tank Engine and Harry Potter, with all the bells and whistles to entertain, and show the artistry and availability of the world of model railways. Plus boats, tanks, plastic models etc. showing what can be made using one's hands.

Sun Youth is the largest independent charity in Montreal and is renowned for its integrity and ability to help those in need. Sun Youth also enriches those who become involved with it. Not only is this show fun, but, as a fundraiser for Sun Youth, it is of benefit to the society in general and those most in need.

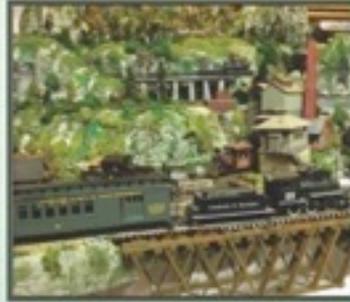
The best time to visit the show is Sunday at 10:00 am.

Sorry, there are no adapted facilities (ramps or elevators).

* See poster on back page. Ed

MONTREAL MODEL TRAIN EXPOSITION

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