

The layouts

L1 Test Track

Nelson Keen and the East Midlands Group

Here is an opportunity to test run your own locos or try out your intended purchases. Most wheel standards are catered for (except S7 or coarse-scale), and the track has facilities for 2-rail, stud contact or 3rd rail, at 12 or 24vdc. It is also wired for DCC. Clearances between running lines allow for 16mm scale running on 32mm track. The live-steamers will be in attendance, providing some spectacular running.



L2 Morlock Heath

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Graham Minshull & Kelvin Barnes

A small permanent way engineering yard, set in the 1980s blue diesel era. Rolling stock includes kit-built, scratch-built and RTR. Everything is weathered, to give an overall impression of well-used and well-worn. The layout features items of yellow p-way maintenance equipment.



L3 Cobbold's Wharf

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Bury St. Edmunds MRC

A scale 7 layout depicting an area of Ipswich Docks in the 1950s/1960s. Freight includes timber, oil and unidentified goods in vans, shunted by steam and diesel locos over tracks which criss-cross and weave around the quayside buildings. Look out for the delightfully modelled warehouses and timber storage sheds, plus other finely detailed 'clutter', so typical of this type of environment. You may even spot an Ipswich Corporation trolleybus.



L4 Weltham Mitey

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Andy Ward, Luton MRC

Weltham Mitey is a fictitious GWR branch line and terminus station, set in the 1930s in rural Somerset. Goods traffic includes mixed freight, plus milk tankers serving the local dairy. At one end of the layout is a village street scene, with a pub, butcher's and other local shops. The layout measures 27ft. (8,25m) in length, requiring 3 operators.



L5 The Loco Yard

L5 & L6 The Loco Yard & Margaret's Mill

Colin and Margaret French

Two more delightful micro layouts from Colin's collection, most of which have appeared at Kettering over the years. The Loco Yard features industrial locos, plus the occasional visitor from BR. A hidden traverser enables locos to appear randomly from within the shed. The layout, measuring less than 2ft. (0,6m) was one of two built during the Covid lockdown. Margaret's Mill is the front page photograph and is based on the Wissington Railway, a line built over the Suffolk Fens due to the lack of surfaced roads, to enable farmers to bring in essentials, such as fertilisers, coal and animal feeds, and to transport their root vegetable crops and other produce to the surrounding markets. The period is the 1930s. This layout measures 4ft. (1,2m) in length.



L7 Medborough

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Market Harborough Model Railway Group

This is a reincarnation of the original layout of the same name, which last appeared at Kettering in 2016. The layout is being converted from continuous to end-to-end, with sector plates at each end and a hidden return loop. The period modelled is the late 50s/early 60s, on the Great Central Railway. This is very much a 'work in progress', and the builders will be on hand to discuss every aspect of layout design and build for exhibition use.



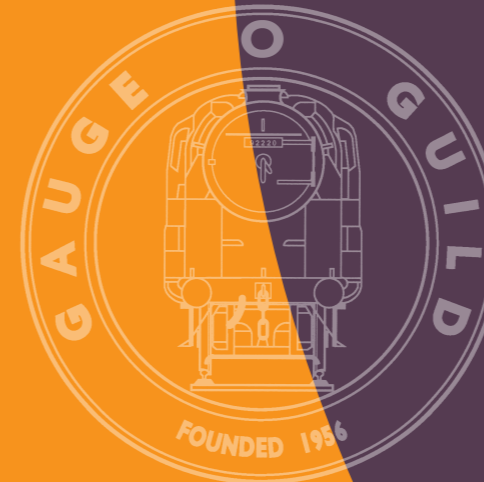
L8 Fenland Yard

L8 Fenland Yard

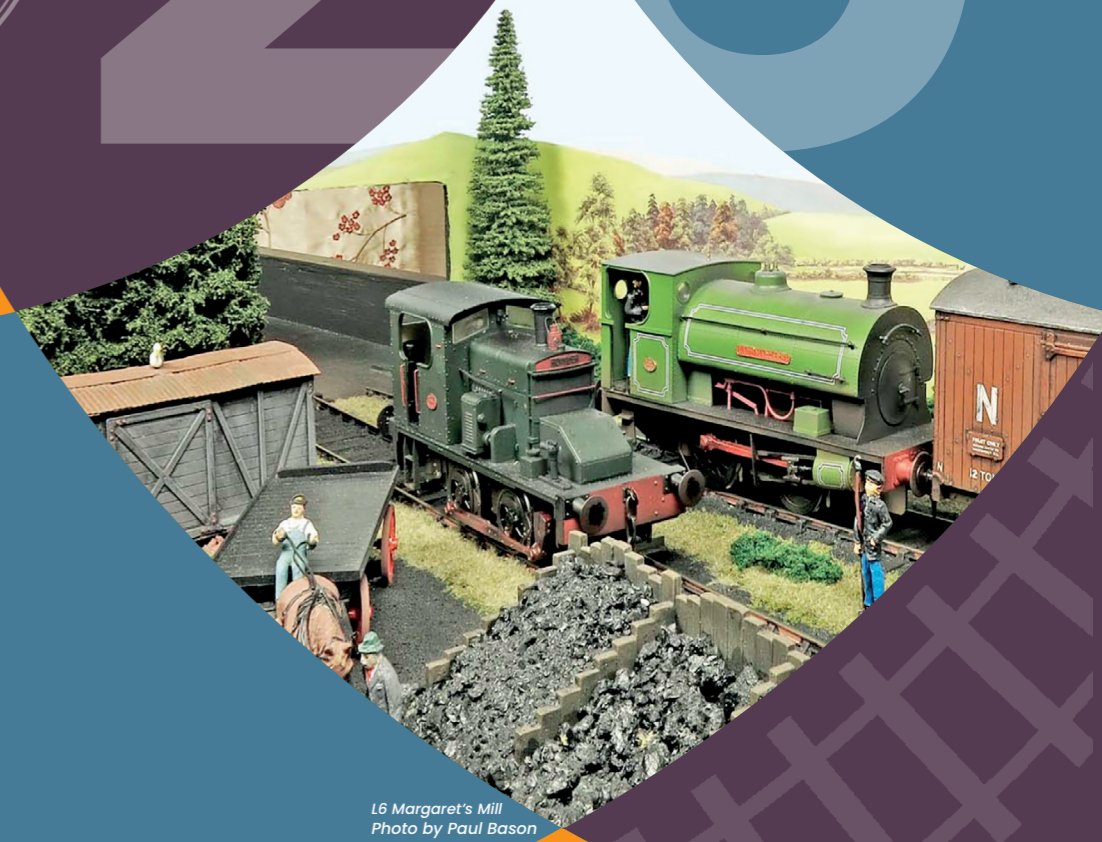
Keith Sharp, March & District MRC

Described as a 'Shunting Puzzle', the layout was designed to provide therapy for those with certain disabilities. It is regularly taken around local care homes and other organisations for those dealing with mental health issues, where patients and staff enjoy operating the trains themselves. At Kettering, visitors young and not-so-young will be invited to 'have a go', hopefully inspiring those who have yet to do so, to enter the fascinating world of O gauge railway modelling.

O Gauge Model Railway and Trade Show



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L6 Margaret's Mill
Photo by Paul Bason

Spring Show

Saturday 1st March 9.30-16:00

Kettering Leisure Village, Thurston Drive, Kettering, NN15 6PB

www.gaugeoguild.com