

Invitation

If you are interested in progressing from a train set to model railway, you are already an experienced railway modeller, or just want to see what it's all about, why not come and visit us one Tuesday. Don't be concerned that you won't be 'good enough'! Members have joined us fearful of starting their own layout and, by watching and taking part in the construction of the club layouts, they have gone on to build their own railway (or one for the children or grandchildren of course!).

Where and when we meet

We meet on Tuesday evenings from 19.00 until 22:00 in The Barge Building Shed at the National Trust's Dapdune Wharf, Wharf Road, Guildford, GU1 4RR (off Woodbridge Road near the Cricket Ground). The Club Room is fully accessible for disabled members and has a fully accessible toilet.

Because we meet when Dapdune Wharf is closed to the public the main entrance gate is kept locked, therefore please ring Jim Kemp on 07770 883562 prior to your visit, or email him at astolatmrc@sky.com.



Contact details for further information

Jim Kemp: 07770 883562

Or email us at: astolatmrc@sky.com

Website: www.astolatmrc.co.uk

Address for visitors (NOT mail please)

Dapdune Wharf, Wharf Road, Guildford, Surrey, GU1 4RR



Astolat

Model Railway Circle

Guildford, Surrey

www.astolatmrc.co.uk



Member of the Chiltern Model
Railway Association

Who we are

Situated in Guildford, Surrey, our friendly club caters for model railway enthusiasts in all scales and gauges. We have about 25 active members whose modelling interests span the periods from the Victorian era right through to modern image. Both standard and narrow gauge are catered for, and a number of members have an interest in industrial and mineral railways. Although most of the club layouts feature conventional control systems, several members have experience in DCC operation.

Layouts

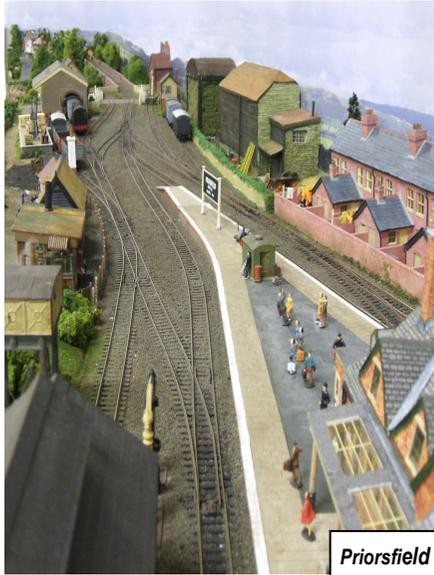
Traditionally we have built fictitious layouts and name them after local places, most of which never had a railway, and as such they are not generally affiliated to any particular railway company or region – being designed to allow stock owned by club members a chance to be run at exhibitions. After all, the object is to have fun and entertain visitors.

We do not run to timetables, and do not mind which region or type of rolling stock is run, although we do try to maintain some consistency in what is running at any particular time.

Current and new layouts

Priorsfield

A freelance OO gauge layout 22ft x 5ft which is half station area and half 'train in the country'. It also includes a village scene, a viaduct over a river with a canal emptying into a basin via a lock and a working watermill. Track is Peco code 75, so it looks much finer, but it will only accommodate members' more modern stock with the finer wheel profiles. Buildings are a mix of kit and scratch built. The layout is a through/terminus to fiddle yard representing the end of a branch somewhere south of the Severn-Wash line, which gives us the excuse to run it as belonging to any of the Big 4 companies or, more commonly, a mixture of two.



Whitmoor

Whitmoor is a freelance N gauge layout, 12'x3'. The layout has a continuous run, via a fiddle yard, on a double main line through the station. Additional terminal platforms at one end of the station are intended for branch line traffic (the branch line being the old Chacombe, Priorsfield & Whitmoor Railway) and suburban traffic to the "big city". The layout includes a goods yard and locomotive depot.

Savernake

We are in the process of constructing a new OO layout based on the twin stations at Savernake (MSWJR & GWR). This is a 24ftx12ft exhibition layout operated by DCC and set between 1935 and 1965. Laser-cut baseboards are now done, hand-built track laying is almost complete and electrical work is well under way.

Ashbury Wharf

Our very first layout now over 50 years old, it is a 6ft x 2ft6ins OO9 gauge layout representing a canal wharf with a freelance railway running around it.

Club nights

We meet on Tuesday evenings from 19.00 until 22:00 in The Barge Building Shed at the National Trust's Dapdune Wharf (off Woodbridge Road, behind the Cricket Ground).

Evenings are generally informal with plenty of time to chat with other members about model railways or railways in general and we always stop for a cup of tea or coffee (always with biscuits and sometimes cakes) at about 8.00pm. Work is usually carried out on at least one of the Club's model railway layouts and our members possess many different skill levels from experienced to novice. All are encouraged to help build the layouts and scenery.

Members usually divide into informal groups and if not helping with layout construction, spend the evening chatting with others or reading magazines or journals brought along by members. There is a test track for OO and N gauge and we have regular operating evenings where members can bring their own rolling stock and run it on the club layouts, practice shunting or run a branch train through the sleepy countryside.

We also arrange talks, demonstration and practice evenings; past ones include talks from Preservation Societies, soldering practice and layout wiring and there is always someone on hand to help with a problem.

Our exhibition

Our annual one-day exhibition in January has a fine reputation for showing layouts covering a wide variety of themes plus excellent trade support.

Outings

We usually have one outing each year where members indulge themselves in their railway interest and their partners can enjoy something a little less technical. Previous trips have included Bluebell Railway and Sheffield Park National Trust Gardens, Exbury Gardens near Southampton, Beconscot Model Village, Kent and East Sussex Railway and the Romney, Hythe and Dymchurch Railway.

Membership details

Prospective members are invited to join us on three Tuesday evening club meetings to see if what we offer meets your needs. The present adult membership fee is £60 per year.

The club welcomes junior members aged 14 years and over, but juniors must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Junior membership fees are 50% of the adult fee.