
West Midlands' N' Gauge Club



Newsletter



Supplemental Issue - March 2016

Major activity notice for Sunday 10th April 2016

Calling all N' Gauge Modellers:-

Following the success of the 2014 model railway exhibition, our chairman has arranged the considerable involvement of the West Midlands' N' Gauge Club in joining ***The Wonderful World of Trains and Planes (TWWTP)***, to bring another model railway exhibition to the venue, supplementing their permanent exhibition of layouts and modelling paraphernalia.

Some 14 or so layouts from members, and others, will join the existing exhibition at ***TWWTP*** for what promises to be another memorable day.

TWWTP is located at 3 Mary Ann Street, St. Paul's Square, Birmingham B3 1BG
Telephone 0121 227 4000

Free vehicle parking in adjacent streets is available on Sundays – please park in any suitable bay - there is also a nearby multi-storey car park.

Nearest Midland Metro station is St. Pauls.
Railway Station is Birmingham Snow Hill.
Birmingham New Street is a short walk from the venue.
Many bus/tram services stop in and around Snow Hill.

Visiting layouts will include:- Our club's ***Tipton Hills*** layout

- Jane & Tony Minchin's ***Arley*** and ***Bridgnorth***
- a OO gauge tram layout, working via the tram poles
- Continental layouts
- An N'gauge tram layout, under construction, making its first appearance and much more.....

Information may be sought, in advance, from our chairman or from
hello@wwtrainsplanes.co.uk

The event will be on all 3 levels of the permanent exhibition at the venue.

Ashburton railway station

Ashburton station, along with the rest of the branch from Totnes, was opened by the Buckfastleigh, Totnes and South Devon Railway on 1 May 1872. The railway was amalgamated into the Great Western Railway in 1897 and this in turn was nationalised into British Railways on 1 January 1948. The station closed to passengers in November 1958 although goods traffic on the line continued until 7 September 1962.

The station was briefly re-opened by the Dart Valley Railway on 5 April 1969 following which occasional works trains operated but the station was closed finally in 1971 when the track bed between Ashburton and Buckfastleigh was needed for improvements to the A38 dual carriageway. We can only hope that such road schemes today would be more considerate of such unique history.



© save-ashburton-station

The station buildings with the important overall roof and the nearby goods shed both still stand as reminders of the town's railway past. The overall roof is one of the last remaining GWR ones in the country, but there are plans to knock down the station and redevelop the area. This is such a pity that such an important railway building will be lost for ever.

Some people are trying to save it – feel free to visit

<https://friendsofashburtonstation.co.uk/> and you can sign a petition to save the station at <https://you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/save-ashburton-railway-station>

There are several pictures of the station on the internet, and we should be pleased that people like Tony and Jane Minchin have built an N' gauge layout of this unique station. The layout has been mothballed for some years; it was originally built in 2009 / 2010.

Its great news that they have resurrected the layout and it will be a **special guest layout** at The Wonderful World of Trains and Planes in Birmingham on April 10th.

K.Jones

Ashburton

by Tony and Jane Minchin



Tony and Jane will also be showing:

Arley* and *Bridgnorth



They will also be at **Highley Station**, in the engine shed of the Severn Valley Railway, on the 16th and 17th April 2016.

A busy couple of weekends for the Minchins!

One of our Club layout's ***Tipton Hills***, will be there



Ken Jones will be presenting ***Salverton***



Christine and Rodney Hodge with ***Charlieville*** - American N Gauge

Attending for the 2nd time, Vince with 'not just a test track' ***Folda Way***

Sally Jones with an N' gauge tram layout under construction, using Kato track.
Plus at least 6 non-members bringing their layouts covering 009 and
continental railways and a OO gauge tram layout!

A FULL REPORT WILL BE IN OUR APRIL 2016 NEWSLETTER