

Alan Gibson News Letter

Welcome to our inaugural News Letter, which we hope we will be able to produce on a regular basis. We intend to use this News letter to keep customers up to date with the latest things within the business, these will include new products and developments, shows we are attending, kits we have available, etc.

New Products

Brass Centred Wheel Kits From our range of Driving, Bogie and Tender wheels we have produced a lost wax brass casting of the 'detail' wheel centre. The kit consists of 2 centres, 2 tyres either in OO/EM or S4 and a piece of axle material. The centre is produced with an undersized bore and an oversized outer diameter. Assembly is required and access to a lathe is essential. It is intended that the modeller will finish the bore of the wheel, use the bore to mount the wheel on a mandrel in a lathe and turn the outside true to the bore to a suitable size to fit the tyre. The modeller has the choice of how to fit the tyre and how, if any, insulation will be provided. The wheels available initially will be Bogie/Tender 4851, 4851C and 4851ST, Drivers 4854W, 4855E, 4855J, 4855L and 4855W. We will complete the range 4'7" wheels and then move on to the 6'2" and 6' sizes and the 3'3½" bogie/tender wheel.



Wheel Kit



Finished Wheels



Finished Wheels

The photographs show the wheel kit and how the wheels might be finished and we will also produce a guide sheet that will be available through the website and we have a sample display which will be available to view at the shows we are attending.

Self Quartering Wheels Although we have little to show (the customer) for this project progress is being made. There are two things that have come together to stop us proceeding as we intended. The first one is the fact that the wheels we would want to produce initially are the ones that will sell strongly i.e. most popular. It was ever so and in the earliest days of the range these were also the first wheels produced. This means that some of these wheels have a dimple to indicate where the modeller should drill the crankpin hole, rather than the crankpin hole moulded directly in to the wheel. It would make little sense to supply a self quartering wheel to make the modellers life easier and then have the modeller to drill out the crankpin holes. Therefore more involved tool modifications are required. The second thing is that the self quartering axle is relatively expensive to produce so to achieve a reasonable price we need to make a reasonable quantity and in three

lengths OO, EM and S4. Therefore it would make sense to have as many wheel patterns available as possible when the axles are produced to ensure strong sales to cover the cost of producing the axle. There is third, time, we are fortunate to be busy but it is frustrating that development suffers.

Modified Existing Products

Wagon Buffers

Our existing range of SPRUNG wagon buffers has been retooled to allow us to produce them in lost wax cast brass. The hole is now cast in to the body and will simply require the plaster cleaning from it. We feel this makes the product much easier to use than in previous days when the solid whitemetal buffer required drilling. See Catalogue Page 18 We have a sample display which will be available to view at the shows we are attending.



Wagon Underframe Kits

Our 4mm range of 9' and 10' wheelbase wagon underframe kits have had their castings retooled so that they are now produced on a single sprue in brass by the lost wax process. See Catalogue Page 19

Standard Two Shackle Coupling

We have also retooled this product so that all the components are on one sprue, a technique is used that ensures the holes in the shackles are cast through and the screw and tommy bar is sensitively sprued to protect it and ensure the detail is crisp. See Catalogue Page 12

Stanier Drain Cocks

Another retooling to prevent the pipes from distorting when cast.

Upcoming Shows

Our forthcoming shows are-

Scaleforum Saturday 24th and Sunday 25th September 2011 at Leisure Centre, Guildford Road, Leatherhead, Surrey KT22 9BL

Manchester MRS Saturday 1st and Sunday 2nd October 2011 at the Armitage Centre, Moseley Road, Fallowfield, Manchester M14 6ZT

Warley Saturday 19th Sunday 20th November 2011 Hall 5, National Exhibition Centre Birmingham B40 1NT

Kits

We have been steadily producing kits and kit components. Sometimes by the time we produce a batch of kits some people no longer require them. Whilst this is unfortunate for us, it means we have them in stock for other people to buy. Therefore available to buy now and at the shows listed above are

4mm LNER F6/GE G69
4mm LNER F7/GE G69
4mm LMS 7F Austin 7
4mm GWR 517
4mm GWR 633
4mm LMS Jinty

We are currently packing

4mm LNER J15/GE Y14
4mm LNER F4/F5 / GE M15
4mm LNER E4 / GE T26
4mm S&D 7F
7mm LBSC 54' Bogie Carriages

We will soon be packing

4mm GWR 1076 (Buffalo) Pannier
4mm LNER J11 / GC J9
4mm MR/LMS 4F
4mm MR/LMS 3F
4mm LMS 2P
7mm S&D 7F

News Letter

If you picked this news letter up from a exhibition you may not be aware that we send them out by email. To stay up to date and receive future editions of this news letter you can subscribe to the email version by send and email to newsletter@alangibsonworkshop.com with **SUBSCRIBE** in the subject field.

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