LEIGHTON BUZZARD

Tony Gee & Ken Hill, Doncaster, South Yorkshire.
Period: Great Central Railway 1907.
Layout Size: 9' x 7' L Shape.
Gauge: EM 18.2mm.
Scale: 4mm. to 1' / 1:76.

Leighton Buzzard is part of the famous Buckingham Branch, built by the Late Rev. Peter Denny, who started the project in 1947. Some of what you see today dates back to that time, although the layout was constantly being modified and rebuilt.

Much has been written about the Buckingham Branch. Peter wrote a book charting its development and followed this with a succession of articles in the model press. It is true to say that his railway became one of those iconic layouts that encoraged many subsequent modellers.

Peter Denny did exhibit part of the layout just once, at the Model Railway Journal Exhibition in 1990. However the Denny family have now agreed that Leighton Buzzard will occasionaly be exhibited as a memorial to Peter and to give a wider opportunity to people to see his exceptional work, built at a time when very little was available to support a true railway modeller.

So we welcome you to the Great Central Railway in the year 1907. We hope that what you see forms a fitting tribute to one of the pioneers of the hobby generally and to EM gauge in particular.

Photograph by Jonathan Wealleans.

LOCH TAT

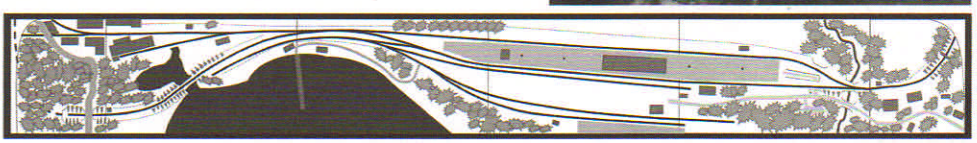
Adrian Lambourne, Loughborough.
Period: Ex-N.B.R. in Blue Diesel Era 1990 to 2000.
Layout Size: 16' x 8'.
Gauge: N 9mm.
Scale: 2mm. to 1' / 1: 148.

Having visited Scotland on many occasions, this layout represents my attempt to represnt the slendour of the scenery to be found in the Western Highlands. Although not based on any real location, Loch Tat is a layout that is based upon the West Highland line built by the North British Railway from Glasgow to Fort William and then on to Mallaig. Utalising the main advantage of the smaller scale of N Gauge, namely the ability to represent trains running through scenery in a small space, the area around a typical West Highland chalet styled station is represented, complete with Loch.

Until relatively recently, little money was spent on the railway system in Scotland, so very little has changed during the period from the 1970's to the current date. The layout can therfore be run to represent a number of eras. Trains typical of the line are seen winding their way through the station, across the causeway before entering the Tunnel.

Many of the buildings have been scratch built, using Plasticard to represent the prototypes found in the area. Other buildings are heavily modified proprietary products.The many trees have also been hand crafted to add depth to the scenery. Many of the scenes depicted represent events I have witnessed on my many visits to Scotland. In particular, look out for 'Young' Master McKaye moving his beasties onto fresh pastures.

The layout is fully signalled and utilises etched brass semaphore signal, which are operated using Fulgurex pointmotors. The ground signals are unfortunately scenic only. The trackwork is Peco Finescale. Although the stock is mainly Dapoll and Farish, most items have been weathered, close coupled and detailed to enhance their appearance. Kit built items are also beginning to appear as and when I have time to build them.



Photograph and trackplan courtesy of Adrian Lambourne.