

Deal & District Model Railway Society

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DOVER TOWN HALL : 27th – 28th JUNE 1992

Until the cowardly and heartless attack upon the Royal Marines' School of Music this Society had presented, for many years, magnificent exhibitions in a large drill hall. In spite of the visually more interesting building the Town Hall was an enforced second best for this event, having less adaptable space, poor lighting, poor access and poor parking.

However, there was again a fine selection of models of all shapes and sizes and trade stands where you could dispose of your unwanted money for tempting new or second-hand pieces.

For the miniaturist there was 'N' gauge (2mm=1ft) showing a vastness of landscape with chalk cliffs and a distant castle and church above the station. American and Continental enthusiasts were catered for in 'HO' (3.5mm=1ft) with dramatic scenery surrounding operating trains.

Most layouts were in the popular '00' scale (4mm=1ft) showing an excellent selection of locomotives and rolling stock trundling through rural landscapes or industrial settings with terraced houses. The delightful Southern layout of the River M.R.C. had nodding cows, a smoking chimney and tiny rabbits hanging up outside the lighted butcher's shop. A fine Welsh narrow-gauge layout really oozed atmosphere as the characterful locomotives scaled the levels to the foundries.

Memories of the not-so-old were re-kindled by a well-presented Hornby Dublo 3-rail layout from Canterbury, whilst an Ashford enthusiast brought joy to the Hornby '0' gauge (7mm=1ft) fanatics with his beautiful tinplate items. A friend and I also provided nostalgia, using my pre-war '0' gauge layout to operate examples by Bassett-Lowke, Hornby, LMC, Bing, etc.

And if you like real steam, what better than the smell drifting from the modern, large-scale models of narrow-gauge locomotives, double-heading a log train.

Something for all; a pity all were not there. Brilliant weather drove them to the beach or the garden!