

GrumblinG Goods

GrumblinG Goods was designed as layout for a child (or adult) to enjoy operating at the 2011 Gloucester Model Railway Club (GMRC) show.

The layout was unexpectedly popular, with nominations for "Best in Show". The local newspaper carried a picture of it. Children loved to drive the "G" scale engines - roughly 1:30, and twice the size of "00".

The track consists of a simple circuit, with a loop and three sidings of varying length. Principal buildings are a British station, signal box, house, bridge, platelayers' hut, water tower and coal stock.

There is one power supply/controller, with various isolating breaks in sidings.

Rolling stock usually consists of a blue tank engine hauling named coaches and also a green 0-4-0 saddle tank (both made famous by the Rev. Awdry) with a short goods train from the Bachmann Thomas range. They can be replaced or augmented with stock from other manufacturers as required.

A large car is used to move the layout. Two people can set it up in about an hour, and rather less to dismantle. It has been shown outdoors under favourable weather conditions.

During the GMRC 2011 show, one visitor gave an invitation to visit the care home where she worked, as entertainment and a talking-point for the residents. Since that initial visit, GrumblinG Goods has returned and also appeared in other care homes.

In care homes, the models are used to initiate railway-related reminiscences from the residents. Members of the Gloucester Model Railway and their wives help children and adults to drive the trains. We try to spend as much time as possible listening to the residents, who are encouraged to operate the layout.

The layout is also suitable for fund-raising events e.g. school fairs, fetes, where children could be charged to drive the engines.

Dimensions and Gallery.

The boards measure approximately 8ft 6in by 5ft, with space needed at each side for erection. The layout can be extended by 4 ft to add visual appeal and allow even more children to watch the trains. Both layouts are shown in the two pictures below.



Technical data

Rolling stock and buildings are from a range of manufacturers. The layout uses LGB track of 45mm gauge.

Bookings

Please contact the layout owner:

Malcolm Smith

Tel: 01452 617862.

A charge is usually made to cover expenses.

For fund raising events, e.g. Christmas Fairs, fetes etc., we can either charge each child to drive the engines, or allow children free access by arrangement. Please contact me to discuss your requirements.