

# DOGA Web mail

Compiled by Gerald Lloyd Williams

Those who are not regular DOGA Web-users probably have little idea of the range of subjects that come up for discussion - usually as a result of a member's query. The result is a daily miscellany of wit, wisdom, technical detail, frivolity and sage advice.

As a sampler, the following subjects come to mind from the recent weeks' input: what lubricant to use on Athearn motor trucks and where to obtain it; Cohn Ashby as the source of Kirk kits; a sticky motor problem leading to a discussion of hot-wiring versus mini-connectors between locos and tenders, and other possible solutions; what makes the perfect show at an acceptable price; Bachmann 20T brakes; flush-glazing problems; motorising EFE underground models; the long-running, still-running saga of the returned Bachmann Al 5; C & L and P4

A fine example of the discursive way one subject leads to another began with Phil Parker announcing that he had posted a picture on the Gallery section of the DOGA website of the radio-controlled Clyde Puffer he had built, leading on one hand to a discussion on how many hours a week it was possible to give to effective modeling; while on the other to some rather unserious speculations on how correctly to scale the water molecules and, from the Guru of Catfood, our revered Chairman, this comment "What with moving vehicles and sailing ships the days of multiple fiddle yards are fast approaching. One for trains, one for boats, one for cars. At this rate we'll be adding a rest room for moving figures before the decade is out. I wonder what Peter Denny could make of it. The automatic Crispin, The automatic Admiral, The automatic traffic Warden and The automatic Saint Peter."

At the back end of February, the discussion of the moment was on the new Hornby Pullmans:

18/2 Charlie Bloomfield: Well, Model Rail arrived today and I was interested in the advert for the new Hornby Matchboard Pullmans. However, having got past the first couple of pages, I have just had a phone call saying that the sheet sided Pullmans are now also out. Anyone shed any light on this, and I don't mean table lamp lights. The first to appear have been in a Bournemouth Belle set with a Merchant and a box of 3 coaches is also available separately, but these are already on back order.

19/2 Stuart May: I notice in the full page advert in the February RM, in the left-hand box, the last item says: "Aluminum and match board variants", so I expect that both types will be available now. Have you had a look at the Hornby website?

19/2 Colin Snowdon: I've seen the Bournemouth Belle set and the Pullmans are all they say they are. These were the plain sided version.

19/2 Alvar York: The Hornby website is out of date and some of the features have still not been installed. I had a quick look. Issue date still first quarter, no press release, on detail under the pictures of the coaches says lighting designed to take minimal current.."

19/2 Charlie Bloomfield: No. I haven't looked at the website lately, there never seems to be anything going on. Although the B'mth set is out, the pack of 3 sheet sided Pullmans will be out in 2 weeks time. one of the coaches being Fingall, which is preserved on the Bluebell of course. Understand that these are an extension of the B'mth Belle set and will have Belle signs on them. It is probable that these are sold out already. It is going to be towards the end of the year before these are available in earlier (eastern) guise.

2112 Stuart May: Has anyone as yet purchased the NEW Hornby Pullmans 7 If so, can they please tell me the system of lighting installed ?

21/2 Colin Snowdon: No I haven't but yes I can! The coaches pick up via the wheels and current is fed via a resistor to the lamps the head of which are shaped LEDs. The lights are on from the instant you crack the controller open and some way before the loco moves. The theory I think is that a good driver can bring the train to a stand but leave the lights on. They are only -available at my local shop in the Bournemouth Belle set £ 125:00 the extra coach pack as Charlie says is the hack hall of the same train. I want some of the loose cars that the Southern was wont to hung into trains.

21/2 Stuart May: Thanks for that. My main reason for asking is because, Hornby. as far as I know, cater for 12v DC, and I have DCC, which means 16v AC into the track. However, if the resistors do their job, then I will also be able to use the coaches on my layout. I will have to wait anyway as I want the Eastern Region versions

22/2 Charlie Bloomfield: Last night I made a brief visit to a club down here and had a look at a Bournemouth Belle set it looked quite impressive with 9 Pullmans behind [a Merchant Navy]. Seems as though one of them had paid £110 for the set, irrespective, the individual Pullmans look like they are going to retail, if there is such a thing, at £22.50, but you can already forward order for £19.50. With B'mann Mark I's being anything between £15 and 20, this is a really good price for a model of this quality, the only thing really missing was passengers or customers if you prefer.

23/2 John Hargreaves: Had a trip up Glasgow yesterday, the Pullman train pack could be purchased for £ 100.00. from C&G Model Railways.

28/2 Charlie Bloomfield: Have had a closer look at the coaches, the couplings are the latest Hornby model with a slightly flexible base which is screwed to the end of the extending coupling arm. Very impressive.

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