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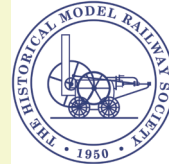
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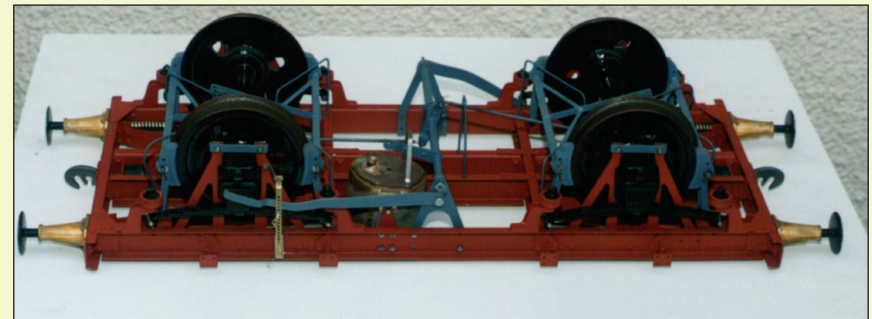
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Constructing ^{5" GAUGE} Wagons



Doug Hewson



To be published by the HMRS, May 2017

The names of all those subscribing before 31 March 2017 will be listed in the book

Doug Hewson writes about the book:

It is essentially about the construction in some detail of wagons from around 1923 until around the middle 1960s which reflects those which were around during my own train spotting days. As a wagon (or rolling stock) enthusiast myself, I am always searching for the kind of detail which completes a wagon so that when photographed from the right angle people ask "Is that a model or is it the real thing?" If people have to ask, I feel that I have achieved my goal. One thing I enjoy is to go and sit under a wagon to measure all the detail which usually cannot be seen by the general public or from photos, so that I can get the detail as near to scale as possible. I always say that if it is built correctly in the first place then it will not only work correctly but will look right.

I am hoping that this book will be useful to modellers of any scale as the detail which we use is all based on full size practice. To this end chapter 4 shows how to make all the basic RCH components which are used in wagon construction. Other non-standard details are described in chapter 7 during the construction of some typical examples.

Chapter 5 is purely devoted to wagon brake gear of various types, nevertheless all quite common, with photos showing a lot of the normally hidden detail, as well as drawings, and descriptions of how to make them work. In the smaller gauges this is not essential, of course, but when building 5" gauge wagons it is very desirable to have working hand brakes. Because of the scale of the task I set myself, I have only covered Mineral, Opens, Vans and Brake Vans. The main things I look for to assist

with modelling, or full size for that matter, are drawings and detail photos, and chapter 6 is purely a photo album of these types of wagon with as many as I could find room for. The idea is to show the subtle detail differences between one Diagram number and the next and the progression of the design from one to another. The chapter is also meant to aid recognition of wagons of various companies and types, as they all have their own distinctions, even within that same company.

Chapter 7 deals with the actual construction of several typical wagon types, so that once the basics are understood the details can be used for many other types which are not covered. I have tried to avoid repetition so in this chapter there are also details which are not covered in Chapter 4. The drawings are half scale for 5" gauge modellers, with dimensions for this scale, but there is a comprehensive chart giving the equivalent measurements for all the common scales from 2 mm/ft to 12 in/ft.

I have included a chapter on working vacuum brakes. Other friends (and I) had already built locomotives with working vacuum brakes in 5" gauge and I wanted to build rolling stock to couple up to them, not least because I wanted hear the squeal of the brakes when a train pulled up slowly at a signal check. When the brakes are applied the squeal is very realistic.

One thing which has not penetrated the 5" gauge world very far yet is weathering even though people look at mine and say "doesn't it look realistic". To this end I have included a chapter on how I do mine.

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