



## The Standard Gauge Workbench (SGW)

The Scalefour Society is pleased to announce a new initiative for members. This will be to build a small layout where the scenic section does not exceed the dimension of UK Standard Gauge (four feet eight and one half inches) in length. These notes give the framework of the initiative.

### Concept

1. The idea of the SGW is to encourage those Society members that are new to finescale modelling, or have never completed a layout previously to build a layout to P4 standards. It may also act as a refresher for those established members that wish to undertake a smaller piece of modelling.
2. The layout could be designed for either home or exhibition use.
3. Help and advice towards participants will be encouraged with the aim of making it a valuable experience for all participating.

### Participation

4. Participation in the SGW by Society members is encouraged through the Society Forum and through publication of items in Scalefour News.
5. The Society will establish a dedicated area on the Society Forum for members to share and discuss their progress in designing and building their layout.
6. If desired, each participant will have a workbench thread of their own on the Forum within this area made available to them for them to post content, pictures and questions.

### Layout design criteria

7. The SGW invites modellers to design and build a layout built using P4 standards of track and wheels.
  - The layout can represent any period of railway history.
  - The layout must be built to a scale of 4mm to one foot.
  - Any locomotive or item of rolling stock must be fitted with wheels to P4 standards and be capable of running on track to a gauge of 18.83mm or as described below.
  - Models of prototypes designed to run on track narrower or wider than the standard prototype gauge of 4 feet 8 ½ inches will be accepted provided that wheels and track are to the relevant P4 standards.
8. The **maximum length** of the visible section of the layout may be **4'8½"**.
9. The **minimum length** of the visible section of the layout may be **1200mm**. This enables the use of standard 1200 x 500mm extruded polystyrene insulation boards. These may be obtained from DIY superstores.
10. There is **no minimum or maximum depth** restriction on the visible section of the layout. Any shape of baseboard(s) can be used.



11. The fiddle yard(s) may be of any length or depth.
12. In order to give operational and visual interest, as well as encouraging the development of P4 modelling skills each participating layout must contain at least two working points. Trap or catch points are not counted as working points.
13. The production of interesting, unusual or innovative layouts is strongly encouraged.

### **Entrants**

14. Layouts may be the work of individuals, informal groups, clubs or area groups of the Scalefour Society.
15. If the layout is intended for exhibition (at Scaleforum or elsewhere) the completed layout and all ancillary items, including rolling stock, has to be portable and capable of being transported to exhibitions by a private car or public transport and be erected and operated by a maximum of two people. This is to encourage the economical appearance of layouts promoting finescale modelling.

### **Recognition and Publicity**

16. This initiative is not a Challenge or Competition of the Scalefour Society and no judging will take place. No prizes will be awarded. However recognition may be given to layouts when they are completed to the owner's satisfaction in the form of a certificate or other token.
17. The Scalefour Society may invite certain layouts, as either finished layouts or as work-in-progress, to be shown as part of Scaleforum 2014 and/or Scalefour North 2015 or any subsequent events. The layouts and exhibitors will be treated as normal invited exhibitors.
18. The Scalefour Society may wish to publicise the progress of the SGW in its own publications or through the model railway press. This may include details of layouts, descriptions submitted or photographs of work in progress. This material may be taken from the Society Forum or submissions to Scalefour News as appropriate. Credit to the originator will be given wherever possible.

### **Administration**

19. As this is an initiative to encourage modelling to the interests of participants and not a competition, formality is **not** expected and indeed will be discouraged.
20. If members have any questions regarding the SGW itself (e.g. regarding News articles or Forum administration) then they are invited to contact either:
  - Ian Everett ([SGW@scalefour.org](mailto:SGW@scalefour.org)) or
  - Paul Willis ([depchairman@scalefour.org](mailto:depchairman@scalefour.org))

or to ask on the relevant part of the Society Forum.