

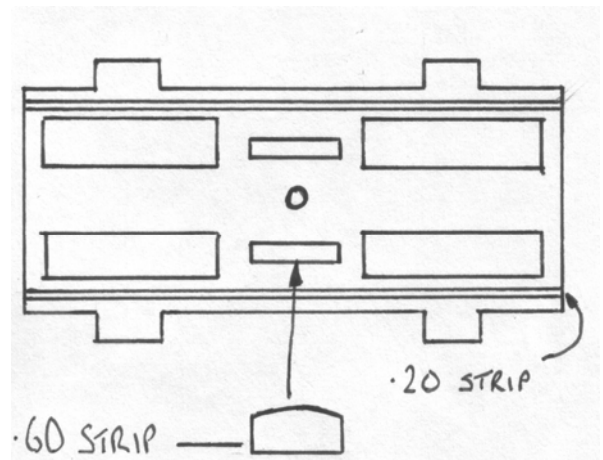
Tales from Barlow Works

Project Gresley

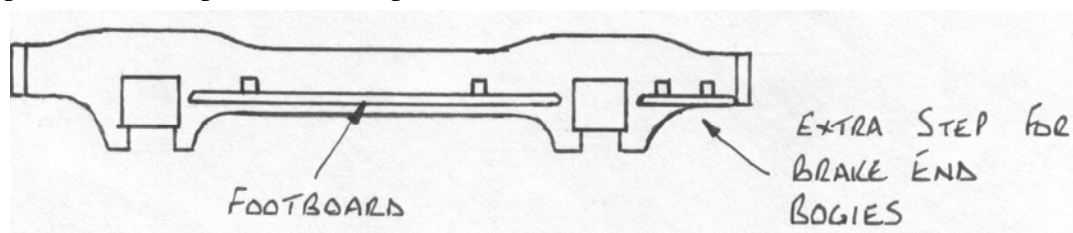
Part Five:- Bogies, steps and footboards

For the bogies I used Slaters 3ft 7in coach wheels. The bearings are a press fit into the side frames which I did using a smooth jawed vice to slowly press the bearings home. On my first bogie I found that the sides would not quite fit vertically when the wheels were fitted. This may have been a problem with the one kit or the way I put it together, but I adopted the following method on all the coaches and free running bogies resulted in every case. Cut a strip of .20 black plasticard the same thickness as the bogie stretcher and glued it to the outside of both edges. Fit the wheels into the bearings and glue the side frames in place, making sure that the sides are square and vertical and all four wheels touch the ground. It is best if the bogies are assembled on a piece of plate glass or a flat surface to ensure that they are square.

The bogie has a pivot moulding that goes over the pivot hole. Before glueing in place measure the two mouldings when placed together and keep a note of the dimension for later. Glue the pivot moulding in place and when dry ease the pivot hole to accept the pivot bolt. On one bogie only take a piece of .60 black plasticard and cut it to the thickness of the bogie pivot mouldings we measured earlier, by about 10mm wide. Carefully file a slight curve on one edge and glue the plasticard in place on the bogie top on the centre line and in line with the wheels. This will stop the coach from rocking on the pivots as it moves down the track. Finally fit the bolster moulding and the spring bases from the kit in place on the bogie.



The bogies will require footboards and for this I used the plastic strip provided in the kit. Measure the distance between the bogies and cut the footboard strip to length. File a small curve on the outside corners and carefully scrape the edges round with the edge of a blade, then stick in place. I added small strips of .20 black plasticard to represent the brackets.



Bogies on the brake end of a coach also require a small step on the outer end of the bogie as well, below the guards door. This is fitted in the same way as the big footboards. The bogies can be held in place temporarily with two nuts on each bolt to lock in place but nylon locknuts are available for the final assembly if required.

Footboards can now be added to the solebars using the strip provided. They are continuous on the compartment side but on the corridor side they are 20mm long and are only below the doors, level with the hinges on the door and continuing under the handrail position.

I am not sure if the LMS coaches have footboards, consult drawings and photographs and fit as required. I would imagine overall fixing will be pretty much the same.

Next we will assemble the buffers.