



MERG Somerset Area Group

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How do I contact the Somerset Area Group



Click to send us a message,
[MERG Somerset Area Group contact form](#)

Who are the leaders of the group?



M1925 Paul Howes *Group Leader*
M4418 Anthony Braithwaite *Deputy Group Leader*
M6456 Malcolm Asker *Group Communications Officer*

Can I join you today?

[First Join MERG here](#)



Then make sure you join the Somerset Area Group when you are signed up and bolster the **240** members currently subscribed to our Area Group.

[Join the Somerset Area Group](#)

Select **Somerset Area Group** from the drop down list in **Other Area Groups** and press the **Subscribe to Area Group** button.

How do you meet?

The group normally meets on the first Saturday of every month between 10am and 1pm in Yeovil, Somerset. Meetings include some or all of the following:

- A presentation
- A session on a group project
- A practical workshop



Occasionally we meet from 10am to 4pm for an extended workshop session. Dates for meetings are held in the [MERG meetings diary](#) unless otherwise stated or see **When are the next Meetings?** below.

The meetings are normally held at St James Church, Preston Road, Yeovil. Anyone wishing to attend a meeting can get directions from the group via the contact form.



The group also meets two weeks later on a Friday every month between 11am and 12noon via Zoom

This meeting is called a “Coffee Break” which as the name implies is a relaxed chat about all sorts of topics which could include you jlt problem, your layout, the meeting etc.



COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS FOR GATHERINGS Due to the pandemic meetings are currently subject restrictions such as wearing a mask in the hall (no need outside) with hall subject to increased ventilation with doors and windows open.

Do you hold workshops?

"Yes we do, sometimes together with a meeting sometimes a separate event."



- Members bring their own kits to assemble with help from others in the group where required
- Members bring their own built kit for where they have failed to get it working or need to share test equipment
- Any electronic circuit is welcome not just MERG kits
- Members work on the current group projects together
- Members interconnect working kits and add hardware to learn how kits can work together

What do you do at your coffee break meetings?




Members of the group meet online via Zoom software and share what they have been up to showing examples of kits they have built, railway related construction projects, ask questions where they had issues and generally help each other with advice and comments. There is a fair amount of chat and banter as members enjoy themselves in a light and friendly atmosphere.

When are the next meetings?

Date	Event	Description	Location	Link
10:00 04-May	MERG Somerset Area Group Meeting	This is an online meeting where Paul H will present A beginners guide to LightBurn software for creating designs for Laser cutting on a cheap laser cutter. Time for other discussions/presentations will be available contact us to request a slot. <i>To get zoom joining information ensure that you are subscribed to the Somerset Area Group in (Your Profile) and view the meeting in (My Upcoming Events).</i>	Online Zoom Meeting	
11:00 17-May	MERG Somerset Area Group Virtual Coffee Break	This is an online coffee break where members can relax and chat among themselves about Projects, Progress, Problems and Successes.	Online Zoom Meeting	
10:00 01-Jun	MERG Somerset Area Group Workshop	Subjects to be decided nearer the time but a practical session so bring your tools and equipment to be sure of contributing. Feel free to bring your questions and non-working kits along for help by other members.	St James Church Hall, Preston Road Yeovil BA21 3RL	



 If you are already a MERG member, then You need to subscribe to the Somerset Area Group which ensures you get an emailed invite to all the above meetings



[Join the Somerset Area Group](#)

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Where can I see what the group gets up to?

[Click here for a Gallery of events](#)



Local Links

Clubs

- [West Camel Model Railway Society](#)
- [Yeovil Model Railway Group](#)

Heritage Railways



- [East Somerset Railway](#)
- [North Dorset Railway \(Shillingstone Project\)](#)
- [Seaton Tramway](#)
- [Swanage Railway](#)
- [Swindon and Cricklade Railway](#)
- [West Somerset Railway](#)
- [Yeovil Railway centre](#)

Shops

- [Aspire Gifts and Models](#)



- [Buffers Model Railways](#)
- [DCC Train Automation](#)
- [East Somerset Models](#)
- [Frome Model Centre](#)
- [Signals Models \(Midsomer Norton\)](#)
- [The Model Shop \(Exeter\)](#)

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