Electronics for Model Railways

Here are my thoughts on this book. I don't know if it is good but it is certainly big, with 22 chapters, around 450 pages and about 700 images and illustrations. Hopefully, it will act as a useful resource. To that end, all comments are welcome. You can reach me at <u>davydick@hotmail.co.uk</u>

Why do it?

I believe that there is a need for a book that tries to encompass the broad electronic facets of our hobby. It is intended to help new members and those who might be drawn to our activities.

There is not a lot of material out there, mainly old texts or books that solely cover DCC. I think that the contents will be widely welcomed.

I have trialled the book to selected members covering a range of knowledge and experience, with favourable feedback.

Who owns the book?

This is not intended as a 'MERG publication'. I will retain ownership of the book.

That is not to say that I think the book is perfect. I welcome suggestions for corrections,

amendments, addenda, etc., so that the book can develop to meet the broadest needs and to keep up with technological changes.

However, it is not a 'Wiki', where individuals can remove and change the contents to match their own personal preferences or hobby horses.

The book will remain as one document – albeit in two volumes.

Any conditions?

The book is intended as a service to the model railway community.

It is not a commercial product.

It is strictly a non-profit production.

It must not be used for monetary gain.

It will be free to distribute and read.

There will be no changes to book contents or its use without permission of the author.

How will it be distributed?

To keep the book free, and to allow for continuing improvements, there will be no printed version. It will be available in PDF format, with possible tweaking for Kindle users at some stage. It comprises two volumes so that they are small enough to be handled by most email systems.

How can MERG use it?

Apart from the benefit of access to the contents, MERG could use it as a recruiting tool.

It could be added to the new members CD. [It will be.]

It could be added to the Download section of the website. [It will be.]

It could be used for publicity at MERG stands at exhibitions. [It will be.]

It could be made available through other model railway magazines, thus achieving free advertising of MERG.

I have added a section on MERG, explaining what we do, what we offer – including a membership application form that can be printed out.

[Davy's book is being distributed to MERG members on a CD in the 2014 No.4 Journal mailing.]

