

WEATHERING COURSE



Here are the details for the weathering course which will take place in the Goods Shed at the Rushden Transport Museum & Railway, Rushden Station, Northamptonshire, over the weekend of **13th to 16th August 2021**.

Please note that all dates are subject to Covid restrictions, the course will be postponed if it is not safe to run it on the planned date. We will put in place any Covid safety procedures specified by the Government at the time. At the time of writing, restrictions are being lifted in line with the Government timetable, so we hope to be able to welcome you on the planned date.

The catering details listed here may be subject to change, depending on any Covid restrictions and your safety.

Arrivals are from 4pm on Friday afternoon 13th August, the course will run to about 5pm on Sunday afternoon 15th August. For those who arrive on Friday evening, you will have a chance for informal discussions with the tutors, getting set up and organised ready to go for Saturday morning. On each full course day, the venue will be open from about 8am for tea, coffee and bacon butties, with the course starting at 9am on each day.

We also have an optional follow-on extra day on Monday 16th August. This will be allow you to continue with your projects with the assistance and guidance of your tutor.

Your course tutor will be weathering and airbrush guru Mick Bonwick, well known from the Missenden Abbey Railway Modellers weekends and Pendon Museum workshops. Mick is planning to retire from tutoring at the end of this year, so grab this chance to benefit from Mick's experience and skills as a tutor, whilst you still can. We will limit numbers to make sure everyone gets good value from the weekend.



This course is suitable for everyone from complete beginners who know nothing about weathering, to seasoned weathering practitioners who want to improve and hone their skills.

The course format will be mainly practical, with Mick giving you the theory and guidance, and training on techniques, as you go along. The tuition is delivered through a mixture of demonstration and hands-on processes to practice the techniques.

Weathering of rolling stock, buildings and everything else on the layout is now very popular, and pretty much a requirement for many. However, it can seem very much like a black art and Mick will dispel the mystery and teach you the techniques to give you the confidence to getting started with weathering your own models.



Although some of the techniques involve the use of an airbrush, many involve hand finishing and brush work as well.

Topics covered will include (but not be limited to):

- Choice of equipment, tools and materials
 - Washes, paints, pigments, powders, oils, pastels, brushes etc
 - Preparation of models
 - Using prototype reference material
 - Airbrush weathering
 - Cleaning, care and maintenance of your airbrush and other tools
 - Safety with airbrushes, solvents and paints
 - Colour washes
 - Dry Brushing
 - Filters, dusting etc.
 - Fading, streaking, rust-pitting and layering
 - Finishing and detailing
 - Heavy vs Light weathering, how to get that subtle effect on something less dirty
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Mick will have with him sufficient state of the art workstations, with airbrush, compressor and spray booths with fume extraction, to allow no more than 2 people sharing a workstation during the course.

This means that if you don't yet have your own airbrush, you don't need to rush and out buy one. You can come on the course, learn about the pros and cons of the different types, and make a decision with Mick's guidance before you purchase your own.

Mick will also have with him a selection of materials, paints, pigments, powders etc that you can purchase during the course. So as you learn what you need, you can purchase a lot of it there and then if you wish.

What to bring

As mentioned above, Mick will have sufficient materials and equipment with him so you can largely purchase what you need as you go along.

1. If you already have an airbrush (or several), and/or compressor, bring along what you have so you can get advice on suitability and learn to use it with Mick's guidance and advice.
2. It is important to bring with you some models to practice on, perhaps some older ones you are less bothered about to start with! Bear in mind that weathering alone will not turn a toy into a model, so try and bring something that looks realistic to start with.
3. You will need reference material, photographs of the real thing in a similar dirty state to that you would like to replicate – otherwise known as “dirty photographs”! Copying other people's weathering is not recommended.

You can trawl model railway magazines and the Internet for suitable photos.

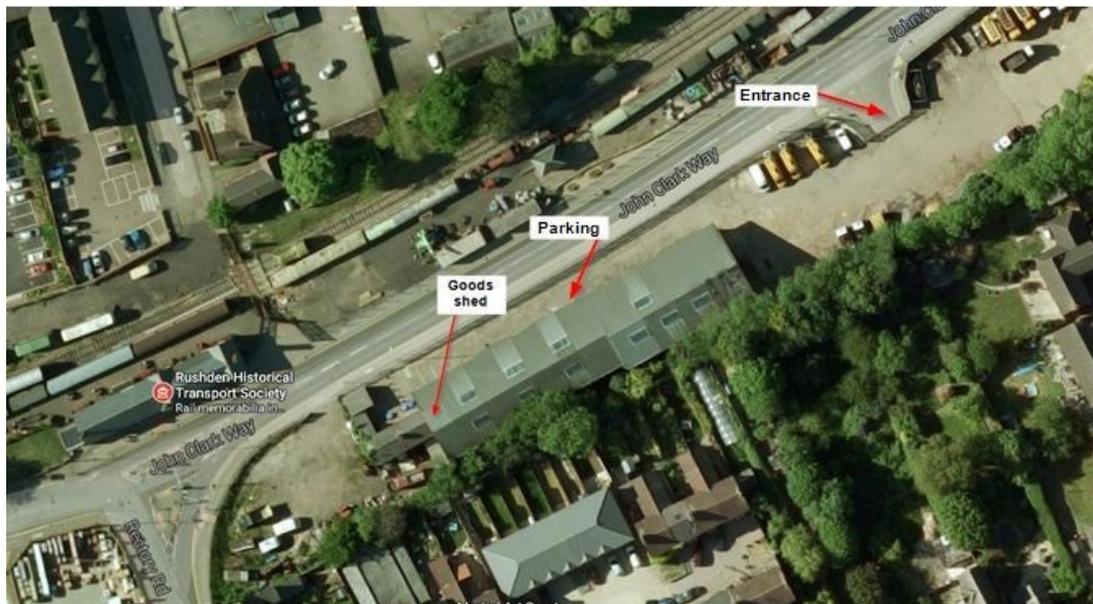
4. An apron and/or old clothes (it can get messy)
5. Face mask and/or breathing protection for solvents (check whether the mask you are planning to use is suitable, those sold for Covid19 protection may or may not be suitable)
6. If you already have them, bring these tools and materials with you, but as mentioned above, there will be an opportunity to purchase items at the course:
 - Paints. Acrylic or enamel, whichever you prefer, including black/dark grey, white, rusty brown (Humbrol 62 is suitable).
 - Weathering Powders (Pigments). Recommended are MIG, Abteilung 502, AK Interactive or AMMO.
 - Thinners. White spirit for enamels, paint manufacturer's own acrylic thinners or Ultimate Acrylic Thinners.
 - Small glass containers for holding thinners.
 - Paintbrushes. Round no.2, rigger no.1 or 2, filbert no.4 and wide flat (1/2" or so)
 - Cotton buds, paper towels, disposable pipettes and cocktails sticks.

The Course Venue

**The Goods Shed
Rushden Station
John Clark Way
Rushden
Northamptonshire
NN10 0AW**

Rushden Historic Transport Society (RHTS) are based at the restored Rushden Station. They recently acquired the historic goods shed across the road, it having previously been in use as a council depot, which now forms part of the Rushden Transport Museum and Railway. See www.rhts.co.uk for more information.

Rushden Transport Museum is signposted from the A6 Rushden bypass and parking is available directly outside:



If you would like to come by train, the nearest main line railway station is Wellingborough. We can arrange to collect you from the station.

The course room is on the ground floor and has a ramp for step free access if required.

If you need more information about accessibility, please get in touch.

Local Accommodation

The course fee does not include overnight accommodation so, unless you live locally enough to travel each day, you will need to book your own hotel.

Here is a list of some local hotels. This list is not exhaustive, and was compiled pre-Covid 19, so some things may have changed and the inclusion or not of a hotel on this list does not imply any particular recommendation or otherwise.

You can also try online booking websites such as trip advisor, laterooms.com, booking.com and trivago.co.uk. Recent course attendees have also had good results using airbnb.com.

Travelodge Wellingborough Rushden

**A45 Eastbound,
Rushden,
Northamptonshire
NN10 6AP**

Tel: 08719 846115
www.travelodge.co.uk

About 1.7 miles from the course venue, however please note that it is only accessible from the Eastbound carriageway of the A45, so when returning from the course, you have to travel a couple of miles on to the Wellingborough junction and then back again to get to it.

The Stanwick Hotel

**West Street,
Stanwick,
NN9 6QY, United Kingdom**

Tel: 01933 622233
www.thestanwickhotel.co.uk

About 3.3 miles from the course venue

Redlands Farm Bed & Breakfast

**Redlands Farm,
West Street,
Stanwick,
NN9 6QZ**

01933 355169
www.redlandsenterprises.co.uk

About 4 miles from the course venue. We have received very good reports from those who stayed here for the last course at Rushden.

Premier Inn Wellingborough

**London Road,
Wellingborough,
Northamptonshire
NN8 2DP**

Tel: 0871 527 9144
www.premierinn.com

About 4.6 miles from the course venue

The Hind Hotel

**38 Sheep Street
Wellingborough
NN8 1BY**

Tel: 01933 222827
www.facebook.com/TheHindHotel

About 5.5 miles from the course venue

IBIS Wellingborough

**Enstone Court
Wellingborough
NN8 2DR**

Tel: 01933 228333
www.ihg.com

About 5.8 miles from the course venue.

Millhouse Hotel

**Mill Road,
Sharnbrook,
MK44 1NP**

Tel: 01234 781678
www.millhouse-riverside.co.uk/

About 6 miles from the course venue