

David Churchill

Fitting a loco crew

Having recently purchased a pre-owned Lionheart Fine Scale GWR Churchward Mogul 2-6-0 Locomotive, which had never been used, I discovered there were lots of goodies in unopened bags in the box. To my surprise it included the driver and fireman in period uniforms designed to fit the loco. I was keen to fit them in the cab and wanted a secure fix. Having talked to a few members, super glue was too messy and I could end up with runs of glue spoiling the finish. Some modellers recommended sticking the feet on to a base plate. I decided not to go down this route with an open cab. In the end I followed another recommendation of using fast setting epoxy to secure.

Having spent ages positioning I decided on the final locations. I used masking tape to cover as many areas as possible to avoid excess glue on the model. The seated crewman was very straight forward, using a cocktail stick it only required a small blob on the seat and on the left-hand shoe sole. With the arm neatly fitting over the cab side a perfect fit. The standing crewman was more difficult and, in the end, I put a small blob on both shoe soles and on the left hand holding a control. Nigel pointed out that he was holding a hot steam pipe, but Robin assures me the pipe was lagged. So, I have named him Teflon Tony.

Also, in the box were front and rear, removable working loco lamps, controlled via the DCC controller. They had fine wires protruding from the base of the lamps, which located on to tiny pads below the lamp bracket. With the wires being so small it drove me demented getting them located.