

## Warley at Statfold Show 2025 report

Held over the weekend of 11 and 12 October at Statfold Country Park near Tamworth the new Warley at Statfold Model Railway Show enticed hundreds of enthusiasts and family groups for the second year running.

With its special blend of outstanding layouts, free live-steam train rides, and - new this year - heritage fairground fun in the recently opened National Fairground Museum, Warley MRC's 'model railway show with a difference' is now firmly established in the annual railway modelling exhibition calendar.

The event is a collaboration with the Statfold Narrow Gauge Museum Trust and the Warley Club - itself a charitable incorporated organisation - and aims to foster wider interest in railway modelling and railway history.

In recognition of these joint objectives, a permanent model railway display has been created within the roundhouse section of the Statfold museum and was formally opened by His Worshipful The Mayor of Tamworth councillor Chris Bain during the show.

Assembled by members of Warley MRC, the permanent display includes working layouts and historical dioramas and will be accessible to visitors on all Statfold event days and weekends. A particular exhibit, a fantasy layout based on the cartoon drawings of Roland Emmet and called the *Far Twittering and Oysterperch Railway* (RM Dec 1970 & Oct 1999), has been resurrected and is now a central part of the permanent display.

Also invited as special guest was Elaine Giles, the deputy mayor of Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council (where Warley MRC is based). Elaine was tasked with judging the layout she considered as the best in show and present her award to Peter Kirmond for his 2mm finescale depiction of York Station in the 1930s (RM April 2023).

Elaine was also impressed by Joe Stamper's *Bottom of the Barrel* display (RM Aug 2025), a model of a brewery built inside a cut-away beer barrel. Joe received a highly commended from Elaine for his creativity and imagination.

With a successful second year under the belt, the next Warley at Statfold Model Railway Show will be 10th & 11th October 2026 and an early bird discount on tickets of 30% will be available for a short period from January 2026. So keep an eye on our webpages for updates.

[www.warleyshow.co.uk](http://www.warleyshow.co.uk)  
[www.statfold.com](http://www.statfold.com)

### Photos and Captions



The opening ceremony of the new permanent display at Statfold took place in front of the *Far Twittering and Oysterperch* layout: (from left) Chris Freeth who oversaw the installation of the layouts, His Worshipful Lord Mayor of Tamworth Councillor Chris Bain, Graham Lee of Statfold, and Matt Hill, Chairman of Warley Model Railway Club



Elaine Giles deputy Lord Mayor of Sandwell presenting Peter Kirmond with the Best in Show award for his exhibit *York* in 2mm Finescale. Flanked by Show Manager Paul Stokes



His worshipful Lord Mayor of Tamworth Chris Bain with Ian Carter, creator of The Great British Steam Locomotive display, now part of the permanent display at Statford Barn Museum.



Elaine Giles congratulating Joe Stamper whose exhibit 'Bottom of the Barrel' was highly commended.