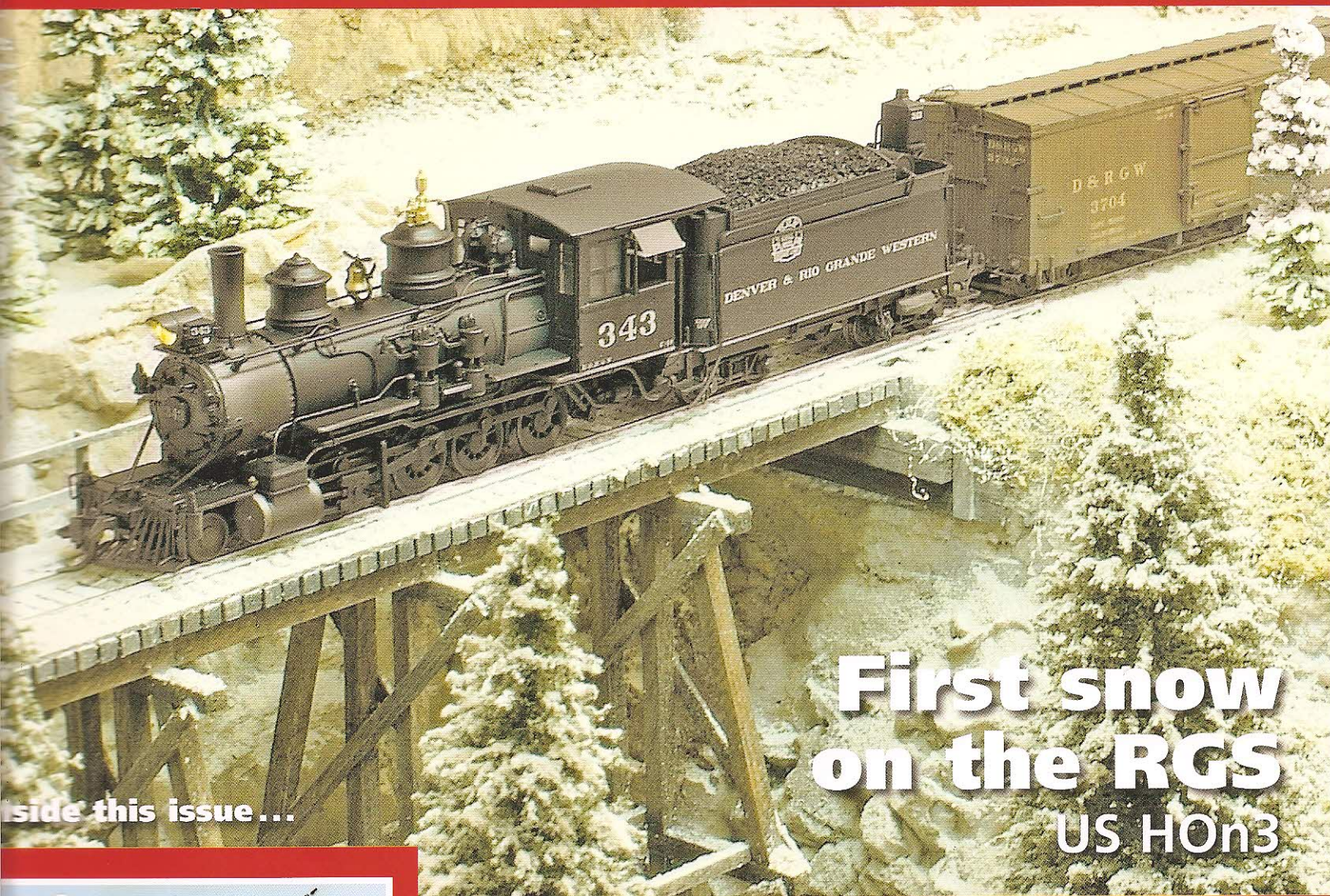


CONTINENTAL MODELLER

DECEMBER 2014 | £4.45 (UK)

FEATURING RAILWAYS FROM AROUND THE WORLD EACH MONTH



**First snow
on the RGS**
US HO_{n3}

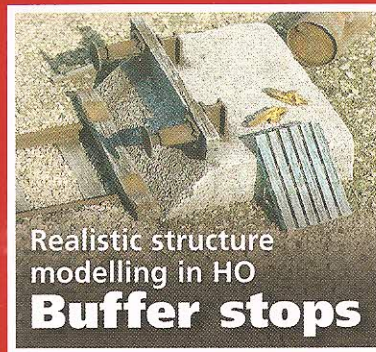
Inside this issue...



Stefanowo Polish HO



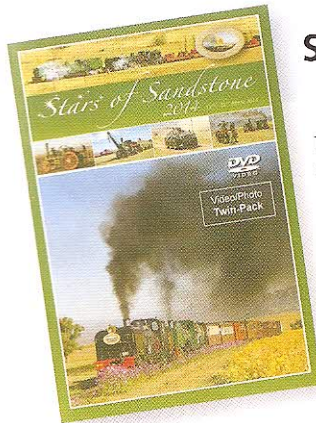
Hintertupfingen
Bavarian HO



Realistic structure
modelling in HO
Buffer stops

Latest Reviews ... and much more





Stars of Sandstone 2014

Sandstone Heritage Trust c.60mins DVD £15.00, Blu-ray £16.00.

This programme records the steam heritage festival held on the Sandstone narrow gauge railway in the Eastern Free State of South Africa between 12th and 21st April 2014, which attracted an even larger number of participants and visitors than in previous years.

The 2' gauge line on this working farm has become well-known for the constantly growing variety of motive power – once again there were many steam locomotives in action, from tiny industrials to massive Garratts. The operation is rightly famous for

the standard of the restoration work carried out, bringing derelict machines back to working order.

The collection also includes agricultural machinery, old tractors, traction engines, steam lorries, vintage cars, old buses, and military vehicles – many were in action during the gala, and are represented here, as well as draught animals. Aircraft are also now getting in on the act!

Local staff were augmented by visiting volunteer loco crews from Australia and the United Kingdom.

Good weather again blessed the gathering. Steam effects are at their best in the autumn, especially for the early morning photo session. The combination of hard-working locomotives, steep gradients in places, and stunning scenery with the mountain backdrop makes for some memorable images.

The first two screens offer access to twenty-five sections: these are relatively short scenes simply identified for convenience, and the programme flows through the topics very smoothly and satisfactorily.

Railway highlights are perhaps the two 'Lawley' 4-4-0s, the early morning special with the NG4 4-6-2T, the diminutive Decauville 0-4-0T with the Easter egg hunt train, naming Avonside works no.1624 *Xanthe*, and the BSA railcar – not forgetting the NGG16 Garratt super-power, of course!

Although the railway action is based around the Hoekfontein site, we are also shown something of the working farm, with both modern and historic machinery in use.

A collection of military vehicles parades as a highlight of the event, and some of them get more detailed attention, as do a couple of the traction engines (Fowler B5 with crane and Marshall 'Colonial').

Picture quality is excellent, camerawork steady, and locations well chosen. There is even aerial footage, both from an aircraft and using a remote controlled miniature unit.

The commentary is clearly delivered and informative, although generally only the few locos featured in detail are specifically identified. The location sound is stirring, and backing music has been sparingly used to cover long shots where background noise would be objectionable.

The programme does a remarkable job in encapsulating the essence of several days of action in about an hour.

For those who want more, as well as the movie the package includes a disk of over six hundred still images (as high quality RGB .jpg files) from some of those present at the event – more than twenty photographers are represented, among them some well-known names. The pictures cover all aspects of the event – trains, agricultural machinery, military equipment, vintage vehicles, aircraft, and people.

The DVD was produced by Frameline Productions for the Sandstone Heritage Trust, P.O.Box 67805, Bryanston 2021, South Africa.

www.sandstone-estates.com

It is available in the UK from 33, Searing Way, Tadley, Hampshire, RG26 4HT.

joanneewest@btinternet.com

The prices quoted include postage and packing. Cheques should be made payable to 'Sandstone Steam Railroad'.

Another very enjoyable production from Frameline and Sandstone – a souvenir for those who were fortunate enough to be able to attend, and a temptation for anyone considering participation next time: plans for 2015 are reported to be already well advanced.