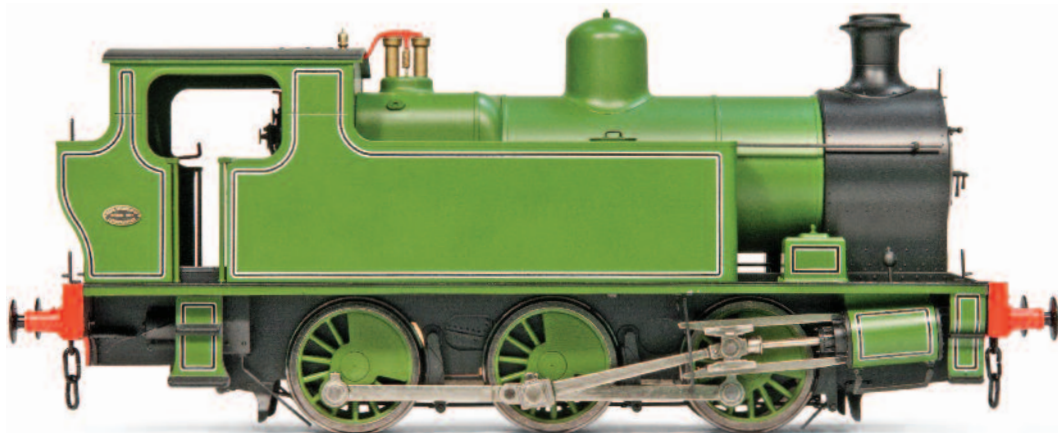


FROM **RAILWAY MODELLER** BY OUR EDITORIAL STAFF AND CONTRIBUTING MODELLERS

Kerr Stuart Victory Class 0-6-0T

**New for 0 gauge
from Minerva
Model Railways**



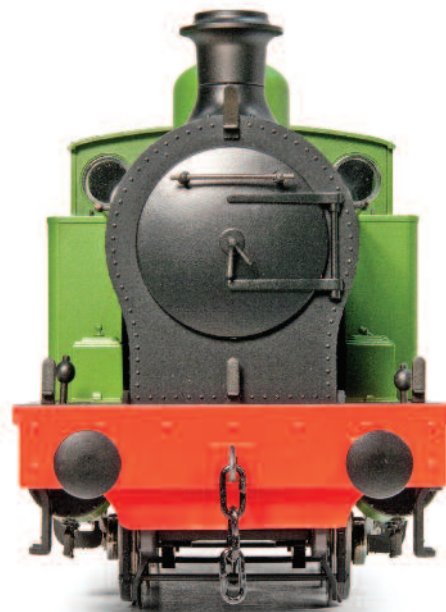
With commendable alacrity following its May 2016 announcement, Minerva Model Railways has delivered on its promise to model the Victory Class of industrial 0-6-0Ts, built by the renowned Stoke-based private builder Kerr Stuart.

There were 10 Victories in all, constructed in 1917 for the Inland Waterways & Docks Department. They were sold on fairly rapidly (at war's end) to several railway companies including the Brecon & Merthyr and East Kent Light, as well as into industry. In later years seven ended up the property of the National Coal Board, and the other three British Railways, but withdrawal of the last one for scrap rendered the class extinct in 1969.

Our sample wears of the three liveries produced: lined light green, the others being lined red and unlined black. It tips the scales at just over 1kg, so

should have ample haulage capacity. This weight is thanks to its diecast chassis; the superstructure is injection moulded plastic. The flywheel-fitted motor drives the trailing coupled axle via a gear train through a 40:1 gearbox, and all wheels collect power. There is sufficient sideplay in the axles to cater for sharp curvature, and the centre axle is sprung. DCC users are guided by the instruction leaflet as to which screws to remove from the chassis in order to reach the eight-pin dual inline socket and blanking plug, mounted aft of the motor. A ring which will accept a 25mm diameter speaker, for those wishing DCC sound, is included with the locomotive for fitment in the boiler. Minerva Model Railways offers versions with decoders ready-fitted, and with sound.

The body has full rivet detail, and a well-detailed cab including hatch in the rear sheet to access the



bunker (which is crying out for some coal, such as the Peco ref.332 coarse grade real coal). The buffers and drawhooks are sprung.

Performance is superb, slow and quiet; although we were unable to test its haulage limits it is clearly likely to be able to handle all that's asked of it.

The model comes complete with an accessory pack which comprises lamp irons, front steps sandboxes and vents, smokebox door dart cylinder drain cock levers and GWR toolboxes – three were listed on Swindon's ledgers, two of which became state-owned – some of which have been fitted to our sample for photography. A fret of etched brass maker's plates for all 10 members of the class is also included.

This handsome model is bound to prove popular, and is available by mail order or from the Minerva stand at selected model railway exhibitions. From a small batch of 10 industrials, Minerva is moving its sights onto a much more numerous animal for its next project, due in the summer; the GWR 57xx/8750 0-6-0T.

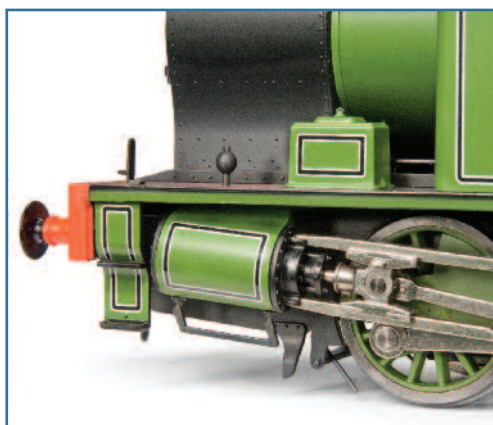
Tim Rayner

VINTAGE VIEW

Kerr Stuart Victory Class 0-6-0T

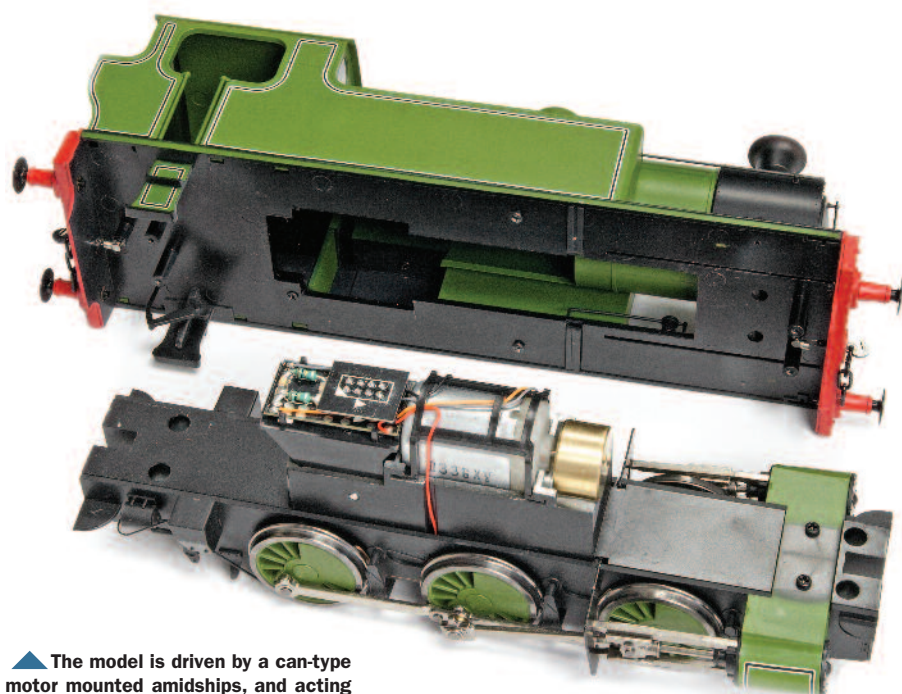
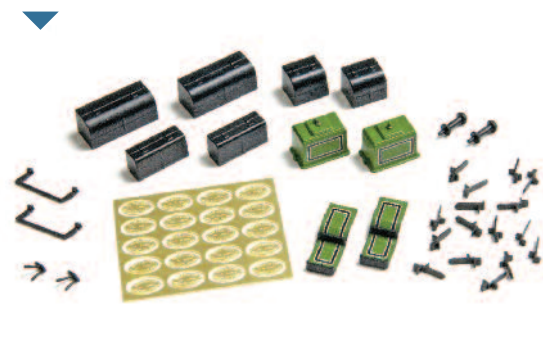
Wearing NCB No.19, Kerr Stuart Victory Class works No.3074 poses along with a clearly proud engineman at North Heiton Colliery in 1952, seven years before the Durham system shut down. It lasted to the end, latterly being numbered 41. The ladder to the top of the tank is a local addition.

Photo: Frank Jones, courtesy Industrial Railway Society



◀ Cab and front end detail is very fine; the front steps and lamp irons are supplied separately for the purchaser to install.

The separately-supplied parts include a fret of maker's plates for all 10 Victories, plus sand- and toolboxes etc.



▲ The model is driven by a can-type motor mounted amidships, and acting on the trailing coupled axle. There's ample space for DCC and sound speaker, if desired.

Sample supplied by

MINERVA MODEL RAILWAYS,
P O Box 244, Penarth CF64 9FJ.
www.minervamodelrailways.co.uk

PRICES
12V dc - £282.50
DCC-fitted - £332.50
DCC sound - £402.50