

MERG West Midlands Area Group (WMAG)

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How do I contact the Area Group





Please indicate West Midlands Area Group in your message [Contact MERG](#)

Who is the leader of the group?



Allan Gardner M6237 - *Group Leader*

Would you like to join today?

Not a member? then

[Join MERG Here](#)



and sign up to this Area Group. If you are already a member

[Join the West Midlands Area Group](#)

Select **West Midlands Area Group** from the drop-down list in **Other Area Groups** and press the **Subscribe to Area Group** button.

Where do you meet?

We meet at the [Birmingham Canal Navigations Society's](#) historic premises at
Titford Pump House
Engine Street
OLDBURY
West Midlands
B69 4NL.



[Google maps link to Titford Pumphouse](#)

There is plenty of car parking – mostly on Engine Street, some within the Pump House compound.

All facilities are at ground level.

How often do you meet?



We meet four times a year in January, April July and October. Usually the January and July meetings are on the second Saturday of the month, with the April and October meetings on the second Sunday.

What does the group get up to?

Our day's meeting starts at 10:00 am and concludes at 16:00. **See below for details of our next meeting.**

The day is split into two parts.

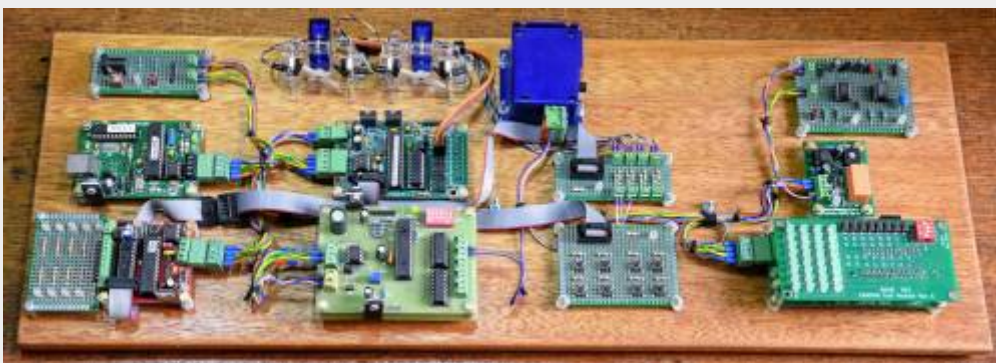
The morning session is more formal in so far as we have one or more guest speakers. The topics are far-ranging. [Click here to view examples of previous meetings](#)

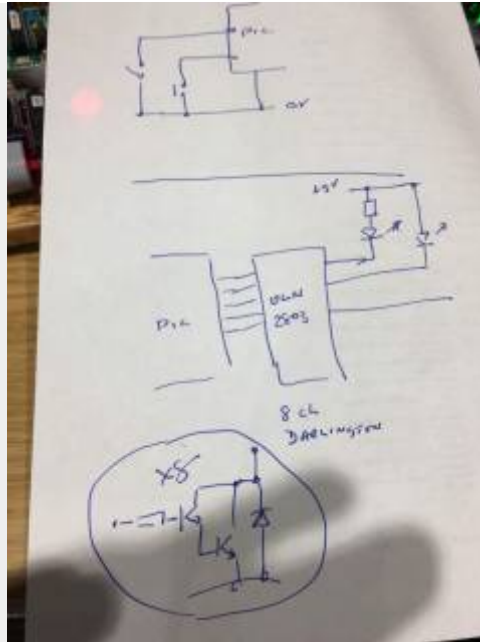
The afternoon session is informal and generally consists of:

1. Members working on their current project (normally a Kit).
We will do our best to help with construction and problem-solving.
2. Talking to presenters about the days topic.
3. Bring along something you are working on, even if its work in progress and share it with others
4. Passing the day talking about all thing model railway electronics.

We charge £5 for the day which goes to the BCN Society for the use of the pump house.

We do not charge for tea, coffee or the superb cakes that are kindly supplied by one of our members' wives.





What have we have been up to previously?

[Click here to view details of previous meetings](#)



Our Next Meeting including exhibitions where MERG are in attendance?

Date	Event	Description	Location	Link
10:00 13-Apr	West Midland Area Group Spring Meeting	We have two fascinating talks lined up for the morning: A) Standing on a Victorian Computer Presented by Tony Jackson Tony will explore the ingenious railway safety systems of the Victorian era, focusing on the mechanisms that assisted signalmen. B) Digital Logic Presented by David Roberts Although PICs and other microcontrollers are commonly used today—even for simple tasks—there’s still a valuable place for digital logic. David will introduce the fundamentals of logic functions and explain the more common logic families.	BCNS, Titford Pump House, Engine Street, Oldbury, West Midlands	Link

Date	Event	Description	Location	Link
10:00 12-Jul	West Midlands area group summer meeting	enter description here	BCNS, Titford Pump House, Engine Street, Oldbury, West Midlands	

Programme for our next Meeting

Time	Description.	Who
	The date of this meeting changed (see above) to deconflict with the Warley Show at Statfold Country Park on the weekend 12-13 October	
10:00	Coffee & Registration	All
10:05	Welcome	AG
10:15	Talk 1 Procket Money Projects	CM
11:15	Coffee, Tea, & Cake Break	All
11:30	Talk 2 Baby Steps with PIC	AC
12:30	Any questions	
13:00	Lunch	All
13:30	Practical session - Have a go with surface mount - build a surface mount track tester	All
	Components provided, please bring your own soldering iron - though we will have some irons available.	
14:30	Tea, Coffee & Cake Break	All
14:45	Practical session 2 Any questions	All
15:45	Wash Up	
16:00	Meeting close	

What Local Organisations do we work with?

The MERG West Midlands Area Group have attended model railway exhibitions, organised by the following clubs: -

[Stafford Railway Circle](#)



[Bourneville Model Railway Club](#)

[Warley Model Railway Club](#)

[Cradley Heath Model Railway Club](#)

[Telford Railway Modellers Group](#)



What is Happening at other MERG Area Groups ?

Here are some of the activities being organised by the nearby East Midlands and Warwickshire & North Oxfordshire area groups.

East Midlands Area Group

The East Midlands Area Group hosts a very popular call once per month.

Date	Event	Description	Location	Link
10:00 06-Apr	MERG East Midlands area group meeting	Hosted by the Kingsway Model Railway Society n Wellingborough. Pete Brownlow on combining CANCOMPUTE and CANCMD/CANCSB to handle conflicting shuttles, kit locker updates, "ask the chairman" and our usual afternoon clinic session.	Wellingborough	Link
10:00 17-May	MERG East Midlands area group meeting	Full agenda to follow.	Kegworth	

Warwickshire and North Oxfordshire Area Group

Our colleagues at Warwick and North Oxford AG are holding face to face meetings every 2 months. If you are interested in attending these groups sign up here and select 'join area group'.

Date	Event	Description	Location	Link
10:00 24-May	Warwick and North Oxford Area Group Meeting	Topics TBC	LWMRS Clubroom	

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AGS 1

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