

Rumney Models – United Dairies GWR/SR Milk Tank Platform Instructions

This set of instructions covers the Rumney Models kits A.07, A.08, OA.07 & OA.08. These kits are designed to build an accurate model of the United Dairies GWR/SR milk tank platforms. These distinctive sets of access ladders were fitted to the following 3000 gallon GWR and SR milk tank diagrams:

Diagram	Lot	Numbers	Built	
GWR O.39	1497	2512-17	12/32	
	1517	2531-36	12/33	
	1585	2587-92	3/36	
GWR O.51	1619	2833-8	11/37	
	1668	2947-52	11/41	
	1671	2958-63	9/42	
GWR O.57	1700	3001-22		End platforms
	1716	3031-54	1948	
GWR O.60	1727	3061-72	1/50	End platforms
	1743	3121-47		
SR 3155		4419-24	10/32	
SR 3157		4429-32	9/33	
		4455-60	1943-4	
		4461-6	1944	

GWR O.39 and maybe O.51 lot 1619 numbers 2833-8 had Dean/Churchward brake gear. All GWR tanks after this had lever brakes

Please read through the instructions before commencing constructions. I am the worst person for doing this but life will be much easier if you do.

The model follows the prototype in construction exactly. This means that there are some very small brackets so care will need to be taken. Due to the nature of the beast there will be some tweaking of components necessary as you go along. This is inevitable with short fold lines. If you take your time and are careful with the components there shouldn't be any real issues though as all the parts fit properly.

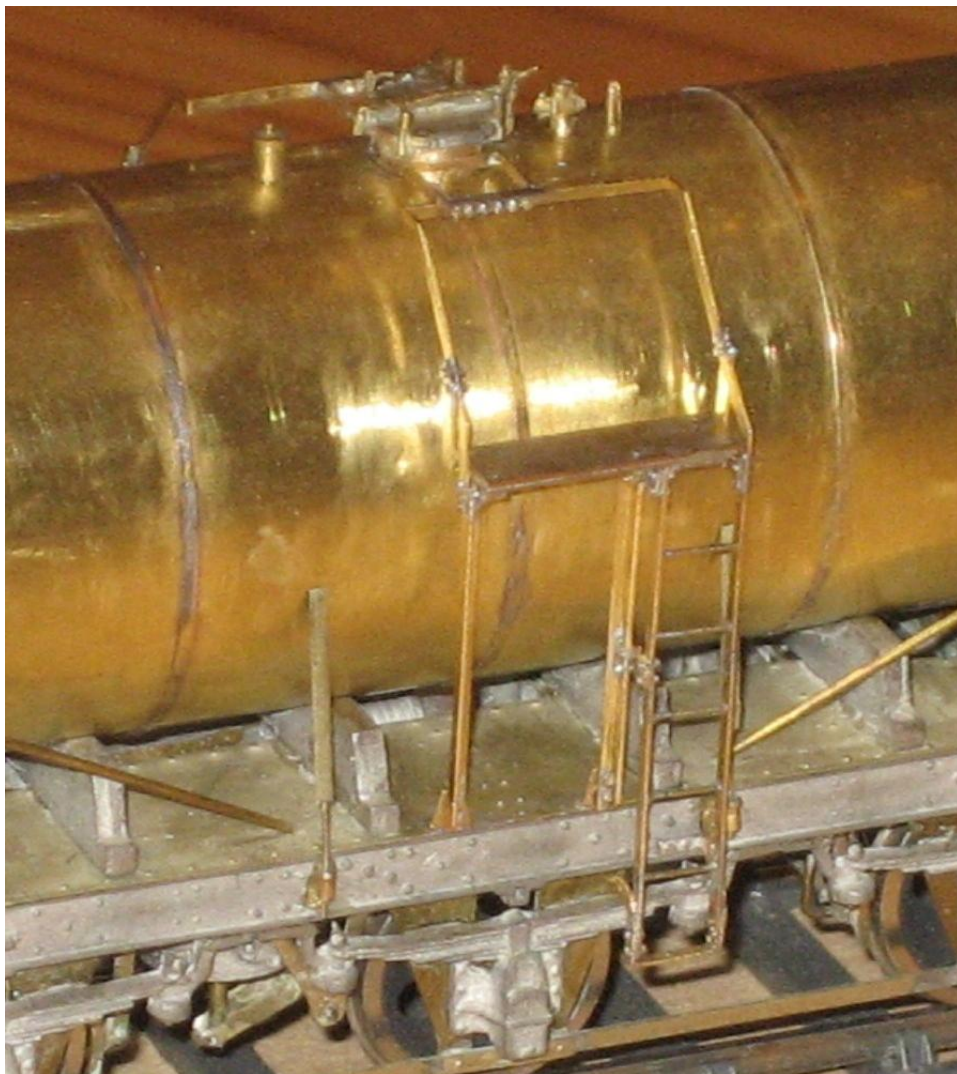
If you are building the 4mm version everything is pinned together using 0.31mm wire.
If you are building the 7mm version everything is pinned together using 0.5mm wire.

There are three platforms on the fret. There are two right handed (the ladder on the right as you look at the vehicle) and one left handed. All the GWR and SR milk tanks that were fitted with platforms in the centre had right handed ones on both sides. I have seen a drawing of an LNER milk tank fitted with these types of platform where there was a left handed platform in the centre but I have yet to find photographic evidence of this. A left handed platform would have been needed in this case to clear the brake lever and lever guard. Vehicles with platforms at the end (GWR O.57 and O.60) had one left and one right with the ladders arranged towards the centre. The right and left handed version were simply mirrors of each other. Some components are handed whereas others are symmetrical and so can be used on either type. Components specific to right handed platforms are marked with an R and those for left handed ones are marked with an L. The platform illustrated in the photographs is a right handed type.

Refer to the photographs taken during construction and the drawings to aid construction. Fig. 1 and Fig.2 will prove very useful for identifying where everything goes. They show a right handed platform. A left handed platform is simply a mirror image of this. There are also prototype photographs included at the end.

Read through the instructions and identify all the components that you will need. Whilst everything is still attached to the fret check that all the holes in the components you require will accept 0.31mm or 0.5mm wire depending on the scale you are working in. The drawing process for etching if you use a CAD program as I do is extremely accurate but the actual etching process itself not an exact science. If the fret is slightly over etched then there is no problem but if they are under etched the holes will need enlarging. I find that this is easiest to do before removing parts from the fret.

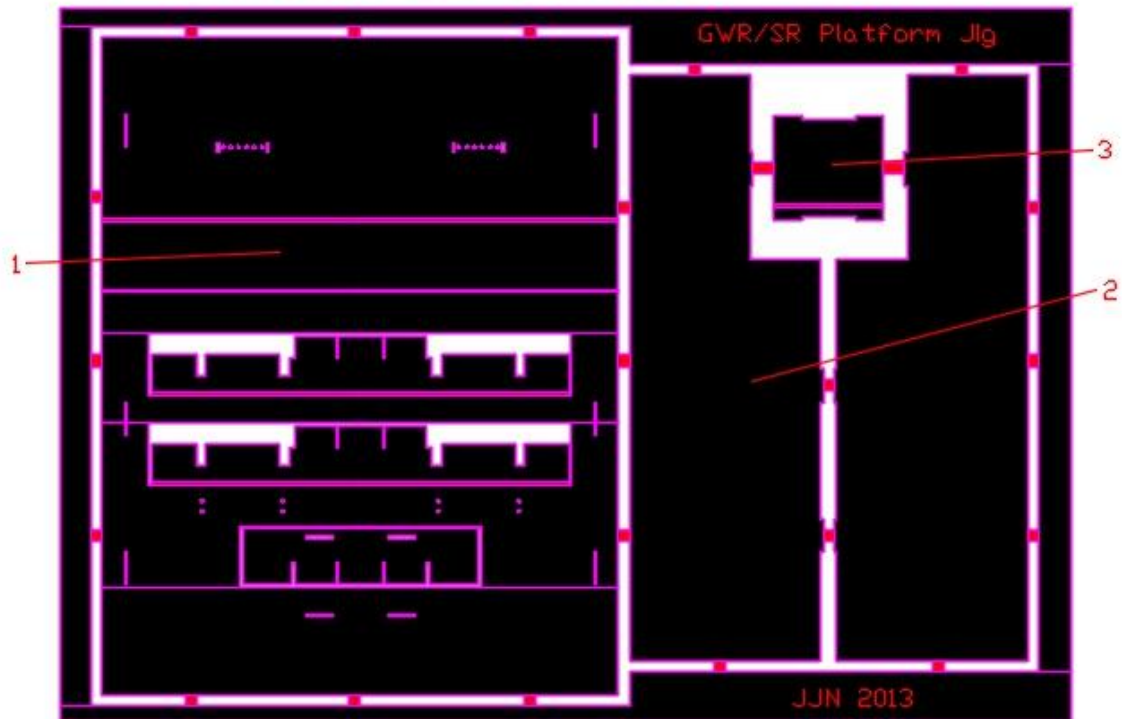
All fold lines are through 90° with the fold line on the inside.



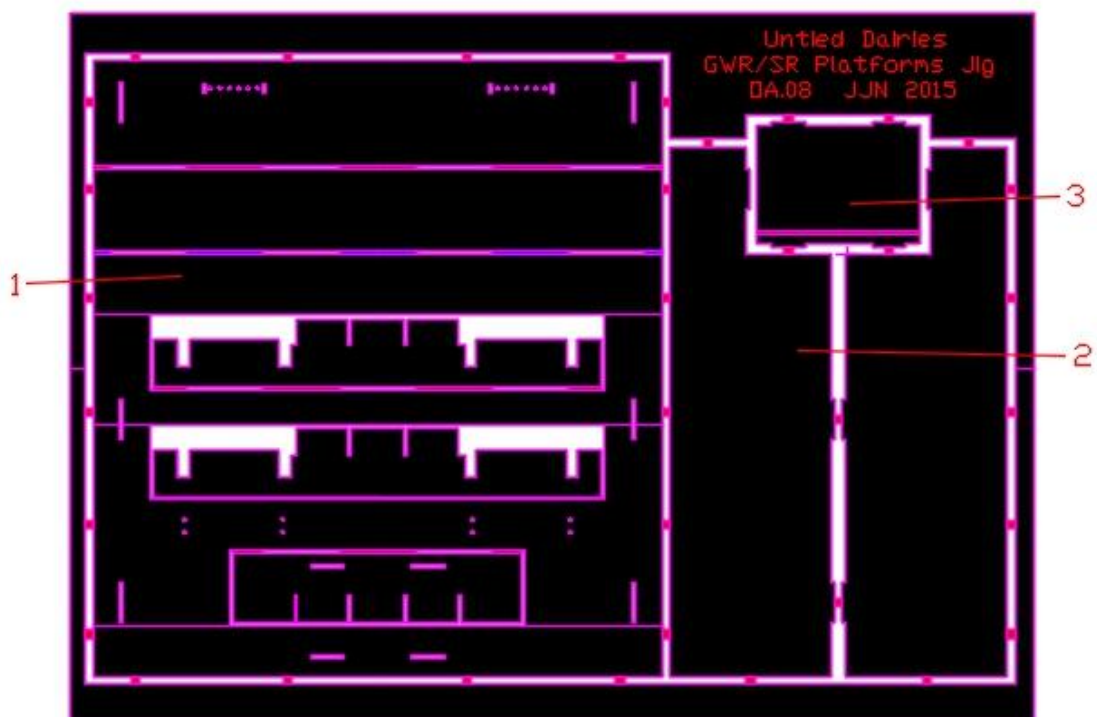
Platform Construction Jig

The platform jig is designed to enable you to actually build the platforms. I wouldn't like to try and build one without it! There are two positions on the jig, one for right handed platforms and one for left handed.

A.08 4mm United Dairies GWR/SR Platform Jig



0A.08 7mm United Dairies GWR/SR Platform Jig



Component list

- 1 – Base
- 2 – Sides
- 3 – Solebar bracket support

Construction

Ensure that all the holes will accept 0.31mm or 0.5mm wire depending on the scale and remove the components from the fret. Fold all the half etched lines through 90° so that the base (1) has the same profile as the sides (2) and the three platform supports are at right angles to the base. It might be a good idea to hold the jig in a vice or similar when folding these sections out. Locate the tabs on the top of the sides into the slots on the base and solder in place. Fold up the solebar bracket support (3) and locate the tabs into the slots on the bottom of the base.

The platform construction photographs show exactly where the solebar bracket support goes. The rest I hope is straightforward.

United Dairies GWR/SR Platforms

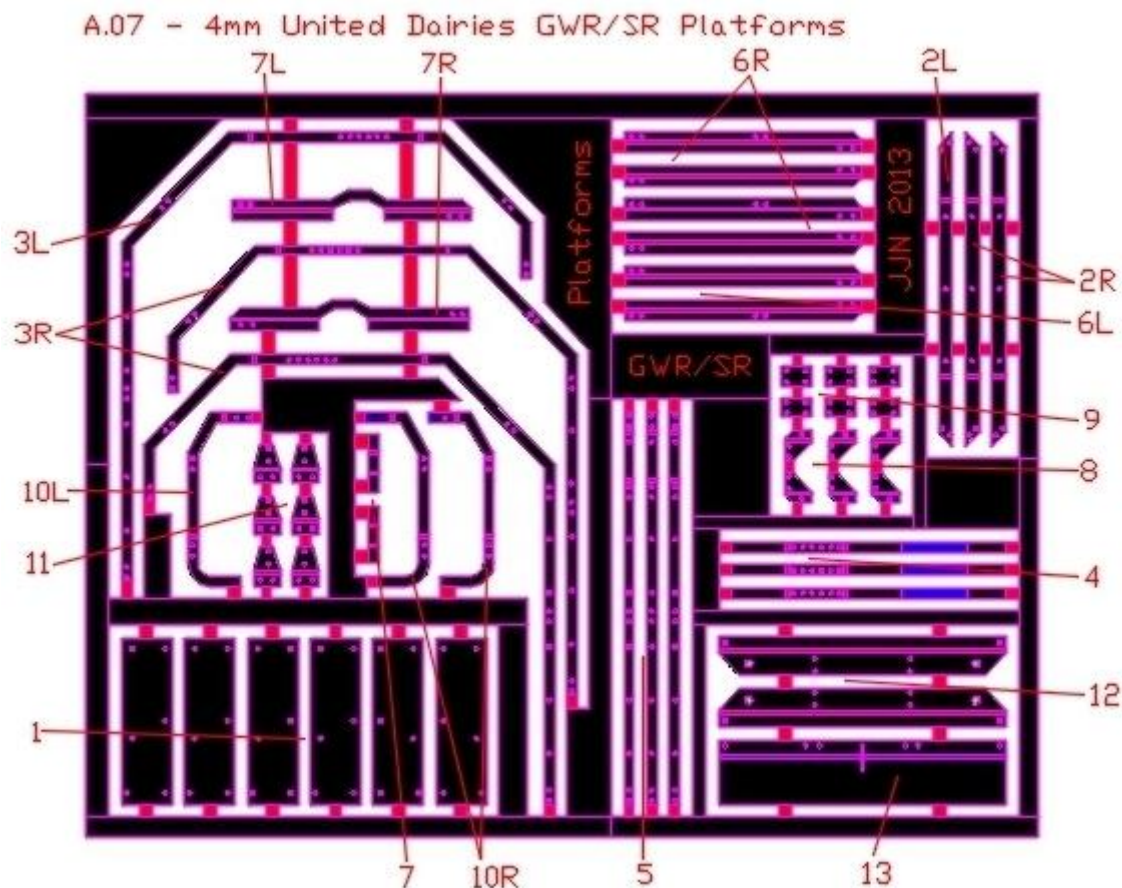
Component List

- 1 – Platform Base
- 2 – Rear support bracket (R & L)
- 3 – Main platform former (R & L)
- 4 – Tank manhole bracket
- 5 – Ladder side
- 6 – Platform supports (R & L)
- 7 – Alternative platform supports for end platforms (R & L)
- 8 – Platform support brackets
- 9 – Platform support and ladder brackets
- 10 – Solebar bracket (R & L)
- 11 – GWR running plate brackets
- 12 – SR running plate brackets
- 13 – Running plate bracket alignment jig

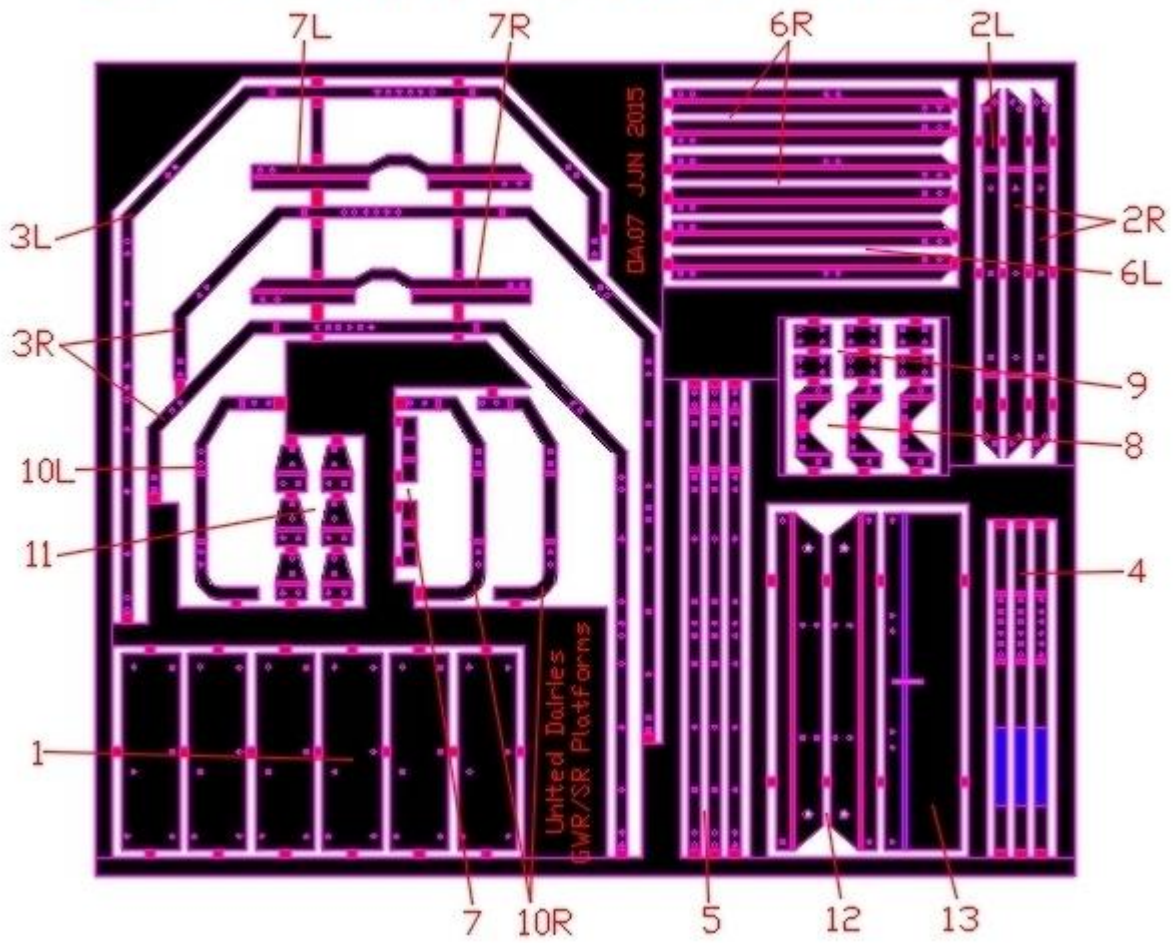
Materials list

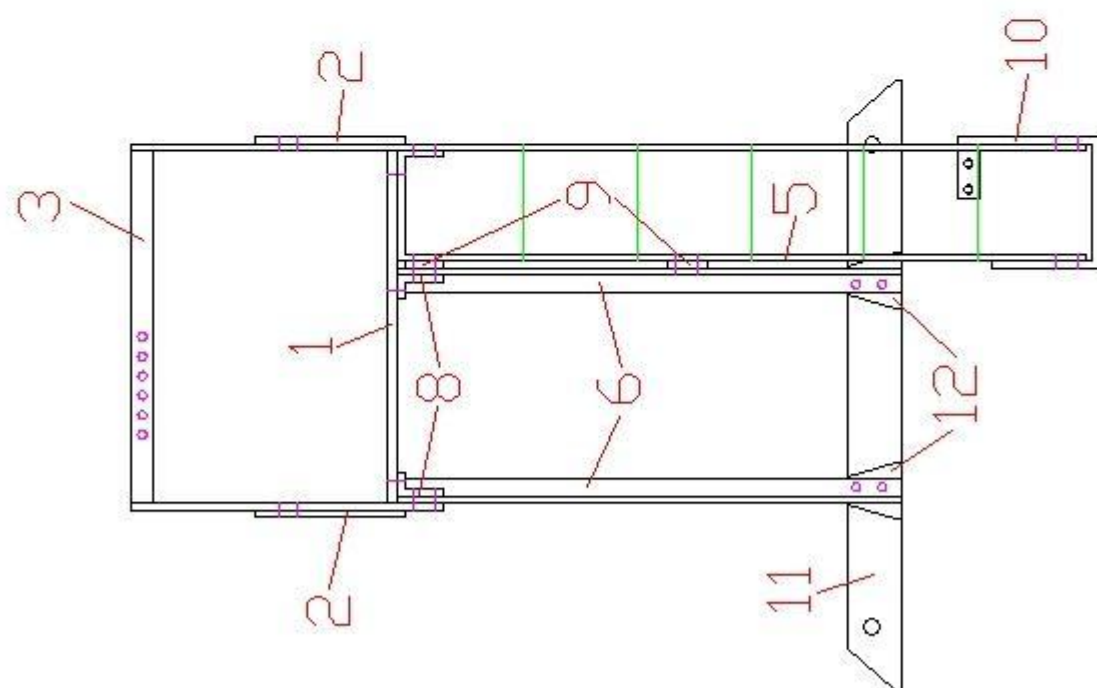
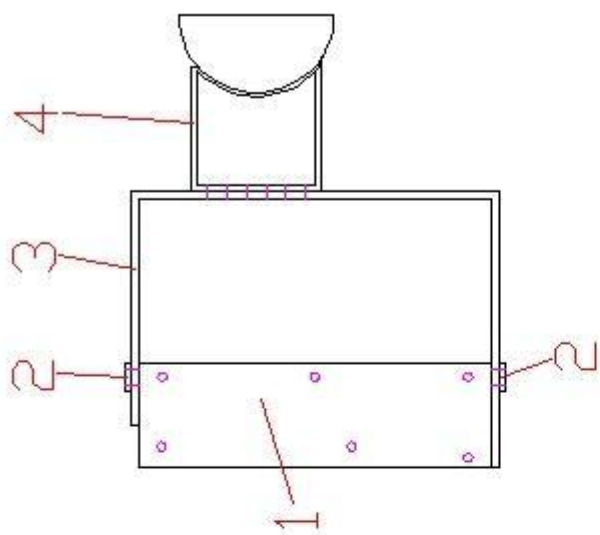
0.31mm wire for everything (4mm version – A.07)

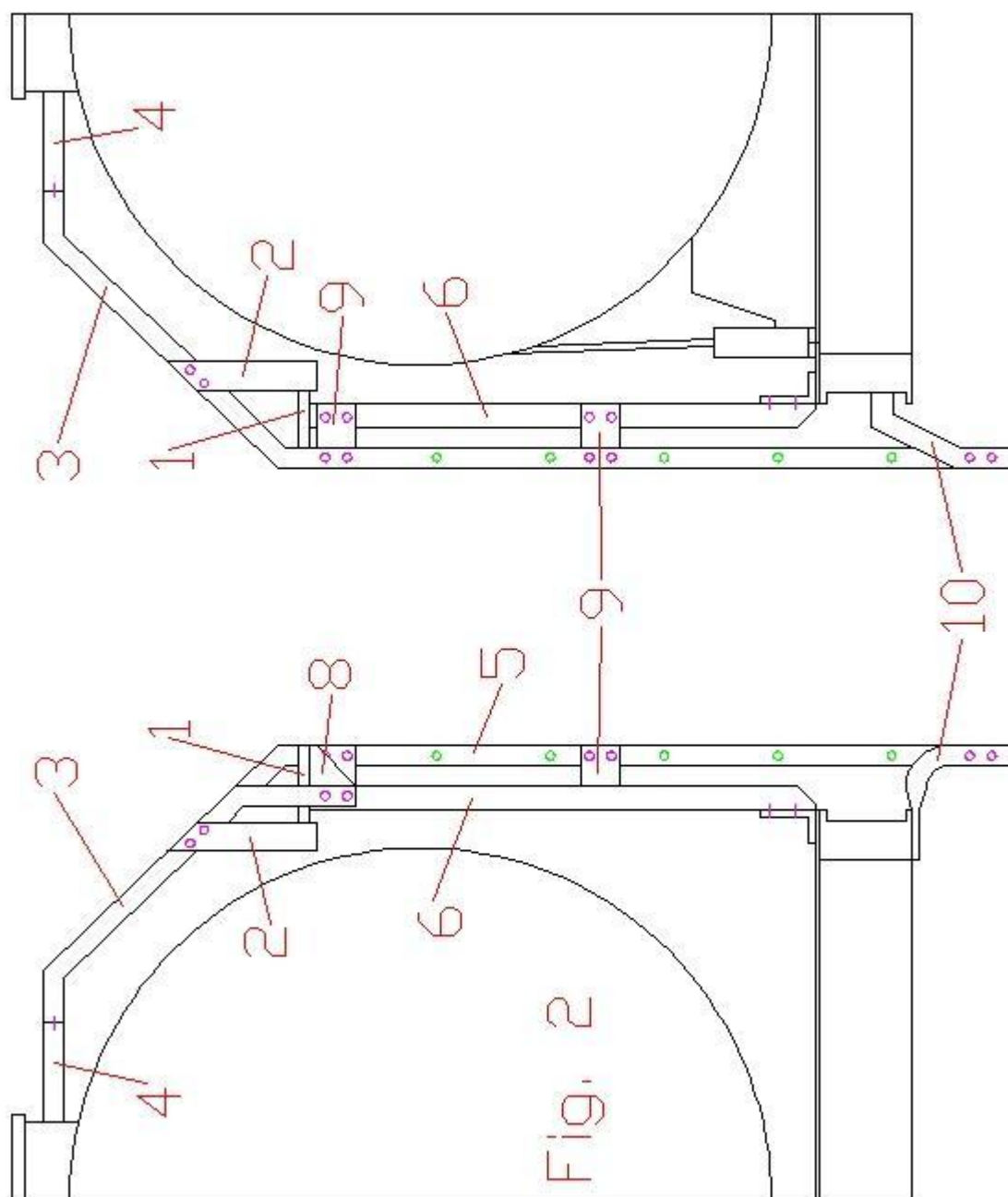
0.5mm wire for everything (7mm version – OA.07)



DA.07 7mm United Dairies GWR/SR Platforms

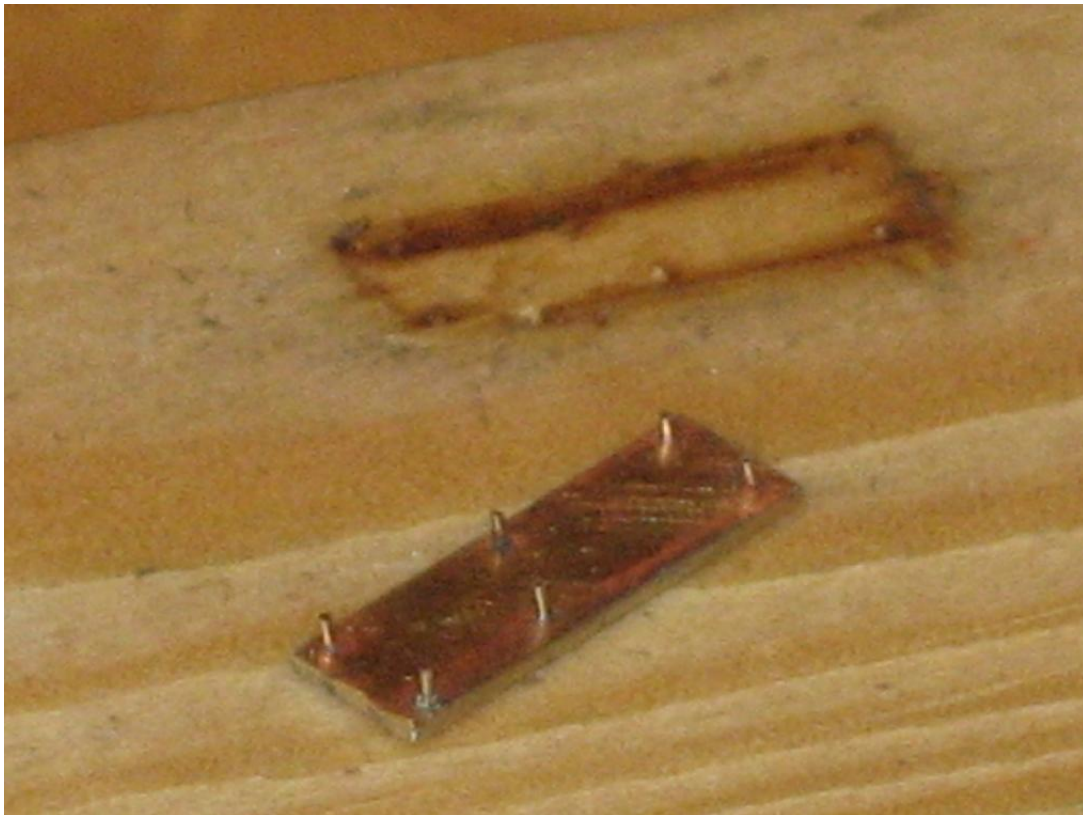




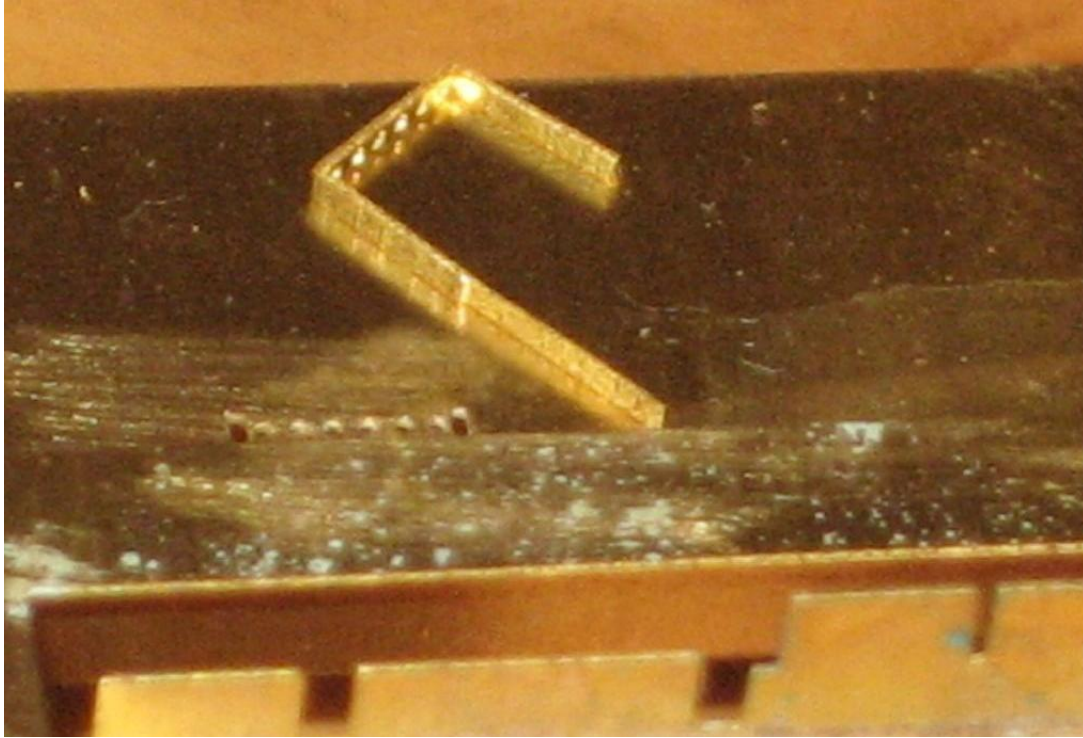


Construction

First the base (1) needs to be put together. These need to be soldered together in pairs so they are two layers thick with short lengths of wire through the holes. To do this I use one of the base etches as a drilling jig and drill six holes into a piece of scrap soft wood. These holes can then be used to hold short lengths of wire and everything soldered together. Identify which side is the top and which is the bottom. When you have done this double check! Trim the wire so that it projects approximately 0.5mm (4mm scale) or 0.8mm (7mm scale) from the base on bottom side. These short pins will be used to locate various parts. The wire on the top can be filled back to represent bolt heads.



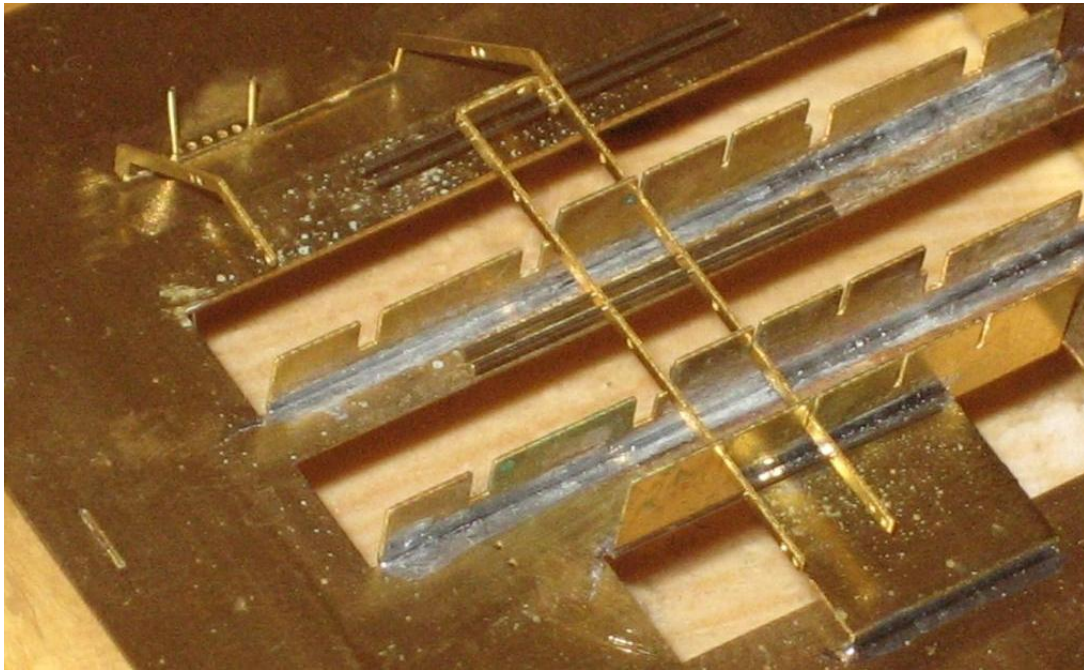
Remove the tank manhole bracket (4) from the fret and fold up as shown in the photograph below. Note the half etched area which will later be curved to match the manhole and provide a fixing point for the top of the platform.



Remove the main platform former (3) from the fret and fold both half etched lines through 90° . Given the size of the fold lines everything may not be completely square. You will need to tweak things as you go along.

Place the tank manhole bracket through the two slots on the top of the platform jig. Using two lengths of wire to align it place the main platform former over the tank manhole bracket with the wire passing through everything. See photograph below. The ladder side of the main platform former should lie in its slot on the platform jig.

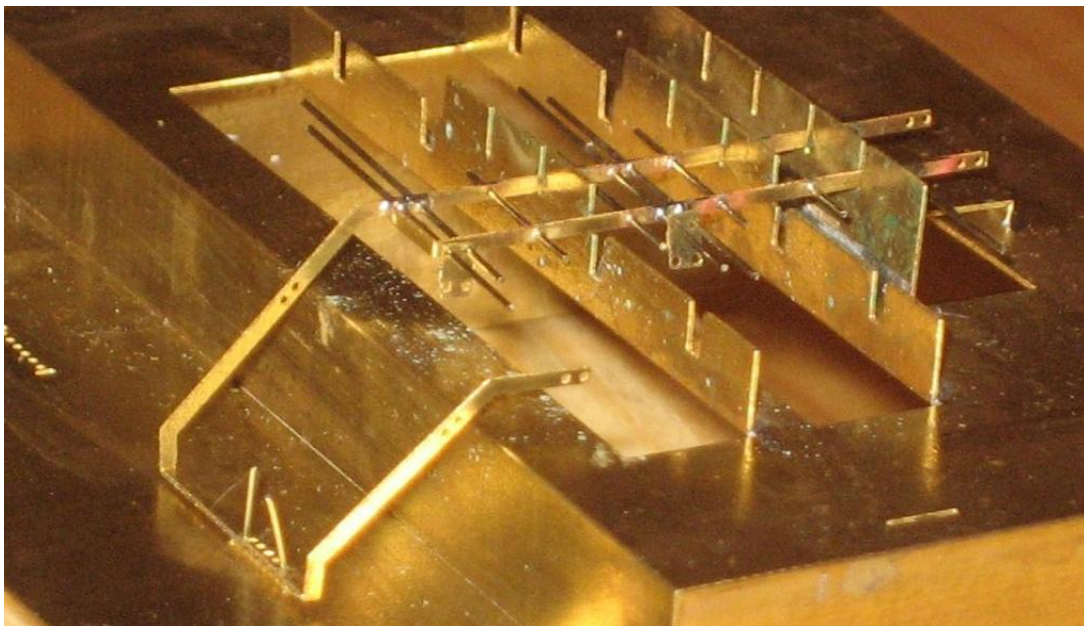
Remove the ladder side (5) from the fret and fold both of the half etched fold lines through 90° to form a U shape at the top. Use lengths of wire to join up the holes for the platform support and ladder brackets (9) in the main platform former and ladder sides. Make sure there is some excess on both sides. See photo below. The ladder side should sit on a ledge in the platform jig. Make sure that the top of the ladder is square to the main platform former and then solder the wire in place and the top of the ladder to the former.

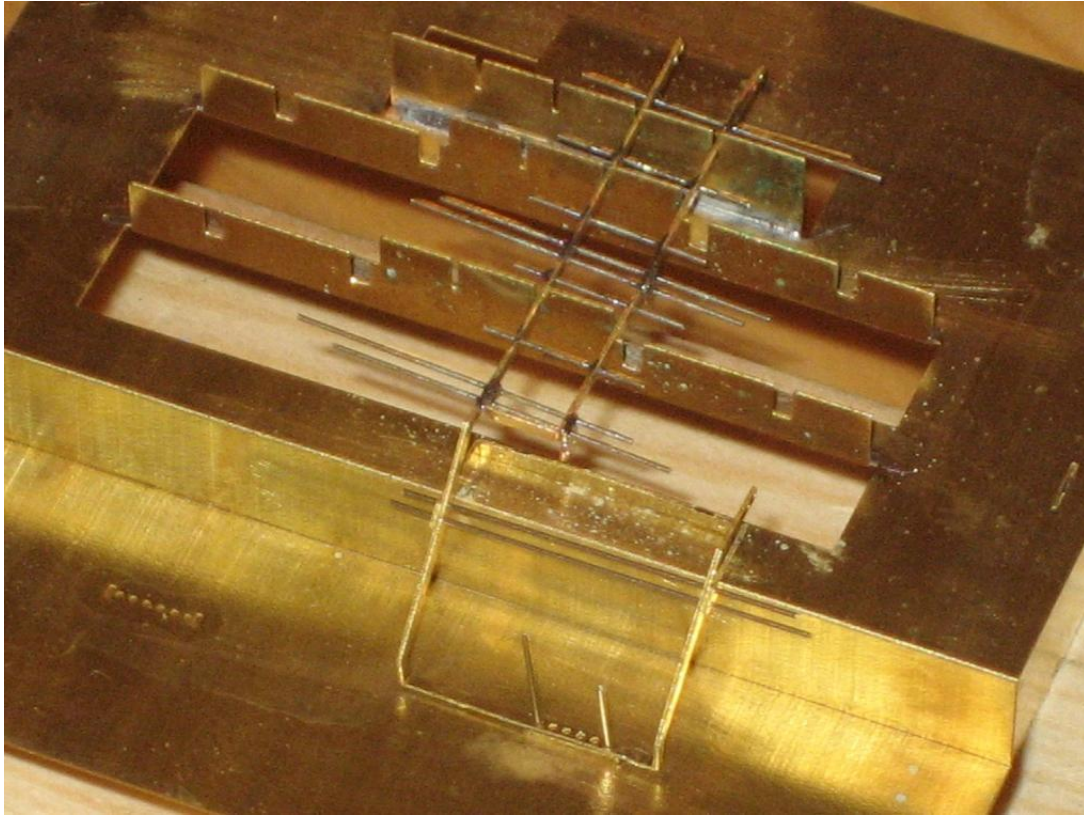


Use more lengths of wire to form the rungs in the ladder. Leave the pair of holes for the solebar bracket free at the moment. Solder the rungs in place. See photograph below.

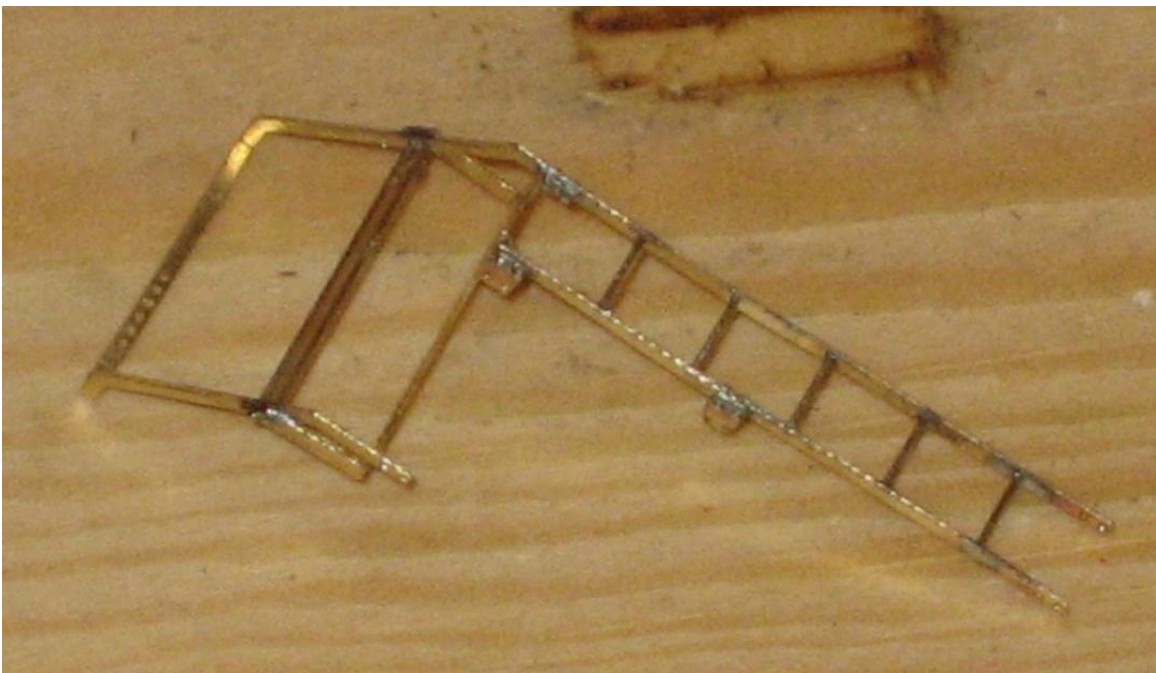
Remove two of the platform support and ladder brackets (9) and thread onto the appropriate wire on the ladder assembly. Making sure that they are flat against the ladder side solder in place.

Remove the rear support bracket (2) from the fret and fold up. Use two more lengths of wire to fit the rear support bracket to the main platform former noting that the bracket goes outside of the former.

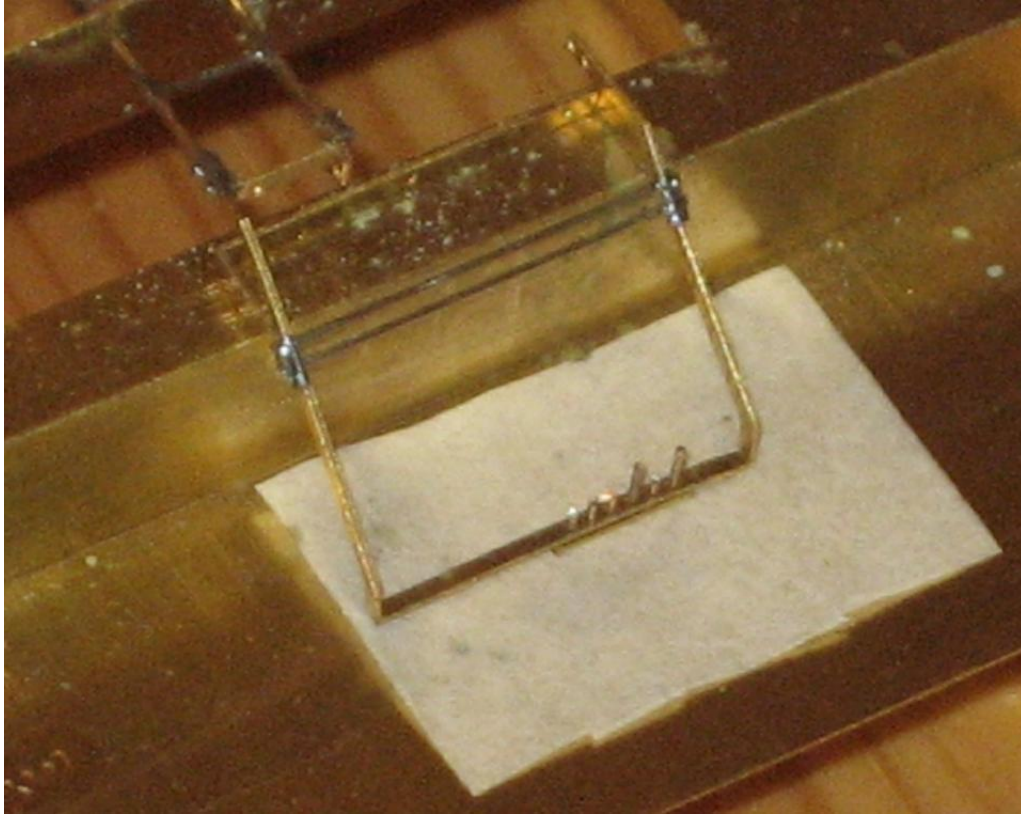




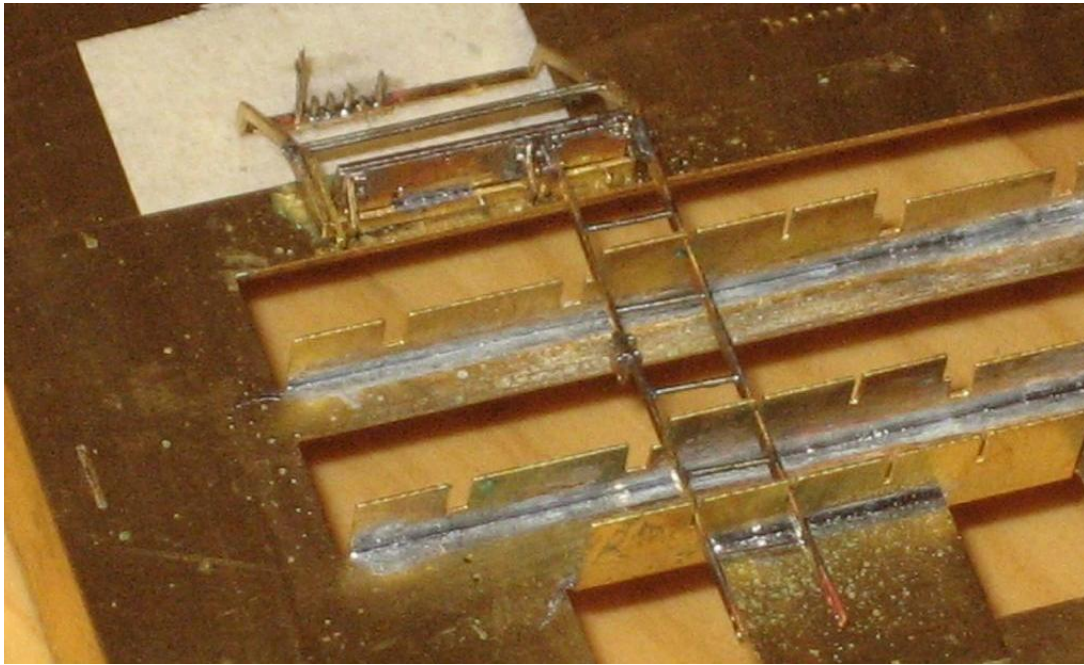
The wire ladder rungs can be cleaned up at this point so that they are flush with the sides of the ladder. The wire that passes through the ladder and the platform support and ladder brackets also need to be cleaned up. Remove the section between ladder sides and then file the wire flush on the main platform former side and file it back to represent bolt heads around the brackets. Although the platform is rather delicate at this stage this cleaning up is easier to do now rather than when anything else has been added.



Now is a good time to solder the tank manhole bracket to the main platform former. I use a piece of cigarette paper to ensure that everything doesn't get soldered to the jig. Use short lengths of wire to represent the six bolts that hold the two pieces together.



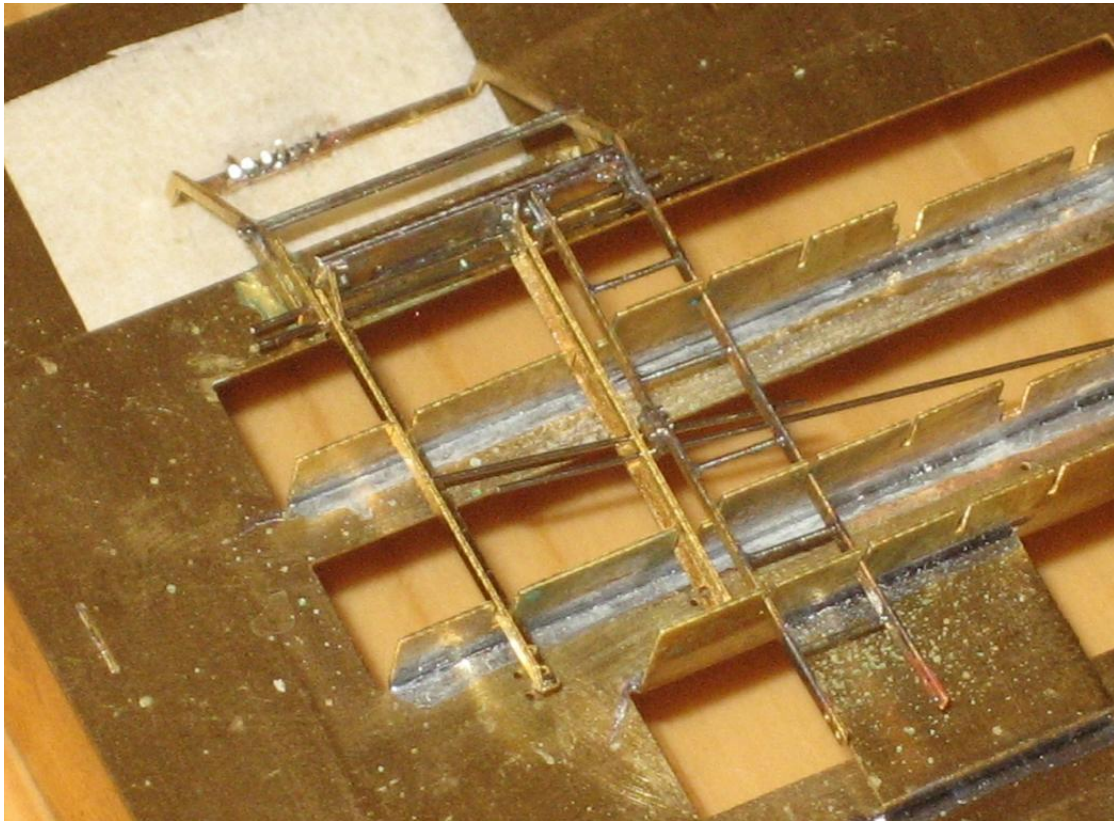
Attention can now turn to the base. Remove two of the platform support brackets (8) from the fret and fold them up. Identify which pins they locate with on the base and then solder them in place making sure that they are parallel to the sides of the base. The base can then be fitted to the platform with the remaining pins on the base locating with the rear support bracket and the top of the ladder. Solder in place.



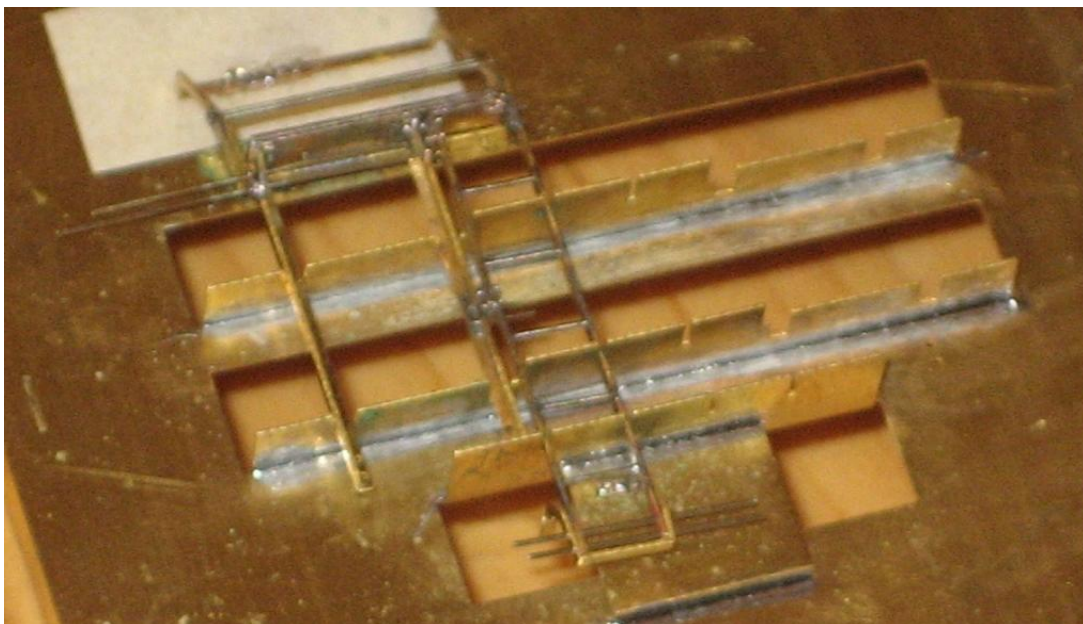
The platform supports (6) can be dealt with next. Note that these come in pairs and will need to be folded up into an L section. Note that if you are building a right and a left handed platform to fit a GWR end platform vehicle (GWR O.57 or O.60) there are alternative platform supports (7) included. These have a recess in the designed to clear the stay that attaches to the milk tank underframe ends. Because of the dimensions on the model I'm not sure that the recess is actually needed but it's there on the prototype so I've included it here. Also note that there are two parts to each of the alternative platform supports and they are handed.

Holding the platform supports firmly in a vice fold them both into an L section. Use lengths of wire to locate them onto the platform. Note that the outer support goes between the main platform former and the support bracket and the inner support goes between the support bracket and the platform support and ladder bracket. Once you are happy with the fit solder in place.

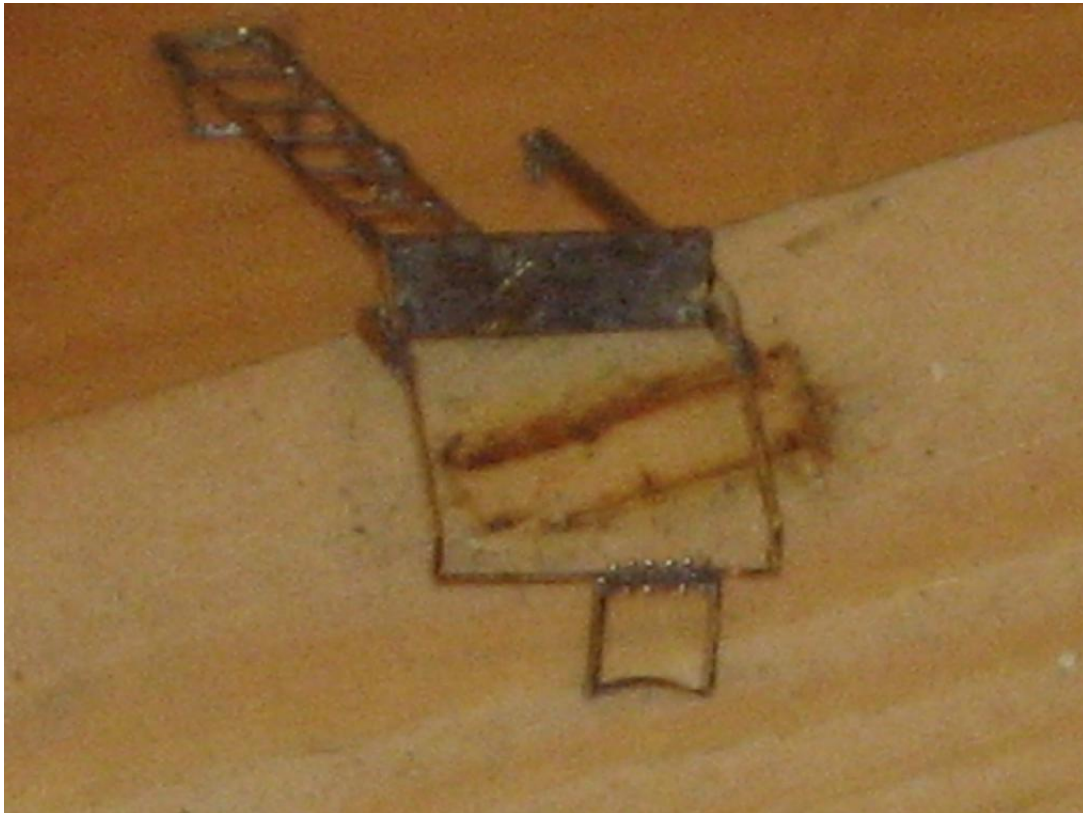
Pass four lengths of wire through the holes in the bottom of the platform supports and the jig and then solder to the supports. These will be trimmed later and used as locating pins to fit the platform to the running plate brackets.



The last part to be fitted to the platform is the solebar bracket (10). At one end there are two half etched holes that need pressing out. My preferred way of doing this is with a drop head rivet press with the part held firmly, whilst still attached to the fret, against one of those ubiquitous green cutting mats. Once the rivets have been pressed out remove the part from the fret. The other end to the rivets needs to be twisted so that it will locate under the solebar. Do this just before the curved section. Fold the bracket up (note that on the 4mm version one of the fold lines disappeared from the production version and the distance between the inside faces of the bracket should be 4.25mm). Use two lengths of wire to locate the bracket to the bottom of the ladder and solder in place. Note that the bracket goes outside the ladder. Reinforce the other fold line with solder.

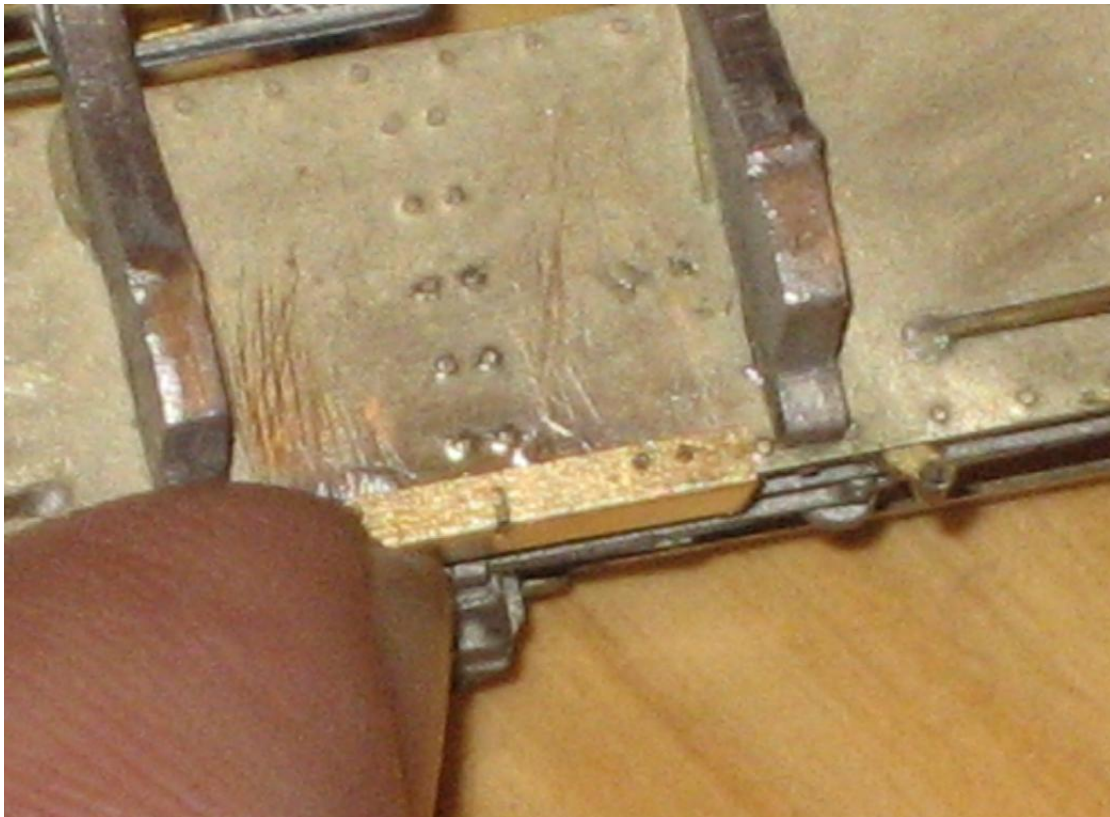


Final tidying up can be done now. Remove the platform from the jig. Remove the wire sections between the ladder sides where the solebar bracket is and file back to represent bolt heads. Do similarly with the wire that passes through the tops of the platform supports and associated brackets along with the wires between the two sides of the rear support bracket. File back the front of the wire locating pins at the base of the platform supports. Trim the wire at the rear to about 2mm so that there is enough wire to provide a positive location on the running plate brackets. File back the wire around the platform support and ladder bracket half way down the ladder to represent bolt heads. If the fold lines in the tank manhole bracket didn't get reinforced with solder when that area was soldered up do so now. The pieces of wire locating the main platform former and the tank manhole bracket can be filed back to represent bolt heads. The half etched area on the tank manhole bracket can be folded and then curved to follow the tank manhole. Once this is done the half etched area can be soldered to the other end of the tank manhole bracket.

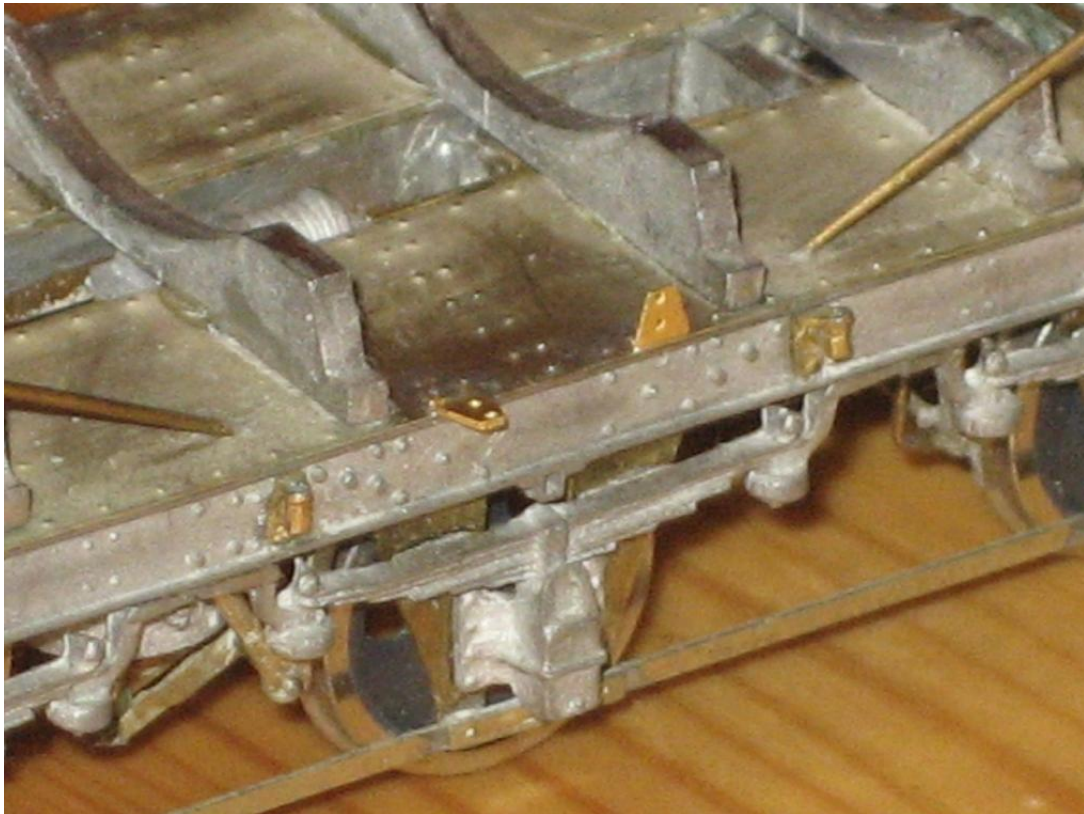


There are two types of running plate brackets included for GWR (11) and SR (12) types. These are designed to be soldered to the milk tank. In order to aid locating them on the milk tank a running plate bracket alignment jig (13) is included.

Remove the running plate alignment jig from the fret and fold into an L section. Reinforce the fold line with solder. There is a slot in the centre of the jig. This should be aligned with where the centre of the tank manhole will be. Hold the jig against the milk tank as shown in the photograph and drill holes using a 0.3mm (4mm version) or 0.5mm (7mm version) drill bit. The two pairs of holes towards the centre are for the GWR brackets and the two single holes at the ends for the SR brackets.



Push sort lengths of wire into the holes drilled in the running plate and then locate the running plate brackets in place. Note that the holes in the GWR running plate brackets are off centre. The pairs of brackets should be arranged so that the holes are closest to each other. See photograph and Fig.1. I located the brackets in place on the running plate, soldered them in place, trimmed the locating wire to represent bolt heads and then folded them up and reinforced the fold lines with solder. It might be easier with the SR brackets to fold them up before fitting to the milk tank.



If everything has been constructed accurately the platform will locate perfectly onto the running plate brackets.

I would strongly recommend leaving the platform separable from the milk tank until everything has been painted after which it can be glued in place. Now you can make the other one which should be easier!

Suppliers List

Eileen's Emporium (Wire)
Unit 19.12 Highnam Business Centre
Newent Road
Gloucester
GL2 8DN
UK
www.eileensemporium.com



Platform base and brackets. Note how the brackets (8) and (9) connect the supports and ladders to the base (1) and how the left hand platform support (6) goes between the support bracket (8) and the main platform former (3). Also note how the top of the ladders side (5) attaches to the other side of the main platform former.



The view from the opposite angle. Note how the connecting brackets (9) go between the ladder and platform supports and that the rear support bracket (2) goes under the base (1) and outside the main platform former (3)



Justin Newitt 2015