

Full Steam Ahead

What do you collect?

00 Gauge (or 1:76 scale) model railway items. Most are steam engines but there are a couple of diesel locomotives.

Which was the first item in your collection?

The first in the collection was a Hornby Railways starter set, named 'Caledonian Local', which I got when I was about 7 years old. It's evocative of small Scottish branch line trains circa 1920.

What first attracted you?

For as long as I can remember I've always had an interest in railways, thanks to my Grandad's railway videos and family trips to heritage lines.

How many objects do you have in your collection? Which is your favourite object and why?

Most of my collection is here on display. It's somewhat varied but the Great Western Railway features heavily; I am a Westcountry boy and live on the old GWR Exe Valley Railway route. The GWR 1400 class is my favourite as these engines used to work on the Exe Valley Railway.

What is your dream object for the collection?

I want to get a GWR Manor Class loco – built in the late 1930s and 'do anything, go anywhere' engines.

What would you like to happen to your collection when you die?

I'd love to donate the collection (and a model railway of Exe Valley Tiverton or Dulverton station) to a museum or other heritage/tourist attraction.

Please tell us a little about yourself.

I am the current Visitor Services Supervisor for RAMM (so you may see me around – do say hello!) and have always lived locally. I also enjoy playing the guitar and photography.