

BR 'Clan' class light pacific

Historical Notes;

The 'Clans' were introduced in 1951/2 as a lighter version of the 'Britannia' pacifics, a class of 10 locomotives, intended for secondary routes which would preclude the larger engines. They were essentially the same as the Britannias below footplate level, differing only in having a smaller, lighter boiler. They never really performed the duties for which they were originally intended, & spent most of their working lives trundling mixed traffic around northern England & the Scottish borders. A further 15 were scheduled for construction in the 1954 building programme, including 5 for the Southern region, but these were cancelled at the eleventh hour, as the class 5 4-6-0's were found to be more useful & versatile. Some only had around 11 years of active service, the first being withdrawn in 1962, with the last example, 'Clan MacLeod' being withdrawn in 1966. None survived for preservation, sadly.

The Kit; This kit is designed to fit on the late tender-drive Hornby 'Britannia' chassis, & accompanying tender, using the same mounting points. It is perfectly possible to use any of the Brit's various incarnations, but the modeller will have to adapt as needed.. Parts which can be re-used from the Hornby model are as follows;- Safety valves; whistle; Smoke deflectors; Handrails; Underboiler; Glazing & Cab rear detail. Many of these can be obtained as spares if you don't have the Hornby body.

Assembly; Begin by cleaning up any remaining moulding pips & part lines with a craft knife & fine files or abrasives. Fill any visible air bubbles, & familiarise yourself with the various parts, & how they fit together. Assembly is best carried out with epoxy & cyanoacrylate adhesives. Drill out the handrail knob, safety valve, & clack valve positions where indicated by dimples, then add the cab interior, checking the fit on your chassis before the glue has fully set, to allow a chance of adjustment. Add the ashpan sides below the running plate, followed by the cast pipework & detailing; (from the front; Vacuum ejector, clack valves, regulator rod centre pivot, firebox pipework, injector pipework.) Handrails can be fitted before or after painting, as can the regulator rodding, bent up from thin wire, & the smokebox dart. I recommend giving the completed model a gentle scrub in warm soapy water to remove any contamination before painting, & the use of a good primer (I use & recommend Halfords plastic primer) before applying your chosen top-coat. Fit the Hornby smoke deflectors & any other details after finishing in your chosen livery. A selection of nameplates are available from 247 developments, modelmaster, CGW and several others...

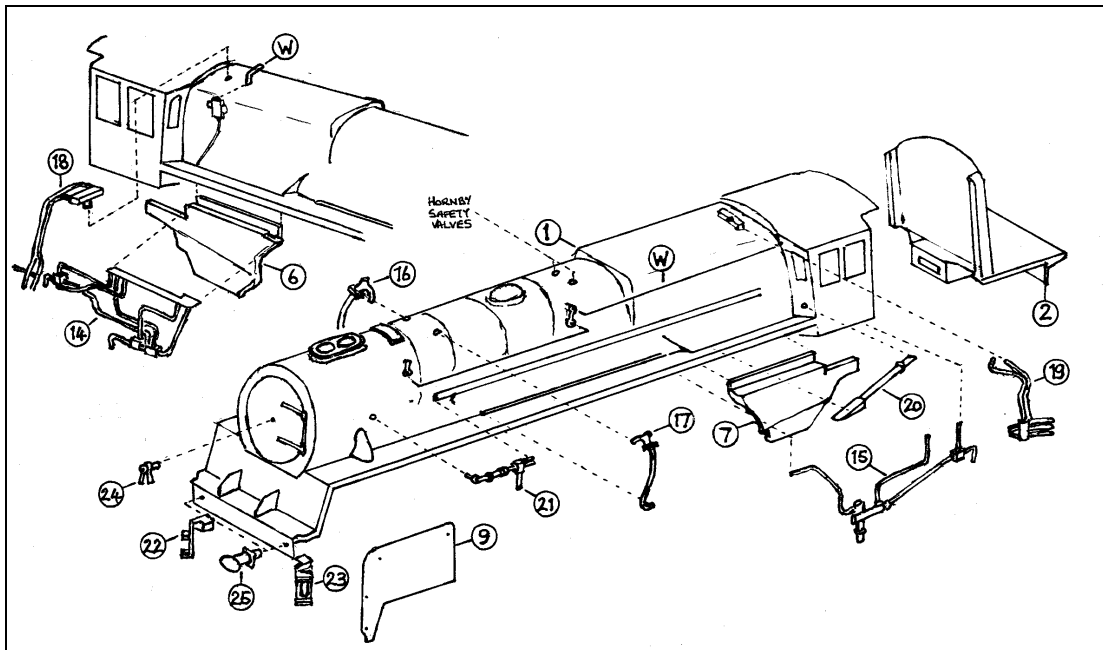


Illustration above is from our 'Duke' kit, but shows component locations similar to the 'Clan'

