NPR-004
Peat wagons

Thank you for purchasing this Narrow Planet kit, we hope you enjoy building and operating it. Please read through the instructions thoroughly before beginning assembly.

Tools required:

Sharp craft knife or scalpel
Hold-and-Fold (or similar)
Emery paper or boards
Small files
Superglue

Prototype info

Although not based on drawings of a specific wagon, this kit represents typical peat railway practice where the large mass of a peat load required a lightweight wagon suitable for roughly laid and often temporary track.

About the kit

This kit is comprised of a plastic wagon chassis (3D printed for 006.5 and injection moulded in 009) and an etched nickel silver cage, and parts are included to build a pair of wagons.

The wagon chassis parts may need a little cleaning up before assemble (left over 3D printing support material or lines on the injection-moulded parts) using a sharp knife and fine emery boards.

All etched parts should be removed from the fret using a sharp knife and then any remaining tag gently filed away. We also recommend gently scoring along fold lines as this helps the metal to bend cleanly. Many of the folds are close to the edge of parts making them tricky to fold without the use of a Hold-and-Fold or similar tool. **Trying to fold these parts using pliers is likely to fail.**

Please note this is a scale model for adult collectors, and not intended for children under 14 years of age.

Assembling the Etched Cage

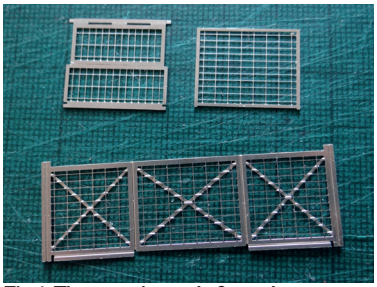

Fig 1: The cage is made from three parts. Clockwise from top left are the door, the floor, and the three sides.

1 • The cage is made from three separate etched parts which should all be carefully removed from the fret and the edges dressed carefully with a small file to remove any remnants of the half-etched tags. Fold lines should be gently scored to aid in folding.

2 • Construction begins by assembling the door which involves a single fold. The part has two etched lines. The line across the middle of the part is mostly decorative and should not be folded. The top of the part contains the door locking bar, this needs to be folded over so that it is on the outside of the door (i.e. the same side as the decorative etch line). This fold is the opposite direction to normal as the half etched line is on the outside of the fold. Carefully start the fold in a Hold-and-Fold (or similar). When the fold is almost complete run a small amount of glue into the fold and then finish folding it over, ensuring it is folded as flat as possible. Once the glue has dried use a file to remove the three tags left from the fold line so that the top of the door is smooth.

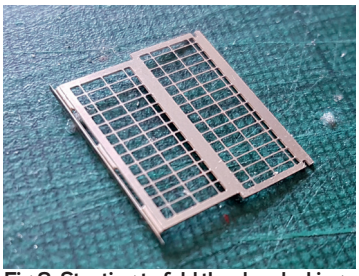

Fig 2: Starting to fold the door locking bar. Note that the etch line is on the outside of the fold.

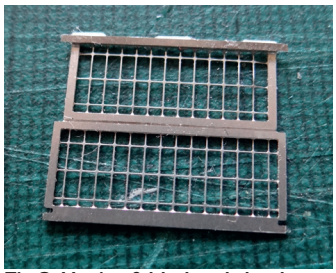

Fig 3: Having folded and glued the door locking bar in place, the remaining etched fold is visible.

3 • Now take the large piece which makes up three sides of the cage and gently fold this. All the folds are very tricky due to the small amount of material involved and should all be done carefully in a Hold-and-Fold to properly support the parts. Start by folding the two flaps on the long side of the part (folds marked **A**), then the sides inwards (**B**), and then finally the edges which wrap around onto the fourth side of the cage (**C**).

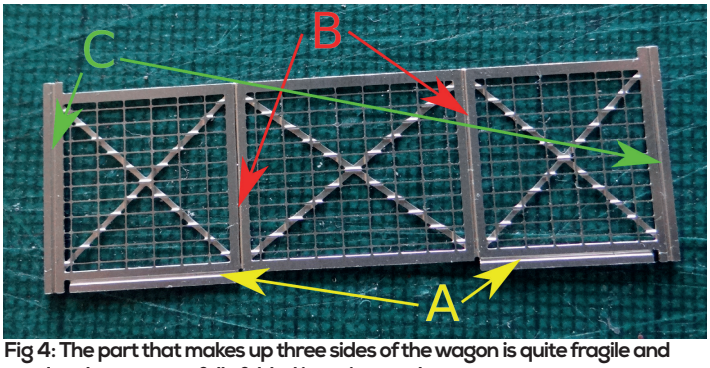

Fig 4: The part that makes up three sides of the wagon is quite fragile and needs to be very carefully folded in a given order.

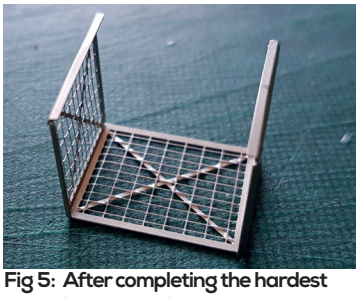

Fig 5: After completing the hardest part of the kit the folded cage sides looks like this.

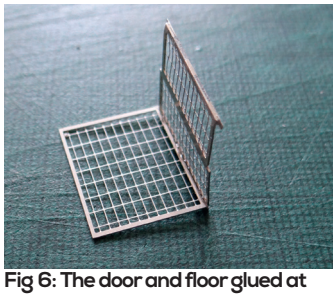

Fig 6: The door and floor glued at right angles to one another.

4 • The floor piece has two little tabs on one side which fit into the slots on the door. Simply glue the floor into the slots on the door

ensuring that the two parts are at right angles to each other and the door locking strip is on the outside.

5 • The two parts fit together together by springing the folded sides out slightly to enable you to drop the door and floor into place. The top half of the door should be eased out ever so slightly along the half-etched line to ensure that while the bottom half of the door sits inside the door latches are outside the front edges. Trial fit the parts first to see if you need to gently file them to get a good fit. When you are happy run a small amount of glue along the flaps under the floor and on the bottom half of the door side flaps, and a drop on the inside of each door latch and carefully slot the parts together.

Fig 7: The completed etched cage.

Assembling the Wagon Chassis

This section only applies to the **009** chassis, as the **006.5** chassis is a single 3D printed part into which you just need to carefully fit the wheels after painting.

1 • The 009 chassis is taken from a Hudson 'V' Tipper wagon and includes supports for the tipper which are not required. These four small triangular parts are easy to remove using a sharp knife and small files. I find it easier to remove them while the chassis is still on the sprue as it helps keep things rigid.

2 • Cut the piece of plastic strip in half and glue each piece across the wagon up against the angle iron supports at the ends of the wagon; you might find there are small pips that need filling off before the plastic strip will sit flush on the chassis. Once the glue has dried file the plastic strip flush against the chassis sides.

3 • Having modified the main part finish assembling the complete chassis by gluing a solebar / axlebox piece in place on one side and, once fully set, add the opposite piece while trapping the wheelsets in place. A dry run assembly is recommended to check correct positioning for the length of the axles.

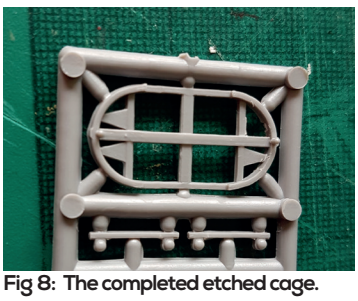

Fig 8: The completed etched cage.

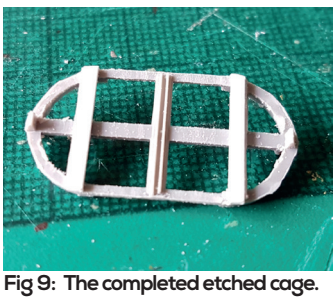

Fig 9: The completed etched cage.

Painting and Final Assembly

We recommend painting the cage and chassis separately before gluing the two parts together, and both parts can be painted using any of the common modelling paints (acrylic or enamel). Given that virtually all photos we've seen of this style of wagon show them as well used and rusty, we suggest simply painting them with a red oxide primer. They can then be weathered as appropriate.

The cage should be glued centrally to the top of the wagon. In **009** you need to position the cage by eye, although the two strips you added to the chassis will sit roughly at each end of the wire section of the floor. In **006.5** note that the cross members on the chassis are not symmetrical across the width. The door of the cage should be on the side with the slightly shorter cross members to ensure the cage sits centrally on the wagon.

Fig 17: The final model in 009 seen alongside our Alan Keef K12 diesel locomotive (NPL-015).

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank the many members of NGRM-Online who provided feedback and support during the development of this kit.

About Narrow Planet

Narrow Planet was founded in 2010 and offers a custom etching service for unique nameplates, works plates and number plates for your model railway locos and stock. In any size or shape from 2mm:ft to 7/8":ft scales. Many manufacturers' styles are available, our full range and ordering information can be found on our website.

This kit was designed by Mark A. Greenwood. If you have any queries about the model or instructions please get in touch.

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