

COTTENHAM JUNCTION

DARTFORD MODEL RAILWAY GROUP

(OO Gauge – 11' x 2')

The fiction

Cottenham Junction is now the terminus of a secondary line that was truncated as it became increasingly unprofitable at a time when the company was struggling to balance the books. Like so many lines it was built during the railway boom of the late Victorian era to serve mainly agricultural traffic in rural areas, and keep out other companies from their territory. The disused bay platform once served a subsidiary branch hence Junction in the name.

The layout is set in the mid-1950s – early 1960s modernisation period, so steam still provides some services but increasingly dieselisation is occurring with railbuses and DMUs appearing on passenger services while various British Railways diesel classes haul freight.

In the village life continues; the pub which was once a coaching inn is a popular watering hole, and the local garage is doing nicely as car ownership increases! The village store is looking rather quiet today, but it is Wednesday and half-day closing.

The layout

The location is non-specific as rationalisation occurred across the country and this allows us to vary stock to suit the chosen area for a particular running.

Operation is by DCC controllers with pointwork operated by switches controlling solenoid motors.

The Name

Cottenham does exist, it is a village North of Cambridge, but has no railway connections.

The name is a tribute to one of the groups founding members Andy Cottenham who did so much to support railway modelling through his Kent Garden Railways emporium.

Track diagram

