

National Rail Departure Board showing real-time departure information from any rail station within Great Britain on a 3.5 inch 320 x 480 pixel LCD display. Uses Raspberry Pi PICO 2W microprocessor.



Figure 1

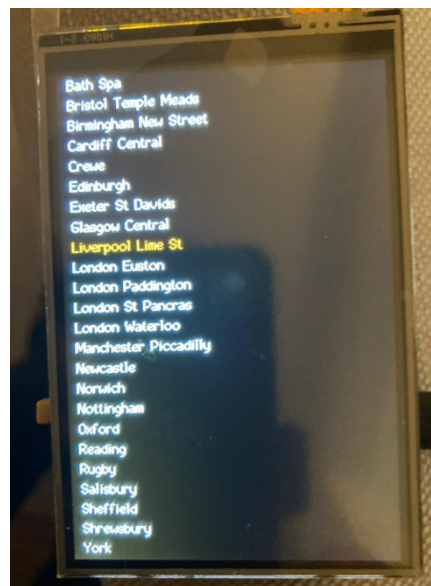


Figure 2

## Overview

Designed to emulate the look of a typical station departure board (Figure 1).

Pulls data from National Rail's LDB Webservice data feed.

Departures for up to 15 services can be displayed.

The station can be selected from a user defined list of up to 24 stations (Figure 2).

The display also shows the current time derived from NTP server.

## Hardware Requirements

Raspberry Pi Pico 2W microprocessor

Waveshare 3.5inch Pico-Res Touch 480 x 320 display <https://www.waveshare.com/pico-restouch-lcd-3.5.htm>

Push-button (n.o. spst) for scrolling and selecting the Station from the Station List. The button is soldered to the GPIO 01 pad and the GND pad on the reverse of the display board beneath the Pico plug-in connector as shown in Figure 3 below.

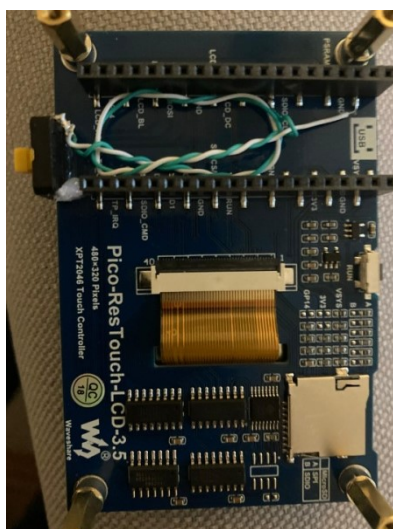


Figure 3

## Software Requirements

Arduino IDE

### Obtaining access to UK National Rail data feed

A user token is required to access the National Rail data feed.

To get the token: Visit: <https://www.nationalrail.co.uk/100296.aspx>

Scroll down to the Darwin Data Feeds table. Find the row labelled "LDB Webservice (PV)" and click **register here**. Follow the registration steps. Wait for a bit and you should get an email confirming your account is activated. The email also contains your token.

### Code Setup

Compiled with Arduino IDE 2.3.6 and Raspberry Pi Pico <https://github.com/earlephilhower/arduino-pico v4.5.1>

Required Libraries: TFT\_eSPI graphics library v2.5.4 by Bodmer : [https://github.com/bodmer/TFT\\_eSPI](https://github.com/bodmer/TFT_eSPI)

The User\_Setup file (TFT\_eSPI\_User\_Setup.h) in the resources folder should be saved as User\_Setup.h in the TFT\_eSPI directory.

Button2 by Lennart Hennigs v2.3.3: <https://github.com/LennartHennigs/Button2>

Plus: WiFi.h; WiFiClient.h; WiFiClientSecure.h

Modify the following options within the departureboard\_PICO.ino file to suit.

WIFI\_SSID, WIFI\_PASSWORD, NATIONAL\_RAIL\_TOKEN .

The individual station codes (CRS) and Station Names need to be defined in the code for each of the station options to be available to be selected for display. Up to 24 stations can be defined. The number of stations in the list is defined by modifying STATIONS\_LIST in the code to the number required default (maximum) 24.

NOTE: the code uses the **Arduino String()** functions to extract the departure data from the XML feed. Therefore this code is not fully C++ compliant.

### Operating Instructions

Connect the power supply. While connecting to WiFi the display shows "**Connecting..**". Once connected the list of Stations previously entered into the code will be displayed. The current selection is highlighted. <short-click> the button to scroll down the list and <long-click> to select the station required. The departures for that station will then be displayed. <long-click> to return to the Station List and make another selection.

**Note:** the number of departures displayed will be determined by the number of departures in a 2.5 hour time period from the current time and can be less than 15 when departures are infrequent.