



# MainLine



**Journal of NMRA Australasian Region**

**Vol 36 No 2 March April 2019**

# NMRA Australasian Region Directory

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**Rod Tonkin**

## **Editorial assistant**

**Alan Burrough**

## **Contributions**

All members of Australasian Region are invited to submit articles of a railway nature for publication in Mainline. Submissions in Word or JPG format can be Emailed to

editor@nmra.org.au. or to my home Email address rjtonkin@inet.net.au .

Original uncropped photo files would be preferred.

Please ensure any contributions of copyrighted material have written approval from the copyright holder.

## **Disclaimer**

All comments published are the views of the author/authors and not the views of NMRA AR.

Articles are provided by members in good faith and the views expressed therein are not necessarily those of NMRA AR.

## **Target dates for future issues**

### **May June**

**Content submissions**

**15 June 2019**

**Publish date on web**

**30 June 2019**

### **July August**

**Content submissions**

**15 August 2019**

**Publish date on web**

**30 August 2019**

## **Cover photo**

Fowlers of Leeds built two foot gauge outside framed 0-6-2 tank engine "Invicta" for Invicta sugar mill in 1907. The locomotive was restored to service in 2007. Photo by Arthur Hayes MMR.

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### **Regular features**

- President's Thoughts
- Editorial musings
- Divisional round up
- Convention news
- Achievement program awards.
- Australasian Region directory
- Coming events
- Prototype observations

# **MINUTES OF THE NMRA (AR) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON SATURDAY 9<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2019**

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the NMRA (AR) was held at the residence of Marcus Amman at 8 Myoora Street, Pymble NSW.

**Meeting commenced** at 3:06 pm after the Division 7 meeting

**Present:** 51 members as per the Division 7 Attendance Sheet

**Apologies:** Ross McLean, John Lebsanft, AC Lynn Zelmer, Brian McWilliam, John Geremin, Kel Sherson, Arthur Hayes MMR, Lachlan McGuire, Glen Coventry, Doug Cooper.

**Minutes of 2018 AGM:** Approved by the ARC on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2018.

**Significant Motions Carried by the ARC in 20178:**

**Motion 1: The following casual vacancies were filled on the Australasian Regional Committee (ARC):**

Graham Young appointed President on 20 March 2019

Stephe Jitts appointed Public Officer on 20 March 2019

Rowan Mangion appointed committee member in January 2019 following the passing of Sam Mangion on 24 November 2018.

**Motion 2: Review of Video Library and its Distribution**

The video library has been passed to David North who, together with Alan Garbutt, will review the video holdings and will look at rotating library holding around Divisions.

**Motion 3: Company Store**

David North is to set up and operate a Company Store offering NMRA Gauges to members at cost.

**Motion 4: Shipping Smugglers Cove**

The Smugglers Cove layout has been shipped to the west coast USA at a cost to members of \$6,605. This closes out an undertaking made when David Howarth was President.

**President's Report** - See attached report

**Treasurer's Report** - See attached report (separate pdf file)

**AP Chair Report** – See attached report

**Membership Officer Report** – See attached report

**Meeting Close.** Please note that in 2019, there are no Australasian Region Elections and there are no Proposed Changes to the Rules of Association. Therefore, no ballots are required within the Australasian Region. The Meeting closed at 3:25 pm.

## **President's Report**

To start my report, I would like to thank Marcus (Amman) for inviting us to his house and the holding of the AGM at this gathering.

The last year has been a time of consolidation for the operation of the organisation. The Management team has started to undertake a review of the ROA to make them more suitable for the Region. This will be continuing during the following period.

It is good to report that after some 8-9 years of negotiations with the States the Geoff Knott Layout "Smuggler's Cove" is on its way to the Museum in California for installation and display. The unfortunate thing was the cost of packing and freighting involved.

During the time in review we lost the excellent life and services of Sam Mangion. Sam who was serving on the ARC as a Committee Member. Sam is missed by fellow modellers and most deeply by his wife Jan and his sons Stuart and Rowan and their families. Following the vacancy this caused I asked Rowan to fill the position and he has graciously accepted that offer and I thank him for it.

The Regional Convention was held in September and organised and conducted by Division 1 for which we congratulate them for their hard work and the excellent result. From this Convention we saw the start of a method of presenting clinics together with key note speakers using video conferencing. This is now being advanced by seeking what additional equipment is required to make use of this modern technology. This work is being undertaken by Martyn Jenkins and Rob Petersen, and we thank them for their efforts. Hopefully a report will be received soon.



The Membership levels of the Region are still very good and at the current numbers we are financially viable, and we continue with our efforts to raise numbers still further. We need to keep in mind that a large proportion of Members are also members of 100% Clubs which are affiliated to the Region.

I wish to thank all members of the Management Committee for their efforts during the year and the Executive (D. O'H, D. N, J. G) who have made things easier for me. It is imperative to include the Divisional Superintendents who work in their areas promoting the Hobby and organising activities for their local members.

At the same time, I need to thank all members of the Region for their continued support both financially and physically to make the NMRA-AR as strong and viable as it is. We all need to realise we are members of ONE ORGANISATION. It is for operational purposes we allocate members into Divisions. They are not separate from the main body and what activities a Division undertakes it is not only to increase their awareness of the Hobby in the local area but in the Hobby in general throughout the Region.

The Treasurer will in a minute deliver his report and explain the financial matters in detail.

That is my report on the year.

Graham Young, President. 9<sup>th</sup>. March 2019.

## **NMRA Australasian Region**

### **Treasurer's Report for the Financial Year 1 Jan 2018 to 31 Dec 2018**

2018 total income was \$31,319 and total expenditure was \$26,321 which resulted in a surplus of \$4,999. The surplus was \$3,005 (62%) lower than 2017 .

#### **Income**

Income was \$514 (2%) higher than 2017, mainly as a result of higher membership numbers and NMRA Magazine subscriptions being partially offset by reduced Convention income.

Membership and NMRA Magazine fees are the major source of income with \$27,258 being received in 2017, which was \$2,322 (9%) higher than 2017.

#### **Expenditure**

Expenditure was \$3,430 (150/o) higher than 2017. USA Remittances for Memberships and NMRA Magazine subscriptions are our largest annual cost. In 2018 they cost \$18,853 and were \$5,321 (39%) higher than 2017, primarily because of a USD 3.20 increase in basic membership fees by NMRA USA and the reduced purchasing power of the Australian dollar.

Rather than increase membership costs, the Australasian Region Committee agreed the increased costs would be absorbed by the Australasian Region because of our healthy financial position.

The planned shipment of the Smuggle/s Cove layout to the USA slipped from 2018 to 2019 due to delays in the USA. These delays resulted in higher than anticipated costs that will be reflected in the 2019 Financial Statements.

Additional financial information for the 2018 financial year is included in the Financial Statements and their notes.

#### **Bank Accounts**

On 31 December 2018 the cash available in our National Australia Bank Cash Manager and Term Deposit accounts was \$48,112- The Cheque account was closed in November 2018 and bill payments using Electronic Funds Transfers replaced cheques from mid-2018.

\$3,233 was returned to the Australian Narrow Gauge Convention Inc in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding between our organisations in late October 2018.

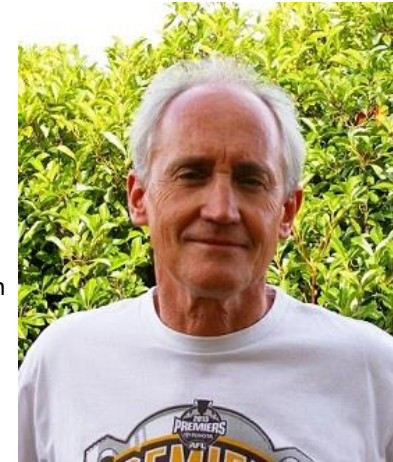
#### **Tax**

The 2016 tax payment of \$80 was made to the Australian Taxation Office in June 2018 and the 2017 withholding tax payment of \$225 was refunded by the ATO in July 2018.

2018 taxable income of \$349 was below the \$416 taxable income threshold, so no tax is payable. An ATO tax self-assessment will be produced and retained for record purposes.

John Gillies

**Treasurer, NMRA AR**





## NMRA – Australasian Region Achievement Program

Manager – Gerry Hopkins MMR #177 FNMRA  
15 Narara Crescent, Narara,  
NSW 2250. Australia  
[gerrymmr177@gmail.com](mailto:gerrymmr177@gmail.com)

March 2019

Gentlemen,

Since the last AGM -

I have signed off on 21 AP awards across four Divisions.

There have been 3 Golden Spikes awarded.

Two MMRs.

There are a number of members currently in the Achievement Program and I expect three more MMRs this year.

All APs earned in the Region can be seen at [http://nmra.org.au/awards/AP\\_awards.html](http://nmra.org.au/awards/AP_awards.html)

Regards

Gerry Hopkins MMR

At the end of the 2018 reporting year we had 700 members. This compares with 675 at the end of the year before.

During 2018 we had 106 new members and so far in 2019 we have 16 new members, giving us a total of 720 as at today.

Our overall membership trend has improved compared to last year. We had more members at the end of 2018 than at the end of any of the previous five years.

Our increased numbers have been contributed to by strong recruitment in Division 1, which recruits more than all the other divisions combined. They recruited 65 members in 2018, giving them a total of 294 members.

The next largest division is Division 7 with 189 members. Div 7 recruited 20 new members in 2018.

Division		Current Membership	Recruitment 2018
01	QLD	294	65
07	NSW	189	20
03	VIC/TAS	44	2
08	Northern Rivers	40	6
06	SA	37	5
09	Mid Nth Coast	35	5
02	ACT	33	2
05	NZ	21	1
04	WA	7	
		700	106

**Membership at end 2018**

Of our current membership, 292 belong to a 100% club, representing 41% of total membership.

390 members or 54% of the total have DCC, some more than one system.

There are 198 NCE systems, 66 Digitrax, 50 CVP, 29 Lenz, 9 Hornby, 4 each of ESU, Z21 and 3 each of MRC, Bachmann, Roco and DCS. One each of all the rest, including a scratch built system .

Erik Bennett  
Membership Officer  
NMRA Australasian Region



**NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION INC.**  
**AUSTRALASIAN REGION**

**DECLARATION BY THE COMMITTEE**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018**

In the opinion of the Committee of the National Model Railroad Association Inc. Australasian Region, the accompanying financial statements:

1. present fairly the financial position of National Model Railroad Association Inc. Australasian Region as at 31 December 2018 and the performance of the Association for the year ended on that date;
2. have been prepared and presented in accordance with the requirements of the New South Wales Associations Incorporation Act 2009 No. 7 and the Associations Incorporation Regulations 2016; and
3. at the date of this declaration, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Association can meet its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Committee and is signed for and on behalf of the Committee by:

Graham Young  
PRESIDENT

John Gillies  
TREASURER

Dated this 18<sup>th</sup> Day of February 2019

**NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION INC.**  
**AUSTRALASIAN REGION**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
**AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2018**

	NOTES	2018 \$	2017 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Cash at Bank - Cheque Account	1	0.00	8,515.82
Cash at Bank - Cash Management Account		29,174.67	18,063.82
Cash at Bank - Term Deposit Account		<u>20,000.00</u>	<u>20,000.00</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<u>49,174.67</u>	<u>46,569.64</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
Cheques/EFT Transactions Payable		93.60	155.77
Credit Card Payable		969.48	99.37
Funds Held on Behalf of Narrow Gauge Convention	2	0.00	3,201.48
Tax Payable		<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<u>1,063.08</u>	<u>3,456.60</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>48,111.59</u>	<u>43,113.04</u>
<b>ACCUMULATED EQUITY</b>			
Opening Balance - 1st January, 2018		43,113.04	35,108.70
Add: Operating Surplus/(Deficit)		<u>4,998.55</u>	<u>8,004.34</u>
<b>TOTAL ACCUMULATED EQUITY - 31 December 2018</b>		<u>48,111.59</u>	<u>43,113.04</u>

Note:

1. Cheque account was closed 6 November 2018 and balance transferred to Cash Manager account.
2. Narrow Gauge Convention funds of \$3,223.41 transferred to ANGIC Inc on 30 and 31 October 2018.

NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION INC.  
AUSTRALASIAN REGION

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2018

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
<b>INCOME</b>		
Membership & NMRA Magazine Fees	27,258.00	24,938.33
Donations	0.00	510.00
Bank Interest	683.84	303.67
Convention Income	2,665.86	5,064.99
Company Store Income	485.00	0.00
Miscellaneous	225.55	0.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>31,319.25</b>	<b>30,804.99</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
NMRA USA Remittances	18,652.52	13,514.01
Public Liability & Property Insurance	1,810.53	1,614.46
Trophies, Awards & Meeting Plaques	592.90	694.10
Miscellaneous	6.03	329.10
Membership Administration	1,969.10	861.00
Convention Costs	0.00	3,939.65
International Transaction Fees for NMRA USA Remittances	586.59	405.42
Credit Card Merchant Fees	348.00	315.18
Bank Charges & Fees	145.60	142.43
ARC Meeting Costs	507.90	411.38
Travel Support	0.00	0.00
Achievement Program Costs	165.00	139.06
Internet Costs	0.00	215.46
Postage, Copying & Stationery	104.25	174.60
NSW Government Compliance	95.00	44.00
Promotion	557.00	0.00
Education	0.00	0.00
Company Store Costs	699.98	0.00
Tax Payable	80.30	0.00
Library Costs	0.00	0.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>26,320.70</b>	<b>22,800.65</b>
<b>NET SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 2018</b>	<b>4,998.55</b>	<b>8,004.34</b>
<b>ADD ACCUMULATED EQUITY - as at 1 January 2018</b>	<b>43,113.04</b>	<b>35,108.70</b>
<b>ACCUMULATED EQUITY - as at 31 December 2018</b>	<b>48,111.59</b>	<b>43,113.04</b>

National Model Railroad Association Inc  
Australasian Region

Notes to the Financial Statement of Receipts and  
Payments for the Year Ending 31 December 2018

End of Financial Year Adjustments

Income – Nil.

Expenditure

A: **Trophies, Awards & Meeting Plaques** expenditure was reduced by \$0.10 to correct the 31 August 2018 data entry overstatement of costs identified by the 2018 audit of accounts.

B: **Miscellaneous** expenditure was reduced by \$3.97 to correct a \$0.03 data entry understatement of the end of August 2018 position and a \$4.00 data entry overstatement of the end of October 2018 position which were both identified by the 2018 audit of accounts.

Details of Specific Income Items

Convention Income

Convention income of \$2,665.86 was received in December 2018 from Division 1 as the Australasian Region's agreed revenue share from the 2018 AR Convention profit. Division 1 managed the financial aspects of the 2018 AR Convention using their own funding and without requiring any contribution of AR funding.

Bank Interest – Narrow Gauge Convention

In late October 2018 Narrow gauge Convention funds of \$3,223.41 (comprising the initial Memorandum of Understanding transfer of \$3,151.67 plus accrued interest of \$71.74) held in trust by NMRA Inc was withdrawn from the NMRA Inc Cash Manager account and returned to the Australian Narrow Gauge Convention Inc. No Narrow Gauge Convention funds were held after the end of October 2018.

Narrow Gauge Convention bank interest was not included in NMRA Inc income figures, but formed part of our taxable income as the funds were held in the NMRA Inc Cash Manager account.

Details of Specific Expenditure Items

Public Liability Insurance

\$1,810.53 was spent on this item in 2018, which was \$196.07 more than 2017.

Membership Administration

\$1,969.10 was spent on this item in 2018, which was \$1,107.30 more than 2017. The major drivers of the increased cost were one-off replenishments of NMRA embroidered badges (\$981.75) and car stickers (\$319.50)



### International Transaction Fees, Credit Card Merchant Fees & Bank Charges/Fees

\$1,080.19 was spent on these items in 2018, which was \$217.16 more than 2017. The main driver of the increased costs was a \$181.17 increase in International Transaction Fees due to the higher NMRA USA Remittances.

### Company Store Purchases

The Australasian Region reinstated the Company Store in 2018 with a \$699.98 purchase of NMRA Clearance and Standards Gauges from NMRA USA at significantly discounted prices which are being passed on the members as a "membership bonus" when they purchase the gauges at reduced costs well below what they would cost in local hobby shops.

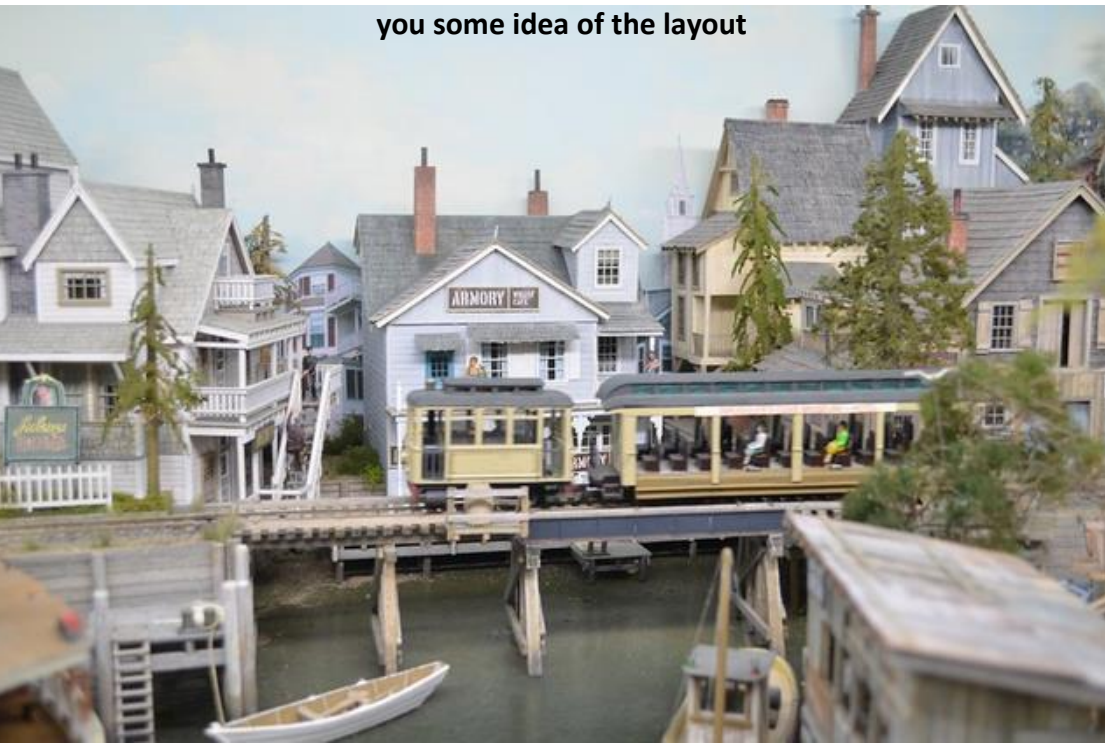
### Promotional Costs

\$357.00 was spent on promotional leaflets in 2018 to be distributed by Division Superintendents to attract potential members at train shows, exhibitions and public displays. This expenditure was a deductible expense for taxation purposes.

### ARC Meeting Costs

\$507.90 was spent on this item in 2018, which was \$96.52 more than 2017.

For members who have been unable to see Smugglers Cove these photos from the Hills Model Railway Club's collection give you some idea of the layout



## Pacific Director's Report

Subject: Smugglers Cove arrived safely

Had a meeting with our fabricator Gizmo in SF this AM. Smugglers Cove was there in excellent condition. Great job of packing and shipping. So it is here safe and sound. Our never ending gratitude to AR and all those involved in building and dedicating themselves to making this masterpiece available to us.



It is a tribute to the builders including the late Geoff Knott and the AR officers and Board to make such a magnificent contribution to the NMRA exhibit on Scale Model Railroading.

The public will be gob smacked with this fantastic layout. Gizmo was!

Thanks again and best wishes to all concerned,

Charlie Getz



# Locomotive wheel cleaning tool for Any scale

Text and Photos by Duncan Carbassi

I'm a stickler for great running equipment. I operate in N scale, and if there is one thing that will ruin good operations its dirty wheels on locomotives.

My favourite method had always been to put a piece of dry soft paper on the track, wet it with a cleaning solution such as Isopropyl alcohol, drive the engine up to the paper and after placing 1 set of driven wheels on the wet paper I would turn the throttle right up and hold the engine whilst the wheels spin on the wet paper. The spinning action of the wheels on the paper helps spread the cleaning solution to the wheel tread and then acts like a scrubber as the wheels rotate. This also requires a movement of the wheels laterally on the paper to clean all the grime and muck from the tread.

This in my opinion is the most effective wheel cleaning method for locomotives. However, it has always been a little cumbersome especially in the scale that I model in which is N Scale. Having to hold the locomotive and turn the throttle knob, then the paper wants to slide under the locomotive and scrunch up. To further exacerbate the issue I use Micro-trains couplers and those darn steel hooks keep getting caught on the paper.

So for some time now, using the same methodology of wheel cleaning I've been wanting to build a more effective locomotive wheel cleaning tool.

I sat down and thought about the process that were required for the paper wheel cleaning method and I realised that with some simple household items that can be procured at the hardware store and a little ingenuity I could fabricate a nice permanent wheel cleaning tool.

Getting the hardware together. This project requires a toilet roll holder, a square of wood (scrap from another project?), toilet roll, length of track, cork for the track, some



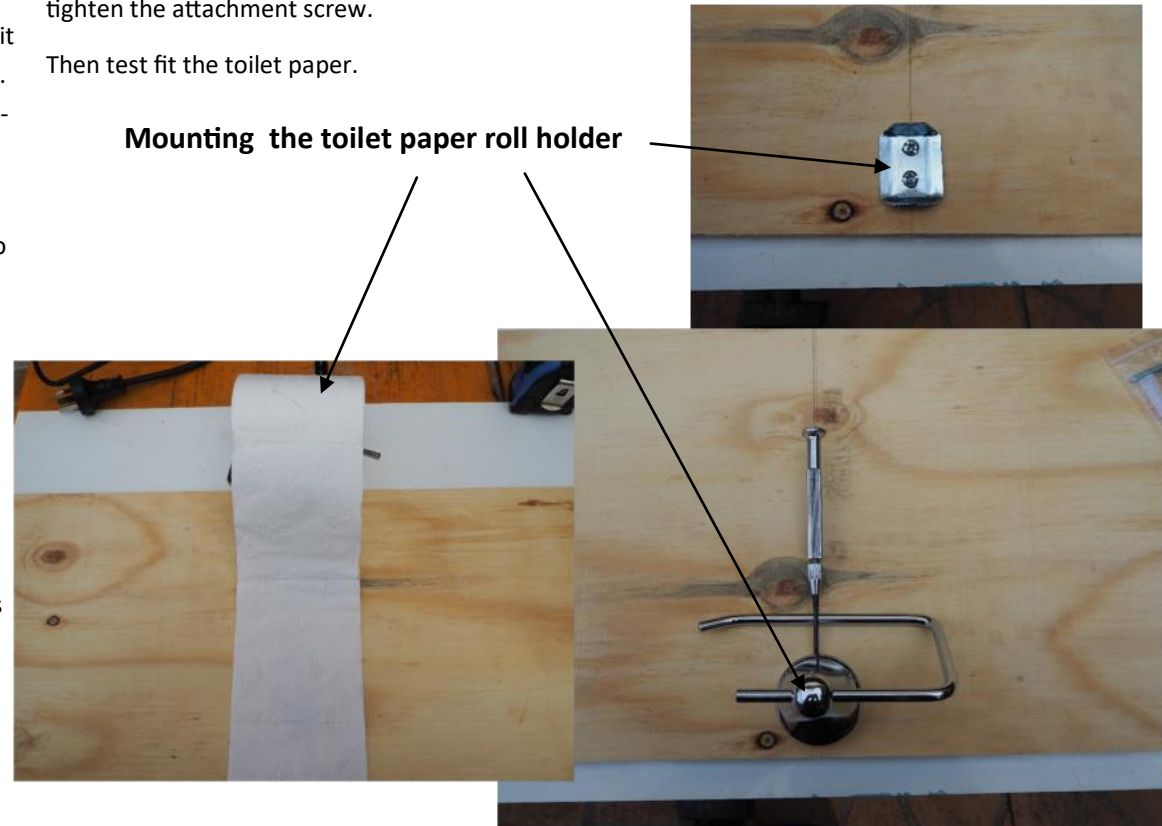
printed circuit board about the width of the sleepers and a length of round brass round bar about 12mm wider either side of the toilet roll, wood glue. The tools required are: Drill, Soldering Iron, flux, solder, screw driver, pencil, square, sharp knife, cutoff tool.

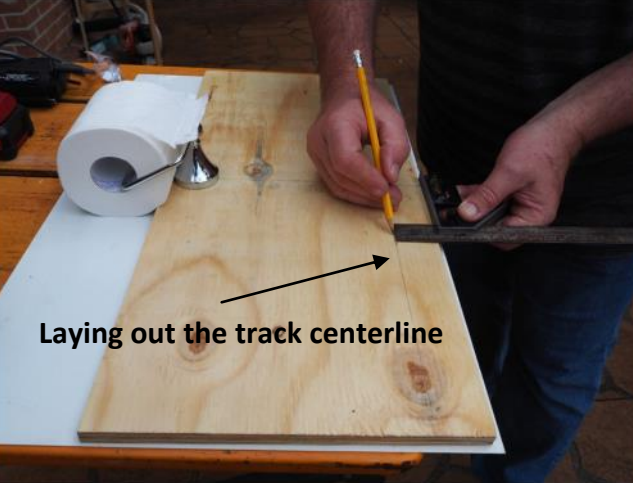


Mark out the centreline of the piece of wood sheet you are going to use. Mine was rectangular and about 500mm long by 300 mm wide. On the centreline at about 50mm in from the top drill and screw on the toilet roll retaining bracket. Align and place the toilet roll holder over its retaining bracket. Then tighten the attachment screw.

Then test fit the toilet paper.

## Mounting the toilet paper roll holder

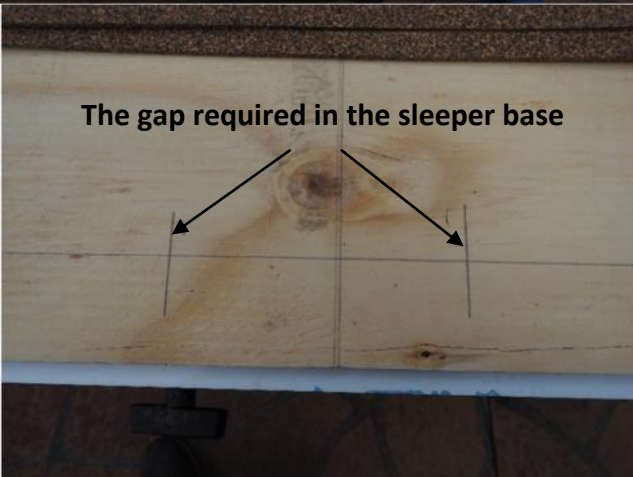




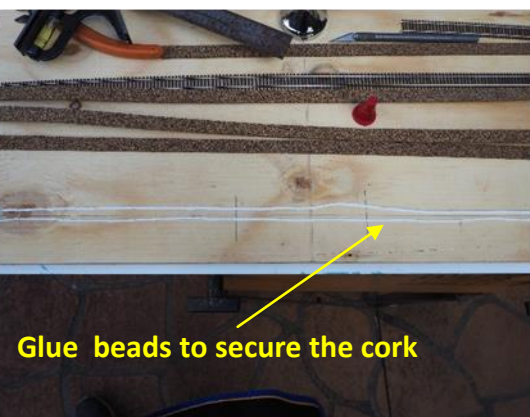
Laying out the track centerline

Using the square as an alignment tool mark a line parallel to the bottom edge of the base. This is for the track centerline, so make it at a comfortable distance in from the bottom edge but not too far. Mine is about 50mm.

Mark two lines across the centerline about 12mm wider than the toilet paper on either side. Mine is slightly off set. These will be where the ties will need to be removed from the rail in a later step.



The gap required in the sleeper base



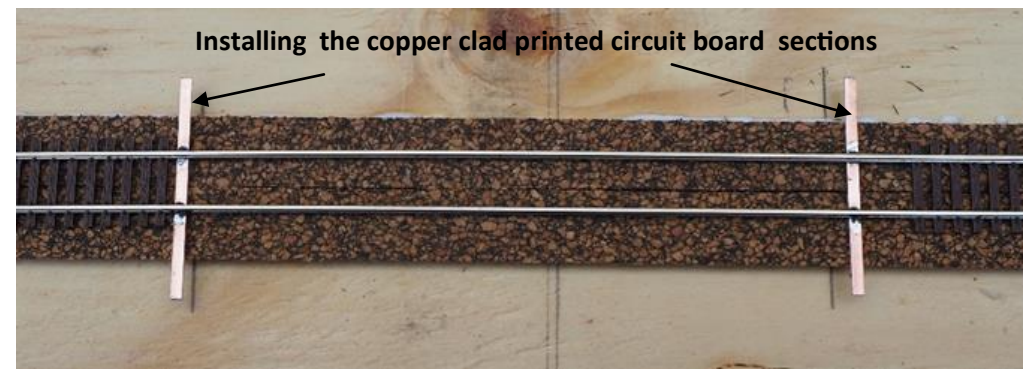
Glue beads to secure the cork

Run two beads of glue parallel and to the side of the track centerline. Place the cork on the glue with each half's inside edge against the centerline previously drawn (Parallel to the bottom)

Whilst the glue is drying from the previous step, place a piece of track over the cork and remove the sleepers across the width of the two marks made earlier.



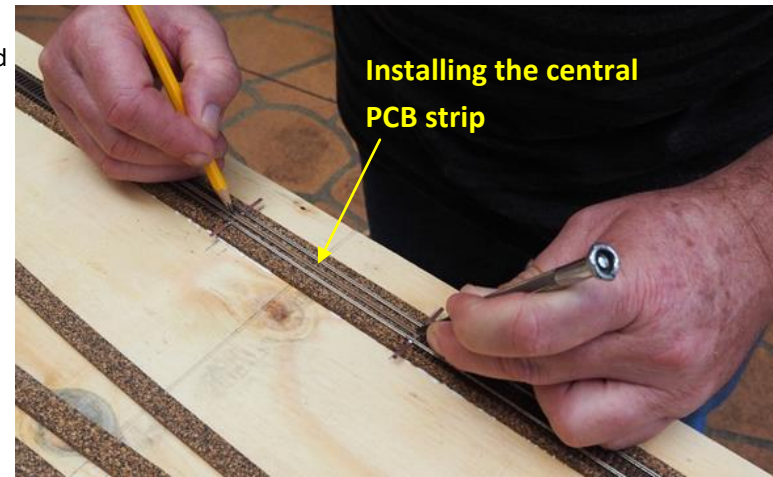
Removing the unneeded sleepers



Installing the copper clad printed circuit board sections

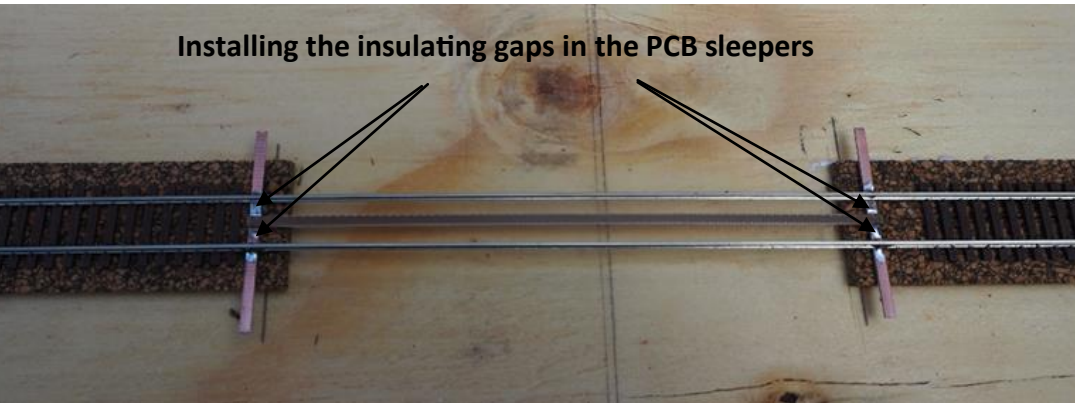
Cut two pieces of copper clad printed circuit board and solder these to the rails just inside of where you removed the sleepers. This will hold the rail gauge more rigidly.

Place a length of copper clad printed circuit board parallel with the track centreline and across the top of the two previously installed printed circuit board sleepers. Mark this to length and cut. Place this down the centre of the track and across the two copper clad sleepers. Centre between the rails and solder to the two sleepers.



Installing the central PCB strip

Oh, don't forget to cut a groove in the copper coating of the two sleepers in between the rails and the centre piece otherwise you'll have a dead short (ask me how I learnt this!). My advice is to cut both sides of each sleeper.



Measure the brass round bar and cut to length of the two sleepers and parallel with the track. Then solder these on the outside of each sleepers.

This is where all your hard work comes together!

Roll out the toilet paper to just short of the jig. Feed the paper under the round brass, over the rail, under the centre copper clad spreader, over the rail and then under the outer brass round bar.



Apply your track power to the rails as per your normal process. You can use alligator clipped leads for a temporary fixture or hard wire as I've done for a more permanent solution. Place a locomotive on the track and run it forward to the paper. Apply your cleaning solution and away you go. This will speed up your wheel cleaning process by double and be so much simpler and easy to use. As your paper gets dirty just pull it through to a clean section.

I've placed my wheel cleaner in front of my computer that has JMRI running. I create a throttle in JMRI and put the slider to 90% speed and then my hands are free to hold the engine so it doesn't run away and I can move it laterally on the track for more effective cleaning of the wheels.



## Sydney N Scale Model Railway Club Inc.

21 Johnstone Street Peakhurst NSW 2210

PO Box 608 Riverwood NSW 2210

Dear NMRA Member,

Please see attached the package for the preparation of the designs for the new layout at our new Rockdale location. This package consists of the following:

Layout standards.

A fully dimensioned plan of the layout space.

A copy of the summary that resulted from the survey issued previously.

Each design will be reviewed by the layout design committee. This committee comprises three members and these are Richard Wallington, Stuart Hopkins and Lachlan Heather. Should you have question please direct your questions to the layout committee directly or via the Secretary who will pass your questions onto the layout committee.

It is expected that we will have access to Rockdale within the next week and should you require an inspection to get a clearer idea of the layout space and the possible alternatives, please contact either Ian Crane or Ian Sprent, contact details shown above, and a suitable time will be arranged.

Your design should detail your proposed layout with a scale plan view, a grade profile, a block plan and the total length of run in actual meters.

All layouts submitted to the layout committee will be reviewed by the layout committee and they will select the best 5 layouts in their opinion for consideration by the Club membership. If the layout committee considers that a layout has great merit but requires some amendment, they may go back to the designer and offer their opinions for consideration and possible incorporation into the layout by the designer. The final selection of the layouts for consideration by the membership rests completely with the layout committee. Also if the committee considers that more than the 5 nominated layouts should be presented for the consideration of the Club membership then that decision rests wholly with the committee.

The layouts that have been finally selected will then be presented to a Special Meeting of the Club membership for final selection by the membership. Each layout will be presented to the membership by the designer with additional comments from the layout committee. Voting will be by secret ballot with the layout achieving the least votes delete

from the next ballot. This process is continued until there are only 2 layouts being considered and the winner of this final ballot being declared the winning design.

The preparation of designs is not limited to the membership of the Sydney N Scale Model Railway Club Inc. More than 1 design may be submitted to the layout committee be a designer.

The closing date for design submissions to the layout committee is 30<sup>th</sup> June 2019. There will be a 2 week period for the layout committee to consider designs and the Special Meeting mentioned above will be convened on the 13<sup>th</sup> July 2019.

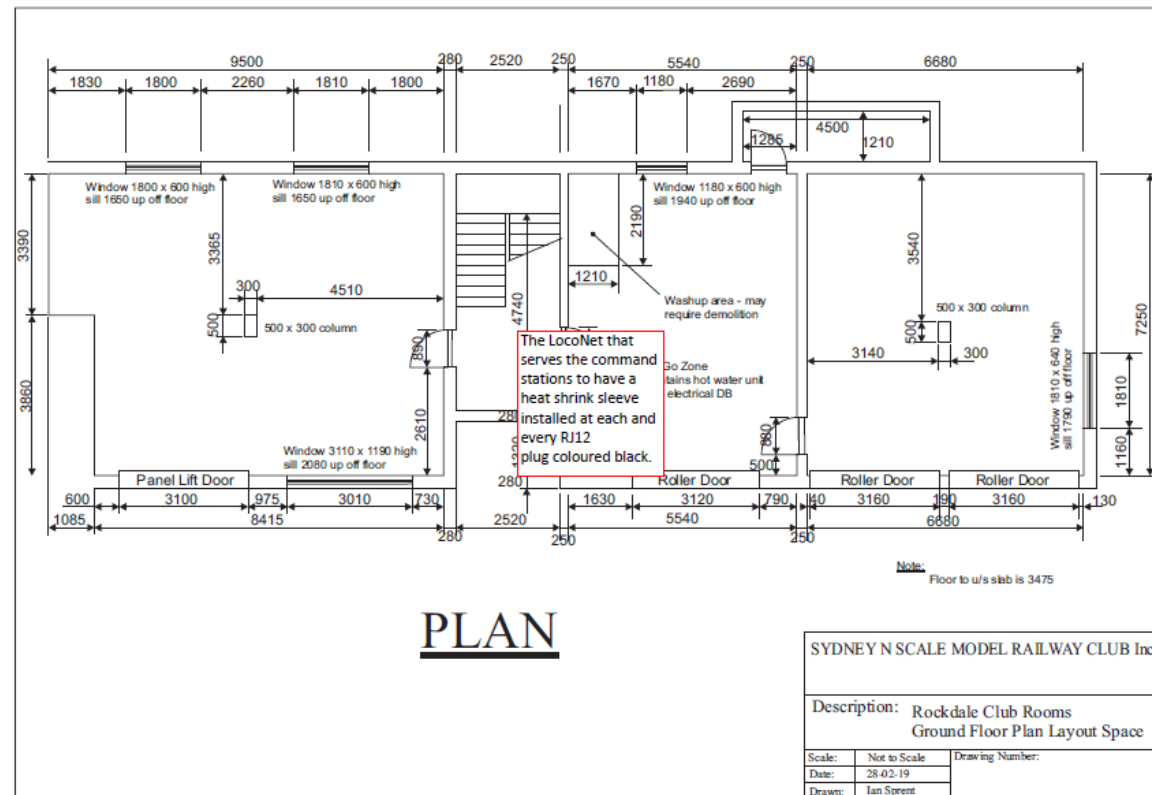
Good luck everybody and get designing!!!

Should there be any questions please contact the COM or the layout committee.

Yours Faithfully,

Sydney N Scale Model Railway Club Inc.

Ian Sprent (Secretary)



# Sydney N Scale Model Railway Club Inc

## New layout proposed minimum requirements

Date: 05/03/19

(Note only the definitions, bench work and track work requirements have been shown here. The electrical requirements not impacting on the layout design have been deleted: Ed itor)

Revision: DC

### 1. DEFINITIONS.

Main line track is all track between towers and includes all running tracks and all passing loops.

All layout wiring and control cabling to be comply with DigiTrax standards.

All COMMS wiring refers to all LocoNet cables.

### 2. BENCHWORK.

Benchwork to be of a modular construction designed to enable easy removal of the module at layout construction stage and thereby allow for any messy works to be undertaken outside the layout area. It is not intended that the bench work be of a true modular construction where modules would have to be of a specific size and shape.

Designers are encouraged to think along the line of a multi-level layout. The layout modules are to have an absolute maximum width of 600mm with a preferred maximum of 500mm

Minimum aisle width is to be 1200mm however this may be reduced to 1000mm with the approval of the layout committee provided that this reduction in aisle width does not create a choke point and interfere with the movement of the operators.

### 3. TRACK.

#### 3.1. Main Line Track.

All main line track to be Peco code 80 track either wood or concrete sleepers.

All main line track to have a minimum radius to be no smaller than 600mm.

All main line track to have a maximum grade to be no larger than 2%.

All main Line Points to be new Large Radius Peco Electro Frog.

All main line points to be fitted with insulating joiners at the frog.

All main line points to be fitted with tortoise switch machines.

All main line points to be fitted with polarity protection.

Where the main line track crosses over a module joint, this track is to be either removable or sacrificial.

All main line track and points are to be easily accessible. There are to be no exceptions to this requirement.

#### 3.2. Secondary Track.

All secondary tracks to be Peco code 80 track with wood sleepers.

All secondary tracks to have a minimum radius of no less than 300mm.

All secondary tracks to have a maximum grade to be no more than 5%.

All secondary trackage point work to be Peco medium radius points and may be either electrofrog or insulfrog.

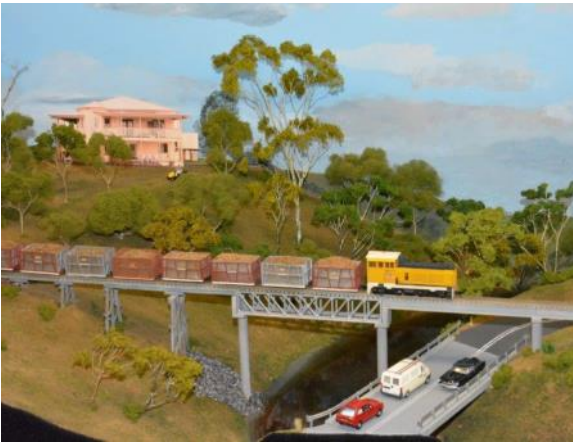
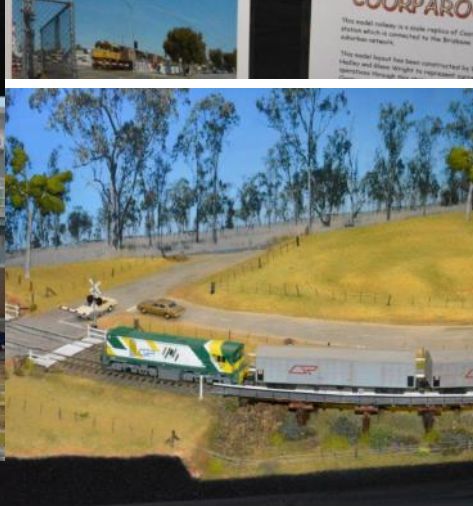
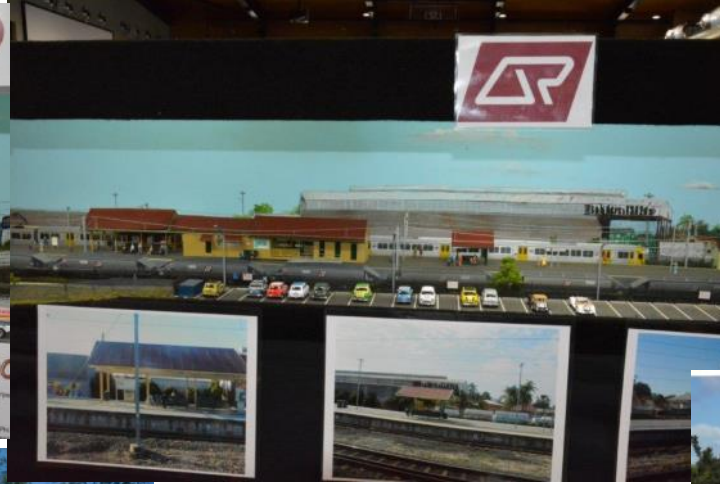
### ROCKDALE LAYOUT SURVEY RESULTS

25/02/19

	Existing	New	Era	Region	Railroad	Locos	Pass	Freight	Track Ops/Scenery	Main Line/ Switching	Eye Height
1	No	Yes	-	-	-	-	-	85	70 / 30	50 / 50	175
2	Yes	Yes	70	US NW	All	3-4 Diesels	85	85	50 / 50	45 / 55	160
3	No	Yes	Post WW2	US NW	-	Steam+Diesel	85	40 & 50	80 / 20	80 / 20	160
4	Yes	No	Transition	US NW	Various	All	All	All	50 / 50	50 / 50	150
5	No	Yes	60	US	-	-	-	-	65 / 35	50 / 50	170
6	No	Yes	68-71	US NW	UP	Big Boy	85	Autoracks+ dbl stacks	60 / 40	55 / 45	175
7	No	Yes	Modern	Various	CP CN BCR	Large Steam Diesel Electrics	85	Dbl Stacks	60 / 40	50 / 50	170
8	No	Yes	80s to now	US NW	Canadian	3-4 Diesels	85	40 & 50	40 / 60	45 / 55	-
9	No	Yes	80s to now	US NW	Canadian	3-4 Diesels	85	60	55 / 45	50 / 50	170
10	Yes	No	Transition	US	-	All	85	-	60 / 40	60 / 40	-
11	No	Yes	90s to now	US West	UP	Diesels	85	Dbl Stacks	50 / 50	70 / 30	175
12	Yes	Yes	-	-	-	Century	85	80	55 / 45	55 / 45	150
13	Yes	Yes	60s to 80s	US NW	-	3-4 Diesels	85	40 & 50	70 / 30	25 / 75	-
14	No	Yes	Transition	Colorado	Rio Grande	Articulated Steam	85	Boeing 737 Fuselage	40 / 60	25 / 75	-
15	Yes	Yes	40s to now	US	All	3-4 Diesels	85	89 Flats + dbl stacks	45 / 55	65 / 35	160
AVERAGE RESULTS											
Unde	Existing	New	Era	Region	Railroad	Locos	Pass	Freight	Track Ops/Scenery	Main Line/ Switching	Eye Height
4	2	9	Mixed	US NW	All	Big Boy or 3-4 Diesels	85	Double stacks	57 / 43	52 / 48	165

# 2019 Bundaberg Model Train Expo

The 2019 Bundaberg Model Train Expo was hosted by the 100% NMRA "Wide Bay Burnett Model Railway Club". The air conditioned venue was most welcome as the outside air temperature was in the mid thirties. Photos by Arthur Hayes MMR



## Division One Highlights

The March Division One meeting was held at the 2019 Bundaberg Model Train Expo. The following members received Achievement Program Certificates at the meeting.

- Merv Bagnall Golden Spike
- Bob Harding Master Builder Scenery and Master Builder Structures awards
- Charles Clarke Association Official
- Arthur Hayes MMR Association Volunteer



Bob Harding receiving one of his two awards



Charles Clarke with his Association Official Award



Merv Bagnall with his Golden Spike Award



Arthur Hayes MMR receiving his Association Official Award

## Narrow Gauge SIG

The March Narrow Gauge SIG meeting was held at my residence with 11 keen narrow gauge enthusiasts present. Our next meeting was discussed, the open Day at the Cambelltown Steam Museum 18th May. Other parts of the hobby was discussed, including point making and scenery.

David Harper brought along his On30 freelance Tram for a run on my On30 layout. It ran very well the sound from the decoder was very realistic.

Some older modelling books were handed around By Ray Walters, thanks Ray.

The meeting Plaque was handed to myself by our Secretary David O'Hearn. I thought it inappropriate to give it to myself.

Layout ran without fault, David had a good time running his tram. The meeting concluded at 4pm, a good time was had by all.

Pics attached are Ed, David Harper and Peter Tonello and David's tram operating on Steve's layout.

Steve Chapman MMR

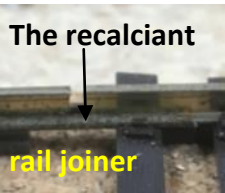
Sig Coordinator





## Division Four Highlights

The February 2019 Division Four meeting was held at Rod Tonkin's in the wilds of Perth's northern suburbs .



The evening before the meeting, trains declined to proceed between Pauline's Bend and Rod's Reach. The fault was traced to a displaced rail joiner disconnecting the power from one rail at Pauline's Bend. This was soon rectified and normal traffic resumed. (Note to self, I need to get around to installing additional power supply droppers, editor)

We discussed the options offered for the 2020 region convention and have forwarded our thoughts to the convention organisers.

Visible progress on Rod's Wombat Gully layout include his Australianised station buildings using a revised Metcalfe PO237 station building kit, Boggs and Son's sanitary porcelain works at Pauline's Bend a re arranged Metcalfe PO282 warehouse kit and the mock up of the Lehane Crushed Stone aggregate and ballast loader at Rod's Reach. Also in evidence was his growing British Railways passenger train rolling stock roster.

Our editor's tribute to the "Carry on" Movies; Boggs & Son Sanitary Porcelain



The partially naturalized station building



## Editorial musings.

### Time for a change in direction?

I've edited MainLine since the beginning of 2015. I feel it is time for a new editor to take on the post. I've already advised the Australasian Region Committee my last MainLine will be the March April 2020 issue. The duties of editor of MainLine are neatly summarized in the Region's Executive Handbook available for all members to read. Its not a complex task.

When I took on the position I made it quite clear to the ARC, MainLine could not survive on articles contributed by members only. To those of you who have submitted articles for publication in MainLine during my time as editor my sincere thanks. To keep MainLine filled I've had to use a large number of my own articles. These stocks of articles are running down. If you are sick of seeing my articles in MainLine, here is your chance to change MainLine to suit your views on our hobby.

I've learnt a lot editing MainLine. My spelling and grammar has improved markedly over the time I've held the position. This improvement in the use of English is in large measure due to my editorial assistant Alan Burough. My skills with Microsoft Publisher have increased considerably.

One major problem I've encountered editing MainLine has been the lack of feedback from you, our members. Editing MainLine without any member comments has meant I've been flying blind for five years. This lack of apparent member interest in MainLine begs the following questions

- Does anyone read MainLine?
- Does MainLine provide an effective platform for members to obtain their **Model Railroad Author** award?

Based on responses to the above questions do we still need to publish MainLine?

Your comments would be appreciated.

Regards

Rod Tonkin

Editor MainLine



## Division Five events

### CoSMRC: The First Six Months

Philip Sharp

Mid-October last year, Paul Hobbs and I formed the City of Sails Model Railway Club (CoSMRC) in Auckland. The other founding members were James Kelso, president of the New Zealand Association of Model Railway Clubs, Mark Jackson, vice-president of the North Shore Model Railway Club in Auckland, and Steve Anderton. James re-joined the NMRA late last year. Mark and Steve are long time NMRA members.

Paul and I are the inaugural president and secretary respectively. Right from the start, the club was intended as an NMRA 100% club. I submitted an application to become a 100% club on October 23. We were granted this status on December 12. The club now has eight members including 12-year old Joshua Hill.

The main aims of the club are to support the members in their pursuit of the hobby, and to promote the NMRA and American modelling in the Auckland area. The activities we intend holding include helping members with their layout and working towards AP certificates, running operating sessions, and reducing the cost of attending conventions by coordinating our plans. We will disseminate information about the NMRA and American modelling by giving clinics at other Auckland clubs and participating in inter-club activities.

Our first meeting was January, 2019 at James Kelso's layout. James models the MRL. His layout, far from complete, is a triple-deck mushroom. The main part of the layout is 20' x 20' and includes a helix. There is a second helix adjoining the main part. Over the coming years, the club members could well assist James in completing his layout.

The February meeting was held at the Western Districts MRC. After the initial socializing and inspection of the club's HO and N scale layouts, Paul Hobbs and I gave a presentation on car cards. The audience included two visitors. The presentation generated much discussion and we agreed to start holding car card sessions later in the year.

The following month we met in a private home. We discussed what we could do to help each other earn AP certificates. At the end of the discussion, Joshua said he planned to go for his Golden Spike Award. We also discussed possible designs for the club logo. Joshua was asked if he would create five possible designs. He said he would.

At our April meeting, Paul gave a hands-on clinic in which he demonstrated efficient switching. The task was to make up a correctly blocked train of five randomly chosen freight cards out of 10 cars using a three-track yard and a head-shunt. Several of us then practiced switching under Paul's watchful eye. The clinic was held at the Western Districts MRC and we had hoped members of that club would attend. This did not happen.

After Paul's clinic ended, we discussed the logo designs Joshua and his father Michael had produced. There were 14 designs and not the five we expected. After 15 minutes of discussion and some horse trading we decided on a design that was the amalgamation of two designs, with the addition of colour. Joshua will produce the final design for the next meeting.



James Kelso (l) and Mark Jackson (r) at the Western Districts MRC.



Paul Hobbs giving his switching clinic



Part of James Kelso's layout.

## Division Six Events

The NMRA Division 6 meeting was held on March 9<sup>th</sup> at Neil Tonkin's. We welcomed everyone and thanked Liz, Neil and Casey for hosting our meeting and presented them with their plaque for doing so.

Ron Solly reported that we have been accepted for AMRE. Volunteers will be needed to staff our display.

Ray Brownbill reported on the AP and what is required to earn a Golden Spike award.

Michael Robinson reported re the library and suggested if he could purchase some DVDs at swap meets if cheap for the library. Ray suggested that he would need to double check that the national library hasn't got that copy.

Business items-

Informed members that the voting had closed for the World wide director.

Members reminded about the survey re convention ideas requested by Peter McGuire.

**Bring and Brag-**

David Orr showed us his N scale Kato Trams and his HO scale Auscision Models 830 locomotive.

Ray Brownbill told us about filming Ron Solly's layout with the Mobius mini camera. Ron became aware of some maintenance needed on his layout after seeing it up close.

Michael Robinson informed us he now has a YouTube channel after finding he needed to use Google Chrome to upload videos. Here is the link

<https://www.youtube.com/user/m698dr>

Casey Tonkin showed us her collection of stamps featuring trains.

Neil Tonkin showed us a plastic box to hold his scratch building gear.

Brian Hutchinson bought his model sailing ship which he had taken 2 years to build. She was called the "Arial". She disappeared in 1872 off King Island. Hutch now has a 3D printer so there was a lively discussion regarding use etc.



David Orr with his HO scale 830 class

Casey Tonkin's train stamps



Two different approaches to modelling in N scale



Brian Hutchinson's model ship



Afternoon tea

The NMRA Division Six April meeting was held at 6 Ray and Marcelle Applebee's home on the 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Seventeen members were in attendance.

We welcomed members to Ray and Marcelle Applebee's home, thanked them for hosting the meeting and presented Ray with the meeting plaque.

Our May meeting will be held at Ron Solly's home on Saturday the 11<sup>th</sup>

Ray Brownbill won the raffle.

Ron Solly- Reported on the up coming AMRE. The attendance sheet needs to be returned to Ron by the 9<sup>th</sup> May. The expectations of volunteers are a full or half day, time at table, meal breaks and time to visit show. If needed, also to relieve other members on their layouts for breaks. The list will be circulated to all members to review before doing we submit i. Electrical leads etc. will need to be tagged before the AMRE to be . A Sanction has been approved for the Div.6 stand.

Ray Brownbill's AP report: 2x Golden Spike awards presented and one in progress.

If members are interested we could arrange for a group visit to view a Z class steam engine being built at Ironbank in the Adelaide Hills. It is a 20 year plan and will eventually run at Pitchie Richie Pass.



**John Pattis's AD60**

### **Bring and Brag-**

Vern Cracknell- Vern showed us his German National Railways reconstructed 2<sup>nd</sup> class railway car which he won as second prize in the Marklin LGB club competition and what he did to win it. Congratulations Vern from all of us.

John Pratts- John showed us his 60 class Garrett steam locomotive made by DJH models and explained its history.

We broke for a delicious afternoon tea thanks to Marcelle and viewed a film of Ron Solly's layout taken on Ray Brownbill's Mobius camera and the convention at Helensvale. We all eventually took our leave after a very pleasant afternoon.



**Vern Cracknell's modelling and his prize**



**Afternoon tea**

# Division Seven Highlights

Division Seven's February meeting was held at the Illawarra Model Railway Association's club rooms. The fixed club layout is upstairs on a mezzanine floor, their exhibition layout "Waterfall" is located on the ground floor.

Illawarra Model Railway Association's fixed club layout



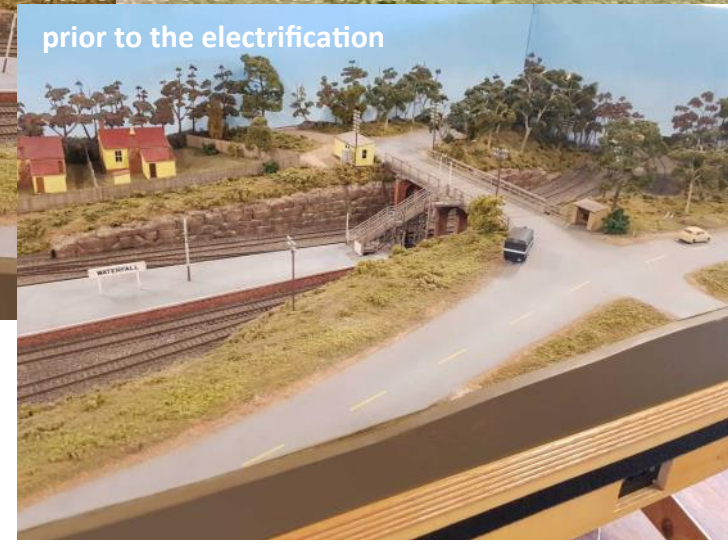
The Comeng built South Coast Daylight



Some views of the Illawarra Model Railway Association's HO scale model of Waterfall station prior to the electrification



An overview of Illawarra Model Railway Associations exhibition layout "Waterfall"



Division Seven met at Marcus Amman's in March for the AGM and Division Seven meeting. Some well deserved awards were presented. The attached photos show the recipients of these awards and some views of Marcus's double deck HO scale NSWGR themed layout.



Arthur Haberlin 50 years membership



Peter Jensen 25 years membership



Bob Best 25 years membership



John Gilles Association Official



David Howarth Master Builder Prototype



Some views of Marcus Amman's HO scale NSWGR layout



## Coming events

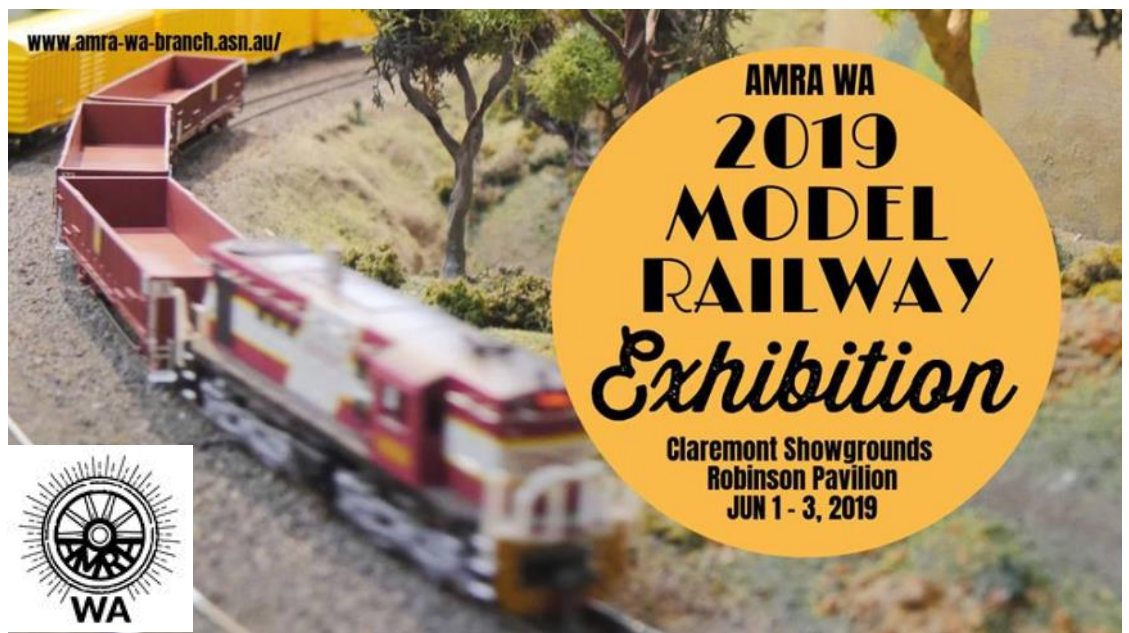
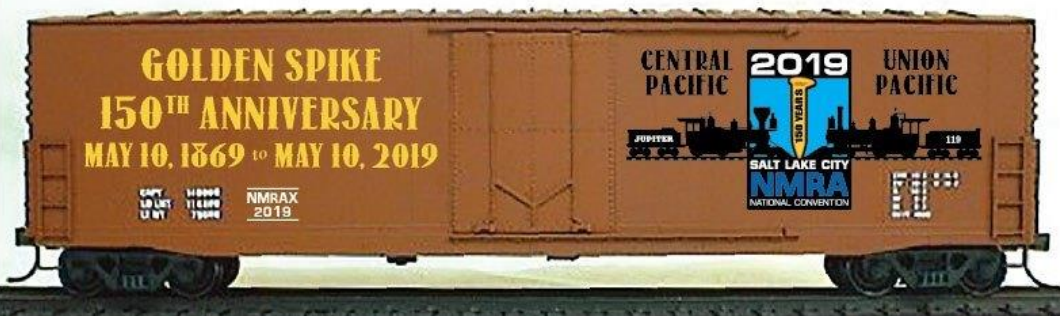
### Australasian Region 2020 Convention hosted by Division Seven

The members organising the 2020 Region convention are looking to your input to plan a convention more attractive to members. Your input will be valuable. Please contact your Division superintendent for details how you can take part.



The 2019 NMRA Convention will be held in Salt Lake City Utah from the 7th to the 13th of July 2019. Among other things the convention will commemorate the 150th anniversary of the completion of the transcontinental railway at near by Promontory Summit .

Registration is available via the convention web site <http://www.nmra2019slc.org/>



Do you love model trains? Are your children or grandchildren, or parents/grandparents fascinated by them? Yes? Well, do not miss the opportunity to get together for the annual MODEL RAILWAY EXHIBITION in June!

Adults \$12, Children (5 to 18) \$10, Families (2+2) \$30, Concessions \$11, Children under 5 free.

#### Opening times

- Saturday 0930-1630
- Sunday 0930-1630
- Monday 0930 -1600

Come along to see the amazing train layouts the modellers have put together. The intricate scenery and attention to detail really is a sight to see, not to mention solving the Model Railway puzzles!

Free Bouncy Castle for the young ones. Take the train ride around the exhibition.

# Invicta

English Leeds Fowler 0-6-2 T

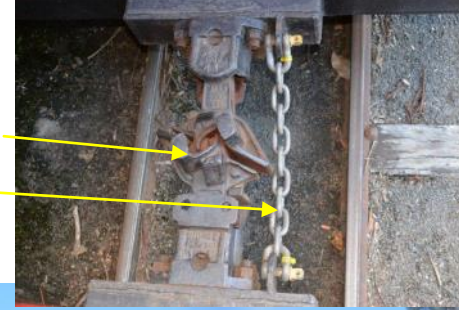
The locomotive was purchased new in 1907 for the Invicta Mill, it spent all its working life in Sugar Mills in the Bundaberg area. When Invicta mill was dismantled in 1918, the loco was used to marshal the sugar cane from the Invicta area to Ralph's Siding where other locomotives transported the cane to the Bingera mill. The loco worked in the Bingera area until the early 1960's when it was sold to Millaquin Sugar Co during the industry expansion program, to work at Qunaba Sugar Mill. The loco was retired before the steam era ended in 1978. In 1981 it was donated to the HMAS Nirimba Navy Training College at Quakers Hill Sydney. In July 1993 the Bundaberg Steam Tramway Preservation Society Inc (BSTPS) made a submission to the navy for the return of the loco to Bundaberg. The locomotive was returned and official handover took place on the 20<sup>th</sup> November 1993. Invicta was recommissioned on the 17<sup>th</sup> November 2007 after restoration. During the 2013 Bundaberg floods, the Bundaberg Steam Tramway Preservation Society Inc. (BSTPS) depot was flooded, all rolling stock, equipment completely immersed in water. The level of flooding is marked on the main workshop wall just under the rafters.

The Bundaberg Steam Tramway Preservation Society Inc (BSTPS) trading as Australian Sugar Cane Railway (ASCR) is a non-profit organisation operated and maintained by volunteers. The Society has four steam locomotives and one diesel locomotive. The carriages are ex three ton whole stick cane wagons. These have been converted to accommodate passengers. Currently the tramway is carrying approximately 40,000 passengers annually. The tramway mainly operates on a Sunday, selected school holiday days and for special events.

The information above was obtained from a handout given to passengers who ride the train.

Arthur Hayes MMR

Cane tram auto couplers and safety chain



Cane wagons repurposed as passenger cars

