

Western Lines



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What is Western Lines?

Western Lines is the Newsletter of NMRA Australasian Region, Division Four. It will report on our meetings, planned meetings, module group progress, members modelling efforts and local railway happenings.

Division Four Team

- Alan Burrough Divisional Superintendent
- Frank Godde Divisional Manager Achievement Program
- Rod Tonkin Western Lines Editor



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Cover photo; NR27 leading the Indian Pacific through Maylands on the concrete sleeper dual gauge track in July 2012.

For meeting addresses please contact Alan Burrough at

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Who are we and what do we do?

We are the members of NMRA Australasian Region, Division Four. We live in Western Australia. The land of giant iron ore trains and an extensive open access railway system operating on standard gauge, narrow gauge and dual gauge track.

We meet monthly to share our hobby experiences. We range from keen scratch builders, to open the box enthusiasts. Our layouts range in size from most of the back yard in G gauge to a HO scale layout in a walk in wardrobe.

Like the trains in our back yard our tastes in modelling vary. We model in N, HO, OO, On30 and G scale. The prototypes we follow are mainly North American with some local prototypes and just a touch of British Railways.

Our meetings include running days and operating sessions on member's layouts, modelling technique demonstrations and workshops and visits to kindred groups.

We have an active 16.5 mm gauge Modular Layout group. Our modules are based on the emerging Free-mo Australia standards modified to suit our requirements.

We will be displaying our modules at

the AMRA WA Branch Model Train show in June 2013. We invite you to join us.

Future meetings

We usually meet at 2 pm on the last Sunday of the month. Future meetings are

- January 2012 Running session on Ken Wyatt's 16.5 mm gauge DCC controlled layout on the 27th



- February 2012 modelling workshop at Frank Godde's on the 24th



- March 2012 Running session at the AMRA WA



Branch club room's on the 31st (TBC)

- April 2012 Operating session on Rod Tonkin's DCC controlled HO gauge layout using train authorities and car cards



Recent Meetings

August 2012

We gathered at Frank Godde's for the August Division Four meeting. Frank showed us his efforts using "Soft Rocks" for light weight rock

outcrops on his modules. After the pause that refreshes we were able to admire progress on Frank's On30 layout. The photos show Frank demonstrating his "Soft Rocks" and a scene from his On30 layout



October 2012

The October meeting was held at Alan Perry's workshop. The formal discussion centred on displaying our modules at AMRA WA Branch's model train show in June next year.

The main modelling activity was setting up and working on member's modules. Four members' modules have the power buss and DCC buss installed.

The photo shows Peter and Alan's modules connected and operating



November 2012

The November meeting at Garth Caesar's was a train running day. We were able to inspect progress on Garth's outdoor G gauge layout and his indoor On30 layout.



Members had the option of operating on Gath's DCC 16.5 mm gauge On30 layout or his outdoors 12V DC 45 mm gauge G scale layout. Most of us took the 16.5 mm gauge option.

The models operating on the layout as the photo shows ranged from On30 Rio Grande through OO scale British Railways to HO Scale Union Pacific



December 2012

We held our Christmas meeting at Peter Scarfe's. Two presentations were made as the formal part of the meeting. Frank Godde presented Alan Burrough with his Achievement Award for his work as Divisional Superintendent over the past three years. Alan Burrough presented Garth Caesar with the HopkinsBone award for the development of his outdoor s G gauge layout. Models displayed at the meeting ranged from Alan's gingerbread 4-2-0 to Ian's O scale "Flying Scotsman"



Module Group

Rod Tonkin built two modules to the new Free-mo Australia standard and displayed them at the AMRA WA Branch Open Day in November 2011. The photo shows Rod's modules at the Open Day.



Our module group kicked off late last year. The modules are based on the Free-mo Australia Standards with some modifications to our local needs.

The aim of our module group is to enjoy a joint modelling venture, to encourage members to build modules and to attract new members to our association.

The module group meets on a bi monthly basis.

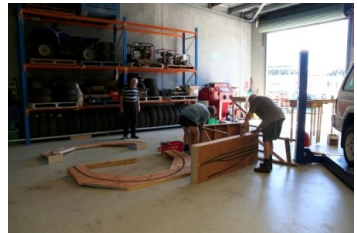
Module Standard

Our module standard is evolving as we gain experience building and setting up our modules.

Our modules follow the Free-mo Australia standards with the following modifications

- Banana plugs on inter module power buss cables
- No accessory buss
- 900 mm radius curves
- Single track at module ends
- Code 100 track work
- Peco Medium radius point work
- Module construction materials to the discretion of module builder
- Patch leads on DCC buss from UTP to UTP between modules

We have recently changed to butt jointed rails at module ends and a loose dowel in the end plate to simplify set up. These modifications will be added to our module standards when they are fully developed.



Member's modelling

Right; Phil Knife MMR's scratch build
Sn3.5 WAGR 4-4-2



Below; A scene on Bob Kollwyn's HO
Scale DCC controlled layout



Left SP 8390 in the
moonlight on Rod
Tonkin's HO scale DCC
controlled Wombat
Gully



Frank Godde MMR's de-
tailed and weathered 45 mm
gauge narrow gauge 0-4-0



Local Prototype happenings

Perth's Northern Commuter line up the middle of the Mitchell Freeway has got an additional layby siding. The photo shows the double ended layby siding south of Leederville station.



The point work on the running lines on the new

layby sidings are the closing frog type as the photo below shows

