

THE FLIMSY

NMRA Division 2 Newsletter

January 2018

From the Editor

Greetings.

I was unable to make the January meeting at Mal's place on the Sunday due to a family commitment. However, trusty scribe John Bullen and photographer *extra-ordinaire* John Gillies have supplied me with all the information we need for this issue of *The Flimsy*. Ross Balderson also kindly supplied high quality images of his N scale modelling for his *Newcastle 1899* layout. Thank you gentlemen!

I hope this edition of *The Flimsy* is enjoyable and inspiring enough for you to bring along a plethora of models and information to the next meeting, this Saturday, at 2pm at the home of Stephen Walker.

Brad

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January meeting host, Mal Risby, had plenty of work lined up on his very uncluttered workbench (Photo: J. Gillies).



January 2018 meeting

The January meeting was held at the home of Mal Risby. There were fourteen members in attendance . First up for discussion was whether the Div.2 group would be able to host the 2019 NMRA Australasian Convention. While there had been a general discussion approximately nine months ago, and an offer had been made by the then Div.2 Superintendent to host, no formal committee had been established and no work schedule outlined. With the appointment of Stephe Jitts as the new Div.2 Super', it was a good time to discuss the convention at the January meeting and make a definitive decision. As a committee could not be formed, it was decided unanimously that Div.2 would be unable to host the Convention in 2019. The decision was conveyed to the ARC who accepted the decision.

There was also the appointment of Ross Balderson as the Achievement Program (AP) Coordinator. John Gillies spoke briefly about the Div.2 finances and confirmed a positive balance in the bank account. There was a general call-out for meeting hosts for 2018. Ross Balderson and Wal Pywell volunteered and will speak to Stephe about possible dates. Jess offered to find out about a possible meeting venue in a community hall and would report back at the February meeting.

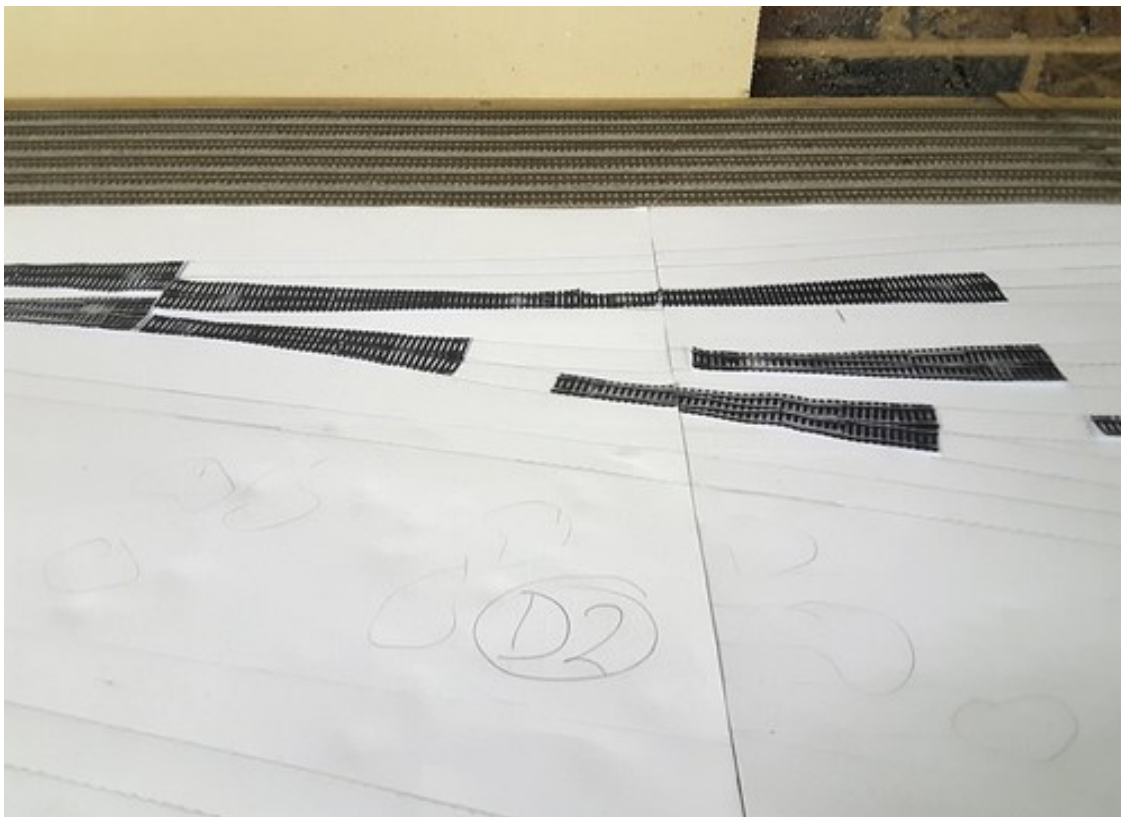
Other announcements included the upcoming closure of *The Railcar* hobby shop, closure of Mt Lofty station in South Australia, and the ARHS ACT Division is still in a bit of financial bother despite the auctioning of its assets.

The meeting also discussed the upcoming CMRCI Model Expo at the end of March to be held once again at the UC High School in Kaleen. While a belated invitation was offered, it was decided against having an information booth and layout on display this year. That said, there will undoubtedly be Div. 2 members at the Expo operating other club layouts.

Host Mal Risby gave an overview of his plans (layout drawing, gradients, curvature, etc.) for the new layout he is building to replace the existing layout in his garage. Full sized plans on the baseboard showed some of his early ideas.

A wonderful afternoon tea wrapped up formalities. A big thank you to Mal and Mrs Risby for the afternoon delights.

Mal Risby has started planning the new N scale North American-prototype layout with the aid of full size track pieces and paper laid straight onto the baseboards (Photo: J. Gillies).



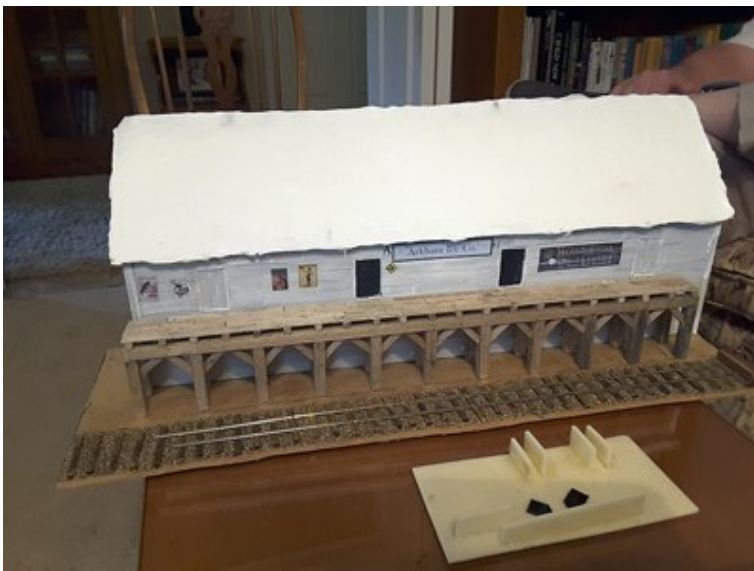
Show and tell

Robin Foster brought along some jigs for a kit of a trestle bridge. He uses india ink to stain the wood components, a technique explained by Mike Chambers in a 2008 article called "[Staining and weathering stripwood - part 3](#)".

Ross Balderson (over the page) showcased some of his superb work that he has scratchbuilt for his N scale *Newcastle 1899* layout. Ross certainly is an exacting craftsman when it comes to his layout with all the necessary scenic items modelled to scale to make the layout realistic and authentic.

Peter Dinham showed another fine example of N scale modelling with his wonderful maintenance shed and yard crane.

Jess Brisbane brought along her ice house (0 scale) which has progressed since she showed it at the last meeting. Jess also brought along a packet of electrical light components that she bought off the internet from *Wehonest*, a Chinese seller on ebay.



Ross Balderson has scratchbuilt this ship (*Namoï*) out of styrene in N scale for his *Newcastle 1899* layout. As you can see, the detail and the craftsmanship is utterly superb (Photos: Ross Balderson).



Ross Balderson has scratchbuilt all the buildings, and the horse and carts, in N scale for his *Newcastle 1899* layout. Here are a couple of photos of the townscape that Ross has constructed so far (Photos: Ross Balderson).



The last say....

It's amazing how time flies! It is the middle of February and our next meeting is this Saturday at Stephen Walker's house in Kaleen. Stephen has a wonderful N scale layout which is worth the price of admission itself. And the afternoon tea has traditionally been a grand affair as well!

Stephe Jitts, newly appointed Div. 2 Superintendent, will be present and will chair the meeting. He will probably be looking for people to host meetings during the course of the year - please consider volunteering.

Lastly, voting is now underway for a number of NMRA official positions. Locally, there is an election for Pacific District Director where there are three nominations. Ballot papers should have been sent to all members. Check out the candidate information and make your vote count. Please note that the information for Dion Koch is not correct (as he resigned in early December from the Div.2 Super' position) but the NMRA in the US, when advised, decided not to make any text changes to the wording as first delivered to them.

Brad

Mal Risby's planning for his new layout is underway (Photo: J. Gillies)



The next meeting

The next meeting will be held at the home of Stephen Walker at 2pm on Saturday 17 February 2018.

Div.2 Superintendent, Stephe Jitts, has sent out a reminder email to all members. Please RSVP directly to Stephen so he will know how many people are likely to be coming.

The Flimsy contact

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