



THE FLIMSY

NMRA Division 2 Newsletter

January 2020

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From the editor.

G'day,

John GILLIES opened the meeting hosted by Mal RISBY informing members that our fellow Div 2 members in areas recently affected by bushfires along the NSW south coast, Snowy Mountains and Riverina areas were all safe, David VIRGO did email that the foliage around his residence was burnt to a crisp.

Div 2 membership has recently increased to 45 and we welcome returning members Martin and Nicolas CANTEROS-PAZ in Tumut and new members Bill CHILVERS in Malua Bay, Peter ROBINS in Moruya plus Lance and James SHADBOLT in Tuross Heads.

Elections for vacant Australasian Region Committee (ARC) members and voting on proposed changes to update and simplify the Rules of Association will be held in February. A discussion about the upcoming 34th National Model Rail Convention 2020 indicated that the website lacked many details & as to the booking for the rooms discount Rob NESBITT was disappointed. The clash with the Epping Model Railway Club's Great model Train Show, whilst good, some members commented that they were also involved in being committed with other clubs and felt it disadvantaged them to organise time for the convention.

John GILLIES noted the issues and wrote to the Convention Convenor suggesting a reduced price admission for NMRA AR members who are operating layouts at the Epping Great Train Show exhibition during the AR Convention. The Convention Convenor advised a proposal to do this would be put to the 4 February ARC meeting for decision.

It was noted that an advertisement was in the AMRM February 2020 on page 61.

Stephe JITTS has experienced some issues with his computer address book mailing lists which should be corrected on his return.

Keep on training.

Robin.

January Meeting

Show-n-tell

Jess BRISBANE.

Tabled the constructed yard throat for the use of battery powered locomotives using Blue rail Bluetooth.



John BULLEN.

Spoke about an O Scale Civil War layout using every form of modern construction, some of which are quite high cost, as featured in a well-illustrated 8-page article in the October 2019 issue of Model Railroader.

The article describes many technical innovations used in the construction of this railway.

Control is DCC but locos are powered by on-board batteries, recharged from the track power supply.

Rolling stock is scratch built, using 3D printing, spin casting, laser cutting and photo etching.

Communication follows standard USMRR procedure as it was in the 1860s, employing a working telegraph system. To avoid training Morse Code operators, an Arduino microcontroller-based telegraph system is employed.

The whole project is aptly described as a 'high-tech history lesson'.

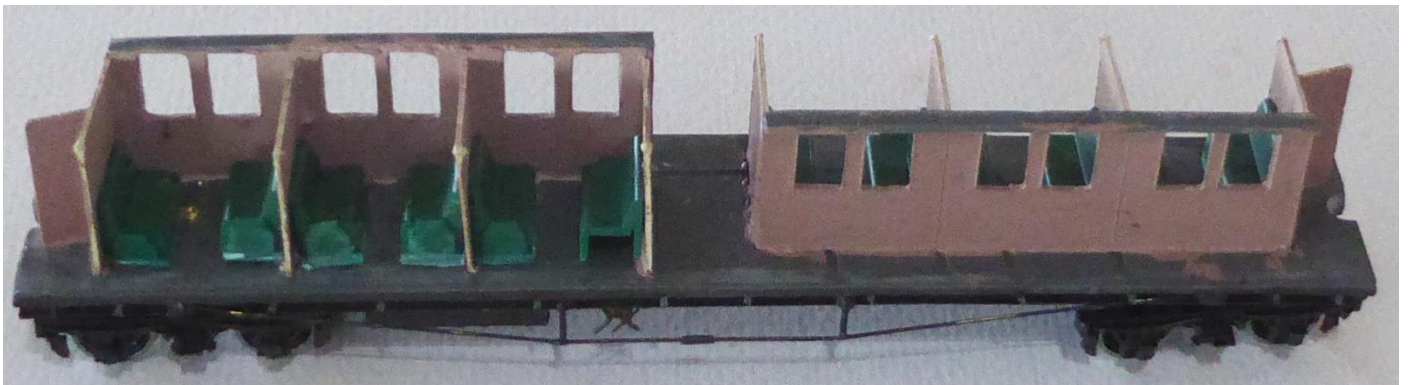
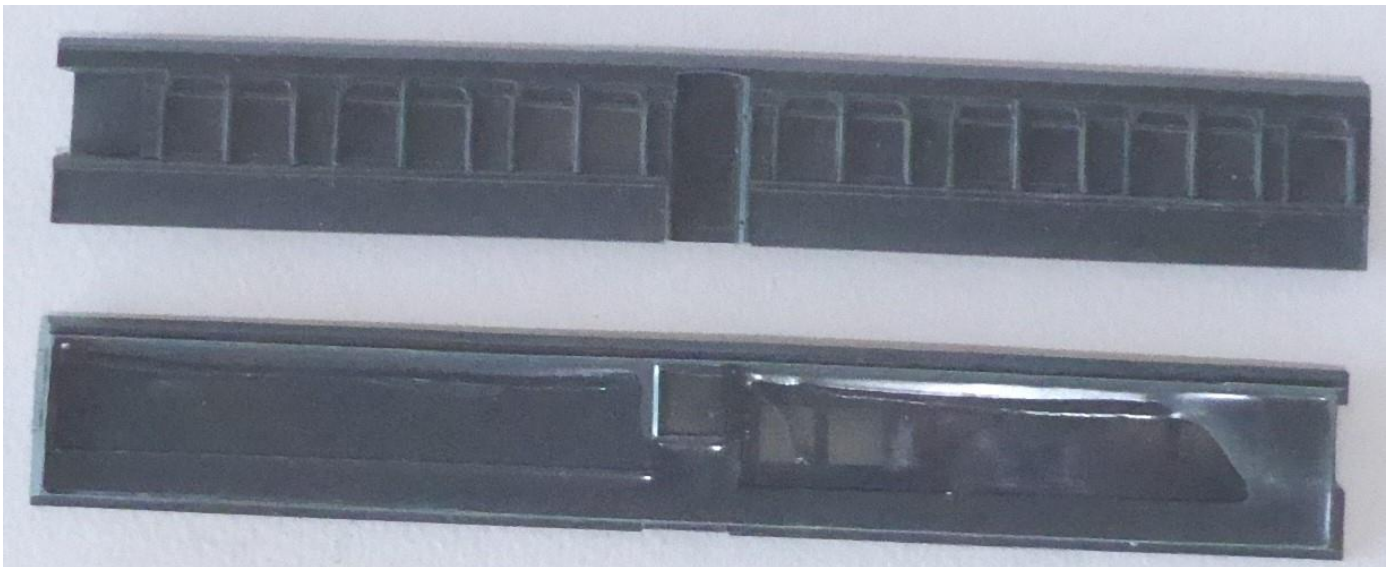
John will bring the magazine to the next Div 2 meeting and will give it to anyone who's interested.

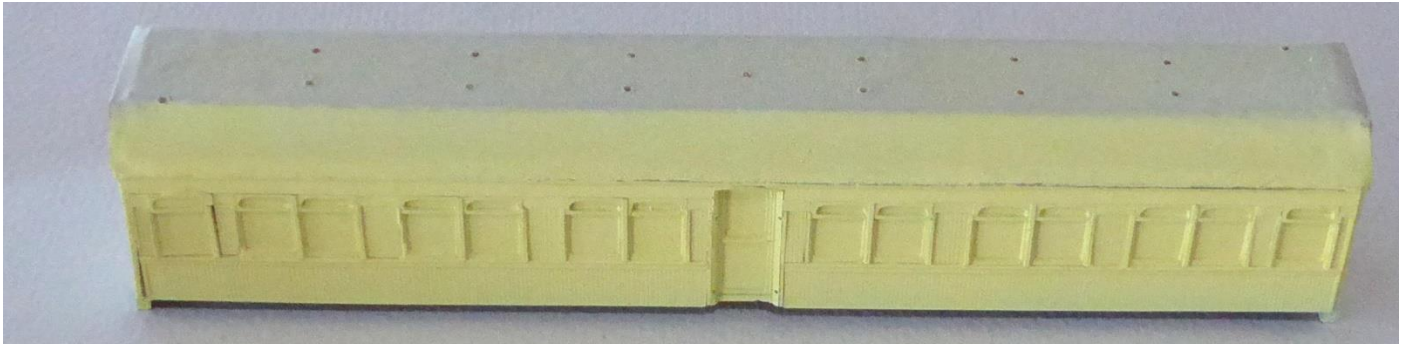
Jack CHILD.

Some time ago I acquired a set of 8 "R" class coach kits. These were made by T.C. Rail Models in the 70's.

These "R" class coaches were used for the "Caves Express" and the "South Coast Daylight Express", amongst others.

I'm finding these to be very challenging kits, especially removing the resin from the in-built glass windows and getting a good fit with the sides and ends. Fabrication of the roof was also a challenge.





David LOW.

Styrene constructed tents from the latest 2020 ARHS Bulletin.



John GILLIES.

The Scale Trains Rivet Counter Bethlehem Steel Co F68AH bulkhead flat car is a very well detailed model which represents one of the 3,313 cars of this class built for Trailer Train between July 1969 and August 1974. These 68 foot 8 inch flat cars were designed to carry a 100 ton load of timber or wallboard in the 62 foot distance between the bulkheads and featured transverse load tie-downs, steel deck risers to make unloading by forklifts easier and 15 inch end of car cushioning. They also became very popular for carrying steel products such as channels, girders, reinforcing rods, sheet/plate and pipe.

These and other Trailer Train/TTX special purpose flat cars are covered in detail in chapter 11 of The TTX Story, Volume 2.



Rob NESBITT.

The Union Pacific U50B is an Alco model made by Samhongs. This model was bought from a seller who listed a lot of UP models in the December AMRM Marketplace. It has been professionally painted.



NSWGR D59 class is a Bergs model made by Samhongs. The model was won recently at the Trains Planes and Automobile First Monday of the month auction. I do not know the history of who owned the model, and who painted/weathered it. It represents the current modern day preserved livery of the Lachlan Valley Railway.

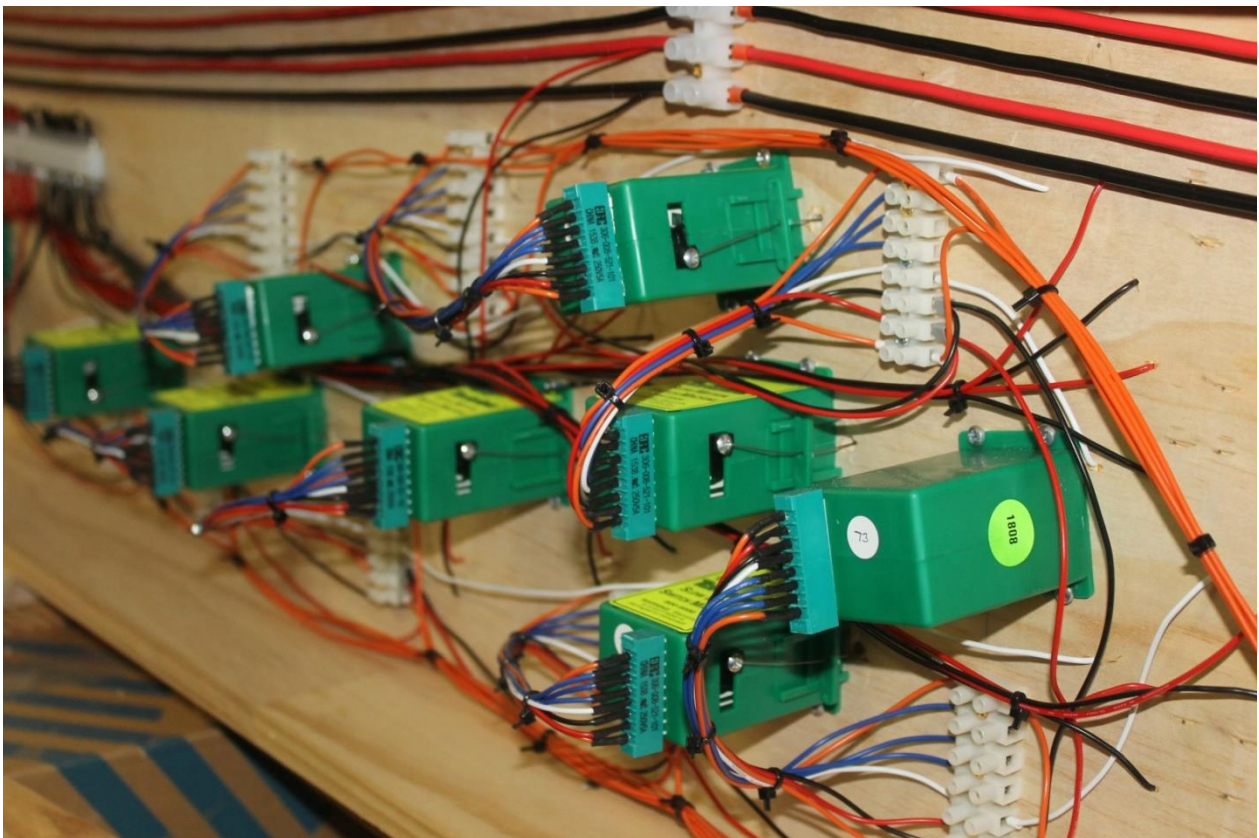


Picture below of the prototype taken last year near Junee at Shepherd's siding.



Hosted Presentation by Mal RISBY.

Hard to believe one year has passed since the last layout tour / viewing having a number of changes made where modules have now replaced most of the 'scrapped' bench work areas with overlays to visualise any 'planned' adjustments to turnouts and industries. N scale has its advantages, where photocopying turnouts to overlay as to play with / move around for test fitting..



Wiring & tortoise motors on one of the modules, certainly makes easier for placements



One of the staging yards having 16 east bound & 16 west bound sidings. The blank area is where 'fitters' will be used to bridge the modules.

The last say.

2019 year ended with some very nasty fires up along the east coast and continues into 2020.

This year's calendar for hosted events is full where one must note that there are a number of Hosts having their venues that other members locations ie: the next hosted meeting, Terry CRAIG at Brian & Fran's Terry has given a heads up, with a .Power point and video presentation on the Russian/Soviet railway system (and its steam locomotives particularly) for the 15th meeting at Brian and Fran's. The Russians had some interesting designs, including a modern 4-8-4 passenger loco with a low axle loading that allowed it could run over most of the system. I also have some videos of this and other restored Russian steam locomotives operating, as well as videos of Russian diesels making Alco's look tame when it comes to blowing smoke.

Keep on training.

Robin.

The next hosted meeting will by Terry CRAIG be at 100 Bacchus Circuit KAMBAH ACT 2902 start 1300 please RSVP to advise Terry of attendance.

2020 if you are interested in hosting a meeting this year contact Stephe who will provide necessary information.

The FLIMSY contact robinfoster@inet.net.au