



# THE FLIMSY

NMRA Division 2 Newsletter

February 2023

In this issue.

From the editor

Meeting & At home ~ Show-n-tell

The last say

## **COVID-19 / Variants ~ Adhere to medical advice & instructions.**

COVID-19 & their many variants are still surfacing so hygiene, masks as other protective measures are highly recommended especially in CROWDED AREAS.

I am pleased that the Div 2 Members continue to 'bling' my inbox with their 'at home S&T'

Robin.

### **Div 2 Superintendent Report:**

Division 2 February 2023 Meeting

Our host for the February meeting was Steve Walker and the weather was perfect for gathering outside under the shade of his garden pergola. Sixteen members turned up for the meeting.

Welcome to new member Tom Dowling who is one of the founding members of the Canberra Monaro N Scale Group CMNSG. I hope Tom will get the most of out of his membership.

Division 2 welcomes the return of John Prattis who has spent the last ten years in Adelaide and a member of Division 6 during that time.

On a note that surprised many was the news from John Prattis that Brad Hinton had suffered a mild heart attack earlier in the week. Thankfully Brad has had bypass surgery that has been successful with more procedures to follow. A visit to Woden Hospital on Sunday found that Brad had been discharged. They don't keep you long in hospital!

Brad's website: [armchairmodellerdownunder.blogspot.com](http://armchairmodellerdownunder.blogspot.com) will give you an update of Brad's activities as his health. We all wish Brad a good recovery during this time.

Name Badges for members are being organised by John Gillies, see his email for details.

Interchange, the latest venture for members from head office USA has been taken up by at least three members from Div. 2.

Ben Featherston told the meeting that becoming an Interchanger took a bit of effort, but he got there in the end along with John Gillies who said he was close. Ian Barnes is another who will Interchange!

The 2023 NMRA Rosehill Convention, members have an idea of accommodation costs and await the Registration and Banquet costs. This is not a budget event and it will be interesting to hear from the convention chairperson at the next ARC meeting.

Show-n-Tell, see the submissions to The Flimsy for more detailed information.

One item raised was Free Mo, another Standard has been created in Australia, this is not an NMRA standard.

Our host, Steve Walker's presentation was Wheels. How do you keep them clean, bogies and track too. As expected, everyone had different ideas and there are likely to be even more that have not surfaced. An endless topic for discussion and trialling.

Members had the opportunity to run long trains on Steve's N scale layout and take in the fine detailing and weathering, enjoy afternoon tea and the talking that comes at the end of a meeting.

Thank you, Steve, for hosting our February meeting.

Division 2 March Meeting will be hosted by Jack and Maren Child at Yass NSW on Saturday 18th commencing 100pm.

Stephen O'BRIEN

Div 2 Superintendent.

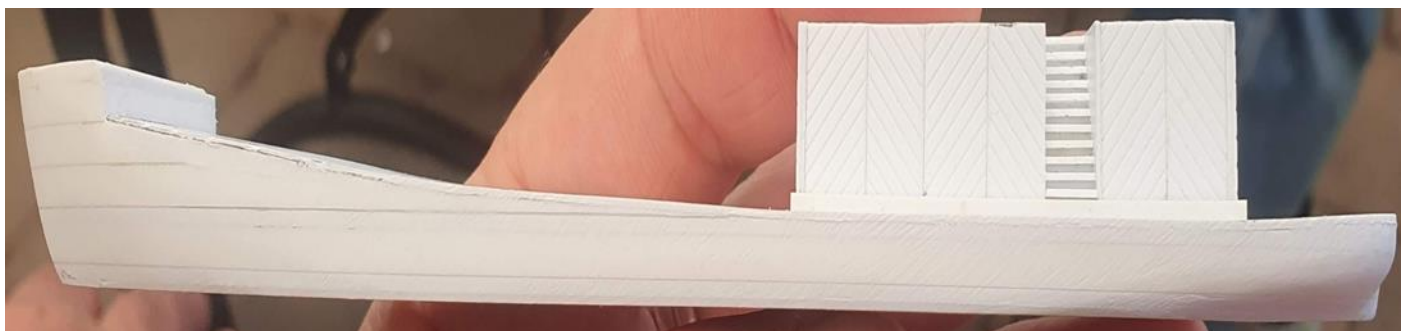
## **Meeting.**

### **Ross BALDERSTON:**

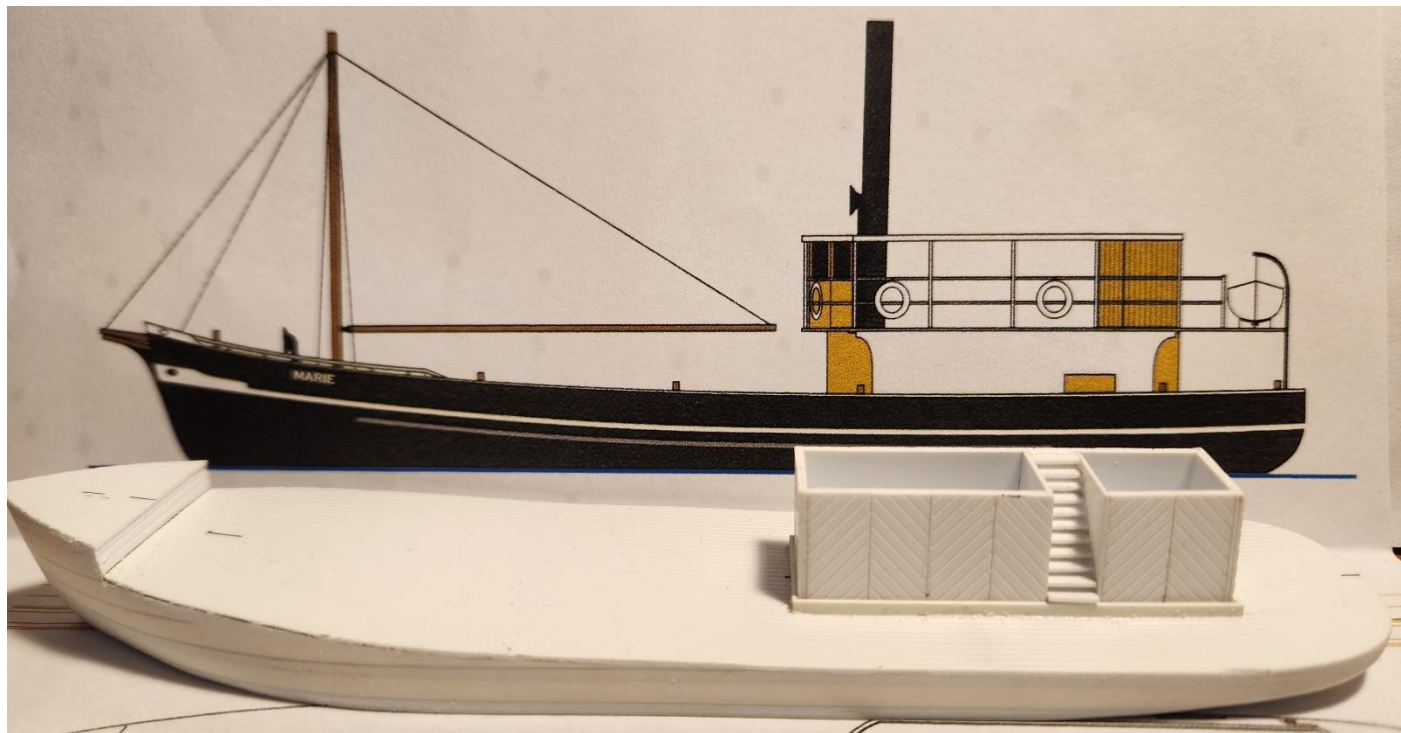
All of the model ships and boats constructed for Newcastle 1899 have been created from styrene plastic.

I have recreated scaled plans of each ship from basic measurements obtained from books and shipping websites on the internet as well as using the assistance of detailed photographs.

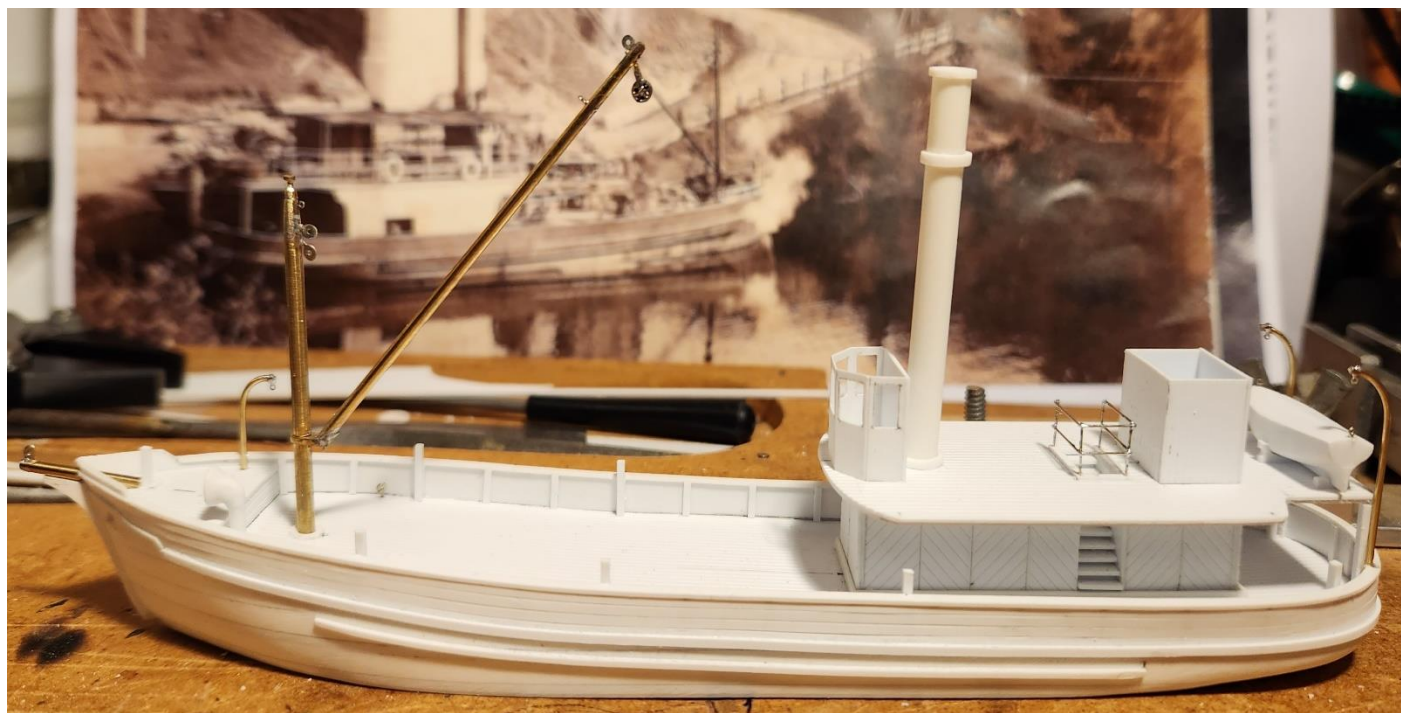
The hull of each vessel was produced from layers of 3mm thick styrene. Using Corel Draw, I have drawn 3mm increment lines on the plans to indicate how many layers of styrene were required to produce the hull from water level to deck height.



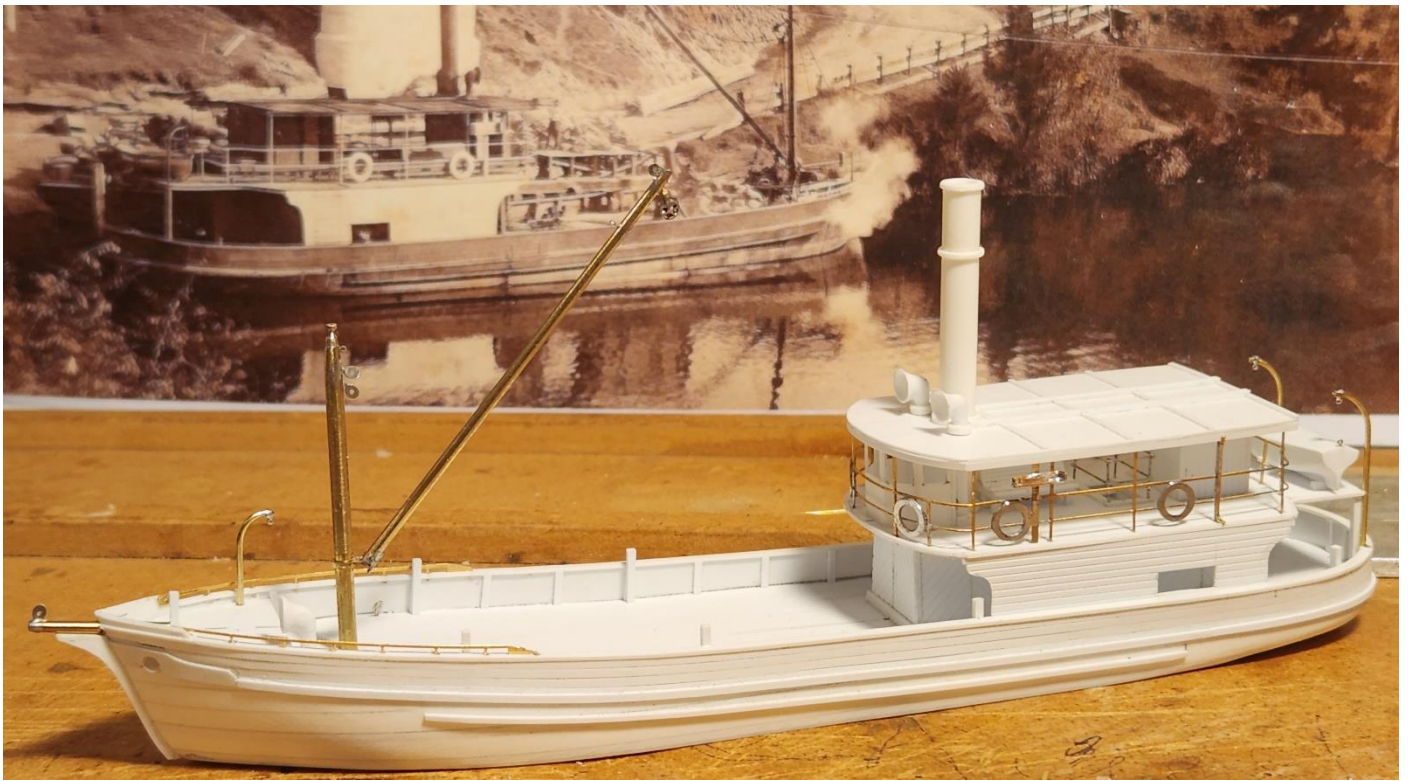
Once the layers are cut out and glued together, the hull is then carefully ground and filed into shape. Once the curved deck area is completed a 0.5mm thick layer of "Evergreen" scribed styrene was attached to represent the planking of the deck. Side walls and wall planking were then added individually to complete the hull. All of the additional deck and cabin parts were then hand made and test fitted.



Much of the finer and more fragile detail has been hand made from brass or photo etched.



Its construction was once again made up of 3mm layered styrene. The mast and cargo boom were made from a number of brass tubes joined together then filed to create the required tapered shaping. The boom has been made so it can move up and down as well as being able to swivel from side to side around the mast. The model is now almost ready for painting and decalling.



This latest model steam boat is the "Marie " which transported cargo and passengers to and from the township of Paterson. It would travel down the Paterson River to the Hunter River then make its way to Morpeth and Newcastle.



## Tom DOWLING:

One of the T-Trak modules which is 4 times the length of a standard T-Trak module

Information:

Australian T--TRAK--N Guidelines

<http://cmnsg.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/ttrack-guide.pdf>

Let's Build a T-Trak Module! Easy N Scale Model Train Module.

[https://www.google.com/search?q=T-Trak&client=firefox-b-d&source=lnms&tbm=vid&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwiZjMaG09D9AhXZpFYBHff8De4Q\\_AUoA3oECAEQBQ&biw=2560&bih=1315#fpstate=ive&vld=cid:9ea94f7d,vid:5865Ec2adSY](https://www.google.com/search?q=T-Trak&client=firefox-b-d&source=lnms&tbm=vid&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwiZjMaG09D9AhXZpFYBHff8De4Q_AUoA3oECAEQBQ&biw=2560&bih=1315#fpstate=ive&vld=cid:9ea94f7d,vid:5865Ec2adSY)



## John GILLIES:

What American modellers called a Plano 3730 tackle box that can be used for transporting HO scale freight and passenger car models as carry-on luggage when flying to US Railroad Prototype Modelers Meets. Several US modellers have mentioned how good they are on a couple of email discussion groups.

A google search turned up what Anaconda calls a Plano 23730 Prolatch Stowaway Tackle Tray that turned out to be exactly what John was after <https://www.anacondastores.com/fishing/fishing-storage/tackle-trays/plano-prolatch-23730-deep-stowaway-tackle-tray/BP90090187-clear> The box is a durable clear plastic moulding with triple hinged lid, two secure latches and 11 slip-in internal compartment dividers that conveniently allow models to be carefully wrapped in bubble wrap and secured for damage free travel and easy opening and inspection by customs and other government official who might be curious about what you're carrying onto an aircraft.



The 35.6 x 23.2 x 8.3 cm box with a Walthers 89' enclosed autorack, 57' mechanical refrigerator car, 62' insulated box car and two 40' box cars with far less bubble wrap than what John would use to transport his models. John also mentioned that he would not carry detailed and more easily damaged freight car types such as tank and coil cars in the tackle box.

John is planning to use the tackle box to carry some display models to this year's American Model Railroaders Association convention in Palmerston North, New Zealand in May.



## Hosted meeting.

### Steve WALKER:

The 'presentation' was in the form of a round table discussion. As my layout was unused for almost a year when I did get back into it, I found getting everything back to running the way I like it to be difficult. So, I asked for members experiences and preferences on keeping track clean and locos running. There was a lively discussion with input from essentially all present. There was quite a range of methods put forward

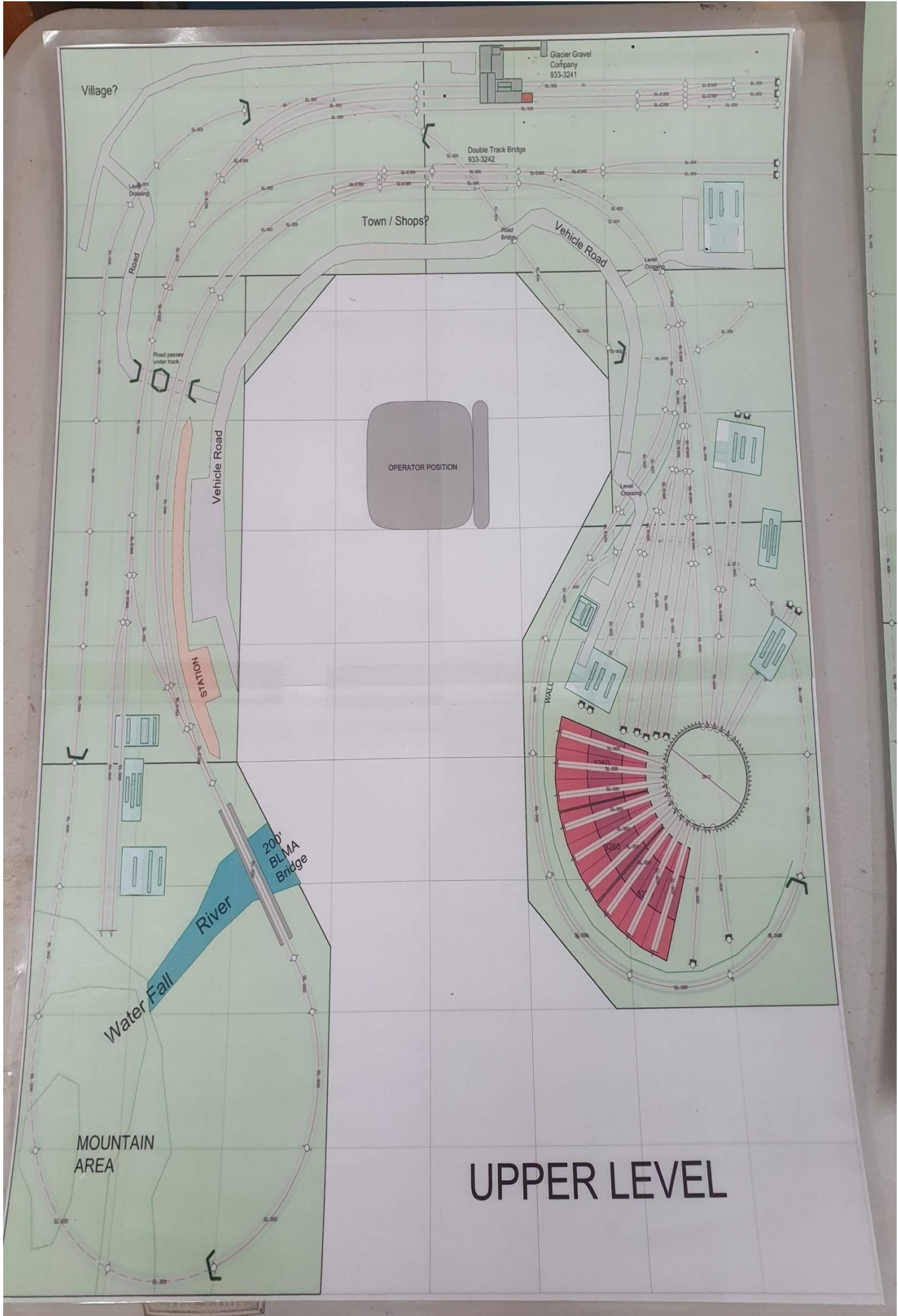
The following pictures supplied by Ben FEATHERSTON:











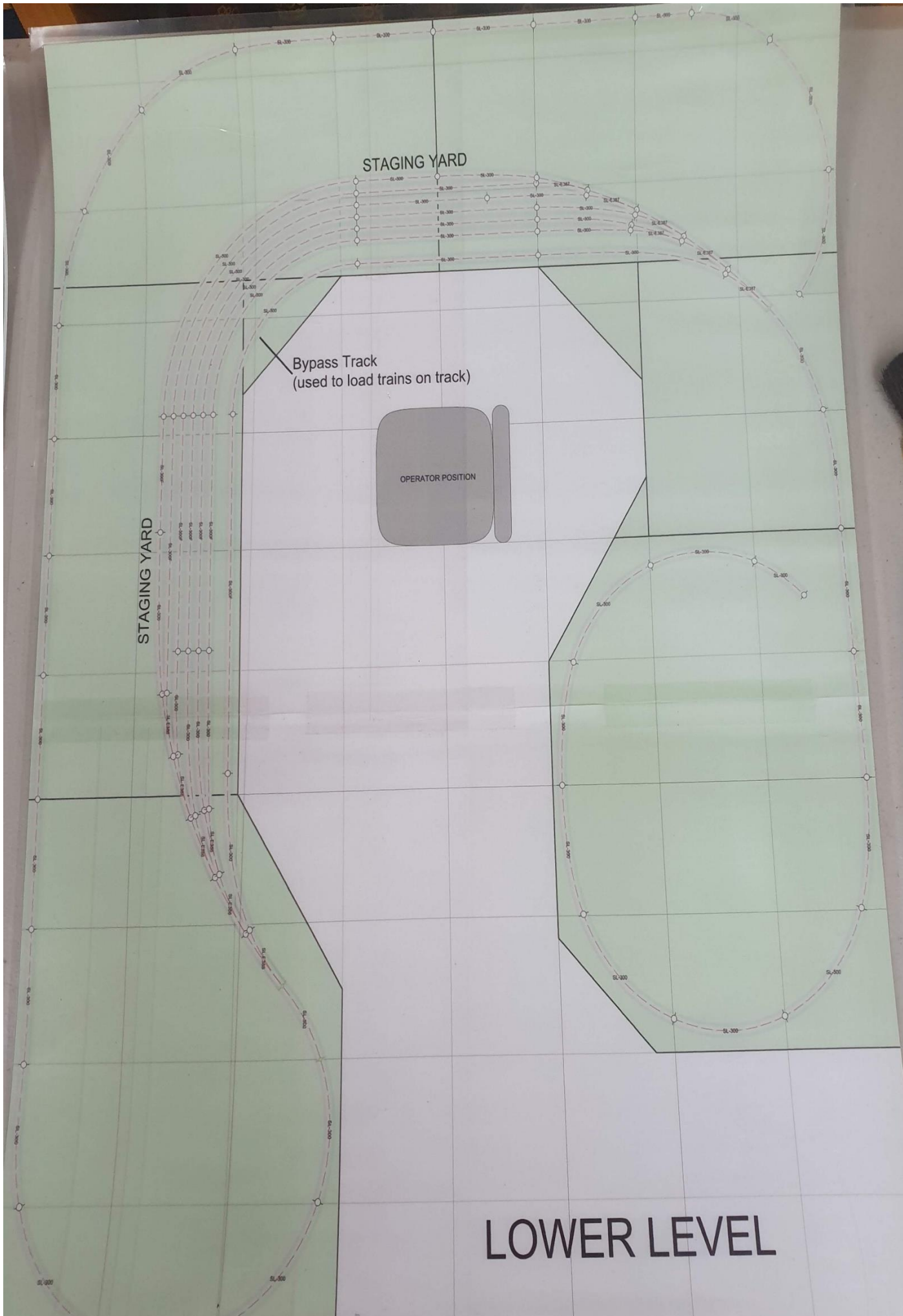
STAGING YARD

Bypass Track  
(used to load trains on track)

OPERATOR POSITION

STAGING YARD

LOWER LEVEL



Steve receiving his meeting plaque from Stephen O'BRIEN.



## At home Show-n-tell.

### George SAISANAS:

My temporarily installed HO scale modules have been put to a little test featuring SDS Models 8142 & Auscision Models NGTY grain hoppers. Pleasingly, these two modules have stood up reasonably well despite almost 5 years of storage. The loco & wagons ran well too. Just track cleaning & a little clamping for a few days to rein in some minor module warping given their storage in a range of conditions needed. Unfortunately, I'll need to pack these away soon while repairs to my house are undertaken but I'm looking forward to the challenge of planning for a more permanent set up in this space.



### Martin CANTEROS PAZ:

This selection of YouTube videos will be of interest not only to the areas the variations of motive power utilised, rolling stock movement action along the rail corridors where the scenic and infrastructures are also of interest.

[https://youtu.be/yXe9\\_CAsZ4](https://youtu.be/yXe9_CAsZ4) Disney World

<https://youtu.be/fqA6iAm4kMY> UP Colton Yard Vid 1

<https://youtu.be/2gAeqYBj3f0> UP Colton Yard Vid 2

<https://youtu.be/d5Mfl1wMeAU> UP Colton Yard Vid 3

<https://youtu.be/YKY1mXJt2Wg> UP Colton Yard Vid 4

<https://youtu.be/5D6fX8DZp68> NJT Snowy Valley

<https://youtu.be/713-flvwdQs> AMTRAK Acela NY

<https://youtu.be/vTVx1NTvHPE> AMTRAK Acela NY

<https://youtu.be/Cawtlp96eC0> UP Colton Yard by car

<https://youtu.be/dfoiVpyKnCw> California Vid 1

<https://youtu.be/xMOfzSy8p3w> Sun Rail at ORLANDO Station

<https://youtu.be/db1-lhXhil4> P42 Double header Passenger

<https://youtu.be/W7eD0zSAuzk> AMTRAK arriving at ORLANDO.

**ANONYMOUS:**

Why are there always obstacles.?

Gradient is correct for the uphill / down straight, it's just a rethink to that 'obstacle'.



## David VIRGO:

### 3D printed Church in HO scale

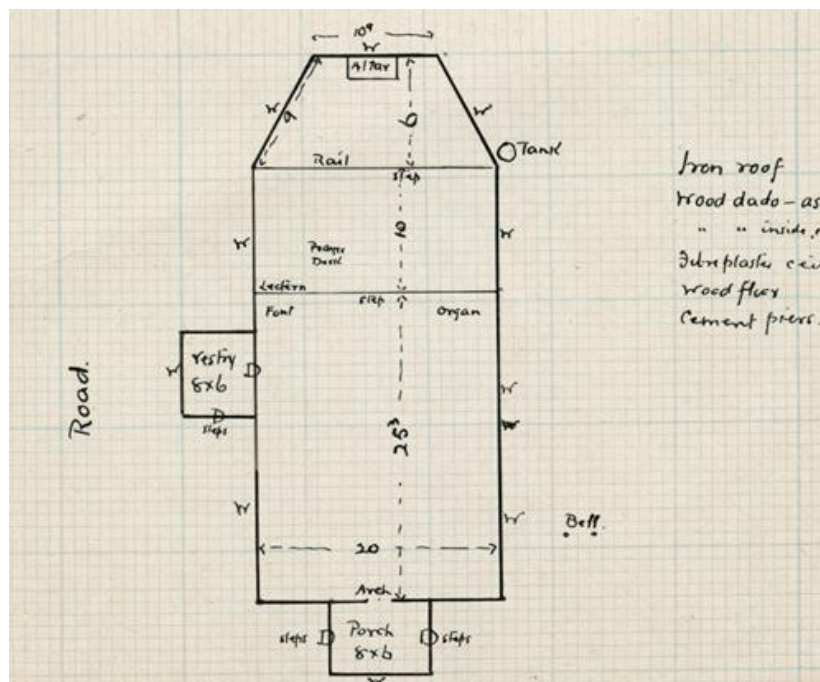
Last year I added a new module to my layout in order to build and display a largish railway bridge. As a result, I also had some extra terrain to fill so I decided to build a rural church on a hill.

My initial search for a prototype example ran into a few dead ends as soon discovered many examples were too big for the space or didn't look right. Luckily a bit of googling found a cache of hand drawn floor plans on the University of Newcastle "Living Histories" website. Plan of St. James Church, situated in Martin's Creek, NSW, Australia | Living Histories (newcastle.edu.au)

The plan of the Martin's Creek church wasn't much but it did show the floor dimensions and provided a starting point. I then googled a bit more to discover a few nice photos of the church, which had been deconsecrated and sold in about 2017, which meant there were some nice real estate agent photos.



Drawing up the model on the PC was fairly straight forward starting with the floor plan, the only issue I had was with estimating the height of the walls which I understated by about 2 feet, which resulted in the roofline of the vestry looking different to the prototype.



I used the same method of construction that I have used in previous models. I printed a thin inner shell and then printed the outer walls with the detail of the building boards. Finally, I used the resin printer to create window frames, doors and detailed facias.

A nice result was made using the resin printer to print the window glazing which required very little work to fit the frames. Of course, the clear resin used, suited the church quite well as the result is a "frosted" look.



The finished model, although the grounds still require paths and landscaping.





**Robin FOSTER:**

Building kits in my spare time

Take care, don't over tighten dropper bottle caps.



Recycling: Brush washing station, lids secured on blue / yellow tac on a wood offcut.



Making custom & repairing billboards

Billboards come in many shapes & sizes, Evergreen styrene is a great medium for manufacturing Custom & repairing those broken or modifying items as this WALTHERS kit.



Repaired legs on the right.



A generic billboard.

Back of the billboard bracing & legs



123 ¼" scale for the walkway,



2mm High Impact Plastic (HIP) for the billboard. & Evergreen styrene 126 for the billboard frame



125 for the leg stays & bracing,



Undercoat spray can TAMIYA light Gray.



Something new, to me, PRO ACRYL in 20ml screw cap dropper bottle, note the top of the screw nipple, priced at \$11.00 has an agitator, I class this in the GUNZE / Mr HOBBY category which have a very fine pigment. Airbrush and brushes on very well can be thinned (1.5 to 1) & clean up with H2O.

The following two pictures were used neat. The Burnt Sienna colour suitable for Redwood / Oregon.

Airbrushed 0.3 needle 1 BAR with light applications on TAMIYA light grey primer.



Paint brushed, one coat, note the coloured plastic colour on the sprue.



**John MARTIN:**

Photos of the Scale Trains BNSF C44-9 I received from my son for my Birthday and Christmas 2022 that finally arrived mid-January.

In case anyone queries the salmon red walkways, this is correct.

GE made an error in painting these Heritage 1 units and while BNSF sent the first delivery back for repainting, as they urgently needed locomotives, they ended up accepting them as is.

My guess is they probably also got a discount.



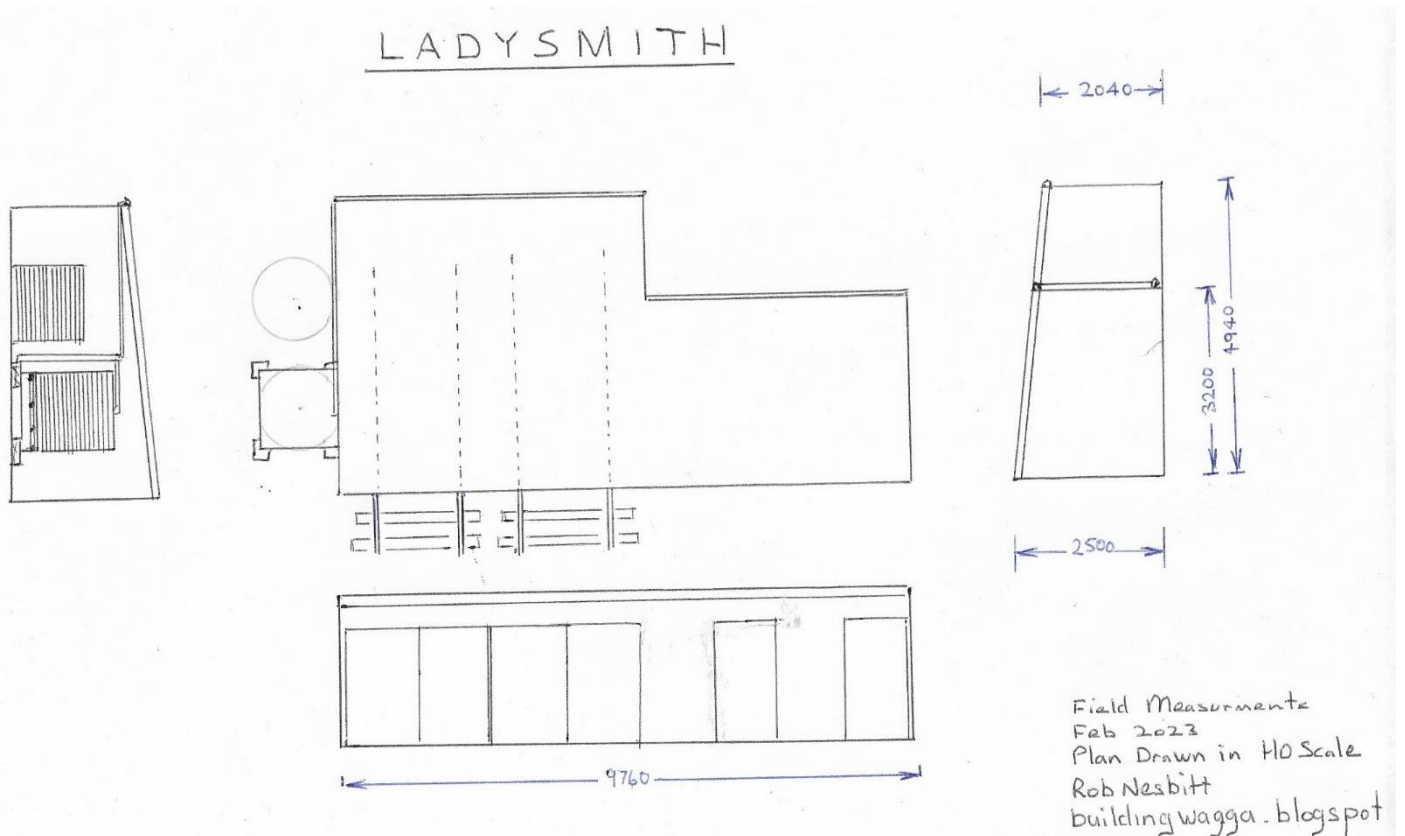


**Rob NESBITT:**

Rob recently measured up the perway shed at Ladysmith & drawing up a plan as this will be a future model project that will be built for his planned layout.



The plan





## **The last say.**

Austerity be Frugal & Recycle.

Remember and adhere to the ~COVID-19~ medical advises as updates.

### **THE CHALLENGE for 2023**

The Challenge continues: for each Member to do at least one S&T at a Div 2 meeting or an 'At home Show-n-tell', perhaps both, for 2023, pictures with a short blurb or a no limit to writing up the article. ie:

Adding locating cleats to rooves for easy removal for interiors.



Watch emails for updates to Div 2 meetings & continue to 'BLING' to my inbox to the activities of Div 2 members in modelling at home.

Keep on training

Robin.

**2023: Expression of Interest for hosting a Div 2 Meeting.**

Contact Div 2 Superintendent Stephen O'BRIEN [sob1952@hotmail.com](mailto:sob1952@hotmail.com)

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