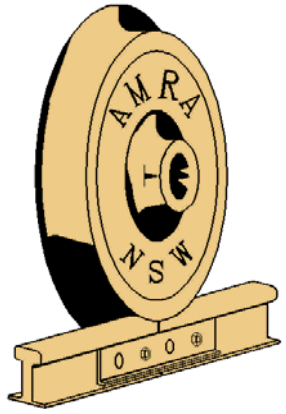


# Mortdale Matters

December 2006



**Australian Model Railway Association  
New South Wales Branch Inc. News**



# Around the Clubrooms



*AMRA NSW hosted a visit by Macarthur District Model Railway on November 18, 2006. Robert Merrick discusses track laying techniques at Deamy with several Macarthur DMRC members.*

*Photo: Barry Wilcockson*



*Midnight during the first 24 hour running session. 13 members are still running and looking reasonably awake! By morning the trains were still running but the operators were looking decidedly worse for wear. November 12, 2006 (Just).*

*Photo: Glenn Percival*

*On the Cover:  
3801 prepares to depart Central during the NSW Railways 150th Anniversary Celebrations. September 25, 2005.  
Photo: Chris Winston*

# Welcome to the December Mortdale Matters

Welcome to the latest edition of *Mortdale Matters*. This month's edition has been slightly delayed due to a change in format. *Mortdale Matters* has now changed from being produced using *Microsoft Word* to being produced in *Microsoft Publisher*. The results are hopefully evident in this issue.

Why the change? *Microsoft Publisher* makes it far simpler to produce a printed, magazine style issue. This is to make *Mortdale Matters* available to all members without a suitable internet connection. Copies of *Mortdale Matters* will be available at the clubrooms. If you'd like to be added to our mailing list, please see our Publicity Officer, Philip Lee.

*Mortdale Matters* will of course continue to be available via email for those with a suitable internet connection. If you'd like to be added to our emailing list, once again see our Publicity Officer, Philip Lee or email him at [publicityofficer@amransw.asn.au](mailto:publicityofficer@amransw.asn.au). Please be aware that the file size of *Mortdale Matters* is usually around 2 to 3 Mb.

I have been asked about the publishing date for *Mortdale Matters*. My contributors and I put *Mortdale Matters* together in our spare time. Commitments vary from month to month and as such the publishing time may also vary. *Mortdale Matters* will be available at the Clubrooms and via email by the first of each month at the very latest, although usually it will be at least a week beforehand.

I hope you enjoy the new look *Mortdale Matters*.

*Chris Winston*

Mortdale Matters Editor



## Submitting to Mortdale Matters

With so much continually happening at our Mortdale Clubrooms, it's easy for something to slip through the cracks. If you've got anything news that you'd like to submit to *Mortdale Matters* please email me at [subeditor@amransw.asn.au](mailto:subeditor@amransw.asn.au) or leave a copy of your submission in the Journal pigeonhole in the office.

*Mortdale Matters* especially needs photos. With this edition I'm expanding the photographic net to include prototype photos. Only a few prototype photos will be included with each issue as the focus will always be on Branch activities and events. Any prototype will be considered. Photos can be emailed to me at the above address or you can leave a disk or CD in the Journal pigeonhole in the office. Image size does not need to be larger than 1024 x 768.

I must emphasise that ALL submissions must be original material, i.e. photos that you've taken yourself or articles that you've written yourself. Material is published in *Mortdale Matters* at the committee's discretion.

The deadline for submitting material for the January 2007 *Mortdale Matters* is December 18th.

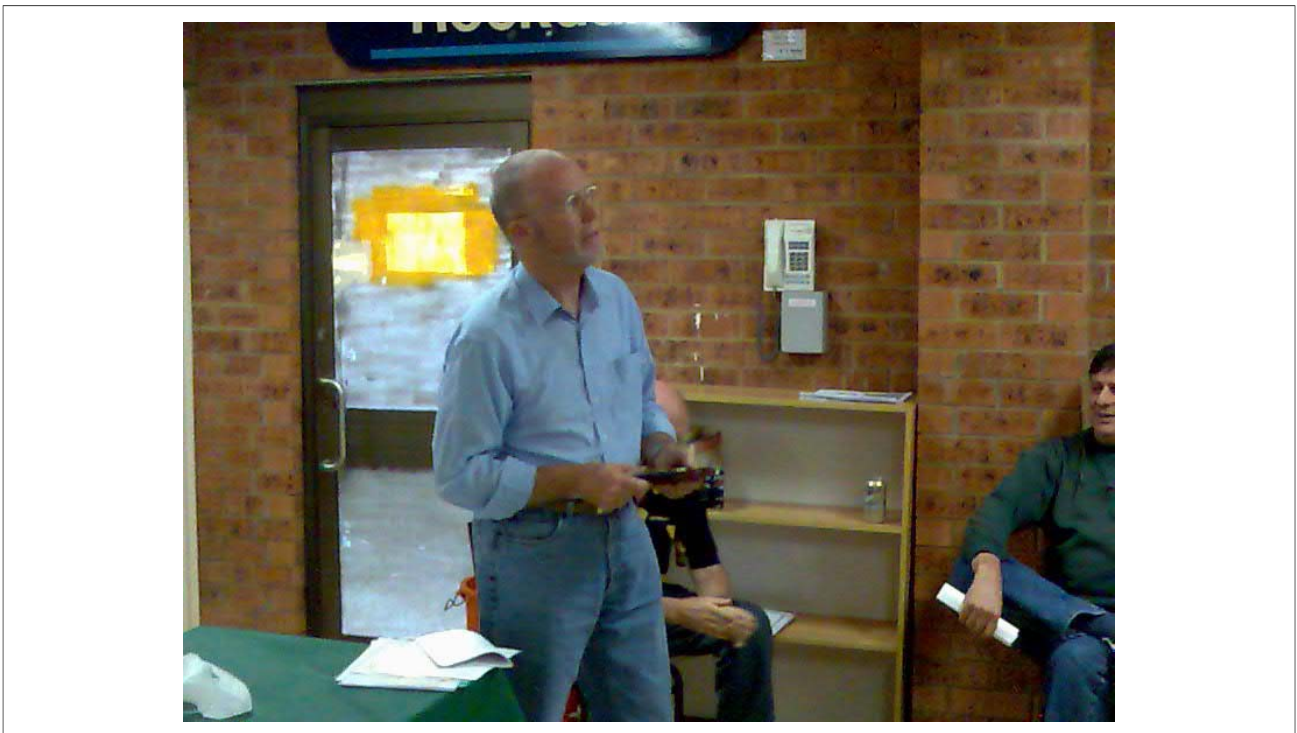
# The 2006 AMRA NSW AGM

The Annual General Meeting the NSW Branch was held on Saturday November 4, 2006. This was a well attended meeting, with the meeting room being largely full. One of the important functions of the AGM is to elect office bearers for the coming year.

The 2007 committee is:

President	Barry Wilcockson
Vice President	David Bennett
Treasurer	Marilyn Wilcockson
Secretary	Geoff Lanham
Exhibition Manager	Glenn Percival
Publicity Officer	Philip Lee
Junior Development Officer	Chris Winston

Another item of business was to present Robert Merrick with a Meritorious award. Robert is one of the great quiet achievers, always working away in the background around the clubrooms on many different projects. He's certainly a well deserving recipient.



*Robert Merrick accepts his Meritorious Award at this year's Annual General Meeting. November 4, 2006*

*Photo: Glenn Percival*

## Coming Up...

While the Exhibition and our 50th Anniversary Celebrations are now over there's still a few upcoming events this year worth noting:

Our Christmas / Exhibition workers BBQ at the Sydney Tramway Museum, Loftus. Dec 2.

Friday the 8th of December is a HO signal construction feature night.

This month's *Stoney Creek* work day has been moved to Sunday, December 10.

*Check the programme on page 10 for more details.*



# Mortdale Building Report

Acoustic ceiling tiles have been installed in the main hall, although only full tiles, the rest need to be cut to fit and this will be done soon. This has been done to cut down on the noise in the downstairs meeting room.

As part of the ceiling tile replacement the opportunity to install the video projector was acted on with a very neat and strong method being devised to support the projector. This strength may need some modification as the projector bounces when someone walks around upstairs and a system of rubber mounts will hopefully rectify this problem. The Southern Cross Art Society are quite impressed with the new screen. The speakers are partially installed, the rest will be mounted soon with bracket off the Gyprock wall.

The laundry tub installation is now a high priority as we only need to purchase a flexible connector to join the tap to the pipes, the rest is already to go.

Three of the five Smoke Alarms have been installed, one in the main hall, one in the exhibition layout room and one in the N Scale layout area, the other two alarms will be mounted one in the HO layout area and one in the O Gauge area as time permits.

*David Bennett*  
Mortdale Building Supervisor

## Layout Reports



*The Viaduct Scene on the N scale layout has been greatly improved with the completion of the terrain and the addition of ground cover. November 26, 2006.*

*Photo: Chris Winston*

## N Scale Layout

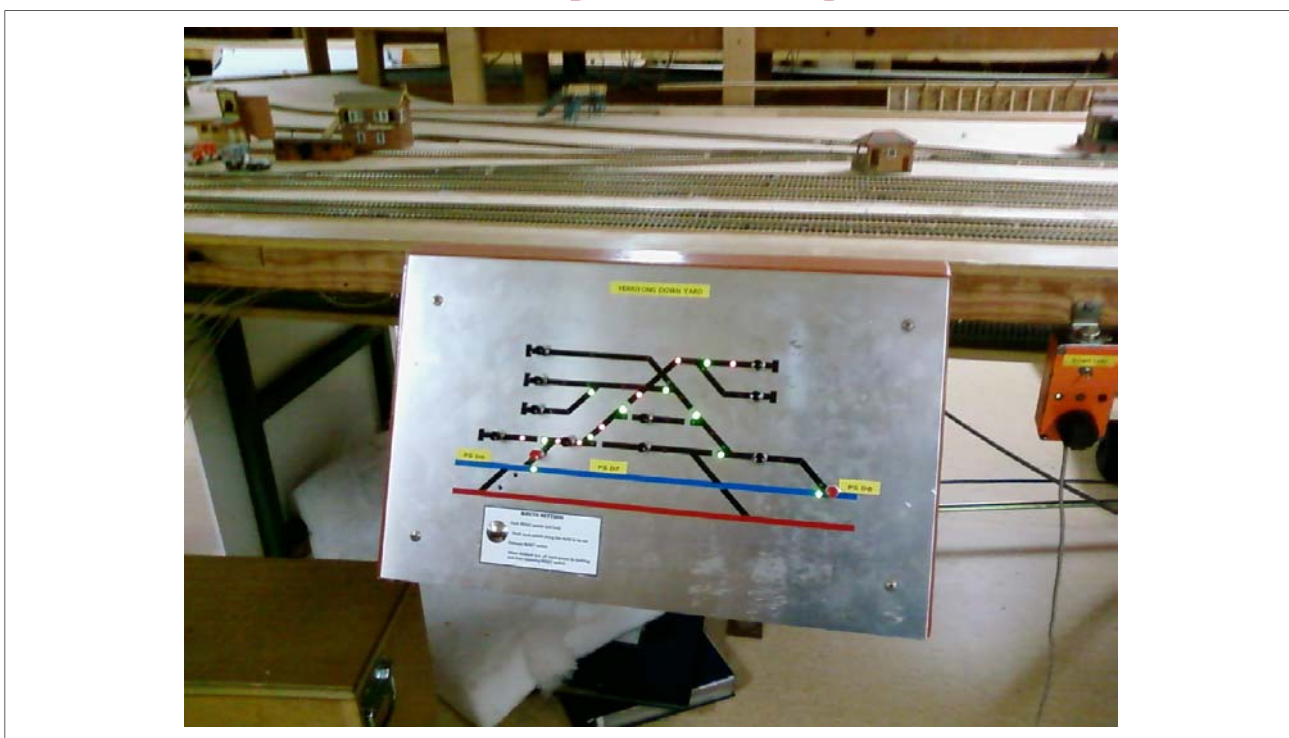
The layout is progressing well with only a small amount of plastering being left to do. Neil Watson has been applying the rock texture to the cuttings while Ash Garard is still applying the grass texture to the plastered areas. Chris Gorring has been applying some HO scale ballast to the Quarry to enhance the appearance of that area.

Maintenance continues with a point motor in Bownen being replaced and further work is required on a point in the Watson's Flat area. The factory to sit near the wharf at Lanham is progressing well with final assembly now being undertaken.

*David Bennett*

N Scale Layout Supervisor

## HO Scale Layout - 'Stoney Creek'



*Yerriyong Down Yard control panel on the HO layout, constructed by Barry Wilcockson. This is the first route setting control panel on the HO layout and has greatly improved operations in the yard.*

*November 26, 2006. Photo: Chris Winston*

Work is underway on making the Deawy terminus operational. This is quite a large yard and will add a lot to the HO scale operations once it is commissioned. Initially it will only be available to Up trains but as work progresses access will be later accessible by Down trains as well. The track laying team led by Robert Merrick has completed the track within Deawy yard.

I'd also like to remind everyone that the next Stoney Creek work day is on Sunday December 10th.

*Chris Winston*

HO Scale Layout Sub-Committee

## O Scale Layout

The Curtains have been completed around the layout, helping to give the layout a finished look. Neil Sorenson is continuing his fine work on the O scale scenery.

As always the layout continues to run well and a large number of both trains and operators can be seen on most running days.



*8019 and 44214 prepare to leave Yerrilyong (Up Yard) at the start of the first Australian Diesel running session during the 24 hour run on the HO layout. November 11, 2006. Photo: Denis Gilmore*

## Pre-paid Facility Fees 2007

Pre-paid facility fees for 2007 can now be paid for 2007. We offer two options, a full year or six-monthly. To pay your pre-paid facility fee please see either a Committee member or the Duty officer for the day.

Pre-paid facility fees for 2007 are as follows:

	12 Months	6 Months
Adults	\$300	\$180
Juniors	\$180	\$100
Seniors	\$180	\$100

Pre-paid facility fees can be paid up until January 31, 2007. Pre-paid facility fees for 2007 are applicable from January 1, 2007. No reduction in price will be given for pre-paid facility fees received between January 1 and January 31, 2007.



# The First 24 hour Running Session

The weekend of November 11 and 12 saw the very first 24 hour running session at the Mortdale clubrooms. The brainchild of Denis Gilmore, the weekend saw trains of 6 different prototype groups run continuously on the HO layout for 24 hours. The plan was pretty simple beginning at 10am, every two hours all trains would be replaced with different prototype. This is the first time that the HO layout has had all trains running of the same prototype and it certainly looked good.

During the Saturday up until the half way point at 10pm there was no shortage of operators. From there numbers start to dwindle until at 10am on the Sunday morning there was about a dozen of us left.

A European running session kicked off proceedings, followed by British, American, sound fitted (of any prototype), Australian steam and Australian diesel. All prototypes were well represented. The sound fitted running session beginning at 4am certainly kept most people awake!

Denis Gilmore kindly provided a bacon and egg breakfast, brilliantly cooked by Phil Andrews. Phil had actually made it home and returned at 4:30am. A few more hardy souls stayed awake for the entire running session, while others chose to sneak in a quick nap at various times during the night.

By 10am though everyone was showing just how tired they were. Trains were packed up and the building vacated in record time! All in all though a highly enjoyable weekend.



*Fayenton Yard on the HO Layout during the second of two European prototype running sessions during the 24 hour run between 10pm and midnight. November 11, 2006.*

*Photo: Geoff Lanham*





*4:30am and 14 members are still going, although it was touch and go for some. Phil Andrews (left) had just returned after earlier heading home. November 12, 2006. Photo: Denis Gilmore*



*The Survivors! Keith Bowles (second from left) had the right idea, he returned at 9am after a good nights sleep! The taking of this photo was the cue to pack up and go home for a well earned nap. November 12, 2006. Photo: Denis Gilmore*

# Clubwear

Orders will be taken for Clubwear early in the new year. If you're after a personalised AMRA NSW shirt or jacket please start thinking about your requirements. More details coming next issue.

# AMRA NSW Programme

# Nov '06 - Jan '07

## NOVEMBER

Wed	1st	"Daylighters" Work & Run	10am until 4pm	
Fri	3rd	<i>Wingecarribee</i> Work Night	7:30pm	no Facility Fee
Sat	4th	General Activities (see Notes)	10am until late	no Facility Fee
		<b>BRANCH AGM (members only)</b>	2pm	
<u>Wed</u>	8th	"Daylighters" Work & Run	10am until 4pm	
Fri	10th	Feature Night – <b>Play Back</b> ( <i>Members Owned</i> ).	7:30pm	
Sat	11th	General Activities (see Notes)	10am until late	
		Special 24 Hour H.O. Running Schedule	10am until 10am Sunday 12th Nov. BBQ breakfast.	
		Ladies Needles & Natter & Monthly Forum	2pm	
Wed	15th	"Daylighters" Work & Run	10am until 4pm	
Fri	17th	<i>Wingecarribee</i> Work Night	7:30pm	no Facility Fee
Sat	18th	<b>Host Macarthur District Model Railway Club</b>	10am until late	BBQ lunch available
Sun	19th	<i>Stoney Creek</i> Work Day	10am until 4pm	no Facility Fee
Wed	22nd	"Daylighters" Work & Run	10am until 4pm	
Fri	24th	<b>FEDERAL AGM (members only)</b>	7:30pm	no Facility Fee
Sat	25th	<b>Members Auction</b>	Lodgements until midday, Viewing strictly 12-1pm,	<u>Hammer 1pm.</u>
Wed	29th	"Daylighters" Work & Run	10am until 4pm	

## DECEMBER

Fri	1st	<i>Wingecarribee</i> Work Night	7:30pm	no Facility Fee
Sat	2nd	Xmas/Exhibition Workers' BBQ	<i>Sydney Tramway Museum, Loftus</i>	
		From 2pm. BYO meat & drink. AS18 Conc\$15 C\$13 (SPER members/friends \$5). Register at club.		
Wed	6th	"Daylighters" Work & Run	10am until 4pm	
Fri	8th	Feature Night – <b>H.O. Signal Construction</b>	7:30pm	
Sat	9th	General Activities (see Notes)	10am until late	
		Ladies Needles & Natter & Monthly Forum	2pm	
Sun	10th	<i>Stoney Creek</i> Work Day	10am until 4pm	no Facility Fee
<u>Wed</u>	13th	"Daylighters" Work & Run	10am until 4pm	
Fri	15th	<i>Wingecarribee</i> Work Night	7:30pm	no Facility Fee
Sat	16th	Layout Operation & Monthly Forum (see Notes)	10am until late	
Wed	20th	"Daylighters" Work & Run	10am until 4pm	
Fri	22nd	Layout Operation (see Notes)	7:30pm	
Sat	23rd	General Activities (see Notes) & <i>Wingecarribee</i>	10am until late	
Wed	27th	"Daylighters" Work & Run	10am until 4pm	
Fri	29th	General Activities (see Notes) & <i>Wingecarribee</i>	7:30pm	
Sat	30th	Layout Operation (see Notes)	10am until late	

## JANUARY 2007

Wed	3rd	"Daylighters" Work & Run	10am until 4pm	
Fri	5th	<i>Wingecarribee</i> Work Night	7:30pm	no Facility Fee
Sat	6th	Layout Operation (see Notes)	10am until late	
Sun	7th	<i>Stoney Creek</i> Work Day	10am until 4pm	no Facility Fee
<u>Wed</u>	10th	"Daylighters" Work & Run	10am until 4pm	
Fri	12th	Feature Night – <b>Play Back</b> ( <i>Members Owned</i> ).	7:30pm	
Sat	13th	General Activities & Monthly Forum (see Notes)	10am until late	
Wed	17th	"Daylighters" Work & Run	10am until 4pm	
Fri	19th	<i>Wingecarribee</i> Work Night	7:30pm	no Facility Fee
Sat	20th	Layout Operation (see Notes)	10am until late	
Wed	24th	"Daylighters" Work & Run	10am until 4pm	
Fri	26th	Layout Operation (see Notes)	7:30pm	
Sat	27th	General Activities (see Notes) & <i>Wingecarribee</i>	10am until late	
Wed	31st	"Daylighters" Work & Run	10am until 4pm	

## NOTES

- WORK NIGHTS: Mondays & Fridays unless otherwise indicated, 7:30 until 10pm. No Facility Fee.
- LAYOUT OPERATION: O and N Gauges operational, HO (fixed) *as permitted during construction*.
- GENERAL ACTIVITIES: the facilities may be used *as permitted* e.g. layout construction, some running, modelling, library, etc.
- Members Facility Fee unless otherwise indicated: Adults \$5, Juniors/Seniors (70+) \$3.
- Guests are welcome unless otherwise indicated.
- This programme may be subject to change without notice where necessary. Updated programmes available from the Clubrooms, by e-mail to [publicityofficer@amransw.asn.au](mailto:publicityofficer@amransw.asn.au) or from [www.amransw.asn.au](http://www.amransw.asn.au).
- Address: 48 Barry Avenue (PO Box 277), Mortdale NSW 2223. Phone (02)9153-5901, Fax (02)9153-5905.



# 12 Inch to the Foot Scale



*A brake failure put Endeavour power car 2805 in the dirt at Eveleigh. The Up Eastern suburbs line is in the foreground while the Down Illawarra mainline is directly behind the Endeavour.  
November 4th, 2006. Photo: James Percival*



*Returning from the second Silver Star trip to Cobar. Freshly repainted 3801 takes on water at Moss Vale.  
November 7th, 2006.  
Photo: Glenn Percival*

*On the back cover:  
Above: 3801 at Werris Creek on Day 1 of the first Silver Star trip to Cobar on the evening of September 7th, 2006  
Photo: Glenn Percival*

*Below: Day 6 of the first Silver Star trip and 3801 prepares to depart Cootamundra for the final leg back to Sydney.  
September 12th, 2006. Photo: Glenn Percival*



