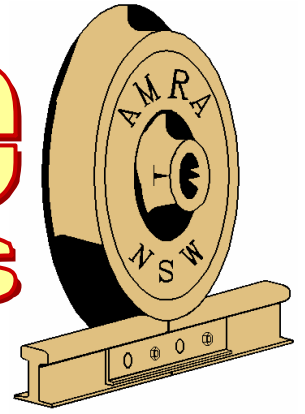


Mortdale Matters



July 2009



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

Mortdale Matters - July 2009

Branch Committee Members



*Our Junior Development Officer Rod Fussell in his element at Thirlmere. He can only dream !
Photo supplied by Rod Fussell*



Branch Vice President David Bennett (right) and NSW Member Geoff Olsen (left) supervising the Oak Road level crossing at Thirlmere on the recent Day out with Thomas Weekend. You never know when or where you might get your photo taken

Photo Rod Fussell

Cover Photo : NR 30 at rest on the Stoney Creek HO Layout Photo Mark Dalli

Welcome to the July 2009 Mortdale Matters

Again it has been a busy time at the Mortdale Clubrooms since the last Mortdale Matters with a work weekend on 16th & 17th May on the Stoney Creek HO layout to undertake some major re construction of the Deawy yard area. On Sunday 17th we also saw a visit by the NSW N Scale Group. By all accounts they enjoyed the hospitality of the club as catered for by Marilyn & Barry Wilcockson and others. On 1st August we will see a visit to the club by the Macarthur Model Railway Club.

On the heritage scene we are seeing the Independent Transport Safety & Reliability Regulator flexing its muscle as groups such as Glenreagh Mountain Railway and Lachlan Valley Railway not able to operate because of accreditation issues. As a personal view it seems to me that the smaller heritage operators are struggling to comply with the accreditation requirements and in the future we may see main line heritage operations only being conducted by larger organisations such as the NSW Rail Transport Museum, Zig Zag Railway and the Loftus Tramway Museum.

See you at the Clubrooms,
Geoff Lanham
Secretary AMRA NSW Branch
and Mortdale Matters Editor



Subscribing to Mortdale Matters

You can subscribe to *Mortdale Matters* by contacting our publicity officer, Philip Lee. Philip can be contacted either in person or by seeing a Duty Officer at the clubrooms, or by e-mail: pjlee@iinet.net.au. The preferred method of distribution for *Mortdale Matters* is via email. The file size for *Mortdale Matters* is usually around 2 to 3Mb. *Mortdale Matters* is also available via post or care of the clubrooms for those without a suitable internet connection. There is also a limited number of copies at the clubrooms for those not on our mailing list. *Mortdale Matters* is also available to download on our website: www.amransw.asn.au

Submitting to Mortdale Matters

With so much continually happening at our Clubrooms, its easy for something to slip through the cracks. If you've got any news that you'd like to submit to *Mortdale Matters* please email me at secretary@amransw.asn.au or jethro_lenny@hotmail.com or leave a copy of your submission in the Secretary's pigeonhole in the office.

Mortdale Matters especially needs photos. Prototype photos will also be included with each issue but 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 September 2009 *Mortdale Matters* is 15th August 2009

N Scale Layout Report

David Bennett reports that regular maintenance is ongoing with a set of points being re-soldered in Watson Flats recently. More buffer stops are being made to finish off the area around the roundhouse at Wallamudra. Work is well advance for the construction of the sawmill located at Lischeld siding, this is being made mainly of 0.4mm and 0.8mm plywood. Fluorescent lighting is being developed for the main tunnel near Wallamudra engine depot, this is being done using 1.5mm optic fibre and four superbright LEDs



Class 221 Super Voyager DMU crossing the bridge on the clubs N Scale Layout. This photo showcases the excellent contribution made by Val Bennett in painting both the river and the backscenes. The bridge was assembled from three Walthers kits.

(Photo Geoff Lanham)

Assistance with Raffle Layout

Each year at around this time construction begins on the Raffle Layout for the Exhibition. As usual we are seeking club members who would like to assist with the construction of the layout. If you are interested in assisting with the layout construction, please contact any Committee member. David Bennett reports that progress to date has been as follows.

The plywood road base has been glued together and will soon be glued to the risers to provide the necessary elevations. The valence edges have been marked for the jig saw profiling and this will be done once the plywood road base is glued in place.

O Scale Continuing Developments

Following the recent opening of the universal extension to the O scale layout, the O Scale layout committee are continuing to undertake more work to further improve the operational capability of the layout. A cross over has been installed to facilitate the transfer between the original outer main line at Central Platform One and the new inner universal circuit. This will enable transfers to be made in both directions and overcome the need to reverse a train. The cross over was hand made by Maurie Haynes.



Colin Shepherd and Lance Pickering hard at work installing the new pointwork *Photo By Arthur Hall*



Lance, Colin and Maurie Haynes doing some cleaning up.

Photo Arthur Hall.

Stoney Creek HO Layout

In lieu of a detailed report on the recent developments for the Stoney Creek HO layout, I have included some photos taken of some of the work that was undertaken over the weekend of 15th & 16th May when the layout was closed down for the weekend to enable a concerted construction effort



Above: Denis Gilmore (far left) checking the track clearance at a platform with expert advice from Ben Gilmore, James Percival and Philip Lee (left to right)
Photo Geoff Lanham



Our resident tracklaying expert Robert Merrick at work laying track
Photo Geoff Lanham

AMRA NSW Programme July 2009 to September 2009

JULY			
Wed	1st	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)	10am until 5pm
Fri	3rd	Layout Operation / <i>Structured Running</i> (see Notes)	7:30pm until 10pm
Sat	4th	Layout Operation (see Notes)	10am until late
<u>Wed</u>	8th	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)	10am until 5pm
Fri	10th	Feature Night – <i>TBA...</i> if not possible General Activities	7:30pm until 10pm
Sat	11th	General Activities & Monthly Forum (see Notes)	10am until late
Ladies Needles & Natter			
Wed	15th	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)	10am until 5pm
Fri	17th	Layout Operation – United Kingdom / <i>Structured Running</i> (see Notes)	7:30pm until 10pm
Sat	18th	Members Auction	Lodgements until midday, Viewing strictly 12-1pm, Hammer 1pm
Sun	19th	<i>Stoney Creek</i> Workday	No Facility Fee
Wed	22nd	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)	10am until 5pm
Fri	24th	Train Maintenance and Testing Night	7:30pm until 10pm
Sat	25th	General Activities & <i>Layout Construction Day</i> (see Notes)	10am until late
Wed	29th	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)	10am until 5pm
Fri	31st	Layout Operation / <i>Structured Running</i> (see Notes)	7:30pm until 10pm
AUGUST			
Sat	1st	Layout Operation (see Notes)	10am until late
Interclub Visit by Macarthur District Model Railway Club			BBQ Lunch available.
Wed	5th	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)	10am until 5pm
Fri	7th	Layout Operation / <i>Structured Running</i> (see Notes)	7:30pm until 10pm
Sat	8th	Layout Operation (see Notes)	10am until late
Ladies Needles & Natter			
<u>Wed</u>	12th	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)	10am until 5pm
Fri	14th	Feature Night – <i>'Illawarra in Steam' by F Stell</i>	7:30pm until 10pm
Sat	15th	General Activities & Monthly Forum (see Notes)	10am until late
Sun	16th	<i>Stoney Creek</i> Workday	No Facility Fee
Wed	19th	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)	10am until 5pm
Fri	21st	Layout Operation – American / <i>Structured Running</i> (see Notes)	7:30pm until 10pm
Sat	22nd	General Activities & <i>Layout Construction Day</i> (see Notes)	10am until late
Wed	26th	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)	10am until 5pm
Fri	28th	Train Maintenance and Testing Night	7:30pm until 10pm
Sat	29th	Layout Operation	10am until late
SEPTEMBER			
Wed	2nd	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)	10am until 5pm
Fri	4th	Layout Operation / <i>Structured Running</i> (see Notes)	7:30pm until 10pm
Sat	5th	Layout Operation (see Notes)	10am until late
<u>Wed</u>	9th	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)	10am until 5pm
Fri	11th	Feature Night – <i>TBA...</i> if not possible General Activities	7:30pm until 10pm
Sat	12th	General Activities & Monthly Forum (see Notes)	10am until late
Ladies Needles & Natter			
Wed	16th	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)	10am until 5pm
Fri	18th	Layout Operation – Australian Diesel / <i>Structured Running</i> (see Notes)	7:30pm until 10pm
Sat	19th	Pre-Exhibition Briefing Day plus Layout Operation (see Notes)	10am until late
Sun	20th	<i>Stoney Creek</i> Workday	No Facility Fee
Wed	23rd	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)	10am until 5pm
Fri	25th	Pre Exhibition Working Bee	7:30pm until 10pm
Sat	26th	Pre-Exhibition Briefing Day and Working Bee	10am until late
Wed	30th	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)	10am until 5pm
OCTOBER			
Sat	3rd	<u>SYDNEY MODEL RAILWAY EXHIBITION @ LIVERPOOL</u>	Pre-registered Lunch 9am to 5pm
Sun	4th	<u>SYDNEY MODEL RAILWAY EXHIBITION</u>	Pre-registered Lunch 9am to 5pm
Mon	5th	<u>SYDNEY MODEL RAILWAY EXHIBITION</u>	Pre-registered Lunch 9am to 4pm

NOTES

WORK NIGHTS: every Monday night, please check with the appropriate layout supervisor, 7:30pm until 10pm, No Facility Fee

LAYOUT OPERATION: O and N Gauges operational, HO (fixed) *as permitted during construction*

STRUCTURED RUNNING: Sequenced or timetabled operation as organised for each layout

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

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Its now time for you to renew your AMRA Membership.

As indicated in the May/June AMRA Journal the renewal rates for this year are:

	One year	Three Years
Senior	\$28.00	\$84.00
Senior + Family	\$33.00	\$99.00
Student	\$18.00	

These fees are payable to the AMRA Federal organisation and are due to be paid by 1st September 2009.

It is recommended that you pay the fees direct to the Federal Registrar at PO Box 429 Moorebank NSW.

In the past we have accepted payments at Mortdale but the double handling of the membership fees has delayed the renewal of membership and resulted in considerable effort by the NSW Branch Committee in following up payments.

The members area at the AMRA Federal website (<http://www.amra.asn.au/members>) can provide members with a copy of their membership renewal form and also Paypal facilities for payment.

I can access membership details from the AMRA Federal website and can assist NSW members with queries relating to their membership including re printing of their renewal forms. Please see me when I am at Mortdale

Geoff Lanham

The 47th SYDNEY MODEL RAILWAY EXHIBITION

3rd, 4th and 5th October 2009

Whitlam Leisure Centre,

Memorial Avenue, Woodward Park, Liverpool.



OPEN MODELLING COMPETITION

AMRA NSW Branch Inc.

invites entries in our open modelling competition

Six categories each with a \$100 prize pool

School Students Encouragement Award

AMRA President's Cup for Best of Show

Entries close onsite, 6pm Friday 2nd October

To request an application kit:

PO Box 277, Mortdale NSW 2223

visit www.amransw.asn.au

or ring (02)9153-5901 and leave a message

HOW REAL MEN LIGHT CANDLES

What do you do when you can't find a lighter or matches to light some candles. This dilemma confronted Denis Gilmore at a recent celebration to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the commencement of operations on his Indian Lake home layout. The solution as illustrated by the photo below was a lesson in how real men solve such as problem. Simply get your portgas blow torch, light it with the flint gun used to light oxy torches and then light the candles with the gas torch. (Photo Geoff Lanham)



REMINDERS TO MEMBERS

Two reminders to members using the Mortdale Clubrooms

PARKING

As members arrive and depart from Mortdale at different times please show consideration for other members. If you arrive later in the day and park behind other cars either in the drive way or in front of the clubroom then you should expect that you will be asked to move your vehicle when a member who arrived before you wants to leave. The committee would ask that you comply with any reasonable request to move your vehicle to allow for others to leave. If you don't want to have the hassle of being asked to move your vehicle then it might be a good idea to park in the street (particularly on Saturdays).

USE OF EQUIPMENT

The Committee recommends that when working with equipment particularly in the garage / storage area that its good practice to have a helper with you to assist with your work. This area is somewhat isolated from the rest of the clubrooms and is good practice for your safety to adopt this practice.

If you find equipment that is faulty, you should not continue to use the equipment and report it to one of the committee members. Similarly if the equipment requires consumables write the details on the board in the workshop or talk to a committee member.

3801 Progress

As a lot of Branch members know Rod Fussell is totally enthused with this green icon. 3801 has recently been moved to Chullora for continuation of its refurbishment which will ultimately involve the fitting of anew boiler. Rod recently captured some photos of 3801 in somewhat of an “unclothed state” and also managed to be present at Thirlmere when it was being moved to Chullora even though most people could not find out when this was going to occur.



A somewhat unclothed 3801 in the exhibition hall at Thirlmere on the Day out with Thomas weekend with most of its cladding removed in preparation for its move to Chullora

Photo Rod Fussell



An shot of 3801 in early 2006 when it was being operated by 3801 Ltd prior to it being repainted green.
Photo taken at Glenfield at the junction of the East Hills Line

Photo Geoff Lanham

12 Inch to the Foot Scale

The second photo provided by our overseas correspondent Bob McLaughin of the Empire Builder at the Joe Frisbie glacier in British Columbia.



LDPO04, X53, LDP003 & LDP005 near East Hills on a QR National Freight. The LDP locos were constructed by EDI and are identical to the SCT locos. The LDP locos are owned by Locomotive Demand Power. LDP001 is painted in the EDI livery. LDP004 and subsequent locos are painted in QR colours.

Photo Mark Dalli

What's On

EPPING EXPRESS

TRAVEL WITH US TO
WOLLONGONG & KIAMA
on Sunday 9 August 2009



Heritage Steam Train with 3642 and 5917 and Heritage Express carriages to Kiama.

Lunch at Kiama – 150 Year Celebrations and street fair. Special trip to Port Kembla.

Train starts at Central and picks up at Hurstville, Sutherland (and return).

Organised by Epping Model Railway Club Inc.
For Details and Booking contact Paul 0419 577 760,
Email contact@eppingmodelrailway.org.au
Details www.eppingmodelrailway.org.au
PO Box 317, Epping, NSW, 1710



SHOOTING THROUGH SYDNEY *By* TRAM

SHOOTING THROUGH: SYDNEY *By* TRAM

Trams are back in Sydney! Climb aboard for a fascinating journey along our city's once great tramway network, which at its peak was the second largest in the British Empire. Experience the sights and sounds of the much-loved trams in this special exhibition that spans the 100-year history of Sydney's trams – from the first horsedrawn tram in Pitt Street in 1861 to the last electric tram in 1961.

Exhibition on 4 April – 18 October 2009

MUSEUM OF SYDNEY
on the site of first Government House
cnr Bridge & Phillip Streets, Sydney
Open daily 9.30am – 5pm
T 02 9251 5988 www.hht.net.au



A beautifully illustrated hardcover pictorial book by Caroline Butler-Bowdon, Annie Campbell and Howard Clark complements this exhibition, 128pp, 170 x 127mm | RRP \$24.95
ISBN 9781876991333 | Buy online at shop.hht.net.au

Front: Tram in Loftus Street (detail), photographer unknown, 1955.
Len Stone/Vic Solomons collection, City of Sydney Archives

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