



Mortdale

March 2011 Matters

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From the editor: You may have noticed that Mortdale Matters has changed. It is a new fresh look that will make viewing more enjoyable. If you have any comments or feedback you are more than welcome to send me an email (mdalli.mmatters@gmail.com).

The annual 24 hour run is fast approaching! This years event will be held on 15th/16th April. Don't miss out on a great time.

The AMRA NSW Open Weekend is on its way, and this year will be held on 2nd and 3rd April. Tell all of your friends and family about it and ask them along. All of the layouts will be in operation (N scale, HO scale, O scale and the U drive) and there will be a sausage sizzle for lunch and lots of snacks to enjoy afterwards. The Ladies Needles and Natter group will be raising funds for the Branch by selling craft and needle work items. I hope you can all come to our club; we have made a lot of progress since last year!



AMRA NSW has set up an appeal for donations to assist those in the Queensland flood and hurricane crises. The club has donated \$1000.00 already but we can add to this and make the total double or even triple. Just think every visit you make to the clubrooms you could add a \$1.00 donation, that does not sound much but when you count it all up it makes a huge difference. We have no idea what the people of Queensland are going through. We can only imagine.

Hope you enjoy this issue of Mortdale Matters, and look forward to the next issue.

Keep safe and happy modelling

Mark Dalli

AMRA NSW Mortdale Matters editor

On the cover: NR60 (ex SteelLink) leads 2SP5 freight on the Up Main at Panania. This train plus many more were diverted through the East Hills line due to line closures within Sydney.

PHOTO by Mark Dalli

On the back cover: A massive line up of locos consisting of 8222, 8237, 8181, 8233 and 8231 sit in Thirroul down refuge waiting for a road into Port Kembla. Coal trains sometimes have to wait at Thirroul because Port Kembla only has two coal unloading roads.

PHOTO by Thomas Durber

Submitting to Mortdale Matters

With so much continually happening at our Clubrooms, it's easy for something to slip through the cracks. *Mortdale Matters* especially needs photos! Prototype photos will also be included with each issue but the main focus will always be on Branch activities and events. Any prototype photos or information will be considered. If you have a photo send it in, even if you don't think it will be published in the next issue just try, you'll be surprised. Just leave a disk/CD in the Journal pigeonhole in the office or send me an email at mdalli.mmatters@gmail.com with the photo and a brief description of the photo. The 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 have written yourself.

Material is published in *Mortdale Matters* at the committee's discretion. The deadline for submitting material for the May 2011 issue is strictly 15th April 2011.

Subscribing to Mortdale Matters

Mortdale Matters is an e - newsletter. That simply means that it is electronic news. To subscribe to this e-newsletter please send an email to our publicity officer Phil pjlee@iinet.net.au to let him know that you would like this sent to you. The file is sent via email and is around 2 - 3 Mb and anyone can get this sent to them. A reminder that Mortdale matters is not put up on the internet until some time after email copies go out. If you do not have capable internet or email you can pick up a hard copy at the clubrooms. We no longer post Mortdale Matters due to costs.

Branch Officers 2011/Contacts

ELECTED	President	Barry Wilcockson	president@amransw.asn.au
	Vice President	David Bennett	vicepresident@amransw.asn.au
	Secretary	Geoff Lanham	secretary@amransw.asn.au
	Treasurer	Marilyn Wilcockson	treasurer@amransw.asn.au
	Exhibition Manager	Alan Cross	exhibamransw@optusnet.com.au
	Publicity Officer	Philip Lee	pjlee@iinet.net.au
	Junior Development Officer	Rod Fussell	juniordev@amransw.asn.au
APPOINTED	Journal Sub-Editor	Rod Fussell	subeditor@amransw.asn.au
	Auctioneers	Denis Gilmore / Alan Tonks	
	Building Manager	David Bennett	vicepresident@amransw.asn.au
	Librarians	John Smythe	
		Fred Stell	
	Exhibition Roster Clerk	Steven Edwards	rosterclerk@amransw.asn.au
	Historian	June Larmour	historian@amransw.asn.au
	Webmaster	David Bennett	vicepresident@amransw.asn.au
LAYOUT	O Gauge	Maurie Haynes	
SUB-COMMITTEE	N Gauge	David Bennett	ngauge@amransw.asn.au
CO-ORDINATORS	Stoney Creek (HO Permanent)	Denis Gilmore	stoneycreek@amransw.asn.au
	East Matelend (HO Exhibition)	Barry Wilcockson	president@amransw.asn.au
	U-Drive	Bill Whale	udrive@amransw.asn.au
	O Scale Exhibition	Lance Pickering	lance@pickering.id.au

Around the Clubrooms



A very prototypical southern coal lineup, as seen here at Read platform 2 with 8255, DL44 and DL38.

PHOTO by Mark Dalli

German railcars sit on the N scale layout to have a rest. This image has been adjusted in Photoshop by adding background detail and ballast to the bare areas.

(Photo by Mark Dalli, Photoshopped by Mark Dalli).



AMRA NSW Branch Inc. PROGRAMME MAR/MAY 2011

MARCH

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	General Activities / <i>Layout Construction Day</i> (see Notes)	10am until late
Sun	6th	Thirlmere Festival of Steam – AMRA "U"- Drive Layout	9:30am to 5pm
Wed	9th	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)	10am until 5pm
Fri	11th	Feature Night – TBA... if not possible General Activities	7:30pm until 10pm
Sat	12th	Layout Operation (see Notes) & Monthly Forum	10am until late
		Ladies Needles & Natter	- 2pm
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	General Activities / <i>Layout Construction Day</i> (see Notes)	10am until late
Sun	20th	<i>Stoney Creek Work Day</i>	No Facility Fee 10am until finished
Wed	23rd	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)	10am until 5pm
Fri	25th	Train Maintenance and Testing Night	7:30pm until 10pm
Sat	26th	Pre-Open Weekend – Working Bee	10am until late
Wed	30th	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)	10am until 5pm

APRIL

Fri	1st	Open Weekend – Preparation	7:30pm until 10pm
Sat	2nd	* * OPEN WEEKEND * *	10am until 4pm, visitor entry by gold coin donation
Sun	3rd	* * OPEN WEEKEND * *	10am until 4pm, visitor entry by gold coin donation
Wed	6th	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)	10am until 5pm
Fri	8th	Feature Night – TBA... if not possible General Activities	7:30pm until 10pm
Sat	9th	General Activities / <i>Layout Construction Day</i> (see Notes)	10am until late
Sun	10th	Visit to Historical Electric Traction at Eveleigh - Deposit & Registration Required	9 am & 12 noon
Wed	13th	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)	10am until 5pm
Fri	15th	Layout Operation / 24 Hour Running / <i>Structured Running</i> (see Notes)	7pm until ...
Sat	16th	Layout Operation / 24 Hour Running / <i>Structured Running</i> – cont from Friday night (see Notes)	until late Saturday
		<i>Breakfast available</i>	- 2pm
		Ladies Needles & Natter	No Facility Fee 10am until finished
Sun	17th	<i>Stoney Creek Work Day</i>	10am until 5pm
Wed	20th	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)	Closed
Fri	22nd	CLOSED – Good Friday	10am until late
Sat	23rd	General Activities & <i>Layout Construction Day</i> (see Notes)	1pm until late
Mon	25th	ANZAC Day - Public Holiday – Layout Operation (see notes)	10am until 5pm
Wed	27th	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)	7:30pm until 10pm
Fri	29th	Train Maintenance and Testing Night	10am until late
Sat	30th	Layout Operation (see Notes)	

MAY

Wed	4th	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)	10am until 5pm
Fri	6th	Layout Operation / <i>Structured Running</i> (see Notes)	7:30pm until 10pm
Sat	7th	General Activities / <i>Layout Construction Day</i> (see Notes)	10am until late
Wed	11th	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)	10am until 5pm
Fri	13th	Feature Night – TBA... if not possible General Activities	7:30pm until 10pm
Sat	14th	Layout Operation (see Notes) & Monthly Forum	10am until late
		Ladies Needles & Natter	- 2pm
Wed	18th	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)	10am until 5pm
Fri	20th	Layout Operation – American / <i>Structured Running</i> (see Notes)	7:30pm until 10pm
Sat	21st	General Activities / <i>Layout Construction Day</i> (see Notes)	10am until late
Sun	22nd	<i>Stoney Creek Work Day</i>	No Facility Fee 10am until finished
Wed	25th	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)	10am until 5pm
Fri	27th	Train Maintenance and Testing Night	7:30pm until 10pm
Sat	28th	Members Auction	Lodgements until midday, Viewing strictly 12-1pm, Hammer 1pm.

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 \$6, Juniors/Seniors (70+) \$3.

Guests are welcome unless otherwise indicated

This program may be subject to change without notice where necessary. Updated programmes available from the Clubrooms, or from

www.amransw.asn.au

Address: 48 Barry Avenue (PO Box 277), Mortdale NSW 2223 - Phone (02) 9153-5901, Fax (02) 9153-5905

O Scale Layout



A new feature on the O scale layout is a flashing Castrol billboard, there is also a "Hobbies Are Us" billboard which also flashes and changes colour.

PHOTO by Mark Dalli



Happy Birthday Colin

Colin Shepherd cutting his cake at his surprise 90th birthday party at Greenfield Station Bistro at Bankstown Sports Club on Sunday 30th January, 2011.

PHOTO by Marilyn Wilcockson

N Scale Layout

The Leafon control panel box has been painted; it will soon have the track diagram painted onto the front panel. The trim panel under the extension has been painted with the wall colour. A sheet of Masonite has been cut to width for the backdrops and valence panels for the extension. All block power inputs have been soldered to the rails and all joins have been bridged with wire under the baseboard.

David Bennett
N Scale Layout Coordinator



ALASKA's 4001 (not the Australian 40 class) stands in the yard on the N scale layout.
PHOTO by Mark Dalli

Mortdale Building

Two outside fluorescent lights have had their tubes and starters replaced as they were flashing. Routine maintenance is ongoing as per usual.

David Bennett
Mortdale Building Manager

H0 Scale Layout

4787 hours of operation

With a New Year, a new round of work for Stoney Creek begins.

CTC Room.

The most visible work has been the fake windows on the CTC room. The inside of these fake windows is to house the Krone terminals and other equipment for CTC. Still to come is the mock up of the windows, painting of the inside of the signal box and the completion of the painting of the outside. Next work day on Stoney Creek will see the Krone terminals repositioned to be facing out of the room.

Progress is being made to populate (put switches and LEDs on panel) the five tiles that have been printed.

DETECTORS

The installation of detectors continues, with 70% of the main line completed. The last 30% will go faster than the detectors already complete.

SUTTON

A control panel has been installed at Sutton and is now allowing trains to travel from the common section of the branch to either the light or heavy branch. Although the panel is temporary great experience has been gained by two of our members to work out the circuits to make Sutton work very well.

DEAWY

The first draft of the Down Yard local panel has come off the printer, as always there are a few small changes to be made. Next off the drawing board will be Deawy Up Yard..

CABLE STORAGE

A design has been put forward to build a lock-up cable storage area under the layout. This has to go to the main committee before work can start.

JARRAH Rd

The ideas for Jarrah Rd have started the selection process. There may not be ONE design selected but there could be a combination of two or more that end up being built. Please keep in mind that Jarrah Rd is not on the critical path so it may take some time before progress is seen at Jarrah Rd.

Denis Gilmore

Stoney Creek layout coordinator



Some of the Stoney Creek layout committee stand and discuss ideas for the Control Centre. Persons in order left to right; Denis Gilmore (Stoney Creek layout supervisor), Geoff Lanham and Philip Lee.

PHOTO by Mark Dalli



DL41 and DL44 pass through Yerriyong Down Yard with a container train. This photo was taken in 2009. The train is owned by Ben Gilmore.

PHOTO by Thomas Durber

AMRA NSW Members Model Gallery Issue 2

If you have an Australian model that you have built/detailed or weathered and you would like your work showcased in Mortdale Matters, please send me (Mark) an email to mdalli.mmatters@gmail.com with a paragraph about your model work and (optional) 1/1 scale (real life) info and of course photos of your model. If you do not have a camera I can take photos for you when I am at the clubrooms. if you do not have internet you can leave a hard copy at the clubrooms and I will pick it up.

I encourage everyone to send something in. It does not have to be the top of the line, it can be as simple as a weathered loco or rollingstock item.

Mark Dalli

Mortdale Matters editor

WHITEMETAL SOLDERING CLINIC

WS wagon by Barry Wilcockson

This Model Gallery is dedicated to the Whitemetal soldering clinic (Page 10 and 11)



An almost finished kit of the Bergs WS wagon.

PHOTO by Barry Wilcockson

WHITEMETAL SOLDERING CLINIC

Sunday 7 February saw fourteen members and friends turn up at the clubrooms eager to learn how to, or to refine their skills in the art of whitemetal soldering.

Ian McIntyre came from Wagga Wagga to share his knowledge and skills with us. He started out with an introduction to solders, fluxes and tools that we would need to use to assemble whitemetal kits. After general discussion on this topic Marilyn and June provided us with morning tea of caramel tarts and pikelets with jam and cream.

We managed to drag ourselves away from morning tea and began to put into practice what we had been talking about. Some people brought locomotive kits that they had already started to work on. The rest of us proceeded to assemble WS wagons (S wagon for carrying wheat) that were purchased from Berg's Hobbies as an entry level kit. It wasn't long before the wagons

started to take shape and people began to feel comfortable with low melt soldering. All the while Ian was moving among the tables talking to people and giving advice where needed.



Ian McIntyre leading the wrap up discussion at the end of the day.

PHOTO by Marilyn Wilcockson



A captive audience absorbing the information and helpful tips from Ian McIntyre.

PHOTO by Marilyn Wilcockson

It didn't seem to take long before lunch time rolled around and June and Marilyn served it with a flourish. In keeping with the kit assembly theme of the day, we were treated to build it yourself hamburgers, with fruit to follow for desert.

After the lunch break it was time to resume work and the wagons started to resemble the prototype. People were becoming even more confident with the soldering techniques and this could be seen in the way that confidence was growing.

Afternoon tea was called and we stopped for muffins and fruit. There was much discussion about the clinic and it was suggested that a locomotive building clinic could be held in the

future. Ian readily agreed to this when asked.

A final wrap-up and question and answer after afternoon tea and we packed away our gear after a most enjoyable day of model building.

Thanks to Ian for travelling all the way from Wagga Wagga to inspire us and to June and Marilyn for feeding us so well.

Stay tuned for news of future clinics.

Barry Wilcockson

AMRA NSW Branch Association Awards 2010

Each year for the last seven years the Committee of Management has awarded some members of the Association with a Branch Appreciation Award. These awards are given in appreciation of members efforts around the clubrooms. Over the years both individuals and groups have been acknowledged for their support of the club.



Robert Merrick accepting his Branch Appreciation.
PHOTO by Marilyn Wilcockson

2010 was no different. Once again three members were nominated by committee members and it was agreed that the awards be made. Traditionally, these awards have been presented at the function held to say thank you to the members, family and friends who assisted at the annual exhibition.

This year, none of the recipients were able to attend the outing to The Train Shed at Luddenham. It was decided to present the awards at the first meeting back in the New Year. Although there was just one of the recipients present that day, it was organised for the awards to be announced during afternoon tea, but the recipient slipped

away from the clubrooms just prior to afternoon tea being called, and arrived back at the clubrooms some twenty minutes after the group had broken up and returned to train running. The next opportunity to present the awards was the following Saturday afternoon.

The first award was presented to Robert Merrick, in appreciation of his organisation and supervision of the Branch Open Days over the last few years. Robert has made sure that all tasks were covered each day, and that all aspects of the Open Days ran smoothly.

The second award was presented to David Bennett, in appreciation for the time and effort that he puts into the smooth operation of the club. David is Vice President of the NSW Branch, and is also the Building Manager of the premises at Mortdale. David played a major role in the development of the clubrooms from the industrial units that were bought, to the fantastic clubrooms we enjoy today. He is also the N Scale Layout Supervisor, and the Guessing Competition Layout Supervisor.



Graeme Shade with his "Sadie" Award.
PHOTO by Marilyn Wilcockson

The third member to be awarded the Branch Appreciation Award this year is Steve Edwards. Steve has undertaken the role of Roster Clerk for the exhibition for the past two years, a daunting task which he has performed admirably.

Following these presentations, Graeme Shade was called to the front to be thanked for all his efforts in maintaining the toilets at the clubrooms. Graeme has been attending the clubrooms during the week each week to clean the toilets and the washrooms, fill the paper towel dispensers and keep the toilet paper supplies topped up. Due to his deteriorating health, Graeme Shade advised the Committee that he will be unable to continue this thankless task in the future. Prior to receiving Graeme's letter advising of his having to withdraw his services, the committee had decided to present him the "Sadie" Award. An engraved plaque mounted on a porcelain toilet (from a dolls house) was presented to Graeme.

To acknowledge his achievement of 40 years of membership, David Bennett received his Pearl award from the Federal President at the Branch AGM in November. To further acknowledge this achievement, David was presented with his own string of pearls, displayed in a jewel box. Although encouraged to do so, David declined the invitation to wear his pearl necklace.

Marilyn Wilcockson



David Bennett proudly displays his pearl necklace.

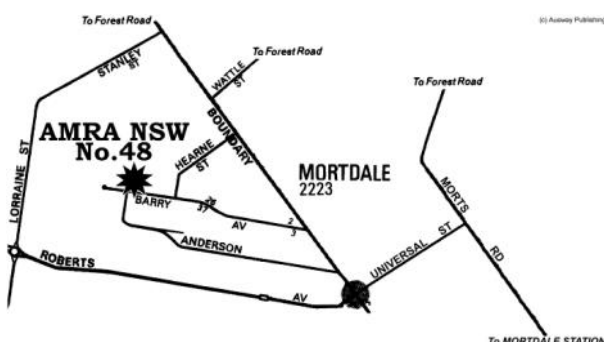
PHOTO by Marilyn Wilcockson

Open Weekend



Australian Model Railway Association - NSW Branch

- 48 Barry Avenue Mortdale -
- Sat 2nd and Sun 3rd April 2011 -
- 10am until 4pm -
- visitor entry by gold coin donation -



Large Fixed Layouts

- | | | | | |
|---------------------|---|-----------------|---|----------------|
| N Scale (1:160) | - | HO Scale (1:87) | - | O Scale (1:43) |
| "U-Drive" HO Layout | - | Sausage sizzle | - | Retail Outlets |

For more information please call (02)9153-5901 or visit

12 inch to the foot scale (The Real Thing)



4705 sits at a public viewing spot in Werris Creek.

PHOTO by Bill Whale



442s1 in Cootes livery stands at Lidcombe station with a full spoil train. The photo was taken during trackwork in 2010.

PHOTO by
Denis Gilmore



CLF3 powers through Panania with 4MB7. Triple CLP's and CLF's were used on Brisbane to Melbourne and Melbourne to Brisbane intermodal services during January 2011.
PHOTO by Mark Dalli



8102 shunting across Old Port Road at Port Kembla. This 81 class is in Pacific National Intermodal Division colour scheme; note that there are no big numbers on the side. 8118 is also in this scheme.
PHOTO by Thomas Durber



Thomas Durber

Photo of the issue goes to Thomas Durber