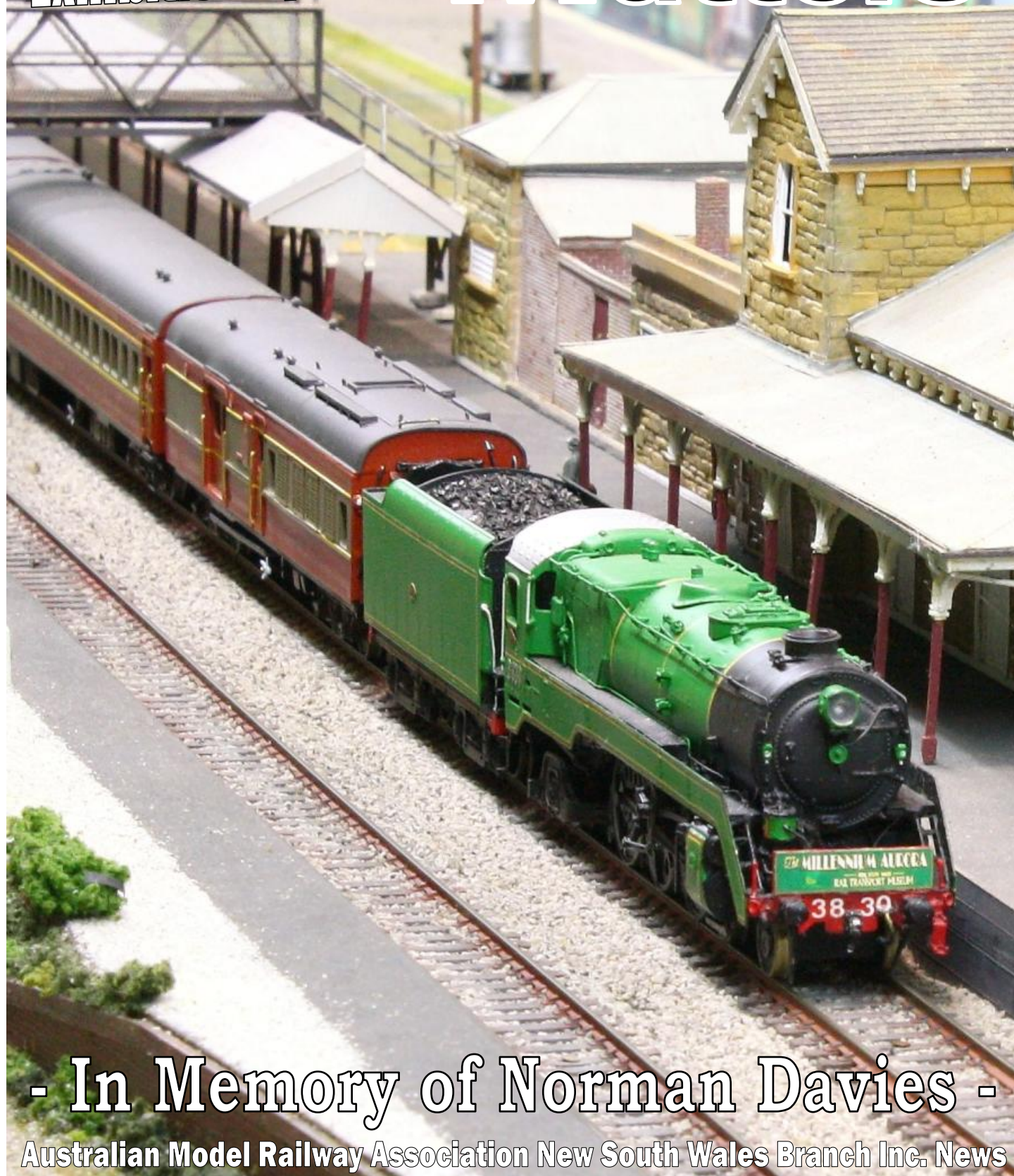


Mortdale

November 2011
Exhibition Special

Matters



- In Memory of Norman Davies -

Australian Model Railway Association New South Wales Branch Inc. News

Mortdale

November 2011
Exhibition Special

Matters



From the editors: G'day and welcome to this super packed issue of Mortdale Matters.

First, some very sad news, as you already may know the NSW Branch suffered a great loss, one of our familiar and well loved club members Norman Davies passed away in hospital over the October long weekend. Norm will be greatly missed; our deepest condolences go out to his family and friends. This issue is dedicated to Norm.

WOW this year's exhibition was great, one of the best thus far. Sadly numbers were down from last year.... but we had great positive feedback, and lots of happy faces. The exhibition would not be possible if it wasn't for the hard work of the volunteers, exhibitors and trade stands, the hard work of the committee and especially the exhibition manager Alan Cross who put in many, many, many long hours of work into organising the event, so thanks to all. We have already started to plan for our 50th Sydney Model Railway Exhibition; the 50th anniversary exhibition is something to look forward to in the year of 2012. If you have any feedback on this year's exhibition or would like to make suggestions please feel welcome, just write it up and send it to one of the committee (see contacts) or drop it in the suggestion box at the AMRA clubrooms. See page 13, 14, 15, 16 and 17 for more exhibition news and photos.

The AMRA NSW Open Day was brilliant, all layouts were in full swing including the O scale exhibition layout. Numbers have been better in the past, but we were still happy with the result. We have had very positive comments from the day and new members as a result. Thanks to all those who came and helped to make a happy and successful day.

Since having the model gallery great comments have come back, asking for more! We have been overwhelmed. But unfortunately we cannot have a continual model gallery if we do not receive info/photos. If anyone (AMRA members) has a model or structure and would like to have it show cased in Mortdale Matters, please send us details. We can take photos of the model. We are looking for all scales **N, HO, O** and **other**; hope to see your magnificent work.

The branch Christmas Party will be held at the AMRA NSW clubrooms on the 26 of November, hope to see you there.

Finally we would like to thank everyone this year for their ongoing support. We would like to thank all of our contributors; without them "*Mortdale Matters*" would not be. We would also like to especially thank the AMRA NSW committee and Glenn Percival for their complete support in 2011. Well that's all from us this year, we hope you have a safe Christmas break, and a happy new year.

Keep safe and happy modelling

Mark Dalli and Thomas Durber

AMRA NSW Mortdale Matters editors

Cover: 3830 pulls the Millennium Aurora into Wallerawang Station. Photo captured on Guilford Model Railway Clubs 'Wallerawang' layout.

PHOTO by Mark Dalli

Back cover: Mitchell Morgan crews SSR's Newstan coal train with C503, GM22, GM27, and G511 as they load at Newstan, it will shortly leave to Kooragang Island.

PHOTO by Mitchell Morgan

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! The main focus will always be on Branch activities and events, however 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 January 2012 issue is strictly 15th December 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 at 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 2.5 - 3.5 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. If you cannot pick up a copy at the clubrooms, or do not have email, contact Philip Lee to have *Mortdale Matters* posted to you.

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 Scale	Maurie Haynes	
SUB-COMMITTEE	N Scale	David Bennett	ngauge@amransw.asn.au
CO-ORDINATORS	Stoney Creek (HO fixed)	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	

Around the Clubrooms



Maurie Haynes and Lance Pickering discuss the running of an O scale loco. on the fixed layout's inner universal track
PHOTO by David Lane



THE AUSTRALIAN MODEL RAILWAY ASSOCIATION NEW SOUTH WALES BRANCH INCORPORATED. Y0830338 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Australian Model Railway Association New South Wales Branch Incorporated Y0830338 will be held at the NSW Branch Clubrooms, 48 Barry Avenue Mortdale on Saturday 19th November 2011 commencing at 2 pm.

Business to be undertaken:

- Receive Apologies
- Confirm Minutes of 2010 Annual General Meeting
- Receive Reports from the Branch Committee of Management including to receive and consider the Financial Statements for the financial year ended 30th June 2011.
- Election of Officers of the Committee of Management.
- Any General Business

Geoff Lanham
Secretary

AMRA NSW Branch Inc. Programme NOV 2011 / JAN 2012

NOVEMBER

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</i> (see Notes)	10am until late
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)	10am until late
Ladies Needles & Natter			
Wed	16th	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)	2pm
Fri	18th	Layout Operation – American Diesel / <i>Structured Running</i> (see Notes)	10am until 5pm
Sat	19th	General Activities (see Notes) & Monthly Forum	7:30pm until 10pm
		BRANCH AGM (Members Only)	10am until late
		<i>Stoney Creek Work Day</i>	2pm
Sun	20th		10am until finished
Wed	23rd	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)	10am until 5pm
Fri	25th	FEDERAL AGM (Members Only)	7:30pm until 10pm
Sat	26th	Layout Operation (see Notes)	10am until 6pm

Exhibition Workers Thank You Dinner and

Branch Christmas Function at Clubrooms Pre-register at clubrooms required

Wed	30th	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)	6pm until late
			10am until 5pm
DECEMBER			
Fri	2nd	Layout Operation / <i>Structured Running</i> (see Notes)	7:30pm until 10pm
Sat	3rd	SALE DAY - Rent a table for \$20.00 to sell any model train items.	10am until late
Wed	7th	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)	10am until 5pm
Fri	9th	Feature Night – TBA... if not possible General Activities	7:30pm until 10pm
Sat	10th	Layout Operation (see Notes)	10am until late
Ladies Needles & Natter			
Wed	14th	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)	2pm
Fri	16th	Layout Operation – Electric Traction / <i>Structured Running</i> (see Notes)	10am until 5pm
Sat	17th	General Activities / <i>Layout Construction Day</i> (see Notes) & Monthly Forum	7:30pm until 10pm
Sun	18th	<i>Stoney Creek Work Day</i>	10am until late
Wed	21st	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)	10am until finished
Fri	23rd	Train Maintenance and Testing Night	10am until 5pm
Sat	24th	CLOSED – Christmas Eve	7:30pm until 10pm
Mon	26th	Public Holiday – Layout Operation (see Notes)	Closed
Wed	28th	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)	10am until 5pm
Fri	30th	Layout Operation / <i>Structured Running</i> (see Notes)	10am until 5pm
Sat	31st	Layout Operation (see Notes)	7:30pm until 10pm

JANUARY - 2012

Mon	2nd	Public Holiday – Layout Operation (see Notes)	10am until 5pm
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	Layout Operation (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	General Activities / <i>Layout Construction Day</i> (see Notes) & Monthly Forum	10am until late
Sun	15th	<i>Stoney Creek Work Day</i>	10am until finished
Wed	18th	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)	10am until 5pm
Fri	20th	Layout Operation – European / <i>Structured Running</i> (see Notes)	10am until 5pm
Sat	21st	Layout Operation (see Notes)	7:30pm until 10pm
Wed	25th	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)	10am until late
Thur	26th	Public Holiday – Layout Operation (see Notes)	10am until 5pm
Fri	27th	Train Maintenance and Testing Night	10am until 6pm
Sat	28th	Layout Operation (see Notes)	7:30pm until 10pm

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

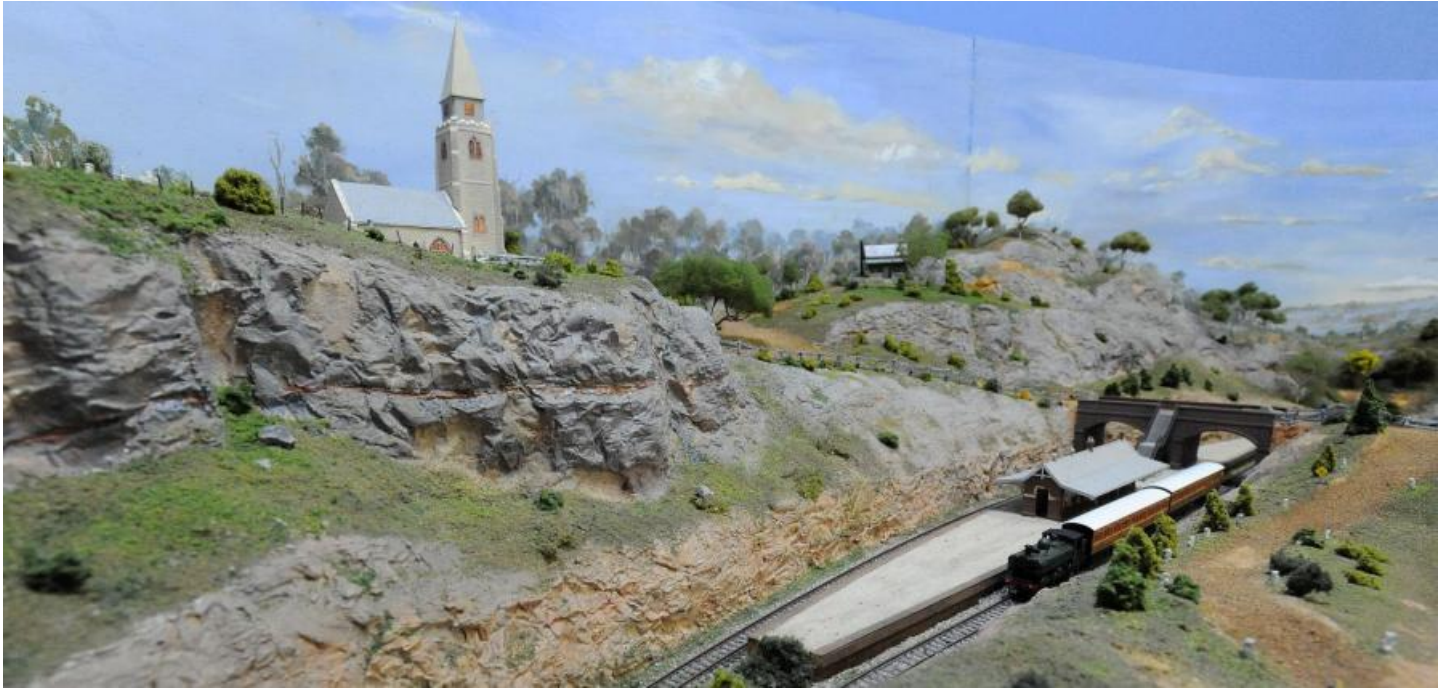
Members Facility Fee unless otherwise indicated: Adults \$6, Juniors/Seniors (70+) \$3.

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

N Scale Layout



Richard Sinton's British tank Loco excursion train, travels through Bennett.
PHOTO by David Lane



Richard Sinton's British tank Loco excursion train, travels towards Watson's Flat on the branch line.
PHOTO by David Lane

Raffle Layout



The completed raffle layout at the exhibition.

PHOTO by Mark Dalli

The layout was delivered after the exhibition to the winner; we are now currently in the progress of building Kurt's layout.

David Bennett

N Scale Layout Coordinator

Mortdale Building Report

The stair lift has had a service call and they replaced the 12V power supply with a heavier 15V unit. The light fitting in the second ladies toilet has been replaced, now all toilet cubicles have 12Volt Quartz Halogen down lights. Richard Sinton had BP Solar out to look at our installation with a view to installing solar panels, but the rep feels we can save more money by using energy efficient lamps in our fittings, this will be investigated by the solar committee. Routine maintenance is continually ongoing around the club.

David Bennett

Mortdale Building Manager

HO Scale Layout

The lead up to our exhibition is a busy time for all members of AMRA and as in all good organisations the willing workers are drawn from all areas of the group. So it is with a bit of a sad heart that there is not much to report around Stoney Creek, but the exhibition was a great time, thanks to the hard working exhibition manager and the committee. Thank you one and all.

Most people who use Stoney Creek are never aware that many members of AMRA donate money and or equipment to Stoney Creek.



Light Branch

A 75 foot turntable has been installed at the terminal for the light branch. This turntable has been donated. When this turntable is operating you will notice how quiet and smooth it is, with two speeds and isolating switches.

Yo-Yo & Light Branch

Thanks to some good work on a Wednesday by two of our quiet achievers it is now possible to operate the Yo-Yo on the light branch as well as use the "black" controller in Fayenton platform 4-5.

Deawey

Last work day Deawey entry/exit from the opposite main line was tested. That is, the up main to down yard to up main, and also down main to up yard to down main. Sad to say other work stopped when testing occurred but then, when a function like this is tested for the first time ever it is nice to "be there".

Fayenton

We all should be aware that the turntable in Fayenton was also donated.

Signals

The first and second batches of signals have arrived for Stoney Creek. And they look great. Just like the 12" to the foot scale each signal location will have the correct type of signal for the application. Signal driver boards have been designed, made and 70% populated, mainly thanks to the efforts of Barry and e-mail. It will be a shame to have these driver boards tucked away under the layout as they are a work of art in their own right.

Denis Gilmore

HO Layout coordinator

PHOTO: Graham Shade testing the new turntable and adjacent track work at Fayenton Branch. Graham was the main person responsible for wiring this area.

PHOTO by David Lane

O Scale Layouts

Charles Dickens, famous novel set in the French revolution and called "Tale of Two Cities" provides the inspiration for this month's report. As regular visitors to the clubrooms will already know, "O" now has two layouts available for members to try out their prized possessions, providing for all methods of power delivery.

The fixed layout upstairs continues to attract a steady stream of members. Ken Holmes is getting plenty of track time to hone his control abilities with his more traditional locomotives and rolling stock, while over on the "inside rails" there is quite a deal of noise and smoke being generated by a variety of locomotive types.

But let's not ignore those using the "inside tracks". Gordon Wallace, Maurie Haynes, Ross McLean, Brian Tyson and new member Dave Allen have all been spotted up there. The President, Barry Wilcockson, and the Secretary, Geoff Lanham, have also paid a visit. The sheer size and beauty of some of their trains is awesome.

Downstairs, the exhibition layout has been rotated through 90 degrees, so that it and the U-Drive can both be used on the October Open Day. It is not quite the full layout – 2 modules have been removed, demonstrating its versatility – but it's impressive none the less. It is fully operational from a "running" point of view; more work on scenicing, (what a horrible word! see photos 1 and 2), track pinning and edge boards continues. To have reached this point now is a testimony to Lance ("The Boss") Pickering's management abilities and the dedication of his team of workers. Photo 3 shows Maurie and Colin hard at it.



4



Lance asked that through this medium he publicly announce "that the completion of the essential stages of the exhibition layout would not have happened without the efforts put in by Colin, Maurie, John, Gordon, Roger, Arthur and Bruce. All these guys have untiringly and without complaint contributed to a great result in very little time. Thanks to you all."

By the way, September's Mortdale Matters rather cheeky comment (although technically correct) that the layout was not "ready" for the exhibition should be taken with a grain of salt.

Lance is shown here in full Boss mode (photo 4); note the very benevolent smile.

Maurie, as "O" scale supervisor, has been pleased to see an increase of interest in the scale of late, which surely can only be attributed to the fact that all forms of power delivery (DC, AC and DCS) are now available on two layouts. It (apparently) has attracted new members – notably Dave Allen – and visitor members from other gauges. The expense to add to the assets of the club has been money well spent. He echoes Lance's comments of gratitude.



4449, a US steam locomotive sits on the O scale layout.
PHOTO by Graham



Finally, a word or two about one of our lady members, who are seen all too rarely on the layout floor. US expat Sally Ostlund hails from the New England area north of New York and has had an interest in trains for quite a while, gained partly through her sister. She came to Australia in 2001 and contributed to the effort to get the *James Craig* sailing again on Sydney Harbour. Through a series of coincidences she met up with her partner Ross McLean, went "home", but returned and intends to take up Australian citizenship soon.

Sally has artistic flair and this is being demonstrated through her efforts in scale tree making. Each tree takes many hours of patience, but the result makes it all worthwhile. Examples of her work were seen on last year's raffle layout, will be on the "O" exhibition layout and, no doubt, in other places as time allows (Photo 5 and 6).



Sally is also "famous" for her Bill Goddard made Thomas "O" scale train (one of the very few) which can be seen upstairs now and again. It is diminutive compared to some of the (very) large American exhibits on show, but adds that nice level of variety.

Bruce Harris
 "O" scale reporter
 25/9/2011

ALL PHOTOS by Bruce Harris unless indicated.

**EXHIBITION WORKERS
THANK YOU DINNER and
CHRISTMAS FUNCTION**

Saturday 26 November 2011

AMRA Clubrooms

6:00pm

Spit Roast Dinner

\$5.00 for Exhibition Volunteers

**\$10.00 for others including family and
friends**

Register at the clubrooms

Money to be paid by 19 November

49th Honour Roll

Sydney Model Railway Exhibition

To all who volunteered over the Exhibition weekend thank you. You were a wonderful group who offered time and energy with goodwill and smiles. Thank you to the Committee for your continued support. And to my wife Jill, thanks for all your help too, where would I be without you!

Best wishes.

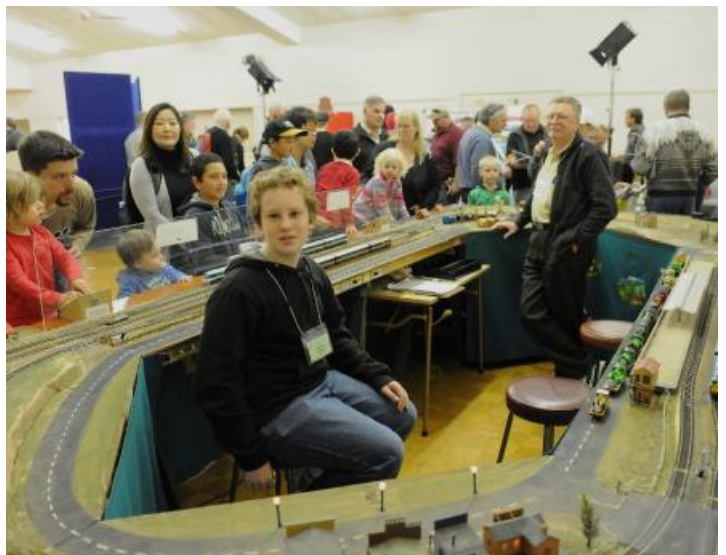
Steve Edwards

Roster Clerk

Arms	Paul	Haynes	Maurie	Shepherd	Colin
Bain	John	Haynes	Barbara	Sinton	Nelson
Banks	Peter	Higginson	Kevin	Sinton	Richard
Bennett	David	Hodges	Robert	Sinton	Tracey
Binstead	Roger	Holmes	Ken	Smythe	John
Bolin	Colin	Kilborn	Gordon	Smythe	Helen
Brown	Alex	Lane	David	Sorensen	Pat
Chapman	Stephen	Lane	Michael	Sorensen	Neil
Chin	Roger	Lanham	Geoff	Stapleton	Tony
Copper	Gary	Larmour	Phillip	Stell	Fred
Cross	Alan	Larmour	Leigh	Stell	Ross
Cunningham	Keith	Larmour	Graham	Storm	Henry
Dalli	Mark	Larmour	June	Storr	Phillip
Durber	Thomas	Liley	Ken	Storr	David
Eadie	Don	MacDonald	Andrew	Taylor	Ross
Edwards	Steve	Mason	John	Thomas	Keith
Ellis	Stan	McMahon	Barry	Thomson	Stephen
Ellis	Beverly	Menigall	Paul	Tonks	Alan
English	Allan	Merrick	Robert	Tyson	Brian
Every	Jason	Murphy	Kevin	Tyson	Denice
Every	Neil	O'Brien	Peter	Voce	David
Every	Kerry	Olsen	Chris	Wang	Shaun
Every	Belinda	Oprey	Warren	Wallace	Gordon
Flynn	Terry	Ostlund	Sally	Watson	Neil
Fussell	Rod	Percival	Glenn	Whale	Bill
Fox	Warwick	Pickering	Lance	Wilcockson	Barry
Gale	Lisa	Popplewell	John	Wilcockson	Bobbie
Garrard	Ash	Roumanos	George	Wilcockson	Jenny
Gate	Chris	Roumanos	Mary	Wilcockson	Marilyn
Green	Barry	Saint	Graham	Wood	Bruce
Hanna	Paul	Sakey	Evan	Wagh	Craig
Harris	Brian	Scott	John		
Harris	Bruce	Shade	Graeme		

49th Volunteer Photos

Sydney Model Railway Exhibition



ALL PHOTOS (pg14) by David Lane

49th PHOTOS Sydney Model Railway Exhibition



B61 and B65 pull a Railcorp work train thorough Epping Model Railway Clubs layout 'Brunswick Park', is a HO Australian layout based on the Sydney suburbs of North Strathfield and Concord West.

PHOTO by
Maikha Ly



An Australian National GM class sits on Barcoola, a layout based on the AN era in South Australia.

PHOTO by
Maikha Ly



'Wishram' is a Northern USA based layout in N scale with locos past and present.

PHOTO by
Maikha Ly



NSWGR's 42110 and a 44 class speed through Geoff Small's layout 'Oddwalls'. This layout is based on the NSW country scene during the end of steam and beginning of the diesel era.

PHOTO by
Mark Dalli



4469 and a Red Rattler sit on Sydney Model Railways Society's new layout 'Mungo Scott'.

PHOTO by
Mark Dalli



Red Rattlers on the layout 'Electric Car Sheds'. This layout is a work in progress and is owned by the Historic Electric Traction group.

PHOTO by
Mark Dalli



'Shady Hallow; a highly detailed G scale railway which is based on early bush logging in America.

PHOTO by
Maikha Ly



4008 travels through the station on Jembaicumbene', a HO NSWGR layout based in the NSW Southern Highlands in the steam era.

PHOTO by
Mark Dalli



Denis Gilmore's (HO layout supervisor) HOn30 layout 'Feet' as seen here with the chocolate train. Denis and the layout operators raised approximately \$150 worth in sales for AMRA NSW.

PHOTO by
Maikha Ly

Open Day 2011

As members of our model railway club we have the privilege of running trains every Wednesday and Saturday for eight hours or more. This is possible only because some members have for many years committed their efforts to developing the layouts and upgrading the facilities to maintain interest in the club and attract members.

Open Day is the occasion to attract new members and to showcase the club to the community. Also a special day like Open Day brings members who live long distances from Mortdale to revisit their club and to catch up on recent additions.

So what did Open Day offer this time. Starting with the grandfather scale – O Gauge – there was an entirely new layout this year. While the track design is uncomplicated, it demonstrated the features of DCS alongside traditional DC. There was a lot of new equipment to see on the layout as there have been many new locomotive and rollingstock purchases by members recently. Visitors were impressed by the continuous movement of multiple trains.

At the same time, the permanent O gauge layout was running upstairs. This is the one that visitors see first when they go up the front stairs, and they are always impressed by the sight and sound that greets them as they arrive.

Then there is the HO scale layout. It is more advanced and more impressive as each open day comes around. There are now two branch lines running under operator control as well as the main line with its 10 trains at the same time. A number of visitors remarked on the developments and improvements since their previous visit.

The N-scale layout showed off a new addition as well. Above the back stairs an extension has been built to accommodate a multi-track loop and holding yards. The N-scale group has also kept up with the scenery, and visitors were both amused and interested by the detail.

The U-drive was in operation allowing younger visitors to try their hands as drivers. At least one 2-year old visitor, accompanied by a patient parent, came to Open Day only to see Thomas-the-Tank Engine, so it was just as well that Thomas was among the trains that were running around.





The barbecue and kitchen were in operation, providing hot and cold refreshments throughout the day. The efforts of Marilyn, June, Barry and others assisting in the catering areas is appreciated. Kerry set up and ran the craft stall for the day. Her efforts are appreciated also. Bill set up the U-drive, and assisted Jason in running the U-Drive for the day. The N-scale

'team' – Kevin, Richard, Steve – and other club members and committee set up the marquee, manned the entry and acted as hosts to the visitors as they arrived and departed.

Over all, a successful day.

Robert Merrick,
Member 5036

Having decided to hold our October Open Day on a Sunday as a trial this year, preparations began in earnest on the Friday evening, with a small crew of workers. General cleaning of the club rooms and restocking of drinks and refreshments took place, along with the washing down of all the walls in the main meeting room. Saturday saw a larger work force tackle more cleaning, with much attention paid to the top floor around the layouts. Many thanks go to all those members who assisted with these preparations.

Sunday morning dawned bright and sunny, and brought more workers out in the early hours. The main hall was emptied of most of the tables and chairs to make it easier for the floor to be mopped. Thanks to Alan for undertaking this task – he was at the clubrooms around 7.00am to get this done before the arrival of members and visitors.



Once again the gazebo and awning were erected to give covered protection to the driveway area, where seating was arranged for the use of members

and visitors. The barbecue did a roaring trade again, with over 150 rissole sandwiches being served. The ladies did a sterling job again with the catering, with sandwiches, cakes and pikelets being served along with tea and coffee, and the Needles & Natter sales stand was well supported.

We had only one trade stand this year – Frate N – selling their N scale goods. Casula Hobbies were unable to attend due to a prior commitment, and Iron Horse Hobbies had planned to attend but lost their vehicle to a fire on the Thursday before the weekend, and so were unable to travel.

Our layouts were once again very well received by the public, and this year there were five layouts on display. Our fixed layouts in O, HO and N Scale were all operating all day, and the new O Scale exhibition layout was operating in the back room downstairs, along with the U-Drive.

We had 237 members of the public sign the attendance register, and 52 members. These numbers are down on last



year's Saturday Open Day in October, but there were many comments from those who did attend that they had enjoyed the experience. Some 30 membership application forms were distributed, with one being completed and returned on the day.

Our Open Day is a way of showing non-members our facilities, and showing them the enjoyment to be had from model railways. I believe we achieved both of these aims.

Marilyn Wilcockson

ALL PHOTOS by Mark Dalli

SALE DAY

Saturday 3 December 2011

AMRA Clubrooms

10:30am to 3:00pm

Large quantity of new and near new Powerline and Lima locomotives and rollingstock.

Triang, Trax, Hornby rolling stock.

2 DJH 32 Class Locomotive Kits.

Sell your own items for just \$20 a table.

- Vale -

Norm Davies

Norm joined AMRA 1994. He is shown in the membership listing as modelling N scale. However, Norm became a fixture on the O scale layout where he could be seen on most operating days driving his immaculate British locomotives. Norm also began to gather a nice collection of NSW locomotives. While operating the layout Norm absorbed a lot of knowledge of the intricacies of the layout and its operating procedures. He was always happy to share this knowledge and help those of us who were not so experienced to feel comfortable when we had a turn at a control panel.

Norm was a very generous person. When the clubrooms at Mortdale were being rebuilt and the committee was considering how we could afford to air condition the top floor of the building, Norm and Don Stone donated the air conditioning system to the Branch.

When the HO layout committee was investigating an operating control system to manage the planned very complex automated features of the layout Norm asked which of the 2 preferred methods of control would get the layout up and running quickest. When he was told that a PLC would be the preferred option he donated 2 PLCs to the layout.



This typifies the type of man that Norm was. He was a quiet gentleman who was always helping others. In 2004 the Branch acknowledged Norm's contributions to the Branch by awarding him a Meritorious Award.

The news reached us at the October exhibition that Norm had suffered a heart attack at home. He suffered a further heart attack whilst in hospital and passed away on Sunday 2nd October 2011.

A tribute to Norm was the large gathering of family and friends who attended his funeral, including a large number of AMRA members.

Farewell Norm, you will be well remembered.

PHOTO by Barry Wilcockson

12 inch to the foot scale (The Real Thing)



CPH7 and CPH1 make their way through Picton as 7R02 ARTC's Junee inspection train.
PHOTO by Thomas Durber



Queensland Railway Nationals (QRN) LZ3103, LZ3101 and LQ3122 roars through Moss Vale with 9359 empty grain from Port Kembla.
PHOTO by Mark Dalli

12 inch to the foot scale (The Real Thing)



NSWRTM's 4306 stands on the tri-level pit at Thirlmere.
PHOTO by Geoff Olsen



NR62 (full National Rail), NR85 (southern Spirit) and NR?? (Pacific National with Stars) lead MB4 through Sefton Junction.
PHOTO by Mitchell Morgan

Mitchell Morgan

Photo of the issue goes to Mitchell Morgan

