

Mortdale

March 2012

Matters



Australian Model Railway Association New South Wales Branch Inc. News

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Matters



From the editors: It's already March and things are heating up! AMRA NSW is currently planning for our '**50th Anniversary Sydney Model Railway Exhibition**'. This year we are stepping up the game to make this Australia's best model railway exhibition ever!

We would like anyone with suggestions for the exhibition including advertising to email *Alan Cross* our exhibition manager exhibamransw@optusnet.au, your help will be greatly appreciated. A good way of spreading news is to tell everyone you know, and it continues like falling dominos.

AMRA NSW also has our Open Weekend which will be held on the 31 March and 1st April 2012. As usual there has been many changes to the clubrooms including the HO layout 'Control Centre', N scale layout work as seen on page 10, 'O' scale exhibition layout, and loads more. This is a great event for those who are looking to learn more, or would like a morning or afternoon out with friends and family. Also there will be BBQ fair, soft drinks, sandwiches, and light snacks available throughout the day. Visitor entry is via a gold coin donation. Hope to see you there.

The annual '24 hour run' approaching! This year it will be held on Friday the 4th and Saturday the 5th of May 2012. All layouts will be taking part in this event. There will be a BBQ breakfast available on the Saturday morning hosted by Denis Gilmore. Come along and join the fun!

We hope you enjoy this issue, till next time.

Keep safe and happy modelling

Mark Dalli and Thomas Durber

AMRA NSW Mortdale Matters editors

Cover: The 'Sydney Special Children's Christmas Party' train to 'Rosehill Gardens' lead by 3237 steams under the F4 freeway between Rosehill and Clyde Stations on the Carlingford line.

PHOTO by David Lane

Back cover: A freight train flies around a curve on the Georges River (East Hills) Model Railway Club's N scale layout 'Tarana' at the Sydney Model Railway Exhibition 2011.

PHOTO by Maikha Ly



National Rail's NR30 and NR52 both in indigenous livery work a steel consist though the Guilford Model Railway Club's layout "Wallerawang" at the 2011 Sydney Model Railway Exhibition.

PHOTO by Mark Dalli

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 June 2012 issue is strictly 15th April 2012.

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 2012/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



8142 and friend runs around its train in Read yard, on the 'Stoney Creek' HO layout. This loco was modelled by James Percival; later on in this issue you will see more of James' work .

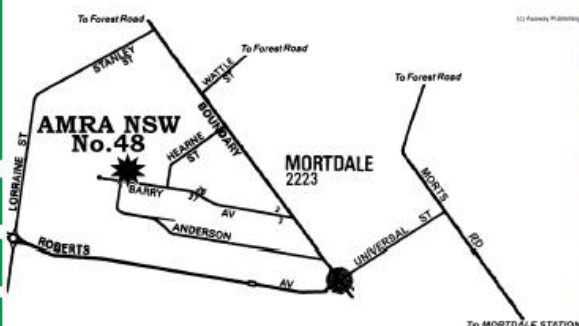
PHOTO by Mark Dalli

Open Weekend



Australian Model Railway Association - NSW Branch

- 48 Barry Avenue Mortdale -
- Saturday 31st March & 1st April 2012 -
- 10am until 4pm -
- Visitor entry by gold coin donation -



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 www.amransw.asn.au

AMRA NSW Branch Inc. Programme MAR / MAY 2012

MARCH

Fri	2nd	Layout Operation / <i>Structured Running</i> (see Notes)		7:30pm until 10pm
Sat	3rd	General Activities / <i>Layout Construction</i> (see Notes)		10am until late
Sun	4th	<u>Thirlmere Festival of Steam - Display Thirlmere</u>		
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) & Monthly Forum		10am until late
		Ladies Needles & Natter		2pm
Sun	11th	General Activities (see Notes)	No Pre-paid	10am until 4pm
Wed	14th	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)		10am until 5pm
Fri	16th	Layout Operation – <u>UK</u> / <i>Structured Running</i> (see Notes)		7:30pm until 10pm
Sat	17th	General Activities / <i>Layout Construction</i> (see Notes)		10am until late
Sun	18th	<i>Stoney Creek Work Day - Layout Construction</i>	<i>No Facility Fee</i>	10am until finished
Wed	21st	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)		10am until 5pm
Fri	23rd	Train Maintenance and Testing Night		7:30pm until 10pm
Sat	24th	Pre-Open Weekend – Working Bee		10am until late
Sun	25th	General Activities (see Notes)	No Pre-paid	10am until 4pm
Wed	28th	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)		10am until 5pm
Fri	30th	Open Weekend – Preparation		7:30pm until 10pm
Sat	31st	* * OPEN WEEKEND * *		10am until 4pm, visitor entry by gold coin donation

APRIL

Sun	1st	* * OPEN WEEKEND * *		10am until 4pm, visitor entry by gold coin donation
Wed	4th	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)		10am until 5pm
Fri	6th	<u>CLOSED</u> – Good Friday		<u>Closed</u>
Sat	7th	Layout Operation / <i>Structured Running</i> (see Notes)		7:30pm until 10pm
Mon	9th	<u>Public Holiday</u> – Layout Operation (see Notes)		10am until 5pm
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
Sun	15th	General Activities (see Notes)	No Pre-paid	10am until 4pm
Wed	18th	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)		10am until 5pm
Fri	20th	Layout Operation – <u>Australian Diesel</u> / <i>Structured Running</i> (see Notes)		7:30pm until 10pm
Sat	21st	General Activities / <i>Layout Construction</i> (see Notes)		10am until late
Sun	22nd	<i>Stoney Creek Work Day - Layout Construction</i>	<i>No Facility Fee</i>	10am until finished
Wed	25th	<u>ANZAC Day - Public Holiday</u> Layout Operation (see Notes)		<u>1 pm</u> until 5pm
Fri	27th	Train Maintenance and Testing Night		7:30pm until 10pm
Sat	28th	Layout Operation (see Notes)		10am until late
Sun	29th	General Activities (see Notes)	No Pre-paid	10am until 4pm

MAY

Wed	2nd	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)		10am until 5pm
Fri	4th	Layout Operation / <u>24 Hour Running</u> / <i>Structured Running</i> (see Notes)		7pm until ...
Sat	5th	Layout Operation / <u>24 Hour Running</u> / <i>Structured Running</i> – <i>cont from Friday night</i> (see Notes)		
		<i>Breakfast available</i>		until late Saturday
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
Sun	13th	General Activities (see Notes)	No Pre-paid	10am until 4pm
Wed	16th	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)		10am until 5pm
Fri	18th	Layout Operation – <u>American</u> / <i>Structured Running</i> (see Notes)		7:30pm until 10pm
Sat	19th	General Activities / <i>Layout Construction</i> (see Notes)		10am until late
Sun	20th	<i>Stoney Creek Work Day - Layout Construction</i>	<i>No Facility Fee</i>	10am until finished
Fri	25th	Train Maintenance and Testing Night		7:30pm until 10pm
Sat	26th	Layout Operation (see Notes)		10am until late
Sun	27th	General Activities (see Notes)	No Pre-paid	10am until 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 \$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



50th Anniversary Sydney Model Railway Exhibition

2012 October Long Weekend



Photo by M Dalli

**SAT 29 TH & SUN 30 TH SEPTEMBER 9AM–5PM
MON 1ST OCTOBER 9AM - 4PM**

**WHITLAM LEISURE CENTRE
MEMORIAL AVENUE, LIVERPOOL**

Adults	\$ 12.00	Seniors	\$ 9.00
Children	\$ 6.00	Family	\$ 30.00
Multiday Pass	\$ 24.00	(2 Adults & 2 Children)	

- More layouts and trade stands than ever before
- Parking by gold coin donation to Lions Club Liverpool
- Thomas the Tank Engine rides available
- FREE buses from Liverpool Station

Proudly presented by the Australian Model Railway Association NSW Branch Inc:
www.sydneymodelrailwayexhibition.com

O Scale Layouts



A NSWGR 57 class (5701) stands on the O scale layout (upstairs) just shy of Hoganvale station.



Scenery works are well underway on the O scale exhibition layout as seen here with a rock cutting that was moulded and painted by Lance Pickering. Other works that have taken place have been electrical works, trackwork and adding of new Ballast to the layout.

All PHOTOS by Mark Dalli

H0 Scale Layout

6039 hours of operation



The first work day for 2012 was in January. Work days will normally be on the 3rd Sunday of each month, but can be changed to suit people and events. Work days are for the work, construction, maintenance and tidying of the layout and these days help in forming the layout, and are great for learning new things in general about model railways, electronics, timberwork and more! It's even better knowing that you are helping this great club out and learning something new.

CCTV

The CCTV system will have a selector switch for each monitor on the CTC panel, there could be up to 4 cameras per monitor.

Installation of the metal duct to house the relays for the CCTV switching has been installed along with the relays, inside the CTC enclosure. The wiring of the relays has commenced.

CABLE GANG

The seemingly never ending pulling in of cables continued with 2 off 100 wire cables installed. (CTC to Read and Read to PLC3) on the January workday.

Top of page: Stoney Creek in the hands of Philip Lee as he monitors the continual operation of trains on the layout from CC (Control Centre). There has been new additions to the CC room (aka "The Box") such as two new tiles that will control trains in and out of Deawy and more CCTV cameras that will assist monitoring the trains position and give the controller an idea what is happening on the layout. The new tiles will shortly be commissioned.

PHOTO by Mark Dalli

READ (EAST)

The layout committee talks about requirements for the operations on our layout, during one such talk, it was pointed out that we do not have any turn back at READ for passenger trains that terminate on Platform 4.

Point installation has started at the east end of READ platform 4/5. The extra through road will allow overtaking moves in both directions as well as a loco run-a-round on the down main/ through road, and return to the up main.

OPERATION

Platform 4 & 5 are the END of the Main Line that starts at the concourse end of Fayenton platform. The track between READ (Platform 4 & 5) and DEAWAY is called the "South line"
Several ideas have been put forward.

Denis Gilmore

HO Layout coordinator



B65 in Auscision Models livery and B80 in Murraylander livery sit together in Yerriyong up yard.
PHOTO by Mark Dalli

Mortdale Building Report

Ongoing maintenance is taking place, we had a second meeting with the company doing the energy assessment at our clubrooms and they suggest that we try some LED tubes in our light fittings to see what effect they have on the finished scenery on the N Scale layout.

David Bennett

Mortdale Building Manager

N Scale Layout

Ash Garrard has applied some ballast to the tracks that pass through the wall of the extension over the back stairs, while access is clear. The road over-bridge is well under way with the acrylic base having been cut and glued together, now the etched brickwork can be glued into place and the whole unit painted and glued in place. More Tortoise point motors have been ordered to complete the trackwork to the Dine-on yard area.

David Bennett

N Scale Layout Coordinator



The scene of the viaduct is a magnificent spot to photograph trains on as to admire the hard work that has been put into the scenery.

PHOTO by
David Lane



Before



After

A before and after comparison of an area on the N scale layout. Notice the added shrubs and grasses around the house and driveway, added gates and weathered roof on the after photograph. PHOTOS by Mark Dalli

N Scale Scenes



All PHOTOS by David Lane

AMRA NSW Members Model Gallery Issue 5

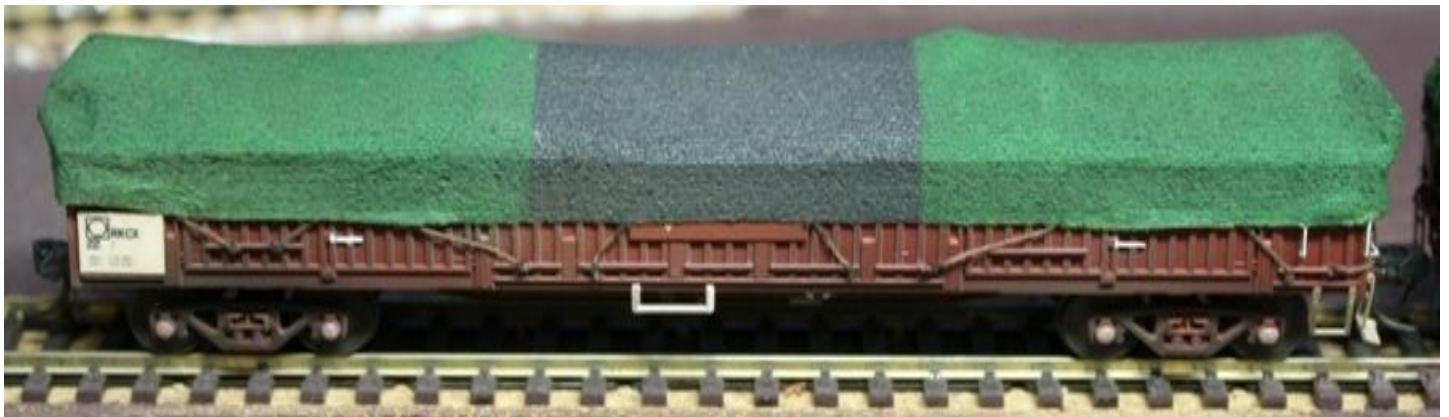
If you have an Australian model that you have built/detailed or weathered and you would like your work showcased in Mortdale Matters, please send me (Mark) an email to mdalli.mmatters@gmail.com with a paragraph about your model work and (optional) 1/1 scale (real life) info and of course photos of your 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 bees knees, it can be as simple as a weathered loco or rollingstock item.

Mark Dalli

Mortdale Matters editor

National Rail 'Open Wagons' (RKCX) with tarps by Mitchell Morgan



The wagons on Stoney Creek.

All PHOTOS by Mark Dalli

AMRA NSW Members Model Gallery Issue 6

NSW garbage wagons (NQHX) by James Percival



Two (2) different painted NQHX wagons one (top) in NSW/SRA Indian Red and (bottom) one in FreightCorp livery. Both wagons hold a scratch built/moulded garbage container.



A NQHX FreightCorp wagon showing its skeletal frame.
All PHOTOS by Mark Dalli

SRA/Cityrail "V" Sets



PHOTO courtesy RailCorp



PHOTO by David Johnson



PHOTO by Todd Milton

In 1968, the then New South Wales Government Railways placed an order for 16 double deck inter-urban cars with Commonwealth Engineering. They were described as 'the most luxurious commuter stock in the world' at the time.

The order was for:

- 8 economy class motor cars, numbered DCF 8001 – DCF8008
- 4 driving trailer cars numbered DDC9001 – DDC9004 which had first class on the upper deck and economy on all other seats, and
- 4 trailer cars numbered DTF9011 – DTF9012 which were all economy and DTC9021 and DCT9022 which had the same configuration as the DDC's.

At this time the cars were classified as U sets.

With more V sets arriving in the late 70's and early 80's, there was a surplus of motor cars. The decision was made to convert the first batch of cars to trailers and make them compatible with the newer cars. The cars were renumbered:

- DCF8001 - DCF8008 became DMT 9201 – DMT9207 (DCF 8004 was written off when rear-ended by 4623 in January 1976
- DDC9001 – DDC9004 became DDT 9208 – DDT9211
- DTF9011, DTF9012, DTC9021 and DTC9022 became DFT9212 – DFT9215

During 1977 the second batch arrived. There were many differences with these cars including all electrical equipment mounted on the motor car, they had stainless steel underframes and were fitted with vacuum retention toilets, hence the "V" coding. These cars were coded DCM8021–8036 and DCT9031–9044.

Continued next page ↓



PHOTO by Bill Whale



PHOTO by Alan Tonks

With the V sets being such a success, a third batch was ordered. These were the DIM and DIT cars. Their numbers were DIM8037–8092 for motor cars and DIT9101–9184 for trailer cars.

With technology becoming more advanced, another batch of cars was ordered, but this time with a chopper control system fitted. These motor cars were coded DJM. The chopper control system provided a smoother and quieter ride compared to the earlier camshaft controlled units. To go with these new motor cars, an additional order for more DIT cars was placed.

The final batch, the DKM/T series cars were introduced in 1989, and were the last cars built at the Comeng Granville plant. These cars are permanently coupled in pairs, which are coupled to another chopper controlled V set. The DK's had many differences to the earlier V set cars, in that they had corrugated steel sides instead of Budd fluting, instead of the swing doors from the vestibule to the passenger compartment, the DK's were fitted with an electric sliding door, operated by a push button. There was also no door installed at the gangway so passengers had better access into the toilets. 14 DK cars were built, DKM 8139–8145 are motor cars and DKT9185-9191 are trailer cars. There was an extension in the contract with

Comeng to build an additional 50 cars, however this was never fulfilled.

The cars have operated on every interurban line, from Central to Kiama, Lithgow and Newcastle, and they continue to do so, with the exception of the South Coast Line.

The first cars were withdrawn in 2005 due to corrosion in the underframes. DMT9204 was one of these cars, which was used in an Army Training Exercise and destroyed in November 2008. In January 2011 an order for 25 additional OSCar carriages was placed which are currently displacing the 1977 batch of V sets, causing them to be withdrawn.

An unexpected twist of fate while this article was being prepared was the emergence of the Y set. Y1 and Y2 are 3 carriage V sets made up of cars DJM8134, 8121, 8127 and 8131 and DIT912 and 9131. The Y sets are Automatic Train Protection test trains for CityRail. They have a modernized cab, suspension seats and work tables in the upper deck and the normal passenger seats on the lower deck. They have "ATP Test Train" stickers on the front and sides.

With the withdrawn cars offered for tender to local or overseas companies, who knows what lies ahead for the V sets (and S, R and L sets).

Thomas Durber

Permission was given by the following photographers to use their photos in this article:

RailCorp, David Johnson and Tod Milton — we would like to acknowledge them for letting AMRA NSW publish their photographs in 'Mortdale Matters'.

Photo of the issue goes to Maikha Ly

Maikha Ly

