

Mortdale



March 2013

Matters



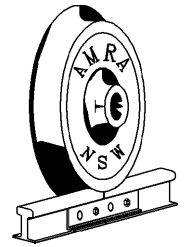
10 Years at Mortdale

Australian Model Railway Association New South Wales Branch Inc. News

Mortdale Matters

March 2013

Editorial



Welcome to this edition of *Mortdale Matters*.

Firstly, my apologies for the issue running late. Mark Dalli has decided to step down as Editor to concentrate on his studies and to be honest, I underestimated the effort to get back up to speed with *MM*. Mark will continue to contribute and scout photographic gems for us, which I'm sure you will all agree is a great outcome.



Apart from becoming increasingly nostalgic in my middle age, it is timely that I return to this publication. It's come a long way from my one-sheet handout of June 2002 and I'd like to take this opportunity to acknowledge previous editors Chris Winston, Geoff Lanham and Mark Dalli.

This year also marks a full decade since closing the door of our original Rockdale clubrooms in February 2003. Over the course of the next year I will feature a retrospective on our Mortdale home, which I hope you too will find nostalgic and informative.

Please don't forget our **Model Train Show** (open weekend) on Saturday & Sunday **6th & 7th April**. As always, we need the support of members to showcase our fantastic facilities, and it does help sustain the club over the long term. The flyer appears on page 4.

Please note overleaf the new permanent email address to reach the Editor. We need contributions, especially photos of happenings at the clubrooms!

Finally, in the tradition of Editors' rail-based "selfies" - I offer Broadford Signal Box (VIC), 15th March 2004. Having called in on a whim whilst driving back to Sydney from Melbourne, the signaller, who was about to sign off after the morning peak, offered to set up and take the photo. Honest!

Until next issue,

Glenn Percival
Editor

Mark Dalli
Media Contributor



DERAIL

In the November 2012 issue, the Exhibition Honour Roll omitted **Neil and Pat Sorenson**. Our apologies to Neil and Pat.

FRONT PAGE: Yes, a repeat of 2705 on the cover, but it's a great photo — 2705 leads 3642 and the *Thirlmere Flyer* along the former main line into the village during the Thirlmere Festival of Steam, 5th March 2013. (Mark Dalli)

BACK PAGE: In a "modern classic" view of Maldon Curve just outside Picton, Pacific National 8146 approaches the Maldon works on 11th March 2013, travelling opposite-direction on the Down Main, with a limestone "clinka" load from Boral's New Berrima works. A recent track upgrade removed the facing crossover at Maldon and created the Maldon-Picton passing lane. The lunchtime Canberra-bound Xplorer had just passed through opposite-direction on the Up Main. (Mitch Morgan)

Submissions and Subscriptions

With so much continually happening at our Clubrooms, it's easy for something to slip through the cracks. *Mortdale Matters* especially needs photos of Branch activities and events, however any prototype photos or information will be considered. If you have any material please send it in, even if you don't think it will be published just try, you'll be surprised. Just leave a disk/CD in the Journal pigeonhole in the office or send me an email at mmatters.amransw@yahoo.com.au with the photo and a brief description. The image size does not need to be larger than 1MB.

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 Management Committee's discretion. *Mortdale Matters* is an e-newsletter. That simply means that it is electronic news. To subscribe, please send an email request to our publicity officer Philip Lee at pjlee@iinet.net.au. Please note that the file can reach 3 MB; and that Adobe 8.0 (PDF 1.7) or later compatibility is required, to minimise file size. *Mortdale Matters* is also available online from the AMRA NSW website.

If you do not have capable internet or email please contact Secretary Geoff Lanham to have a B&W printed copy available for you to collect from our clubrooms. Please note that this service is only available for those without capable internet.

The deadline for the May 2013 issue is strictly 30th April

Branch Officers 2013/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	<i>Journal</i> Sub-Editor	Rod Fussell	subeditor@amransw.asn.au
	<i>Mortdale Matters</i> Editor	Glenn Percival	mmatters.amransw@yahoo.com.au
	Auctioneers	Denis Gilmore / Alan Tonks	
	Building Manager	David Bennett	vicepresident@amransw.asn.au
	Librarians	John Smythe Fred Stell	
	Exhibition Roster Clerk	TBA	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	<i>Stoney Creek</i> (HO fixed)	Denis Gilmore	stoneycreek@amransw.asn.au
	<i>East Matelend</i> (HO Exhibition)	Barry Wilcockson	president@amransw.asn.au
	<i>U-Drive</i>	Bill Whale	udrive@amransw.asn.au
	O Scale Exhibition	Lance Pickering	

Model Train Show



Australian Model Railway Association - NSW Branch

N Scale - HO Scale - O Scale - BBQ - Retail Outlets - "U-Drive" layout

- 48 Barry Avenue Mortdale -

- SAT 6th and SUN 7th of April 2013 -

- 10am until 4pm -

FREE ENTRY

- Gold coin donation appreciated -



For more information please call (02) 9153-5901 or visit www.amransw.asn.au

AMRA NSW Members Model Gallery Issue 9

**A Study in Model versus Prototype — HO Ready-to-Run
by Glenn Percival**



Admittedly obsessed with the Austrian Railway OBB's *Railjet* high speed push-pull train, I thought this space an opportunity to provide a comparison. On the left, a Jägerndorfer Collection model of Taurus class 1116 208 *Spirit of Germany*. On the right, Taurus 1116 230 (unnamed) is soon to be on the tail of a departure from Munich platform 12 through Vienna to Budapest. Apart from the striking livery and speed, for more detail on why they're special [search YouTube for "railjet"](#) and have a listen!

AMRA NSW Branch Program - Mar/May 2013

MARCH

Fri	1st	Layout Operation / <i>Structured Running</i> (see Notes)	7:30pm until 10pm
Sat	2nd	General Activities / <i>Layout Construction</i> (see Notes)	10am until late
Sun	3rd	<u>Thirlmere Festival of Steam - Display Thirlmere</u>	
Wed	6th	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)	10am until 5pm
Fri	8th	Layout Operation / <i>Structured Running</i> (see Notes)	7:30pm until 10pm
Sat	9th	Layout Operation (see Notes)	10am until late
		Ladies Needles & Natter	2pm
Sun	10th	General Activities (see Notes)	10am until 4pm
Wed	13th	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)	10am until 5pm
Fri	15th	Layout Operation – <u>European</u> / <i>Structured Running</i> (see Notes)	7:30pm until 10pm
Sat	16th	General Activities / <i>Layout Construction</i> (see Notes) & Monthly Forum	10am until late
Sun	17th	<i>Stoney Creek Work Day</i>	<i>No Facility Fee</i> 10am until finished
Fri	22nd	Train Maintenance and Testing Night	7:30pm until 10pm
Sat	23rd	Layout Operation (see Notes)	10am until late
Sun	24th	General Activities (see Notes)	10am until 4pm
Fri	29th	<u>CLOSED</u> – Good Friday	<u>Closed</u>
Sat	30th	Pre-Open Day – Working Bee	10am until late

APRIL

Mon	1st	<u>Public Holiday</u> – Layout Operation (see Notes)	10am until 5pm
Wed	3rd	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)	10am until 5pm
Fri	5th	Open Weekend – Preparation	7:30pm until 10pm
Sat	6th	* * OPEN WEEKEND * *	10am until 4pm, visitor entry by gold coin donation
Sun	7th	* * OPEN WEEKEND * *	10am until 4pm, visitor entry by gold coin donation
Wed	10th	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)	10am until 5pm
Fri	12th	Layout Operation / <i>Structured Running</i> (see Notes)	7:30pm until 10pm
Sat	13th	Layout Operation (see Notes) & Monthly Forum	10am until late
		Ladies Needles & Natter	2pm
Sun	14th	General Activities (see Notes)	10am until 4pm
Wed	17th	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)	10am until 5pm
Fri	19th	Layout Operation – <u>Australian Steam</u> / <i>Structured Running</i> (see Notes)	7:30pm until 10pm
Sat	20th	General Activities / <i>Layout Construction</i> (see Notes)	10am until late
Sun	21st	<i>Stoney Creek Work Day</i>	<i>No Facility Fee</i> 10am until finished
Wed	24th	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)	10am until 5pm
Fri	26th	Train Maintenance and Testing Night	7:30pm until 10pm
Sat	27th	Layout Operation (see Notes)	10am until late
Sun	28th	General Activities (see Notes)	10am until 4pm

MAY

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	General Activities / <i>Layout Construction</i> (see Notes)	10am until late
Wed	8th	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)	10am until 5pm
Fri	10th	Layout Operation / <i>Structured Running</i> (see Notes)	7:30pm until 10pm
Sat	11th	Layout Operation (see Notes) & Monthly Forum	10am until late
		Ladies Needles & Natter	2pm
Sun	12th	General Activities (see Notes)	10am until 4pm
Wed	15th	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)	10am until 5pm
Fri	17th	Layout Operation – <u>United Kingdom</u> / <i>Structured Running</i> (see Notes)	7:30pm until 10pm
Sat	18th	General Activities / <i>Layout Construction</i> (see Notes)	10am until late
Sun	19th	<i>Stoney Creek Work Day</i>	<i>No Facility Fee</i> 10am until finished
Wed	22nd	"Daylighters" - General Activities (see Notes)	10am until 5pm
Fri	24th	Train Maintenance and Testing Night	7:30pm until 10pm
Sat	25th	Layout Operation (see Notes)	10am until late
Sun	26th	General Activities (see Notes)	10am until 4pm
Fri	31st	Layout Operation / <i>Structured Running</i> (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

Mortdale Retrospective - 1



48 Barry Avenue Mortdale was a subdivided twin unit factory prior to our discovery of it in 2001. By that time, it was in single use by the electrical transmission supplier Thew & McCann. These views show what we bought in November 2001, through "Day 1" vacant possession on ANZAC Day 2002, to "Day 3", the first attendance by members on Saturday 27th April. (all AMRA NSW archives)



LEFT: Viewed from what is now the back corner of our exhibition room, the original lintel arch and front half.

RIGHT: Reverse view, towards the back wall.



Downstairs front office and warehouse, now our office and meeting room.

LEFT: looking in our front office door

RIGHT: down the eastern half of our meeting room



Upstairs front office and mezzanine, roughly the middle of *Stoney Creek* now.

LEFT: in the vicinity of Yerriyong

RIGHT: towards the western side of the O Gauge



LEFT: The ceremonial turning of the key in the original front door for vacant possession, 25th April 2002.

RIGHT: President Barry Wilcockson addressed members assembled at the first meeting onsite two days later.



O Scale Layout

"No sooner said than done" could be the motto of the "O" Gaugers.

Not long ago, they had completed the universal track section of the layout, running inside the original outer tracks. At the time, it was believed that all available space had been used in making this improvement.

But it was found that efficient running on the new tracks was hampered by one thing; only having one track for a lot of the oval.

On went the thinking caps. Where could more space be found?

Fast forward to now and you will find stage 1 of track duplication has been completed. This gives two tracks for about one half of the oval. Stages 2 and 3 will address the remaining half.

Fettlers for the new track were mainly Lance Pickering and Colin Shepherd.



Stage 1 of the duplication runs behind the main street of Hoganvale, which required that the rear of the businesses also be modelled in low relief.

At the same time, the town street scape of Hoganvale has been seriously changed with the addition of buildings supplied by Dave Allen (the "O" Gauge Guy) and "life" provided by Robin Yates and Gordon Wallace. See photos for what life means; lights, people, signs, shop names, fighting cats, hoardings and atmosphere. Thank goodness for LEDs.



A very attractive addition indeed.

Watch this space for more on stages 2 and 3.

Bruce Harris

"O" Gauge reporter

13 March 2013.

(images Glenn Percival)

H0 Scale Layout

"PIZZA DISCUSSIONS"
(H0 FIXED LAYOUT – *STONEY CREEK*)

10/03/2013

7646 hours of operation

CONTROL CENTRE (CTCC)

Tiles 1A, 2A and 3A for DEAWY are progressing well. These tiles have been mounted in the CTCC and are looking great. The intent is to have them indicating train location (block indicators) and point alignment before open weekend. All block and point indicators have been connected through to the CTCC for these tiles.

SIGNALS

Eight signals have been installed and are now working. Six of these signals are on the middle level at Deawy, and two have been installed as exit signals at Yerriyong.



YERRIYONG



Yerriyong, for the purpose of entry/exit, has been switched over to CTCC control. Now a driver has to contact the CTCC or walk up themself to get a train on or off the main line. When a train exits the yards the road is automatically reset when a double-length train is clear of the interlocking. On entering the yards a push button (line clear) has been provided to reset the road when the train is in clear of the main line.

SIGNAL DRIVER BOARDS

In many locations signal driver board sockets have been installed. There are still some more sockets to be installed and the driver boards will be installed as signal installation progresses.

Two views of the exit signal from Yerriyong Up Yard. Upper right, accessing the up shunting neck. Lower left, set to exit onto the Up Main. Photos taken in the excitement of commissioning, pity about my car keys in the shots. (Glenn Percival)

N Scale Layout

Three train detectors have been installed under the layout, the other three detectors will be installed next week. Ash Garrard is continuing with ballasting the tracks in Dine-on yard, Kevin Higginson is applying green texture all around the layout. Richard Sinton is still in the process of replacing all mainline insulfrog points that are showing signs of wear after twenty six years of use.

David Bennett
N Scale Layout Coordinator



A NSWGR 48 class brings the branch passenger service across the river approaching Watson's Flat, on the N Gauge layout (Glenn Watson)

Mortdale Report

Routine maintenance is ongoing.

David Bennett
Mortdale Building Manager

On loan from Sydney Tramway Museum on 27th January 2103, Bedford tower wagon No.3 is put to good use replacing the first of three fluoro light fittings. Pity about the weather. (Glenn Percival)



Photo of the Issue: Mitch Morgan

