



Mortdale Matters

October 2018

Australian Model Railway Association New South Wales Branch Inc. News

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The busiest time of year for the club is just about over. This year has had the added workload of the Special General Meeting to vote on the new proposed constitution, to finally get the document fully compliant with the legislation changes that occurred in each state back in September 2016. This process in itself has been a very long, exhaustive process. There is an update on progress in this issue.

The exhibition has been held once again and a very mixed result has come from it. There has certainly been a lot of feedback received about this years exhibition and the current MC has looked at any urgent matters for now, with the new MC to look at the bulk of the feedback after the AGM.

As I said earlier the busiest part of the year is almost over. The only bit left is the AGM which will be held on Saturday 10th November 2018. The meeting will commence @ 2pm, with voting registration available from 12:30pm. There is also an article in this issue about the AGM and the management committee.

The last thing I want to write in my editorial for this issue is a big thank you to Glenn Percival for his efforts as assistant editor for the last 3 years. Glenn is stepping back from the assistant editors role at the AGM. Glenn has been a massive help with proof reading every issue, as well as being sounding board for different things. Once again thank you for your help Glenn it has certainly been a pleasure.

Hope you enjoy the read!

Until next issue,

Damien George
Editor

Glenn Percival
Assistant Editor

Nest Issue: Expected release w/e 25th November 2018

This newsletter is published by Australian Model Railway Association NSW Branch Inc. 48 Barry Ave Mortdale NSW 2223.

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Front Cover: Just 1 of the scenes on Tulong @ this years exhibition. (*Richard Chantler*)

PLEASE NOTE:

Images captured in the operational environment are done so with permission and adhering to the appropriate rail safety procedures & guidelines.



Submissions and Subscriptions

With so much continually happening at our Clubrooms, its easy for something to slip through the cracks. *Mortdale Matters* especially needs photos of Branch activities/events, members' models and covers; however any prototype photos or information will be considered for use as space permits. Email matters@amransw.asn.au, or leave a disc in the *Journal* pigeonhole in the office, with the photo and a brief description.

All submissions must be original material, i.e. photos that you've taken or articles that you have written, and are published at MC's discretion.

Mortdale Matters is an e-newsletter, meaning simply that it is electronic news. To subscribe please send an email request to our Publicity Officer, Philip Lee, at publicityofficer@amransw.asn.au. Please note that the file can exceed several MB; and that Adobe 8.0 (PDF) 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 the Secretary 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.

NSW Officers/Contacts 2018

| | | | |
|---|--|------------------|--|
| ELECTED Management Committee | President | Robert Merrick | president@amransw.asn.au |
| | Vice President | Damien George | vpresident@amransw.asn.au |
| | Secretary | Glenn Percival | secretary@amransw.asn.au |
| | Treasurer | Geoff Lanham | treasurer@amransw.asn.au |
| | Exhibition Manager | Richard Chantler | exhibition@amransw.asn.au |
| | Publicity Officer | Philip Lee | publicityofficer@amransw.asn.au |
| | Junior Development Officer | Graham Blake | juniorddev@amransw.asn.au |
| APPOINTED | <i>Journal</i> Sub-Editor | Damien George | subeditor@amransw.asn.au |
| | <i>Mortdale Matters</i> Editor | Damien George | matters@amransw.asn.au |
| | Building Manager | David Bennett | buildingman@amransw.asn.au |
| | Librarians | John Smythe | N/A |
| | Exhibition Roster Clerk | Gina Wood | rosterclerk@amransw.asn.au |
| | Historian | June Larmour | historian@amransw.asn.au |
| | Webmaster | Damien George | webmaster@amransw.asn.au |
| LAYOUT | 0 Scale (fixed) | Lance Pickering | TBA |
| SUB-COMMITTEE | <i>Stoney Creek</i> (H0 fixed) | Philip Lee | stoneycreek@amransw.asn.au |
| CO- ORDINATORS | N Scale | David Bennett | ngauge@amransw.asn.au |
| | <i>Past and Present</i> (0 Exhibition) | Gordon Wallace | N/A |
| | <i>East Matelend</i> (H0 Exhibition) | Andrew Murphy | N/A |
| | <i>U-Drive</i> (H0 Exhibition) | Bill Whale | udrive@amransw.asn.au |



2018 Sydney Model Railway Exhibition

I hope everyone has recovered after the exhibition weekend. I now from my own experience my feet weren't on speaking terms with me till at least the Thursday after. It was great to see all the acquaintances that you only usually get to see at event like Liverpool and catch-up. Highlights this year included 3 interstate layouts amongst over a dozen exhibits new to our show.

Attendance at this years exhibition was unfortunately down on last years figures. There were certainly some challenges this year, with a lot of unexpected challenges coming our way, however we dealt with them all to deliver the best exhibition possible for everyone. Some of the solutions we came up with have been well received, whilst others need a little work.

The Whitlam Centre has received some adverse comments from all of the stakeholders involved with the weekend. The MC have already started raising these the venue managers and will continue to work through them all.

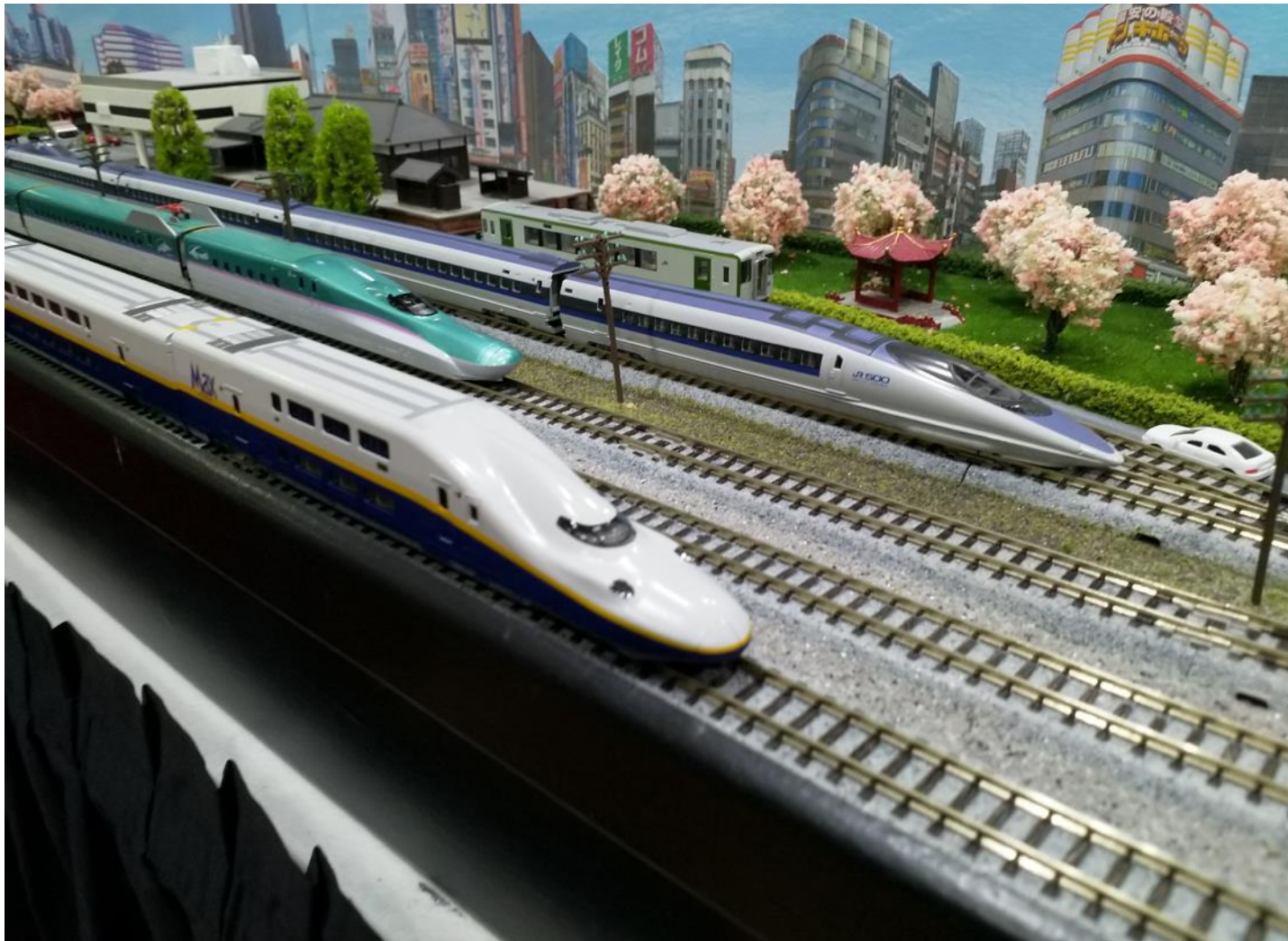
Over the weekend there were a considerable number of rumours circulating about where the 2019 exhibition will be held. At the time of this being written there has been NO decision made as to the venue of the 2019 exhibition. As a matter of course, the MC look at the current venue & any other prospective venues every few years to ensure we are getting the best possible venue to hold the exhibition in.

Finally, a massive thanks must go to Geoff Lanham & Glenn Percival. Both of these 2 gents have once again gone over & above their elected roles. Not only are they the Treasurer & Secretary respectively, they also took on the massive role of organising the exhibition. This is a role that usually has 1 person dedicated to it in itself, without all the other tasks they've had to do. They have done a great job with all the hurdles they have dealt with. Thank you once again.

We hope everyone enjoyed the weekend.

Damien George





Above: 3 different variants of the Japanese hi-speed trains on Shinkansen Parade. (*Richard Chantler*)

Left: A reasonable crowd in attendance just before lunch on Saturday. (*Damien George*)

Mortdale Matters Changes

Effective from the next edition of *Mortdale Matters*, there will be 2 versions of each edition. There will be a general release version that will be distributed to everyone on the *Mortdale Matters* email list. This version will continue to have all the usual items & articles that are in *Mortdale Matters*. There will also be a members-only edition that will only be distributed to members of AMRA NSW. This edition will have everything that the general version has, however, it may contain articles or reports that are only of concern to members.

The members version will be clearly marked on the cover as well as the footnote of each page that it is the members version. Some of the extra items may include notices of meetings, duty officer rosters etc.

This decision was made by the MC to try & improve the communication between the membership & themselves.

If anyone has any further suggestions for improvements or changes to *Mortdale Matters* please send them to matters@amransw.asn.au

2018 Sydney Model Railway Exhibition

LAYOUT JUDGING

Best Layout

FINGAL

Australian Style – Club

TULONG

Australian Style – Private

FINGAL

Overseas Style – Club

No entrants

Overseas Style – Private

LOS ALAMOS

Highly Commended

YENDYS

Best Trade Exhibit

AUSCISION MODELS

Exhibitors Choice

FINGAL

Best Australian Scenery

FINGAL

Public Vote

FINGAL

Congratulations to all of this year's award winners



New Constitution

To bring everyone up to speed, here is an update on the why's, when's & how's to this process.

In September 2016 the NSW Dept of Fair Trading changed the parent legislation for all Incorporated Associations in NSW. As part of this, the mandatory items that all constitutions must address was also changed. The MC undertook a review of the constitution and found there were many deficiencies in it. As an attempt was made to amend the constitution, it was soon found it would be far easier & quicker to do a complete re-write incorporating the current constitution & the model constitution. This was presented to the members in September 2017. The resolution to adopt the new constitution was withdrawn & a sub-committee was formed to go through the document.

The redrafted constitution & club rules were presented to eligible members at the SGM held on 25th August 2018. At that meeting the 3 resolutions put to the members to adopt & lodge the new constitution & to adopt the new club rules were all passed 53-4. The MC then commenced the process to lodge the new constitution with Fair Trading to have it registered.

The NSW Dept of Fair Trading has since sent a letter to the MC requesting further information to seek clarification on a few matters prior to registering the new constitution.

The MC is working with our lawyers to ensure we cover all matters requested & our response to Fair Trading has been written & will be sent in the next few days. This will hopefully be the end of the matter & we can all get back to enjoying the hobby we all enjoy.

Management Committee Changes

It should be no surprise to anyone that at this year's AGM the club will be looking for a new secretary. Glenn made it known at last year's AGM that this current year would most certainly be his last in the role. Glenn has been on or adjunct to the committee for the best part of 27 years in either elected or ex-officio roles. He has decided it is time to enjoy some of his other pursuits. Glenn isn't leaving the club altogether, but he is retiring for the last time. Please join me in extending a big thank you to Glenn for all his efforts over the past years.

As with every AGM, all positions will be declared vacant & nominations will be called for each of the positions. If you are a financial member of AMRA NSW and would like to take a more active role in the club please give consideration to maybe taking on a MC position. The MC will also be looking for numerous appointed positions, including layout coordinators, librarian, building manager. A list of the major appointed positions is towards the front of Mortdale Matters.



Significant items completed are;

- Locking of fixed layout decoders
- Reallocation of cab numbers
- Installation of the equipment to enable use of the NCE radio throttle
- Changing of the DC pickup relays
- Rail bonding in power section 9 (in tunnel under Faynenton)
- Installation of Kurranulla Branch Signals
- Rationalising of the programming for the seven-segment display for platform's 4 & 5 at Read
- Programming of turn-back routing from Down South Main at Read platform 4, back to the Up South Main (only self-propelled trains at this stage)

Significant Progress has been made on;

- The programming desk has been installed adjacent to the control room and is now operational, minus "N" scale coupler height gauges
- The backboard between Yerriyong Down Yard and Kurranulla has been constructed and temporarily installed
- A 5 metre backscene has been supplied by Stuart Walker (Model Train Buildings). Stuart has also recently supplied additional back scenes
- The relocation and installation of additional lights has commenced, and additional holders and LED tubes have been purchased and soon to be installed
- Installation of layout valances
- Installation of false ceiling under Yerriyong Up Yard (above stairs) which requires painting to complete the project
- Partial installation of scenery at Wincliff
- Review and rationalising of PLC programming to provide additional memory for operations

Geoff Lanham and Philip Lee

Above: S14/17 out on their 1st run pause @ Read . (Timothy Pout)



Scale Fixed Layout

The operational conflict between HO Layout WiFi and O Gauge DCS was resolved by trialling an MTH WiFi Unit added to the Track Interface Unit and controlling with an iPad. Work on the Control Panels is progressing and has been delayed by the trials mentioned above. Both layouts are operational.

Ihor Hinczak

Building Report

Mic Wade will return in November for the Stoney Creek lighting and air-conditioner dropout relay jobs. Further light fittings were found to complete the job.

David Bennett

A programme of IT hardware upgrades is being developed, being somewhat overdue. The idea of a general use simulation system is again being considered; member feedback is welcome.

Glenn Percival



Scale Layout

There remains a gremlin in the layout yet to be found.

David Bennett



ortdale Market

There are still plenty of items available for sale in the cabinet. If you are interested in any of these items please speak to Ken or Bruce.





Above: A bit of a SSR invasion @ Yerriyong. (*Aaron Hobson*)

Below: 4620 along with 4604 & 4623 stabled at the end of Deawy Yard. (*Timothy Pout*)



Back Cover: When old meets new. A LED version of a banner repeater signal @ Clapham Junction station
(*Damien George*)

AMRA NSW Branch Inc. Programme - October to December 2018

OCTOBER

| | | | | |
|-----|------|--|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Mon | 1st | ** SYDNEY MODEL RAILWAY EXHIBITION ** Pack up and return to clubroom after | <i>Pre-registered Lunch</i> | 9am to 4pm 4pm until finish |
| Fri | 5th | Layout Operation / <i>Programmed Running</i> (see Notes) | | 7:30pm until 11pm |
| Sat | 6th | Layout Operation (see Notes) | | 10am until late |
| Fri | 12th | Layout Operation / <i>Programmed Running</i> (see Notes) | | 7:30pm until 11pm |
| Sat | 13th | General Activities / <i>Layout Construction</i> (see Notes) | | 10am until 4pm |
| Sun | 14th | General Activities (see Notes) | | 10am until 4pm |
| Fri | 19th | Layout Operation – Electric Traction / <i>Programmed Running</i> (see Notes) | | 7:30pm until 11pm |
| Sat | 20th | Layout Operation (see Notes) - Monthly Forum (3:30 pm) | | 10am until late |
| Sun | 21st | Layout Construction / Work Day | <i>No Facility Fee</i> | 10am until finished |
| Fri | 26th | Train Maintenance and Testing Night | | 7:30pm until 11pm |
| Sat | 27th | General Activities / <i>Layout Construction</i> (see Notes) | | 10am until 4pm |
| Sun | 28th | General Activities (see Notes) | | 10am until 4pm |

NOVEMBER

| | | | | |
|-----|------|--|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Fri | 2nd | Layout Operation / <i>Programmed Running</i> (see Notes) | | 7:30pm until 11pm |
| Sat | 3rd | Layout Operation (see Notes) | | 10am until 4pm |
| Fri | 9th | Layout Operation / <i>Programmed Running</i> (see Notes) | | 7:30pm until 11pm |
| Sat | 10th | General Activities / <i>Layout Construction</i> (see Notes) | | |
| | | ** AGM - AMRA NSW - 2 pm ** (AMRA NSW, Members Only) | | |
| | | | <i>No Facility Fee</i> | 10am until late |
| Sun | 11th | General Activities (see Notes) | | 10am until 4pm |
| Fri | 16th | Layout Operation – European / <i>Programmed Running</i> (see Notes) | | 7:30pm until 11pm |
| Sat | 17th | Layout Operation (see Notes) - Monthly Forum (3:30 pm) | | 10am until late |
| Sun | 18th | Layout Construction / Work Day | <i>No Facility Fee</i> | 10am until finished |
| Fri | 23rd | Train Maintenance and Testing Night | | 7:30pm until 11pm |
| Sat | 24th | Layout Operation - Twilight Running (see Notes) | | 10am until very late |
| Sun | 25th | General Activities (see Notes) | | 10am until 4pm |
| Fri | 30th | Layout Operation / <i>Programmed Running</i> (see Notes) | | 7:30pm until 11pm |

DECEMBER

| | | | | |
|-----|------|--|------------------------|---------------------|
| Sat | 1st | General Activities / <i>Layout Construction</i> (see Notes) | | 10am until 4pm |
| Fri | 7th | Layout Operation / <i>Programmed Running</i> (see Notes) | | 7:30pm until 11pm |
| Sat | 8th | Layout Operation (see Notes) | | 10am until 4pm |
| Sun | 9th | General Activities (see Notes) | | 10am until 4pm |
| Fri | 14th | Layout Operation – Australian Steam / <i>Programmed Running</i> (see Notes) | | 7:30pm until 11pm |
| Sat | 15th | General Activities / <i>Layout Construction</i> (see Notes) - Monthly Forum (3:30 pm) | | 10am until late |
| Sun | 16th | Layout Construction / Work Day | <i>No Facility Fee</i> | 10am until finished |
| Fri | 21st | Layout Operation / <i>Programmed Running</i> (see Notes) | | 7:30pm until 11pm |
| Sat | 22nd | Layout Operation (see Notes) | | 10am until late |
| Sun | 23rd | General Activities (see Notes) | | 10am until 4pm |
| Fri | 28th | Train Maintenance and Testing Night | | 7:30pm until 11pm |
| Sat | 29th | Layout Operation (see Notes) | | 10am until late |

NOTES

- **DAYLIGHTERS:** every Wednesday - 10am until 5pm, the facilities may be used *as permitted* e.g. layout construction, limited running, modelling, etc.
- GENERAL ACTIVITIES: the facilities may be used *as permitted* e.g. layout construction, building maintenance, limited running, modelling, etc.
- WORK NIGHTS: every Monday night, please check with the appropriate layout supervisor, 7:30pm until 11pm, No Facility Fee
- Layout Operation: O and N Gauges operational, HO (fixed) *as permitted during construction*
- Programmed Running: Destination, Sequenced or Timetabled operation as organized for each layout
- Facility Fee unless otherwise indicated: Adults \$8 - Juniors/Seniors (70+) \$5 - Visiting Interstate Member Free.
- Guests are always 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



