



July/August 2009

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Editorial

Now that the exhibition is over, we have been happy with the result. More people through the door would have been great for our bottom line. Publicity is probably something we cannot complain about. The Courier and Win TV were excellent with their exposure although taking different angles of view, the object was advertising for the exhibition. From all accounts the members of the public liked the quality and enjoyed the variety of exhibits on display.

The AGM will be in September. If you are interested in being a member of the executive, make sure you fill in a nomination form that is available at the clubrooms before the meeting.

Photo's are from our exhibition.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

will be on Wednesday, 9th September 2009

at 8.00pm.

All welcome.



The Phoenix is published by the Ballarat and District Model Railway Club Incorporated, to inform members of club activities. Contributions and advertising are welcome and should be sent to the editor. Closing date for submissions is the last Wednesday of the month prior to issue.

BALLARAT AND DISTRICT MODEL RAILWAY CLUB INCORPORATED

Membership is open to all who are interested in model railways. Why not join us?	Oct	Dec	Feb	April	June	Aug
Fees if joining during the month of :	Nov	Jan	March	May	July	Sept
Concessional: Persons older than 12 years but under 16 years at 15th October, pensioners and full time students.	\$60	\$60	\$40	\$40	\$20	\$20
Senior: Individual membership includes family members.	\$90	\$90	\$60	\$60	\$30	\$30

Membership renewals are due on 15th October each year

TIMETABLE

CREW ROSTER	Wed	Aug 5	7.30 pm	Work/Run
President. Tom Chambers 5339 5260	Wed	Aug 12	7.30 pm	Executive Meeting
	Wed	Aug 19	7.30 pm	Work/Run
Vice President Alan Carter	Sat/Sun	Aug 22/23		Caulfield Exhibition
	Wed	Aug 26	7.30 pm	Work/Run
Secretary John McClure	Wed	Sept 2	7.30 pm	Work/Run
	Wed	Sept 9	8.00 pm	A.G.M. plus Ordinary Meeting
Treasurer Ian Barrett 5332 4168	Wed	Sept 16	7.30 pm	Work/Run
Phoenix Editor Paul Richie 5332 1138				

Exhibitions

Correspondence should be addressed to:

Ballarat and District Model Railway Club Inc
P.O.Box 267
Ballarat 3353

Braybrook, August 8 and 9, Braybrook College Sports Stadium, Burke Street.
9.30-5.30 Sat., 9.30-4.00 Sun.

Caulfield, August 22 and 23, Concourse Level, Caulfield Racecourse, Normanby Road. 9.00-5.00 Sat., 9.00-4.00 Sun.

Croydon, Sept. 12 and 13, Lilydale High School, Melba Avenue (new venue).
10.00-5.00 Sat., 10.00-4.00 Sun.

Shepparton, Sept. 19 and 20, St Augustine's Parish Hall, Orr Street.
9.00-5.30 Sat., 10.00-4.00 Sun.

News & Notes

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING. The A.G.M. will be held on 9th September starting at 8.00pm. All nomination forms are to be in the hands of the Secretary at this time. Could all those who need to submit reports give them to the editor before the end of August as there will be a Phoenix with all reports and notes for the A.G.M.

Thank you. Paul Richie

HO LAYOUT. Building backdrops are being added to the main station area. Track work is being checked to fix several problems that have occurred since the track work has been modified.

PHOENIX ELECTRIC. Repairs to several items that have fallen off during transport, paint touch ups to bring the layout up to par, as well as some small additions scenery wise, to ready the layout for Caulfield this month. This layout is now run at exhibitions without backdrops as it is easier to see where things are when operating.

N SCALE MUTTERINGS - JULY 2009

IN GENERAL

All major work in the N gauge room is still at a standstill, as current information about the floor is that we have submitted a grant proposal in the latest round of grants. This includes all the quotations we have received.

We have been advised that we should apply for a grant of \$5,000 and the Council will put in at least \$5,000 and we may have to put in some. The decision for when the grants are given, is the middle of August.

John Hartigan, the Airport Manager, is pushing for us to have the floor completed before the roof is replaced, which is the next building to be done.

We have been running the bottom main line, now using DCC with the DCC unit that was purchased for the club. Ian has fixed a couple of the points that were playing up and this has led to more consistent running.

John McClure
(N Scale President)

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Ballarat & District Model Railway Club Inc.

General meeting - Wednesday, 7th May 2009

Meeting opened at 20:05 pm

Apologies: Andrew Pipkorn, John Douglas

Present: Tom Chambers, Paul Richie, Alan Carter, Garry Kennedy, Keith Parkinson, John McClure, Sue Oates, Toney Oates, Rodney Featherston, Les McLachlan, Mark Mills, David Healey, Peter Ervin, Ian Barrett, Tony Mason.

Moved to accept apologies

Moved Paul Richie, Seconded Alan Carter Carried

Minutes of Last General Meeting - Taken as read.

Moved to accept minutes of last meeting.

Moved Peter Ervin, Seconded Sue Oakes Carried

Business Arising

Snake Valley Open Day. The committee will be in contact closer to the event.

Met with representative from the Air League and discussed the break-in over Christmas. Everything organized.

A motion to accept the business arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

Moved:- Alan Carter, Seconded Paul Richie Carried

Correspondence

AMRA Exhibition acceptance paperwork arrived. To be filled in and sent.

Electrical certificates for work done have been returned to the club.

Grant for the repair of the floor is being finalized and submitted this week.

SARMA magazine arrived.

Treasurer's Report

A motion to accept the treasurer's report

Moved Ian Barrett, Seconded Toney Oakes Carried

Reports

Library:- A large quantity of magazines were sold at the exhibition. We have received a large amount of English magazines.

Report on the lack of power to the north eastern side of the building. Work to start next week on replacing the wiring and any switches or light fittings that do not come up to standard.

The flood light at the front door is to be checked out and replaced if faulty.

A motion to accept the reports

Moved Peter Ervin, Seconded Rodney Featherston Carried

General Business

Hall for next exhibition is booked. Still looking for an alternate.

Planning for the next exhibition -

The name of the current exhibition, (The Ballarat Model Railway Spectacular) to Ballarat Model Railway Show.

A motion was put forward to change the name to that mentioned above.

Moved Ian Mitaxa, seconded Sue Oakes Carried

After moving that the exhibition name be changed there was discussion on what we should do with our banners. A motion was put forward to make 3 new banners and have the others updated with the new name.

Moved Alan Carter, seconded Ian Mitaxa

Sponsorship:- Andrew Pipkorn is going to help us set up how best to gain sponsors and how and what to do for sponsors. Our venue is alcohol free and we will need to work around this. Sponsors should receive free tickets and passes.

Setting a budget was discussed and it was decided that the budget would be set on what was spent on the 2009 exhibition. The executive to follow this up at next executive meeting.

Missed items - Banners and tables.

A discussion was held about an exhibition co-coordinator or committee. This is to be discussed at the next executive meeting in August.

Motion moved by Peter Ervin seconded Mark Mills.

General Business (continued)

Bus trip to shops. Shops to be visited Branchline, Rail 'N' Thusiast and Train World. Trip to be conducted October 17th
Bus trip to Steam Rail and the Museum on 14th November.

An enquiry was made as to what we ran on the TV at the exhibition. General railway DVD's where ran. Sue and Toney have a sub-
scription to a company in the United States that has DVD's on constructing layouts and these have been offered to the club to
run during our exhibition. This will be followed up as we get closer to the next exhibition.

For clubs that are interested in
grants. Approach Catherine King or
John Phillips.

Meeting closed at-20:35pm



How to make Grass, Capeweed and Wildflowers for Model Railways by Lindsay G. Collins

You will need:

Fine, dry sawdust. Red, blue and yellow water based paints. Fine mesh food sieve. Sheets of newspaper. Suitable sized stirring sticks and containers. Light or dark brown paint can be used to make earth colours.

Step One:

Sieve the sawdust into a large container.

Step Two:

To make green, mix small amounts of blue and yellow paints together. Depending how much of each colour you use, this will make different shades of green, for grass. When you are satisfied with the colour, carefully add some water to the mixed paints.

Step Three:

Gradually add the sieved sawdust to the mixed paint, stirring all the time. Keep adding the sawdust carefully until all the paint is absorbed. Spread the coloured sawdust on sheets of newspaper to dry.

Step Four:

When the sawdust is dry (usually the next day), you may find it is lumpy in parts. Crumble any lumps in your hands, and sieve all the sawdust into a suitable container until you want to use it.

To make capeweed (dandelion) flowers:

Use yellow paint

For red flowers use red paint. For orange flowers, mix red and yellow paints.

For purple flowers mix red and blue paints.

By using different mixes of the above colours you can make various shades of the desired colour. Keep the different colours in separate containers.

To use the 'Grass', 'Flowers' and 'Earth':

Paint a small area evenly with 'Aquadhere' or similar glue, then spread the coloured sawdust by shaking it over the glued area through the sieve. The next day, collect the 'grass' that hasn't become glued in place with a small vacuum cleaner, e.g. a 'Dustbuster' or similar type, then empty the cleaner into the container for future use.

Carefully paint the glue where you want paths or bare ground, and sieve the earth colour over it. Vacuum up excess when dry, then paint glue over the parts where you want grass. Sprinkle very small amounts of capeweed and other wildflowers here and there, then sieve green grass over the lot. Vacuum up the excess for re-use when dry.

A Source of Ballast

On a very dry and very windy day, pay a visit to your local ready mixed concrete plant armed with a fine mesh food sieve and a few suitable sized containers. Ask the man nicely if you can obtain some fine crushed rock or stone dust. (For the amount you require he won't mind).

Standing up, start sieving the stone dust onto a sheet of newspaper or cardboard, allowing the wind to blow the very fine dust and powder away. You may have to sieve the stuff a couple of times to obtain really clean ballast. The larger particles retained in the sieve can be tipped into a butter or margarine container to use as rocks on the layout.

All enough ballast for the average layout will cost you is a bit of time, and maybe a can or stubbie or two for the concrete yard bloke.

To make a Bronze Statue or Memorial

Bronze statues or memorials are a common sight in many places, and having found a suitable 'statue', artillery gun or old cannon to mount on your layout outside the Town Hall, the RSL hall, the local gardens or other suitable situation, paint it all over black. When the paint is dry, dip a finger tip lightly into copper paint and go all over the article, not being too careful.

The 'hit and miss' effect of the copper paint over black gives a pretty good impression of bronze.

On my 'Upson Downs' layout is a bronze statue of *General Disorder* mounted on a 'concrete' base (19 mm high, flat topped plywood pyramid painted concrete grey) and surrounded by a chain barrier. The four 'steel' corner posts are $\frac{3}{4}$ " (19mm) brads driven in at an angle and cut off with side cutters at a suitable height. The fine chain which sits nicely on the bevelled tops of the posts is secured with 'Supa Glue', only cost me one dollar at a jewellery stall at a market.

I fitted the chain in place and glued it, then the next day snipped off the excess length from one end. Looks good. Another thing I do is to glue all farm or paddock animals and fallen timber in place on the bare baseboard, then add the grass, etc. Cattle and other animals stand in *the grass*, not *on* it.

I recently started work on the livestock saleyards and now I am giving the project much thought. Do I complete the yards, or make post holes along the line of the fences with some workmen building the yards??? There is scope for a ready mix concrete truck or two, men standing up fence posts, carpenters building gates under a roofed shelter, and builders working on the offices. Trucks delivering timber, or bricks (for the offices) and so on. Even a painter or two painting yard numbers on the back fence of each yard, and the same number on the gate.

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'UPSON DOWNS'

MODEL RAILWAY OPEN DAY

Sunday, 27th September 2009

From 10.00am till 5.00pm

At UPSON DOWNS', 88 Majorca Road, Maryborough.