



Right On Track

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Inside this issue

Diary Notes	2
Stawell Exhibition	3 / 4
Other News	5 / 6

Send items for inclusion in this newsletter to the Editor via e-mail at miktrain@hotmail.com or phone on 8381 3821

This newsletter is now available as a download from our website (address above) saving the club postage and printing, most pictures are in colour. Notification is sent by email when it is available for download

Stop Press:

June Long weekend, Paradigm wins public vote for best layout.



Dear Secretary,

On behalf of the Exhibition Committee, I would like to thank you for your participation in this years' exhibition. By every account, the weekend was most enjoyable for attendees and participants alike and your attendance with Paradigm greatly contributed to that. Certainly, we have received much positive feedback from the weekend and I think the presence of layouts such as your own went a long way to bringing that about.

I would also like to congratulate the Noarlunga Model Railroaders on presenting the most popular layout at the exhibition, as voted by the public! I will shortly be arranging for a presentation plaque, which I will either send over or bring with me when we attend your exhibition in October.

Again, on behalf of the committee, please let me express my thanks and gratitude for all the hard work you put in and the trouble you went to in order to attend. And if you should find yourself over our way, please do not hesitate to drop in the club rooms to say Hi!

Yours,

David Healey
Club Secretary and Exhibition Committee Chair
Ballarat & District Model Railway Club

Management Committee

President	Ron Weeden
Vice President	Frank Crossley
Secretary	Graham Bartlett
Treasurer	Judith Morley
Membership Manager	John Cutler
Events Coordinator & Security Officer	Tony Mikolaj
Almoner & First Aid Committee	Norm Andrew David Morley

**Next Committee meeting
7:30pm Monday 4th September 2006**

Late Night Run

**Saturday 2nd September
After normal club hours
Clubrooms**

It has been some time since we had one of these nights. This will be the same set up as before, following on from our normal meeting. BYO or take away for tea. This fun night will end when the last key holder finally goes home.

Our Exhibition

**7th – 8th October
9:30 -5:00 Saturday
9:30 -4:00 Sunday
Mitsubishi Entertainment Centre
1284 South Road, Tonsley Park**

We have a full venue with more than 25 excellent displays; six of these are from interstate, plus a good selection of traders so this will be another great exhibition.

Team Leader update meeting 26th August and for ALL helpers 23rd September at the clubrooms after afternoon tea, most items are under control but there are a few little jobs that may require some attention.

See the notice board at the clubrooms for a helpers list and more information. Part proceeds help support the St John Volunteers.

Family Fun Expo

**Sunday 22nd October
11:00 am – 3:00 pm
NMRI Clubrooms**

This will be run in conjunction with Reynella Neighbourhood Centre. Our part in this event will be to have an open day to show the public what we have to offer and maybe impress some potential new members.

This is confirmed as an official event and an attendance list is on the notice board.

Card Table Swap

**Friday 3rd November
7:30 pm – 9:00 pm
NMRI Clubrooms**

Book and pay for your table early as numbers will be limited by available space. \$10 per table or take advantage of the early bird discount, \$5 if paid in advance.

AGM

**Saturday 4th November
2:30 pm Saturday
NMRI Clubrooms**

These positions will be declared vacant

Vice President
Secretary
Three Committee members

This is your chance to have a say in the running of your club. Nomination forms are available at the clubrooms; please return them to the Secretary before the start of the AGM. If you have anything that you would like discussed please put it in writing and give it to any Committee member as soon as possible.

Reynella Fair

**Sunday 12th November
All day**

A busy and full day of sausage sizzling, there is a helpers list on the notice board.

Xmas

?? December

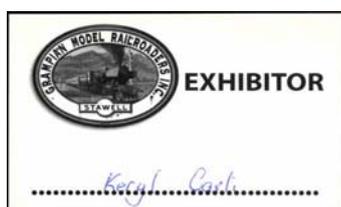
A suggestion is that we go out for a meal like last year.

Stawell

On the Thursday, one day before we were due to travel Frank rang me to say that he and Vivien were not going as Vivien was very sick and could not travel. With some quick reshuffling we arranged for Norm to travel in my car and his baggage to go with John and Keryl.

This is the third time we have been to Stawell and the road is becoming rather familiar. As Paradigm was already in Stawell, it was quite a leisurely cruise to keep the petrol costs at bay. On arrival we collected the trailers and set up our display in the venue. Our position was the same as last year because this fits best in the venue. Towards the end of the set up process pizzas and chips arrived courtesy of our hosts, the Grampian Model Railroaders.

Most of us stayed in the GMR clubrooms; there was a heater and a shower so things were quite comfortable. On Saturday morning there were complaints from those that had chosen to stay in a motel as 15 trains "came through the front door" Sounds like good value to me, a room with a view.



All participants start with a clean slate and an exhibitor pass that looks like the one on the left.

As time goes by, some make little mistakes!



There was a good mix of displays, many were new to us and some that will be at our exhibition in October. For winter in Stawell the weather was quite mild and we were able to stay thawed most of the time.

One controller in the fiddle yard seemed to be putting out less power than normal, this required some attention on Saturday night, the problem was traced to a faulty potentiometer, and once this was changed we were back to normal running with the public none the wiser.



And the mistakes just keep coming!

*Right: Jacks' Creek
by Adrian Hoad*

Throughout the weekend we gave the controls over to the kids and they enjoyed the experience. One kid spent 1½ hours twiddling the knobs of the shunting controls. At the time they were not doing anything as we had the area switched to DCC, but he must have had fun anyway.



We all joined in and enjoyed the swindle on Saturday night, the meal was a delicious roast and plenty of it, but without Vivien there was a major shortage of winning tickets on our table. Many new contacts were made over the weekend and I now have several interested parties for our 2008 exhibition.

*Left: Leopold, by Sunbury MRC
a medium size layout set
somewhere in Victoria*

Below: Valley Ridge by Latrobe Valley MRC, a G scale layout set in the American mountains.

At times it just seemed like there was no end to the mistakes!



On Sunday all participants were given a DVD with some photos of each display, this is a good little memento and an idea that we will look at developing for our exhibition. After packing up on Sunday we all went to the pub for a meal and a bit of relaxation. We were careful to point out the step on the way in to Norm so that there was not a repeat of last year. Whilst reading the menu some sharp eyed person spotted the little bit at the bottom to help keep the kids happy “Please feel free to use the colouring books, while you wait”. John, having some fun, asked the waitress for a couple and after blushing she brought them. It did keep the kids quiet though.



When our meal was finished we decided to move to the adjacent bar so that some of us could try their luck at the pokies. No sooner than we had settled in the barmaid questioned about David’s age, that section, apparently counts the same as the gambling area. We moved back to the dining area where soon after the manager, who was having a night off, came over and joined in our session by joking around and then shouting a round of drinks.

Left: The kids are happy!

Later we moved to the front bar and had some more drinks with the manager. When closing time arrived we returned to the clubrooms but not before giving David some stick for getting us thrown out of the pub for the second time in one night.

Monday morning we packed our beds, picked up the trailers from the venue and set off for home. When we took a break for lunch at Bordertown it was nice to see that the powers that be had organised some perfect timing for the Overland to stop and pick up passengers coinciding with our break. To all those who complain about the timings on this service, we thought it was just perfect.

We arrived at the clubrooms in the late afternoon, dropped off the trailers and retired home knowing that we had helped to make the weekend a success.



Above: Cannibal Creek

Below: Paradigm on display at Stawell with some 'helpers' at the controls.



July Swapmeet

We had another very successful swapmeet on 30th July at the Reynella Neighbourhood Centre. There were 20 trading tables with a good range of items for sale. Judging by the many items going out the door the public found what they wanted at the right price. Our club table also did a good trade both for the club and on some commission items. The sausage sizzle made about the same as last time whereas the canteen takings were up by quite a bit, this was probably due to the door takings being about double that of last year. As per other years we gave all sellers a drink and some scones for morning tea.

Thanks to all that helped in any way to make this day a success, your club is most appreciative of your input. Next Card Table Swap Friday 3rd November at the clubrooms, next Sunday swapmeet will be 29th July 2007 at Reynella Neighbourhood Centre.

On the Notice Board

Attendance lists:

Family Fun Expo at the clubrooms
October 22nd Sunday
11:00 am – 3:00 pm

Exhibition – Ours at Mitsubishi
October 7th – 8th
9:30 am – 5:00 pm

Reynella Fair
November 12th All day

If you are interested in attending / helping, fill in the relevant details to help with the organising.

Get Well Soon

Robert McDonald is recovering in the Hampstead Rehabilitation Hospital after having surgery for an aneurysm and later suffering a stroke.

We sent a get-well card signed by members and we await his return to hear his cheerful banter around the clubrooms again. If you feel like dropping in to say “Hi”, I am sure he would be happy for the company.

Late Night Run

As we have not had one of these for a while, September 2nd has been selected by the Committee. Bring or buy your tea and join in the fun.

Work Space

There is now a worktable in the lounge area of the clubrooms for kit building and minor repairs etc. this is to help to keep the main table clean for meetings and afternoon tea.

New prices

Due to the increased cost of all chocolate bars, they are now \$1.20 each

Special Diet Coke cans are now 70c each, only while stocks last.

Note, all other drinks are still \$1

AGM

Our AGM will be on Saturday 4th November 2:30 pm at the clubrooms.

Positions declared vacant are:

Vice President

Secretary

Three Committee Members

Nomination forms are available at the club.

Please return the completed forms to the Secretary before the start of the meeting.

Social Day

Would you like to have a social day out? Possibly have a BBQ and a game of tennis or just sit and talk. The idea is to have a day without anything to do with trains so that the better half can join in and enjoy it. Let Peter Lynch know your thoughts so that we can get something organized.

Wanted

Someone out there to write articles, comments, ideas, reviews etc. for inclusion in this newsletter. I am sure that I am not the only one that can do this and it would be nice to have a different point of view for a change. While it would be easier if things were submitted electronically, I do not mind typing out a hand written article.

Clare

I am in the process to see if this is on again this year, more info as it comes to hand. Keep an eye on the notice board.

Strathalbyn Exhibition

Andrew is investigating the possibility of running another small exhibition in Strathalbyn sometime around October 2007.

For Sale

Brian Neild has a layout and some railway items for sale. There is a list on the notice board. See Tony for more details.