

Noarlunga Model Railroaders Inc.
Newsletter

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Right On Track

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Send items for inclusion to the editor via email at editor@noarail.com

This newsletter is available as a download from our website noarail.com

Downloading the newsletter saves club funds, but the big advantage to you the reader is that most pictures are in colour

Notification is sent by email when it is available for downloading



A great old "Drop Centre " tram at St Kilda 100 years of trams celebration

Management Committee

President	John Cutler
Vice President	Frank Crossley
Secretary	Graham Bartlett
Treasurer	Judith Morley
Membership Manager	David Morley
Events Coordinator & Security Officer	Tony Mikolaj
First Aid	Peter Lynch
Almoner	Mick Kerry

Next Committee meeting 7:30pm Monday 6th July 2009

Welcome

We welcome new member Daniel Maddem
Current membership is a healthy 55

AMRE Exhibition

6th – 8th June 2009

Greyhound Park

Reminder for members to wear club shirts/windcheaters for all official events eg.

Greyhound Park. Shirts at \$25 are in stock, see a committee member

Reminder to take a coffee mug to Greyhound park or you will have to buy one for coffee/soup

Saturday Late Run

**Late night run 27th June – carry on from normal Saturday ‘till the last key holder leaves
– organise your own takeaway etc for sustenance.**

Committee Notices

Due to rising costs chocolate bars are now \$1.30

To help us keep a lid on expenses, purchases for the club ie. scenery, track, club supplies, etc with a total of over \$50 must be approved by the Treasurer before they are acquired. For smaller amounts members should at least get the nod first from a committee member.

Working Bee

**15th August – clean old BBQ, tie-downs for open day swapmeet marquees, + other items
TBA**

End Of The Line Hobbies

Your One Stop Hobby Shop

End Of The Line Hobbies is offering club members a 5% discount off all purchases. To be eligible you must be a current financial member and mention your club membership at the time of purchase. The club will receive the same amount as a voucher for use as we see fit. So you can help yourself and the club at the same time.

Delivery can be arranged anywhere in the world and orders may be placed in person at the shop, via e-mail, snail mail, phone or fax. There is a stock hold option and payments can be made by Visa Card, Master Card, EFTPOS and good old fashioned cash!

Wednesday – Sunday 10:00 am – 4:30 pm

End Of The Line Hobbies

74 Ocean Street Victor Harbor SA 5211(near the turntable)

Ph 8552 7900

Find us at www.endofthelinehobbies.com.au

Fax 8552 7933

Email shop@endofthelinehobbies.com.au

SWAPMEET

Friday 24th July 2009

7:30 pm – 9:00 pm

NMRI Clubrooms

Please notice that this is a Friday night event

Numbers will be limited by available space. \$10 per 900 mm x 750 mm table (supplied) or take advantage of the early bird discount, \$5 if paid in advance. Bookings

events@noarail.com

Strictly one person entry per table.

Victor Harbor Display

October Long Weekend

Refreshment hall on the platform

This looks like a good one, be there

Open Day and Swapmeet

Sunday 8th November 2009

10:00 am – 1:00 pm

NMRI Clubrooms

Please notice that this is a Sunday event

Numbers will be limited by available space. \$20 per 1800 mm x 750 mm table (supplied) or take advantage of the early bird discount, \$10 if paid in advance. Bookings

events@noarail.com

Public entry at 10:00 am \$2

Couplers – The State of Play as of November, 2007.

I've got to the stage where I could almost write a book about coupling H0 scale model trains. I'm not going to. But I will summarise my recommendations, which reflect some years of experimentation.

Beginners.

Well, make do with what you have. If you have a mixture, consider match wagons, which have different couplers on each end, to allow you to mix and match. Some folk remain quite happy with the NEM (hook and loop), NMRA (horn-hook) and Hornby (tension-lock) couplers that their wagons come with. They are generally trouble free and do not let go unexpectedly.

Intermediate modellers.

Yep, that's most of us, who like our trains to stay coupled until we think that it's time to shunt. That said, it's better if the trains look a bit more like the prototype than our first set did when it came out of the box. Time to learn about knuckle couplers. In the SAR these were known as auto-couplers though there is (and was) little about them that is automatic: they replaced hooks and chains. Compromise #1: few of us are prepared to couple H0 models with scale three-link chains, so knuckle couplers are often used where they are not really appropriate. But knuckle couplers are also often used where they are quite unnecessary, such as on a rake of model passenger cars that are not separately shunted (eg the IP and Ghan).

The standard against which all model knuckle couplers are measured is the Kadee #5, and very few measure up. The Kadee #5 was the first practical, mass produced H0 scale knuckle coupler, and I have yet to see an H0 scale knuckle coupler from another manufacturer that works as well. All of that said, the Kadee #5 is a tad overscale, but then, we've lived with that for years. Kadee also makes a very large range of couplers that have the same knuckle as the #5, but come on longer or shorter shanks, or sit higher or lower on the shanks. I used to use a lot of these, but as time has moved on have used fewer and fewer. Why? I build my wagons better now!

Advanced Modellers.

I like to think that I am an advanced modeller... I build most of my rolling stock, and some of my locomotives, and work to established standards, weighting my wagons and gauging my wheels and couplers to ensure reliable operation on track that meets the same standards: standards like geometry, gauge and clearance. I use much thinner than average wheels where I can, and was very pleased when Kadee first produced their #58 scale coupler. This coupler will work with the #5, but is about 2/3 the size. It was my standard coupler until recently! And I've still got quite a few to use up. But my standard coupler is now the Kadee #158, the whisker scale coupler. Fewer parts and a better coupler box – perhaps the first real advance in that department in sixty years! And there are #153 and 156 couplers with short and long shanks respectively.

Intermediate Modellers – a postscript.

It may be, then, that the Kadee #5, Old Faithful, has met its match after fifty years, and out of the same stable: the Kadee #148 whisker coupler may be better. But it may be ten years before we can be sure. In the mean time, try them out! Or advance a stage, and try #158s!

Allan Lee

100 years of Electric Trams

John and I went to ST.KILDA TRAMWAY`S MUSEUM for the 100th anniversary of tram no.1 which was built in 1908-09. On March 9th.1909 no.1 tram led the inaugural procession of cars to Kensington marking the official opening of Adelaide`s electric tramway system. 100 electric trams were built in 1908-09 to open Adelaide`s electric tram system. 70 of these trams were of the single truck "combination" style -a central saloon and open ends and were numbered 1-30 and 61-100 in the 1920`s these trams were classified type "A" on March 9 1909 no.1 led the first cars to Kensington from Adelaide and so 100 years later the museum celebrated with a special day.

1941-1950 it was permanently coupled to car no.2 to form A BIB AND BUB SET it was withdrawn with the remainder of the "A" type cars in 1952...no.1 was retained as a shunter at Hackney Depot and was delivered to the ST.KILDA MUSEUM site on 9th.August 1958 and the body was restored between 1965 and 1967.



It was re-enacted to the best at the museum at the exact time of 2pm. on this day 100 years later the relatives of the people, if they were able to come, opened and rode on the tram to the fun park near the end of the line to represent 100 years ago, but not in costume at all. The other trams at the museum were 0758 restaurant car which is type "H" and 0712. 0739-0749-0748-0743-0740-0738 are of the no.1 tram other trams were trolley buses -horsetrams which commenced in June 1878 with a line from the city to Kensington these services ran over a system of more than 50 miles (80km.).The museum has 2 horse cars on display 0715 and 0714and 0713 Adelaide & suburbs 18 of 1878 & Adelaide & Unley & Mitcham tramway car no.15. We have many photos from 0758-0696 choose what you want. Over all it was a beautiful day ridding trams of all different types as you can see from our photos. Hot off the press the minister for transport told us that we will see a lot of interesting changes in coming years.

Tracey

Three Turntables

Turntable 1 was a 60ft well type manually operated turntable just South of Marino railway station upon which the exquisite Rx class steam locomotives were turned, and the equally exquisite F class steam locomotives could be turned but had no need to.

Turntable 2 was a Hornby model of a flat bed type on my 2nd layout, which did the job but like 'Goldilocks and the Bears', was not just right.

Turntable 3 was a kit of a well type turntable purchased at least 15 years ago because it was within my budget, RTR well type turntables being then, as now, somewhat pricey.



Back then, not being a member of NMRI, I knew it all when it came to building a layout and assembling a turntable from a kit. I made good progress with this kit, diligently following the steps in the instructions, until I reached a stage at which I could go no further. At this point the project lay dormant for some 10 years. Realising that if I was ever to have a turntable on my advancing in construction 3rd layout, I would need assistance.

Fortunately, we have in this club some members who epitomise the spirit of what a club should be. They offer, without criticism or hesitation, their time, expertise, knowledge and mentoring skills, to those of us lesser modellers who have wandered off the path.

There are 2 basic rules which apply to a model turntable, viz:-

- 1] A model turntable, unlike other structures on a model railway layout, must, like the prototype, work, and
- 2] For it to work a model turntable, especially a well type, must be perfectly square in the construction of the bridge and it's associated components, and perfectly round in it's operation within the well. Therefore, a turntable MUST at the same time be both round and square.

Three Turntables

The above skilful members, then proceeded, much to my consternation and amazement, to strip my model back to almost it's beginning and then began to apply rule 2 to the various components, so that over a period of time, this model turntable proceeded to function as per rule 1.

Turntables 1 and 2 have now long gone, but 3 remains.



The attached photos say it all. It is now in situ; just waiting for the rails for it to begin to do it's purpose. It is so good that I have decided to make this area of my layout a separately controlled steam engine service location.

I express my heartfelt admiration and thanks to those members who got me out of this modelling quagmire. You can feel justifiably proud of your achievement. Once again, you epitomise the spirit of what a club should be.

John Carli



***Guess which station this is ?
Yep.....someone pinched the Keith
railway station.
It aint no more***

NMRI



CLASSIFIEDS

Wanted

Anyone interested in sharing a cabin and expenses at Victor Harbor, on the October long weekend, please put your name on the appropriate sheet on the notice board at the clubrooms.

For Sale

**FREE to a good home
Philips KR786 stereo 27" TV in good working order with remote, ideal for shack etc
See Tony M**

For Sale

**DGTEC DH-2000A HDTV set top box + remote \$70
See Tony M**

SAUSAGE SIZZLE

Want a good fun morning on a Saturday ?

One of the necessities of a club like ours, is fund raising, and one of the best for us is the Saturday morning Sausage Sizzle at Morphett Vale

**We need volunteers to help
Speak to any committee member and they will point you down the right track**