



## NMRA DIVISION 1 (QUEENSLAND)

([www.Zelmeroz.com/anmra-1](http://www.Zelmeroz.com/anmra-1))

### Next Meetings

**\* 18-19 June 2005 \***  
**NMRA Information Stand**  
**Toowoomba Annual Exhibition**

**\* 02 July 2005 \***  
**Toowoomba Double Header**

**Host #1 - Mark Ward, Toowoomba**

**Host #2 - DDMRC**  
**Old Maudsley House**  
**Bailey Henderson Complex**  
**Tor St, Toowoomba**

1. The Division 1 April meeting was hosted by Bob Brown, and had 20 members present, plus visitors Brian Pyers from Gold Coast, Bob Deakin from Caloundra. Jim Love from the Union Pacific M.R.Club also came along to give a Clinic on making silicone moulds and subsequent resin castings.



Coal Facility on Bob's Layout

2. Following attendance at the Toowoomba Model Train Show (18/19 June) with our NMRA Display, the next Div 1 meeting will also be in Toowoomba, with a double header. The morning meeting will be hosted by Mark Ward, and the afternoon will be hosted by the Darling Downs Model Railway Club. Lunch will be

catered for by DDMRC at a small cost, and their layouts will be available for an afternoon of running trains.

### Div 1 Layout SIG

3. The regular meeting was preceded by a meeting the Display Layout SIG. Glenn reported sadly that progress on the layout has been limited by many factors, mainly due to a lack of 24/7 access, and therefore the group will not be able to display the layout at the Annual Toowoomba Exhibition in June. Trains will now be running by August/September, with the first public outing now up in the air. Glenn also reported that Denis had taken over as SIG Coordinator, due to an overload of other commitments.

### Show & Tell

4. Phil Perry, the Div 1 N Scale guru, showed his new USRA 2-8-8-2 Mallet, complete with decoder, with space for sound left in the tender. Phil said he did have to add lead in every available nook and cranny to get the tractive effort up enough to pull 30-40 cars.



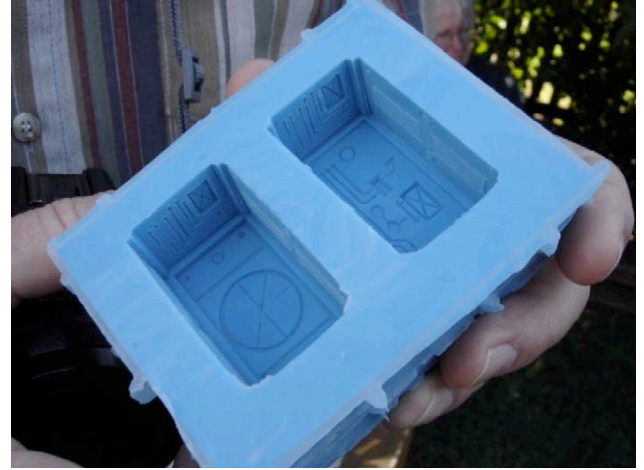
Two of Phil's Gems

5. Phil also mentioned a new line of slow motion switch machines from Scaleshops. He cannot recommend them more highly, and are extremely good value for money. They can be ordered on the internet ([www.scaleshops.com](http://www.scaleshops.com)), but they only take International Money Orders or Bank Drafts from Australia.

6. Our meeting host, Bob, showed off his upgrading and detailing skills on 3 original ATLAS SD24's, and as a comparison displayed 2 new ATLAS SD24's and an SD26. He noted that the older ones are very good performers due to having ROCO motors, but the newer ones have exceptionally improved detail, although his extended detailing of the older locos left nothing to be desired either.



Bob's SD's



Sample of Jim's Castings, in this case flatcar loads

### Modeller's Clinic

7. Jim Love gave a great exposition on how to use UltraSil to make silicone moulds. He uses Leggo or sheet styrene to make the enclosures for pouring his moulds. Two of his useful tips include stirring the mix very slowly to avoid turning air into it, and pouring the mix to one side of the pattern and letting the silicone flow over it to reduce air occlusions. He also recommends vibrating the whole lot gently, eg on a washing machine, to dislodge any air bubbles in the mixture.

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8. He recommended using the 1/2kg silicone & the 1/2kg resin starter kit at \$55 as the way to get going, as it includes auxiliary items such as sealing clay for the enclosures.

9. The clinic went on to include a discussion of the three grades of casting resin (different working times), and a demonstration of using EASYCAST (3 minute resin). The kits are available from Barnes Products P/L, or you can locate your nearest agent or order from the website at [www.barnesproducts.com.au](http://www.barnesproducts.com.au).

Have fun and see you in Toowoomba in July

Glenn  
Division 1 Superintendent