

Next Meetings

22nd January 2006: Post-Christmas Gathering
Information Centre and Cafe Picnic Area,
Fisherman's Island

Here, the plan is to have a social outing with a picnic lunch and hopefully see some trains. Bring chairs, portable tables and portable shade covers that you have or can borrow so we can be comfortable. From memory, there are no BBQ's, so cater for a cold picnic lunch or the café. The museum/gift shop/café will be open and tours of the Fisherman's Island wharf complex are available run from the visitors centre. Our resident ornithologist, Ian can probably be persuaded to give a brief overview of the birdlife there.

11th February 2006: Garth Fraser, Buderim

8th April 2006: Denis Lane, Springwood

Display Layout Progress

Last month on your behalf I recognised and thanked some of those who have contributed so much to our display layout. To continue this we must thank Ross Evans, who while not fully involved has donated many bits and pieces to the NMRA for use on this layout. Ross is very much an NMRA man and he has given us many items of rolling stock, scenery accessories, etc. including a Missouri Pacific GP-18, 3 caboose, about 20 freight cars and several other bits and pieces. While some of us have been working on the layout, Ross has been getting many of his photographs laminated so that they can be displayed when we eventually go public.

We should also acknowledge the help from Paul Skehan who supplied us with many points, most the points we need, at a very reduced cost. Paul has also worked on the layout when time permits.

The two bridges have been assembled but not in place yet. Of course the river has to be finished first and the river banks and stone abutments and pylons installed. While we have had some delays it is important that this layout justifies our commitment to NMRA. Things must be done correctly.

Address Details

Would you please notify Glenn and/or myself if you change your postage and/or e-mail address. It took more than a day to send out the last issue mainly because e-mail addresses had changed and we needed to ascertain your new addresses. Anyone receiving their Newsletter by postage but would rather receive it by e-mail, please inform

me as that is a lot easier for us to do and less expensive for the Association.

And while we are at it; have a look at the Division 1 (Qld) website (address at top of page) and send updates to Lynn Zelmer.

Visit to the Oma Belt in Toowoomba

Visits to Mark Ward's Oma Belt RR are always popular. Although unfinished there is enough of every aspect of model railroading for us all to be inspired. Mark's RR has the construction and finish that we all dream about, excellent design, captivating scenery, superb track and lineside features, great lighting, good control features, befitting rolling stock. The eulogies just go on and on. Mark and Heidi are always wonderful hosts and our visits are always a highlight of the year. The meeting was also the chance to present Garth Fraser with an Achievement Award for Structures and Grahame Davis his Achievement Award for Engineering – Electrical. Garth's award is his final needed to become a Master Model Railroader – Division 1's first MMR.



Glenn Stevens presenting Garth Fraser with his Structures Certificate. Garth has now qualified as our first MMR – Congratulations Garth. Photo by John Saxon



Grahame Davis receives his Engineer-Electrical certificate from our Division Superintendent. Photo by John Saxon.

Grahame isn't very far behind Garth to complete his full qualifications. Congratulations to them both. The official presentation of Garth's MMR will be at a later date.

At this gathering the formal part, ably conducted by Glenn, gave us a chance to consider whether or nor we have monthly meetings. It was decided that we would continue with the two monthly meetings as this would be easier on the non-Brisbane and otherwise busy members. Another item discussed was the NMRA shirt, perhaps not just as a uniform for the display layout but for Div 1. as a whole. A long discussion about the merits of different styles ensued. It was decided that we get quotes for a light-weight, blue, short-sleeved sports shirt with two pockets and the AR logo and the words National Model Railroad Association embroidered on it. Mark Ward and Geoff Aldridge are scouting out suppliers and quotes.

In the Show and Tell section Glenn Stevens showed a selection of B&O cabooses. Bill Perry had a number of N scale locos both diesel and steam. Mark Ward showed us his enormous and intricate Columbia River Bridge in brass. Graeme Prideaux showed us an Australian profile shop made by Strucrama. A special thanks to Mark and Heidi for having us as visitors at such short notice.

Achievement Programmes

Since becoming AP rep for Qld (Another guilty party), I have been contemplating the talent we already have in Div.1 and can see all those AP awards going begging, but for a little prompt or two.

The AP really is a motivational tool which results in better modelling, more enthusiasm for one's layout, etc. and it gives us all a greater sense of pride in the finished product. Becoming MMR's for Div 1 would be a challenge (ask our illustrious Garth Fraser) and importantly OUR division gets recognition!!

A lot of you may not be aware that you have at home layouts, part layouts and dioramas that are already of sufficient standard to pass the Golden Spike award and some would pass a few of the other awards also.

So, in the Newsletter, what I intend to do every couple of months, is briefly set out the simple points you require to pass each category of the program starting with the Golden Spike award. So watch out in the future Div.1 Newsletter! Until then contact me if the mood strikes.

Grahame Davis at e-mail:
Blackadder49@icqmail.com or phone 5463 1475.

Keep Smiling!

Grahame

Answers to Last Issue's Quick Quiz

- 1 Columbia.
- 2 To acknowledge that the B & O traverses both Yankee (blue) and Reb (grey) states (Civil War).
- 3 Columbus & Greenville.
- 4 They were originally 1800hp engines and 'E' is the initial letter for 18 (18 hundred hp).
- 5 Boxcar for general service items requiring protection from the weather, with or without lading tie-anchors and equipped with side or side and end doors.
- 6 That there is another section of that train following.
- 7 Denver Rio Grande & Western.
- 8 4-8-0.
- 9 To the operating rod end of the brake cylinder.
- 10 Two.

Try Yourself Out on a Few More

- 1 The reporting marks "WAG" stand for which line?
- 2 If you had to ship freight from Duluth, Minnesota southwest to Sioux Falls, South Dakota by the shortest route in 1948, which railroad would you contract?
- 3 What sort of passenger coach is designated as 'PD'?
- 4 How does a conductor, using a lamp, signal to an engineer to "reduce speed"?
- 5 What railroad used a heart in its logo?
- 6 What private car company used the reporting marks A R T?
- 7 In what year were Alco RS-1 diesel-electric locomotives introduced?
- 8 Which railroad logo depicts a buzz-saw?
- 9 What manufacturing company made the most Shay locomotives?
- 10 What other country in North America did the Southern Pacific run in?

May You All Have a Wonderful and Peaceful Christmas and May You Have the Time and Inclination to Share It With As Many as Possible.

And Hoping that Your New Year Brings You Plenty of Railroad Time with Many Personal Successes and Goals Reached.