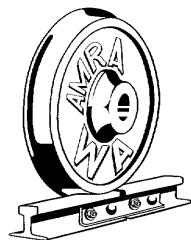


# The Branchline



The newsletter of the Australian Model Railway Association Inc.  
Western Australian Branch Inc.

[www.amrawa.com](http://www.amrawa.com)

**Issue 188      August 2008      Vol 31 No. 4**

## *Frans Fatidic*

By the time you will read this our Annual General Meeting will be over and a new Management Committee will have been elected.

I would like to thank the out-going Management Committee and Branch members for their help during the past year, it has made my job a lot easier and maybe I will be at the helm again.

Our Branch will have to make several decisions regarding our future as a Club because of ever increasing running costs.

The Show this year was a success but financially not as good as expected because of rising costs as will have been explained by our Treasurer and Auditor, Ron Fryer and Alan Porter respectively, at the AGM.

In the last issue of *The Branchline* an error was made where it was stated that \$1500 was raised and donated to Starlight Foundation, however, the figure should have read \$1050. I also omitted to thank Barbara Romeo for the quilt which was raffled at the Show.

Enclosed in this issue is an expression of interest for next year's Show please read this carefully and respond to it as it will help us put together a Show with a difference next year.

If I am elected again I will be Show Coordinator with the help of a small committee. If anyone is interested to help with this please contact me **after the AGM**.

Branch President [maybe]  
Frans Ponjee

## **Renewal Of AMRA Membership 2008-9**

By now you should have received *Journal* No. 304 (July/August) in which is enclosed your Membership Renewal form. There are two ways that you can renew your membership -

**Australian Model Railway  
Association Western Australian  
Branch [Inc.]**

PO Box 60  
MAYLANDS 6931

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**Clubrooms**

24 Moojebing Street  
BAYSWATER 6053  
Phone 9377 3456

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**President**

Frans Ponjee – 9490 3636  
e-mail – rosie.pearce@bigpond.com

**Vice President**

John Maker – 0417 941 553  
e-mail – jonmaker@westnet.com.au

**Secretary**

Neill Phillips – 9243 4664  
c-nphillips@bigpond.com

**Treasurer**

Ron Fryer – 9401 3514  
e-mail – not available

**Committee**

Alan Burrough – 9316 1045 [work]  
e-mail – alan.burrough@det.wa.edu.au

Jim Gregg – 9298 9442  
e-mail – ajgregg@westnet.com.au

Niels Kroyer – 9315 9635  
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Ted Thoday – 9310 6316  
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The views and opinions expressed by contributors in this publication are not necessarily those of the Association or the Western Australian Branch

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- Send it with the appropriate fee direct to the Federal Registrar at the address on the reverse of the form, or
- If you call into the Clubrooms on any meeting date and see the Duty Officer, he will accept your renewal and issue you with a receipt to cover the amount of your renewal. I will then collate these renewals and send them off together, thus saving you having to raise a cheque and pay for a stamp. However, if you do not bring the Renewal form in with your fee it will be refused – **No Form, No Go!**

For those members who cannot attend the Clubrooms due to incapacity or distance [country members for example] please **do not** send me your form and cheque. Send it direct to the Federal Registrar. It will be quicker and easier and less work for me at no extra cost to you.

The offer of the second method is open until Saturday 20 September 2008 and **no later**. If you cannot get your renewal to me by that date then send it direct to the Federal Registrar. Remember, there is a late payment fee from 1 October 2008.

Ron Fryer  
Branch Treasurer

## Where we meet and when

All meetings are held in the Branch's Clubrooms at 24 Moojebing Street, BAYSWATER [opposite Paddington Street]. The Clubrooms are open as follows for programmed meetings:-

Evening meetings – from 2000 to 2230  
Daytime meetings – Tuesday from 1000 to 1500  
– Saturday from 1330 to 1700

Members pay a small fee at each meeting to cover some of the general operating expenses of the Clubrooms and this entitles members to free hot drinks and a biscuit or two. Cool drinks are available at a modest price.

## From the Editorial Desk

**The Branchline – October issue deadline.** Routine editorial material, articles, reports, programme items, etc., to me **no later than Saturday 27 September** please. The

following deadlines will apply –

- For items transmitted via Australia Post the last postal delivery or if hand delivered to my home no later than 1600 on the Friday 26 September
- For items placed in the Editorial pigeon hole in the Management Committee office in the Clubrooms – 1500 Saturday 27 September
- For items transmitted electronically via e-mail – 1800 Saturday 27 September e-mail address is mandtt@ca.com.au – please use subject heading The Branchline.

However, if your material is ready earlier please let me have it early; it helps spread the work load, particularly if your article is handwritten or typed hard copy requiring retyping.

Collation, etc., will be on **Saturday** 11 October and will include AGM material

Please note the intended dates for *The Branchline* publication for the remainder of 2008:

**Editorial deadline**

**Assembly, etc.**

December

Saturday 22 November

Saturday 6 December

Ted Thoday

## Literary Lines

Many thanks to the following for their generous donations of books, magazines and videos –

Dave Port, Roger Stanton, Arthur Giles, Andrew Wells, Jim Gregg.

**Library** – on Saturday afternoons the Library will be **open** for receiving and issuing books, magazines and videos **from 1400 to 1630 only**.

## Missing Videos

In the June issue we printed a list of missing videos with the following note –

“None of these videos or the DVD is recorded has having been borrowed by a member.

Please check that you do not have any of these at home. If you do find any please return them to our Library **and ensure they are handed to either our Library staff or the Duty Officer.**”

On Saturday 28 June it was found that four of the missing videos had been returned to their places on the Library shelves. This could only have happened during the meetings on either 24, 25 or 27 June.

The member [or members] obviously did not want to be identified as they surreptitiously put the four videos back without handing them to our Library staff or one of the Duty Officers as requested very clearly in **bold** type.

None of these videos or the DVD is recorded has having been borrowed by a member.

Please check that you do not have any of these at home. If you do find any please return them to our

Library **and ensure they are handed to either our Library staff or the Duty Officer.**

The following are still missing –

79	Railscene 26
194	Steam Vol. 5 – LMS
243	Inside Isle of Man Railway
248	Postcards WA 2–7–2000
252	Railway Panorama No. 4
306	Great Railways
DVD13	Severn Valley Railway

Perhaps you were away when the June issue of *The Branchline* was published, perhaps you just ignored my request, whatever, someone has them – please return them so that the rest of our members can have the pleasure of viewing them.

Chris Paterson  
Branch Librarian

## Members DCC System Survey

Our Branch is considering the purchase of DCC systems for our *Haltwhistle*, *Western Ridge* and *Denver, Santa Fe and Valentine RR* layouts. As this is a rapidly growing area of our hobby, our Management Committee acknowledges the need for more resources to meet the expansion of interest by members.

These layouts will still retain their DC systems, so members will have their choice of DC or DCC control. Suitable devices will identify if DCC is currently in use. For example, when DCC is in use on the D, SF & V RR, each control panel will have a flashing red LED labelled ‘DCC on’.

As system components need to be interchangeable [for shows, shopping centre displays, etc], our Committee will select one system to be our Branch standard. As the previous selection was made two years ago, it seems logical to consider currently available systems to determine which best meets our layouts’ requirements.

With good grace, a willingness to compromise and a minimum of bloodletting, the ‘gaffers’ of the respective layouts have determined the following specifications:

- Simple to operate
- NMRA compatible.
- 5 amp
- Throttles able to be plugged into sockets located around layout – [enabling operator to follow train].
- Reliable and prompt repair service and parts availability – preferably in Australia.
- Robust – able to survive Club usage [eg. dropping]
- Upgradeable to wireless
- Upgradeable software

It has also been suggested by a member that the selected system have five digit and alpha–numeric addressing capability.

We have sought guidance from several people experienced in DCC usage and from respective layout teams [several members fit both categories] and greatly appreciate their input. Now, we invite your contributions on –

- Your recommendations – which system, your thoughts and experiences,
- The above specifications, and
- Anything else [regarding current or future Branch DCC usage] upon which you wish to comment.

Any suggestions from other 'learned DCC persons' would also be gratefully received.

Please forward your email to me at burrough@iinet.net.au or via snail mail to Alan Burrough, AMRA WA Branch, PO Box 60 MAYLANDS 6931, by Wednesday, 27 August. Your response will be a valued contribution to the evaluation process.

Alan Burrough

## ModelRail

The theme for this year's ModelRail will be to assist modellers already involved in the hobby to further develop their modelling skills.

It is intended that a selection of modelling activities will be presented by experienced modellers in a way that allows the visiting modeller to interact, ask questions and learn from the presenters. There will also be a number of other activities during the day. These will be described more fully in the next issue of *The Branchline*.

ModelRail will be on Sunday 9 November between 1000 and 1600 and will be followed by the presentation of the Modelling Competition awards.

For ModelRail to be a success we will need every possible assistance – will you help? If you would like to be one of our demonstrators I would like to hear from you as soon as possible.

I would also like to hear from any other member, who is prepared to give some time to assist with the various administrative tasks that need to be done. Please let me know as early as possible if you are prepared to assist.

Frans Ponjee

## Railway Modelling Competition

The Railway Modelling Competition is open to **all** modellers, whether they are members of the Association or not. Entry forms for the Competition will soon be available at the Branch Clubrooms, in the main hobby shops, from the Secretaries of other model railway clubs and by application to the Competition Coordinator or the Branch Secretary at PO Box 60, MAYLANDS WA 6931.

To cover the administrative overheads, there will be a fee of \$2.00 per person entering the Competition, regardless of how many models are entered. The fee must accompany the Entry Forms. Completed Entry Forms must be returned to the Competition Coordinator no later than Saturday 18 October 2008.

Subject to there being sufficient models entered by enough modellers, there will be categories for:–

<b>Locomotives</b>	Scratch-built Kit-built, with or without modifications Modified ready-to-run proprietary
<b>Rolling Stock</b>	Scratch-built Kit-built, with or without modifications Modified ready-to-run proprietary
<b>Structures</b>	Scratch-built [including road vehicles] Kit-built, with or without modifications

Trophies will be awarded in all categories, provided that there are enough models entered by sufficient modellers in each category.

There will be a special award, *The Ossie Gully Cup*, for the best model over all categories, as well as trophies for –

- a the best model, over all categories, entered by a junior modeller [defined as under 16 years of age]
- b the best model, over all categories, of a Western Australian prototype

Entries will be required to be delivered to the venue for the Competition, the AMRA WA Branch Clubrooms, at 24 Moojebing Street, Bayswater, between 1000 and 1100 on Saturday 8 November 2008.

The presentation of the trophies will take place on the afternoon of Sunday 9 November during ModelRail, which is being held at the same venue. The presentation of trophies will be at 1600.

Details of the judging system to be used are available for the guidance of modellers. These, plus the Rules for the Competition, are available as part of the Entry Form.

## Around the Layouts

### The Denver, Santa Fe and Valentine Railroad

As the scenery substructure of Modules A and H is all but complete and as work on F and G is well underway, it is interesting to see shape and form emerging from the styrene skyscrapers that previously dominated the layout. Landscape architects Alan H, Peter, Murray, Craig and Gary are creatively cutting, carving and glueing and we look forward to their completed panoramas.

[This photograph taken by Dave Hunter gives a good impression of the styrene skyscraper under construction. Ed]



The three loops and the branch line can now be run with temporary connections between the block wiring and the H&M controllers. Rob Kay's enthusiasm and immersion in this project is greatly appreciated in the expeditious completion of this task. As a result, an improbable assortment of trains have circled the layout, including Ron's double-headed GWR passenger consist, John's On30 railcar,

Gary's FEF Northern and rake of UP coaches and the author's DD40 track tester [the only worthwhile use for a diesel, some might say].

The control panels are drilled for switches, LEDs, hinges and bolts. The next step is to gloss coat them in preparation for decaling, then to affix schematic track plans and decals before a final flat, clear coat is applied. The LEDs and additional switches have been ordered from Demar Electronics in the US. Similarly, an order has been placed for a PSX4 circuit breaker set [see Model Railroader, August 2007, p88, for a review on this unit].

Rumblings have been overheard regarding the excessive length of our Railroad's name. It appears opportune to remind critics that the title on Jim Kelly's original submission was *The Denver, Santa Fe and Valentine Subdivision of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway*, which was accepted by the [then] Management Committee. So any more grumbles may result in the offender [including Presidential aspirants] being required to state the full title ten times over before taking a second breath. This should permanently resolve the problem.

Craig Hartmann  
Alan Burrough  
D, SF & V RR Coordinators

**Haltwhistle** – over the past few weeks many grey hairs have been grown, new words learned and said while trying to sort out the electrics controlling the track and turnouts at the end of Cumwaite station – Dave Hunter provided some evidence that the team had solved [most of] the problems with his shots of some of the workers and the DMU test train.



## Distance is no Barrier

Takeshi Iwai, one of our members who commutes between his home country and Perth, is involved in Japan with a group of modellers who have/are constructing a rather large American prototype layout.

This layout appeared in the March 2008 issue of Model Railroader, it's impressive and the article is well worth a look. The modelling looks to be of a high standard if the photographs are anything to go by.

## Albany Hobby Expo

The Expo will be over the weekend of Saturday and Sunday 4 and 5 October 2008 and will be open to the public from 1000 to 1700 on Saturday and 0900 to 1600 on Sunday in the Albany Agricultural Society Centennial Hall, Lockyer Avenue, Albany. Admission \$5/\$2

Model trains, model railway layouts plus other hands-on hobbies and trade stands. Refreshments available.

For more information contact Bruce Norton, PO Box 5271 Albany 6332, phone 08 9844 3480 [home] or 08 9842 4224 [work] or email <bruce@omninet.net.au>

Exhibitors and visitors intending to attend the Hobby Expo are urged to arrange accommodation as soon as possible. If you need local help to secure accommodation then please contact the Albany Regional Booking Service, Albany Visitors Centre on 9841 9377, fax 9842 1490, or via the website <[www.albanytourist.com.au](http://www.albanytourist.com.au)>

Please note I will be providing invitations to other clubs, selected individuals and trade representatives at the 2008 Model Railway Show but if we have failed to contact someone who has previously expressed an interest in attending as an exhibitor please contact me ASAP.

Bruce Norton

## SIG Scribe

For at least ten years Alan Porter has scribbled the notes for the BR, GWR and LMS Special Interest Groups. Recently Alan's pencil ran out of lead and there were no more pages left in his notebook, so, rather than buy new ones he has handed over his BR and GWR SIG Scribe's hat to Ron Fryer.

We owe Alan a very big vote of thanks for his diligence in keeping us informed of the activities of these SIGs. What is not so obvious is the amount of time and effort Alan contributed to researching each topic and for producing the Facilitation Notes that were distributed to SIG members and which were also available to a wider audience on request. Thanks Alan for a job very well done.

Ron has said that, starting with the notes in this issue, he will adopt a slightly different style to Alan's. He will give a brief summary of the topic information with the proviso that any member wanting more detailed information has only to ask for a copy of the relevant Facilitation Note which will be freely available.

Ron will continue to record details of the BR and GWR SIG members modelling activities and the models, products, books, etc. that are bought and shown at these two SIG meetings. Alan will



continue providing the same information for the LMS SIG..

Welcome aboard Ron.

Ted Thoday  
Editor

## Fencing and other things

In the EM Gauge Society's Newsletter No. 176 is a brief description of a number of items produced by S Kits that are of potential interest to modellers.

- Etched stainless steel mesh fencing and gates
- Cast fence posts in three heights, including one with a cranked top typical of modern industrial fencing
- Etched catwalk replacement for the Hornby and Bachmann tank wagons
- A portable toilet with full interior detail should you wish to leave the door open.

## Hobby Shops Club Night

Just a reminder about the forthcoming Club Night that will be held at Stanbridges Hobbies and Maylands Model Railways.

Peter Dallimore, Stanbridges Hobbies, has decided to give the Train Club night another run, this time on Tuesday 7 October 2008. The shop will be open from 1800 to 2000 for Model Railway Club members only.

Stanbridges Hobbies will sweeten the pie [so to speak] by providing pizzas and tea and coffee to those who attend.

Peter Ibbs, Maylands Model Railways, will be open from 1630 to 1900 to offer a **one night only** 25% off all G scale stock excluding track and 15% off all other stock in store to all Model Railway Club members.

So put the new date in your diaries and show both proprietors that it is worth their while holding these Club Nights – they might just consider it worthwhile doing again and, perhaps, again.

## Model Railway/Railroad Websites

One of my correspondents has told me about these two interesting websites. One is a video clip of a layout with trains in a desert scene. The other is a comprehensive model railway/railroad hints, tips, ideas, etc. etc. and well worth a look – it is an extensive extract from a book which is on offer in the site.

The sites are <<http://www.model-railroad-resources.com/desert-trains-video.html>> and <<http://www.model-train-help.com>>

I have also been told that You Tube has details/pictures of 60163 Tornado in steam.

# Around the SIGs

## British Railways Modellers Special Interest Group

The subject for the June meeting was the BR Class 24 and Class 25 diesel electric locomotives. Twelve members were present and between them they had brought in twenty-one models of the two classes and the associated sub-classes. Nineteen were OO models the remaining two being N Scale.

**Alan Porter** started his talk with a brief resumé of the pilot diesel locomotive scheme adopted by BR in 1955. These locomotives were to be run in service for a period of three years to provide feedback before the placing of large orders. However, things do not always go to plan, BR changed its mind and placed orders for locomotives – some still on the drawing board.

The Class 24s and 25s would be the equivalent of the following steam locomotives; the LMS 4–6–0 Stanier Class 5s; the LNER 4–6–0 Thompson B1s and the GWR 4–6–0 Collett Halls, all having wide route availability and capable of handling anything – including express passenger services. The Class 24s and 25s certainly proved their worth. Whilst not as prolific in numbers as the steam locomotives [well over 2000 were built] the 468 Class 24/25s were used in a wide range of work and were a successful diesel locomotive. Four Class 24s and twenty Class 25s have been preserved on various Preservation Railways – that alone speaks highly of them. The first models [Hornby] came onto the scene in 1977 – 31 years ago, and they were priced around \$60, not cheap. For their age they were thought by those present to be very good models.

A full set of facilitation notes listing all the sub-classes, etc, the models produced and various books about them is available on request.

After a short break we resumed with the new acquisitions.

**Ron Richards** brought in a ‘Pullman’ train – it was wooden and on the end of a piece of string hence its name – part of his granddaughters 2nd birthday present! He also showed a book *British Railway Goods Wagons [up to 1959]* by Robert Hendry, in colour, soft backed, [Ian Allan], Stg£14.99, ISBN 978–1–85–780–094–4.

**Ron Fryer** showed a set of photos of the Moscow Underground Stations taken from the World Wide Web. Perhaps he should send a set of them to Alannah!

**Steve Rayner** was next and he showed us his new Dapol Q1 Southern C11 in black and in N Scale, of course. An absolutely beautifully detailed model. The motor is in the tender and drives the locomotive through a universal shaft. Exquisite.

**Geoff Mercer** showed us sets of photographic backscenes from International Models. They are from actual scenes taken from the rail track in the UK. There are two in a set, each print is 5ft long and they sell for Stg£15.00 per set. He then brought out one of Heljan’s models of the Brush Falcon D0280 in original lime–green and chestnut brown livery. The detail is brilliant. The printing on the side is approximately half a millimetre high yet is sharp, clear and easy to read – well I could read it. Geoff’s model was No. 57 of a limited 800 – all sold. This model may well be 57 but is no Heinz Variety, but a model anyone of us would be proud to own.

**Kelvin Davis** bought six Hornby TTA Tankers from Hattons at six for Stg£20.00, liked them so much he ordered a further 6 – too late, all sold out! So, not to be outdone, he settled for six of the cheaper Rail Road version Hornby PCA Tankers at Stg£3.00 each. [They look the same – almost] He then produced seven Oxford Diecast 1:76 Cars/Vans –

Morris Minor Pickfords Van  
Ford Anglia Royal Mail Van  
FX4 London Black Taxi

Morris Minor BRS Parcels Van  
Ford Anglia 105E Sedan

Morris Minor Police Van  
Ford Cortina Mk. II Sedan

He bought these at the Show for \$6.30 each less 20%. An excellent buy. Finally he bought a Heljan Class 27 in green [w/white stripe] which has, apparently, caused some matrimonial strife – he's overspent for the next twelve months! [I wont mention the price he paid, for the loco that is.]

Terry Hammond brought in a whole range of items he had recently purchased. To my relief he also brought in a list of them as follows –

- Book – *Southampton Tramways* – bought from Maylands Model Railways.
- Bartholomew's Ordnance Survey maps 1954 edition of Cornwall [in cloth] and Dartmoor [on paper] Being c1954 they are brilliant for mapping branchlines in relation to contours, etc, before the good Doctor [Beeching] got rid of them.
- Hornby CCT Van M94149 – as new
- Hornby Locomotive *Clovelly* 34037 Malachite green/yellow stripe
- Hornby Locomotive *Yes Tor* Rebuilt West Country BR Green – his Birthday, Fathers Day and Xmas present in advance.
- Hornby Breakdown Crane 75ton DS1580 *Exmouth Junction*, black weathered.
- Bachmann Locomotive N Class 1824 Green
- Open Wagon – *W.J.KING, Bishops Lydeard*
- Open Wagon – *A.F.CHANEY, Yeovil*
- Open Wagon – *GOODLAND & SONS, Taunton*
- Open Wagon – *RALL & SONS, Bridport*
- Open Wagon – *T.S.PENNY, Taunton*
- Open Wagon – *T.J. CLARK, Weymouth*
- Open Wagon – *W.H. THOMAS & Co, Axminster*
- Open Wagon – *W.H. THOMAS & Co, Wellington*
- Open Wagon – *S. LONEY & Co, Wellington*

[Note two wagons from Wellington – one for each foot! – his joke not mine]

**Nick Pusenjak** had nothing to show but was so jealous of Kelvin and Terry's lot, that he decided to send an order off to Hattons for something.

**Alan Porter** bought what he thought was a reasonable SWB open wagon *TREDEGAR* in the Hornby catalogue. He reckons they saw him coming, as it was a bit of a let down, didn't quite match the catalogue picture. He also showed a Corgi Collectable Scammell Mechanical Horse with a Royal step frame trailer. Very nice, although I personally thought that the rear wheels on the trailer a little **too** small,

We then went around to find out if anyone was doing any modelling and if so what.

**Steve Rayner** told how he had bought a Green Max plastic kit [Japanese] of a little Works train in N scale, consisting of a small diesel loco, an open wagon, and two little crane trucks. He is creating a

*(Continued on page 14)*

## Programme

Information regarding contact persons, etc. for Special Interest Groups is given in the 'Around the SIGs' article.

**Note.** The numbers in brackets alongside the day name indicate the housekeeping duty to be completed **before** the meeting activity starts.

### August

Monday	18		<b>Annual General Meeting</b>
Tuesday	19	[7]	<b>Daylighters Group – daytime meeting</b>
Wednesday	20	[8]	<b>Great Western Railway Special Interest Group</b> meeting – GWR fish traffic
Friday	22	[9]	<b>N Scale Special Interest Group</b> meeting – layout construction <b>General Activities</b>
Saturday	23	[10&11]	<b>General Activities</b>
Tuesday	26	[12&1]	<b>Daylighters Group – daytime meeting</b> <b>North American Railroads Special Interest Group</b> meeting – <b>Large Scale Special Interest Group</b> meeting –
Wednesday	27	[2]	<b>British Railways Special Interest Group</b> meeting – Chemical tank wagons running on BR metals
Friday	29	[3]	<b>N Scale Special Interest Group</b> meeting – layout construction <b>General Activities</b>
Saturday	30	[4]	<b>General Activities</b>

### September

Monday	1		<b>Video Night</b> – other Club's Exhibitions and layouts.
Tuesday	2	[5]	<b>Daylighters Group – daytime meeting</b>
Friday	5	[6]	<b>N Scale Special Interest Group</b> meeting – Train Running Session, with a chance to bring and show any new items and/or your modelling projects. So come along bring your trains. <b>General Activities</b>
Saturday	6	[7]	<b>General Activities</b>
Monday	8	[8]	<b>S Scale Special Interest Group</b> meeting –
Tuesday	9	[9]	<b>Daylighters Group – daytime meeting</b> <b>North American Railroads Special Interest Group</b> meeting – <b>Large Scale Special Interest Group</b> meeting –
Wednesday	10	[10&11]	<b>DCC Special Interest Group</b> meeting –

Friday	12 [12&1]	<b>N Scale Special Interest Group</b> meeting – layout construction <b>General Activities</b>
Saturday	13 [2]	<b>General Activities</b>
Tuesday	16 [3]	<b>Daylighters Group</b> – daytime meeting
Wednesday	17 [4]	<b>Great Western Railway Special Interest Group</b> meeting – Bring, Run and Tell about a GWR train [or two]
Friday	19 [5]	<b>N Scale Special Interest Group</b> meeting – layout construction <b>General Activities</b>
Saturday	20 [6]	<b>General Activities</b>
Tuesday	23 [7]	<b>Daylighters Group</b> – daytime meeting <b>North American Railroads Special Interest Group</b> meeting – <b>Large Scale Special Interest Group</b> meeting –
Wednesday	24 [8]	<b>British Railways Special Interest Group</b> meeting – Bring, Run and Tell about a BR train [or two]
Friday	26 [9]	<b>N Scale Special Interest Group</b> meeting – layout construction <b>General Activities</b>
Saturday	27 [10&11]	<b>General Activities</b>
Monday	29	<b>Public Holiday – no meeting</b>
Tuesday	30 [12&1]	<b>Daylighters Group</b> – daytime meeting

## October

Wednesday	1 [2]	<b>LMS Modellers Special Interest Group</b> meeting –
Friday	3 [3]	<b>N Scale Special Interest Group</b> meeting – Train Running Session, with a chance to bring and show any new items and/or your modelling projects. So come along bring your trains. <b>General Activities</b>
Saturday	4 [4]	<b>General Activities</b>
Monday	6	<b>Make your own hot wire foam cutter</b> – you’ve seen the one being used by the Denver layout gang – here’s a hands on chance to learn how to make one for yourself and take it home.
Tuesday	7 [5]	<b>Daylighters Group</b> – daytime meeting
Wednesday	8 [6]	<b>DCC Special Interest Group</b> meeting –
Friday	10 [7]	<b>N Scale Special Interest Group</b> meeting – layout construction <b>General Activities</b>
Saturday	11 [8]	<b>The Branchline</b> assembly followed by <b>General Activities</b>
Monday	13 [9]	<b>S Scale Special Interest Group</b> meeting –

Tuesday	14 [10&11]	<b>Daylighters Group</b> – daytime meeting <b>North American Railroads Special Interest Group</b> meeting – <b>Large Scale Special Interest Group</b> meeting –
Friday	17 [12&1]	<b>N Scale Special Interest Group</b> meeting – layout construction <b>General Activities</b>
Saturday	18 [2]	<b>General Activities</b>

(Continued from page 11)

motorised van to power the train. Excellent work.

**Kelvin Davis** showed a white metal Genesis Snowplough kit to fit a 3F or 4F tender. However to make it fit one has to perform surgery on certain parts of the tender including removing the coal. He has, so far, refused to do this on the grounds that it spoils a good tender. He is now looking for a battered, secondhand 3F or 4F tender – anyone help him?

The subject for the July meeting was BR Rolling Stock Bits and Pieces [Bogies, Buffers, Couplings, Roof Details, Gangways and Lamps]. It is not clear who suggested this topic when the programme of agenda topics for 2008 was discussed nor is it clear what was the intended purpose for the examination of the subject – whether it was to be an examination of the full size railway items or whether it was to be an examination of how we should deal with them in our modelling efforts.

In view of the lack of clarity on this, the treatment at the meeting and in the facilitation notes has been based on the latter assumption. Furthermore, that treatment is restricted to the rolling stock bits and pieces which were the result of British Railways design or were inherited in significant quantity from the Big Four – as an example, clerestory roofs as used on some pre-Grouping companies were ignored.

After the excellent talk by Alan we took a break for tea and cake [provided by Ron Fryer – leftover birthday cake from his grand daughter's third birthday – I made the cake too big], before recommencing the evening with new acquisitions –

**Ron Richards** – showed a Base Toys Rover 100 – nice model – and also a Bachmann OO Class 56xx BR Black 0-6-2 Tank [Weathered]. He got both from Hattons in the UK and landed cost just over \$70.

**Mike Cazalet** – showed the annual Bachmann Club OO wagon, which was a 7-plank open wooden coal wagon EDWARD EASTWOOD of CHESTERFIELD. The printing was very good in sharp contrast to last years wagon.

**Ron Fryer** – showed six DVDs, five of which his wife bought him for being a good boy! They are from an American TV series called Railway Adventures Across Europe. Each DVD consists of two programmes, each with a break in the middle [presumably where the adverts were], and apart from the occasional crass mispronunciation of some English names they are really quite good. One of the five DVDs is on Swiss Railways, the other four on UK railways. The sixth DVD is another Discovery Channel DVD called *Extreme Machines: Wheels of Steel* which allegedly focuses on the fastest, largest and tallest trains – we will see.

**Geoff Mercer** – showed the latest Hornby OO Loadhaul Shark ZUV brake van, beautifully finished. Next was Bachmann's set of six OO Trackside Workers impeccably painted. These items were followed by Heijan's OO D0280 Falcon in 2-tone green as finally purchased by BR, very heavy but a really superb model. A Hornby 2-car Class 156 in ONE colours followed and this set was

followed by three old, slim volumes, printed in 1959–60, he had been given

- A book by English Electric – *Class 40 Diesel locomotive – Operating Instructions and Fault Finding* printed in 1959–60.
- A book printed in 1941 by the LNER – *The Steam Locomotive – Failures and how to deal with them.*
- One by the British Transport Commission in 1957 called *A Handbook for Railway Steam Locomotive Enginememen.* All in all quite a collection.

**Alan Porter** – The new *Locomotives Illustrated* magazine dealing with diesels etc.– this issue is on Class 37s. He showed an article he downloaded from Pat Hammond’s MRE Website on BR Chronology, quite a tome. Then we had a display of nine Oxford Diecast model vehicles –

a Morris Oxford Sedan	a Triumph Mayflower Sedan	a Fordson Major Tractor
an Express Dairy Milk Float	a Ford Popular Sedan	a Jowett Javelin Sedan
a Morris open Tourer	a Standard Vanguard Mk. L	a Ford Anglia Sedan
a Hornby Skaledale Ford Anglia Sedan [which is made by Oxford].		

**Kelvin Davis** – brought in a Bachmann OO 20ton BR Grey unfitted brake van, a Bachmann OO 10ton BR Insulated van [white], an Oxford Diecast Jaguar E–type Coupe, and an MGB convertible. [Wish I had shares in Oxford Diecast – Scribe]

**Gordon Bramwell** – returned from the UK with a bagful of goodies. Three DVDs –

- *BR Vol. 6 – Steam in the Midlands*
- *BR Vol. 7 – Channel Tunnel Trains*
- *Traction Archive No. 2 – East Coast Deities*

His next items were all books –

- *Lost Railways of North & East Yorkshire* by Gordon Suggitt. Countryside Books ISBN1–85306–918–3
- *Scenes of the Past: No. 37 [part 2] Cromford to High Peak Junction* by N. Jones & J.M. Bentley ISBN 1–870119–67–3
- *British Railways: Modernisation to Privatisation* by B. Sharpe. ISBN 0–9552868–2–4
- *BR First Generation DMUs* by S. Mackay. ISBN 0–7110–3156–8
- *Derbyshire Railway Stations on old picture postcards* by B. Lund. ISBN 0–946245–86X
- *Lincolnshire Railway Stations on old picture postcards* by E. Croft. ISBN 0–946245–77

Current modelling projects –

**Ron Richards** – couldn’t bring his project in – he’s building base boards in his shed.

**Steve Rayner** – fitting SideTrack Electronics Infra–Red detectors under his layout.

**Nick Pusenjak** – crystallising his plans for his layout.

**Alan Porter** – taking three modules of his layout to Albany for their Show so he is installing alignment dowels, from DCCconcepts, on them so that they will be easier to assemble.

**Kelvin Davis** – tracklaying on his N scale *Pixieville* extension; helping his son and two mates to build a German war layout in HO, trying to finish his *Tenth Hill* layout [Class 24], all for next year's exhibition. Now there's forward planning for you.

So ended another pleasant evening. Thanks Alan for the Notes, which of course are available to all members. Just give us a call.

### **S Scale Special Interest Group**

The Group's June meeting came hard on the heels of the Model Railway exhibition and was well attended with over thirty members coming to our Clubrooms to hear the latest news for modellers of the WA scene.

Apologies were received from Stuart Mackay who was a bit unwell but John Hatch happily stood in to record the evening's news and activities. Graham Watson formally opened the meeting at 2030 following the first half hour of meet and greet and the informal exchange of ideas and modelling materials.

Thanks were extended from Murray Hartzler and Peter Higgins to all those who provided their help in supporting and running the layout and the modelling desk at the Model Railway Show.

Graham talked briefly about his trip to New Zealand and his meeting with Graham Selman of the highly respected North Yard, manufacturer of S scale equipment. Mr Selman assured Graham that the business and proprietor would still be around for some time. Wheels were still available but delivery times may still take a little time depending on Mr Selman's main engineering business commitments.

Railwest Models advised it has a number of self tappers, 2mm drills and taps for those interested. Graham also advised that the ZF Guards Van kit is again on the production line and members who would like one should register their interest with him.

A discussion of an epoxy glue for gluing urethane developed with members being advised that a two-part product was available at \$15 for the two parts. A Citronella-based glue for laminating styrene from the same supplier was also available. A tip for disassembling models glued with superglue involves placing the model and a small amount of water inside a plastic bag and leave for about a week. The model will then fall apart at the joints.

The topic of a layout for next year's Show was raised. A preference for a new layout was mentioned by Graham. Murray is prepared to supply drawings for Mt. Helena if someone is willing to commit to building the layout.

The Topic for the night was Structures and members were asked to show structures that they have built for their layouts. Most of the structures were kits but the most distinctive structure was presented by Graham Watson which was Wooroloo Post Office which was built by Bob Bruce.

Simon Mead then gave an interesting and informative talk including a hand-out on creating decals on the Alps printer. The cost and procedures for using the Alps printer will be raised at the next Management Committee meeting.

The July meeting was also well attended with over thirty members on board to witness a Guard's Van Muster. Graham Watson again opened the formal side of the meeting at 2030 and passed on condolences on behalf of all the members to Paul Tranter who lost his mother recently and to Ray Cooper on the loss of his wife.



It was announced that ModelRail, which incorporates the Annual Railway Modelling Competition, would again take place on the first weekend in November. Railfest, the open Day of the ARHS Museum will take place on Sunday 12 October and the Albany Hobby Expo organised by Albany Model Railway Association [colloquially known as AMRA South!!] will take place on the weekend of 5 October.

Stuart Mackay thanked John Hatch for keeping a record of last month's meeting and advised that he now has seventeen U class kits available to members. Orders have filled and Stuart invited expressions of interest from members if a second run of ten is produced. Murray Hartzler again raised the matter of a layout for the 2009 Model Railway Show. Graham expressed a preference for a new layout if that was at all possible. This was previously raised in June when Murray offered the plans for Mt Helena. Stuart said that failing a new layout it may be that Boyanup Junction was again due for a showing in that it had only been displayed twice in the past ten years.

Ross Green, at the request of Stuart, once again displayed his scratchbuilt Dm locomotive on a modified Bachmann British Railways 4MT chassis. The brass oval number plates on his locomotive incorporate a method which, at the risk of repeating a previous *The Branchline* article [October 2007] is worth elaborating.

Ross starts out with a sheet of red paper and using Letraset [from Jackson's of Subiaco], he embosses the [white] numbers onto the red paper [eg 584] and then colours the numbers yellow using a yellow ink pen.

The sheet is then photo-copied and reduced to S scale if necessary. An oval including the number is then cut out and glued to an oval disk of thin brass slightly larger [0.5mm dia] than the photocopied number plate and, Presto! - a very acceptable number plate. The hardest bit is getting a neat and smooth cut on the edges of the oval but if this is done successfully they look terrific.

Brian Norris brought in a Cimarron Works Clerestory coach in S scale which is a good representation of a Gilbert car of which, according to Bill Gray's book, the WAGR had eight in all.

The presentation of Guard's vans then took place. Some 52 vans were presented to the group. Most of them were from Railwest kits or from a kit by Adrian Gunzburg. A lesser number of others were kit-bashed or scratch-built. A summary of Z vans is listed below.

Peter Hartland – a green Railwest kit of a WAGR Z van with considerable detail.

Stuart Mackay – two Z vans, one ZF van, one ZS, one ZB, all scratch-built, one of Adrian Gunzburg's urethane kits and a brass Z van based on the Ajin-built Main Trunk Models of a NZ guards van. Stuart forgot to bring in his Z9 so that will have to wait for another day.

Ken Shenton – two Railwest kits and two scratch-built MRWA vans FA 56 and FA 51 built to competition standard. Both had canvas roofs which really stood out. Superb modelling from Ken.

Brian Norris – displayed eleven vans including three brass Ajin Vans with and without end platforms and several Railwest kits. Brian also modified one of Adrian Gunzburg's vans and an ACL kit to produce a ZA van. Brian is a prolific modeller who never avoids a challenge to get the models he wants for his layouts.

Phil Knife showed his Railwest Z van in the green livery. Phil also showed his finished S class locomotive built from the Railwest kit complete with working headlights and DCC.

Simon Mead – brought in his yellow Z van which was a departure from the green and brown vans

and, one suspects, was built and displayed, in part, to create a bit of a talking point.

Paul Tranter showed six vans, three of which were Commonwealth Railways crew/Guard's vans and one was a Railwest guard's van in all over green livery. Paul also showed two ZJ express passenger guard's vans; one weathered, one pristine.



An early photo of a WAGR clerestory guard's van. [WAGR]



A modified Ajin/North Trunk models Z5070 [Photo and model by Brian Norris]

Gary Gray has a number of guard's vans but brought in only one of his green Z vans to show.

Kelvin Davis showed two of his Railwest Z vans in green livery one of which had a canvas roof.

Murray Hartzer showed his scratch built Z425 which was awarded Best Model of a WA Prototype at an AMRA modelling competition several years ago. Say no more other than it had considerable detail and displayed innovative construction techniques.

John Hatch showed three of the vans he has assembled in his relatively short time in the group. Like Murray's van John uses innovative construction ideas, one of which facilitates the removal of the roofs to detail the inside of the vans and repair glazing when required. Very clever indeed.

John Livie showed and described how he always tried to build Z vans which are preserved and/or still running on Hotham Valley such as Z522.

Finally, Graham Watson showed six of his Z vans. One was his scratch-built ZF built in North-eastern timber over 20 years ago. Another was one of Les Hayter's vans which he built from photos and measurements of one he had in his own back-yard and which housed the York layout for many years.

Following the Guard's van muster there was an added surprise when it was announced that Simon Mead would show a selection of some slides which had recently come into the possession of the Whiteman Park Railway. Simon made the selection from a large number of slides and they were very interesting to all those modellers and rail-fans in attendance. Of particular interest were two MRWA wagons showing their distinctive blue/grey livery. There was also a number of slides of Wildflower class locomotives and carriages and a range of mainline steam locomotives around Perth, a rare photo of Dm tank locos double-heading a goods train near Bunbury, the now famous G 233 working near Bunbury and an Msa Garret locomotive of which, sadly, there are no survivors. Thanks to Simon for bringing the slides along at such short notice.

All in all it was once again a terrific evening of fellowship and education for everyone at the S scale meeting.

The S Scale Special Interest Group meets on the second Monday of every month at 2000 at the AMRA

clubrooms in Moojebing St, Bayswater. New members and visitors are always welcome. Contact Graham Watson on 9250 1084 for information regarding Railwest or GA models and/or Stuart Mackay on 9310 3858 for information about X-class models and general information about the S scale group. Peter Higgins is the Australian Sn Modeller's WA representative and can be contacted on 9593 7945.

### Great Western Railway Modellers Special Interest Group

The topic this month was the GWR Small Prairie 2-6-2 tank locomotives. They were last discussed in 2002 so were somewhat due for a repeat performance. These locomotives, of three separate but related classes, totalled 186 in number. They were –

Class 4400 — 11 locomotives [Built 1904-1906]

Class 4500 — 75 locomotives [Built 1906-1924]

Class 4575 — 100 locomotives [Built 1927-1929]

The prototype locomotive No. 115, was a miniature, scaled down version of Churchward's standard design Large Prairie prototype No. 99 [later 3100]. It was an immediate success with terrific acceleration and revolutionised branch line workings in the hilly districts of the West Country and Wales. Full and detailed facilitation notes are available on request.

We then took a break for tea and bikkies during which time we viewed part of a DVD belonging to Alan Porter, showing two Castles class 4-6-0s hauling a fully-laden thirteen coach train on an excursion in the Southwest of England – they were really giving it what for on the inclines. The sound and filming was excellent.

For the second part of the evening we turned to New Acquisitions.

**Gordon Bramwell** – just returned from the UK showed two Oxford Diecast models – an Anglia Panda Police car and a Co-op Milk Float plus several pamphlets relating to preserved railways, etc. in the UK. He also showed a book called *Lost Railways of Derbyshire* by Geoffrey Kingscott [CountrySide Books] ISBN978-1-84674-042-8. For those of us who knew the area the book brought back memories of our younger days.

**Barrie Peacock** – brought in six Trix private owner coal wagons that he had bought secondhand from Maylands Model Railways. He had replaced the underframes with the correct frames from Slaters, tidied the wagons up, they just needed the couplings added and the result very nice indeed.

**Ron Richards** – showed two Dapol weathered coal wagons – CRYNANT COLLIERY CO. – plus the Hornby reissue of the ex-Lima GWR Express Parcels Railcar in chocolate and cream.

**Ron Fryer** – showed, appropriately, a Lima Class 4575 2-6-2T that Tom Stokes had started to revamp into a Class 4500 [ie. – straight-topped side tanks]. Tom had then bought two of the latest Bachmann Class 4500 2-6-2Ts, decided that he no longer needed the Lima one so had given it to Ron as a present to complete the transformation, etc. [Added to Ron's list of things to do]. It has obviously been Ron's month, for Graham Watson gave him a book issued by the GWR somewhere between 1911 and 1914 and is based on the Conciliation Scheme of 1907. It contains Minutes of meetings, Circulars and Reports between 1907 and 1911. Altogether a beautiful little leather bound volume of great historical interest. Ron has written to the Great Western Society in the UK enquiring about it.

**Alan Porter** – two Oxford Diecast models were first, one a Morris 8 Open Tourer, the other a Ford Poplar Sedan – usage range from the late 1930s to the late 1950s. Very useful. He next showed a

Digital Caliper that he had bought from Bunnings for \$20. Whilst not the best set available, it would appear you get what you pay for, Alan still reckons that it is good value for \$20.

We then turned to what we are doing in the field of modelling.

**Steve Rayner** – has motorised a wagon for his GREEN MAX kit mentioned in last month's notes. He apparently cannibalised a brake van and a long wheel-based coal wagon, and voilà, not only does it look good, it works. Having a brake van chassis left over he suddenly remembered he had seen plans for a shunter's wagon. Plans duly located – he's made it, very nice it is too. What a clever little Vegemite he is!

**John Brenchley** – after repeated requests he brought in his N Scale model of Tavistock Station building, that he is slowly constructing, for a visual update. He has now added internal fittings ie. – furniture, fireplaces, clock, posters, tongue and groove planking on the lower half of the walls in the Booking Hall. Superb! We go home feeling depressed comparing our efforts to his.

Another excellent evening all round thanks to Alan Porter for the Facilitation Notes.

Look forward to seeing you at the following meetings –

Wednesday	20 August	GWR Fish Traffic	Look forward to seeing you then.
Wednesday	17 Sept	Bring Run and Tell	about a GWR train
Wednesday	22 Oct	An appraisal of GWR light and dark stone	and engine green

Contact persons for Special Interest Groups are:

<b>British Railways</b>	Gordon Bramwell	0432 871 197
<b>Digital Command Control</b>	Richard Johnson	9455 6421
<b>Large Scale</b>	Jim Gregg	9298 9442
<b>Great Western Railway Modellers</b>	Roger Solly	9444 7812
<b>LMS Modellers</b>	Alan Porter	9330 1848
<b>N Scale</b>	Neill Phillips	9403 0924
<b>North American Railroads</b>	Peter Scarfe	9359 2281
<b>S Scale</b>	Stuart Mackay	9310 3858
<b>Southern Railway Modellers Group</b>	Terry Hammond	9458 9768

## From the Scribe's Quill

**Meeting No. 311 – June 2008.** The major items of business dealt with at this meeting were –

- The N Scale SIG will exhibit the *Frans River Line* layout at Albany and Wembley Downs in October.
- The Treasurer advised that the Show was financially successful, albeit that costs were high this year so the actual profit may be small. He will provide a full report at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.
- The Treasurer reported that after considering AMRA WA's tax return for Financial Year 2006/07, the ATO provided a tax refund cheque of over \$6000.
- It was proposed that backdrops for exhibitors at forthcoming shows should be each exhibitor's responsibility. The President advised that the Club would help out where possible, if the Club did not require its full stock of such items. The N Scale Coordinator made the point that it was unfortunate that, because of the issues

concerning backdrops raised before and during the Show, the 'fix' of the problem resulted in some eight months of work by the N Scale SIG being undone without consultation – fixing one problem created another.

**Meeting No. 312 – July 2008.** The major items of business dealt with at the meeting were: –

- The Committee decided to take out a Curtin FM Community membership, at a cost of \$33, to provide another avenue for Show advertising next year.
- There was considerable discussion about exhibitors' payments following this year's Show. The Committee agreed to 'profit share' \$1500 among various layouts.
- The Committee determined that various economy measures were necessary including changing phone carriers to save approximately \$150 per annum, careful consideration of *The Branchline* printing costs and a reduction in coloured printouts produced from electronic versions of other Club's publications. The Treasurer will also investigate changed banking arrangements because the Commonwealth Bank has advised increased fees for AMRA WA's accounts. The \$2 charge for use of the AMRA clubrooms is addressed elsewhere in *The Branchline*.
- Investigation of options to prevent the dumping of rubbish in the area in front of the roller door will be undertaken in the very near future.

**Management Committee Submissions.** The Management Committee frequently receives items for consideration shortly after a Committee meeting has been held. This means that these items do not get considered until the next Committee meeting up to four weeks later. In an effort to resolve this problem we publish the deadline date for submissions to be received by the Branch Secretary. Items can be posted to the address on page 2 of this issue or placed in the Secretary's pigeon hole. The **Submission deadlines** are 13 September and 11 October respectively.

## Membership Matters

It is now getting to the time when members who need to renew their membership to do so. Below is a copy of the advice from our Federal Registrar in regards renewing membership. Should you wish to renew through the Branch, please bear in mind that the renewals will be sent in batches on a regular basis and not immediately the Duty Officer receives your renewal form and payment.

Quote:

Those members who only renewed for one year when they renewed last year along with those new members who joined before 1st March this year will need to renew their membership if they wish to remain a member after 31st August. If this applies to you then there are three ways to renew your membership.

- Renew via Paypal - go into the Member's Area and you can renew via Paypal from the "Renew Online" link on the "Membership Details" page.
- For those who prefer to renew using a cheque or money order you can print a personalised "Renewal Form" from the "Membership Details" page. A copy of the personalised renewal form is also being sent with the July/August Journal (or as a separate mailing for those who make more work for me by having opted out of receiving Journal).
- If you are not renewing online using Paypal, please send your renewal form and payment directly to the Federal Membership Registrar before 31st August.

Renewals that do not have a personalised renewal form with them will not be processed [almost all renewals that do not have the right form with them are from ex-members who need to rejoin rather than renew or are missing the mail centre and membership number information needed to process the renewal]. If your friends have lost their renewal form, please don't photocopy yours, get them to ask their Branch or Federal COM to reprint their personalised form for them.

Renewals are due and payable by 31st August. Please get yours in early so that there are not 1000 renewals that all need processing at the same time.

Can members please ensure they provide the correct information when renewing. In the first handful of early renewals I have already received:

- One renewal that didn't include a renewal form where the person quoted the wrong membership number and I noticed the mismatch in names just in time to avoid renewing the wrong member
- A new senior member renewal (from someone previously young enough to be a family member) where they want to renew their family but haven't specified any family members.

Problems such as this are easy enough for me to handle when I am only processing a few renewals in a week but will cause major delays if they occur after the rush starts and I am processing hundreds of renewals a week.

Unquote

*[See also our Branch Treasurer's notes regarding Membership Renewals earlier in this issue. Ed.]*

Since the last issue of *The Branchline* I have the pleasure on behalf of the Branch Management Committee and current members to welcome the following as members of our Branch.

Michael Rosenberg	Thornlie	
Ken Eldridge	Nollamara	HO
Roger Stanton	Roleystone	
David Tierney	Darch	OO
Eugene Schmidt	Wanneroo	Z
Eddie Bugajewski	Victoria Park	N HO & G
Terry Emmerson	Maylands	N
Roger Jenkins	Cannington	S
David Polglaze	Middle Swan	Sn3.5
Mrs Muriel Smith	Thornlie	HO/OO
Brian Smith	Thornlie	HO/OO
Bruce Temperley	Wembley	
Jim Hamilton	Canning Vale	HO
Les Kurylowicz		HO
George Turbett	Shelley	HO

Please make yourself known to the Duty Officer at your first few meetings. I encourage you to ask questions as there are many aspects to our Branch. Time at the clubrooms is never wasted.

## Case Closed

Alan Bollans received this from Trainz.com. Some members will be aware of the protracted legal

proceedings relating to the Lionel company's bankruptcy. To celebrate the successful end of these proceedings Lionel have produced a commemorative box car, price US\$89.99 and described as –

The 29626 Lionel “Case Closed” mint car is filled with actual shredded documents pertaining to the lawsuit and Lionel bankruptcy proceedings. It features die-cast metal sprung trucks, operating couplers and is 10¼” in length. Also includes a Certificate of Authenticity signed by Lionel CEO, Jerry Calabrese. A must for every Lionel collector and train fan!

The text and picture are from the email from Trainz.com to Alan

## Hot Rods, Drag Cars... and a Class 20?

Super Model Car Sunday recently had its tenth anniversary show in Malaga, where all sorts of hot rods, drag cars and movie-inspired cars in all sorts of scales were displayed.

One theme of this year's show was to modify or display a diorama with a Hot Wheels Chevrolet Suburban as a mandatory part to use. Having the car issued at last year's show it still proved a challenge finding the safe place where it had been put!! But, having only found it the evening prior to the show, there was no time to modify the car but always time to enter it for a bit of fun.

Having purchased a level crossing kit the week before [for the elusive layout of the future I seem to have many ideas for], I thought it would be a good idea to include it somehow. Thus the diorama *Downtown Gosnells – Beat the Lights Challenge* was born.

Everyone will probably ponder the big question of life – why the Class 20? Well, it turned out to be the shortest loco in my collection but still had enough presence to argue with a Suburban at the crossing.

*[Note: Finding a 'kettle' as far south as Gosnells just doesn't happen [unfortunately].*

*I imagine the Haltwhistle boys will have something to say about the realism? of this piece].*

Dave Hunter



# Some More 'Don't Try This at Home' Stuff

