



NMRA Regional Convention 2018

Helensvale Culture Centre

Gold Coast



Newsletter # 3.

As they say in the classics, time flies when you are having fun. By the time you read this newsletter in MainLine in early July, it will be around 80 days to the convention.

Clinics. Martyn has been working overtime to complete the Helensvale program. This will be a real National Model Railroad Association event with clinics from around the world. Ralph Renzetti and Miles Hale will come via a live link from Canada and the USA. Not only will you see them on the big screen, you will be able to interact with them. Ralph will come in on Saturday morning and Miles on Sunday morning.

From Division 5 (NZ) Philip Sharp "Modelling the structures of the Toronto, Grey and Bruce Railway in the 1870s". Division 7 there is Gerry Hopkins, Division 8 Trevor Hodges, Division 1 there is Duncan Cabassi, Laurie McLean, Geoff Langridge, Maureen Kathage, James Lampard, Div 1. Operations SIG and Arthur Hayes. And as they say on TV, wait, there is more, we are waiting for others to return emails. If you have something you would like to share for your AP Certificates, it not too late. A draft program should be on the website in the coming days.

Traders, Layouts and Sideshow Ally. Various Traders have been invited with a good mix of model railway products for delegates to purchase. Likewise a number of layouts have responded with a mix of scales on show. Plus there is a number of modellers showing their talents where you can sit down, chat and ask questions.

Contest. This is a good place to start your AP certificates. There is no limit to the number of models you may enter. Additionally, attaining a point score of 87.5 pts. or 70%, entitles the entrant to a Merit Award which counts towards Master Builder Awards in the Achievement Program.

The model contest is a great way to learn new skills and display your skills, plus you can see what other modellers are doing which will give you ideas for your modelling. . There are two awards, model of Australian Prototype (Rick Shoup Award) and model of Non-Australian Prototype Or maybe, you have a photo you would like to enter.

Please filling out the paperwork BEFORE you arrive at the convention. Contest details are on the website.

Layout Tours. Expression of Interest was sent out to 22 private layout and 4 clubs, 12 private and 2 clubs have responded affirmative, 4 unable to host the tour, 8 have not replied. Duncan is working on fact sheets for each of the layouts which will include location maps. He plans to have this information posted on the website by the end of June. About four layouts could host operations session, this will be address a little later. The committee every much appreciates the support from these modellers opening their layout to convention delegates for viewing.

Bring and Buy Once again Anatol Zukiwskyj has put his hand up to look after the Bring and Buy. Details are on the website. Email Anatol (anatolij@optusnet.com.au) for a form, there is a limit of 30 items per delegate. Items must be registered prior to the convention.

Non Rail Program. "The Green behind the Gold" Visit Long Street Tambourine Mountain, a 'shop-a-holics' paradise. Joalah Falls and Canungra on Saturday. On Sunday it is a couple of hours at Harbour Town Outlet Shopping Centre. Full details are on the website.

Toowoomba Field Trip. "Carnival of Flowers" This is a self-drive, self-paced tour, you choose what you want to do at your cost. The brochure gives you suggestions of what is available on the day. Downs Steam Tourist Railway and Museum, Award Winning Gardens, Toowoomba Railway Station, maybe a train ride down the main range to Spring Bluff station and gardens, or self-drive with train spotting to Spring Bluff. Visit the Toowoomba Model Railway Club and Museum. Various layout will be on display, clinic on decals and a BBQ. Details on the website. Booking require for the BBQ on the convention website.

Convention Merchandise. Shirts and Mugs can be ordered on the convention website. The committee is investigating the possibility of having a limited number of cloth convention patches.

Convention Decal. Ted Freeman of the Toowoomba Club has offered to do a convention decal. Ted has done decals for various Exhibitions and Convention. Please show you scale on the registration form.

Saturday Night Dinner. This will be something special, guys treat your partners to dinner. A three course two drop menu. Please advise if you have any special diet requirements. After dinner the awards will be presented and then some fun with a raffle. Around 9:00 pm we will cross live to Lionel Strang in the US. We do have Plan "B" should the link not work.

Convention Brochure highlighting the convention program which can be found on the website. If you are attending a local exhibition, meeting or other model railroad event, please feel free to run a few off to promote the convention.

Sponsors. The committee would like to acknowledge the following sponsors thus far, Adam of Wuiske Models (www.wuiskemodels.com) for donating convention bag, Scott Whitaker of **SRW Publishing** (www.railwayhotelsofaustralia.com.au) for donating a book on Railway Hotels for the raffle. And from the USA TrainWorld www.trainworld.com. and Kadee Quality Products Co. <https://kadee.com>.

Offers of Assistance. Conventions are a lot of work and without assistance from the membership, it would not happen. I please to report offer of assistance is coming in from near and far including country members we don't see all that often.

Registration. The early bird cheaper fees closes on the 31st of July. Registrations can be made on line using your credit card. The link is on the convention website under registrations, the top left hand corner in **Red** will get you started. If you are unable to do the on-line registration, please call me on phone number 07 3345 7887, I'm sure something came be worked out. Registration is available for non-members. Register today and save yourself \$ 30.00.

Convention are Loads of Fun. They are a great place to learn new skills and see what others are doing with their modelling. Plus it allows you to interact with the presenters and ask questions. Conventions are a meeting places of likeminded people, old mates come together to catch up and gives you opportunity to meet new modellers. It will be something special.

Many members of the Australian Regional Committee (ARC) will be at the convention, this will an opportunity for you to meet them and have a chat.

Regards,

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Website: <http://nmra.org.au/conventions/conventions.html>