

NZ modellers in all scales getting together to share their common interest in our own railways. Regular meetings the **last Sunday** of every month from 10am at rear of **Colin Barry's garage, 7 Hadlow Place, Burnside**. 03 358 3681, colin.barry48@gmail.com



News

Caught in conversation against a background of Colin Barry's memorabilia, are from left, Bryan Lawrence, Jason Horne, Wayne Williams, Colin, Jessy Blunsdon and Tom Lynch. *John Dudson photo*

A warm November morning saw a good turnout of modellers happy to gather at **Colin Barry's** before the day became too hot. An overcast sky was apparently due to smoke haze from the Australian bushfires, and perhaps the 29 degree temperature recorded later in the day was due to the hot air blowing across the Tasman.

Jessy Blunsdon provided a brief report on his recent trip to Japan where he made the most of model shops and railway museums along with his other interest in visiting sites relevant to Japanese cars. **Jessy** found the railway modelling scene to be limited almost entirely to Japanese prototypes in HO and N scales, and the quality of models on sale to be especially good. The high quality Tomica car models in 1:64 scale are the exception. Back to the good old NZR **Jessy** presented a recently completed re-cabbed DG loco along with an L wagon.

Bryan Lawrence had with him a collection of diorama items, mostly cribbed from doing duty accenting his TALMR modules. He now intends to put these to good use on OTM modules. **Bryan** included a collection of bicycles all of which had been assembled from flat sheet. Most were HO in origin but Bryan noted that these become children's bikes in 1:64 scale. The actual 1:64 scale bikes included the grocery delivery bike Bryan places outside a shop on one of the *Lyttelton* modules.

Bryan noted that the signage on the delivery bike is taken directly from a sign outside what was King Cycles in Barbadoes street. The building has survived and is now repurposed as a café. **Bryan** described how he was able to document the cycle business before it ceased trading. The shop also served as living quarters for the proprietors who welcomed him into both shop and home, such that he was even able to photograph them in their living room.

Paul Christensen was eager to learn more about the NZR layout at MOTAT, because a visitor had told him it was "the best NZR layout in the country". Having seen a brief feature in the latest AA magazine, he wondered if the visitor's opinion could be credible after all.

Jason Horne presented two TR models; a Drewry assembled from an etched sheet produced by Auckland Neil Barnett, and a much smaller Hudswell Clarke imported as an etched kit from Worsley Works in the UK. The Hudswell is a finished model to which **Jason** recently fitted a tiny 0.8mm x 0.5mm LED in the headlight.

Colin Barry is making good use of one of the plastic storage boxes provided by **Les Frost** at last month's meeting. With the necessary padding it now serves as a secure box for loco transport.

Glenn Anthony and **David Maciulaitis** were literally bringing to light slides from the late **Robin Sutherland** collection by placing them on a light box. **David** intends to scan the slides but admits it will be a long slow process.

David had with him a Fleischmann industrial shunting loco 'Magic Train' he recently purchased from Mack's Track in Plimmerton. As the purchase was through Trade Me **David** said he was relieved that nobody bid against him. The model runs on 16.5mm track and appears to be 1:48 scale. Although the title and box art indicate a novelty item the model itself is of a high quality.

Glenn Anthony explained that the 'magic' aspect is a reference to the working hopper wagons that go with this loco, potentially creating a dynamic action diorama.

Ian Murie had two banana boxes of Pinex offcuts to give away. **Reuben Romany** had already requested one box for scenic work on a new layout he is planning, and **Ian** thought somebody else might appreciate the second box. There were no other takers so **Ian** plans to keep hold of it for OTM use.

Richard Poff described his current project, a 900mm x 450mm low relief factory layout running a small industrial line in O9 (7mm scale (1:43) on a 9 mm gauge track).

Richard said the intention is to present a working diorama whereby the train runs onto the 'stage' and then back on to a small switching line hidden from view behind the factory. **Richard** had imported a 1:43 scale Oxford Diecast Thames van from the UK to be used on the diorama, along with the

Thanks to Colin and Helen Barry for hosting us, and Helen for another fine morning tea
Remember : Come if you can this Sunday : Leave a gold coin before you go



1:50 scale Corgi Bedford truck he showed at the meeting last month. It was agreed that the Thames is a highly accurate model of the 1965 Ford 400E prototype.

Tom Lynch drew attention to the open night at the Garden City clubrooms at Ferrymead, on Monday evening the 2nd of December, from 7.00pm on.

—**John Dudson**



Richard Poff brought along this amazingly realistic model of a 1965 Ford 400E van from the Oxford Models 1:43 die-cast range.



Jason Horne's TRs. The larger one on the left is a Drewry from a batch of etches produced by Neil Barnett of Auckland, while the other is a Hudswell Clarke from Worsley Works (UK) etches, with Jason's own parts, such as funnel, radiator and mechanism added.



Jessy Blunsdon's recently completed recabbed Dg.



David Maciulaitis bought this TR-like Fleischmann 0-4-0 on Trade Me. It's 1:48 scale and 16.5mm gauge, in other words On30. The word 'magic' (inset) is a reference to working hopper wagons that are available to go with it.



Colin Barry's Uc and D locos snugly tucked away in one of the fastener boxes Les Frost brought to the November meeting.

RAILS FROM THE RUBBLE

REGISTRATIONS ARE NOW OPEN

NZAMRC National Model Railway Convention
Friday 10th - Monday 13th April 2020
 St Andrews College, 347 Papanui Road, Christchurch

- For an overview of next year's convention attractions visit the website www.modelrailcon.co.nz
- There's still good quality low cost accommodation available, but it won't last long now
- Newsletter #5 is now out
- For all the newsletters, the budget accommodation booking form and the registration form, just click on this link: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1bGU1J59uzqyLi93kiYvF2m-cSnTa86lQ>



Bryan Lawrence's subtly weathered C class loco.

GST changes: *The Lord giveth and the Lord taketh away.*

Offshore retailers selling products costing less than \$1000 into New Zealand are now required to add GST to the total bill (which includes shipping costs).

While this only applies to businesses selling more than \$60,000 worth per year (in other words those required to register for GST), the definition of 'retailer' has been creatively stretched to cover the likes of eBay.

So when we buy from hobbyists like ourselves via eBay, even though their annual trades may be nowhere near the \$60,000 threshold, eBay adds GST to the bill. So does YouShop, by the way.

We will all have our own opinions about the rights and wrongs of this, which is supposed to protect local retailers. One obvious question is whether local retailers even deal in many of the things we may look for online. Another is whether our government should be protecting retail margins that are obviously much larger here than overseas.

Like so many government policies this is a one-size-fits-all solution that is much more easily justified in some cases (trying on shoes locally and then ordering online, for example), than others — especially where the item is simply not available here.

It is however, what it is, and at least the increased limit means the point where other charges kick in has become more realistic.

So if you have been dealing direct with some small specialist suppliers there is some good news. You can now spend up to \$1000 at a time without fear of GST, Customs, Biosecurity charges, *et al.*

—Peter Ross

For the official line, see: <https://www.customs.govt.nz/about-us/news/important-notice/new-gst-rules-for-low-value-imported-goods/>

Left behind last time:

One medium size grey Kathmandu jacket.

Candid camera

Thanks to John Dudson for this report and photos



Tom Lynch (left) looks on as Colin Barry sifts through some more of Robin Sutherland's slides.



Glen Anthony (left) looks up from watching Bryan Lawrence as he packs up his models while Ian Murie (centre) also looks on.



Paul Christensen (left), Wayne Williams (centre), and Jason Horne ponder the innards of a pressure gauge from Colin Barry's collection.

Robin Sutherland slides

For the past several months, Colin Barry has been helping the late Robin Sutherland's widow, Margaret, sort out his effects. Recently attention has turned to his slide collection. This has meant going through thousands of slides and separating out the family photos from the railway ones, as well as binning those of no real value. The Sunday crew embraced this opportunity to go through some of the railway ones.



Brent O'Callahan holds some slides up to the light to see them more clearly.



A typical array of slides as seen on the light box. See the next page for how well John Dudson's quick phone copies of some of the more appealing ones turned out.



Take a couple of good phone photos of slides on a light box, add a little PhotoShopping, and voila, some pretty good pictures!

Top: What appears to be a South Island Limited travelling south through the Christchurch outskirts with Ja1240 in charge.

Left: It's a bright sunny day and Ja1244 is ready to depart the Christchurch yard at the head of a goods train.

Some of the other slides to have caught John's attention.



Seen at the Garden City Model Railroad Club's recent open night: One of the late Roger Bennett's realistically scenicked areas in the NZR section of the club's 16.5mm layout.

November roll call:

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| Glenn Anthony | John Dudson | David Maciulitis |
| Colin Barry | Jason Horne | Ian Murie |
| Celyn Bennett | Bryan Lawrence | Brent O'Callahan |
| Peter Bennett | Kevin Leigh | Richard Poff |
| Jessy Blunsdon | Michael Leefe | Reuben Romany |
| Paul Christensen | Tom Lynch | Wayne Williams |