

NZR 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.barry@clear.net.nz



## Newsletter July 2019

**The June gathering** took place on a fine frosty morning. Although the sunshine allowed for casual conversation outdoors, modelling interests meant most participants opted for the comparative warmth of the shed. Nonetheless **Helen Barry's** regular morning tea drew everyone outside again.

There was a great deal of interest in further effects from the **Robin Sutherland** estate, some of which were available for sale by donation. **Jessy Blunsdon** was avidly piecing together a D loco from parts stored in various small tins. **Jessy** announced that the loco was "virtually complete".

**Celyn Bennet** was pleased to acquire various proprietary loco bits and pieces. Pointing to a couple of more complete locos, **Colin Barry** commented that **Robin** seems to have enjoyed converting small British locos for use as the type of loco that would have been seen on private industry sites in NZ.

**Paul Christensen** had acquired two pioneering steam engine models at the previous meeting, the well known Stephenson's *Rocket* and the lesser known Richard Trevithick Coalbrookdale locomotive. This month he returned with them fully assembled and painted. **Paul** stated that it was an easy job as **Robin** had already completed much of the modelling work, though that was something of an understatement. As the photo of *Rocket* above shows, **Paul** had assembled and painted it to perfection — and added real brass bands, not only to the boiler but the tapered water barrel. This required annealing the brass so it could be formed to shape.

Many were marvelling at **Robin's** fine scale modelling skills, particularly as evidenced by the scratchbuilt UB loco on display in the meeting room. There was more to admire towards the end of the morning when **Colin Barry** quietly produced a scratchbuilt F loco, finished in green, that had been hidden from view in yet another tin. **Robin's** skills were also in evidence with model buildings, as seen in a small, almost finished, wayside station that **Colin** believes was intended as a model of the station at Bennetts.

**Robin** was also a skilled photographer who enjoyed recording the NZR scene, and **Colin Barry** has been busy sorting through multiple boxes of black and white prints.

**David Maciulaitis** was particularly interested in photographs of West Coast bush locos for use as illustrations in an upcoming book on NZ bush tramways. This book is being written and produced by **David's** friend **Ian Tibbles**. Photos surfaced of a Barclay loco but it was a photo of a Nattress rail tractor that really caught **David's** enthusiasm.

On a related note, the trucking enthusiasts present were admiring images of a Gilroy's Diamond T transporter crossing the Lewis Pass with a Heisler on the trailer unit, bound for Ferrymead, along with a photo of a rare White cab-over with a Barclay loco on the trailer unit.

**Lawrence Boul** demonstrated the first running model of the new F loco kit to be offered by NZ Finescale. As he posted on Facebook, "It's just about done. Still awaiting new tank prints so I can complete the pipework, but that's largely cosmetic."

"The last major fiddle has been the brakes and their rigging, but this is sorted and will be much easier next time around now there's a method to follow. It's not that they are hard to make, but working up a nice robust simple method to insulate them and have them removable was the challenge."

"Now sitting on the correct, long frame chassis. There are a surprising number of little bits still to add: lamp irons, hand grabs, whistle, triple valve, jacks, tank fillers, mitre and control rod, coupler hook, sidechain hooks, a toolbox or two, draincock operating rods, sand pipes... But at least that list more or less fits in a single sentence!"

**Jason Horne** showed brass etches for an ED loco, newly arrived from Scotland. **Jason** is building an ED for himself and if successful he may offer it as a kit. **Trevor Corrin** had 3D printed the cab and some other parts, and also some Dofasco bogies that had originally been produced in whitmetal by **Alec Fenton**.

**Reuben Romany** was offering for sale 10 lengths of

**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**



Code 83 flex-track at a reasonable price and these were purchased by **John Dudson** and **Trevor Corrin** on behalf of One Track Minds.

**Reuben** explained that he is building a 1:64 NZR layout for his brother, who purchased the code 83 track. Code 100 would be simpler to match to the available pointwork.

**Colin Barry** presented for comparison two BA locos. One has been recently completed for **Colin** by **Kelvin Barry**, the other **Colin** had been working on "for years". **Colin** noted that the loco painted by **Kelvin** has a grey hue compared to the straight black on the loco he built, which he attributed to the weathered finish he requested from **Kelvin**.

**Jessy Blunsdon** showed a DJ loco body he acquired from **John Dudson** some years ago. Although basically an Online kit, **Jessy** incorporated a new brass hood and he has achieved a very straight assembly that is now ready for paint. **Jessy** said he is hoping to complete the loco as a strong runner for OTM show use.

Speaking of the OTM modular layout, **Jessy** said he is intending to return to work on the yard modules he started as a project some years back. He has a clear plan and most of the trackwork has been completed.

—**John Dudson**



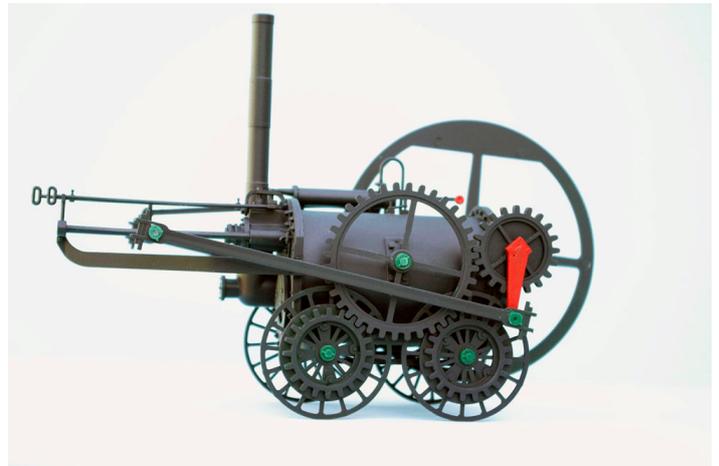
David Maciulaitis fossicks through boxes of bits from the Robin Sutherland estate, while Colin Barry and Tom Lynch chat in the background. *Trevor Corrin photo*



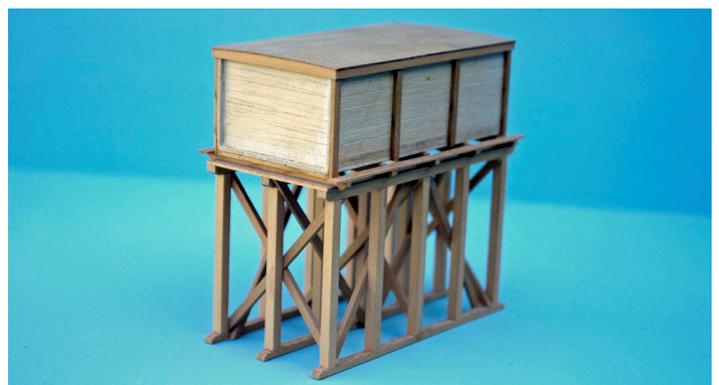
Sunshine and a table full of treats drew everyone out into the fresh air. Taking their turns in queue are, from left, David Maciulaitis, Colin Barry, John Dudson, Kevin Leigh. *Trevor Corrin photo*



A shovel poked into a steam loco firebox makes a great frying pan. Eggs and sausages done to a turn, as modelled by Paul Christensen to feed the crew of *Rocket*. *Trevor Corrin photo*

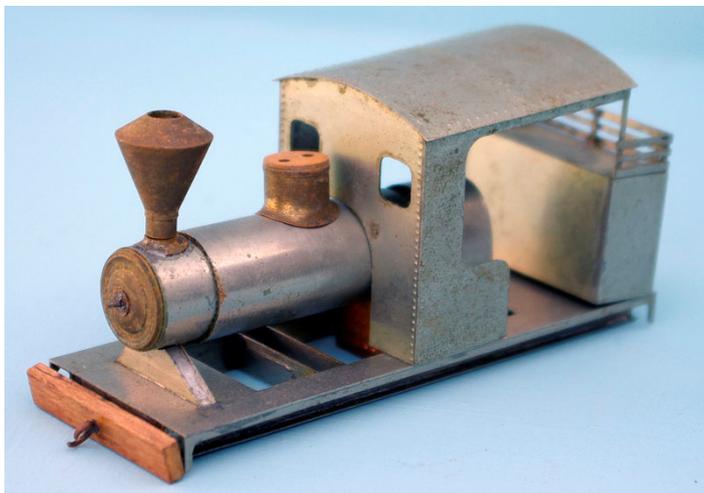


Paul Christensen's other offering was this 1:18 model of Richard Trevithick's Coalbrookdale locomotive, made from Airfix kit parts from the Robin Sutherland estate. This note from Wikipedia makes interesting reading: *In 1802, the Coalbrookdale company built a rail locomotive for him, but little is known about it, including whether or not it actually ran. To date, the only known information about it comes from a drawing preserved at the Science Museum, London, together with a letter written by Trevithick to his friend Davies Giddy. The design incorporated a single horizontal cylinder enclosed in a return-flue boiler. A flywheel drove the wheels on one side through spur gears, and the axles were mounted directly on the boiler, with no frame. On the drawing, the piston-rod, guide-bars and cross-head are located directly above the firebox door, thus making the engine extremely dangerous to fire while moving. The drawing indicates that the locomotive ran on a platway with a track gauge of 3 ft (914 mm).* *Trevor Corrin photo*



Another treasure from Robin Sutherland's bit and pieces, a 1:64-scale 4000 gallon water vat ready and waiting for a layout. *Trevor Corrin photo*

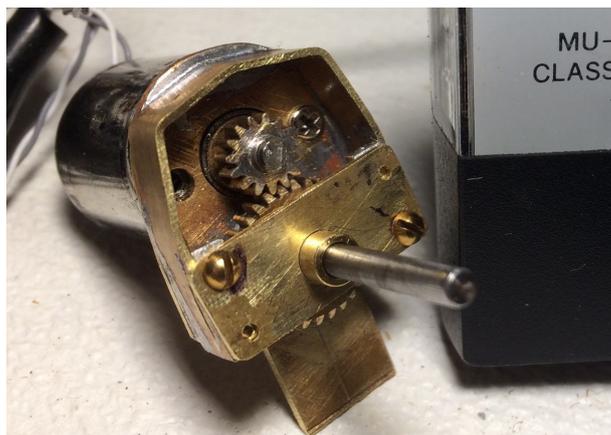
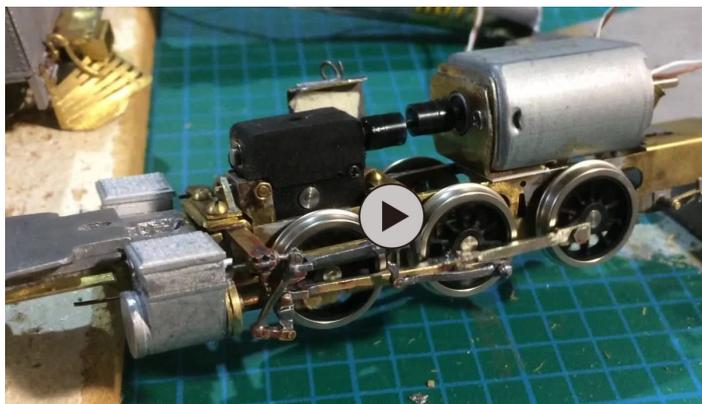
## News from abroad



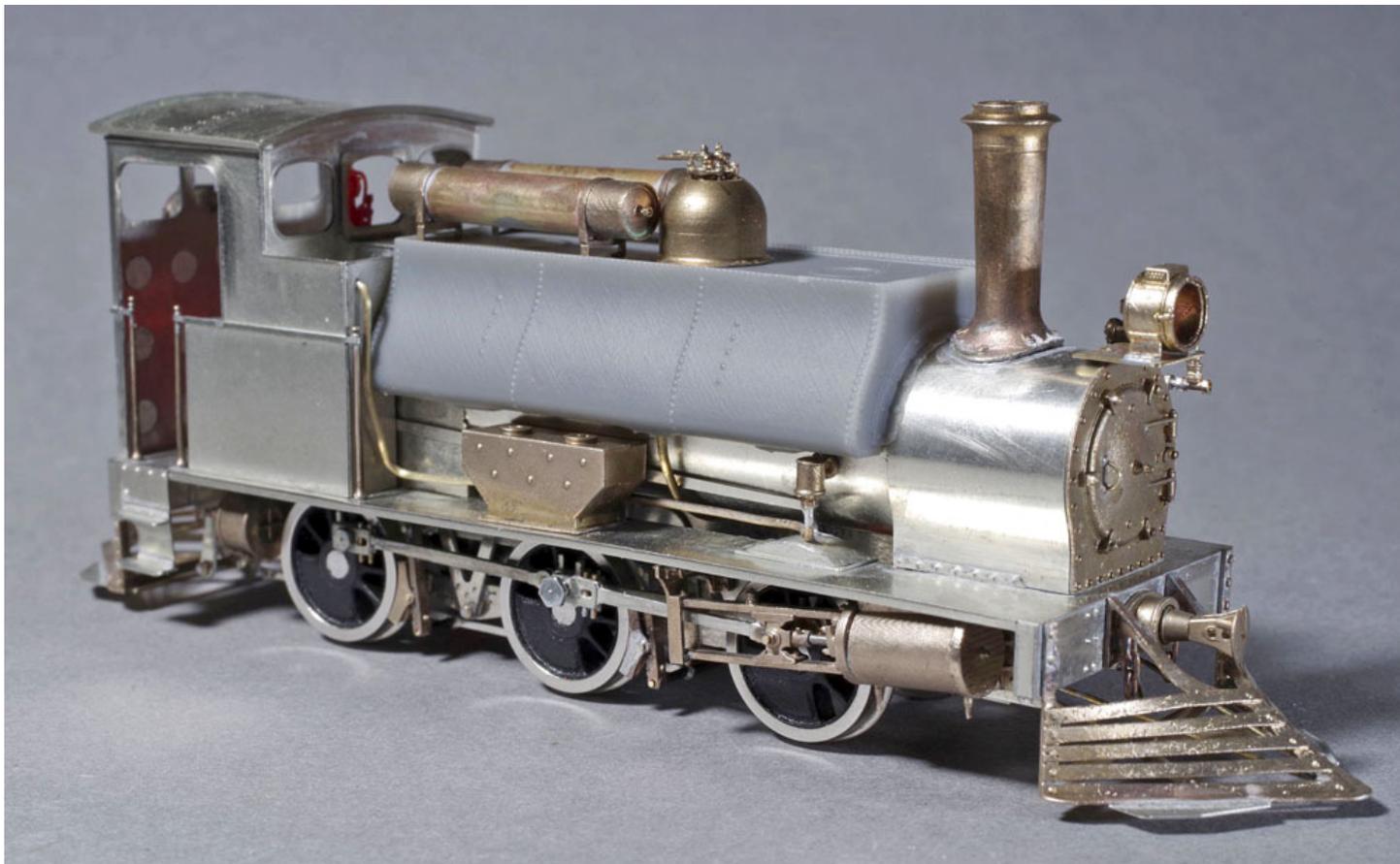
Among the locos that Robin Sutherland started and never lived to finish is this Johnson bush loco with a Shay style offset boiler. Adding the cylinders and drive machinery was always going to be a challenge. *Trevor Corrin photo*



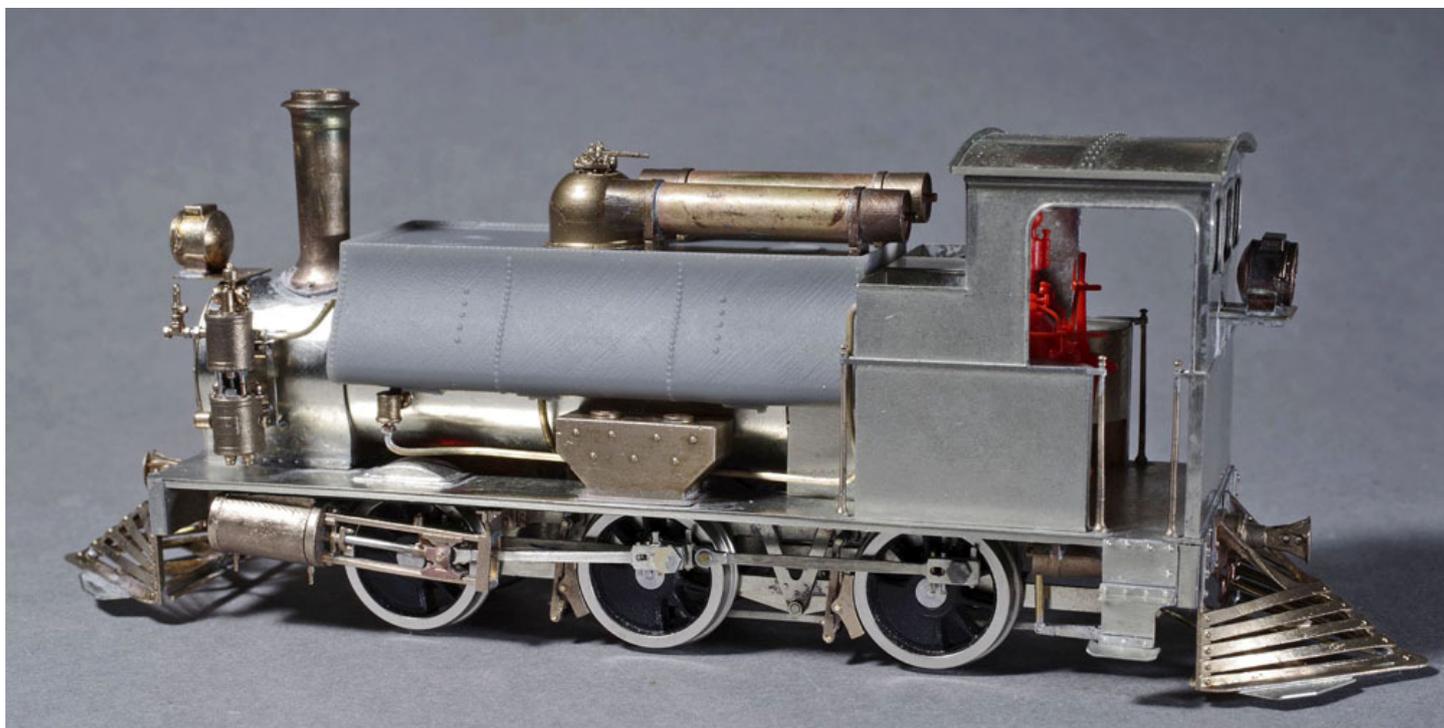
This DJ body is from an Online kit. Originally owned by John Dudson, Jessy Blunsdon has built a new short hood and cab roof from brass, and the model is now almost ready to paint before becoming a workhorse on the *One Track Minds* layout. *Trevor Corrin photo*



Back in March we reported on John Atkinson's progress with a JG Wa kit. John's still overseas but from his blog come these pictures of the chassis (top) and hand built gearbox. For an interesting browse, see John's blog: <http://lostlapiaz.com/>



It's been a while coming, but some of the most detailed research ever undertaken into the subtle and not so subtle differences between the various batches that comprised the fleet of 88 F class locos takes time. As does working out design details, incorporating innovations such as a printed circuit board instead of wiring, and drawing and testing each part, but the end is now near. This test model was photographed on July 18. *Lawrence Boul photo*



Working on the theory that you can never see too much of a superb model, here's another view of the NZ Finescale pilot model of F154. *Lawrence Boul photo*



The convention website is [www.modelrailcon.co.nz](http://www.modelrailcon.co.nz). We added an accommodation guide recently.

You can help spread the word by downloading and printing posters and flyers from the website.

Follow this link for Newsletter No2: <https://drive.google.com/open?id=1G3ErPmf2YAUyYq2F-1oxFCU-qXMTmacW>



As reported elsewhere, *Jessy Blunsdon* has commenced work on his One Track Minds yard modules. *Jessy Blunsdon photo*

#### June roll call:

Lawrence Boul	Paul Christensen	Reuben Romany
Celyn Bennet	Jason Horne	David Maciulaitis
Peter Bennet	Colin Barry	John Dudson
Tom Lynch	Trevor Corrin	
Kevin Leigh	Jessy Blunsdon	