

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.barry48@gmail.com



Newsletter September 2020

While an accurately detailed boiler backhead is nice to have, even a few rudimentary details can have very much the same effect, as Bryan Lawrence's J1211 shows.

It was a sunny and warm day, despite which everybody seemed to prefer being inside, at least early on. It seemed everybody just had so much to talk about.

A visit from **Caleb Scott** and later **Don Wills** were highlights of the day, and **Bryan Lawrence** had brought along his very fine model of J1211 in fully streamlined form. Built by **Kelvin Barry** from a JG Models kit it really does look the part. As noted above, a realistic crew and some basic cab controls, along with some expert weathering, all add up to a very convincing overall appearance. Good looks are one thing but **Bryan** reports that the J runs with a bit of a limp at the moment. He's hoping to have it fitted soon with a sound decoder.

With news that this year's Big Model Train Show had been cancelled there was talk in various quarters about arranging an alternative modelling activity for that weekend. **John Hey** and the other '80%' group were keen for a modelling weekend, and the One Track Minds group was hoping they could set up the layout or part of it somewhere. **John Dudson** was waiting for more details of the Ouruhia Hall (which later turned out to actually be the Kainga Hall).

Jason Horne had been trying some home nickel plating but it had not worked, possibly because the piece of nickel I bought off eBay and loaned to **Jason** to try out was not pure enough. In the meantime **Jason** had drawn up artwork for an etched KB cab, and his DJ and ED etches were fitting together nicely.

Peter Jamieson had been swatting up on small layout designs and forming his own ideas for a layout that will fit in his limited space. He was thinking seriously of using flush panel doors supported on DIY-store trestle tables as benchwork.

Colin Barry had completed one of the sheds for his *Rewanui* layout and was on the lookout for a cordless Dremel 8050 Micro tool, which seemed to be getting harder to find. He subsequently got the last one from Mitre 10 Greymouth, and at the time there was one at Hammer Hardware Temuka. Price \$120.

Ceylen Bennet's Whiteliffs Branch Layout had been progressing and he was waiting for wheels to arrive for his Canterbury J tender.

Jessy Blunsdon wistfully recalled how his drift car had now been waiting for him to return to Japan for almost a year. Walking parts of the Charming Creek track from both ends recently was some consolation. Due to a slip it is not possible to walk right through at the moment.

John Dudson brought along a couple of 1:64 scale Chevrolet trucks built up from Riverside Models kits from **Trevor Corrin**. **John** also pointed out an oversight in my report on his Wills greenhouse last issue. His model was actually two kits seamlessly combined to deceive an unwary editor.

Suddenly, out of the blue the city council took it in mind to check for asbestos in **Reuben Romany's** loft where he has been keeping his layout. Next thing it was off limits and **Reuben** had to rescue what he could from up there in a covert middle-of-the night stealth operation. He was still in 'discussions' with the council at the time of our meeting.

Peter Ross: I had with me a sample of the centre rail you have when you're not having a centre rail. Designed and 3D printed by **Lawrence Boul** it looks rather convincing but being only 3mm high a regulation cowcatcher clears it quite easily. I was keen to make that compromise on my Roa Branch model because that branch and the Roa yard comprise about 2/3 of the layout I'm building, and I could not really afford to have so much layout accessible only to specially adapted locomotives. The layout itself is being built in modular form, each module about 1200 long. For ease of working and comfort in winter I have been bringing two adjoining modules at a time into the lounge while I lay track and do the wiring. Three modules completed to this stage so far.

Caleb Scott happened to be in town and took the opportunity to borrow some photos from **Colin Barry** as well as some semaphore signal glasses. He was also able to shed some light on some Pyle National marker lights in **Colin's** collection. These are similar to

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



those used on the Don River Railway in Tasmania.

Bruce Shalders called in mainly to discuss recent National Railway Museum developments. One small step but an exciting one is that the NRM now has use of a building in which to set up displays. Not large, but favourably located opposite the Moorhouse Station at Ferrymead, the Albert Hall building will soon be transformed into a sample of the what a much bigger museum will be like.

Don Wills was on that mission none of us likes to

undertake — to visit his sick father for probably the last time — which it proved to be. Our condolences to you and yours, **Don**.

Don had brought along two On30 locos destined for his planned copper ore railway, along with a couple of 1:64 CB wagons modified with new scratchbuilt ends. **Don** was also able to offer some tips on home nickel plating. In retirement he is now servicing a range of industrial water pumps and 'loving it'.

—Peter

Modelling Weekend (instead of the Big Model Train Show)



Can't have a train show so we're making our own fun that weekend

Where: Kainga Hall. Turn right before the old Waimakariri bridge, over the railway line and about 1km up the road towards Stewarts Gully.

When: Saturday October 3 and Sunday October 4

Times: 9am — 5pm

Cost: Participants \$10, visitors \$5, tea, coffee and biscuits provided.



The hall is a reasonable size (15m x 8m) and has even better lighting than seen here, with LEDs now fitted.

There are 12 600 x 800 tables and two trestle tables, plus plenty of chairs, so that's enough room for about 24 work spaces.

On the day it will be first in first served or you can email peterr@inet.net.nz to reserve a place.

Bring some things to work on, your modelling tools, and if you will need power a multibox and extension lead. It may also pay to have a small table with you just in case.

Morning tea time



From left: Waiting his turn John Dudson, John Hey ready to pour, Bryan Lawrence adding the finishing touches, Peter Bennet cup in hand and in the foreground, Caleb Scott.



Kevin Leigh (left) and Caleb Scott.



Peter Jamieson (left) who is keen to get started on a small home layout will have been picking up ideas from experienced layout builder Reuben Romany.

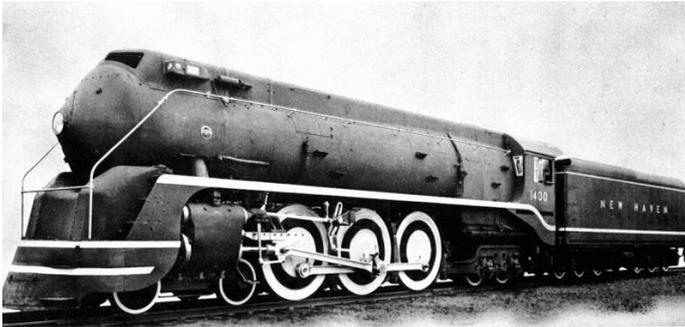


Don Wills (left) and John Dudson were practicing good social distancing.

August roll call:

Colin Barry	Jason Horne	Reuben Romany
Celyn Bennet	Peter Jamieson	Peter Ross
Peter Bennet	Bryan Lawrence	Caleb Scott
Jessy Blunsdon	Kevin Leigh	Bruce Shalders
John Dudson	Tom Lynch	Don Wills
John Hey	Brent O'Callahan	

Bryan Lawrence's model of J1211



Inescapably styled after the Baldwin-built New Haven 1-5 4-6-4 of 1937, the North British-built J of 1939 is, to my eye, more nicely proportioned so it seems a pity the streamlining was ever removed. Apparently it was not popular with crews because open at the top, cinders would accumulate and then blow back towards the cab in a wind.



Left: Colin Barry's Rewanui tin shed. He was worried about wrapping the roofing iron over the roof edge but it worked out well.
Above: The clock was once a locomotive pressure gauge. Bryan Lawrence printed a clock face for it, and Colin fitted a battery powered clock mechanism.

Don Wills' distractions

Don writes: "As a little distraction from my NZR building I am having a wee dabble with an On30 proto-freelance railway based in the northern South Island. In my backstory the railway was originally constructed to access and transport copper ore from the hills to the port of Deep Cove where there is a smelter which turns the ore into ingots for export by ship. The railway will grandly be called the Northern Midland Railway.

My favourite types of railway are HO German (Post World War 2), NZR in the early 1970s and On30 Proto-Freelance.

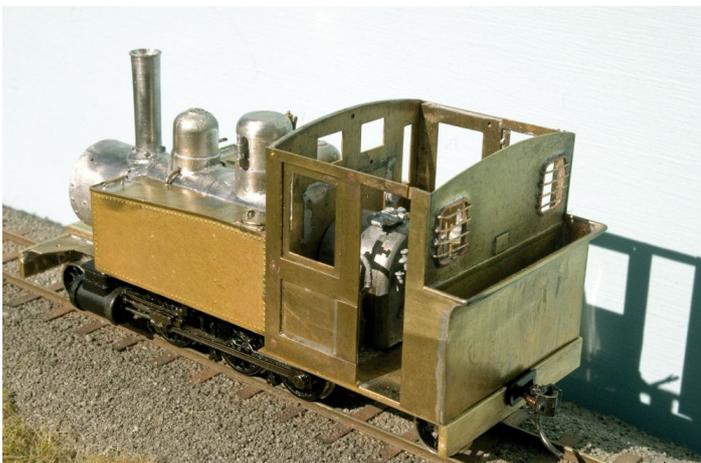
The great thing is all of my models can run on the same track!

The brass loco is an On30 Backwoods Miniatures Select-a-kit loco which originally was designed as a rear entry cab 2-6-0. Not really my first choice so I have modified it to something more likely to be seen on these shores: a 2-6-2 side entry cab. A work in progress with a lot of detail still to do. The donor loco was a Bachmann 0-6-0 US saddle tank shunter. Sadly the kits are no longer available.

The other loco is a four wheel shunter that started life as a Fleischmann Magic Trains Loco from the early 1990s based on a German Deutz. I wanted something with a bit more of a local flavour. This entailed raising the engine hood and adding a raised cab from a Bachmann Davenport On30 Gas Mechanical. These are great fodder for kitbashing and I have a number of other magic train locos including three Maffei Kraus 0-4-0 locos. Being Fleischmann they run beautifully.



This loco started life as a Fleischmann Magic Trains from the early 1990s, based on a German Deutz. Modifications have included fitting a cab from a Bachmann gas mechanical Davenport and raising it and the hood. The lower photo reveals some really convincing weathering.



Modified from an On30 Backwoods Miniatures Select-a-kit 2-6-0 that originally had a rear entry cab, Don has enclosed the cab and added a bunker to make it more typically NZ. He adds that there is still a lot more to do.

Texturing hint



It's early days in Tim Marshall's construction of a roughcast house and to simulate the roughcast texture he's used the same technique as Gordon Barr did for his Art Deco house (below), namely neatly covering the foamboard walls with 80 grit sandpaper.



A tale of two trucks

Both featured models are of 1942 Chevrolet trucks. John Dudson started with new 1:64 Riverside Models 3D printed kits (from Trevor Corrin). The green wellside is the kit with no modifications except for the addition of a sun visor and turned-in front wheels. For the blue flatbed lorry John made use of the same cab, etc, which he raised somewhat to fit the truck chassis and scratchbuilt flatbed deck. The GMC-type wheels came from Trevor.



Correction

What escaped my eagle eye last issue was quite subtle but quite significant. The Wills greenhouse kit as supplied is eight panes long, as seen here:



Whereas John Dudson's model has 11 panes, as seen here:



The significance is not so much in the number of panes as the extra skill in marrying up parts of a second kit so well that at least some of us could not see the join! Can you?

MODEL RAILWAY OPEN WEEKEND 3 - 4 OCTOBER

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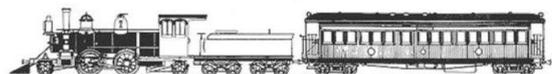
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Mob: 0274 547 543, Email: gcmrc.secretary@gmail.com



Garden City Model Railroad Club Inc

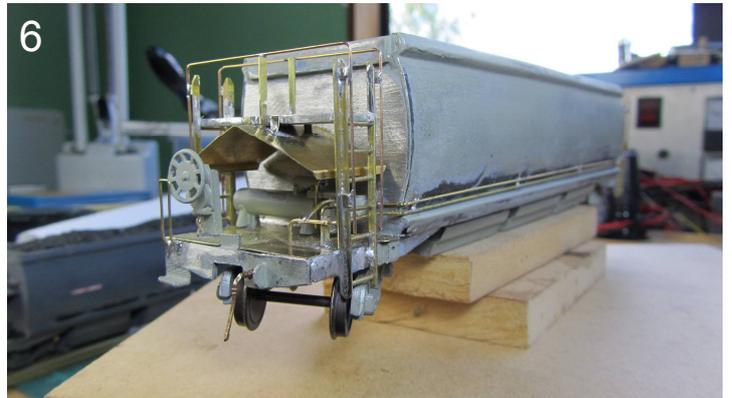
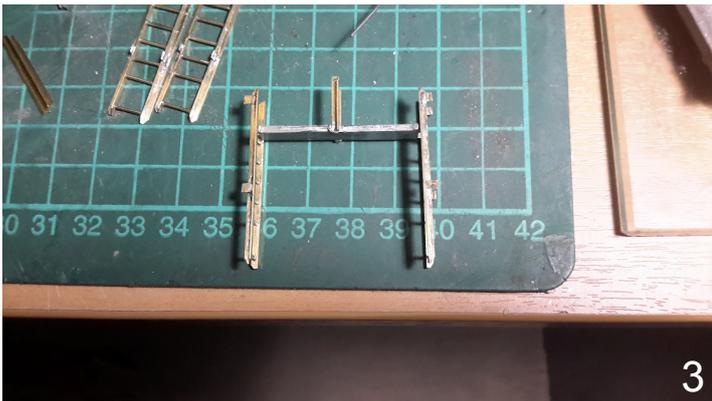
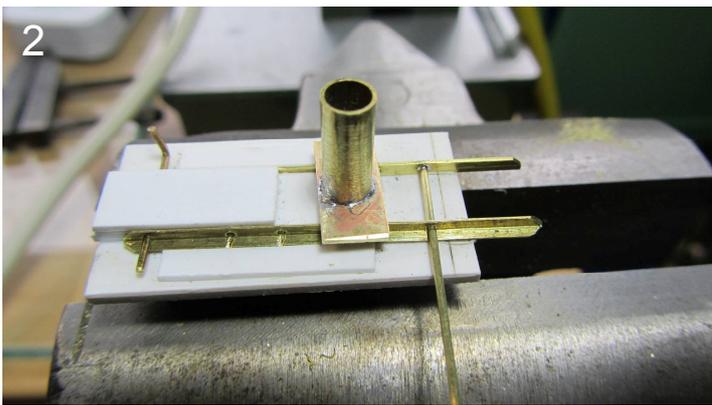
We're Located at Ferrymead Heritage Park

Don Wills' CB wagons

When Don produced a couple of CB wagons at Colin's I never bothered about taking notes. I knew they had been in a *Journal* article, so I could just grab some details from there. I later searched in vain for said article so I searched my file of articles submitted for publication, and lo and behold this is what I found. Apparently it had fallen through a crack in the editor's desk and never been published. You saw it here first folks, and of course apologies to Don for the stuff-up.

CB wagon enhancements

When some second-hand South Dock CB2 wagons that Don Wills bought on Trade Me arrived, one was in need of some TLC. Here's how he built new end walkways and associated parts, and in particular, the ladders.



From left:

1. One of the old ladders, rails for the new ladders, a completed ladder and a ladder in Don's soldering jig.
2. Don's jig for building CB2 ladders. The vertical tube is a spring loaded plate for holding the angles in position.
3. A walkway being added between two ladders.
4. Two completed walkways, one with shelter roof added.
5. One end of a completed wagon. All the brass parts are new.
6. The other (handbrake) end has different details.



Above and below: Don's wagons as seen at Colin's.

