



# The Limited

## November, 2019

A newsletter for the model railway clubs in Auckland.

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### Editor's Desk

Several summers ago, I visited The Model Railway Club in central London. The club started in 1910 and bills itself as the oldest model railway club in the world.



The club has many distinctive features. One of these is an on-site library of over 5,000 books and periodical on railways and modelling them. Some periodicals were published in the nineteenth century. This large amount of information is invaluable for both the novice and experienced modeller.

Clubs in Auckland typically have a small library of books, I am excluding periodicals here. My impression is that club members make limited use

of most of the books. There are several possible reasons why this might be so - the library has too few books for it to be seen as a valuable source of information, and the information is readily available on the internet. Whatever the reason, I believe there is merit in a club asking the following question: if we stored our rarely-used books off-site, could we make better use of the freed space?

I believe a good use of the space is to have a display designed to capture the imagination of visitors. Possible displays include a static display of locomotives and rolling stock, a small diorama, and a small layout with a z-scale train going around.

There will be no issue of *The Limited* next month (December). And starting next year, I will change to publishing *The Limited* every two months. I spent time over the last few weeks reading the past issues of *The Limited* and detected some repetition in articles from one issue to the next. I believe this repetition will be mostly eliminated by halving the publication frequency.

### Calendar of Events

December 7 – 8. SkillWise MRC's Free-Mo HO American modular model railroading weekend, SkillWise, 344 Manchester Street, Christchurch. Email Stan Agar at [Stan.Agar@skillwise.org.nz](mailto:Stan.Agar@skillwise.org.nz) ASAP if you plan attending.

December 15. Open day at the Carlyons, 2 Newcastle Tce, Mt Albert, 10am - 4pm. See their HO and N scale American layouts, and buy from a sales table. Email Kenneth Carlyon for further details at [kennethwcarlyon@gmail.com](mailto:kennethwcarlyon@gmail.com)

January 9 – 13, 2020. The 2020 Steam N' Steel, a model engineering convention in Hamilton. Day passes available. Hamilton Model Engineers.

January 18 – 19. Tauranga MRC Annual Train Show. Andy Ralph, [acralph@kinect.co.nz](mailto:acralph@kinect.co.nz).

Jan 19. Auckland NZR Modelling Day, Birkenhead Scout Hall, Recreation Drive, Birkenhead. Pete van Grinsven, [petevang@xtra.co.nz](mailto:petevang@xtra.co.nz). All prototypes.

Feb 16. Auckland NZR Modelling Day. See above.

Mar 15. Auckland NZR Modelling Day. See above.

April 10 – 13, 2020. The NZAMRC National Model Railway Convention, St Andrews College, 347 Papanui road, Christchurch.

## Registration is Open

Registration for the NZAMRC's 2020 Rails from the Rubble Convention opened mid-October. Many of you will have received a copy of the registration form by email. The form has since been updated. This updated version is available on the Rails from Rubble website at <http://www.modelrailcon.co.nz/>.

## Auckland Märklin Club

For me, the biggest model railway event in Auckland during November was the Out West Model Expo in Te Atatu Peninsula Community Centre on November 9 and 10. The expo was run by the Auckland Märklin Club.

Barry McCullough, president of the AMC, was interviewed about model railways on TV3 the evening of November 8. One goal of the interview was to increase the attendance at the expo. It is difficult to decide whether the goal was met. I do know there was a steady flow of people to the expo except on Saturday afternoon.

There was a good selection of layouts at the show. These included the large layouts of the Auckland Garden Railway Society Inc, the AMC, the New Zealand Hornby Rail Collectors Association, and the Western Districts MRC. The North Shore MRC was unable to exhibit a layout, although Michael Brannigan from the club had a small layout.

The Auckland Garden Railway Society Inc made good use of the expo to promote itself. The

photograph below was taken from one end of the AGRSI's display. There was a continuously running video of garden layouts playing on the screen, a static display of locomotives and rolling stock, A4



photographs of trains on layouts, and a board with more photographs. In addition, the AGRSI had Thomas running on the layout, a two-page handout, a sign-up sheet for people who wanted more information, and a live steam demonstration most hours. These demonstrations were conducted by John Boyson who is standing on the extreme right of the photograph by the screen.

As well as running the expo in November the AMC submitted its application to rent part of the old Massey Library. The AMC, realizing that opportunities like this are rare, spent a considerable amount of effort on application. James and I hope the effort bears fruit.

## Auckland MRC

The Auckland MRC held its November meeting at the Yorkshire OO layout of Graeme Leary. Graeme lives in the country and this added to the enjoyment of the meeting, roadworks excepted.

Graeme has some tight curves on his layout. This, combined with some of his passenger cars having three axle bogies, meant there were derailments during the meeting. Wayne Brindle who is also a member of the North Shore MRC spent much of the meeting experimenting with ways to reduce the number of derailments. Wayne met with mixed success. The photograph below shows Wayne in the

red shirt rerailling a train. From left to right Geoff, Mark and Ray are checking that Wayne is doing the rerailling correctly.



As always for the AMRC, the meeting finished with a calorific afternoon tea put on by the host.

### City of Sails MRC

The CoSMRC visited the layouts of the well-known American modellers Dave and Kenneth Carlyon late November.

The Carlyons have long had a medium-sized N scale layout in a shed in the backyard. They have recently been building a smaller HO scale layout in an attached shed. The scenery on this layout is still being added.

The first photograph below shows part of the N scale layout. From left to right are Dave Carlyon, Anthony Eames who is in the process of joining the NMRA and the CoSMRC, and Michael Hill. The second photograph below shows part of the HO layout. Closest to the camera is Kenneth Carlyon.



Behind him are Joshua and Michael Hill. Joshua is

the youngest member of the CoSMRC and possibly the youngest NMRA member in New Zealand.

After a thorough inspection of the two layouts, we



retired inside to watch a video of the Tennessee Pass.

CoSMRC members were involved in other activities in November. Several attended the Saturday session of the Free-Mo weekend in Paeroa, and several assisted with the running of layouts at the Out West Model Expo.

### Auckland Nine Mil Group

The Auckland Nine Mil Group met at Trevor Cheer's layout 10 days ago. I am happy to report that all the terrain on the layout is now complete. Fortunately, there is still plenty of work to do on the layout, such as completing the Opuha wharf.

When I attend the monthly meeting of the Auckland



Nine Mil Group, I often take a photograph of a recent addition to the layout. This time, I took a

photograph of the regular attendees, see above. Clockwise from the bottom left are Trevor Cheer, John Whyte, Phil Rzoska and Colin Zeff. The hair has not been touched up using Photoshop. Part of the incomplete Opuha wharf is to the left of Trevor and John.

John took a track-level photograph of a locomotive on Trevor's layout and kindly sent it to me to use in *The Limited*, see below. Very effective terrain.

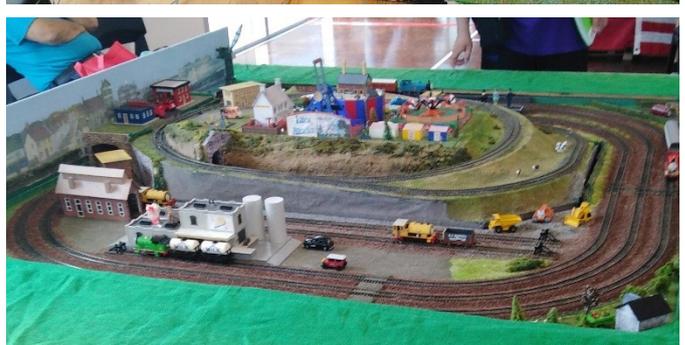


## North Shore MRC

Sixteen-year old Harrison Miles ran his first operating session November 7 after taking over from Philip Sharp as the club's Operations Coordinator. The session was very successful with all but one operator position being filled.

The following week the club held its 2019 AGM. The AGM was chaired by the club president Dave Webley and was over in 26 minutes. The AGM did not receive any nominations for the position of vice-president, and just four nominations for the five positions on the committee. Possibly because the club had fewer members this year than last year, the club made a small loss for the year. Despite this, the club's finances remain in a healthy state.

## Photos from the Out West Model Expo



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