



The Limited

June, 2019

A newsletter for the model railway clubs in Auckland.

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Editor's Desk

One stop on a layout tour at the recent AMRA convention in Tauranga was the Tauranga MRC. The club rents the second floor of a port building. A club member told me the building would be demolished and the club is looking for new clubrooms. The obvious suggestion is to rent clubrooms. I was told suitable rooms in Tauranga are almost as rare as a 4-14-4. That leaves building or acquiring your own clubrooms, or going without.



Various arrangements for clubrooms have been used in Auckland. The North Shore MRC owns its clubrooms and rents the land from the council. The

Western Districts and Auckland Central MRCs rent a council building or part of. As an interim measure, the Auckland Märklin Club is renting commercial premises. The Auckland Garden Railway Society Inc and the Auckland MRC do not have clubrooms. The Independent American Model railroaders of Auckland own their building and the land, but they are not a model railway club in the traditional sense.

One proposal the Tauranga MRC is considering is building a 200 square metre shed on reserve land owned by the council. The estimated cost is around \$200,000. The Tauranga MRC would attempt to raise most of the money from charitable trusts.

The above examples show that no one solution is an obvious winner. What is obvious to me is that with the population of Auckland projected to increase by a third over the next 15 years, the extra squeeze on land and facilities will make it increasingly difficult for clubs to have large clubrooms.

There will be no issue of *The Limited* in July as I will be overseas from early July to mid-August. Clubs are welcome to email me information on activities that occur while I am away.

Calendar of Events

June 30. An open day at the North Shore Model Railway Club from 10am -3pm. Gold coin donation.

July 13 – 14. The Taupo Model Expo.

July 18 – 29. The Model Train Show, Whitianga Baptist Church, 112 Cook Drive, Whitianga, 10am 2pm all three days. Gold coin entry. The show is hosted by the Mercury Bay Model Railway Club.

July 20. A hobby swap meet at Greerton Hall, Tauranga, from 10am to 2pm. Public entry \$2. This meet is run by the Tauranga MRC.

July 21. The Collectors Model Fair at Mt Eden War Memorial Hall, 487 Dominion Road Auckland, from 10am to 1pm (just three hours). Adults \$6, children free. The fair is run by the Auckland Central MRC.

November 9 – 10. The Out West Model Expo, Te Atatu Peninsula Community Centre, 595 Te Atatu Rd, Te Atatu Peninsula, Auckland. Hosted by the Auckland Märklin Club.

January 9 – 13, 2020. The 2020 Steam N' Steel, an international model engineering convention in Hamilton. Hosted by the Hamilton Model Engineers.

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

AMRA Convention

The Tauranga American Model Railroaders hosted the 2019 AMRA convention at the Tauranga Yacht and Powerboat Club, Tauranga, May 31 to June 3. There were 121 attendees and a few partners. The convention went well and was a credit to the four organisers Bryan Fitzpatrick, Martin Rose, Andrew McKenzie, and Wayne Ruegg.

The convention started with a mix and mingle on Friday evening. This was followed by two days of clinics, layout tours, socializing, trade tables and playing on a Free-Mo layout. The convention ended Monday morning with a business meeting.

Although the emphasis in the convention was on American modelling, modellers of other prototypes were encouraged to attend, and some did. In addition, one of the layouts on the tour was NZR, another was British, and a third was a freelanced mix of American and British.

Auckland modellers supported the convention well, both through attendance and the clinics they gave. How much money they spent remains unknown.

The photograph at the top of the next column is of a very detailed O scale sawmill Malcolm Greig made from a craftsman kit. Malcolm gave a clinic in which he described how he assembled the kit.



Television Episode

Last month a television company asked through a local club's Facebook page if the club would supply a one metre square layout and trains for use as props in an episode of a television show. I administer the page and passed the request on to the club. The club was unable to meet the request.

I then gave the TV company the contact details of three other Auckland clubs who ran a mix of prototypes. I also said I could contact the Auckland Märklin Club if requested. Was. Did.

Barry McCullough, the president of the AMC, emailed me a few days later to say the AMC would provide a layout. Barry has since built the layout. If all goes to plan, the layout will appear in an episode of *Brokenwood Mysteries*. Barry asked the AMC and not he get the credit.

City of Sails MRC

Except for the club president Paul Hobbs who was overseas, all members of the City of Sails MRC attended the recent AMRA convention, and three members gave clinics. James Kelso spoke about the triple deck mushroom layout he is building to model the Montana Rail Link. Michael Hill talked about simple uses of Arduinos on layouts and I gave a more narrowly focused clinic on handmade scale lumber. This was the first time James and Michael had given a clinic at a national convention. Michael said that he and his son Joshua had a 'cracker weekend'.

At the AMRA banquet Kel Sherson, superintendent for Division 5 of the NMRA's Australasian Region, presented the CoSMRC with its annual certificate. The photograph below shows me (right) accepting the certificate from Kel on behalf of the CoSMRC. The citation on the certificate reads "The City of

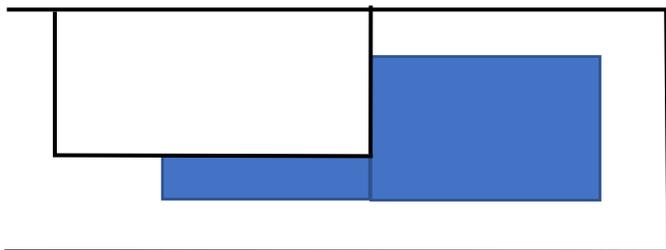
Sails Model Railway Club and the NMRA commit to work together to promote, strengthen and enlarge the hobby of Railway Modelling”, a good encapsulation of the club’s mission statement.



Auckland MRC

The AMRC had its June meeting at Graeme Jones’s home. Over half of the club members attended.

Graeme models the Southern in England in the 1930s to 1960s. Graeme made good use of the available floor space for his OO layout. The main part of the layout is in an alcove at the end of a hall and is 2.4m x 2.0m. The rest of the layout is a station along one wall of the hall and is 2.4m x 0.4m. The figure below, not to scale, shows this arrangement.



The layout is blue and the black lines are the walls.

Graeme has a large collection of locomotives. These include Bulleid Pacifics in classes Merchant Navies, West Country and Battle of Britain in both the original streamlined and rebuilt BR forms. He also has Southern CME Oliver Bulleids, some earlier Drummonds and Maunsels, and an LNER A4 Mallard. In addition, Graeme has a large selection of passenger cars.

The photograph below was taken from point A in the previous figure and shows most of the layout. The station along the hall wall is in the top left of the photograph.



Each of the last few AMRC meetings have had a sales table. The June meeting was no exception. There were wagons and passenger cars available for \$3 to \$5 and DVDs for free. More about sales tables in the next issue.

Auckland Garden Railway Society Inc

The AGRSI held its June running meet at the Ore Valley Railway. This is owned by Simon Sharp, no relation, and is an indoor layout, making it a good choice for a running meet in the winter.

Simon has made extensive modifications to the Ore Valley Railway since the club’s previous visit. The mainline is now an oval with four-foot radii. There is a passing siding and spur coming off that. The landscape is more rural and the lighting has been improved.

The photograph below shows a train crossing the viaduct on the mainline.



Auckland 9 mil Group

Over the last year, the Auckland 9 mil group have been building the Opuha Wharf on Trevor Cheer's layout and adding scenery to the layout. The last two months have been a quiet period for work on the wharf. This has not been so for the scenery. The photograph shows an almost complete railway house John Whyte built. John's next task is to complete the shed in the backyard and to plant a vegetable garden that will include scratchbuild (homegrown?) cabbage and broccoli.



Auckland Märklin Club

Three items of news from the AMC.

The next two steps on the path to new clubrooms are an open day at the proposed venue, date unknown, and a written submission.

Almost all the arrangements for the Whangaparaoa Train Show have been finalized. The two main layouts will be the AMC's HO layout and a HO layout from the Western Districts MRC. The Auckland Garden Railway Society will have a G scale shunting layout and give live steam demonstrations. The AMC will have its layout for children. There will be a small Hornby layout and displays from the Hibiscus Radio Flyers and the Meccano Group.

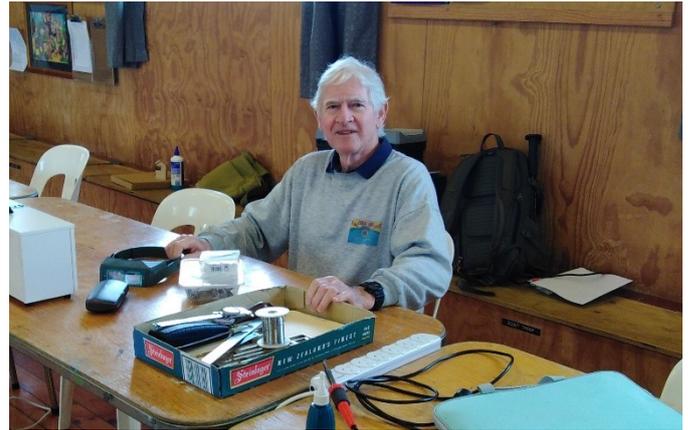
Barry is organizing a layout design competition in conjunction with the Western Districts Schools to create local community interest in the AMC.

Auckland Modelling Day

The Auckland NZR Modellers Group with support from the NZR Westies and the NZMRG held one of their regular modelling days at the Birkenhead Scout Den in Recreational Drive on June 23rd.

One new face at the modelling day was long-time 9 mil modeller Phil Rzoska. The photograph below

shows Phil posing before giving me instruction on soldering a brass 9 mil U-3 wagon I am building.



Classified Ads

The classified ads in *The Limited* are provided as a service for modellers in Auckland. The editors of *The Limited* do not accept responsibility for the wording of ads and any negotiations associated with them. Each ad should be no more than 50 words.

HO scale. Wanted. Lima British and Australian outline 4 wheeled box vans, 4 wheeled open wooden plank and 4 wheeled open steel mineral wagons. They must have steel buffers modelled on the under frames, NOT square blocks. Send details & price required to Frank ffordham@hotmail.co.uk

OO scale. For Sale. A4 locomotives - all with DCC decoders: 60021 Wild Swan Brunswick Green (Bachmann), 60007 Sir Nigel Gresley Blue (Bachmann), 60027 Merlin 'Experimental Purple' (Hornby), 60031 Golden Plover (renamed) Brunswick Green/Diagonal cab stripe (Hornby), 60028 Sea Eagle, renamed Brunswick Green (Hornby), Graeme Leary for photos & details, graeme.leary@xtra.co.nz

Tools. Wanted to buy. Secondhand parallel pliers. Philip Sharp, pwsharp101@gmail.com

Contact Details

James Kelso, jameskelso250@gmail.com

Philip Sharp, pwsharp101@gmail.com

Subscribe or unsubscribe

The Limited has distribution lists for clubs and individuals. If any club or person would like to be removed or added to the distribution lists please email Philip. Subscribers need not be in Auckland.

Greerton Hall,
Tauranga

Hobby swap meet

Saturday July 20th, 2019.

All Hobbies: buy, sell, swap...
organized by Tauranga Model Railway Club.

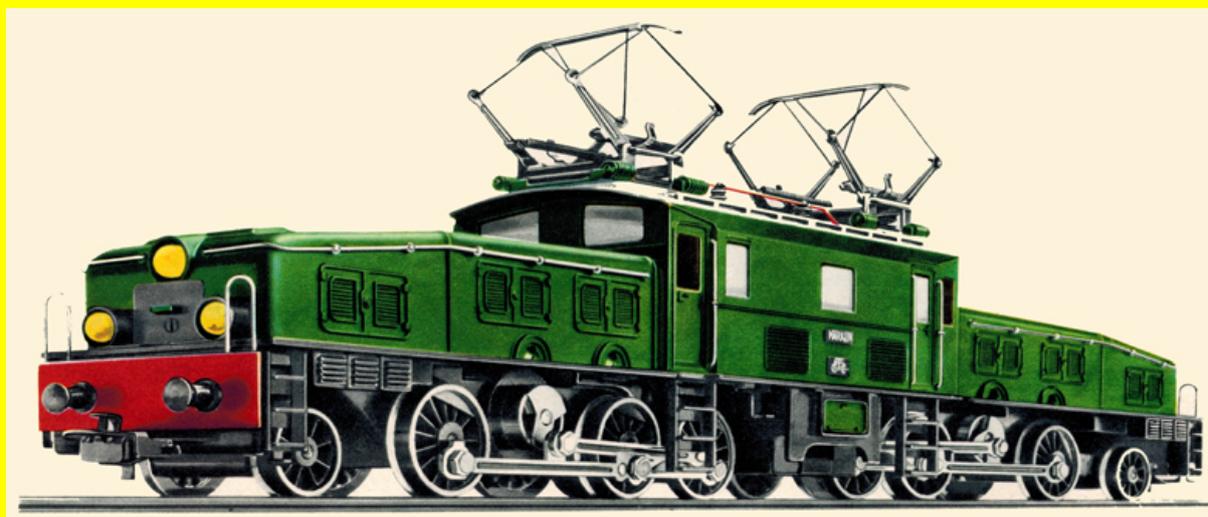
- ❖ All hobbies/arts/crafts welcome.
- ❖ 2m x 2.5m table/space \$25 each.
- ❖ Reserve your table/space...
acralph@kinect.co.nz
- ❖ Public entry: \$2 each.

Setup tables/spaces
from 8.30am.

Public: 10am to 2pm.

MODEL SHOW

**Operating train layouts, Live Steam, boat
model boats, radio-controlled planes**



**Saturday & Sunday 13 & 14 July 2019
10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

**Whangaparaoa Hall, cnr Whangaparaoa Rd & Main St
(by the Plaza Shopping Centre), Whangaparaoa**

Adults \$6 Children \$3 Family \$12

Organised by the Auckland **marklin** Club

For info Ph. 021 913367
or see EventFinda listing (search Marklin)



Hamilton Model Engineers Inc.

Steam N' Steel 2020

International Model Engineering Convention

Thursday 9th – Monday 13th January 2020

Hamilton Model Engineers Inc., the oldest model engineering club in New Zealand, invite you all to the 2020 International Convention at their track in **Minogue Park, Hamilton.**

With two separate tracks we have over 1.6km of track winding through regenerating native bush, over 6 bridges and through 3 tunnels. The tracks all have a variety of travel choices and variety of grades —

- The 'Outside' track is dual gauge 5" and 7¼"
- The 'Inside' track is 3½", 5" and 7¼" gauges.
- 11 steaming bays with 12 volt power & water
- Unloading hoist is roughly 2 metres long and can reach 1.5 metres from the ground.
- Welsh coal, petrol and various steam oils will be available.

Registrations are now live and can be completed online or by a paper copy. Payment is accepted via online banking or cheque. Registration forms are on our website. Overseas attendees fill out the registration form as normal, but note payment must be made on the day of the convention to avoid overseas banking fees.

See the HME website for more details and to get information about accommodation, transport and any other queries you may have. We look forward to seeing you in January.

WWW.HME.CO.NZ
2020@HME.CO.NZ

