



On the Right Track

February 2017

Visit us on Internet www.noarlungarail.com

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Send items for inclusion to the editor via admin@noarlungarail.com

This newsletter is available as a download from our website www.noarlungarail.com

Coming events:

Model Railway Swapmeet.

Friday, April 21st. 2017 7.30-9.00pm.

Uniting Church Hall, 28 Hillier Rd, Morphett Vale.

Goodbye Paradigm

After years of service it is time to say goodbye to Paradigm. Paradigm was the long serving exhibition layout for the club, touring displays from local events such as craft fairs, nursing homes and the AMRE Exhibition to interstate shows in Stawell, Warnambool and Ballarat where it won an award for best layout in 2006.

For years it has been modified to keep up with progress in model railroading such as adding DCC operation, scenery has been altered to allow for easier access to the tunnel, or to show that a layout is forever evolving. However, the weight of Paradigm and the depth of electronics inside were causing problems for the members displaying it, and it was decided to be replaced. Construction of the clubs new display layout 'Lakeside', the restoration of the permanent layout and the planning of a future layout would mean that there was no place for Paradigm in the club's future.

Over the summer of 2016/17 Paradigm has been removed of its useful parts; structures, animals, figures, vehicles, points, electronics and magnetic uncouplers which are being used to fill out areas on Lakeside, the permanent layout or saved for the next layout. The steel frames, foam hills and anything else left on Paradigm was taken to the dump in Lonsdale.

I would like to thank everyone who has helped with the work of originally constructing Paradigm to show what the club represents, to all the people over the years whom have helped to operate it and show off at exhibitions, nursing homes and other events, and to the people who have helped with the process of removing the items for use in the future.

Justin Coombes

How Hard is it to Build a Convincing Free-lance Model Railway?

To build a free-lance model is easy. Any loco or wagon will do, from any era, and any place: the same applies to the scenery. Did you notice the key word in the question that is the title? "Convincing". A convincing model railway will draw the operator(s) and observers into an imaginary scale world, and keep them there, often for hours at a time. Truth is that a convincing free-lance layout is a very rare thing, and the reasons are not hard to fathom.

A prototype layout is difficult enough. Any time you wish to model a feature you will need to refer to the original, and make the best scale copy that you can: if you are lucky, or a great researcher and modeller, you will have a prototype for everything and the skills, materials, time and space to build it. But, that's not all: you'll then need to know how (and when) the prototype worked – so timetables, rule books and other ephemera become really important. Even then, you'll have to compromise, to accept for example, that the oily black smoke from an Alco diesel (or a steam engine) cannot be reproduced in a practical manner. There are three major influences in starting on a prototype layout, or even a collection of rolling stock – a narrative, time and place.

For a free-lance layout, the same applies, except that the narrative is now absolutely critical: after all, you have not necessarily drawn your scale piece of real estate from either history or reality, and it is the narrative that sets the landscape, and the time. You must, of course, allow reality to intrude upon the fantasy. Rail has to be part of the layout, as are trains – that's what it's all about, after all! But your narrative can allow for historical or locational inputs from reality. For example, many of us are aware that the South Australian Railways ran into Victoria and NSW, and that the VR ran into NSW, too, and that the Genessee and Wyoming Railroad now runs over much of Australia. But, who knows of the Southern Pacific empire in Western Queensland, or of the Prussian State Railways in New Guinea (OK, I've not had long enough to think about this, and my imagination is not really firing...). There are advantages in building a layout where American railroads shared trackwork – the operating rules are fairly consistent, wagons are interchangeable, and locos are relatively inexpensive.

It is arguable that a model railway using, say, SAR locos, rollingstock, architecture and practices in a mythical location is barely free-lance, but change the lettering to that of a fictional railway and it is your prerogative to rewrite the rule book with little fear of justifiable criticism. But don't try to rewrite the rules of nature: I have seen model watercourses that appear to run across steep slopes, where a check with reality would show that gravity would make this unlikely!

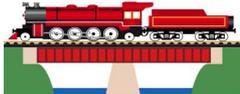
There are very real advantages to going free-lance: the biggest advantage is that, with careful selection of industries, locomotives and rollingstock, a free-lance layout can be very small, and have very tight curves, allowing an awful lot of operation in a confined space. Our late member, Richard Annear, ran a railway like this, the Sturt Valley Railway, in one end of an old caravan. (I'm quite sure that newer, bigger caravans can be fitted with working model railways, too!)

The world of the free-lance modeller can be challenging, but so can any modelling. Give it some thought – it might just be the right path for you.

Allan Lees

Club Photographer(s).

This newsletter is not unusual in that there is a clear lack of photographic material, and this in an age where so many of our members won't leave home without a smart phone. Yes, I am aware (too well aware...) that mere possession of a smart phone is no guarantee of being smart enough to work a smart phone, but for those who are smart enough, let's see some evidence! Modern phone photos are more than good enough to put some colour into the newsletter.



**NOARLUNGA
MODEL
RAILROADERS**

Reminder Notice

‘ TRACK CLEANING CARS ’

Required on all trains when operating on the layouts.

**Any type of cleaning car is acceptable as long as it works. Railcars are exempt.
Please talk with a Committee member if you need any help with this.**

**Signed:
NMRI Management Committee 3/12/2016.**



Model Railway Swapmeet

- When: Friday night 21st. April 2017
7.30-9.00 p.m.
- Where: Uniting Church Hall
28 Hillier Road, Morphett Vale

Opposite Southgate Plaza (Square)
- What: Model trains, track, magazines, buildings,
kits, cars, books etc.
Tea, coffee and cold drinks
- Cost: Admission \$3.00
- Sellers: \$20 per table, size 1800x750mm
\$15 if paid by 28 March 2017

Maximum two persons per table please

Bookings and Information:

Email: admin@noarlungarail.com

Club phone: 8322 7047 (101 messaging)

Post: PO Box 707, Morphett Vale, SA 5162

Next Swapmeet will be held 17th. November 2017

Helpers will be needed...

No doubt a formatted page will soon appear on a club noticeboard, with spaces for volunteers names. The whole event takes little more than three hours (for most of us), and is an important fund-raiser...

Club Member Responsibilities 2016/17

President	Ron Weeden
Vice-President	John Cutler
Secretary	Bruce Ewens
Treasurer	Peter Lynch
Committee Members	Denis Woolard, Jeff Kohler, Peter Lynch, John Cutler, Ron Weeden, Peter Saunders, Bruce Ewens, Justin Coombes
Public Officer	Bruce Ewens
Life Member	Frank Crossley
Events (Open Days, Swap Meets, etc.)	Denis Woolard, Peter Lynch
Membership	Jeff Kohler
Security	Peter Saunders
First Aid	Peter Lynch
Cleaning	Peter Lynch, Jeff Kohler (extra help always welcome...)
Web Administrator	Bruce Ewens
Newsletter	
Main Layout	Frank Crossley
Lakeside	Ron Weeden, Denis Woolard, Jeff Kohler, Peter Saunders
Building Maintenance	Committee
Drinks and Confectionary Purchasing	Jeff Kohler
Sausage Sizzle Group Leaders	Justin Coombes, John Cutler, Peter Lynch
Sausage Sizzle Sausage Purchasing	Peter Lynch
Sausage Sizzle Onion Purchasing	Justin Coombes

Yes, folks, these are advertisements, but not ordinary advertisements. These businesses each help our club and its activities.

End Of The Line Hobbies

Your One Stop Hobby Shop

End Of The Line Hobbies is offering club members a 5% discount off all purchases. To be eligible you must be a current financial member and mention your club membership at the time of purchase. The club will receive the same amount as a voucher for use as we see fit. So you can help yourself and the club at the same time.

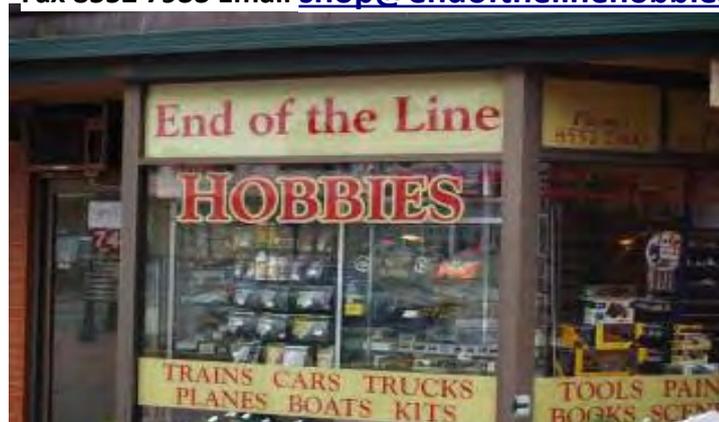
Delivery can be arranged anywhere in the world and orders may be placed in person at the shop, via email, snail mail, phone or fax. There is a stock hold option and payments can be made by Visa Card, Master Card, EFTPOS and good old fashioned cash!

Wednesday – Sunday 10:00 am – 4:30 pm

End Of The Line Hobbies 74 Ocean Street Victor Harbor SA 5211(near the turntable)

Ph 8552 7900 Find us at www.endofthelinehobbies.com.au

Fax 8552 7933 Email shop@endofthelinehobbies.com.au



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