

CANBERRA COMMENTARY.

The Canberra group of members has had another meeting (26 June) where they held one of their usual Bull Sessions. This group hold one of this type of meeting each month and the only stipulation on members is that they have to bring something along for discussion, ie. loco, rolling stock, structure, book, print, colour slides, etc. This time the meeting was at Grahame Hodges' home and the members surveyed the progress that has taken place on Graham's layout since last the members were there. Also perused were several items of "Non-Ferrous Metal Objects" and a new book on "Walhalla" which showed all about mining, logging and railway. After one of Anita's delightful suppers the boys struggled out into temperatures of minus 3°. (Sorry boys, the Editor is not available for visits to Canberra before NEXT NOVEMBER, owing to the pressure of Regional work.)

Recently our NSW Director, Peter Weller-Lewis and his wife paid a visit to some friends at Ballarat in Victoria. Prior to leaving on the trip, Peter checked with the Editor and 3 members' names were given to him so that he could make contact with these members if he so desired. Well Peter did make contact and in the first instance met Paul Ritchie and his wife. Peter was most impressed with Paul's Narrow Gauge models that used to run on the Walhalla Railway in Victoria.

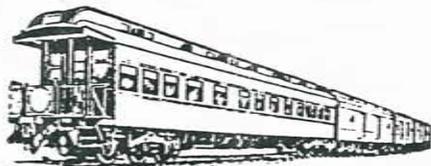
On the following night Peter and his wife journeyed to Dave Goddard's home where he also met Mike Maloney and the usual Bull Session went on into the late hours of the night.

In Peter's own words, he says "I have been to Ballarat on many occasions in the past and I was quite surprised to find out we had fellow NMRA Region members in the area and this was certainly the most enjoyable and memorable visit to the area so far",

There was a Model Railroad Exhibition held recently at Malkara, ACT and Peter Weller-Lewis attended in his role with the NMRA. Another member there was Phil Knife (Secretary) who was seen operating a layout with some other model buffs.

According to the grapevine, Peter was seen talking to 3 females and answering questions from them. (I hope the questions were about trains, Peter!).

This is the kind of effort by members that will help us gain further members for our great association. Keep it up chaps!!



MAIN LINE

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE AUSTRALASIAN REGION



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AUSTRALIA

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Both Toni and I were pleased to welcome 20 members of the new Region to our home on 10 June last. At that meeting I was able to announce the following further appointments as Directors -

Ray Brownbill - Division IV - South Australia,
Western Australia and Northern Territory

Brian Marstaeller - Division I - Queensland

Keith Oman - Division V - New Zealand

We now have a keen executive of nine modellers with many years of experience in the hobby. We hope we will be able to justify your support in expanding the NMRA and serving your interests in this part of the world.

Paul Shimada, who lives in Sacramento, California, has been elected President of the NMRA. Paul was helpful in the early days in supplying local membership listings for Australasia and I am certain we will continue to receive his support. Jack Weir, who did not contest the election was, of course, President whilst we were striving for approval for the new Region. We would not have succeeded without Jack's assistance and we thank him again for this.

The 1984 Convention is being held at this time in Kansas City and Bob Dupont is the Region's proxy. Bob has just been re-elected as Executive Vice President of the NMRA. My first report as Trustee was forwarded in time for the Convention and I included a motion to get the elusive Tape/Slide programme introduced to Australasia promptly.

AMRA have very kindly invited us to the Labor Day weekend exhibition at Liverpool and I hope as many NMRA members as possible visit us at the Region's stand. Don't forget to introduce yourselves when you do.

Finally, our first informal get-together is soon to be held at Clive Riley's house - his collection of USA RR video's is outstanding. It will be an evening not to be missed and I hope to see you there.

Until next time

John Saxon

Coming Events

Please address Coming Events notices to the editor. Notice length and deadline dates are given. Because of space requirements, only a certain percentage of notices can be printed. Notice group events that advertise fees are CAHMOY notices are best for regular club activities. Notices MUST arrive at least 45 days in advance otherwise, notices for the October event, etc. must be typed or printed double spaced in the following format:

Name, city, sponsoring organization, event location, dates, times, etc. State, specific location, times, etc. List specific activities, times, costs, address and phone number of person to contact for more information, signatures and address of person submitting information to be published.

Notices that don't meet the above qualifications may be rejected.

NATIONAL

Missouri, Kansas City, National Convention, Aug 7-12, 1984. Info: Registrar to the President, 11411 Mulcard, Kansas City, MO 64116.

Missouri, Kansas City, West SG & Scale Convention, Aug 7, 1984. Registration: 9 a.m. - 10 p.m. \$15 registration. Check, display, swap tables, auction & industry reps. Info: Mike Sawyer, 501 N. 4th St., Kansas City, MO 64108. (816) 452-8328.

REGIONS

California, Fresno, MIRA Pacific Coast Region Annual Convention "Daylight 85," May 2-5, 1985. Fresno Convention Center, 525 Jackson Ave. 1985. \$30. Presenter: Wm. J. Scott, 43 Acad. Court, CA 93272. (209) 286-7715.

England, Leeds, British Region, "Great Northern Affair" Annual Convention, Oct 12-14, 1984. Ladbroke Mercury Hotel, Gorton, Leeds. £2 registration (women & children free). £45.50 total accommodations including baroque for complete week-end. Info: Steve Park, 33 Newcomer Ln., Leeds LS7 3JX, West Yorkshire, England. (0532) 425291.

New Jersey, Cherry Hill, Mid Eastern Region, Boardwalk Fair Convention, Sept. 28-30, 1984. Cherry Hill Hyatt Hotel. Free access, layouts, clinics, pinball, banquet, swap tables. Info: Ron Bale, 828 Somerset St., Gloucester, N.J. 08030. (609) 456-4677.

Oklahoma, Oklahoma City, ICAR-MIRA Greater Oklahoma City Area Model Railroad Meet, Sept. 15, 1984. 100 N. Midwest Blvd. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. At the door adults \$2.50 - 12 yrs. \$2.50 and under free. Info: Registrar Chas. Lee, 4700 N. Northstar, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73122. (405) 785-4567.

Texas, Houston, Lone Star Region, MIRA, 1984 Region Convention, June 25-July 1, 1984. Scudder's Greenway Plaza Hotel. Check, contests including the new module contest, movies, swap tables, etc. at the hotel, home about town, banquet, swap and the auction, meals & breakfast. Info: Larry Redmond, Car Club, 14722 Laker Bay Rd., Houston, TX 77058. (713) 332-4534 evenings.

Washington, Pasco, Pacific Northwest Region, Annual Convention, June 27-July 1, 1984. Red Lion Motor Inn, 340 Reg. Ave. 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. \$45. Presenter: Pat, cards & youth activities. Check, contests, movies, displays, swap, meet, layout tours, pinball, etc. Info: Gary Federal, 317 Bernard, Richland, WA 99352. (509) 946-9852.

DIVISIONS

California, Brea, MIRA Cajon Division Pacific Southwest Region Summer Meet, July 8, 1984. Mariposa Elementary School, 1111 Mariposa Dr. 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Members \$2.50, non-members \$3. Info: John Hachey, 2885 S. Phoenix Ave., Ontario, CA 91714. (949) 447-4369.

California, Walnut Creek, Redwood Empire Division Bi-monthly Meeting & Spring Picnic, July 15, 1984. Larkley Park, 2751 Buena Vista Ave. 1 p.m. No charge. Info: Michael Wilson, (707) 527-5230 or the Walnut Creek Club (415) 937-1888.

Florida, St. Petersburg, Western Division SSR Meet, July 29, 1984. Skyway Inn, 3600 34 St. S. US19. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. \$1 registration. Live & video clinics & model contest. All-day clinic for raketes painting plaques. Info: Ray Dean, 10910 52 Ave. N., St. Petersburg, FL 33708. (813) 393-3147.

Nebraska, Omaha, 32nd Semiannual Omaha-Lincoln Area Meet, Sept. 15, 1984. New Tower Inn, 78th & Dodge. 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. Admission at door. Clinics, swap tables, contest and module displays. Info: Ms. Fran Lavin, 1020 S. 36th, Apt. 9, Council Bluffs, IA 51501. (712) 328-3148.

New Hampshire, Wolfeboro, Seacoast Division MIRA & Wolfeboro Branch Railroad Club 7th Annual Model Railroad Show, Aug. 18-19, 1984. Wagon Hall, Glendon St. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. \$1.50 adults, children under 12 50¢, under 5 and over 64 free. Model contest, ladies' handcraft contest, operating layouts and Wolfeboro Railroad activities. Info: David Collinge, 77 Home St., Dover, NH 03820. (603) 749-4870.

Ohio, Columbus, Buckeye Division, MCR, Aug. 3-19, 1984. Ohio State Fair, model railroad bldg., state fairgrounds. Operating in HO and O scale layouts. 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. Free. Info: David Fichter, 3387 Scouting Dr., Columbus, OH 43221. (614) 459-5206.

Ohio, North Olmsted (Cleveland), Division Four MCR/MIRA, Fall Carnival of Model Railroading, Oct. 5-7, 1984. Great Northern Mall, 1-480 & Great Northern Blvd. Fri. & Sat. 10 a.m. - 9 p.m., Sun. noon - 5 p.m. Free. Dealers' flea market, operational layouts, displays & movies. Info: Ron Morgan, 151 Kempton Dr., Berea, OH 44017. (216) 234-3623.

Virginia, Hampton, Tidewater Division, MER, MIRA, Meet, November 17, 1984. Newmarket North, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. \$1 registration. Info: Ralph Othander, P.O. Box 2087, Newport News, VA 23602. 874-0825.

Virginia, Virginia Beach, Tidewater Division, MER, MIRA, Meet, September 15, 1984. Pembroke Mall, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. \$1 registration. Info: Ralph Othander, P.O. Box 2087, Newport News, VA 23602. 874-0825.

CLUBS

California, Buena Park, Pioneer Western Railroad Club Annual Swap Meet, September 22, 1984. 7422 Orangewood, 9 a.m. - noon. Free. Info: Paul E. Bush, 1619 Sunny Crest Dr., Fullerton, CA 92625. (714) 526-6718.

California, Oakland, East Bay Engineers Society, Open House, July 20, 1984. 4075 Hallock St. Fr. 7:30-10 p.m. Info: East Bay Model Engineers Society (415) 658-3537 or (415) 759-8256.

California, Pomona, Citrus Empire Model Railroad Club, Annual Open House, Aug. 4-5, 1984. Under grandstand L.A. County Fair. Noon-5 p.m. Info: Jim Fritsche, 557 N. Main View Ave., Pomona, CA 91767. (714) 629-0330.

California, San Mateo, Peninsula Model Railroad Ass'n Pacific Railroad, Sept. 7-9, 1984. San Mateo City Fairgrounds, Dezaire & 25th Ave. Fr. 6 p.m. - 9 p.m., Sat. 11 a.m. - 9 p.m., Sun. 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Adults \$2, families \$4. Info: Tom Knecht, 1740 Valota Rd., Redwood, CA 94061. (415) 366-3377.

California, Walnut Creek, Club Show, July 29, 1984. 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Adults \$1.50, children 5-12 and seniors 50¢.

Canada, Ontario, Hamilton, HO Model Engineers Society, Oct. 12, 1984. St. John Ambulance Bldg., 500 Upper Wellington St. 7:30 p.m. Admission \$4. An evening of railroad slides & movies. Info: Ron Tuff, 115 Athena Dr., Stony Creek, Ont. L8J 1S4. (416) 573-3560.

Illinois, New Berlin, Sangamon Central Model Railroad & Sangamon County Fair Summer Festival, Show & Layout Operation, July 4-8, 1984. Sangamon County Fairgrounds (16 miles west of Springfield on US 36). Noon-8 p.m. \$4 adults \$3.12 and under (includes fair rides & many other attractions). Info: J.B. Hill, RR2, New Berlin, IL 62670. (217) 488-2190.

Illinois, Wauconda, Lake County Model Railroad Club Open House, Nov. 10-11, 1984. 107 S. Main (rear entrance). 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Info: James Carrow, 223 No. Bemis Ct., Round Lake, IL 60073.

Iowa, Charles City, Charles City Model Railroad Club Flea Market & Open House, Aug. 4, 1984. Charles City High School. 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. \$1 admission, \$5 table. Info: Ray Hughes, 500 Springs St., Charles City, IA. (515) 228-6146 (evenings) or Tim Garthwaite (515) 228-9806 (9 a.m. - 5 p.m.).

Maryland, Baltimore, WBA & Tractorfans Annual Open House, Sept. 15-16, 1984. Rear of 4009 Frederick Ave. Sat. 9 a.m. - 9 p.m., Sun. 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. O Scale electric traction. Info: Dave Kingston, 6422 Massachusetts Ave., Baltimore, MD 21229. (301) 465-2530.

Maryland, Galthersburg, Rockville Society of Model Engineers 18th Annual Model Railroad White Elephant & Auction Sale, Sept. 16, 1984. Montgomery City Fairgrounds, 16 Crestnut St. Sellers' check-in 8 a.m., white elephant sale 9:30 a.m. auction 11 a.m. \$1.50 (children under 7 free). Info: Ray Soderberg, 35 University Blvd., East Silver Spring, MD 20901. (301) 933-8021 (home) or (301) 564-1050 (office).

Missouri, St. Louis, McDonnell Douglas Railroad Club, Railroad Show & Swap Meet, Sept. 8, 1984. North City Recreation Complex, 2577 Redman Rd. 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. (seller setup 8:15 a.m.) Admission \$1, table advance \$8, all door \$10. Info: Richard S. Young, 105 Francisco, Flossmoor, MO 63031. (314) 837-3407.

New Jersey, Atlantic City, Patcong Society of Model Rail Roaders "Gambler's Extra" Train Meet, Show & Sale (all gauges), Aug. 11, 1984. Lions Blvd. Center, 300 Albam Ave. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Admission: \$2, under 12 free when accompanied by adult, family max. \$3, tables \$10 each. Info: John Durr, c/o Patcong Valley, P.O. Box 156, Linwood, NJ 08221. (609) 646-4035 or Harold Jaechel (609) 399-7137.

Ohio, Columbus, Columbus Model Railroad Club, 50th Anniversary Party, Oct. 19-21, 1984. All past and current members are invited. Info: J. Logan, 314 Leitchworth Ave., Columbus, OH 43204.

Ohio, Greenville, Greenville Area Model Railroaders, 5th Greenville All Trains Flea Market, Sept. 30, 1984. Darve City Fairgrounds. 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Adults \$1, under 12 free. Info: Larry Zeller, 4646 W. US Rt. 36, Piqua, OH 45356. (513) 773-7186.

UN PAINTING YOUR PLASTIC MODELS BY IAN ALICE

There are several ways to UN-paint your models, and whilst they are all very effective, some can also remove the model to that happy train land in the big blue yonder.

These over-effective methods include -

- 1 Letting your one-year-old remove the paint with his teeth.
- 2 Using a blow-torch or similar heating source.
- 3 A 4" flat file.
- 4 Soaking it in Nitric, Chloric or similar acids.

Now that all the main No-No's are out of the road, there is one RELATIVELY SAFE way of doing it - BRAKE FLUID.

Unless you model in the land of the giants (S & O gauges), a one litre bottle will be more than enough. You will also need a large jar with a plastic lid, that can be securely screwed tight, and an old tooth brush. Make sure that you keep all this equipment away from children and foodstuffs.

A few words of WARNING - firstly; certain models do not take too kindly to the use of brake fluid for lengthy periods of immersion. Body shells of Rivarossi steam locomotives are a problem as the smokebox is a softer plastic separate moulding to the main boiler. Be careful with this type of plastic.

The best way to test the plastic is to put one drop of fluid on the inside of the model and see what happens after about 10-15 minutes. If the plastic has shown no signs of softening or bubbling then it should be okay to proceed with the operation.

Sometimes, if you leave the model in the fluid for too long, it could be a milky white in colour when you wash the fluid off. Nothing can be done about this, except not to do the same operation next time.

PROCEDURE

- 1 Take brake fluid and carefully pour contents into a large jar.
- 2 Place car or small structure into the jar full of fluid and screw the lid on securely. If the body is on a motorised unit, then remove the body shell from the motorised chassis first, before placing it in the fluid. DO NOT place plastic bogies into the fluid, as the fluid will effect the metal axles. If the model is too big for the jar, then use a larger jar or a plastic container that can have a lid securely fitted to it.
- 3 Now, you can give the jar and contents a good shaking for a minute or two, and then stand the model on the bench for about five minutes.
- 4 Now repeat the above point (3).

(Continued on next page)



Reprinted from HO Monthly

MEMBERSHIP FEE ADJUSTMENT

Because of the demise of the value of the Australian dollar against the USA dollar, it has been found necessary to increase the fee for joining the NMRA and the Region.

The new cost will be \$A25, a small increase of \$2, which is to cover the exchange increase. The Regional fee will remain unaltered. The increase will take effect from 1 August 1984.

★ ★ ★ ★ NEW MEMBERS ★ ★ ★ ★

L Davis, G Hunt, G Norwood, R Hart, G Middlemiss, R Smith, T Doran, G Wheatley, T Triplov, I McFarlane, J Franklin, C Boyle, J McLaren, J Sinquefield, B Nelson, I Howarth, S Michel, S Yourn, J Hamilton, P Jensen, J Baily, P Watson.

Family Members - T Saxon, J Gill, K Knife, S Gottliebson, R McFarlane.

Total Regional Membership - 91 members (86 regular and 5 family).

ONE FOR ONE

Now that the Association is alive and running in Australasia, it is our intention to increase our membership numbers. We feel that current Regional Members will only be too happy to assist in a membership drive.

Included in this issue of Main Line is an application form for membership of the NMRA and the Australasian Region.

If each Regional member can gain one new member, then the Region will really grow in strength. This also means that you, the member, will have another railroad modeller as a partner who could be of great help to you in the future. In turn, you could have the pleasure of helping another modeller become a member of a world-wide family of model railroaders.

The cost of \$A25 is a nominal one, as it is only 48¢ per week and the average model railroader spends more than that on railroad magazines alone.

So let's get on the right track and enrol a new member for the NMRA and our Region.

MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE

The December issue of Main Line will contain a listing of the names and addresses of all Regional Members.

If a member does NOT WANT HIS ADDRESS PRINTED then he will have to advise the Editor, ASAP.

Those members who may not want their address in the listing, will only be nominated under their respective State.

L · C · L

A big welcome aboard for a couple more raillettes - Kathy Knife, wife of the Regional Secretary and Sue Gottliebson, wife of our Victorian Director. Come along chaps, enrol your wife or girlfriend in the Region and make them part of our wonderful model railroad fraternity. Remember, when you have visitors to your layout it's the women who look after the food and drink situation and make conversation with the visitors' wives, etc.

Another member to join the "Family Division" of the Region is Ross McFarlane, son of Ian McFarlane of ACT. Ross is a well known teenage modeller and has his own exhibition layout, which he displays at model railroad shows.

For those regional members who have been considering joining the COMPUTOR SIG GROUP in the USA, Trevor Moore of Sydney has already joined this group. Drop a line to Trevor and he would be only too happy to let you know what the SIG Group has to offer. Trevor can be contacted at 5 Callistemon Close, Epping, NSW 2121.

By the way are there any other members who could offer any advice on any of the SIG groups that they belong to? This type of help could be a big assistance to members who may not be too sure whether to join a group or not. The Editor has written off to a couple of groups and when advice is received from overseas, then it will be published in a later copy of Main Line.

Another of our members, Mark DeHavilland of Dundas, NSW advised the Editor that he has a property at Glenhaven (near Round Corner, in the Western Suburbs of Sydney) that he is not using at present. He would be interested to hear from any other member/s who may be interested in an area to construct an "O" gauge layout or even live steam. Mark can be contacted at 6 Immarna Place, Dundas NSW 2117. Here's a great opportunity for somebody who operates in one of the larger gauges.

← U S A VISITORS. →

Recently the Editor had the pleasure of entertaining a couple of visitors from the USA, namely Carl and Joyce Henson of Eugene, Oregon. Carl and Joyce had been on a camping tour around the States of Australia for a few weeks and ended up staying in Sydney for a few days before flying back to the USA. Whilst in Sydney they stayed at John and Toni Saxon's home and as they had a spare night they visited the Editor's layout. Carl took a few shots with his camera so he could show the members of his railroad club in his home town.

Carl, by the way is the Co-Chairman of the 1987 National Convention Committee of the NMRA and he is working hard for the Convention, which is to be held in his home town of Eugene. It appears that a good time will be had by all modellers that attend the 1987 Convention.

USA VISIT BY CHRIS HITCHINS. *

The Region now boasts a 'foreign' member, namely Chris Hitchins, who some of you will remember was one of the Region's original members of the forming committee. Chris has been transferred to Hong Kong for a period of time, in the line of duty. He recently spent a couple of days back in Sydney and some of us were lucky enough to view some tapes he made whilst on a trip to the USA and Canada in May this year. Chris took shots of model railroad layouts at conventions, club layouts and private layouts, besides taking some very professional shots of the prototype railroads in both countries.

Chris visited the first PCR Convention which was held at Vallejo NE of San Francisco, where it was housed in a very spacious area. During the first day clinics were held and these covered a large range of items. That night a tour was made of the local layouts and Chris got the impression that most modellers spent their time and effort on club layouts in the area, eg Walnut Creek, Napa Valley.

The next day saw a bus load of camera laden fans travel to SP's Sacramento Workshops which still has many of the original steam era buildings. The site was developed in 1863 as the Sacramento General Shops of Central Pacific Co, employing 30 men. By 1922, 3100 employees in 18 shops and 5 departments repaired 400 locos, 624 coaches and 15 000 freight cars. Up to this time 52 locos and 2 750 freight cars had been built. Today the shops are more concentrated, in the works undertaken. Some 1 100 personnel are involved in 61 GRIP, 9 TEBU and 117 M-30 rebuilds. What's that you ask?

GRIP - General Rehabilitation Improvement Programme, is a complete rebuild of old locos, mostly SD 40's and SD 45's.

TEBU - Tractive Effort Booster Unit - basically 'slugs'.

M-30 - This is the general rebuild of SD 45's after 3 years or 250 000 mile service.

The next day saw Chris at the Napa Valley Model Railroad Club. A well developed HO layout in three Nissan huts built together to form a large 'U'. The following day at the Convention was a repeat of the clinics and other goodies, and for sale was a 5-inch live steam 3-truck Shay, for \$10 000. Chris didn't buy it though - he'd forgotten his VISA Card.

The concluding event was the Banquet - a beans and steak BBQ. When the Convention was finished, Chris then headed north and eventually stopped at McCloud River Railroad, which is a modern day timber orientated railroad using four GP 30's.

Whilst Chris was in Washington, he visited the Mt Rainer Scenic Railroad and had an enjoyable close encounter on a Heisler for a 7 mile trip. Chris showed us tapes on this episode and in one place Chris nearly fell off the footplate of the loco as it was crossing over a trestle, but he managed to survive the trip.

At Seattle an inspection was made of an 18-stall roundhouse and loco servicing facility for SD 40 and 45's and F 40's. After this it was on to Canada chasing CP and CN trains up the Fraser Gorge, which has one track on each side of the gorge. Even on Sundays there is about one train per hour, mostly unit coal trains plus sulphur and wheat trains going to Vancouver. Chris ended up in the Rocky Mountains at the spiral tunnel and here he watched the locos passing over their own caboose. Normally 4 or 5 SD 40's or 45's are at the head-end with a couple of remotes near the middle.

Chris finally returned to Vancouver, filmed some RDC's of British Columbia Railway and on the final day rode behind the Royal Hudson up the side of the Sound, to Squamish, and return. He then travelled by car (by car?) to Truckee to see the Donner Pass in action and paid a visit to the Walnut Creek Model Railroad Club layout (see Model Railroader, March '84).

Our thanks to Chris for letting us know what is happening in the USA and hopefully we will have more news at a later date.★★

* BLACKTOWN EXHIBITION *

The Prospect Model Railroad Club (the Club is a Regional member) held their Annual Exhibition at Blacktown, Sydney, on the Queen's Birthday weekend and it was pleasing to see so many NMRA members there - local, country and interstate. Some members seen there were: from Victoria, Max Gottliebson and his family; from Canberra, Grahame and Anita Hodges, Kerry McPherson and Peter Weller-Lewis; from Newcastle, Tony Earp; and locally there was John and Toni Saxon, Clive Riley and family, Phil Knife, Ian Alce and family, Gary Norwood and naturally your Editor.

The Prospect Club had as its guests this year, Gary Edlen and Jim O'Byrne from the USA. Gary held three clinics on each of the three days that the Exhibition was open and he gave lectures on "How to Build Structures", "Scenery" and "River Boats", plus he showed some wonderful slides of his model railroad layout in the USA. Gary brought along some really outstanding models that he had constructed personally and at the end of the clinics these were put up for sale. John Saxon is now the proud owner of a Drover's Truck, Fred Gill owns a model of an Australian Paddle-Wheel River Boat (Adelaide) which will be included in his port scene on his layout.

Following the Exhibition, your Editor had the pleasure of having Gary and Jim and Al Milani visit his home for a day, where Gary and Jim busied themselves taking coloured photos and running trains. In turn the visitors were shown coloured slides of John Allan's layout that the visitors had never viewed before. A good day was had by all and that night your Editor was invited to a Farewell Dinner held by the Prospect Club for Gary and Jim. It was certainly a great and rewarding weekend, meeting so many members of the Region, and a couple of well known USA railroad modellers.★★