

Hills Model Railway Society Inc.

*PO Box 555
Castle Hill NSW 1765*

MARCH 2020

PUBLICATION OF THE HMRS INC.

EXHIBITION CANCELLATIONS

HMRS Major Fundraiser for 2020 at Blacktown Leisure Centre Stanhope Gardens was to be held on 2nd and 3rd May. This year it has been postponed due to the (COVID-19) Coronavirus health recommendations and will return in 2021.

Epping Model Railway Club, Rose Racecourse, has been postponed till 2021.

Kaleen (Canberra) exhibition has been cancelled for 2020.

At the time of printing, it is uncertain if the Malkara Special School (Canberra) Exhibition is continuing, postponed or cancelled.

Failure is not falling down; it's not getting up.



Tuesday 24th March 2020.

*Self-exile,
I'm bored but can go to early openings for
food, Cars full of petrol not allowed out,
looking for things to do FB looks better all
the time, wife doing jig-saw puzzle, trains
not running, newsletter happening,
where will it end, please keep safe and
healthy and see you soon.
Keep in touch, love you all.*

The Brain Gym

You are on a horse and galloping at a constant speed, on your right-hand side is a very sharp drop off.

To your left is an elephant travelling at the same speed as you, directly in front of you is a galloping kangaroo but your horse is unable to overtake it.

Behind you is a lion and it's travelling at the same speed as the elephant.

What must you do to get out of the situation safely?

Ok, back to the business at hand, you all have received e-mail from the society's secretary, please keep in mind that the rooms are closed until further notice due to the Coronavirus (covid-19). The secretary will keep us all informed when the rooms are fully open again.

Mark your diary's now, our Christmas Party has been booked, Northmead Bowling Club again, for 12th December 2020. More details will follow.

Our 1st place winners of the 2019 Modelling competition held last year and judged at the Christmas party are as follows.

<i>Open Scratch Built Loco and Rolling Stock</i>	<i>Ron Seddon</i>
<i>Open Scratch Built Structure</i>	<i>Bob Best</i>
<i>Open Kit and Modified Structure</i>	<i>Jim Pool</i>
<i>Open Diorama</i>	<i>Harvey Facer</i>
<i>Novice Diorama</i>	<i>Richard Douglas</i>
<i>Junior Open Kit Built Rolling Stock</i>	<i>Kevin Houseman</i>
<i>Best in Show</i>	<i>Harvey Facer</i>

Are you financial with the HMRS from January to June 2020?

The Society would like to thank Charles Yendle for all his help, assistance and electrical knowledge and the time he spent on the Club 'N' layout over the years and his time on the society's committee. Charlie joined the society in October 1987 and due to personnel family matters has to forgo membership. The committee has awarded Charlie, Honorary Membership of the HMRS.

*Blessed is he that sitteth on an anthill,
For they shall surely arise saying great things.*



*Heavy Load, photograph taken on the Sydney Waterfront.
This launch belongs to the Maritime Services Board and is being sent somewhere up the NSW north coast.*

I wonder what sort of models they had in 1919?. Taken 06.11.2014 Boorowa NSW. MODEL STORE 1919 (on top of building, centre above the 6 windows)



*Can you take photographs out of the ordinary? This one, out in the bush.
I need them Ed.*

Coffs Harbour Exhibition 2020.

It is late 2019, yes last year, when I started to realise that the Hills club is going to have a busy year. Our first exhibition for 2020 is only weeks away.

A trip to Coffs Harbour. The car is serviced, the trains are packed and the camera ready. Friday morning arrives and I start loading the car. Driving to Coffs you start to appreciate what the people in the country went through. The green is vivid but so is the black. Burnout areas of the bush on both sides of the highway in places but in others the green vegetation has not been touched.

I arrive in Coffs Harbour and find the showground and the trailers is already there. They must have either done some low flying or just a good run. The layout is almost operational. So, what can I do but ask how can I help and apologise for being late? Once the layout is tested, we all see how we can assist the other exhibitors. Then the N scale arrives, and so it goes on. Luke and Rob deserve praise for bring the N scale and almost putting it up by themselves. The rest of the night is a blur.



(As you can see, they were very busy, I don't know if this is Saturday or Sunday morning? Ed.)

Saturday morning arrives and life takes on a speed of its own. Check to make sure you have done everything you need to before heading off to the exhibition. Arrive early and check the layout again. Start checking the rolling stock and locos to see have they survived the trip. Make sure the layout looks good and then the public start to arrive. I will not go through the days' events as we all know how it goes. So, I will skip to Saturday night.

It has been arranged for us, the Hills Club, to have dinner with one of the hosts. Into the cars and after a trip through Coffs harbour to the north western outskirts. A beautiful scene greets us. A number have seen it before, but I had not. A beautiful home in a suburban setting but it is also a country setting. Big properties and you need to leave the house to shake hands with your neighbour. The train room is out the back next to the cement pond. What a train room. It would copy easily with one of our largest layouts. Air conditioned and windows everywhere. So light and airy. The layout still dominates the room. It just does not hug the walls it almost hides them in places, so high you must look up to see the tops of the mountains. This is worth the trip by alone. The detail would leave some exhibition layouts far behind. Dinner is outstanding and both the company and drinks are excellent. Far too soon I must depart to return to my accommodations. I must dodge the kangaroos to get back to my car.

Sunday morning arrives and off to the exhibition I go. The people just keep coming but I think we all enjoyed ourselves. Pack-up arrives and its starts but this time in reverse. So much more to say but I need to leave space for other articles. Special thanks to Len for leaving his business and keeping us company on Sunday. For all those who think it is a quiet town, also on that weekend in Coffs Harbour, a motor bike exhibition, a Lego exhibition and on Saturday afternoon and evening the Big Bash came to town. How could next year be better?

Thank you, Grant Harris.

On behalf of our society may I thank the nine (9) members who attended and operated the layouts at the Coffs Harbour exhibition, especially to all our vehicle drivers for Tulong and Roydon layouts. Without them, it would not happen. Ed.

Railway to Little River



Anchored within an inlet south east of Christchurch N.Z., with the ships lighter transport to the port of Akaroa, you are suddenly thrust back into a town with both British and French history. From here westward via a bus and many ups, downs and around hills you arrive at Little River. When you first come upon the station

house you wonder, where is the platform, but at the rear now a boardwalk suffices. After a little investigation a short but decidedly more concrete platform structure is well hidden by surrounding vegetation. A credit to the local historical society and Station Trust's workers the past and ongoing restoration is obvious.



From the early 19th century with timber and flax being two of the principle trades items this required transportation and then sheep and cattle grazing after land clearing. So like Australia, which gauge should be used, with 5-foot 3 inch and 4 foot 8 1/2-inch tracks initially laid. With steam running around the mid 1800's as age, wear and tear beset both locomotives and rolling stock, many if not most found them used as foreshore erosion prevention. Some were recovered for potential restoration, some returned to their watery grave and lost for ever.

Today a diesel shunter sits ready at the station with a historic cattle wagon and passenger carriage. The station has been turned into a craft station for fund raising but one does still get to sit in the station masters armchair. But time to return to Akaroa as the ship awaits but wait for it, the boss wants to peruse the local shops!!

Check out: Full Steam Ahead! The Advent of the Railway in Little River by Robin McFarland,

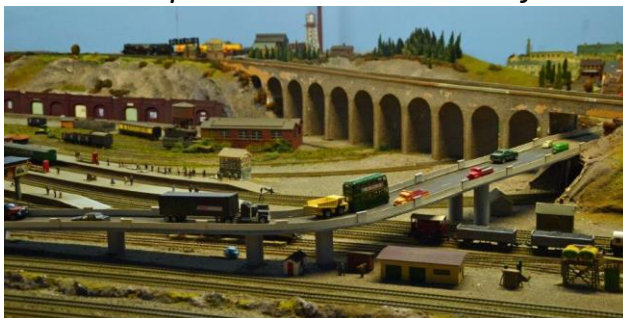
Bruce Roberts (Notes on trip to New Zealand)

Here's a shot from the 2019 exhibition at Stanhope Gardens.



Napier, New Zealand

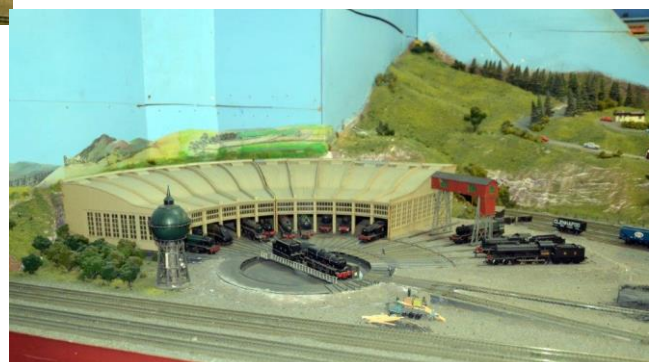
Located on the eastern shores of the North Island in Hawkes Bay, with its Art Deco heritage plus February's Art Deco Weekend, which is a tourist draw card, it also has a permanent train show for enthusiasts. Train World Model & Hobby



located at 88 Dickens Street is upstairs with an area housing several layouts and one of New Zealand's largest scale model railways.

Only one is DCC operated with the

remainder running under DC and set for timed running for visitors unless members are on site. Predominately running OO/HO gauge with British and New Zealand locomotives plus rolling stock, but not forgetting an O gauge high on the wall close to the ceiling



mounted U.S. consist, pulled by a blue liveried Conrail diesel locomotive which regularly disappeared behind walls and then reappearing. Thomas and Friends was represented and in place for the younger age group.

One can imagine the many hours spent on design, layout construction, buildings and scenery knowing what HMRS has undertaken over many years. Well worth an hour to watch and ponder and also visit the very small shop area for some item that catches your eye. I was surprised to see Bachmann rolling stock labelled as coming out of the U.K. To my query it seems the only N.Z. importer for trains, sources goods from the U.K. but disappointingly for the locals, is more interested in importing bicycles as their principle business.

Bruce Roberts (Notes on trip to New Zealand)

(Thank you, Bruce, for both articles. Ed)



Building a railroad fill with a dumping cradleway. The abnormally severe loads which wire rope installations in such instances have to carry can be facilitated by the use of Caltex Crater. Caltex Crater will markedly reduce potential wear and maintain the tensile strength of all the strands by preventing rust and corrosion.

Yes, the above is an advertisement for Caltex Lubrications taken from a Caltex Technical Publication with no date. It's a lot older than I am. Is this how steel wire ropes were tested?

After having so much fun, sometimes the best thing is to curl up and drift off.

Do you have any out of the ordinary photographs or things that you would like to share with others, just send us a photograph and short story?

The Brain Gym

Let the Merry-Go-Round stop and carefully get off and go home.

Heavy Lift 115 tons.



Special high capacity wagon T.W. 4400 is loaded with the first Broadside Mill Housing weighing 115 tons which is in the process of being conveyed from Sydney to Port Kembla. The photo is dated 22nd August 1950.

That's it for this issue, I'll try and keep you informed every 2 months or so, but I need feedback and small articles, photographs from you all. Please help, otherwise or I'll bore you with mine.

Apologies for any spelling issues, if any, my system seems to be having a bad time. Ed. (Ron McI)

Don't forget to check us out on Facebook.

WEB – WWW.HMRS.ORG.AU



hillsmodelrailwaysociety

And if all else fails, send an email to our secretary! secretary@hmrs.org.au