



# Right On Track

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Visit us on the internet at [www.nmri.web1000.com](http://www.nmri.web1000.com)

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Send items for inclusion in this newsletter to the Editor via e-mail at [miktrain@hotmail.com](mailto:miktrain@hotmail.com) or phone on 8381 3821

This newsletter is now available as a download from our website (address above) saving the club postage and printing, most pictures are in colour. Notification is sent by email when it is available for download

## Cut and Shut

Our display layout, Paradigm has gone through a few scenery changes to extend and improve the rock face at the village end and the area over the tunnel. These changes have improved the look of the area and help to tie it all together.



*Above:* At the start, foam cut away.

*Left:* After the surgery with the addition of paint and greenery.

A few electrical items have also received some attention; this will be an ongoing situation as we add the train detection.

## Management Committee

President	Ron Weeden
Vice President	Frank Crossley
Secretary	Graham Bartlett
Treasurer	Judith Morley
Membership Manager	John Cutler
Events Coordinator & Security Officer	Tony Mikolaj
Almoner & First Aid Committee	Norm Andrew David Morley

**Next Committee meeting  
7:30pm Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2006**

## Mount Compass Display

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> April**

**10:00 – 4:00**

### Mount Compass Oval

We will be doing a one-day display with CTC for the Mount Compass School. We will setup early in the morning. See the noticeboard for attendance sheet.

## Southern Craft Fair

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> April**

**10:00 – 4:00**

### Morphett Vale Stadium

We will be doing another one-day display; the arrangements will be much the same as last year, setup in the morning. See the noticeboard for attendance sheet.

## Adelaide Exhibition

**11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> June**

**9:30 – 5:00 Sat / Sun 9:30 – 4:00 Monday**

**Greyhound Park**

## Ballarat Exhibition

**11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> June**

**Times to be advised**

### Eastwood Leisure Centre Ballarat

Do you wish to go? Fill out the attendance form for this and Stawell on the noticeboard. Should be a couple of good weekends.

## Stawell Exhibition

**8<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> July 2006**

**9:00 – 6:00 Saturday 9:00 – 4:00 Sunday**

**SES Hall – Sloane St Stawell Vic**

Flier on the noticeboard

We have been invited to again be a part of this great weekend and the paperwork has been sent. Fill out the attendance form for this and Ballarat on the noticeboard

## Swapmeet

**30<sup>th</sup> July**

**9:00am – 12:00pm**

### Reynella Neighbourhood Centre

Book and pay for your table early as numbers will be limited by available space. \$20 per table or take advantage of the early bird discount, \$15 if paid in advance.

*Maximum two people free entry per table*

Part proceeds help support the St John Volunteers

## Our Exhibition

**7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> October**

**9.30am-5:00pm Saturday**

**9.30am-4:00pm Sunday**

### Mitsubishi Entertainment Centre

**1284 South Road, Tonsley Park**

See the notice board at the clubrooms for a helpers list and more information.

Part proceeds help support the St John Volunteers

## Card Table Swap

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November**

**7:30am – 9:00pm**

### NMRI Clubrooms

Book and pay for your table early as numbers will be limited by available space. \$10 per table or take advantage of the early bird discount, \$5 if paid in advance.

*Strictly one person free entry per table*

## Reynella Fair

**Sunday 12 November**

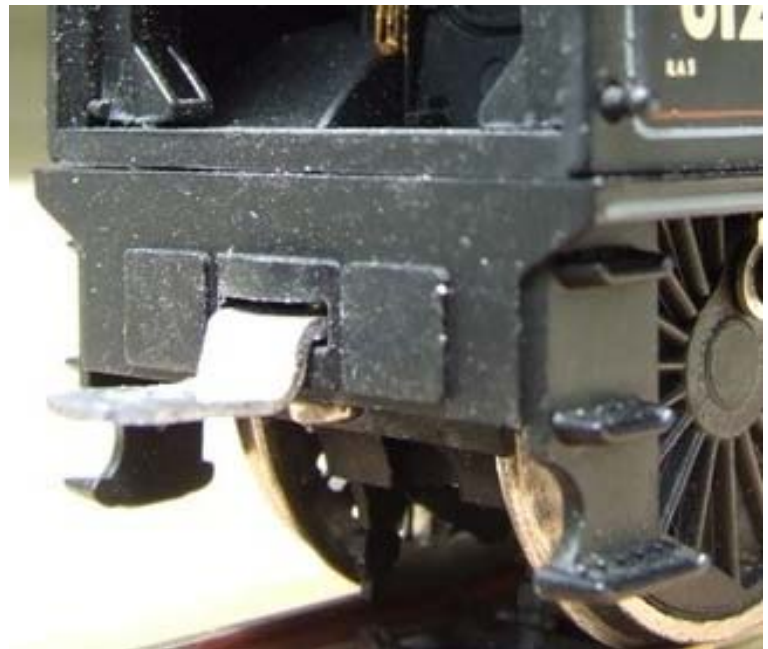
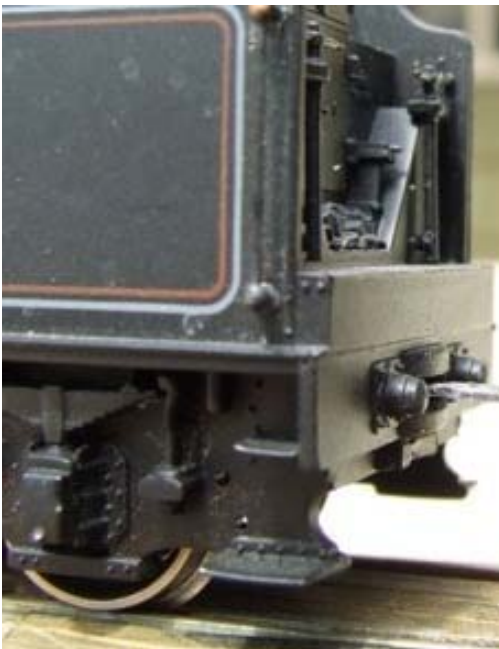
**All day**

Another full day of sizzling, more details nearer the time.

# IRREGULAR FEATURE

## Emptying the Skip

There has been a bit of an ongoing joke around the club that I have more items in need of repair than in my running box. While this is not quite true, there have been times when I have considered a larger skip to hold them all. In an attempt to avoid the cost of a new skip, I decided to move some items through the repair shop. First cab off the rank, an easy one, to boost the ego, was a 4-6-0 Thomson B1 (Viscount Ridley) a fine loco from Bachman, catalogue no 31-701. This loco has always been a reliable part of my rolling stock and had been relegated to the “Skip O’ Death” by a small transport accident. The hook on the front of the tender that locates under the loco was broken and a previous repair attempt by gluing had not lasted very long. Determined to make a better job I decided to connect the loco and tender as on the prototype with a drawbar.



*Above left: Tender showing moulding  
Below: The tender after surgery*

*Right: the loco with the final shape drawbar*



On inspection, both the loco and tender had the correct mouldings for this approach; the loco actually had a hole whereas the tender required some delicate use of a drill. I removed the screw that retained the remains of the hook and drilled a slot for the new drawbar. Then a thin strip of metal was fashioned to fit between the two mouldings. I drilled a hole in one end to suit a small screw, this allowed me to fix the drawbar to the loco and whilst holding everything in position I marked the hole for the other end. Assembly required a dose of bravery pills as the mounting lug for the original hook must be removed to provide access to insert the screw in the new drawbar.



*Above: Not quite the desired result    Below: View of the underside*



Having passed the point of no return by removing the lug, I inserted the last screw and after checking for clearances, placed the now connected loco and tender on some track to admire my handiwork. Shock, horror, the front wheels of the tender were floating a scale 400mm above the track. On closer inspection, I could see that the moulding on the tender was set lower than the mating spot on the loco, causing the drawbar to lift the front of the tender. A quick redesign of the drawbar to include an appropriate step put the wheels back on the track.



*Above: the finished product, an almost invisible drawbar.*

While performing this modification / repair I also shortened the chasm between loco and tender to improve Occupational Health and Safety for the crew and having got it down to where the tender buffers just touched on full swing it was then off to the clubrooms for a few test laps to check for clearances on curves and through points. With all tests passed, I disassembled and then painted the drawbar black to hide it even more, while the loco is in the shops perhaps I should keep going and add brake rods, a fall plate and a crew and lights and...hmm, there is always tomorrow.

Catch you down the track...Tony Mikolaj.

## Have Your Say

Do you have something to get off your chest? If you would like to have some input or get across a point then as long as it is related to the club / railways and not too controversial this is the place. Send a letter or email to the Editor

*No input again this month, everything must be hunky dory!*



*Above:* Another in-process photo of Paradigm the 'White Cliffs of Dover' before the dirty rain fell.

### For sale

7 x Bachmann Spectrum passenger cars in Union Pacific	\$30 each or \$200 for all
2 x Proto 2000 PA 1 & PB 2 in Union Pacific	\$220 or \$120 each
2 x Athearn PA's painted in Northern Pacific PA 1 & PB 2 with Lima motors	\$40 or \$25 each
Athearn passenger cars in Amtrak	\$12 each
1 x Bachmann Spectrum 4-8-2 steam locomotive in Union Pacific	\$180
1 x Bachmann Spectrum 2-8-0 steam locomotive in Union Pacific	\$180
1 x Northern Models CK class with Athearn	\$140
1 x Athearn diesel GP 40 in Conrail	\$65
1 x Athearn diesel GP 50 in Burlington Northern	\$65
1 x Dual Gauge Product CK class body with brass parts	\$60
1 x Dual Gauge Product T class Body with brass parts	\$60
Shoe box full of Lima motors & more	\$ mix prices

Phone Michael (08) 82701002

## On the Notice Board

Attendance lists:

Display – Southern Craft Fair  
Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> April

Exhibition – Ballarat  
June 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>

Exhibition – Stawell  
July 8<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>

Exhibition – Ours at Mitsubishi  
October 7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>

If you are interested in attending / helping, fill in the relevant details to help with the organising.

## Top and Tails

While we are on the subject of displays and exhibitions, the Committee would like to remind everyone that it is club policy for all members to wear a club shirt / windcheater at all official functions.

There are several sizes of t-shirts in stock; the current price is \$20, which includes the emblem on the pocket.

For windcheaters please buy one in a grey as near as possible to the shirts and the club will have the emblem embroidered for you at cost

## Cleaning duties

The club would like to acquire some cleaning wagons for use at both the clubrooms and when we are on display. We need a volunteer(s) to make a few of each with various couplers to suit US, UK and Australian so that those that do not have their own can still help to keep the track clean. This will help to improve the running qualities of all trains.

## Exhibition

A helpers list and jobs to do chart are on the notice board so add your name to be a part of the best model railway exhibition.

Many replies have come in from traders and layout owners, a good percentage are via our Online Application.

## New prices

Due to the increased cost of all chocolate bars, they are now \$1.20 each

**Special** Diet Coke cans are now 70c each, only while stocks last.

Note, all other drinks are still \$1

## Reynella Fair

We have received some information from the last Reynella Fair. Apparently, they had a good day with gate takings up on previous years and that they made a profit. This was something they have not done for some years. Thanks to all that helped to make it a great day.

The fair for this year is already being organised. If you know of any club or organisation that might like to take part, please let Vivien or Frank know, as they are our representatives.

## Vale

Hilda Arnold passed away on 19<sup>th</sup> March after a long period of unwell. A funeral service was held 25<sup>th</sup> March. We will miss her help at club functions. The club sent some flowers and a sympathy card to Maurie.

## Website

I have moved this newsletter to a new server to try to help those who were having problems downloading it; you can still get to it via the website as the links now go to the new location. I believe the problem was caused by the system that the host uses. I may also try to run the site in frames (does not work on the current server) from this new location.

## The Romance of British Steam

Course 64244 Friday 26 May 2006

1 session x 3 hours \$24

WEA centre 223 Angus Street Adelaide

Tony Gates BA,L.TH.

Enrolments Ph 8223 1979 Fax 8232 3690

[www.wea-sa.com.au](http://www.wea-sa.com.au)

I believe this is the same course as last time