

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN RAILWAY MODELLERS' ASSOCIATION INC.

PROMOTING THE HOBBY IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA



Bemax at Rocky River

**Buying Second-Hand Items
SIGs**

RailShow 2011 Poster Photo

May Model Display

Prototype Gallery

Porter Leigh



The Buffer Stop

SARMA Inc. meets on the **SECOND WEDNESDAY** of each month at 7.30 p.m in the ‘**Log Cabin**’ building on Lyons Road, Dernancourt, at the corner of Balmoral Road. Modelling nights are held on other Wednesday nights in the shed adjacent to the log cabin. See the Diary on Page 2 for details.

UBD Map 96 Ref D12: the red Scout symbol marks our clubroom.

Membership rates 2010 – 2011

Joining Fee:	\$10.00	Country:	\$45.00
Full (age ≥ 18):	\$53.00	Student (full time; age ≥ 18):	\$45.00
Family:	\$53.00	Corporate:	\$90.00
Junior (age ≤ 17):	\$30.00		

The Membership Year runs from 1 April to 31 March.

Quarterly pro-rata rates apply to new members after 30 June each year.

All correspondence and membership enquires should be addressed to:

The Honorary Secretary, SARMA Inc., P.O. Box 4, Prospect, S.A., 5082.

SARMA Telephone InfoLine: (08) 8411 5500

Visit our web site at <http://www.sarma.asn.au> for more information and a membership form.

Webmaster: Peter Michalak petemichalak1987@gmail.com

“Buffer Stop” Contributions

Email address: bufferstop@internode.on.net

We welcome contributions from members. Articles and photographs may be emailed to the address given above; they can also be submitted on paper. Members who forward articles written by, or photographs taken by, a third party are asked to obtain permission for their publication. Contributions may be subject to editing. Neither the Association nor the Editors accept any liability for the content or presentation of notices, articles and advertisements submitted for inclusion in the Buffer Stop other than those submitted by the Committee on behalf of the membership. Nor do the Association and the Editors necessarily subscribe to the views expressed or implied by contributors. The Editors reserve the right to refuse acceptance of any material that is considered unsuitable for publication. Material may have to be held over to a later edition.

Advertising rates: full page \$40, half page \$20, quarter page \$10.

The deadline for each issue is the last Friday of the previous month.

Committee Members 2009 – 2010

President: Hugh Williams Phone: 8271 5327 email: hswilliams@optusnet.com.au	Layout Director & Printer: Dean Schluter Phone: 8336 1802 email: sloots@adam.com.au
Vice President (Special Projects): Iain Kennedy Ph: 0417 844 214 email: sarails@bigpond.com	Exhibition Layout Director: Bob Houston Phone: 8268 7813 email: bobhouston@adam.com.au
Vice President (Administration): Roger Wheeler Phone: 8356 9044 email: rawheeler.grange@hotmail.com	Maintenance Director: David Vander Linden Phone: 0419 847 619 email: david@vanderlinden.id.au
Secretary: Peter Pickering Phone: 8344 7625 email: peterp23@bigpond.com	Social Director: Barrie Mackinnon Phone: 8298 8571 email: barrie@picknowl.com.au
Treasurer: David Jameson Phone: 8251 5592 email: dvjammo@adam.com.au	Editors: Harry Rush Phone: 8337 5868 email: jywhittaker@optusnet.com.au
Librarian: Allan Norris Phone: 8346 1742 email: addnor@optusnet.com.au	Chris Marlow Phone: 8362 3484 email: marlowc@internode.on.net

AMRE Representatives: Peter Pickering; Phone: 8344 7625; email: peterp23@bigpond.com
 Allan Norris; Phone: 8346 1742; email: addnor@optusnet.com.au

The Library may be accessed in the adjacent shed before the club meeting.

The Buffer Stop

Contents

3	Minutes of the May Meeting	11	May Meeting Model Display
4	From <i>The Buffer Stop</i> Archives	12	Congratulations
5	Library Report	13	The Wonders of Modern Technology
7	May Meeting Model Display	13	A New Use for SAR FB Flats
8	Buying Second-Hand	14	May Meeting Model Display
9	RailShow 2011: Poster Photo	15	SIGs
10	SARMA Sales	17	Prototype Gallery
10	May Meeting Model Display	18	Porter Leigh's Puzzle Land
10	<i>Toy Trunk Railroad</i>	19	AMRE Poster

Diary

- Wed 9 June: General Meeting**
Entertainment:
Phil Curnow – Modern Freight
- Fri 11 June: AMRE Set-up
- Sat 12 June –**
Mon 14 June: AMRE, Greyhound Park
- Wed 16 June: Modelling Night
- Wed 23 June: Modelling Night
- Fri 25 June: Committee Meeting
- Wed 30 June: Modelling Night/Tax Night
- Wed 7 July: Modelling Night
- Wed 14 July: General Meeting**
Entertainment:
Noel Potter – Spray Painting SAR
and VR Rolling Stock



Down the Track...

- June 12 – 14:**
AMRE, Greyhound Park
- September 3 – 11:**
Grain Board Layout
Royal Adelaide Show
- September 11:**
Modelling the Railways of SA
Convention,
Flinders Medical Centre
- October 2 – 4:**
AMRA Exhibition, Sydney
- October 9 – 10:**
Noarlunga Model Railroaders
Exhibition, Seaview High
School, Seacombe Road.
- November 21:**
SARMA SwapMeet
Enfield High School
- 2011 March 27 (TBC):**
Model SwapMeet
Enfield High School
- 2011 April 15 - 17:**
SARMA RailShow
Golden Grove

We have a pleasant problem! Galvey Hall is getting to be too small for the number who gather there on Wednesday evenings for getting on with modelling, getting help with modelling, talking knowledgeably about railways in general, and helping Iain's fridge make a tidy profit. Come along one Wednesday evening and join in the activity.

Cover Photo:

BL31+G540 bring the Bemax sand train through Rocky River on 21 April.
I wonder if we know the driver?

Noel Potter

The Buffer Stop

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN RAILWAY MODELLERS ASSOCIATION Inc. MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING HELD AT DERNANCOURT ON 12 May 2010

Meeting opened at 7.35 p.m. by Hugh Williams.

Members in attendance: 48.

Apologies: 3.

Visitors: 4 (David Boyce, Tony Evans, Geoff Mathias & Peter Manning).

New members: Tony Evans, Chris Renehan & David Boyce.

Moved Trevor Carter, Seconded Iain Kennedy that all three be accepted as members; Carried.

Accept minutes of previous meeting: Moved Bob Houston, Seconded Trevor Carter; Carried

Accept minutes of Special General Meeting (April 13): Moved Bob Houston, Seconded Trevor Carter; Carried.

Outstanding Actions and Business arising: nil.

Correspondence in:

- End of the Line Hobbies – Voucher
- TTG Council – Application for unspecified facilities
- Motive Power magazine – March/April 2010
- Lifeplan statement and newsletter

Correspondence out:

- Royce Juttner – condolence card

Business from correspondence: nil

Finance: Financial statements presented.

Accept financial report: Moved David Jameson, Seconded Dean Schluter

Reports:

Premises – Football club have moved into their new premises but the Scouts are dithering.

Exhibition Layout – Sandown application in. AMRE event under control.

Club Layout – nil report

Social – Birthday dinner on May 29.

BufferStop – First mag with new printer/photocopier - photos improved. More articles needed.

Library – nil report

Maintenance – Working bee on May 29th at 9.00am to clean up shed – bbq lunch – snags or byo.

Bulk buys – See Buffer Stop

Special Projects:

- Next year's March swapmeet has been tentatively set for 27th in an attempt to avoid the Clipsal weekend. After going through numerous Education departments, the

existing venue at Enfield High School Gym has been secured; however this will be the last event at this venue as the school is closing down.

- RailShow 2011 has been booked into the Golden Grove Recreation Centre for 15/16/17 April

AMRE - April minutes received and available for review by any member.

Members who are free during the AMRE show were requested to assist with security.

General Business:

- Interest in running barbecue at Bunnings, Modbury – do we have enough members willing to do a shift or two? About 15 responded. Rob Burford advised that Mount Barker Bunnings offers only one day at a time. Allan Norris asked to confirm two day stint and get further info.
- Roger Wheeler was selling H0 building kits and some rolling stock, etc.
- Phil Curnow will speak on modern SA rolling stock at the June GM.

Break: Meeting suspended at 8.50pm.

Raffle:

F58 Or	John Venning	Voucher
E54 Gn	Allan Norris	Couplers
A32 Red	Andrew Chapman	Knife
F02 Bk	Graham Nixon	U/frame kit
E40 Gn	Jeremy Kemp	Coasters
E08 Gn	Fred Leaper	Track rubber
A07 Red	John Gordon	Stickers

Show & tell: A wide variety of steam power was displayed by Dean Schluter, John Gordon, Bob Houston, Terry Jomartz, Hugh Williams, Peter Michalak, Paul Mackinnon, Andrew Timmins, Noel Potter, Matt Lavista, Trevor Carter, Alistair Whibley, David VanderLinden, Peter Pickering & Graham Nixon. Don Snow showed a complete Spirit of Progress train with streamlined S class at the head. Rod Elvey showed new 930 and Victorian S class diesels.

After meeting activities: Peter Manning demonstrated the production of computer generated 3D locomotive drawings. He showed how the parts were built up, dismantled and rotated.

Meeting closed at 10.20 approx.



50 Years Ago: June 1960

- President: **N. Scanlon**.
- The Editor wishes to report that he has had the pleasure of viewing the film *North West Frontier*. It is an excellent thriller for the whole family.
- **The Hobby Shop:**
 - Airfix: Girder Bridge 7/6; Fencing 5/6
 - Kitmaster Coaches (3 types) 11/6 – are on the water.
 - New Tri-Ang items now available: R324 T.C. Diner; R327 depressed centre car (3 types with load); R326 depressed centre car. [T.C. here = “Transcontinental”]
- It was suggested that another T.V. Quiz be held, but this time prizes and cash prizes be definitely stated.
- HO scale plan of a refrigerated semi-trailer, and also various layout plans.

40 Years Ago: June 1970

- President: **John Gordon**.
- This month’s cover features artwork by **Bob Burton**, and it depicts the water tower which for many years graced the skyline over the Mile End Loco Depot.
- There’s a three page article on the W.A.G.R.
- Our Exhibition: plans are well in hand, and it’s a definite starter. **Pete, Bill and Eric** have most of the problems sorted out. Remember the dates: 26 - 29 August at the A.W.U. Hall in Flinders Street.
- More new models: some eye-catching models have graced the layout recently. **Barrie Mackinnon’s** fine-detailed S.A.R. bogie cattle trucks really made the eyes light up around the room. I saw **Hugh** eyeing them off at close range. **Bob Burton** brought along his neat looking model of the new S.A.R. LX box car as featured in last month’s plan. **Bob Irvine** has bought another loco and his comment is interesting: “No more American gear – I’m going Australian.” The loco is a NSWGR 50 Class 2-8-0. I wonder how many of those heavy Prototype kits it will haul? I saw **Ray Zeffert** and **John Gordon** double-heading their “Big Boy” locos at the last construction night. **Phil Curnow** has his two cell cement wagon, S.A.R. HGA class, nearly complete.
- There are two more pages on the Geisl “36” and a two page article on Kadee couplers.

30 Years Ago: June 1980

- President: **Tony Sitters**.
- The committee has decided to purchase a bulk container of M.E.K. and decant it into small bottles for club members to purchase – from a committee member only.
- The insurance claim for the club-room break-in has been paid, so four locos will be purchased for the club layout.
- There’s a two page article on the recent goods train trip to Port Pirie – another successful trip!
- An article on *Ridge Valley* and a small article on the “Chunnel” by **Stan**.
- The Dinner Trip will be on Saturday 28th June 1980. The train will depart from the Adelaide Station at 7.30 p.m. and will return at approximately 11.30 p.m. [It doesn’t say where the train was going!]
- New Members: **John Orr**, Paraburdoo W.A.; **Dean Schluter**, Campbelltown; **William Simpson**, Holden Hill; **Peter Hartman**.
- HO scale plan of SAR/ANR bogie Employees’ Sleeping Van.

The Buffer Stop

From
The Buffer Stop
Archives (continued)



Nixo

20 Years Ago: June 1990

- President: **Roger Wyatt**.
- Cover Photo: STC loco 29 shunting wagons at Broken Hill.
- “Double Heading” page: Roadbed and Subroadbed.
- There’s a five-page article on “The Very Fast Train” proposed for Melbourne – Canberra – Sydney. [Still hasn’t been built!]
- Photos of freight trains at Two Wells.
- Three page article on the Camberwell Exhibition by **Bernard Martin**.
- **Peter Carter** and **Mike Mildren** describe how to build an “Electronic Rabbit” for your layout.
- An article on crude oil fuelled locomotives by **Phil Hart**.

10 Years Ago: June 2000

- President: **Peter Carter**.
- Cover Photo: what is left of GM29 after it, when hauling The Ghan, collided with an excavator near Marla on 24th June 1986. The crew is posing in front of the locomotive, wondering how they survived! Detailed story by **Darren Thomas**.
- Adelaide – Melbourne – Adelaide on *The Melbourne Express* for only \$38.00!
- Photos of the first Train Tours Promotion’s *Ghan to Wallaroo* by **T.C.** [≠ “Trans-continental” here].
- Welcome to new members **Ray Applebee** and **Robert Houston**. Ray hails from Salisbury, has his own layout, and models the Australian diesel layout in HO and N. Robert is an HO fan, lives at Woodville South, and is into Aussie steam and diesel.
- At great personal risk, **Bill Button** and **Don Snow** have agreed to take on the onerous task of judging *Buffer Stop* articles. So, now is the time to take up your pen – and write them a cheque if you want.
- The Club’s 43rd birthday was celebrated with a dinner held at the North Adelaide Football Club Vice-President’s Room.
- Articles on the Walhalla Goldfields Railway by **Bill Lewis** and **Harry Rush**.

Library Report

Allan Norris

Recent Additions to the Library:

Australian Railway History	June 10
A M R M	June July 10
Dispatcher (SANGS)	June 10
Motive Power	March April 10
Right on Track (NMRC)	May 10
Model Railroader	June 10

DVDs, Videos, Books & up to four Magazines to be charged at \$1 per month.

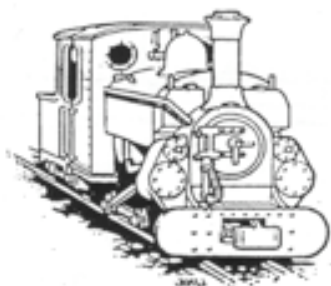
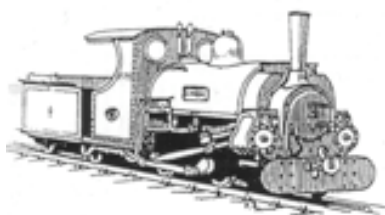
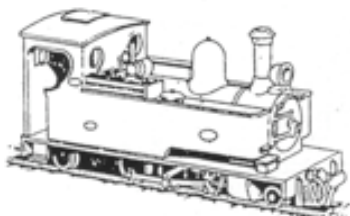
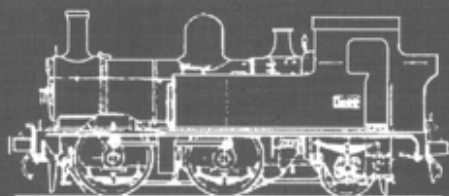
Junction Models

Shop 5, 449 Main North Road, Enfield Plaza, Enfield 5085

Phone 08 8349 7464 Fax 8349 7463

Email: mail@junctionmodels.com.au

Web site: junctionmodels.com.au



Specials for June 2010.

	Bachmann Train Set "Santa Fe Flyer"	\$112.00
	„ „ „ "Smokey Mountain Express"	\$195.00
	„ „ „ "Dynamis Sprinter set" (DCC)	\$430.00
Hornby	"Devon Belle Pullman"	\$315.00
	„ "Flying Jock"	\$260.00
	„ "Eastern Valleys Express"	\$80.00
	„ "Caledonian Single Wheeler set"	\$370.00
	„ "Elite DCC" „	\$250.00
Dapol N	"Voyager" HST set	\$320.00
	Magnifier, Large illuminated, multi-position... ..	\$109.00
	„ Junior „ "bendy stalk"	\$57.50
	Pace controllers-Powered single or dual	\$179.00
	„ „ - Single Hand held	\$59.50
	NCE Power Cab DCC	New batch-lower price.

- Cooe HO (yes 1:87 scale) Ford 1960 to 1966 \$14.50 ea. Now instock*
- Heljan English Diesel Locos - any one for

Proto 2000 2-10-2 Steam Loco any name - Standard DC

Proto 2000 - U28B or U30B locos, with DCC & Sound

Athearn GP35 Locos - any name

„ GP38-2 Locos - S/Fe, CSX, CP

„ SD45 Locos - UP, SP, Reading, Southern, Erie, GN, ...

„ SW1500 "Southern", "CSX" + "Missouri Pacific"

„ N Gauge Rolling stock, big range, 20% off retail.

Rivarossi Locos- All less 35%

Wiking Police cars Like VN Commodore \$18 each.

Weico AEC Swift Adelaide bus (1:76 scale) \$60,

„ 1950 Royal Blue Duple bus (1:76 scale) \$72

We stock San Mateo Line signals 12% off retail.

Agents for "MyLocoSound" units for DC or DCC \$69.00 (needs decoder for DCC)

~~~~~

Brian, Harry & Vic.



The Buffer Stop  
**May Meeting Model Display**



Steam locomotives exhibited by Dean Schluter,  
John Gordon and Bob Houston



Front: O scale SAR P class locomotive exhibited by Peter Manning.  
Back: VR R class locomotive exhibited by Terry Jomartz.



Front: SAR F class locomotive exhibited by Peter Michalak.  
Behind it: USRA Pacific exhibited by Hugh Williams.

## **Buying Second-Hand, Pre-Loved & Used Locos Or Rolling Stock**

Peter Pickering

Second-hand, pre-loved & used all mean much the same, of course. I always tend to think of “pre-loved” in terms of a teddy-bear or similar, and “used” in terms of a car where any dings and the odometer are there for all to see. Lacking in time and talent, I have bought a fair amount of second-hand models in my time and, having bought a few lemons, I am quite well qualified in the topic. However, there are numerous SARMA members who can provide technical information on your prospective purchase.

So, why buy second-hand? The first and most obvious reason is cost: you can usually buy two or more second-hand items for the same amount as a new item. The down side is that they may not perform as well as a new one. The other most common reason is that you simply can't buy new the model that you want. A combination of these two is the reason most of my collection of SAR rolling stock was bought second-hand.

The other consideration is why the item is being sold. It may be that the owner has died or has changed circumstances where he can no longer have a layout. Another possibility is that he is changing scale and/or prototype. In either of these situations, the model could be in reasonable condition. If the owner is doing an upgrade (e.g. selling off his old 830s or 930s) to a new model, the condition of the old models could be anything between reasonably serviceable to clapped out.

Maybe the reason for sale is that the model no longer runs satisfactorily or has physical damage or shoddy or incorrect paintwork or decals. While the latter should be fairly obvious, poor running can be harder to detect. Ideally, you need to see the model running in a layout type of environment. Unfortunately, this isn't always possible at the time of the sale. A run down a test track will, at least, tell you that it runs. Taking it through pointwork

with a load behind (if it's a loco or railcar) can tell a different story. If you only have the test track option (as is usually the case), you can apply a load with your finger – it doesn't take much expertise to differentiate between a healthy and unhealthy loco.

The main things to watch for with rolling-stock are:

- Couplers – check to see that they deflect freely and re-centre properly (especially if the coupler box is glued on).
- Wheels/axles/bearings – check that each axle is not too sloppy or tight in its bearings and the wheels spin freely without wobble in either plane. Check that all wheels sit firmly on a flat surface. You might also want to check to see whether the wheels are metal or plastic. Check, also, to see whether the wheel tread is worn or the flanges are deep – both indicators of an old and/or extensively run model.

For locos and railcars, all the above plus

- Coupling rods/valve gear – check for tightness or excessive wear (badly worn coupling rods can jam and stop the loco moving more than one wheel revolution).
- Motor/gearbox – check for smooth running without excessive noise.

Always assume that your purchase will have something wrong with it, so be prepared to do a little work or a clean and lubricate; hope that it doesn't need a major overhaul or is ready for the scrap bin. If you are in doubt (and even if you're not) try to get a second opinion from a more experienced modeller.

Finally, remember the old adage, **Let the buyer beware**. There are plenty of lemons out there – I can show you a few. It can be very difficult to get a seller to give you a refund on a faulty item.

# Railshow 2011

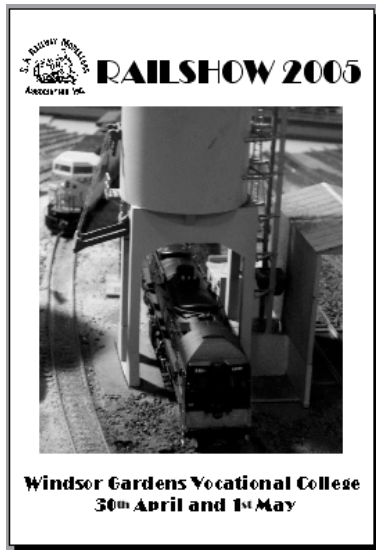
Needs your Pictures.

Would you like to have your photo turned into the theme picture like the ones below?

Get a copy of your favourite Hi Quality photo to Iain Kennedy via Disc or Email or USB.

The winner gets to brag about it being their photo.

Previous photos:



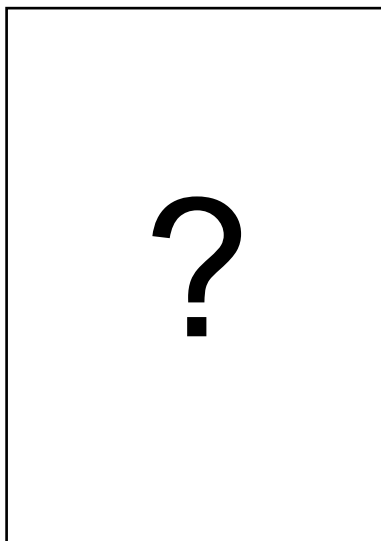
2005  
Iain Kennedy



2007  
David Jameson



2009  
Peter Michalak



2011

## The Buffer Stop

### May Meeting Model Display

Victorian S class:  
Steam loco exhibited  
by Don Snow;  
diesel loco exhibited  
by Rod Elvey.



## SARMA SALES



See Iain Kennedy

|                                 |         |                                          |         |
|---------------------------------|---------|------------------------------------------|---------|
| SARMA Pin Badges                | \$7.00  | Kadee #5 Couplers                        | \$4.60  |
| "Rails and the River" Medallion | \$15.00 | Delrin Bearings                          | \$5.30  |
| Bogies:                         |         | 11'6" Underframe Kits                    | \$8.80  |
| 40 ton Round Lid, Solid Wheels  | \$11.80 | PVA Glue, 2 litres                       | \$20.00 |
| ANR XC                          | \$11.80 | No. 2 self tapping screws, packs of 100: |         |
| W Car Bogies                    | \$11.80 | 4.5 mm                                   | \$7.00  |
| SEM Axles 10.5 x 25 mm          | \$1.10  | 6 mm                                     | \$8.00  |
| Decals for SAR M, MG            | \$2.50  | 9.5 mm                                   | \$10.00 |
| SEM GY Kit                      | \$15.00 | Packs of 20:                             |         |
| SEM UB Van Kit                  | \$21.00 | 2-56 UNC 3/8" pan head screws            | \$4.00  |
| SEM E Wagon Kit                 | \$22.00 | 2-56 UNC nuts                            | \$5.00  |
|                                 |         | SARMA Shirts (do you have one?)          | \$30.00 |



[www.toytrunkrailroad.com](http://www.toytrunkrailroad.com)



– reproduced by permission of Erik Sansom.

Visit [www.sarma.asn.au](http://www.sarma.asn.au).

Send photos to Peter Michalak. Help the SARMA website!

## End Of The Line Hobbies

**74 Ocean Street, Victor Harbor**

**Wednesday thru to Sunday**

**10:00am to 4:30pm**

**Ph: 85527900 Fax 8552 7933**

Model Trains, Track & Accessories

DCC controllers, decoders (inc sound)

Model Kits (Trains, Planes, Ships, Boats, Military Vehicles, Cars & Trucks)  
R/C Vehicles (Gas & Electric), R/C boats & yachts, R/C Planes & Helicopters

Spare parts & Fuel

Scalextric and Die Cast Collectable Cars

Books, Magazines and DVDs

Model Paints, Brushes & Air Brushes

Scratch building materials, balsa

Modelling equipment, tools and glues.

For all ages beginner to expert

Come in and have a look around; chat to Paul and Rodney about your modelling needs.

Email: [shop@endofthelinehobbies.com.au](mailto:shop@endofthelinehobbies.com.au)

Web: [www.endofthelinehobbies.com.au](http://www.endofthelinehobbies.com.au)

When making a purchase, identify yourself as a member of SARMA,  
and receive a 5% discount.

In addition, SARMA will receive a voucher to the same value.

### May Meeting Model Display



Models exhibited by David Vander Linden:

Rear: LMS Black 5;

Centre Left: Lima 0-4-0 thingy minus funnel, a gunna project;

Centre Right: SAR 700 class loco (under construction).

Front: Don Snow's seemingly never-ending *Spirit of Progress*.

**Congratulations**  
to Alistair and Rena Whibley,  
who celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup>  
wedding anniversary on 4<sup>th</sup> June.



### **Australian National Drawings**

The drawings once held by Australian National are now available to the Public.  
This includes both the SAR and CR drawings.

#### **Types of drawings:**

|                       |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Rollingstock outlines | Curve & Gradient   |
| Wagon and Locomotive  | Station Yard Plans |
| Construction Drawings | Plan & Sections    |
| Electrical            | Buildings          |
| Steam                 | Bridges            |
| Signals               | Maps               |

These plans are available to research and copy at

**Inprotrans Pty Ltd**  
**320 Churchill Road, Kilburn, SA 5084**  
(The old Islington Railway Workshops)

[www.inprotrans.com](http://www.inprotrans.com) Email: [mark@inprotrans.com](mailto:mark@inprotrans.com)  
Phone: 8343 5349 Fax: 8343 5354

### **GENERAL MEETING NIGHTS PRE-MEETING DINNER**

Members and visitors are invited to join us for dinner from 5.30 p.m. at the  
**Bremen Hotel**  
**1210 Grand Junction Road,**  
**Hope Valley,**  
just west of Valley Road,  
each meeting night  
while we still meet at Dernancourt.

Why not come straight from work to our clubrooms (any time after 4.00 p.m.) and assist us in collating this magazine, prior to the dinner.

Non-regulars please ring 8298 8571  
no later than 11.00 a.m. that day.

Barrie Mackinnon,  
Social Director.

### **Rolling Stock For Sale**

Eddie Jackson has his late father Dean's collection of BGB rolling stock for sale. He also has some Model Railroader and Australian Model Railway Magazines.

Magazines start at \$1 and rolling stock starts around \$20.

Eddie will endeavour to bring the above to the June meeting. He can also be contacted by phone (08) 8528 2378 and email: [djr1718@bigbutton.com.au](mailto:djr1718@bigbutton.com.au)

## The Wonders of Modern Technology



At the March meeting, Chris set up a slide projector all by himself.

At the April meeting, it took Hugh, Pete, Gavin and two computers to get the digital projector working...

---

## A New Use for ex-SAR FB Flats

Peter Michalak

I found this image on Marcus Wong's Victorian photo site

[http://railgallery.wongm.com/wagons/steel-train-sg/D827\\_2749.jpg.html](http://railgallery.wongm.com/wagons/steel-train-sg/D827_2749.jpg.html)

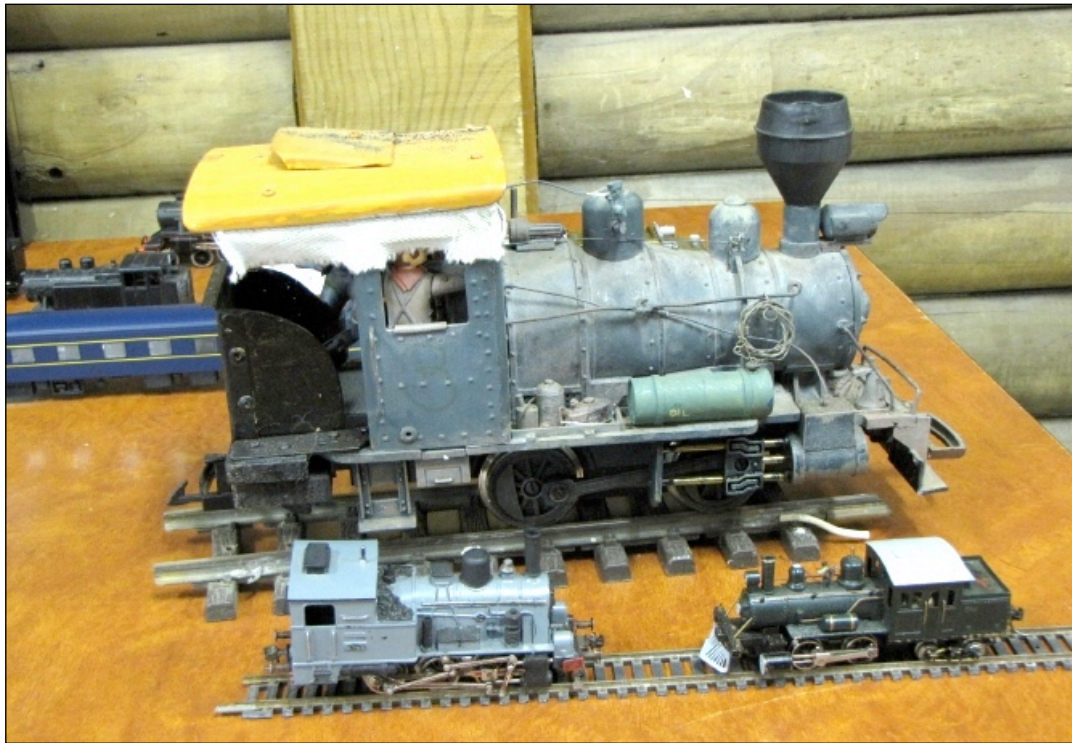
Interesting use of two ex SAR FB flats - these two are apparently paired together permanently and can carry 75ft lengths of rail, though they are limited to 80km/h.



Used with permission.

The Buffer Stop

**May Meeting Model Display**



More Whimsy from Whib

**Hump Shunt**



...no wonder we have so many 8300s...



A Special Interest Group is exactly what it says: a group of people who have a special interest in a particular topic. You could say that SARMA is a SIG and, if you interpreted SARMA as an association of modellers of South Australian Railways, you would be right. However, as we often have to tell people and, sometimes, have to remind our own members, it is an association of railway modellers based in South Australia. While many members have a particular interest in SAR and the trains which run or ran in South Australia, our constitution is quite clear in that our primary function is furthering the model railway hobby.

Many of our members model Victorian, U.S. and British railways. Any of these groups could form a SIG; maybe they have without telling anyone, or even without being aware that they have done so because it is very easy for a few people to form an informal group without realising it. They might simply exchange email addresses and seek and pass on information on their particular topic between themselves. Only if they wanted to solicit other members or undertake a major task like building a dedicated layout, would they think about forming a more formal SIG.

What sort of special interest would a group within SARMA have?

The most common topic is prototype. A SIG might be formed of people interested in railways of a particular country such as the U.S. or U.K. or a branch of these such as Union Pacific or Great Western. Another topic could be the narrow gauge railways of SA/NT, Victoria, Queensland or anywhere else in the world.

The next common topic is scale/gauge. O

scale, particularly On30, has a small, but growing following. British OO scale (which is close to HO) has a significant following in Australia although EM, P4 and OOn9 are rare to the best of my knowledge. S scale, too, has little following outside America although there is a SIG within AMRA in WA who use it, presumably as Sn3.5 running on 16.5mm track. N scale is steadily making ground as houses, blocks and sheds shrink. Australia embraces HOn3 and HOn3.5, and these are used to model the significant amount of narrow gauge around the country. You may not know that SARMA has several members who have HOn3 equipment and the club itself owns numerous locos and pieces of rolling stock.

The last SIG topic I will mention (I'm sure that there are others) is modelling non-mainstream periods prior to 1950 or even a lot earlier. NSW has a strong following modelling the early years and most other states have a steadily increasing interest in their railway heritage.

That brings us to one of the reasons to form or join a SIG. If you want to model a non-mainstream prototype and/or in a non-mainstream scale, you lose the advantage of manufacturing in economic quantity. You may have heard about groups of early SARMA members making batches of SAR models and later making moulds from a one-off model and casting parts or complete models. Peter Ziegler joined the club around this time and BGB was born. Nowadays, with advances in moulding materials, it is relatively easy to make batches of models or parts – once you've made a good master, of course. Many attendees at Wednesday work-nights will have seen Hugh Williams produce a plastic kit before their very eyes.

One obvious question is “Why should a group formalise their members into a recognised SIG?” I find that a bit hard to answer. If the group are comfortable with the members they have and don’t want to include any more except by invitation, and if they want no support from or input into the club as a whole, then there is no apparent reason. But if they wish to foster interest in their particular topic and, perhaps, make it an attraction for prospective members, then the greater visibility of a recognised SIG has advantages. It also means that, if other members come across material pertaining to the SIG topic, they can forward it to a representative of the group. I like to think that so many of our members take some sort of interest in railway systems other than SAR in HO 16.5mm gauge (particularly U.S., Victorian, Commonwealth and SA narrow gauge), that forming an SIG would be unnecessary and much of the communication could go into the *Buffer Stop* – I’m sure it would be welcomed.

Perhaps, if the formation of a SIG was reserved for groups who want to undertake a significant project and are looking for sponsorship from the club, we could provide a list of members with any contact details they are comfortable with showing, plus their particular interests. Then any member discovering or requiring information on, for instance, circus trains, could contact the listed member. I would like feedback on this idea.

**Email Protocol:**

One of the most effective means of communication nowadays is email. It can be used to convey data, pictures (still and moving) and sound to one or many recipients. It is the ideal communication medium for a group. However we do need to be careful what information we pass on with regard to

its size and details of people which are contained within the email. If a person that you are communicating with only has dial-up (yes, there are still a few), make sure that any attachment to them will not clog their system. When forwarding emails, ensure that you delete the previous recipients unless you specifically want to show the source. This is particularly important if there is a large distribution on it. Take the example of person A at work sending person B an email believing that only B will read it. Person B now sends it on to a whole group of friends without deleting person A’s email address, and so it goes on. You could get A’s identity and email address distributed among hundreds or thousands and it could come back to bite the originator in the proverbial. They could face discipline or even lose their job over it.

For the same reason, if you send an email to unrelated people, ensure that you send it to undisclosed addressees or blind copies. This way, none of your recipients can identify each other.

It was once suggested that the contact details of all members be made available to all other members. Although a few clubs do this, the SARMA committee decided that they had no mandate to publish this information and one rotten apple could cause a very embarrassing situation. It is up to individuals to decide how public their contact details would be. You will find a list of committee members in the front of this magazine. If you want to contact a member whose email address or phone number you don’t have, contact a committee member (preferably the secretary) who will forward a message to the individual to contact you or, at his discretion, provide the information that you need.

The Buffer Stop  
**Prototype Gallery**



FQ03+VL354+EL64 bring DA2 through Mawson Lakes on 26 April.

Noel Potter



MTT E-type tram 118, recently restored to operational condition at the St Kilda Tramway Museum.

© 2010 Railmac Publications. Used with permission.

## The Buffer Stop

### **Porter Leigh's Puzzle Land**

Porter Leigh lives in Puzzle Land where life isn't meant to be easy.

Can you help him by solving these puzzles?

Answers next month.

#### **Add-age**

Porter Leigh was trying to get some work done when Jesse Tellamy was annoying him while waiting for the train. "How old are you Porter Leigh?" asked Jesse. "My dear boy," said Porter Leigh, "I am six times as old as you were when I was as old as you are, and that was exactly two years after I was six times as old as you were."

How old are they?

[Hint:- Porter Leigh referred to three distinct points in time. At the earliest of these he was six times as old as Jesse. If Jesse had been one year old then, Porter Leigh would have been six years old. In that case, two years later Porter Leigh would have been eight years old and Jesse would have been three years old. So now, when Jesse is as old as Porter Leigh was then, i.e. eight. Porter Leigh would be thirteen. But thirteen is not six times three. So Jesse cannot have been one year old at the earliest of the times mentioned. Jesse then tried another number for Porter Leigh's age at the earliest of the times referred to, and in this way soon reached a solution].

#### **The trains on the plains**

The Arthurtown train controller lost concentration one day and two passenger trains found themselves face-to-face at Threesnuff, a small town on the single track main line through the Eyrey Plains. Each train consisted of a locomotive and four carriages but the siding at Threesnuff could, as its name suggested, only hold a locomotive and two carriages.

Porter Leigh, when he heard of the problem later, decided that he would build it into his model railway layout and see if he could solve it.

What is the most efficient way of shunting the carriages to enable the trains to continue their journeys?

0000 OOOOOOOO - OOOOOOOO 0000

Did you hear the joke about the express train? *Never mind, you just missed it.*

Porter Leigh's Ponder Line:- *Can you be a closet claustrophobic?*

0000 OOOOOOOO - OOOOOOOO 0000

If you know any suitable puzzles, games or jokes,  
please send them to Porter Leigh. c/- the editors.

*[Editors' note:*

*Who is Porter Leigh? The only clue we have is that his name is a physical description of him. Run the two words together and say it quickly, removing the middle syllable ("er"). Then look around at the meeting and see if you can find anyone who fits that description. Porter Leigh advises us that he has eleven pages of this stuff for us to use as fillers – unless we get other contributions. Over to you...]*

# 2010 ADELAIDE MODEL RAILWAY SHOW



**12th – 14th JUNE  
LONG WEEKEND  
GREYHOUND PARK**

**CARDIGAN STREET, off SOUTH ROAD, ANGLE PARK**

**Saturday & Sunday 9.30-5pm; Monday 9.30-4pm**

**ADMISSION: ADULTS \$12, 5-15 years \$6, FAMILY \$28,  
Concession \$10**

**29 layouts - Second-hand trains table - trade stalls**

**FREE PARKING**



Sponsored by Port Adelaide Enfield Council



Supporting the Make A Wish Foundation