

# New Zealand **G-SCALE** News

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE 45MM GAUGE MODEL RAILWAY GROUPS

September 2006



# Wellington

## August Meeting



Our planned August running afternoon was thwarted by a rather soggy lawn at Brian's, so we used the back-up plan and had a quiet but pleasant afternoon at Wayne's indoor layout.

So with spring now here and soggy lawns hopefully past, we should be safe to meet this month at Brian's railway.

Also coming up at the end of the month is Rail-Ex 2006 at the Lower Hutt Civic Centre — 30th September & 1st Oct. A copy of the flyer is attached for your info. As usual it should be a good show, well worth a visit.

Would you like to volunteer to be the host for a running afternoon over the next few months? You would, great, drop me an email and we'll add you to the schedule. September Railway Running Day Details are: -

Host: - Brian Russell. (Ph: 232 7686)

Venue: - 31 Coates St., Linden.

Date / Time: - Sunday 24th September 06 from 1.30pm (Subject to weather).

Layout is track powered with minimum radius 780mm ( LGB track R2 ).

Guest equipment welcome.

Just in case of last minute bad weather please phone me (John) on 0274 427 160 to confirm that running is still on before you leave home.

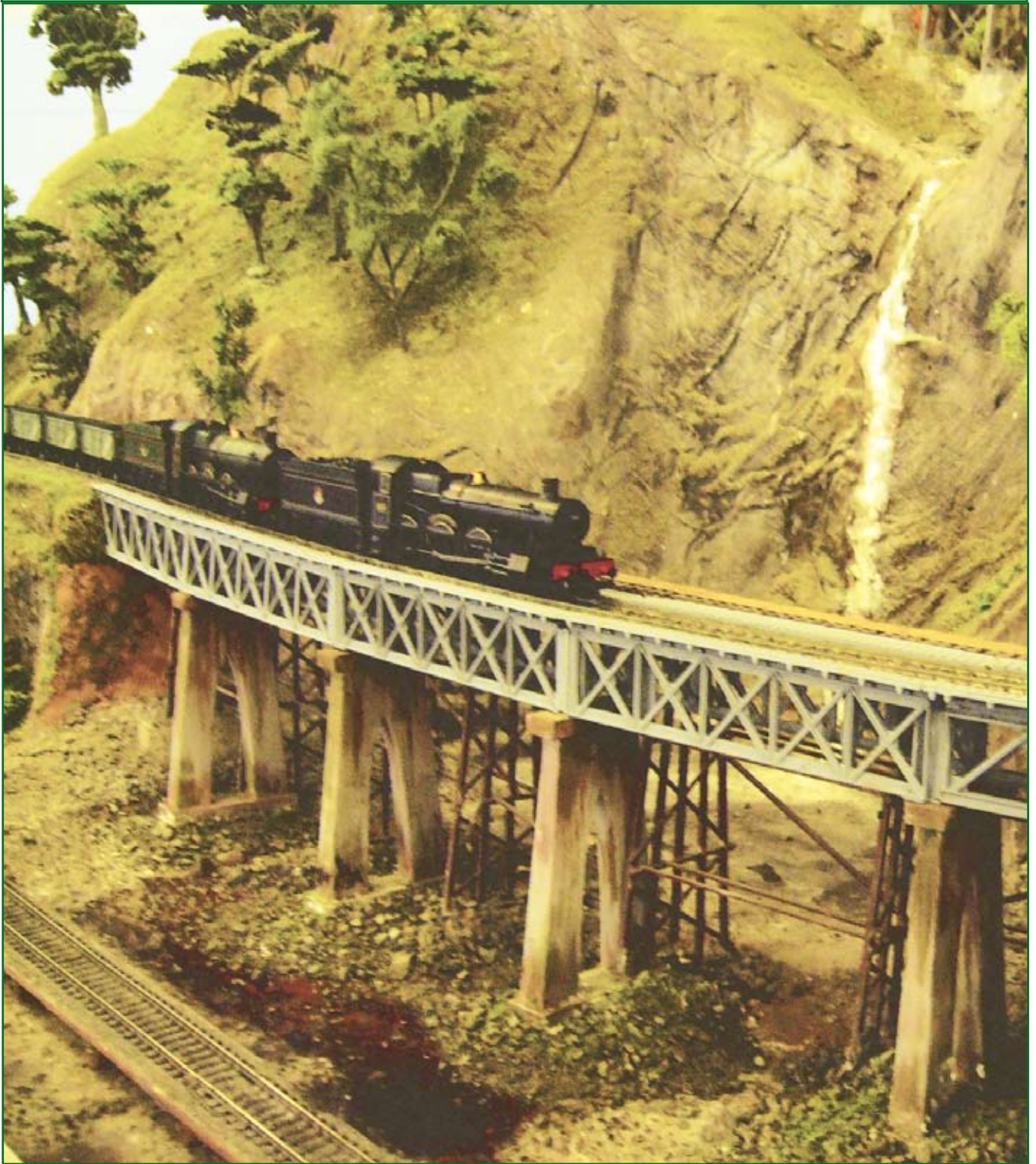
See you there.

John Robinson



# Auckland

## August Meeting



Earlier this year Michael was looking for indoor venues for our group meets during the winter months. Being a member of the Western Districts

Model Railway Club I thought that there may be some interest in visiting our club rooms so a visit was organised.

So fast forward to Sunday 27 August

and after many cold wet windy days what do we get but a beautiful sunny afternoon.

Come two o'clock in the afternoon,

the Auckland Group gathered at the Western Districts Model Railway club rooms Te Rangi Hiroa Reserve, Glen Rd., Ranui. A group of between 15 and 20 people turned up to view the club layouts and facilities (sorry I was too busy running trains to get an accurate count). Everybody was greeted by the club

President who then gave a

briefing about the club layouts and its activities.

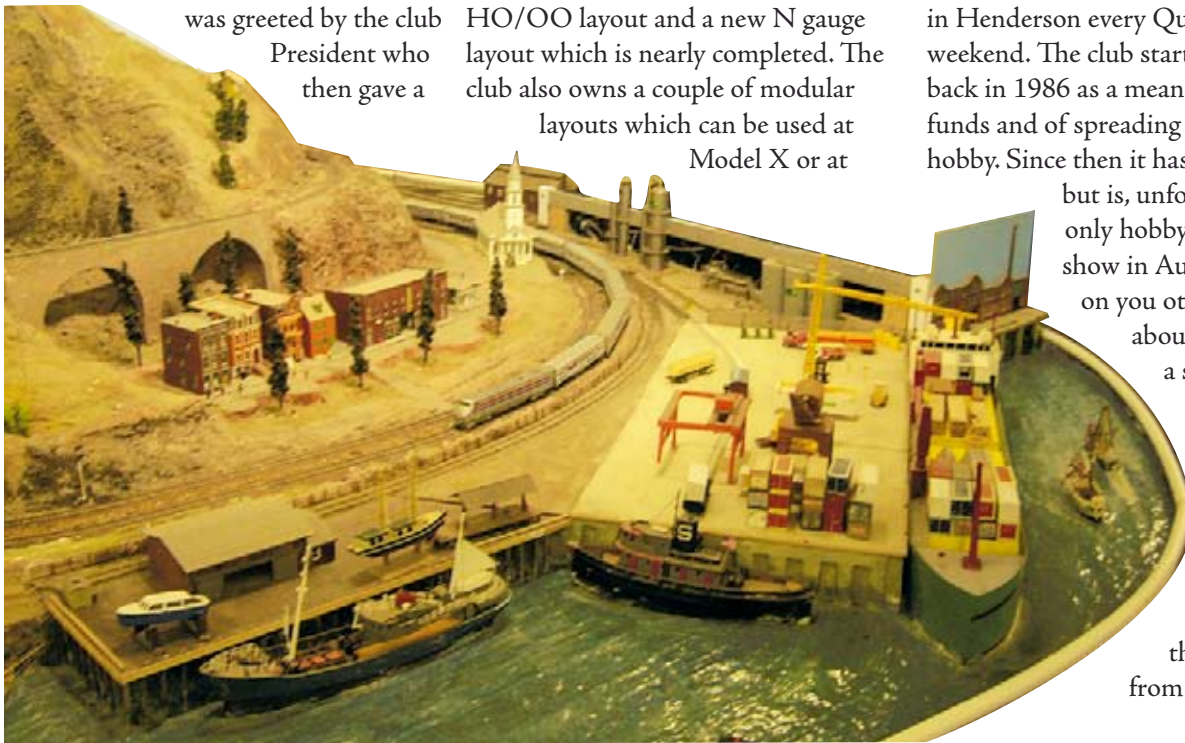
The Western Districts Model Railway Club was formed in 1974 and in 1982 they moved to their current location being the basement of the old winery building on Te Rangi Hiroa Reserve, Ranui. They have a permanent HO/OO layout and a new N gauge layout which is nearly completed. The club also owns a couple of modular layouts which can be used at Model X or at

other exhibitions, e.g. the forthcoming Rotorua Hobby Show Saturday 30 September and Sunday 1 October Rotorua Girls High School, Rotorua.

Many of you may have already had contact with the Western Districts Model Railway club by way of the annual Model X show which is held in Henderson every Queens Birthday weekend. The club started that show back in 1986 as a means of generating funds and of spreading interest in the hobby. Since then it has grown bigger,

but is, unfortunately, the only hobby/model railroad show in Auckland (Come on you other clubs how about organising a show of your own).

Back to our visit, after the introduction from the club President, the members from the Western



▼ David Graham's AMTRAK locomotive and coaches.





▲ Club members, including the Robert and David Graham, packing up after the session.



▲ Hugh Keal (G-scale Group) operating the freight yard.

Districts club got busy operating the HO/OO layout. I noticed members taking an interest in those activities and chatting with the guys from Western Districts. In fact I also observed some of our group getting to have a go at piloting or should that be driving a train around the layout.

After about an hour playing trains afternoon tea was served, and thanks must go to Michael Hilliar's wife and the other ladies who served up the tea and biscuits. Most of the people retired to the lounge area at that stage and had a drink and a chin wag.

I hope you all enjoyed your visit and

on behalf of the Western Districts Model Railway Club I would like to extend an invitation to come and join in the club activities. We meet every Monday night from around 7.30 pm onwards so see you there.

Robert Graham



# Christchurch Garden Railway Society



▲ The Climax pulling past the agricultural machinery site.

▼ Utter fascination!



The August meeting took the form of our annual club train show. This show has now been formally named the Robin Jager Memorial Train Show in memory of our long time club member who died one month before last year's show.

This year we decided to change venues, after feedback that our presence was no longer needed at the Roy Stokes Hall. Thanks to Karl's contacts he was soon able to find another school that wanted us to come and raise some money for them! So off to Burwood School we went. The hall was a little smaller than what we had been used to, but still big enough to pack it full of G scale trains and put on a great display



- ▲ The Model T railcar is dwarfed by the more modern stock. The scope of the yards on the display layout is apparent here.
- ▼ The finer points of the Climax get discussed in detail!





▲ The Mallet shows off its flexibility on curves.

for the public.

The location of the school, on a busy road turned out to be an advantage. A few big signs were put on the fence (and some small listings in the community notices section in the papers) and the crowds came rolling in. Indeed it was very busy on Sunday morning and dropped back to a steady flow for the rest of the day.

Former owners of Ironhorse hobbies, Bill and Annett Pierson even came in for a look.

The school got behind the show and the parents set up a sausage sizzle outside to maximise their fund-raising

potential. It must have been a great success for them too, because they ran out of sausages at one point and had to go away and buy some more. It was reported that they sold over 350 during the day.

Inside the hall we had four layouts on display. On the stage was Rob Wilson's new Letz Get Busi III, and Graeme Wood's portable layout.

Meanwhile down on the floor was Karl Arnesen's large Jessie Falls layout, with the remaining floor space being filled with some club members' track on the floor.

Glenn Watson was down on his

knees again joining up all the Hillman rail clamps to make sure the tracks stayed together. There were also some display tables including a range of Robin Jager's fine handiwork.

What took most of Saturday to set up, packed up in a much shorter time. It wasn't long and you would have hardly known that there had been a show on at all.

The school were reportedly very happy with their share of the proceeds and some people mentioned making extra signs to attract more people next year. So I guess that means we are invited back again next year!



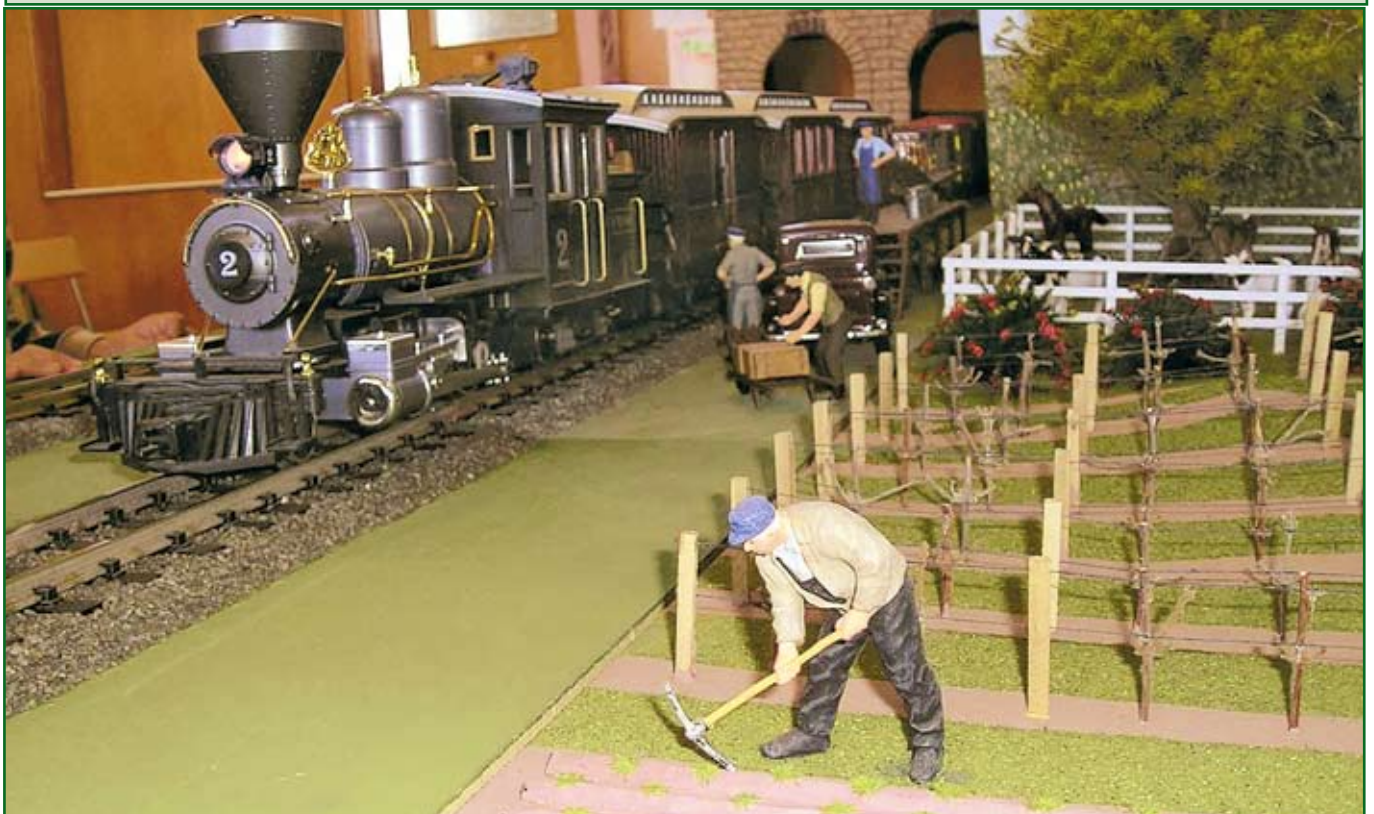
- ▲ Graeme Wood's portable layout.
- ▼ Plenty of trains on the go to keep the public interested.





▲ The results of some of the late Robin Jager's fine modelling.

▼ Gardening in hard ground!

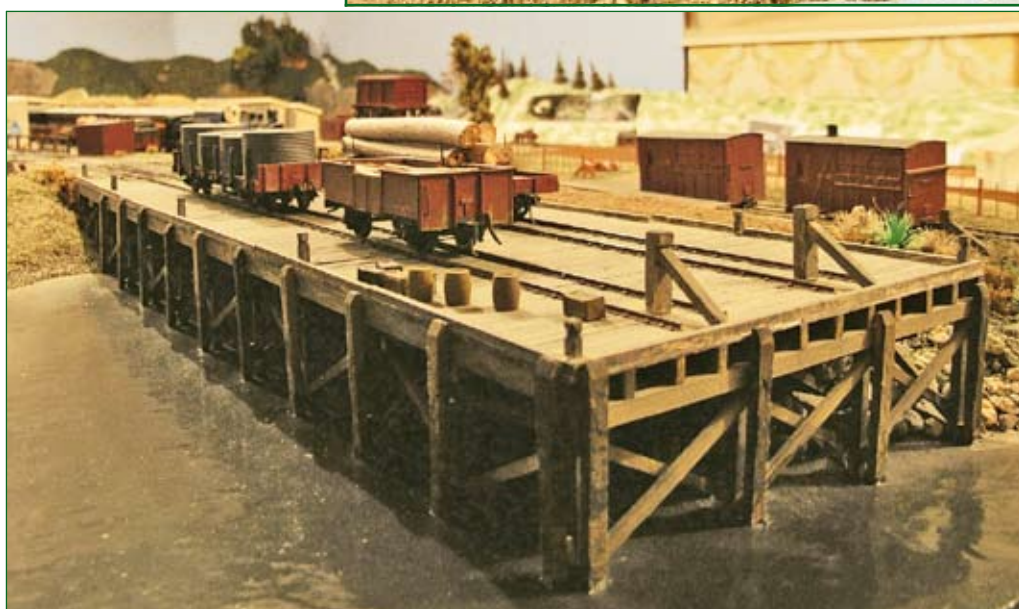
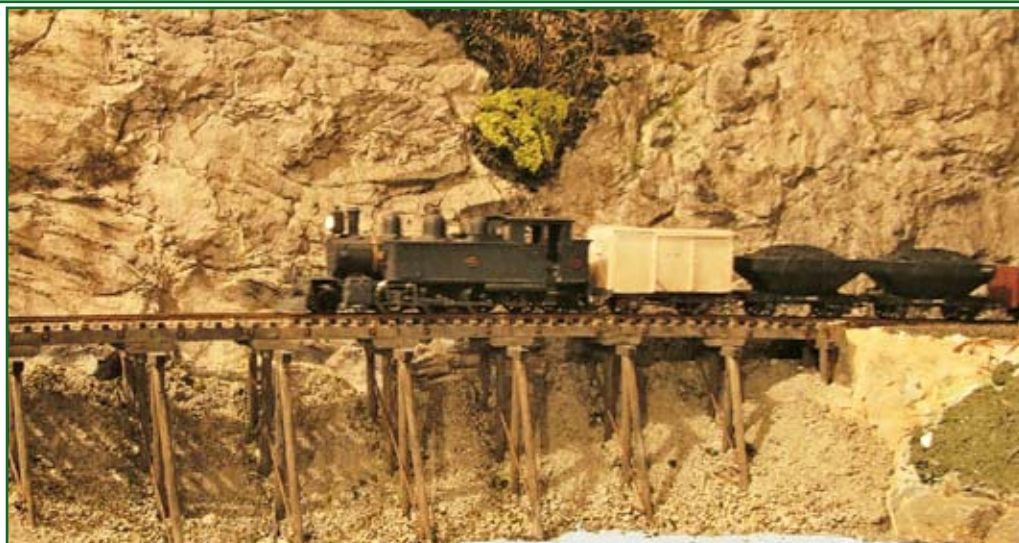


## Around the Yards

While in Wellington recently, I was fortunate enough to be able to visit John and Melinda Robinson in Tawa.

John's outdoor G-scale layout is very photogenic, with sweeping curves laid out under mature fruit trees. John was running a Climax and a Dubs A — the latter a very heavily rebuilt LGB loco!

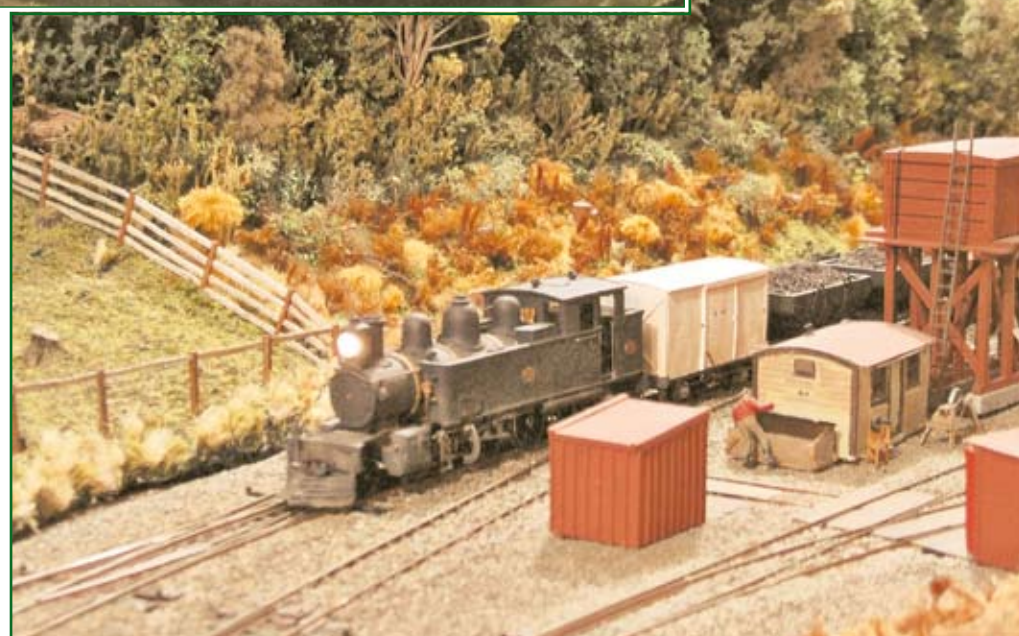
The weather, however,



beat us that evening — even before I got the camera out — so we brought the stock in and moved to the indoor Sn3 NZR layout that John has had on the go for some time.

As you can see, this is also a very photogenic with lots of ideas that could possibly be transferred outdoors and into G-scale!

The layout is equipped with a Digitrax DCC system.  
IWL



# Diary Dates

## Auckland

October 7

Hamilton Model Railway Club  
Exhibition and Swap Meet

A good opportunity to car pool to see the exhibition and the swap meet and include a shared lunch.

Contact Michael Hilliar  
09 2664745

October 21

Saturday 21st [Labour weekend]  
2pm to 4pm, wet or fine  
at Henrik and Heather Dorbecks  
74 Grande Vue Road Manurewa  
(09) 266-2605

This meeting is also a bring and buy — a chance for you to move on those unwanted items

November 19

November's meeting is to be held at 2pm Sunday 19th at Alf and Rosie Williams' place. Please ring and check first if the weather is doubtful. If it is wet, the meeting will be held on the next Sunday (26th) — wet or fine.

At this meeting we usually have our short AGM so if you have some gripes or moans etc. this is the place to air them — or if you want the job, volunteer your services. We usually finish this last meeting of the year with a shared barbeque for tea, so those intending to staying on please bring along your favorite meat or sausage and a salad etc

To find Alf and Rosie's those traveling south should take the Papakura turn-off, then turn right, crossing over the motorway into Hingaia Road, heading towards Karaka. Turn right into Oakland Road, right again into Derbyshire Lane, and near the end of it on the left is a private road. At the end of this turn sharp right.

Those traveling north take the Papakura turn off and left into

Hingaia Rd and follow the above instructions.

Hope to see you all there, and of course bring a train to run.

For more information phone Alf and Rosie (09) 298-7765 or Michael (09) 266-4745

## Wellington

September 24

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## Christchurch

Sunday 24th September. 1:30pm,  
Don's work.

Sat 30th Sept & Sun 1st October.  
Big Model Train Show  
Pioneer Stadium  
9:30am - 5pm

November 26th. - Karl Arnesen.  
460a Marine Parade.

December 10th - TBA

January 21st 2007 - Glen & Brenda  
Anthony

February 18th - Ian Barker

## New Zealand G-Scale News

The national newsletter of New Zealand's 45mm gauge model railway groups (incorporating the former Christchurch *Garden Whistle* and Auckland *Crossed Ties* newsletters).

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### Newsletter deadlines:

Copy for the newsletter needs to be with the editors before the 5th of the month of publication. Copy should be emailed for preference as plain email text. PDF and Word (.doc) files are also acceptable.

Images: Preferably the raw full-size images from your digital camera. Photographs needing scanning can be posted to Ian.

### Subscriptions:

The newsletter is available through your local club or group as a printed or emailed copy — Christchurch: Don Ellis, ph. 03-3652267 Wellington: Dan Hughes, ph. 04 9778210 Auckland: Michael Hilliar, ph. 09 2664745 It can also be purchased directly as a printed and posted copy from the Auckland G-Scale Group at \$30.00 per annum. Cheques for this option should be made out to the Auckland G-Scale Group and posted to:

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