



# The Upper Quadrant

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FROM THE CMNSG

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## Presidents Report

**C**ongratulations CMNSG, what a great year you have all contributed to. I reflect that it has only been some 12-18 months since we only attended and had the opportunity to run trains twice a year. All the credit cannot be assumed by the current Committee, and we are thankful for the immediate past President Phil Hastie and Committee for putting some of the important elements in place for us.

This year has been a year of significant achievements. We have:

- Got together to run trains at three exhibitions.
- Informally attended other train shows in the local area.
- Run trains at the Scout Hall on 7 occasions or 14 days.
- Rid ourselves of the 7/16 Whitworth threaded bolts (largely).

- Conducted a Club Survey where 2/3 of the membership responded.
- Investigated four real possibilities for a 'home'.
- Maintained a website with current contact details for potential new members.
- Worked out different ways we can arrange and utilise the modules.
- Faster, more efficient team based ways of establishing and taking down the layouts.
- And we have become a Men's Shed.

The year has been one of significant growth.

My observation of this past year is twofold: firstly we appear to be stuck in a rut of doing things the way we have always done them, which in some ways potentially makes some members less enthused to contribute. The second challenge and

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observation is that while we have standards, it is inherent in the Model Railroader to develop and have supreme faith in their own way of doing things (not a bad thing). The consequence is that getting consensus on any one thing is difficult. I came to these realisations in trying to apply the Austrak/Club standards, where I even saw opportunities to modify to suit my own preferences!!!

While the year has been one of great achievement, there is still much to do. Next year, hopefully with news of a place to call home, we can see innovation and new ways of doing things more actively discussed and pursued among members.

My other observation during the year, is that the majority of member's for the time being just want to run trains. This is reasonable for our current 'module' based posture, and while we may not like it, it is just the reality of where we are at. I hope with a permanent home, which must be a priority for us commencing 2019, that the prospect of supporting other aspects of the hobby can be better supported, i.e. special interest groups focussed on fine modelling, scratch building, air-brushing, electronics, etc.

My end of year message would not be complete without thanking the continued contribution to

what we do by Tom Dowling and Peter Dinham. The contribution they make in ensuring that the correct modules and equipment are available and in a reasonable state of repair for you to run trains cannot be under-estimated. A sincere thank you Tom and Peter. I do hope to see you running more trains in the future though.

A final thank you to my fellow committee members. The Committee meetings generally run overtime due to the sheer passion of the current committee for what we do. Thank you.

Rest up, and get ready for an even better 2019. Thank you again for your comradery, support and friendship.

Images: Potential home, catering for a broad range of interests – Railway Modelling (8th Edition), Norman Simmons, 1998. Image 2: The Art Bus, another option for an integrated home, exhibition transport and sleeping accommodation!

*Stephen O'Brien*



*Club night in the clubhouse of the Railway Enthusiasts' Club, Farnborough, Hampshire. The N gauge group's layout, Reclborough & Whittleton, receives attention whilst other members relax at the well appointed bar. (Photo: Peter Parfitt)*

# Wagga 2018

A collection of images from the Wagga exhibition.





# 16<sup>th</sup> National N Scale Convention

CANBERRA—10 TO 14 OCTOBER 2019



Gopher Models 44 class on CMNSG  
Royalla module. Photo: David Bird

The 2019 National N Scale Convention will be held at the Ibis Styles Hotel Narrabundah ACT on the 10<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> of October 2019.

#### Activities to include:

- Lectures, Clinics and Workshops
- Layout Tour
- Modelling Competition
- Displays
- Partners Program

To register for updates please send an email to the below address with SUBSCRIBE in the subject line.

Website: Coming Soon

Email: [convconvenor@nscale.org.au](mailto:convconvenor@nscale.org.au)

The Convention is presented by N Scale Conventions Australia which is affiliated with the Australasian Region of the NMRA - [www.nmra.org.au](http://www.nmra.org.au)

