

The New Zealand Association of Model Railway Clubs Inc.

On behalf of the committee

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31st October 2022

Craig Galilee and the Christchurch Convention Committee
C/- Craig's email

Dear Craig and Christchurch Convention Committee

Thank you for performing what I can only describe as Magic, pulling a successful convention out of that black hat you took on from the last event!

It was a very long time ago in 2018 that You and your team put their hands up formally in Auckland to hold a National Convention. You had all committed to holding the 2020 NZAMRC Convention, in Christchurch. Little did we all know that this was going to be a time of untold challenges and delays, due mainly to our little imported Virus, and its unforeseen contributions.

On behalf of the Executive, the association and all of the attendees, I am writing this letter to you to express our heartfelt appreciation of you and your team's great effort and super-human persistence with the Convention project. Without all of you none of the convention would have gone ahead. We admire your tenacity and are extremely appreciative of the personal efforts that have gone in to holding a such a successful convention this year in Christchurch.

You have set an example to us all to follow.

Our many, many thanks and good wishes.

J S Kelso

James Kelso
Ex President
NZAMRC

PS: Thanks to enjoyment everyone had from your 2022 event, it looks like we have volunteers for 2024 and 2026 conventions already!

Now just a happy memory

Just like the tail lights of a train that has rushed past and is now receding into the distance, the Back on Track Convention is now only a happy memory.

Thanks are due to all who made it the success that it was, the layout owners, the clinic and workshop presenters, Kendall Burt/St Andrew's College, the Competition Committee, and of course Craig Galilee and his very able and dedicated committee.

Special mention also goes to Jan Fortune who single handedly arranged and hosted the very well received Partner Programme, and to Tim Marshall who marshalled the opening ceremony.

Then there were our special guests, Gavin Hince and Kathy Millatt. Gavin set the first day off with a great keynote address and followed up with two excellent clinics. Kathy would have been here if she could but instead arranged to appear by video link — something she may well have regretted as she patiently waited for the bugs in that link to be sorted out on not one but both occasions.

Most thanks of course must go to all those who came, for without you there would have been no convention. You may have been fewer than we had hoped but that only mattered at the till. You were a great bunch who joined in all of our programme with gusto, and showed great patience while we sorted out the odd glitch.

To do what we did, as James has said, took patience and tenacity, and on the third attempt we did get there.

The Association backed us all the way because in the 56th year of conventions it was important to keep the convention flag flying — which between us we all did.

The word now is that it will only be a matter of days before the hosts for the 2024 convention are announced.

You who were not there this time missed something special, don't do that next time.



Western Districts Model Railway Club Inc

**STOP
PRESS**

ZRZb

The word is out, the Western Districts MRC, has stepped up to host the next convention.

No details yet but the website www.modelrailcon.nz will soon be bringing you more.

Refunds

A few people are still entitled to refunds, mainly those who paid but could not attend. In the next few days we will refunding those payments into the account they were paid from. If by December 14 you have not received a refund you were expecting please send an email to: petrosnz15@gmail.com

Kathy waiting 27 minutes for the video link to work.

From Kathy Millatt

Hi Peter

I was chatting to Brent Hopley on YouTube and he was saying he missed the clinics. I do have the recordings and also my practice ones I did for my Patreon. Could you pass the links on please and to any others who missed the clinics.

Thanks

Kathy

Random clips from *Love Tile Grout* (below):

Practice version: <https://youtu.be/9K90rXa-viw>

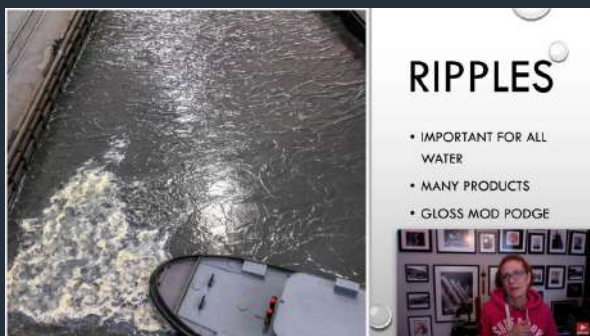
Live presentation: <https://youtu.be/154TXpiWcE0>



Random clips from *Modelling Water* (below):

Practice version: <https://youtu.be/wsdXWdX311o>

Live presentation: <https://youtu.be/cDnD4rkXCxM>



NARROW GAUGE DOWNUNDER



From Gavin Hince

Hi Peter & Craig,

The dust has settled, after travel back to Australia. I've nearly even finished washing everything too!

I wanted to say thanks again to the organising committee, volunteers and attendees at the Christchurch convention. I enjoyed the gathering immensely, met lots of enthusiastic modellers and came away refreshed and informed.

Thanks also for your lovely gift. I was initially a bit worried at fitting the plate into my smallish case, but got it back safely - it will be in pride of place in my layout room.

Regards from down under, the West Isle,

Gavin Hince

Editor, *Narrow Gauge Downunder* magazine

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The committee

Who did what:

Craig Galilee: Chair, team leader

Clive Anderson: Secretary, venue liaison

Allan Guy: Treasurer

Stan Agar: Skillwise/venue

Julian Allom: Website/printing/sundry items

Joe Bray: Registration pack, venue set-up

Trevor Corrin: Layouts/traders, etc

Barry Fitzgerald: Clinics/workshops

Colin Fortune: Registration packs

Jan Fortune: Partner programme/accommodation

Brent Hopley: Layouts/traders

Peter Ross: Newsletters/registrations/clinics/workshops

Earlier

Phil Cossar: Layouts

John Dudson: Layouts/traders