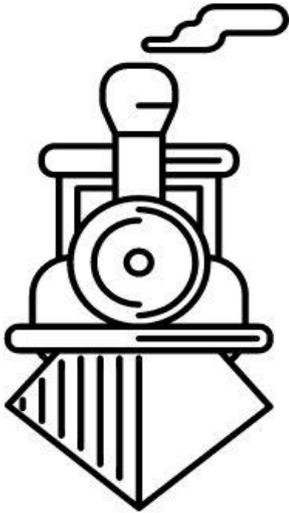


THE GARDEN WHISTLE

NEW ZEALAND LARGE SCALE NEWSLETTER



AUGUST 2021



THE GARDEN WHISTLE

NEW ZEALAND LARGE SCALE NEWSLETTER

August 2021

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Photo supplied by — Andrew Wilson.

The **Garden Whistle** is published monthly by the Christchurch Garden Railway Group and features news from various Large scale Groups in New Zealand.

Each club is a separate identity and the contact details may be found in club contacts.

Contributions of articles and/or photos are always welcome. Photos should be sent as separate jpg attachments.

The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Editor, Executive, or members of the Christchurch Garden Railway Group

Editor: Iain Collingwood, Email: gw.editor@outlook.com

Wairarapa Garden Railway Group Meeting

From Lloyd Dickens

Wairarapa's first ANZAC Hall Event for year

From Lloyd Dickens

The Wairarapa has traditionally held an ANZAC Hall event once a year but this year we decided to organise two events one in July and our traditional one in September.

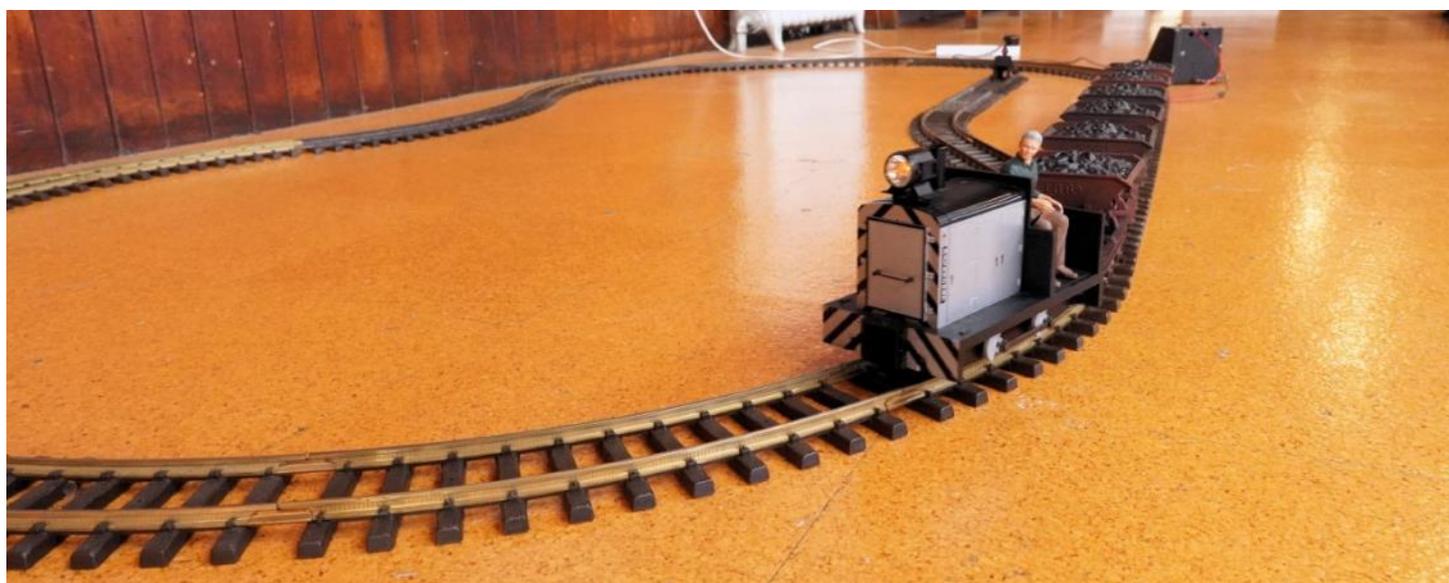
Considering that we all went away last weekend to Palmerston North RailX and in my case also to Taupo for the toy fair the turnout was great. Wellington came with track and large numbers and most of our running group turned up.

We setup our 17 tables and placed the track on them running DCC on the outside and battery on the inside. Mostly all went well but I was sent a photograph from Dean Ellicock of the major crash.

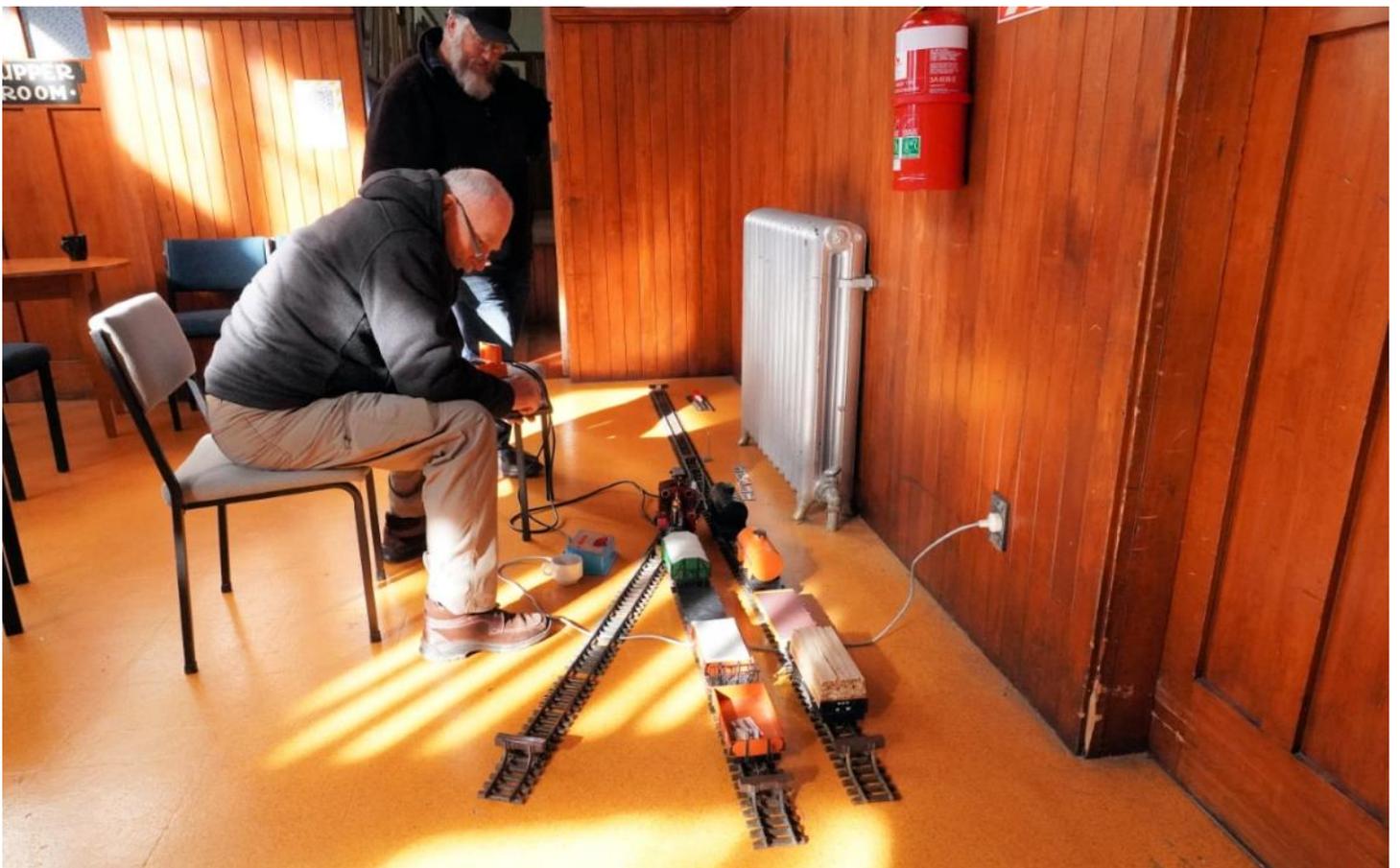
Gavin Sowry setup his own track to run his small coal train and John Seward solved his shunting puzzle using a Live Steam engine, all be it with slow mo.

The rest of the Wellington group ran on their extensive layout. Some family friends came and looked in which was nice.

Dean Ellicock came with his building board and started to assemble a German truck. Wayne watched on with hammer at the ready in case Dean did not meet his standards. Needless to say Dean took home an intact model.



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Wairarapa Gathering 22/23 January 2022

Several Garden Railway enthusiasts around New Zealand have asked the Wairarapa Group to provide tours of our railways.

The Wairarapa group has decided to have such an event on Wellington Anniversary Weekend 22/23 January 2022. There is a possibility of an over flow into Monday morning.

We will provide an itinerary, morning and afternoon teas and the visitors will otherwise provide for them selves.

There will be no fees.

If you are interested please contact

Lloyd Dickens Lloyd.dickens@wise.net.nz or 06 370 3790.

Gleann Viaduct 2: Installing the Viaduct [Part 3]

John Boyson, Pokeno



Above — The opposing view looking from Craigenarden Viaduct towards Gleann Viaduct with Mallaig Station visible through the doorway. This board will ultimately contain a set of fine scale points to allow access to and from the station. As such it will not be suitable for general gauge one or G scale stock. Thus, as outlined in a previous article covering the conceptual planning of the railway, a second interchangeable board has been built to allow a connection solely between the two viaducts.

Below — The support girder for the board under construction. As with the other board, lightness is a critical factor for this. Once again 10mm by 10mm aluminium angle has been used with connections pop riveted.



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Above — First test fit of the framework with the deck cross members fitted. The track bed has been formed with more 2mm aluminium tread plate.

Below — Track has been laid on the aluminium tread plate deck and landscaping is underway. This is formed of polystyrene scraps stuck to the frame which were then carved to shape. The terraform was then covered with strips of newspaper coated with exterior PVA glue. The job in hand in the photo is the surface texture being a moorland finish. This is formed with a podge of sawdust mixed with diluted PVA (1 to 1 with water and a dash of liquid soap) laid on the newspaper with a layer of neat PVA spread beforehand on the newspaper with a scrap piece of MDF to form a key. Given that lightness is key, the track has been filled with polystyrene rectangles cut to size to match the sleeper gaps. I used meat trays as the raw material. The rectangles had to be sliced in two through their thickness to provide a suitably thin depth for a thin layer of stone ballast over the top (see below). Thus each cut rectangle filled two sleeper gaps.





Above — Once the podge had set the surface was painted with a diluted water based paint mix of yellow and brown with a dash of green (not too much of this surprisingly) to give a moorland grass look. I painted the sides as well to tone down the board.

Here the finished board has been fitted and is being tested with the Leek and Manifold engine. Given the out swing of the curve, a central support post is necessary to keep the board stable.

The resulting structure is rock hard and reasonably light. The copious use of exterior grade PVA will hopefully mean that the board is shower proof as well. I am not too worried about light fastness of the paint since the board will be stored in a dry dark area for the period it is not in use.

Below — One of the last jobs was to fit some artificial grass on each of the slopes down from the abutments of the viaduct to tidy up the support box.



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Below — Finally, a shot of the finished viaduct. The plants in and around the garden box are beginning to take over and soften the lines a little to blend everything in. The lemon tree on the right will need some careful management to ensure it does not get out of hand! It has subsequently received some attention in this regard.



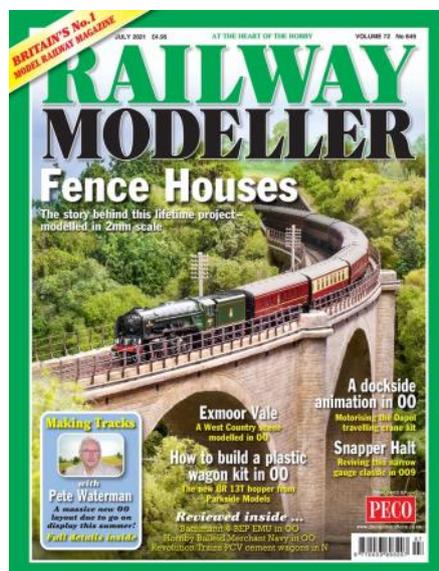
This article has been prepared for joint publication in the Garden Whistle and G1MRA NZ newsletter. Photos provided by the author.

Glen Falloch viaduct published in Railway Modeller Magazine

Letter and photo — John Boyson
Article— Steve Flint (PECO)

John Boyson's Glen Falloch viaduct was published in the July 2021 Railway Modeller Magazine, I asked John if I could include this article in this months newsletter. Approval to republish this article was approved by Steve Flint of Peco and he also provided a video to view, [Steam in the Garden—Railway Modeller—August 2021 Issue.](#)

<https://youtu.be/cVYPXWgUV5A>



Readers' Letters

Glen Falloch viaduct down under

Having just received the May issue of the RAILWAY MODELLER, I was particularly interested in the article on the West Highland Railway by Ian Futers covering a proposed passing place in Glen Falloch just to the north of the viaduct over the Dubh Eas Burn.

Last year I completed a 1:32 scale outdoor model of the nearby viaduct

from brass and cast mortar (for the piers and abutments). It is part of a developing railway I am building for Gauge 1 models and also larger scale models that can run on 45mm gauge track. I have included this photo to show you the finished result.

JOHN BOYSON
New Zealand



Christchurch Garden Railway Group Meeting

Timaru Train Show July - Report Andrew Wilson

Well the trip down and company was great to Timaru, Many layouts of all scales were on show and The Team Timaru put on a grand show as usual, well done to Andy and his merry team of helpers.

We all enjoyed ourselves, the U drive as seen in the photos was well served and a big thank you to Daniel and those who drove down Friday into the Howl of a protest on the road leading into Timaru for assisting in setting up for show day

In two years time the next one will be held and I am already looking forward to it, A big thank you from me to those (you know who you are) Who assisted in getting everything ready from the ground layout to the U drive , out of storage testing loading transporting set up and in reverse.

A special thank you to The Man who made the storage boxes for track for transport, Mr Read take a bow, they are most excellent

Your friend in G
Andrew Wilson



Photo — Bill Stanley

Daniel's LGB shunter hauling mixed freight on the CGRG display

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Below — Various photo's of the CGRG floor layout display.



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Photo — Bill Stanley

The portable 'U Drive' layout has proven to be a success with the children



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Below — More photo's of the CGRG floor layout display.



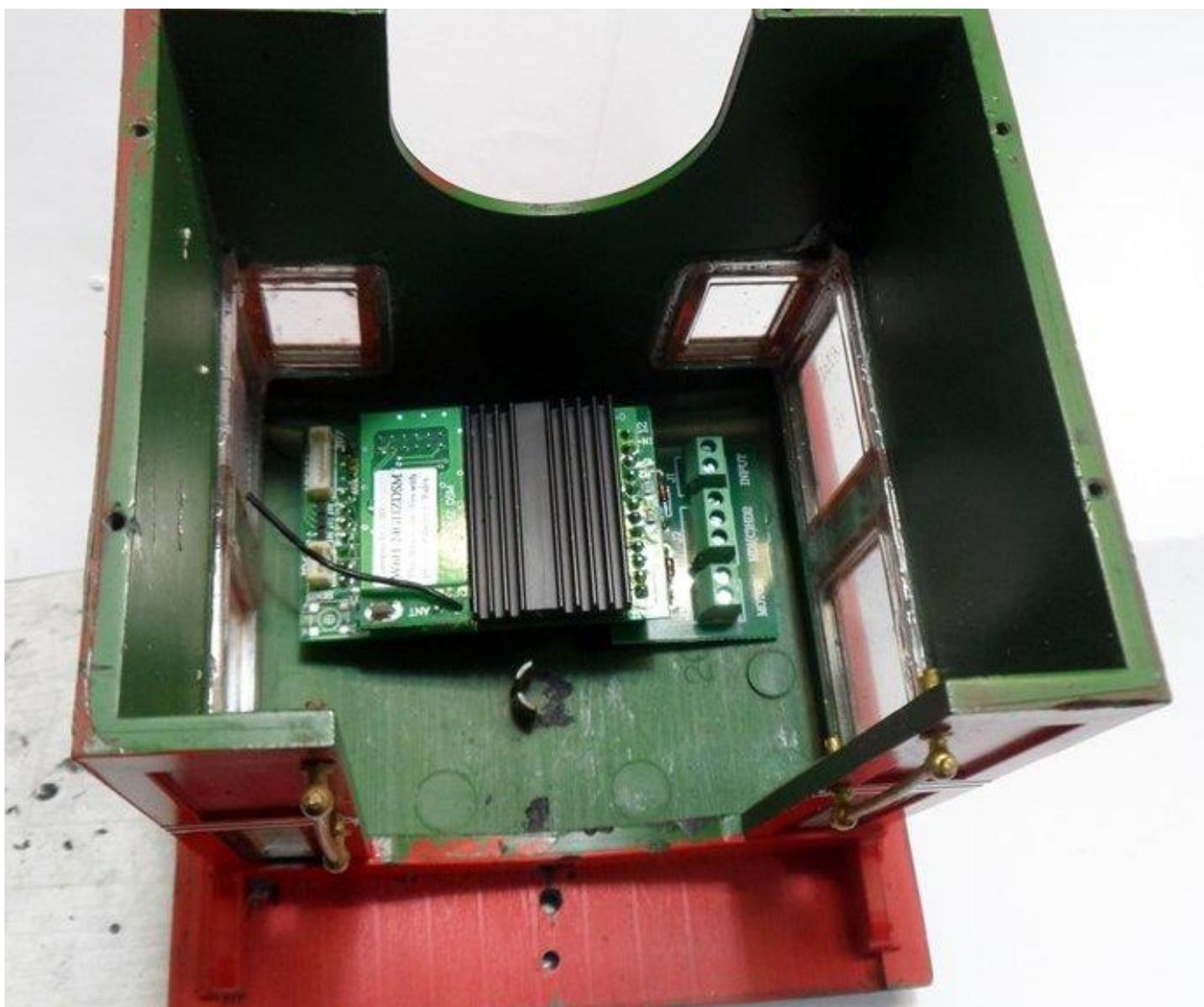
From the workbench

Photos and Story, Ian C Galbraith, Rangiora

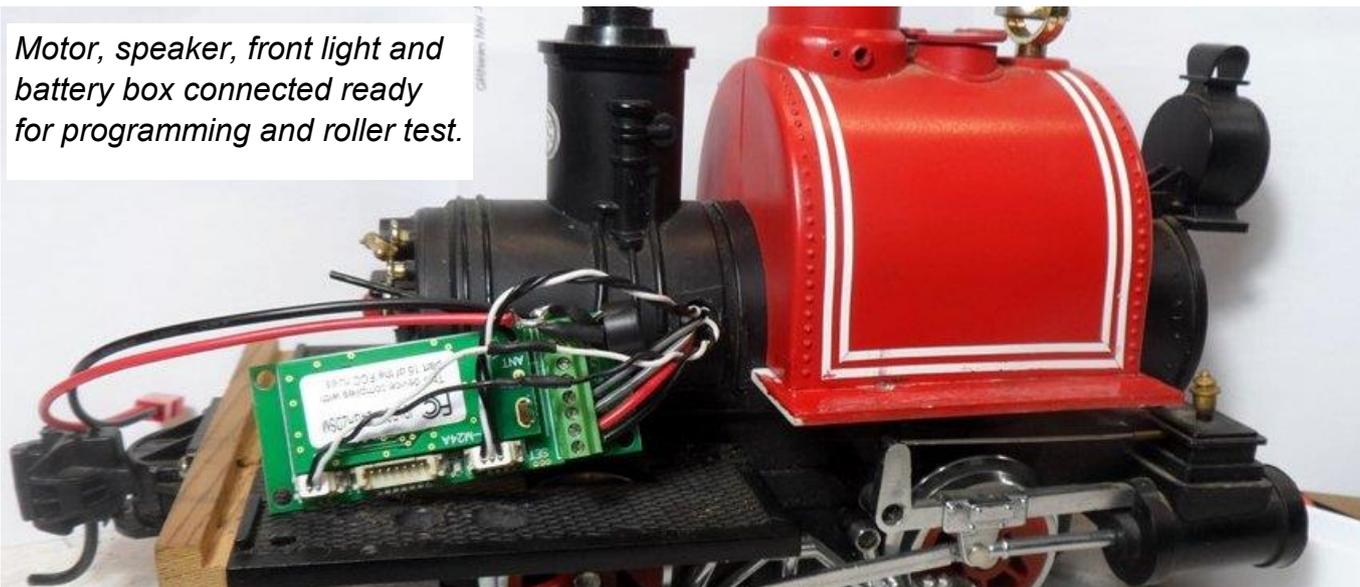
Revolution Micro Rx installation

Having read the report of the installation of the Revolution Micro Rx, with sound, by Mike Fisher in the Rose City Garden Railway Society, Portland, Oregon, newsletter. I purchased the new Revolution Micro Rx from RLD Hobbies, USA, to try it in a small LGB locomotive. "Rusty" had previously been converted for battery power, with a standard Revolution Rx, with steam sound and trailing car, The cab was removed and the Revolution unit removed.

Below — *Upturned cab showing original Revolution Installation*



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The Revolution Micro Rx, steam sound, measures 57mm L x 24mm W x 9mm H and can provide 3A continuously, or peak at 6A. It has 6 auxiliary outputs as well as front and rear light outputs, overheat and overload protection and operates on 7-24V pure DC. The unit is polarity sensitive and must be wired as per the diagram.

As I use battery power from a trailing battery car, using JST 2 pin connectors. I do not have a problem with polarity issues. However, as a precaution, I fitted a bridge rectifier to the input connections to avoid damage should an incorrectly wired plug be used.

The existing resistors were removed and replaced with the recommended 1.5K ohm. The motor, speaker and front headlight wiring were connected, and the Rx programmed then the locomotive was run on rollers to check the installation

To mount the Rx, an open top box was drawn in Fusion 360 and printed in PLA +



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The rear light was connected, and the cab refitted. The battery lead was secured, and another test performed.

With the test completed, the next stage was attempted. Having obtained an STL file for a Westinghouse brake pump, drawn full size, the file was scaled, and 3D printed.

The piping was rendered using 1mm solid copper wire, the pump and piping were checked for fit and then removed for painting. Once the paint was dry the pump and piping were fitted, and then it was time for a test run on the railway.

Below — First run on the railway. When the throttle is “cracked open” there is the sound of steam and the air pump operating.



Tadbroke Hollow Railroad

Photos and article, Noel Collingwood

Tadbroke revisited -

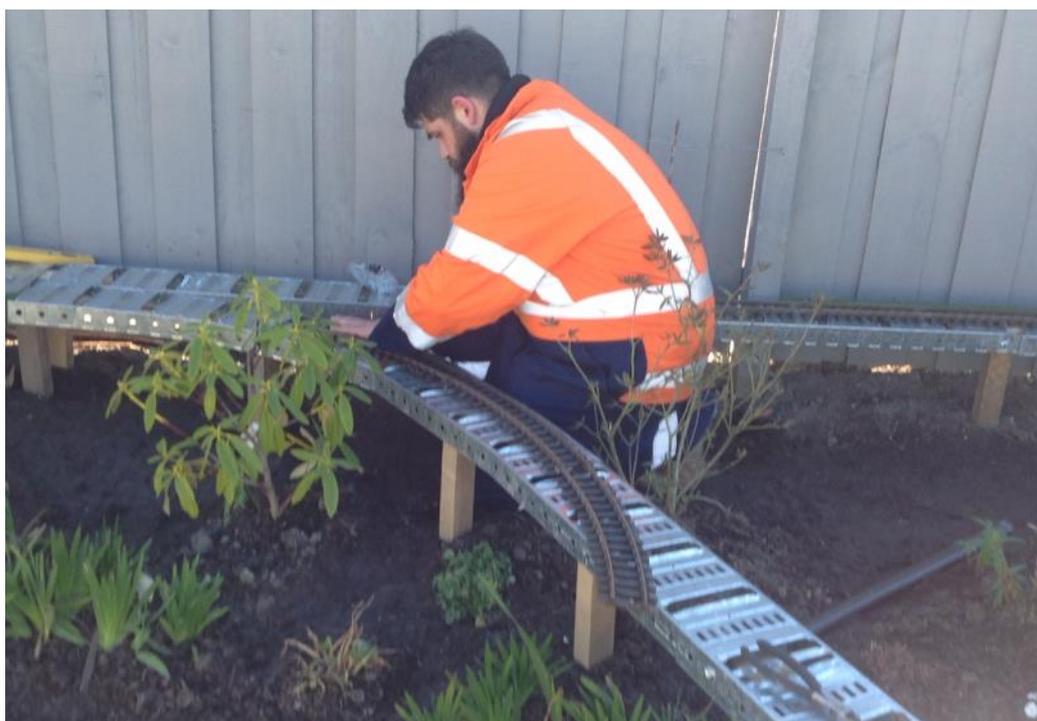
As a follow up from the Garden Whistle Newsletter articles from January 2017 and February 2020 for the Tadbroke Hollow Railroad, with discussions at the 2021 convention I thought I would follow up with an article regarding the construction methods used and also progress on extension into the storage shed.

In 2019 after moving to Rangiora construction began on the railroad and a simple method for raised construction was sort, with this in mind it was decided to use cable tray system which is widely used in commercial electrical installations. The cable tray was inverted since it has raised sides and to maintain its strength, 150mm wide for single track and 300mm wide for double tracks was used. To create curves the cable tray was cut on the side and a radius plate was used this was then mounted on wooden posts and also attached to the fence posts where possible, lengths were also joined by using splicing plates.

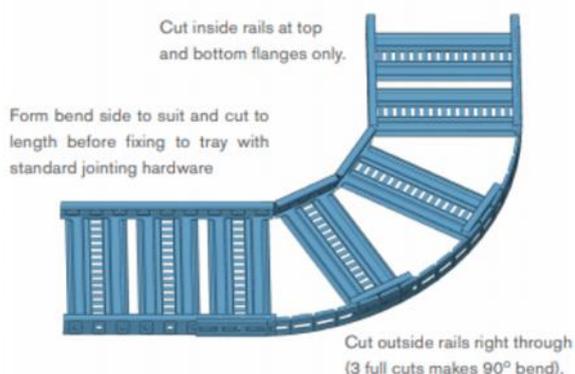
Right - Construction of the loop using cable tray is like using Meccano to build a layout which Iain is helping assemble, posts are also visible in this photo.

Below - Diagram to show how bends are created.

Below Right- Completed Loop.



Flat Bend





Extension -

Since the 2021 Christchurch garden railway convention I have completed an extension on the layout which includes additional sidings and a track into my storage shed, which now has shelving to store my Locomotives and rolling stock but will also be used for making up trains to then send out on the layout. As following the design on the rest of the layout green artificial grass was continued on this area to cover the sides and grey/black was used under the track to create the look of ballast.



3 Way Turnout Project

3 Way Turnout Rebuild

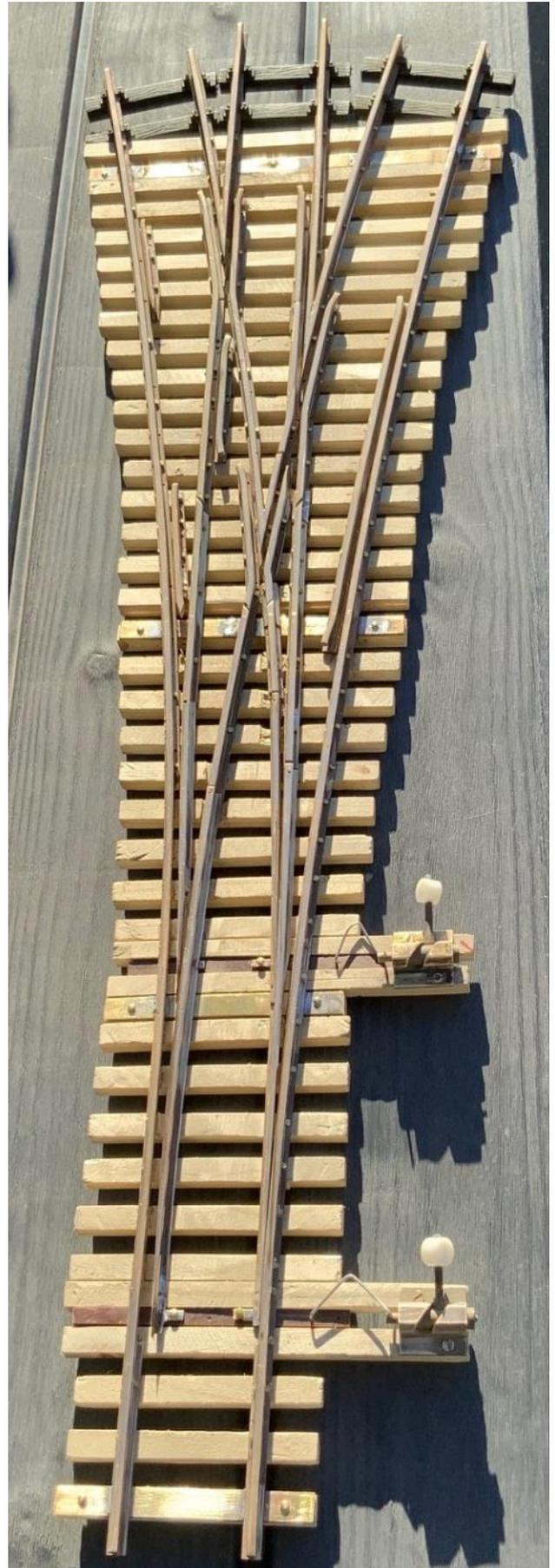
My latest project is rebuilding a 3 way turnout made by Ken McDiamond in Auckland approximately 15 years ago.

The reappearance occurred at the Christchurch Convention when it was purchased at the buy sell and swap table.

A decade and a half had not been kind to the turnout, but the bones were good so it was decided to rebuild it. New ties were made and it was converted from DC insulated to full battery operation.

The original steel escutcheon pins had rusted so I replaced them with brass pins drilled through the track base and also added four brass strips for stiffness. The end result has been a smooth running turnout, ready to install on Kabita Whale's large railway when the weather improves.

Dennis Lindsay



Readers Pictures



The few photos I took at the show came out blurry unfortunately. However, on the Friday getting into Timaru took ages with the farmers protesting (I waited about 15 minutes to move around 1km before improvising a Jeremy-Clarkson-Top-Gear-style-shortcut!). But what the media won't tell you is that it wasn't just farmers holding everyone up...

Daniel Hood



Locos Lads & Lasses display at the Timaru Show

Auckland Garden Railway Society July Meeting

Hosted by Simon Sharp (Treasurer)

Notes from the Ore Valley

A small but enthusiastic group visited the Ore Valley on Sunday afternoon for an indoor meeting of the Auckland Garden Railway meeting for July. Fortunately we chose a very good venue as it had rained all week and continued to rain for the afternoon.

The developments since the last meeting were cosmetic, and included a new forest made from \$3.50 Christmas trees acquired from the local \$3 store. Christmas is eagerly awaited to allow for an expansion. For those not familiar with the method aforementioned Christmas trees or bottle brushes are covered in white glue and green ground cover is generously scattered on. After drying the loose is gently shaken off. If not happy the process can be repeated. Drill a hole in the baseboard and plant.

A small farm has appeared behind the level crossing. The main picture is from a jigsaw box, with views of a tinplate farm shed and storage barn put in front. A hedge made using green scouring pads and ground cover made using a similar technique to the trees completes the effect.

Scenic Development is slow and improving rather than adding. To much would spoil the effect I am after of a small settlement.



Above - LGB Schoema diesel with Milk tankers at level crossing – Farm behind.

The Milk Tankers

I had acquired 3 tank cars from the Warehouse / Kmart sets that were around several years ago. They have been repainted white, ASDA dairies logos attached and 3-d printed bogies replaced the works below the chassis.

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Another view Milk train Approaching viaduct.



The New Forest, hiding the corner and end of the village backscene.

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Above— And the infamous eggliner at the cutting.

Below— The Eggliner again, now at Doleham Station.



Below—The Stainz Number 1 with the flat car and mineral wagons at the Forest.



The wagons are made from 0.2l storage boxes. These came from Staples in US but similar ones are available from the Japanese \$2 shops in Auckland. The flat car is the lid from the storage box. They are good because they have molding that looks like ribbing already included. The chassis is another 3-d print but any simple scratch built



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Above - A close up of the Stainz and wagons. The Tea chest is from a tourist shop in England.

Stainz and ore wagons between Farm & Doleham engineers hut (from Mitre10). Chess players hard at work.



Above - Finally a shot of Stainz and Milk tanker

Workbench Projects

Below - A new roof being installed on NZR Signal Box - **Andrew Wilson**



Right -

New goods shed on the H&M Garden Railway, John will look to create an article for the newsletter once completed in the near future.

John Robinson



COMING EVENTS

August 29 2021
October 2-3 2021
October 2-3 2021
October 23-24 2021
October 23-25 2021
November 14 2021
November 20-21 2021
January 15-16 2022
January 22-23 2022
March TBA 2022
April 15-18 2022
May 7-8 2022
July 9-10 2022
June 20-25 2022
2023
July 3-9 2023

Model Train Swap Meet, Tinwald
The BIG Model Train Show, Christchurch
Wanganui Model Railway Expo
Great Little Train Show, Invercargill
Hamilton Model Railway Exhibition, Hamilton
Mount Eden Collectors Toy and Model Fair
RailEx 2021, Lower Hutt
Tauranga Model Train Show
Wairarapa Garden Railway Tours
Nelson Model Train Show, Nelson
NZAMRC Convention, Christchurch
Dunedin Model Train Show, Dunedin
Ashburton Model Train Show, Ashburton
37th Garden Railway Convention, Denver, CO, USA
NZ Garden Railway Convention, Auckland
38th Garden Railway Convention, Santa Clara CA, USA

Do you know of an event?
Contact the Editor to include in the next
Garden Whistle newsletter
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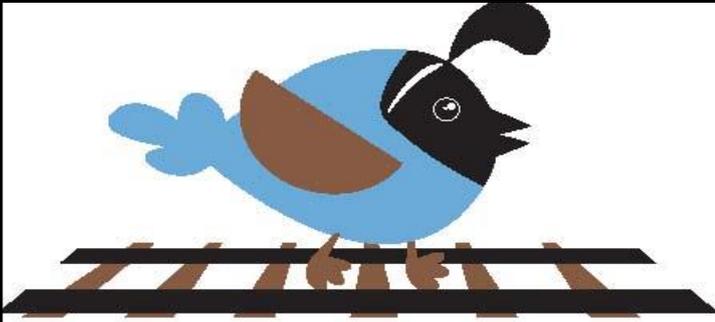
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Quayle Rail

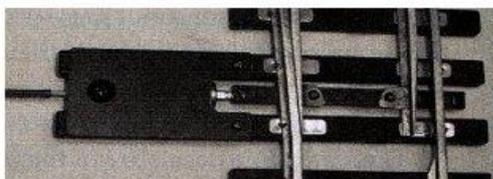
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\$120.00 ex Rangiora.

Freight extra

This quality rail is sourced from Europe and is compatible with LGB, Piko, USA Trains
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Club Meeting

Club Contact

August 8th (Sunday)

Greg Burrows Railway
12 Gleaming Place, Waiuku
(This is a new garden railway that we have not visited before)

Auckland

Auckland Garden Railway Society Inc

Club Contact:

Email: gardenrailauckland@gmail.com

Philip Sharp, Ph: 09 600 2157

Running Days/Meetings cancelled until further notice

Waikato:

GROW: Garden Railway Operators of Waikato.

Club Contact:

Email: sandnlipsey@gmail.com

Stefan Lipsey, PO Box 612, Waikato Mail Centre, Hamilton, 3240, Ph: 07 859 3650

August 8th (Sunday)

Wayne Haste
21 William Donald Drive
1pm Start
Viewing only (Bring no trains)

Wairarapa:

Wairarapa Garden Railway Group.

Club Contact:

Email: Lloyd.dickens@wise.net.nz

C/- Lloyd Dickens, 55 Titoki Street, Masterton.
Ph: 06 370 3790.

August TBA:

Wellington:

Wellington Garden Railway Group.

Club Contact:

Email: bilthompson@xtra.co.nz

Coordinator: Brent Thompson, 6 Bodmin Terrace, Camborne, Ph: 022 619 4006

August 29 2021 (Sunday):

Model Train swap meet
Tinwald Memorial Hall
10 Graham Street
Tinwald, Ashburton
(Entry is gold coin donation)

Christchurch:

Christchurch Garden Railway Group:

Club Contact:

Email: 2days61@gmail.com

Secretary: David Day, 61 Carnarvon Street, Linwood, Christchurch. Ph: 03 981 4424

President: Andrew Wilson, Ph: 021 273 3047