

The Matarawa Halt

Volume 25, Issue 1

January 2006

Meeting dates

Meetings held at
Matarawa Hall.

5 January 2006

19 January 2006

Hall open from
7:30pm.

Committee Meeting
8 January 2006

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More Christmas BBQ Photographs By A. Nony Mous



Deadline for articles, notes, For sale etc for inclusion in the January 2006 issue of
The Matarawa Halt is 23 December 2005.

Opinions expressed in The Matarawa Halt are not necessarily those of the
Wairarapa Railway Modellers Inc

*On the
workbench.
A monthly
feature.*

*Tell us 'What's
on your
workbench'.*

What's on the workbench?

John Hey: I've now finished the yard crane and it looks pretty good. I've a Precision Railcrafts goods shed tucked away awaiting assembly so am thinking about putting a small diorama together incorporating the crane (country station theme etc). As I'm only doing 1 paper during the Summer School semester I'm finding I've more time on my hands for this sort of stuff which is good.

Russell Postlewaight: Hi, hope you all had a good Christmas.

Catching up on some modelling over the break I re-activated this project. The donor loco was a long out of production "Nitto" Porter Mogul in 1:50scale, which when I ran the 1:48 scale rule over it gave me a lovely turn of the century narrow gauge locomotive.

Porters of course made small industrial locomotives so I "beefed" this one up a little with a larger boiler and cylinders, and rebuilt the frame to accommodate a working motion rather than the static item it was designed as.

You can see that the Tender has been reworked with an Ian Lindsay air tank on the rear of the extended frame. Tool boxes and coal railings, and Fratechi trucks with

12mm North Yard wheels have been fitted.

The cab has been extended in height, the boiler from the front of the firebox replaced with a larger diameter piece of PVC water pipe, Don Kralik's Xeodon stack and domes sit atop it and a cast brass headlight is yet to be seated on a yet to be built bracket, the smoke box door is a suitably shaped button from "SWMBO's" sewing basket and fitted to the front is a number plate I turned up in the lathe.

The cowcatcher/pilot has been reworked and now boasts a working link bar for coupling. An Sn3½ bracket for a small Westinghouse pump is evident on the boiler side.

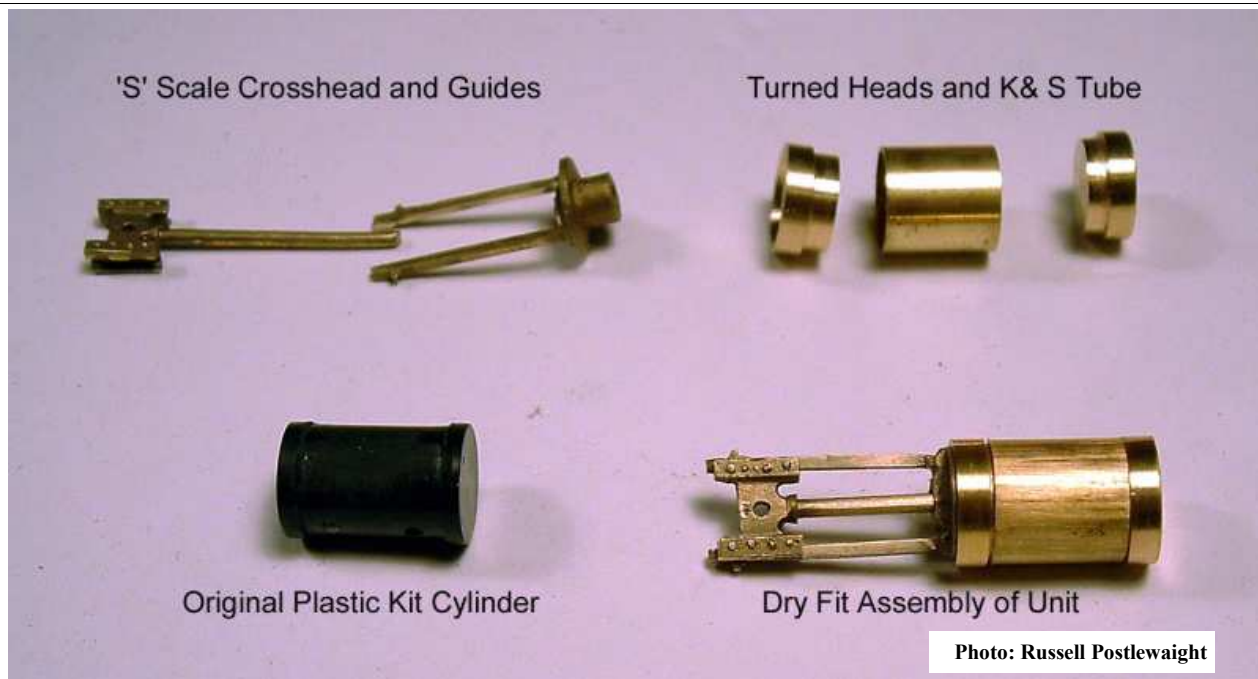
Probably not so obvious is the brass brake rigging I fabricated today that is peeking out behind the 17.8mm (2'9") drivers; to these will be attached the hangers and brake shoes that came in the kit.

The replacement cylinders are scratch built and the crosshead and guide is a locally available Sn3½ item.

That about covers it for now.

Photo: Russell Postlewaight





Coming Events

6-7 January 2006	Tauranga MRC Exhibition	Mt Maunganui College Hall
28-29 January 2006	Waihi & Districts MRC Exhibition	Memorial Hall, Paeroa
4 March 2006	"TAWA" BBQ	21 William Donald Dr, Masterton
25-26 March 2006	Nelson MRC Show	Nelson
14-17 April 2006	NZAMRC Convention Manfeild Centre	Feilding
Registration Forms are available at the Clubrooms		
20-21 May 2006	Hasting MRC 50th Anniversary Celebrations	Havelock North
3-5 June 2005	Tauranga Model Expo	Bethlehem College Events Centre
3-5 June 2006	Model X Show	West Wave Recreation Centre Henderson
30 Sept-1 Oct 2006	Wellington Rail-Ex	LH Town Hall & Horticultural Hall

More thoughts on Pokaka 21

John Hey: It was great to catch up with the guys at Pokaka again and see who's currently into what etc, the latest projects and new modelling innovations. I find that rewarding as you can never stop learning from others through observing what they're doing and asking them about it. That in particular is something I like about Pokaka. Meals were up to standard as

usual - my only adverse thought about Saturday night's dinner being that it seemed to be a bit drawn out - no doubt due to the large number of attendees this year requiring more work etc. More structure around the quiz would have been good but Ken I think did his best. In all I thoroughly enjoyed the weekend and was sorry to be heading home on Sunday.

Committee

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Supper Roster

5 January 2006	P Hermans	P Morgan
19 January 2006	G Alecock	C Collinson
3 February 2006	P Murray	T Munro
17 February 2006	A Pedersen	W Bouwer

If you are unable to provide supper on your rostered night, either swap with another member or contact Ian Galbraith

There is no telephone at the clubrooms, but a cell phone, 021 2646945 is usually on hand.

A further outbreak of Grandpa Scale. Again in the Wairarapa.

Keen observers will notice the distinctive shapes of Messrs P Quinn, (Tga) T Bradley, (Country Member, Akld) I Galbraith and W Haste (Country member, Tawa) hard at work on 2nd January 2006 extending the diminutive fledgling layout. This has added an additional 40 running feet of track to the original 29 feet.

Time elapsed from bare earth, 3.00pm, to the first train running was no more than three hours. This was due to the innovative construction method adopted by Foreman Haste

Trains then ran well into the evening and were only halted by the onset of inclement weather. Mrs Peninsok now has to look around the garden shops again for further suitable layout plants.

Many thanks to the "Gangers" for progressing the construction.

The above was posted on the 9mill chatgroup and elicited the following response from Darryl Smith in Australia.

Glad to see that the 'Grandpa' virus is mutating.

Inspection of the photos had me dropping into verse.

*Captured on camera in a foreign scale
A certain well known 'Chap in a Hat'
Amongst his peers he'll be in trouble
creating an empire 'out the back'*

*But what is he doing in such a stance
A ganger's prime purpose is laying track
Supervision's for management, I propose
Not leaning **ON** shovel and standing back*

*But the proof is here for all to see
That the 'Grander' scale is getting better
Though short of trow, and exposed knee
We welcome to 'G', the "Chubby Checker"*

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The Gangers extending Ian Galbraith's Garden Railway. Photo: A. Nony Mous