

# The Matarawa Halt

Volume 25, Issue 3

March 2006

## Meeting dates

Meetings held at Matarawa Hall.

- 2 March 2006
- 16 March 2006
- 30 March 2006

Hall open from 7:30pm.

Committee Meeting  
19 March 2006

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## Activities

### Visit by Hutt Model Railway Club

On Sunday 19 February 2006 the Club hosted 12 members of the Hutt Valley Model Railway Club for a layout tour.

The day started with introductions and morning tea at our clubrooms before moving off to the first layout.

This was a visit to Clinton Buller's American/British layout featuring both steam and diesel power. Control is DCC using the Digitrax Super Empire Builder with two DT400 throttles.

Next was a visit to George Watt to view his Great North of Scotland 7mm layout. This layout is currently controlled with DC and blocks. A change to DCC is in the pipeline.

The last stop before lunch was at Murray Clarke's European layout. This is

*(Continued on page 4)*

## WORKING BEE

The working bee set down for Saturday 11 February and Sunday 12 February was cancelled because of the weather conditions.

The committee has rescheduled the working bee for Saturday 4 March & Sunday 5 March.

If in doubt about the working bee because of the weather, please ring Clinton Buller, 06 379 6969, before 8.30am

## Wairarapa Railway Modellers Inc Twenty-fifth Anniversary

The Wairarapa Railway Modellers group was formed in 1981. The Committee are looking at ways in which this milestone may be celebrated. Bring your ideas along to the next meeting. So far there has been one suggestion

Deadline for articles, notes, For sale etc for inclusion in the April 2006 issue of The Matarawa Halt is 26 March 2006.

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 Robinson:** What's in your Garden? Progress on H&M's Railway has been steady since, all the subgrade is complete with just a final dressing layer of crushed lime to go on then the base layer of ballast can go down and the track laid. But as you'll see from the pics I've laid out all the track as per my plan, with only a few minor adjustments and at Hannah & Michelle's insistence (yes really) I ran the first train this morning! (30/01/2006) All be if on rather undulating track and loose joints but it ran with great fun and success. However all the track has been lifted in sequence and stored until it's time for proper track laying, hopefully by mid February.

And S scale progress, just accumulating kits for now

Cheers, JR, Melinda, Hannah & Michelle

**Wayne Haste:** Well, the Sn3½ NZR layout has gone, all the NZR locomotives, rolling stock and bits have been sold and I have a large blank canvas (room) to start planning in.

**Peter Milburn:** A trip to Tawa on 12 February 2006 to start the dismantling of Wayne's layout ready for shifting to the Wairarapa. On Saturday 18 February 2006, again over to Tawa to collect the layout.

To get the layout pieces out, the balcony balustrade had to be removed. This necessitated the clamping of 2 lengths of 4x2 to the balustrade to stiffen it prior to removal. The layout pieces were handed off the

balcony to waiting hands on a temporary landing in the lounge. All went well with only a couple of minor glitches. Various pieces were loaded onto Clinton's truck and my ute and trailer.

After lunch, the balustrade was reinstated, the loads covered and tied down for the trip back to Masterton. Many thanks to Diana for providing lunch, to Clinton for his help and use of his truck and to John Robinson and my brother Ian for their assistance.

Now comes the task of setting up the various pieces in my layout room.

**Terry Bradley:** Attention garden railway type people:

An order has been placed with my agent today for an Alco S4 Switcher.

This locomotive will most likely be the only motive power on the future and yet unplanned Great Westie Railroad, but may also be available for short term transfer for use on other operations as and when needed.

Locomotive requirements are limited at this stage as the railroad only owns one passenger car and has yet to purchase any track.

It is understood a surveyor is expected to explore possible locations for a line of railway in the near future.

**Peter Hautler:** The first of two locomotives has been fitted with an ESU Loksound sound decoder.



John Robinson's, H & M Garden railway under construction. As reported, the sub roadbed is in place awaiting the final covering before the track is permanently laid. John & Melinda's twin daughters, Hannah & Michelle are keen to have the garden railway operating and try to help John at every opportunity.

Photos: John Robinson



# Hutt Valley Club Visit



Our visitors receiving instructions on how the tour will be conducted. **Photo: Paul Morgan**



Clinton Buller's layout, "Work in Progress." **Photo: Paul Morgan**



Murray Clarke's new Bachman 2-10-2T hauling a passenger train. **Photo: Ian Galbraith**



Great North of Scotland Tank loco & train on George Watt's 7mm layout **Photo: Paul Morgan**



Bill Bradley explains how he used Peco two rail track and Peco centre contact to lay out the trackwork for his Marklin layout **Photo: Ian Galbraith**



Wayne Haste's Shay and log load traverse the garden railway. **Photo: Paul Morgan**

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controlled by DCC using the Digitrax Zephyr. Murray had a new Bachman 2-10-2T, recently converted to DCC, running along with his crocodiles. Peter Milburn, using the club's DT400 throttle controlled two of the trains.

From Murray's we travelled to Carrington Park for a pleasant picnic lunch.

Following lunch, all travelled independently to meet up near the Solway Park Hotel before moving on to Bill Bradley's home. Bill uses Marklin equipment and runs this using the Digitrax Chief, being one of the first club members to go DCC back in 1997. The only hiccup in operation was when Ian Galbraith tried to talk and operate two trains at one time. (They say men can not multi task).

Peter Murray's new HO American layout was the next to be visited. Peter runs his layout on DCC

using the Digitrax Zephyr and a DT400. This layout is at eye level and features a large model, partly completed, of a steel works.

After a stop for folk to buy eats for the BBQ, all arrived at Ian Galbraith's to view Wayne Haste's G scale Shay locomotive and log buggies running in the garden. A DR Mallet and train together with a diesel shunter and train shared the running.

An abundance of food was set up for cooking on the BBQ and club members joined with our visitors for an enjoyable evening to finish the day.

Don Clement, on behalf of the visitors, thanked our club for providing them with an enjoyable day out and indicated that an invitation to visit the Hutt Valley would be forthcoming.

The Committee thanks those members who made their layouts available and also those who accompanied our visitors.

## Coming Events

4 March 2006	Working Bee Waterblast Roof	at Matarawa Hall
5 March 2006	Working Bee Paint Roof	at Matarawa Hall
4 March 2006	"TAWA" BBQ	21 William Donald Dr, Masterton
25-26 March 2006	Nelson MRC Show	Nelson
8-9 April 2006	Wairarapa Toy Fair 2006 Masterton Town Hall (Information available at clubrooms)	Masterton
<b>14-17 April 2006</b>	<b>NZAMRC Convention Manfeild Centre</b>	<b>Feilding</b>
<b>Registration Forms are available at the Clubrooms</b>		
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

The following people attended a successful working bee at the Taylor Memorial Lodge, Pokaka, over Waitangi weekend, and the outside of the building is now looking very smart again in its fresh pale green livery with white trim. A lot of time and effort was spent scraping and sanding old paintwork, filling nail holes and cracked timber prior to undercoating where necessary, then applying the final top coat of paint.

A special thanks to Mrs Ann Galbraith who prepared and cooked all our meals, and provided the necessary regular liquid refreshments at the right time for the painting crew over the weekend.

Thanks to all concerned.

Our thanks also to the LE's who acknowledged our presence with a blast from the loco horn as they passed by.

The following list is in no particular order:

Ann Galbraith, Ian Galbraith, Terry Bradley, Trevor Cheer, John Whyte, Colin Zeff, Evan James, Ken Cousins, Neville Connew, Soren Low, Phil Rzoska



Colin Zeff & Evan James finishing painting on the eastern side of the Taylor Memorial Lodge, on Sunday 5 February 2006, as the southbound Overlander passes.

**Photo: Ian Galbraith**



Pokaka, Saturday 4 February 2006. So quiet one could almost hear a pin drop.

**Photo: Ian Galbraith**



# TAWA BBQ

The Annual TAWA BBQ will be held on Saturday 4 March 2006 at Wayne & Diana Haste's Masterton property, 21 William Donald Drive Masterton.

This is on the left hand side of the road just at the end of the bush reserve. The "TAWA" sign is at the left hand side of the (as yet unformed) driveway.

Gather any time after 4.00pm

Cooking will commence at approximately 6.00pm.

Tea, coffee and milk will be provided

## What to bring:

Meat, enough for the number in your group, together with salads or whatever you wish to contribute. Also dessert, again enough for your group.

Your own choice of other beverage.

**PLEASE bring you own glasses, plates, cutlery and cups**

Tables will be available **BUT**, unless you wish to sit on the ground, you must bring your own seats.

A chemical toilet will be on site.

Wayne & Diana look forward to seeing you all on Saturday.

In the event of inclement weather the BBQ will be transferred to Ian & Ann Galbraith's

If in doubt phone 021 2646945 or 027 4528020



Wayne Haste's Mallet locomotive and train of 4 wheel passenger coaches waits at the station platform while a work train slows to a stop on the main line.

Wayne's research into German railway operations has shown that it was quite common to have the station platform on the loop as this allowed passing rail traffic to pass straight though without stopping. The goods shed was generally on a backshunt of the loop.

Photo: Paul Morgan

Peter Milburn and Clinton Buller, obscured, measure one of the sections of Wayne Haste's layout to determine if it needs to be broken down further to allow it to be moved out of the layout room, over the balcony to the lounge and out through the conservatory. This large "S" shaped section required a size reduction to allow it to travel through the house.

Photo: Ian Galbraith



A clean canvas.

With the last of the Sn3½ NZR layout removed, Wayne sweeps the floor to give a clear area in which to expand his G scale layout, currently running along one wall.

Photo: Ian Galbraith

Wayne's Shay logging locomotive running on his shelf type G scale layout along one wall of his layout room

Photo: Ian Galbraith



### Committee

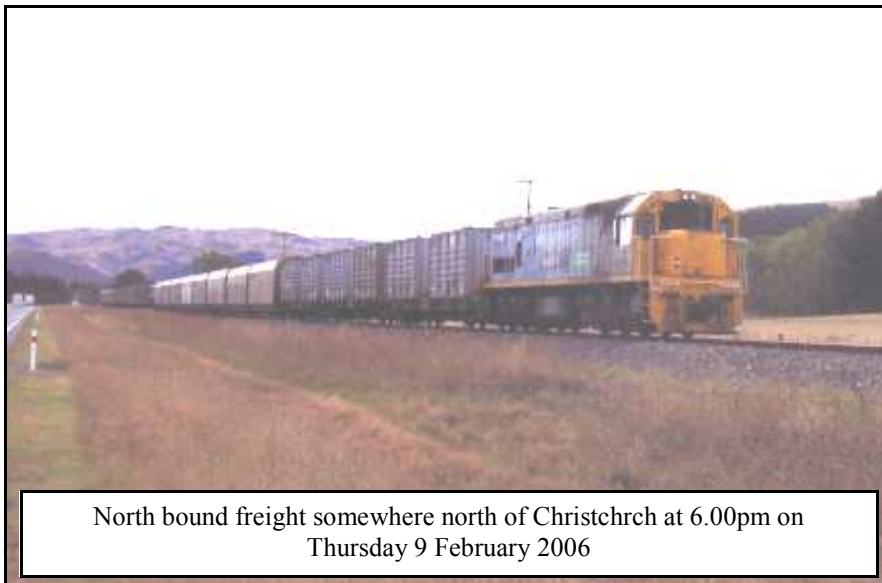
<b>President</b>	<i>Jim McIntyre</i>	<i>06 379 9141</i>
<b>Imm Past Pres</b>	<i>Phil Dittmer</i>	<i>021 1472731</i>
<b>Secretary</b>	<i>Ian C Galbraith</i>	<i>06 377 3603</i>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<i>Peter Milburn</i>	<i>06 370 3983</i>
<b>Committee</b>	<i>Clinton Buller</i>	<i>06 379 6969</i>
	<i>Brendon Clarke</i>	<i>06 377 2330</i>
	<i>Peter Murray</i>	<i>06 378 0186</i>
<b>Newsletter Assistant</b>		<i>Peter Murray</i>

### Supper Roster

2 March 2006	L Jones	T King
16 March 2006	K Evans	C Buller
30 March 2006	G Morrell	S Harris

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.



North bound freight somewhere north of Christchurch at 6.00pm on Thursday 9 February 2006

#### Wairarapa Railway Modellers Inc

c/- Ian C Galbraith  
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We're on the net  
[www.Geocities.Com/wairarapa.geo/](http://www.Geocities.Com/wairarapa.geo/)

## Culcreuch Fold

### Model Supplies

#### Digitrax Trained & Certified

Digitrax Decoders in stock

DH123D with wiring harness	\$30.50
DH123P with 8 pin plug harness	\$35.50
Others available on request	
3mm Golden White LED's	\$2.25 ea
1000ohm resistors for above	\$0.60ea
Xuron Rail Cutters	\$22.50

Phone: 06 377 3603  
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