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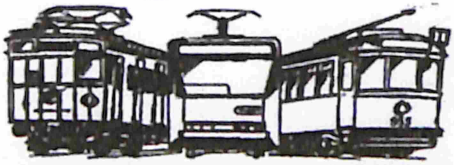


MAXIMUM TRACTION

The Newsletter of the Model Tramway Association Victoria
P.O. Box 305 Camberwell 3124

Issue No: **2011.10** **November** **2011**

Meeting Room: Hawthorn Tram Depot, Wallen Rd., Hawthorn (Melway 45 B 12)
Meetings : **2nd Tuesday of each month .**
President : (Acting Sec/ Editor) : Graeme Inglis 9887 9367 or 0417 316 767
Website: *www.steeraust.com.au/mtav* **Email:** *gin78205@bigpond.net.au*

Minutes of Members' Meeting: Tuesday 8th November 2011 at Hawthorn.

Meeting opened: 8.05 pm

Present: Graeme Elliott, Graeme Inglis, Glen Mills, Jim Potts, Kevin Taig, Arthur Perry (visitor)

Apologies: Steve Altham, Simon Steer

Minutes of previous meeting: Read. Moved received: Kevin Taig
Seconded: Graeme Elliott

Business arising: **Club Layout**—the next working bee will be Thursday, 10th November in Glen's garage.
3D Printing - Graeme E. reported that he'd contacted 3 further firms, one in Sydney was doing a job today (8/11) consisting of 3 pieces of a Combino for a fee of $236. This is Mark II of Graeme's design and hopefully will provide masters to resin-cast further models designed to use Hollywood Foundry drives. Another company, Z-Corp in America is able to provide finer detail, but for additional cost.
Weico Z3 Kit - No further details of a release date- (website checked today).

Correspondence: In: TramliNZ No. 54 October 2011
Bruce Temperley (email) re—membership

Out: Bruce Temperley (2 emails) - membership details

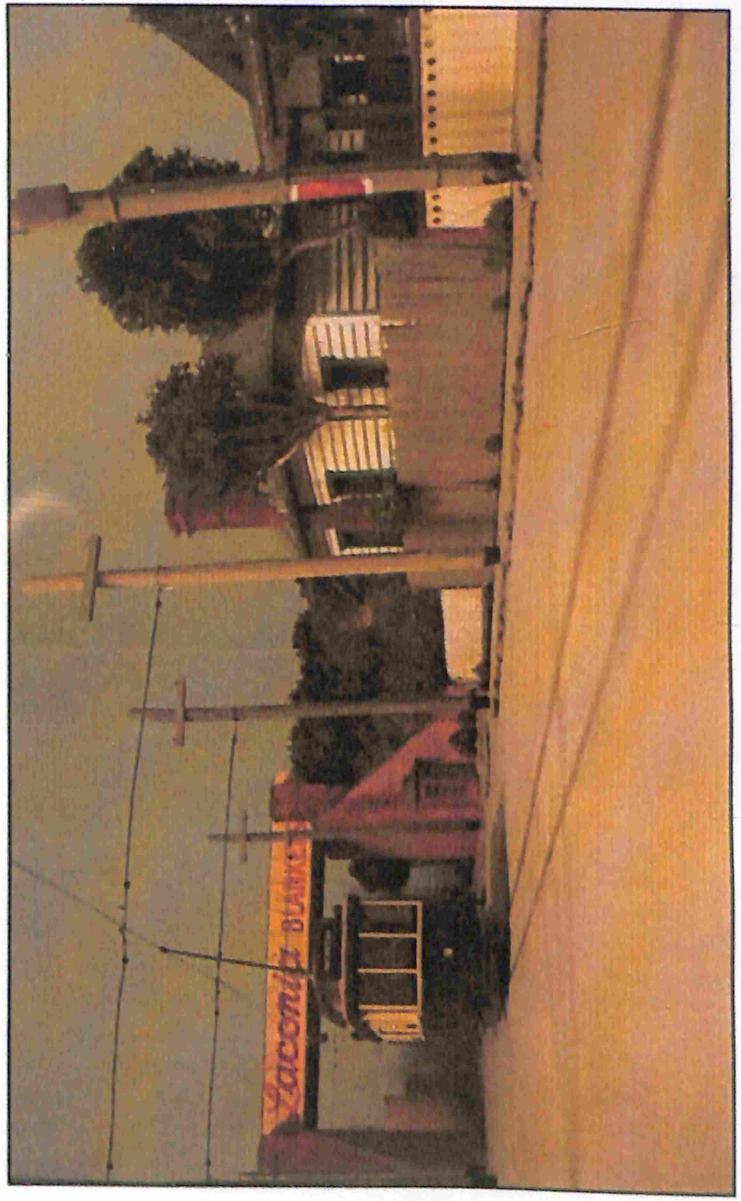
Treasurer's report: $ 1,368.33 after all debts are paid.

General business: **Arthur Perry** was formally welcomed to the meeting and thanked for providing the 2012 Tram calendars at an attractive price. Some discussion ensued about the history of these calendars where many of Arthur 's photographs dating from the early 1950s have featured.. To complete his collection, Kevin Taig is particularly interested in obtaining the 1999 and 2008 editions if possible, so if any member can help, please get in touch with him.
Micro-Mark - Kevin Taig reported that MicroMark were selling/clearing 'O' scale Peter Witt trams (Williams, but now owned by Bachmann) for $USD 105 - 113. These models have the coarse wheels used for the 'tinplate' US market, so finer replacements will be necessary, but even so, the price is quite attractive for an 'O' gauge tram.
Tony Tieuli - a prolific US 'O'gauge modeller - has successfully modified a cheap, 3-section modern articulated tram using Black Beetle power units. It is basically a toy by a company named 'Dickie' in approx 1:43 scale, but does not look to out of place compared to US 1:48 models. Reportedly only available in European 'Toys'R'Us' stores under the Dickie Toys label and not available at all in the US (or here to my knowledge), some American 'O' gaugers are trying to obtain what is a reasonably attractive model by other means. As the price is only about € 15—20 per model, its probably worth such efforts to obtain some modern outline articulated trams pretty cheaply. (See Tony's photos below).
2012 Topmill Calendar - This should be in newsagencies very soon, together with a revised edition of 'Trams in Australia' Volume 1 for around $12 each.

Meeting closed: 8.50 pm.

Glen's slides: Innsbruck - 30th May 1973

Season's Greetings to all Members



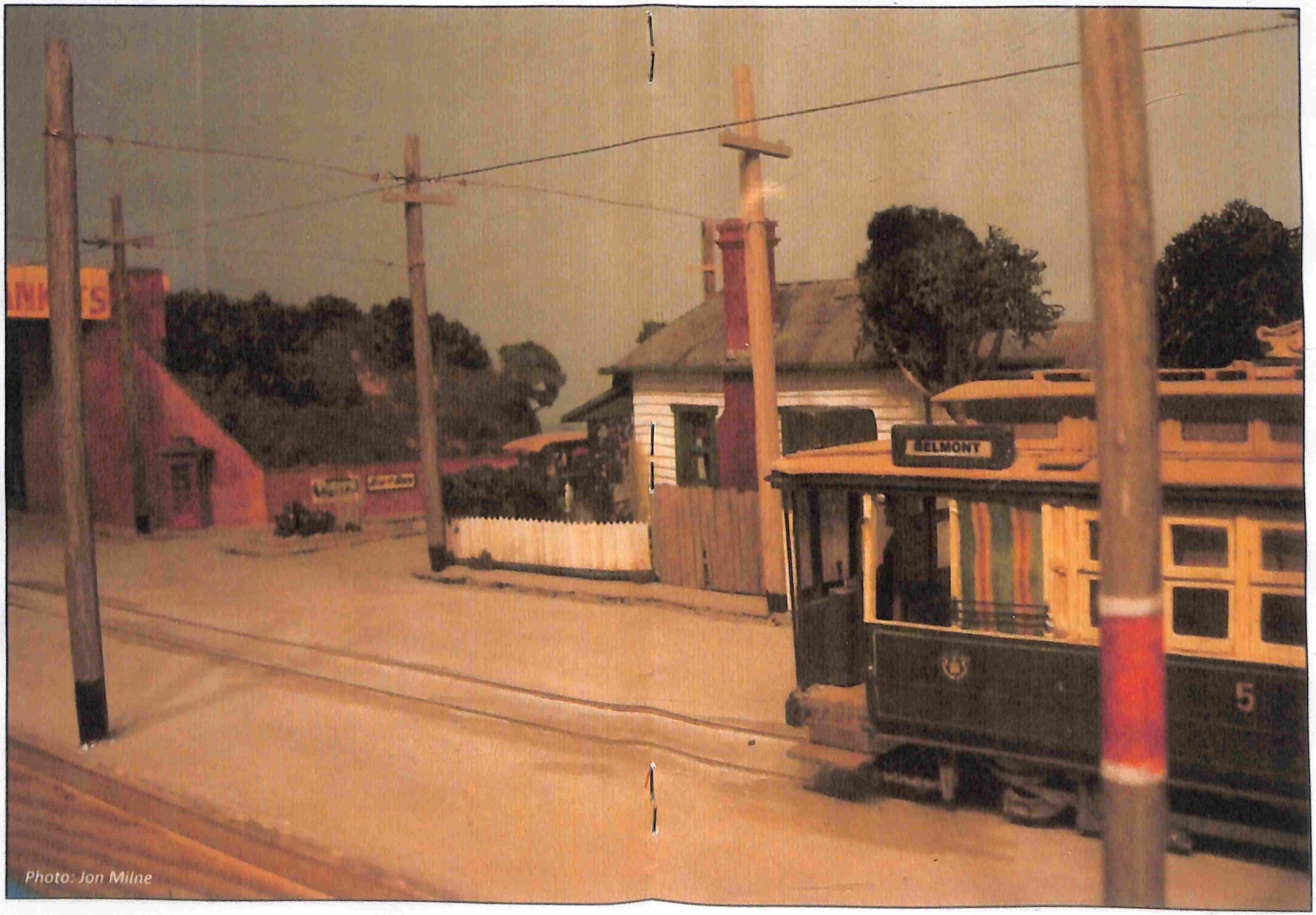
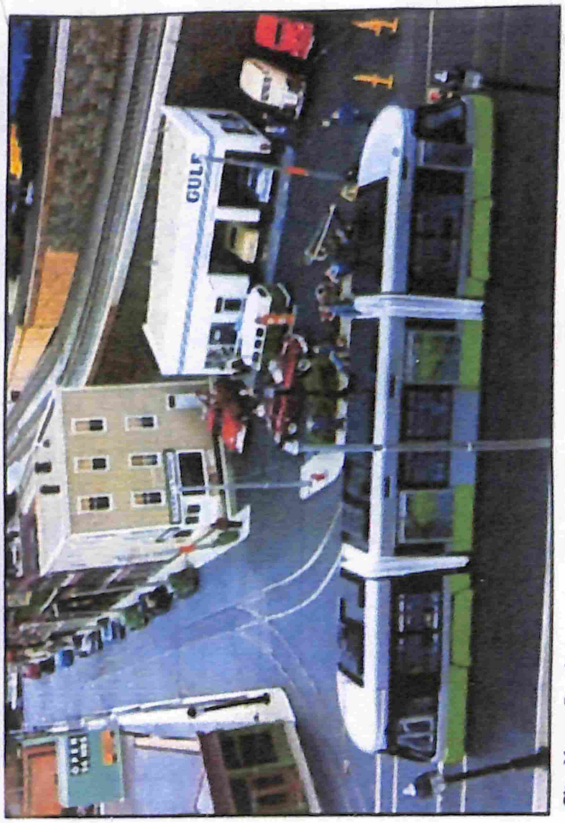


Photo: Jon Milne



City Liner: *Modern European artic in approx 1:43 scale by Dickie Toys of Germany, Tony Tieuli in Boston has removed the centre truck, out-of-scale pantograph, toy-like decals and installed two Black Beetle units in the end sections. The centre-section skirting still needs filling with styrene sheet. A fairly convincing and affordable conversion to obtain a modern 'O' gauge articulated tram.* ***(Photo 1: Tony Tieuli)***



City Liner: *Further mods -centre-section skirt completed, paper bellows added, Wagner trolley pole (hard to see LH end) and a Sommerfeldt pantograph installed. Model shown on 'Roslindale' - Boston 'O' gauge trolley layout.* ***(Photo 2: Jay Morris)***



Jon Milne *has captured so well the 'feel' of Belmont line in the South Geelong area in 1:43 scale. In Jon's words: Buildings are all built of card, balsa and some bass wood. Weatherboards - some are balsa and some are 4 ply card. Roofing: corrugated iron made of foil from yogurt containers then pressed over a simple jig that I made. Terra cotta tiles are made from 2 ply card. Trees are twigs from my daughter's garden with various Woodlands Scenic foliage. Fencing: card stock from various packaging throw outs. Overhead: trolley wire is from Q Car Co. USA left over from Malop, hangers are from Terry Russell when I purchased my Butterbox truck. Poles: wooden lamp posts are dowel carved to look Aussie...I have 2 single bracket poles at the Hotel/ North end made from telescoped brass tubing. Roadway: plaster of paris. Paints: flat acrylics -if I need a gloss then I put clear varnish over the acrylics as it's easier to touch up flat paint. Weathering: painted on or smudged on pastel pencil.* ***(Photo: Jon Milne)***