

THE 1996 MODELLING THE RAILWAYS OF QUEENSLAND CONVENTION



Photograph by Stephen Colclough

1720 heads a lengthy train back towards Mareeba from Einasleigh during the winter of 1993. The driver, Trevor DUNDAS, obligingly stops the train in the middle of the impressive wooden bridge for a photo stop. You can't get this photograph any more as not long after this shot 'The Last Great Train Ride' was no more, Driver DUNDAS was transferred to Townsville, 1720 was painted in Corporate livery and made a DOO locomotive and the line mothballed except for a weekly trip in a refurbished 2000 class rail motor called the 'Savanahlander'. It however has nothing to offer compared to 'The Last Great Train Ride' which left Cairns at 7.00 pm on a Wednesday evening and returning at 4.00 am on Saturday mornings and where you could sit in the cooling breeze on the verandah of the coaches with newly acquired friends and discuss over one or two amber liquid drinks the need for the Government to retain this line and its train forever.

Lecturers for 1996 are

1. **Basic HOn3.5 is presented by Mr Arthur HAYES.** Arthur is a dedicated HOn3.5 modeller of many years. He is currently a Group Station Master with Queensland Railways and has seen 30 years of service with the Railways in most parts of the state.
2. **Q.R. "S" Wagons is presented by Mr Stephen COLCLOUGH.** Stephen is also a dedicated HOn3.5 modeller and has been since starting to model it 5 years ago. He also runs 3 Foot 6 Models with his wife Desley and girls. Stephen is a Police Prosecutor with the Queensland Police Service.
3. **Signalling is presented by Mr Don WARN.** Don is a reluctant retiree from Queensland Railways after many years of service in various parts of the state. Don's last years were at Landsborough where he still lives. Don actually models NSW at home but enjoys reminiscing about Q. R. and the good old days.
4. **Timber Bridges is presented by Mr Rod TAYLOR and Mr Peter FORD.** Rod of Sarina agreed to present this lecture after the 1995 convention success as this is his favourite subject. Rod is assisted by Mr Peter FORD of Mackay who is the proprietor of Far North Hobbies.
5. **Shops, shops and more Shops is presented by Mr Jim FAINGES.** Jim who resides in Brisbane was a modeller with the old Main Roads Department where he was employed as a model builder. Jim's fascination with architecture is renowned in the local hobby scene and his buildings are a delight. He also does a pretty mean saw mill with working parts.
6. **S Scale is presented by Mr Steve MALONE, Mr Gary SCHWARZROCK and Mr Les DOWNEY.** Steve has been modelling S Scale Queensland since the days of Dr Stephen SUGGITT and still continues to do so. He has written many articles for various magazines on Queensland railways. Steve scratch builds most of his models. Gary is the proprietor of Southern Cross Models and is in the process of building C17 kits in S Scale. Les DOWNEY is a native of New Zealand where S Scale is the scale. His knowledge of S Scale is therefore impressive as was his New Zealand layout.
7. **Cane Trains and Narrow Gauge Take 2 is presented by Mr Bob DOW and Mr Greg STEPHENSON.** Bob is a retired Army Captain and works in the medical profession at a local Brisbane Hospital. He was a dedicated Victorian Narrow Gauge enthusiast until he saw his first cane train and he hasn't turned back since. Greg however has always been into narrow gauge railways of Queensland and over the years he has built up a great collection of all things GREAT AND SMALL!
8. **Narrowing Mechanisms is presented by Mr Paul BLAKE.** Paul works as a Director with the Queensland Transport Department. He is the builder of the layout 'Laidley'. He has built a number of locomotives including that magnificent Beyer-Garratt and the C19 Lady McGregor. He has scratch built many other steamers and diesels over the years.
9. **Guest Presenter is Mr Stan MOORE.** Stan works for the Brisbane City Council and during his years he has travelled far and wide chasing trains in all manner of places to get that classic shot. His collection includes many thousands of negatives which are yet to be developed. This collection of slides he presents today will be inspirational and a great value to the Queensland modeller. Just when you thought you knew everything Stan strikes with a photograph that proves your theory wrong. Please enjoy Stans presentation of these classic shots of Queensland Trains.