



Welcome to Convention 2010

The 2010 Convention Committee extends a warm invitation to attend the New Zealand Association of Model Railway Clubs (Inc) 2010 Convention being held in Christchurch over Easter weekend 2010.

Our aim is to bring you a most memorable convention, with a wide choice of activities to suit all preferences.

We look forward to meeting you all next Easter.

Registration - Please register early

Anyone can register to attend the convention; you do not have to belong to a club, as long as you are interested in railways, particularly model railways.

Please note that Junior Registrants under the age of 14 years must be accompanied at all times by their parent or guardian during all convention activities.

Please register as early as possible. Early registration will enable us to provide you with a smooth running convention. Knowing the numbers at an early date means we can plan better, not just for activities, but also for catering. Registration costs more after February 28th.

Note for proprietors of trade stands and operators of layouts: If you wish to attend clinics, go on layout tours or take part in other convention activities you are required to pay a full registration fee. Please use the appropriate form (Trader Registration or Layout Registration) and indicate whether or not you wish to have full registration.

Registration options

Full adult and junior registrations cover all convention activities for the whole weekend. Meals are extra.

One-day adult and junior registration covers all convention activities for that day. Meals are extra.

Alternative registration covers use of the venue and transport to some activities for the whole weekend. Meals and some optional activities are extra.

Meals

Meals will be available on site as detailed on the registration form, and there will be an Awards Dinner on the Sunday evening. All meals are extra and must be booked in advance on your registration form.

Forms

If you need extra copies of any forms, feel free to photocopy, download from the convention website <http://www.gcmrsleeper.org/nzamrc/> or contact the Secretary brian@nimsys.com for more copies.

Family Involvement

The organising committee wish to create an atmosphere that welcomes families and encourages those attending to bring their family with them.

Anyone can participate in the full convention programme if they wish and pay the appropriate registration fee, but there is also an alternative programme designed for wives, partners and children and priced at a reduced rate. This programme includes a wide range of things to do and see.

Please note, we do require that children under the age of 14 years are accompanied at all times by a parent or guardian for the duration of the convention.

What do you get for your registration?

- A first class venue
- Meet fellow modellers and renew old acquaintances
- Meet top overseas guest, Iain Rice
- First rate clinics and workshops presented by Iain Rice and other experts
- Learn new skills, gain stimulation and enthusiasm
- Answers to your modelling problems
- On-site and tour layouts
- Model competitions
- Novelty A3 competition
- Model displays—display yours and enjoy seeing others'
- Traders from throughout the country
- New product releases
- Second-hand buy/sell table
- Visit to Ferrymead Heritage Park
- Alternative programme for non-modellers

No open day

There will be no public open day, which means more time for modeller-oriented activities.

One-day registrations provide for a more casual level of attendance.

Planned activities

Clinics

The Clinics Plus programme is designed to give an appropriate balance between:

- Different scales and prototypes
- Different levels of experience within the hobby
- Technical topics (wiring, signalling, DCC, etc)
- Arty topics (scenicking, backscene painting, etc), and
- Background subjects (history, prototype practices, layout operating methods, etc)

There will be six sessions each of four clinics, and three sessions of workshops covering multiple topics. Four of the best clinics will be repeated. Clinics tend to be like a lecture whereas workshops are very much hands-on.

Layouts

At the venue itself you will find some of the finest layouts from the South Island exhibition circuit.

We've also set aside two half-days for tours of home layouts in the greater Christchurch area.

A tour of the Ferrymead Heritage Park is also available as an option. While primarily a prototype tour, Ferrymead is also the home of the Garden City Model Railroad Club, and its clubrooms house three sizeable layouts featuring American, British and New Zealand prototypes.

Competitions

Convention 2010 is the host for the New Zealand Association of Model Railway Clubs' biennial model competitions run by the NZAMRC Competition Committee.

You can enter almost anything you like so long as it's connected with railways. As well as such popular items as locomotives, rolling stock and buildings, modellers often enter trackwork, figures, trees, vehicles related to railways and even sections of portable layouts.

A3 competition

Convention 2010 is also sponsoring its own novelty layout competition. This is intended as a bit of fun. It is not a part of the NZAMRC Competition and has a different aim.

Basically the idea is to build a layout or diorama no greater in area than an A3 sheet of paper (297mm x 420mm)—or any other shape of equivalent area (0.124740m²).

There will be prizes for:

- The best diorama
- The best working layout

- And a special award—Iain Rice's Accolade for Ingenuity

At the risk of repeating ourselves: The A3 layout competition is meant to be fun!

SIGs

There will be several special interest group meetings over the course of the convention. Look out for ones that take your fancy, or convene one yourself.

AGMs

The NZ Model Railway Guild and NZ Association of Model Railway Clubs will both hold their AGMs during the convention. Come along and have your say. http://www.gcmrsleeper.org/nzamrc/Programmes/SIGS_1.html

Traders

We are expecting a large number of retailers and cottage industries to be at the convention, offering specials and announcing new products. This is a good chance develop a relationship with a traders you have not dealt with before.

There will also be a buy/sell table where you may find some good bargains or convert some unwanted items into cash. Sellers pay a 10% commission.

Ferrymead Heritage Park

There will be an optional visit to the Ferrymead preserved railway and the Garden City Model Railroad Club situated within the park.

College restaurant

The college restaurant can cater for up to 160 for pre-booked breakfasts and dinners.

Cafeteria

The college cafeteria will be serving a large range of snack type food, soft drinks, tea and coffee from 9-30 am to 4-30 pm on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Awards dinner

The convention banquet and prize giving will be held on the Sunday night at Riccarton Park Function Centre.

Liability

The convention is covered by public liability insurance but this does not cover the loss of personal property. Responsibility for anything you bring to the convention rests with you. This will usually be covered by your own household contents policy.