

THE POWERLINE UPDATE

The Official Newsletter for Powerline Direct and all the latest news concerning Powerline Models Pty Ltd
www.powerline.com.au

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2007

Running a little late but here it is the third issue of the Update for 2007. There has been a lot happening at Powerline since the last Update as well as in the hobby as a whole. The range of product that is now available for the Australian modellers has increased and the range of what to come is getting even larger. Hopefully those who opted to model overseas railways due to the lack of ready to run Australian models will now start seeing what is available and what is still to come and be encouraged to model Australian. Much of what is available, and is still to come, is up to the standards of the best available and this too should be an incentive to make the switch to Australian.

The Powerline T Class Locomotives.

The current production run of the T Class is still available but supply of some numbers is now becoming quite low. Locomotives in short supply include the T357 VR, T388 FA, T400 FA and the T367 VR. The other numbers are not far behind so Powerline feels quite pleased that it increased its production numbers when it had the chance.

The following locomotives are currently in stock and available now:

| | | | | | |
|-------|---------------------------|----------------|----------|---------------|------|
| PT2-1 | VR T Class | (Early livery) | Series 2 | High Cab (T3) | T357 |
| PT2-1 | VR T Class | (Late livery) | Series 2 | High Cab (T3) | T359 |
| PT2-2 | V/Line T Class | (Early livery) | Series 2 | High Cab (T3) | T364 |
| PT2-2 | V/Line T Class | (Late livery) | Series 2 | High Cab (T3) | T366 |
| PT2-4 | West Coast Railways | | Series 2 | High Cab (T3) | T363 |
| PT3-1 | VR T Class | (Early livery) | Series 3 | Low Nose (T4) | T367 |
| PT3-1 | VR T Class | (Late livery) | Series 3 | Low Nose (T4) | T395 |
| PT3-2 | V/Line T Class | | Series 3 | Low Nose (T4) | T375 |
| PT3-2 | V/Line T Class | | Series 3 | Low Nose (T4) | T393 |
| PT3-6 | Freight Australia T Class | | Series 3 | Low Nose (T4) | T388 |
| PT3-6 | Freight Australia T Class | | Series 3 | Low Nose (T5) | T400 |

The next T Class production run.

The second batch of T Class was planned before the first one had even arrived and has since been divided up into production runs 2 and 3. The 2nd production run is expected early in 2008 and more details will be released shortly. The production run is to include:

| | | | | | |
|--------|-----------------------------|----------------|----------|---------------|------|
| PT2-1 | VR T Class | (Early livery) | Series 2 | High Cab (T3) | T360 |
| PT2-1 | VR T Class | (Late livery) | Series 2 | High Cab (T3) | T358 |
| PT3-1 | VR T Class | (Early livery) | Series 3 | Low Nose (T5) | T403 |
| PT3-2 | V/Line T Class | | Series 3 | Low Nose (T4) | T386 |
| PT3-4 | West Coast Railways T Class | | Series 3 | Low Nose (T4) | T369 |
| PT3-7 | G.N T Class | | Series 3 | Low Nose (T4) | T373 |
| PT3-10 | York Peninsula Rwy T Class | | Series 3 | Low Nose (T4) | T387 |
| PH1-6 | Freight Australia H Class | | Series 3 | Low Nose (T5) | H1 |
| PH2-2 | V/Line H Class | | Series 3 | Low Nose (T5) | H2 |
| PH3-1 | VR H Class | | Series 3 | Low Nose (T5) | H3 |

This production run will also feature some improvements over the 1st production run which will include a change to the packaging and more memory capacity on the DCC decoder. Orders will be accepted but no release date or final pricing has yet been announced.

VQCY/VQCX

These models have proved rather popular with the first two small production runs selling out quickly. A subsequent and much larger production run has arrived and these flat cars are currently available and in stock. Your local model and hobby store can supply or accept orders today. PR001FA VQCX Flat Car Freight Australia (green) and PR002VR VQCY Flat Car VR (wagon red) are currently available and should be in stores yesterday.

VFTX

A new production batch of **PR003FA** VFTX yellow log wagons arrived along with Freight Australia green (**PR001BFA**) and VR red (**PR002BVR**) versions. These will all be available in stores and have so far proved very popular.

D Wagon

These NSW 4-wheeler little wagons, FR001, feature much detailing, and fiddley bits, including most of the braking gear, making wheel/axle removal difficult. This wagon is sold in pairs and is available now from all good hobby and model stores.

BCH and BWH

The NSW BCH coal hopper, FR003, and the NSW BWH wheat hopper, FR004, were the first new NSW wagons originally planned by Powerline Models Pty Ltd for production by Redfern Models in India. Based on, designed and modelled on the wagons stored at Thirlmere these models represent the BCH and BWH as they were in use, in traffic and in revenue service. Each production run has sold out as they have come in, so currently whatever is in stock in stores is all there is until the next production run arrives.

E-Flat car

The NSW E-Flat car has been released. Catalogue number FR005.

BEY wagon

The NSW BEY wagon has been released. Catalogue number FR006.

Kadee number 148 is recommended for the D-wagon, VQCY, VQCX, VFTX, BD, BCH, BWH, BEY and E Flat car. The fitting of Kadee No.5 may require some filing to the coupler box.

Other wagons to come

There are numerous other wagons planned for production in the near future. Some other manufacturers have also announced similar or the same wagons they too intend to produce. Regardless Powerline Models Pty Ltd will press on and produce what it has been planning since 2000. This will include other wagons, hoppers and guards vans as well as passenger carriages and locomotives.

MHG.

P504 L550 Lab test car and P509T Tuscan undecorated are both now in stock. These will be followed up with other liveries that will include the Tuscan with silver roof and the black with silver roof. These like the gondolas are produced, assembled and packaged in Australia, even the insert and box is made in Australia.

Gondola Re-run

The following Gondolas are now available again:

P510 Black Undecorated

P511U Blue Undecorated

P512U Indian Red undecorated

P671 V/Line (red)

P674 Australian National (green)

P676A Yellow Undecorated (yellow)

P678 National Rail. (grey)

More should follow before Christmas possibly including P670 VR, P675 BHP and a Pacific National is planned.

Gondolas with containers

The following Gondolas with containers have been released and are currently available. The containers are 40 footers.

P671BN V/Line with BN 40 foot container

P671HL V/Line with Hapag Lloyd 40 foot container

P674BN Australian National with BN 40 foot container

P674HL Australian National with Hapag Lloyd 40 foot container

P678BN National Rail with BN 40 foot container

P678HL National Rail with Hapag Lloyd 40 foot container

Container Wagons

A new range of container wagons was released recently and has sold very well. These all featured the TOLL containers in three different guises. There was the teal, green, container with the large TOLL and the small TOLL (Tasmania) and the white container with the small TOLL. These were released on the green, grey, blue and red flat cars only and in limited numbers.

P701 for the green, P702 for the grey, P703 for the blue and P704 for the red flat cars with the following lettering to designate the container; TOLL for the teal container with the large TOLL, WSTOLL for the small TOLL on the white container and GSTOLL for the small TOLL on the teal container. For example P704TOLL is a red flat car with 2 teal containers with the large TOLL logo. These wagons are in stores now and the warehouse has virtually sold out with only 3 of the 12 lines in stock in limited numbers.

Coaches.

These are still some coaches available and in stock now. They include the following

P415A BS 2nd Class VR Maroon & Silver

P443 MHO NSW Candy

P416A AS 1st Class VR Marron & Silver

P444 KB NSW Candy

P424B KB Parcels NSW Tuscan

P462 Red Cross Coach

P434A AS/BS 1st/2nd Composite VR Blue & Gold

P463 MHO Yellow

P440 FS NSW Candy

P465 MHO NSW Bi-Centenary

Also still in stock are the Linkline generic stainless steel coaches LLF101, LLF102 and LLF103.

The 48 Class and 81 Class still in stock.

There is still a stock of both the 48 Class and the 81 Class in the warehouse, although some lines are getting low in numbers. All are available now and should be in stores.

| | | | | | |
|-------|-----------------------------|-------|-------|------------------------|-------|
| P230B | NSW Tuscan 48 Class Mk3 | 4897 | P234Y | SILVERTON 48 Class Mk1 | 48s37 |
| P230B | NSW Tuscan 48 Class Mk3 | 48116 | P239 | AUSTRAC 48 Class Mk1 | 4814 |
| P232A | NSW Candy 48 Class Mk3 | 48107 | P239 | AUSTRAC 48 Class Mk1 | 4836 |
| P232A | NSW Candy 48 Class Mk3 | 48121 | P204S | STEALTH 81 Class | 8167 |
| P232A | NSW Candy 48 Class Mk3 | 48125 | P204S | STEALTH 81 Class | 8175 |
| P233A | NSW Red Terror 48 Class Mk3 | 4894 | P206 | Frnt Rail 81 Class | 8108 |
| P233A | NSW Red Terror 48 Class Mk3 | 4895 | P206 | Frnt Rail 81 Class | 8181 |
| P234Y | SILVERTON 48 Class Mk1 | 48s35 | P206 | Frnt Rail 81 Class | 8184 |
| | | | P207 | Frnt Rail 81 Class | 8177 |

SANDOWN MODEL RAILWAY EXHIBITION.

On the 8th to the 10th March 2008 over the Victorian Labour day long weekend the Model Railways of Australia will be again running a model railway exhibition at the Sandown racecourse, Noble Park. Invitations have been sent out to interested parties and applications for others interested in attending as a club, layout or display are available at the [Model_Railways_of_Australia yahoogroup](mailto:Model_Railways_of_Australia_yahoogroup) on the Internet or send your request or interest to mra.exhibition@realitybytes.net.au

Model Railways of Australia

The impending new magazine for model trains in Australia called Model Railways of Australia has not yet been released but we understand that it is still underway. This magazine is not just about Australian brands or products but all brands and products in all scales and outlines that are available in Australia. Capturing the world of model railways is the motto and promoting the hobby to all is the aim.

The magazine will be available free from model railway exhibitions, shops and railway clubs. There will be room set aside for club and exhibition listings, that will be free, and a proposed maximum of 25% content for paid adverts from manufacturers, retailers and commercial entities. Proposed articles will include topics such as getting started, comparisons, reviews, new products, DCC, club visits, exhibition reviews, articles on locomotives and rolling stock, layout designs, modelling techniques and write ups on clubs, societies and preservation groups.

The one stipulated guideline is that all products promoted and advertised must be available for ordering, stocking or access by all bona fides retail shops but is not reliant on them actually stocking it and that there will be no prices listed in adverts. The reason for this again is simple, all products promoted must be available to Joe Public from his local retail shop where he can buy or order the product from. Retail shops are the face and the future of the hobby.

The publishing of this new magazine has fallen behind and delayed for a number of reasons but we have been assured it will be going ahead.

Anyone interested in submitting article to the Model Railways of Australia magazine can send them to modelrailwaysofaustralia@yahoo.com.au

Adelaide 2007

Adelaide's premier railway exhibition over the Queens birthday long weekend in June 2007 was another well run event that show cased model trains and South Australian model trains to the Adelaide public.

Morwell 2007.

Every two years the La Trobe Valley Model Railway Club runs its model train exhibition in Morwell. This exhibition has continued to grow, improve and captivate. Giving those in the valley one of the best exhibitions in the state of Victoria. One of the standouts this year was the new N scale layout built by club members for one of their own members. This adds to the other two club exhibition layouts giving La Trobe a G Scale, a European HO scale and now an American N scale layout. The next exhibition will be in 2009.

Waverley 2007

Waverley Model Railway Club held its annual exhibition over the Queens birthday weekend in June. With a new venue there is always a challenge to get the show up and running and to maintain and attract new visitors. The new venue is well located and easy to get to, situated behind the Fire station in the Brandon Park Community Hall. The hall is very well lit and comfortable for a model railway exhibition. The exhibition was well planned with a good mix of both prototype and scales. Aussie, US, British and European layouts were all represented.

Balanced mixes of traders were on hand to cater for the needs of the modeller and newcomer to the hobby. Club information stand and model building demonstrations all help to create the great atmosphere. All exhibitors and visitors commented on what a happy and friendly exhibition it was and look forward to seeing the show next year. Next years show will be held at the same venue with improved parking and increased signage and of course some great layouts and traders all promise to reward the visitor with a memorable experience

Stawell 2007

This exhibition has only one limitation, its venue. The venue aside this exhibition has become a must visit exhibition for Victorians, country Victorians and border hoppers from South Australia and NSW. Standouts at this year's exhibition were the SARMA layout and the Hamilton Model Railway Group layout. HMRG taking out the best layout award.

Sunshine/Braybrook 2007.

Due to my commitments to the Newcastle Our Town Model Show I did not get to see the Sunshine Model Railways Clubs Exhibition at Braybrook College. So if anyone would like to submit a brief write up we will put it in the next update.

Newcastle 2007.

I have been told that this show is really a hobby show with Military models, role players, boats, ships, planes, cars and trains on display. Yet trains are in the majority. This year's show at the Newcastle Jockey Club was another full event with plenty to see and to keep you interested. Although quite small compared to many it was a layout featuring Suburban Sydney that attracted my attention.

Hobart 2007.

Run by the local chapter of British Modellers, John Mayo and crew, as well as the local Lions Club this exhibition was very British in orientation with 3 major British layouts including the well-known Mid Sommer Norton. Originally booked for August 2007, the weekend after Newcastle, due to a double booking it moved to September.

Powerline Web site.

The Powerline presence on the web, i.e. the Powerline web site www.powerline.com.au, operated and run by Powerline Direct has been an issue for some time now. Cutting Edge for its time some found it slow, heavy on the memory, it required a computer with decent resolution and was best accessed using cable or ADSL. Further more being in Flash presented other issues like access by the general user and the ability to change update and access information by Powerline Direct. The result being an out of date site that lost Emails and orders.

A new web site has been commissioned as well as a new web host and new Emailing addresses. Hopefully this will result in a faster, more user friendly and easily accessed sight that can be better managed and up dated. The URL will remain the same, www.powerline.com.au, but the content and the site, as a whole will change. The new look Powerline Web site is expected to be ready in October 2007. For Emailing the addresses are as follows:

repairs.powerline@powerline.com.au

info.powerline@powerline.com.au

sales.powerline@powerline.com.au

Yahoo Groups Model Railways_of_Australia

For those interested in a model railway forum, discussion and news group on anything model railways, then the Model_Railways_of_Australia yahoogroup maybe what you are looking for. This group/forum is not run, operated, owned nor controlled by Powerline Models Pty Ltd. In fact the only link between this group and Powerline Models Pty Ltd is Ian Comport who is a member of the group. Ian is there purely by invitation and is able to give information and news concerning Powerline and its product. The only official sources of information from Powerline Models Pty Ltd are the Powerline Direct web site, soon to be updated, and this publication, the Powerline update.

Future Exhibitions

Powerline Models Pty Ltd attends many exhibitions each year in Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland and South Australia. Should any club or group running an exhibition in any of these states wish to have Powerline Models Pty Ltd attend their exhibition please feel free to contact Ian Comport. The address is:

Ian Comport

Operations Manager

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We are always looking to attend new and different model railway exhibitions and may be able to assist organisers with additional displays, layouts and stalls.

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Articles and comments for submission.

The Powerline Update is accepting original submissions, articles and write-ups from its readers and those with a common interest.

All writings must be on topics concerning either; model trains, Australian model trains, HO scale model trains, Australian Railways, Powerline model trains, model train modifications, model train detailing, model train layouts, DCC, train and/or railway exhibitions, model train clubs, electrical issues within model trains, and issues of interest within the hobby.

Acceptance and publication of any submission will be solely at the discretion of the Powerline Update. All published submissions will have the author's name recognised. All submissions to be considered for publication must come with a name, address, phone number and contact details.

The Powerline Update will, where possible, check the accuracy or validity of any submission and will not publish any submissions that may be sensitive or questionable. The Powerline Update will also accept no responsibility for the accuracy, reliability, statements made or views and opinions expressed in any submission.

Articles should be at least 80 words and can be anything up to a page. Submissions should be in word or as a hard copy, long articles must be provided in word and as a hard copy.

Submissions can be sent as follows:

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