

MOZ NEWSLETTER

An update on the Magnorail System by MagnorailOz

Christmas Greetings from



MAGNORAILOZ
Australia.

Issue #3 is packed with hints, updates and good news stories on the Magnorail System and its growing family of users.

However if you wish to unsubscribe from this Newsletter please click [here](#) to opt out.

Thank you to all the new and old customers that have supported us over the past few months. Not being able to go to exhibitions has meant that we are only generating new customers from our web site and Youtube channel.

November has been a record month for sales with a lot of return customers that are extending their layouts or creating new ones. Covid has obviously stimulated to people that are staying in doors, to work on their layouts and are refreshing or renewing them.

Holiday Closing

We will be away from **December 23rd to January 5th** enjoying Christmas with our family after 6 months of isolation. Whilst you will have access to our

1

STARTER KITS

Three Starter Sets with different motor speed options and contents

2

BICYCLES

Over 12 bicycles ready-to-run to choose from with more coming

3

ACCESSORIES

All you need to extend and improve your Magnorail layout

YouTube



Visit our channel at [klatchco56](#) for nearly 300 videos featuring the Magnorail System



MagnorailOz

Selected dealers, sell the system in Europe, Australia and SE Asia. Go to our our online [shop](#) and website for prices or details



www.magnorailoz.com.au

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Instagram**

We update with news as appropriate

web shop, we will **not be processing orders until that second week in January**. We have decided to keep the shop live so people can still order and pay for goods which means the system will quarantine your purchases and reduce the stock availability appropriately so that the web shop stays current. If it shows stock available, you can safely purchase, if it says no stock you will have to wait until the new year and we restock the shop. We are continually ordering with stock in transit all the time so hopefully we will not have any long periods of sold out items.

We will not be available on line for consultation during this period.

We have noted that parcels are being delivered in a timely manner at the moment (but not as fast as pre-covid), however Christmas may see a slowing down, as the majority of people buying presents on line this year will keep parcel delivery service working around the clock to keep things moving.

We continue to scour YouTube for the odd Magnorail video in our role as voluntary curator of all things Magnorail on YouTube we also produce our own videos to help newbies setting up their first Magnorail System or to inspire some of the old hands with new ideas.

If you have a video or channel that is not linked through our Magnorail video playlist, drop us an email with the links.

If you do not have a channel, we are happy to produce a video from your photos or videos on your behalf - again send an email and we can chat.

At time of printing this, there are nearly 300 videos in our Magnorail Playlist at the [Klatchco56](#) Channel with over 150,000 views. Not bad for a single topic niche product!

PRODUCT UPDATES

Magnorail is owned by Thierry and Fabienne FRANCOIS who also have their own hobby shop named Maketis in France. At present their shop is closed due to Covid 19 restrictions. France was heavily hit with another wave of the virus but they continue to flourish thanks to their web shop.

Thierry and Fabienne continue to expand the Magnorail System accessories. Thierry is now working full time on Magnorail, with the business growing strongly. Some of the major European toy fairs and model exhibitions however have been cancelled which makes it hard for manufacturers and distributors to reach out to new customers.

Thierry and Fabienne are working hard at creating new 3D printed cyclists with some exciting additions to occur in the 2021 including some new accessories to enhance your Magnorail layouts.

People are raving about the Magnorail Power Controller which has made it so easy to power up the Magnorail System. As it does not need a reverse mechanism like model trains, the controller is a simple one knob operation. For those attending exhibitions or having to store their layouts regularly, it is so easy to install all the wiring and secure the female socket and then just plug the controller into the socket when you are ready to roll! There are two options of a European Plug or USA plug. MagnorailOz now have an adaptor for Australia and NewZealand available, otherwise please use your own travellers adaptor to suit your local plugs. The controllers are electronically adjusted for use with either 100-240v with a 12v output.



MAGNORAIL

MAGICIANS

The Magnorail Magicians Hall of Fame continues to grow with two new recent additions and one upgrade. Check out the web page [here](#). As stated previously, we have divided the Magicians in to 2 classes. The **Master Magnorail Magician** being the top rank for those modellers that have used the Magnorail System to magically create a unique and original, highly technical and/or fine scaled scene, on a layout or diorama that captures peoples imagination and leaves them wondering how it all works! They also have documented their experience with a video that clearly shows their skills where some of the magic is made, along with promoting the use of the Magnorail System to their peers.

The **Class 1 Magnorail Magician** rank honours those modellers who have integrated the Magnorail System in to their existing layout and added that extra piece of Magic to their creation.

Applications to be recognised as a **Magnorail Magician** are able to be **downloaded** from our web site and are open to all Magnorail users, not just MagnorailOz customers!

MAGNORAIL MOVES LEMAX!

We know that the Magnorail System adds that bit of magic to a layout, but we have seen two of our Magnorail Magicians add that magic to what are already magical layouts.

Until we saw the videos by Cesare (Caesar) Villa and Gaetano Vella, we were not aware of the Lemax Villages which are obviously huge in the collector fraternity across Europe and USA where snow is part of life.

Cesare, a native of Italy first had his Lemax vehicles on a Magnorail loop and then expanded his Magnorail Magic to include a cameo of people chasing each other around the Opera Hall. Click here to see the [video](#) or go to Cesares' web page: mini.villages.altervista.org

Remember to hit the Translate button to change from Italian to English or what ever your native language is.

Lemax has so many animated items you can place on a display but they are limited in size and are specific to what is in the package. Magnorail frees up the dynamic Lemax collector to create scenes that just add that extra bit of Magic.

We first came across Gaetano (a proud Aussie Italian) when he approached us to purchase a Magnorail starter kit to move his Lemax bicycles. These are approximately 1:43 scale. The thing with Lemax is that there is not a consistent scale across their products with some buildings smaller than 1:43 and others larger.

After many emails and photos along with trial surface materials, Gaetano got his bicycles operating with a family moving around the village square. Unlike the *Ready To Run* Magnorail Bicycles, the wheels do not turn and the cyclists do not pedal, but they do look cool instead of just inanimately sitting in one place.



Not stopping there, Gaetano decide he wanted to get his skiers operational and worked on incorporating a ski run at the side of his village.



This is what Magnorail Magic is all about! Someone's creative idea and thinking outside of the box as to how they achieve a scenario with Magnorail as the solution.

Check out Gaetano's video [here](#) on his ski and toboggan run but also an overview of his huge Lemax village - as the video introduction states - BE PREPARED TO BE WOWED!

Gaetano's Display measures 5.6 metres long (18.37 feet), 1.6m deep (5.25 feet) and 1.5m high (4.95 feet)!



COVID-19

Well what a mess the world is in at present!

People thought everything was under control and then the second wave hit Europe and America. Regrettably this horrible virus hits the modelling fraternity badly as we are usually in the demographics of being on the older side with health issues, overweight, diabetics and spend too much time indoors and not exercising.

My treadmill machine broke down in March and I haven't been able to get a repairman out of Melbourne (3 Hrs Away) since then. Yes I know you can walk outside but it doesn't get the blood pumping like a machine workout can, so hopefully now that our State of Victoria has eliminated the virus for now. We have no deaths or new locally acquired cases for well over a month - Yay but some returning Aussies in hotel quarantine have tested positive so they are under strict control to prevent the virus getting a foothold again. Things are getting back to normal however I don't think I will get anyone to come to do repairs before Christmas now.

We have proven in Australia that face masks, social distancing and lockdowns work when things get out of hand. Don't be fooled by the "Give me liberty or give me death" brigade as Covid deaths are real to our hobby fraternity and your lack of liberty is only an inconvenience until it is under control.

Please stay safe and keep working on your layouts in the safety of your home.

The model train show are going o be huge when they re-start, with all the new and refreshed layouts that have been generated during the lockdowns!

RAIL MODELLER MAGAZINE

MagnorailOz have a new article in issue #4 describing the construction of our Caldera layout - Crater Lake which has four Magnorail tracks and an HOe train line around the front perimeter. We continue supporting the magazine creator and editor Robyn and her editorial team with advertising.

Check their website out [here](#) and download issue #4

I am sure if you have a writing bug and can photograph your Aussie layout, Robyn would be happy to review any articles you wish to send in - drop her an email at info@railmodelleraustralia.com and start the conversation.



YES WE CAN!

As commented in the Lemax article, we are continually amazed at what people are doing with their Magnorail installations. Recently we have been corresponding with a couple of Magnorail devotees who have been tinkering with the system. I would point out that you do not have to have purchased your system through MagnorailOz to have a chat or get a query answered - but we only do English language - Thierry and Fabienne at Maketis in France are the multi-lingual arm of the Magnorail network and also are happy to answer queries via the contact form on their [web site](#).



Richard Gawler is one such tinkerer. The creator of the Classic Mini and roundabout series - see episodes 1 & 2 and soon to be #3 on [YouTube](#) whereby he has used the flexibility of the Magnorail channeling and chain to actually move the channel pathway sideways in three increments.

This has been achieved by using a small servo connected to the channel as the vehicle leaves the roundabout. It was really a proof of concept and as Richard explains the travel of the channel can be increased with adjustments to the

length of the armature rather than the small increments currently being achieved on the test bed. Richard is also using reed switches linked to a small programmable Arduino unit that controls the stopping and starting of vehicles and the servo.

What a lot of people do not know is that the Magnorail channeling comes with a built-in reed switch holder! So those electronically minded of you out there can use your reed switches and activate motors, lights, servos and



Arduino boards. By placing your track magnets east/west instead of the standard upright N/S position, the magnetic impulse will trigger the reed switch as that particular chain link passes by. Think of the multitude of things that could be activated - gates opened, traffic lights changed, stationary police car with their lights flash on as your vehicles approach, speed cameras flashing, people waving - the list goes on, with any animated scenery items triggered by the reed switch.

YES WE CAN! (Part2)

I have had a series of phone calls and emails from Morty in New York. He was wanting to make a series of small dioramas (30cmx40cm) depicting various scenarios involving the movement of a camel, boat, people, ambulance and police car and .. a plane! On separate dioramas - not all on the same one! Using the hints from Cesare Vella, moving camels and people is no problem and the vehicles are a no brainer for Magnorail BUT.....

The first five are straight forward but the plane had me thinking. Yes we can! As long as the chain is secure in the channelling there is no reason why the Magnorail System cannot be operated upside down. Whilst we have not done this ourselves, the theory is solid. The normal road surface - now the sky - firstly needs to be firmly attached to the baseboard without any slack between the surface and the channel lip. A contact cradle made from either surplus Magnorail chain links or styrene strip that could hold at least two magnets and have the ability to allow nylon line, like fishing line glued to them to attach to the plane at what ever length you need it to fly below the sky system.

There are obvious qualifiers here as to the weight of the plane. A plastic kit rather than a die cast one would be preferable and also the strength of the magnets.

Theoretically, the Magnorail track magnets should be enough to secure the cradle to the track.

This is the challenge for Morty but I would be interested to see if anyone else out there has tried the concept of flying a plane using the Magnorail System.

MAGNORAIL - WE HAVE YOU COVERED ON LAND - SEA AND AIR!

YES WE CAN! (Part3)

I had an email recently from Brian Donnell, another innovative Aussie, which contained a fascinating video snippet of his Magnorail System crossing a railway line. He has achieved this even with the worst track to trial, being the Marklin K Track which is nearly as thick and high profile as the old Triang Track.

He has not explained as to how he has done this as yet as it was only a proof of concept. I noticed he had the old red chain links in the video, which means Brian has been a Magnorail tinker er for a long time.

So we are looking forward to the full explanation and will update you all via YouTube or the next newsletter when his secret is revealed.

Anyone else that has done something unique and innovative with their Magnorail System either by way of a special scene on their layout or achieved a feat of amazing ingenuity (such as getting planes flying) we would love to see and showcase for you.

As state earlier, if you do not have a YouTube channel we are happy at MagnorailOz to produce a video from your supplied photos and video. The only thing to remember is to take the content in landscape mode for easier viewing on desktop screens and iPads.

HOW LONG CAN I MAKE A MAGNORAIL ROADWAY?

How long is a piece of String? The answer is - as long as you want.

The longest Magnorail road on record (at this stage) is on location at Mini World Lyon in France.

It stretches 8 metres with four lanes of highway, carrying up to 150 vehicles of all shapes and sizes.

If you understand French, check out their [YouTube video](#). If you cannot speak French, still open it but zip along the timeline to 4:35 and you will see the highways construction and test run. I am not sure what a giraffe is doing there though or the yacht sailing down the highway but it does show you what Magnorail can do!

I am told there are about 27 motors moving the track along.

The key thing to remember when looking to extend your Magnorail track, is that the longer the track the more work you are making for the motor. The longer the track, the more tempted you are to put more vehicles or bicycles on it.

The starter kits are designed for optimal use with one motor. Once you start putting more length on, expect lower capacity, so to avoid this install another motor of the same type and speed to keep your track operating at its optimum capacity.

Basically expect to use another motor after one extension (60cm) and up to 2 more extensions, then further motors after each 2 metres.

We have asked Thierry for a short article on how he got involved with Lyon Mini World for the next Newsletter.

So, if you are someone who likes to think outside the box and would like someone to chat with about what might seem a pie-in-the-sky use for the Magnorail system, drop us a line at magnorailoz@gmail.com and let us discuss it together.



ABOUT MAGNORAILOZ

MagnorailOz is the registered business name of C.O.Humphries & Associates selling the Magnorail System and other accessories for the hobbyist.

Clyde, a business consultant by profession, is now semi retired having worked in many fields of endeavour, from finance, not for profit organisations, local government, retail and several of his own businesses enterprises.

Clyde claims he is not a master modeller but is a thinker and creative concept person who can visualise concepts and projects clearly. He sees the Magnorail System as a major new step in the model hobby field.

