#### **MAGNORAILOZ NEWS**

# **MOZ NEWSLETTER**

#### An update on the Magnorail System by MagnorailOz

Issue #4 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 <u>here</u> to opt out.

Welcome to 2021 which will hopefully see a pathway to normality laid out for a Covid free future.

What a terrible year 2020 was for all of us and I am well aware that for some of you there is a glimmer of light at the end of the tunnel and I can assure you that it is not a train coming but the end of lockdowns, lock outs and curfews.

One terrible time for MagnorailOz was when the Norton's Virus algorithm blocked our website and listed it as unsafe! I was alerted by some loyal customers who took Nortons to task.

In the intervening time international sales dried up and the website was stagnant.

As with almost things on the web these days with large companies, you can never seem to speak directly to a human and calls are answered by Bots that just go through a dehumanising question and answer process to eliminate your complaint.

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Finally Norton's admitted that our web site was safe and that their algorithm got it wrong - A review by Google also confirmed the web site as safe, so if you received a notice from Norton when trying to log on in February - disregard it and check out our safe website now.

I persevered and finally got them to check our site and lo and behold it was found to be safe. We take security seriously, with several internal systems constantly checking our computers and using VPN's to protect us from hackers. Our website is secure as can be seen by the lock on the URL below.





#### YouTube



Visit our channel at <u>klatchco56</u> for 300+ videos featuring the Magnorail System

#### **MagnorailOz**



Selected dealers, sell the system in Europe, Australia and SE Asia. Go to our our online <u>shop</u> and website for prices or details www.magnorailoz.com.au



Follow us on Facebook and Instagram We update with news as appropriate To continue after our Norton gripe...

Here in Australia, we are relatively Covid free with only a few cases in Hotel Quarantine. Our only personal restriction in Victoria (the state we are based in) is that you must wear a face mask when in the supermarkets or shopping centres.

There are still restrictions on large gatherings where seating is not allocated such as train shows for over 50 people or so but sports venues with allocated seating have started up again. We all still have to register when going to cafes, restaurants and pubs but the QR code scan on our phones takes care of that.

I know a lot of you have put some energy into your layouts and getting your Magnorail Systems working.

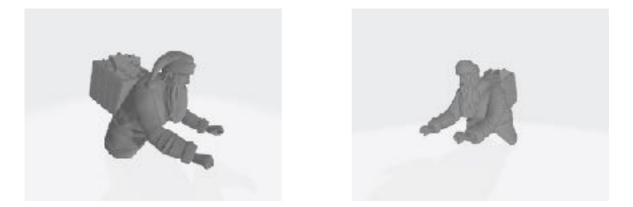
I am still blown away when I see the innovative ideas that people are using Magnorail for when combined with Arduino controllers and simple magnet activated reed switches - see the article later on.

Read on and enjoy - Clyde

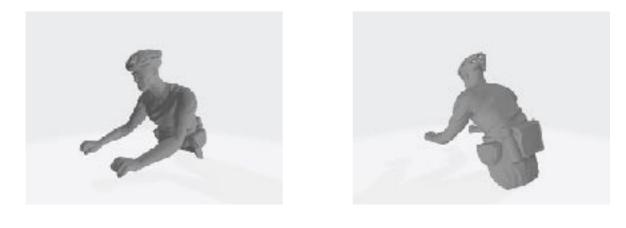
#### **NEW CYCLISTS**

Thierry Francois has been working with his designer mates on a couple of refreshes for Santa and the Sports Bike which will be available later in the year.

Santa has been given a more modern look and colour scheme. They are just fine tuning the colour of the legs before he goes in to production. I am sure you will agree, the ability of 3D printing to get such fine detail is extraordinary and raises the *Magnorail Magic* level of your layout.



The sports bike has a high level of detail and the rider now sports the politically correct response of wearing a helmet. Very up to date with his cool sunglasses and water bottle on his utility belt.









You will be able to repaint these cyclists with team colours or logos. I have always had the idea of a peloton whereby you link three cyclists together with a clear, fine piece of acrylic, slightly bowed so that the two exterior riders have pressure put on their clear wheel, whilst the central rider attached to the Magnorail track provides the motive power. I would be interested in hearing others thoughts on the issue of pelotons and how to achieve a *Magnorail Magic* bike race.

The new versions of the male and female cyclists have been well received and sales of both have been strong.

At this stage Santa will be produced as a stand alone cyclist, with a new trailer to be designed later in the year.





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. Regrettably Australian style 3 pin plug is not available at present, so you have to use your own travellers adaptor to suit your local plugs or we can sell you a travellers adaptor for \$5 The controllers are electronically adjusted for use with a range of input voltage from 100-240v with a 12v output and can easily operate 2 Magnorail motors when wired in parallel sequence. There is some latent movement when shut off due to the capacitors running down.

#### **MAGNORAIL MAGICIANS**

The Magnorail Magicians Hall of Fame continues to grow with two more additions. One N scale 1:120 and the other HO scale both of which highlight how much the Magnorail System can add a touch of realism and magic to layouts of any scale. Check out the web page <u>here</u>. As stated previously, we have divided the Magicians in to two 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, 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 into 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 <u>downloaded</u> from our web site and are open to all Magnorail users, not just MagnorailOz customers!

## **MAGNORAIL MOVES LEMAX!**

Since last Magnorail Newsletter where we introduced you to the layouts of Gaetano Vella and Cesare Villa who integrated the Magnorail System on their Lemax layouts, things have gone crazy in the Lemax world with their community networks and blogs chatting and asking questions about how they achieved it all.







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.

Lemax does not have a consistent scale across their products with some buildings smaller than 1:43 and others larger. **Check out Gaetano's video <u>here</u> on his ski and toboggan run** 

# RAIL MODELLER AUSTRALIA MAGAZINE

RMA Editor Robyn Taylor, reports over 30,000+ downloads since the digital magazines inception. WELL DONE ROBIN!

Check their website out <u>here</u> and download Jan/Feb issue #5 or one or all of the previous issues in which we feature with articles on Magnorail.

MagnorailOz have proudly supported this magazine and regularly advertise in it. We ask that if you download it, please donate \$2 to its ongoing publication - the cheapest model train magazine you will have ever purchased.

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!

An update for you on Morty in New York who commissioned Joe Marturano to make his vision of several dioramas a reality. Morty wanted to depict scenes from his Jewish heritage using the Magnorail System - a real challenge for Joe (also a New Yorker - or close to it I think). The photo below depicts travellers walking through the desert with their camels. It is not a scale perfect model but it gets the concept across as one of four scenarios.

The travellers move around the layout wending their way between the palm trees and sand dunes.

Another example of how the Magnorail System can be adapted. I will try





to get the movies up on the Klatchco56 YouTube channel in the future.

# Can Magnorail handle inclines and rough roads?

Of course it can. Check out this N Scale scene from Dave Weedon - our latest Master Magnorail Magician - where he has his 3D printed 1:120 scale (NZ N Scale) Fordson tractor going up a 17 degree slope over a grassy track and then a further 13 degree incline after passing through an automatically opening gate. A worthy recipient of the Master Magnorail Magician title.



https://youtu.be/xBoitQy\_-Gg







# HOW LONG CAN I MAKE A MAGNORAIL ROADWAY?

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

As promised last newsletter Thierry Francois has come up with some more information on the longest Magnorail road on record (at this stage) at Mini World Lyon in France.

Thierry reports that it is a depiction of The Nice highway and that Maxime and Jocelyn are the creators of this little 9m long jewel suspended above the railway tracks of Nice station.

This work made exclusively of wood and cardboard is made of 12 removable sections that rest on 23 pillars. The Magnorail mechanism from Maketis is integrated under the road. It consists of two chains of 2000 links each giving the system two realistic different speeds for the two lanes of traffic. The system allows 200 vehicles to circulate on this miniature Nice highway with some 27 motors synced to produce a smooth operation.

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!



#### Let it Snow, Let It Snow, Let it Snow!

Some of you keen eyed enthusiasts might have noticed a new addition to the Noch range of working models.

The Micromotion Noch ref 66832 includes a Magnorail system and has had a great response in Europe and all around the world. It has received great publicity in trade and hobby magazines in England and Switzerland.

It is the first time that Magnorail has been sold as an integrated system and bodes well for future cooperation and products from other scale model manufacturers.

If you are wanting bit of Magnorail Magic in your HO scale snow village then check out the full details on Nochs site. <u>https://www.noch.com/en/micro-motion-cross-country-ski-trail-with-apres-ski-66832.html</u>









As you can see, there is a lot happening in the world of Magnorail.

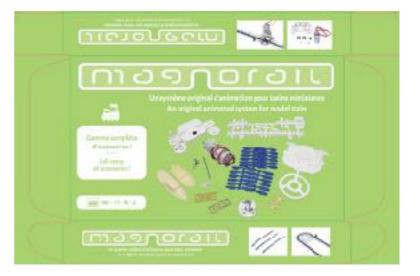
If you are not part of the Magnorail team yet, keep watching our Klatchco56 YouTube Channel (I must try and get that changed to MagnorailOz without losing all the links) for inspiration and ideas. Also checkout our web site for further hints in the FAQ pages as well as our blog where I highlight some of the questions that clients have had.

Thierry, Fabienne and I still have the dream of producing a comprehensive manual covering the Magnorail System for those of you requiring more detailed instructions on assembly and operation of the system.

We appreciate that the original designers David, Otto and Loek tried to make the assembly instructions very

simple without having to do multi-lingual text explaining each process, and they did a great job but hopefully we will see an expanded manual by the end of the year. In the meantime we are only an email away for any queries.

Thierry has also advised that the there will be an upgrade to the packaging of kits in the second half of the year which will more clearly depict the contents, as the picture of the Postman on his bike was tasteful and an excellent photo, but it really did not represent what was in the box if you were looking at it in a retail shop.



Here is a sneak preview of the new box.

# MAY IS MODEL RAILROAD CLUB STIMULUS MONTH

We have designated May as the month to support model railway clubs and their members as they come out of Covid shutdowns and lockdowns but regrettably only <u>Australian and New Zealand</u> clubs at this point.

If you are like my club - Grampian Model Railroaders Inc. we have experienced zero fundraising opportunities over the past year. The loss of our major exhibition in July 2020 which usually turns over \$10,000+ and then our more modest February 2021 exhibition, which brings in \$1,000+ drastically hit our budget.



What this has meant for us is that reserves (and that is why they are there - but usually for large capital purchases) had to be tapped to just pay for power and rent etc. Membership funds were down with members unable to attend club because of lockdowns so no soft drink sales or other fundraising activities.





We would like to help your club get going again, but obviously cannot open it up to all clubs as we will go broke fast, so here is our stimulus package with club registrations open until the end of April.

- MagnorailOz is offering one of three Magnorail Starter Kits for clubs to raffle (VALUE \$250 each)\*1
- MagnorailOz is also offering one of 3 packs of 6 mixed HO scale die cast modern day vehicles (Value \$10 pack)\*
- Blue Wren Crafts (Our gift line subsidiary) is also offering one of 5 exclusive iONLY<sup>©</sup> free standing acrylic 6"x4" frames with the iONLY PLAY TRAINS print (Value \$14.50)\*1
- Registered clubs will be given personalised discount codes allowing 15% off all MagnorailOz products for the Month of May only, to their members.\*2
- Clubs with Exhibitions outside of Victoria (but still in Australia and New Zealand only) will be given the opportunity to sell Magnorail Kits and accessories at their Exhibitions from July 2021 to September 2021 with a 20% commission on all orders taken at their shows\*3

Club registration forms are available on our website - click Registration form

\*1 Club names will be drawn out of a box by a neutral third party and items allocated in sequence of draw and item availability - 1 draw per club

\*2 Discount codes will be available to registered clubs and their members and operate for May only and only to Australian and New Zealand club members

\*3 Clubs will be supplied with printed matter only for display purposes. Orders will be filled and charged from Australia via PayPal invoice with free postage on all confirmed orders received. Depending on responses there may be a 3 week delay in delivery if store stock is in transit. This offer cannot be used in conjunction with any club members discount. Basically customers are getting free shipping by buying through the club and the club earns 20% on the sale, once sale has been processed by PayPal the discount earnt will be transferred by direct debit to club accounts.

## EASTER CLOSING

MAGNORAILOZ will be closed over the Easter break from April 1st until Monday April 12th.

Orders will still be taken via our web shop but will not be despatched until Monday 12th.

## Well that's it for Magnorail Newsletter #4.

We hope you enjoyed reading it and please feel free to pass it on to friends and get them to subscribe on our website

So, if you are someone who likes to think outside the box and would like someone to chat with you 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.

Please stay safe, wear a mask where appropriate and keep on modelling and let us get back to exhibitions and train club meetings by getting vaccinated and making our world a lot more people friendlier.

Regards Clyde







IN THEM





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MagnorailOz Newsletter #4

