

THE END OF AN ERA – THE BEGINNING OF A NEW ONE

Barry Bryant

The model railway trade scene has changed rather dramatically over the past twelve months in Perth. Firstly there was the demise of City Models, then the move and downsizing of Stanbridges, and now the move by Perth Hobby Centre out of the Perth Central Business District.

Perth Hobby Centre has been a landmark for Perth modellers for the past 35 years with the shop being located in Murray Street, but unfortunately James Bowler has been forced to look elsewhere for a shop to supply the local modelling trade.

Due to the forthcoming redevelopment of the site that was occupied by Perth Hobby Centre, James was forced to look for a new home for the shop, and due to the high rents and small size of properties available in the CBD has been forced to look outside of that area, and has chosen to set up the new store in Osborne Park. The Murray Street store closed its doors for the last time on Friday July 18 and after 2 weeks of hard work by all the staff the new store opened for business on Friday August 1.

The new store is located at Unit 3 / 43 Hutton Street, Osborne Park. The unit is situated at the corner of Hutton and Hector Street, very close to the Freeway on / off ramps. One of the advantages of the new store is free parking right outside the door. The shop is slightly smaller than the old store but James has been given permission to build a mezzanine floor, which will double the size of the shop, and he is hoping to do that during the quiet period early next year.

So for all your modelling requirements, please pop in and check out our new location.

SOUTHERN RAIL MODELS – L CLASS DIESEL

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You may all have seen the recent adverts in AMRM from Southern Rail Models where they have announced that they are to produce an HO scale model on the WAGR L Class Diesel, in various liveries. These models are to be produced in both sound and non sound versions.

The model features

- Ready to run
- 5 pole skew wound motor
- All wheel drive and pickup
- Blackened metal disk wheels
- Metal chassis
- Factory painted and decorated
- Plastic abs body
- Super detailed underframe and body

- Separately applied metal parts
- See through metal etched drills
- Detailed cab interior
- Painted crew figures
- Operating headlights and marker lights
- Genuine kadee couplers

In conjunction with the move to the new store, James Bowler of Perth Hobby Centre has become a Premium Retailer in Perth for Southern Rail Models, and is happy to announce that he will have these models for sale after June 2015. At the moment the recommended purchase price for these models is \$325 for non sound and \$455 for sound versions.

We are looking at stocking the following liveries , however other liveries are available on pre order:-

- As delivered WAGR 2 tone blue (2 numbers)
- Westrail Orange/Blue band (2 numbers)
- AR Orange/Black (3 numbers)
- Pacific National Blue/Yellow (2 numbers).

Modellers will have the option of pre ordering locomotives at the discount price of \$295 for non sound and \$405 for the sound version, and a link to the pre-delivery order form can be found on the shops web site. You can also call into the shop and fill out an order form there. A \$100 deposit is required to secure your order with the balance to be paid shortly before the models arrive in stock. The models can then be posted or will be available for pick up in the store. So if you have hankered after one of these iconic Western Australian locomotives then call into the shop, or fill out and post in your order form.