

First Monday Toy Auction

Monday 4th May 2026 at 6:00pm

Highlights include:

- Trains, trains, trains!
- Locomotives, rolling stock, sets, track, power & control, accessories, kits, parts, and buildings
- Great range of O-gauge including Hornby, JEP, Marklin, Bassett-Lowke, Mettoy, K-Line, Williams, MTH, Marx, American Flyer, and lots of Lionel
- Huge selection of Bachmann HO-gauge
- More HO-gauge from Athearn, Atlas, Model Power, Walthers, Life-Like, Rivarossi, and others
- Railway books and magazines



Featured item: Lot 33
Bassett-Lowke O-gauge (electric) LMS 4-6-2 Locomotive & Tender "Royal Scot"

We've had lots of trains lately, so here are some more! This month's auction features a great variety of O-gauge and HO-gauge.

There's quite an assortment of O-gauge from many British, American, French, German and Japanese manufacturers, including a large number of Lionel items.

In HO-gauge we have lots of Bachmann including some lovely Bachmann Spectrum models, a good selection of Athearn diesel locomotives and rolling stock, a range of Walthers wagons, and many other items from many other brands.

There are also plenty of accessories, parts, buildings, books, and magazines.

If you like trains, you'll like what's in this auction.

The auction starts at 6:00pm next Monday, May 4th, in our Auction Rooms at The Gearin in Katoomba. All are welcome to attend. There is plenty of parking and refreshments are available.

If you can't join us in person, you can participate by sending us absentee bids before the auction, or bidding live online at invaluable.com.

The lots can be viewed in our Auction Rooms on Saturday 2nd and Monday 4th May, from 10:00am to 4:00pm, and before the auction from 5:00pm.

If you have any questions, please call us on (02) 4787 7974 or send us an email.

THIS MONTH'S NEWS FROM TPA

Coming up

We'll be having a little breather and there won't be a mid-month auction in May, so our next auction will be the **First Monday Toy Auction on Monday 1st June**.

But for the rest of the year, we expect the usual two auctions a month, with a variety of mid-month "quiet" auctions.

Our last mid-month auction was all trains, and it was very successful, and you can expect lots more trains in coming months. But there will also be plenty of diecast, tinplate, planes, ships, and all sorts of other fun and collectable things.

We continue to receive toy collections from our vendors, just about every day, and we're processing them as fast as we can. So there will be no shortage of wonderful toys throughout the rest of the year.

No AI at TPA

Artificial intelligence is all the rage – and many people are getting enraged about it. At Trains, Planes and Automobiles we are content with what genuine intelligence we possess and we do not use AI in any way.

So when you see our auction catalogues, you know that the descriptions have been written by real people, and the photos have been taken by us and presented unaltered. It's the real deal.

We don't know where the AI revolution is headed, but we don't intend to be part of it. We'll stick to steam and clockwork and our own brains, thank you.

Thirlmere Festival of Steam

The 2026 Thirlmere Festival of Steam is coming up on **May 16th to 17th** at the NSW Rail Museum in Thirlmere, south of Sydney.

As usual, the festival features a huge line?up of steam train rides, attractions, demonstrations, steam machinery, carnival rides, live entertainment, food stalls, fireworks, and more.

It's a great weekend for all the family, with lots of steam train rides available on both days, and the Picnic Train return trip from Sydney to Thirlmere on Sunday 17th.

For full details visit thirlmerestivalofsteam.com.au.

Talking of Trains

Keith went to the Easter Show recently and found the **High Speed Rail** display interesting. This was a promotion for the "planned" Sydney to Newcastle high speed train.

"I don't think it will happen any time soon," says Keith, and he is not alone: an article in the February 27th *Financial Review* says the same thing.

Keith wondered why so much money was spent promoting a project which is expected to be completed in 2037, if at all. We won't hold our breath.

On Your Marks!

This year's **Ultra-Trail Australia** running event will be held from **Thursday 14th to Sunday 17th of May**.

The event features a series of races held in and around **Katoomba**, with participants running through the magnificent landscape of the Beautiful Blue Mountains National Park.

There's a variety of different races to suit everyone, ranging from short courses for children and beginners, up to the gruelling "UTA100" 100 mile run.

More information and bookings are available at uta.utmb.world. It's always a very popular event and we're booked out at the Gearin, but other accommodation in the area may still be available.

Winter Magic

The 2026 Winter Magic Festival in Katoomba is coming up in June, and we'll have more information for you later.

In the meantime, our coffee shop "On the Soul Side" is streaming a special **Winter Magic Review** on its YouTube channel on **Sunday 31st May** from 7:00pm.

The show will feature a panel of past event organisers presenting a retrospective of Winter Magic Festivals over the years. You can watch it online or join the live audience. It's fancy dress and there will be prizes! Details and bookings will be available soon at www.thesoulside.tv.

Keith's Trivia

Here is this month's batch of trivia from Keith's fathomless resources.

1. What famous arms dealer frequently travelled on the Orient Express, always requesting cabin 7?
2. Who built the first heavier than air powered aeroplane?
3. Which famous car maker died from complications caused by drinking unpasteurised milk from his own farm?
4. Which NASA space shuttle never went into space?

Here are the answers to our April trivia questions:

1. "Stroudley Green" was a golden yellow colour – some said locomotive designer William Stroudley was colour-blind.
2. The Wright brothers' powered first flight stayed in the air for just 12 seconds.
3. The company that started making cars in Australia in 1951 was The Hartnett Motor Company.
4. "Stooky Bill" was a ventriloquist dummy used by John Logie Baird, achieving the honour of being the first face on television.

The Holiday is Over

We've had lots of holidays lately with Easter and Anzac Day, but it's now back to business as usual at **Trains, Planes and Automobiles** with our regular opening hours of Fridays, Saturdays and Mondays, from 10:00am to 4:00pm.

Autumn is a lovely time to visit the **Beautiful Blue Mountains**, so if you happen to be passing through, remember to visit us at The Gearin in Katoomba.

You can also call us during opening hours on **(02) 4787 7974** or send us an email any time. We're always happy to help with your toy and hobby needs.

From the team at
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