



Philip Knife

**MASTER MODEL
RAILROADER #148
PHILIP A. KNIFE**

Philip A. Knife, 50, lives in Sydney, NSW, Australia with his wife, Kathy, and children, Sandra and Andrew. His older daughter, Karen, lives in Perth, with her family. Philip is the first MMR in the Australasian Region.

He retired from the Royal Australian Navy in 1982, after serving as an officer for 27 years. He joined the NMRA in the early '70's while serving with the USN in an exchange program. After leaving the Navy, he was a teacher, and now is a full-time theology student preparing for ordained ministry.

Philip began model railroading with a

gift O gauge tinplate set when he was young and soon began scratchbuilding cars and locomotive bodies from cardboard. During his teens, he turned to cars and girls, but returned to model railroading when he was married. He says that it was a shock to his new bride, but she's still with him so it couldn't have been too bad!

His principle interest has been to model English railways, and he has built several layouts on that theme even though his present layout is a Swiss alpine meter-gauge railway. Philip has always had an interest in operation, and his layouts feature prototype operating practices and procedures. Scratchbuilding locomotives and cars as well as electronics are his favored pursuits in the hobby.

He has written articles for the hobby press mostly in the UK and Australia. He was on the organizing committee for the Australasian Region and later became region secretary when it was formed. He has served as region AP chairman and is now the region contest chairman.

Philip states that model railroading has been in his blood since school days, and he has derived enormous satisfaction from it. Whenever he travels he has always received a warm welcome from his fellow hobbyists. Over the years, he has seen the hobby grow and mature and standards improve. He is concerned that most members at meetings, shows, and conventions are his age, and he feels that we should work to encourage the younger generation to join the hobby not only for their benefit and enjoyment, but to ensure a stable future for the hobby of model railroading.