

The Australian Narrow Gauge Convention once again brings a new subject to the “special category” of the 2023 modelling competition. This is designed as a category to perhaps extend your normal modelling practices, and to allow you to have a go at a different modelling project. Providing an opportunity to create something very compact and easy to transport (especially for those needing to travel to the Convention), we introduce “**The 4x4 Challenge**”.

The rules are simple enough. *This is a restricted area modelling challenge, working within the confines of a 4 inch by 4 inch base...or alternatively for the metric minded modellers, just contain yourself to this 10 cm by 10 cm box!*



Modelling Contest Special Category



Our last restricted base category (*The 90mm Challenge, 2017*) was extremely popular at the convention, with a wide variety of imaginative ideas presented within the tiny footprint. For our attendees making considerable efforts to travel long distances, the ability to build a competitive contest model that fits comfortably in a suitcase was great. We are providing opportunity for this participation with a similar style of contest category, so it's time to “**think inside the box**” once again.

Stuck for ideas? As a suggestion, perhaps browse at a few *military vignettes* for some ideas about how a small scene can be made a focal point. Be creative with composition, or be creative with cropping the scene. Be creative with your subject choice...the challenge is to capture and hold the viewers interest with a model that fits in the palm of your hand. Do you choose a smaller scale to model a bigger scene, or a bigger scale to model a smaller scene? This could be a chance to dabble in a different scale and have some fun in the process. Good luck, be imaginative and happy building.

We look forward to seeing what you can achieve with The 4x4 Challenge!

Rules for this challenge are simple?

- Build a model that utilises a display base of 4 inches by 4 inches, or 10 cm by 10 cm.
- The choice of base material is unrestricted, so long as the size restriction is maintained.
- There are no height restrictions, however, the model must be stable once on display.
- A back scene may be included, provided it remains within the restricted base dimensions.
- Choice of modelling scale is up to you. This could be an opportunity to try modelling in a smaller scale, or maybe an even bigger scale?
- Off-road driving ability not required, but creative thinking will be.
- Judging will be conducted by popular vote (same as each of the regular contest categories).