

Name:	Gary Quinlan gquinlan@tpg.com.au	
Age:	46	
Location:	Brisbane, Queensland, Australia A city of approx 1.5M people	
Group:	Brisbane Lego Train Group	
Consents to be nominated:	Yes	
Key Interests:	Train, Town, Mindstorms, Robotics, Technics, Model Team	

Engagement in Local Lego Community:

- For the last 8 years, Gary has been a leader of the Brisbane Lego Train Group (BLTG), by popular vote of its members. BLTG is Australia's longest established and most active Lego Train group with members aged from 12 to 50. Currently we are establishing Australia's largest permanent Lego Train Layout for public display at the Model Railway club at the Workshops Rail Museum in Ipswich, part of the Queensland Museum.
- Gary has been involved in Brisbane and Australian online forums for over 8 years, posting updates to current AFOL gatherings and events and offering useful views and advice. He regularly organises local Lego meetings, many of which are held at his home and encourages others to participate in local and national Lego events. He also assists others when planning and running Lego related events.
- He has also been involved professionally within the Lego community by participating in Professional development workshops using Lego Robolab and the new NXT Mindstorms resources which are available through Lego Education Centres, and as a teacher he always encourages students to enter the Lego Challenge competitions.
- Gary is currently organizing the local and national Lego train community to get involved in the 2009 Australian Model Railway Convention with a view to a major display of the community's impressive collection of Lego replicas of Australian railway locomotives and carriages.

Promoting Lego in the wider community:

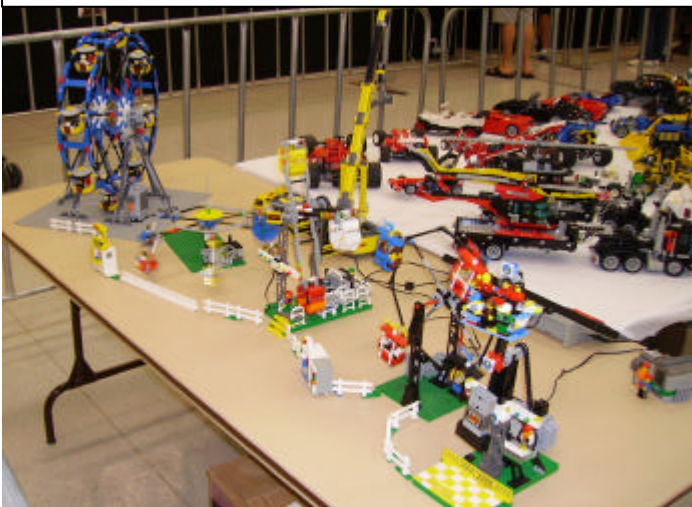
- Gary has been pivotal in organizing and implementing the Lego Train layouts at local train and hobby shows (3 to 4 per year) over the past 8 years and has integrated BLTG into a major model railway club, the Ipswich Heritage Model Railway Club (IHMRC), introducing Lego trains into mainstream Model Railway community. These shows which are run over weekends on average attract 10,000 to 15,000 Train enthusiasts and their families. BLTG has taken out awards for Peoples Choice (Best in Show, etc) on a number of occasions, reflecting Gary's emphasis on building very large and highly detailed Lego layouts that are engaging for both adults and children.
- Arising from the success of the Lego train displays, Queensland Rail (QR) and the Workshops Rail Museum commissioned BLTG to build Lego models for display of QR rolling stock and locomotives in interactive Lego displays at the museum and static Lego displays in their QR Boardroom. Gary was a leader in the negotiations, design and development of these permanent displays.
- As head science teacher at Cleveland District State High School, Gary has introduced Lego Robolab into the high school curricula to teach physics principles and advises other high schools on how Lego robotics can be successfully implemented into their schools. He has also successfully been able to use Lego in the classroom to examine engineering principles of by having student build and test models such as sideshow rides, vehicles, mechanical mixers, etc.
- Gary has also been involved in and keenly encourages others in the Lego community to set up smaller Lego displays at local libraries, Christmas displays and local hobby shows, these displays although smaller, still attract young and old alike into admiring what can be built using Lego.

Innovation in Lego design:

- Gary has worked closely with all members of BLTG in designing track layouts and for all BLTG's Lego train displays and the very large permanent layout currently being built at the Ipswich Railway Workshops. This layout when completed will have over 80m of running track including the Lego monorail and a vast array of Building, structures and dioramas on display as well as the model trains. Gary has encouraged all to make sure the display is of a high standard and impressive for all who see it.
- In particular, Gary's modular design for layouts for shows has enabled the BLTG to encourage new members and involve many others who would normally not be able to display their Lego layouts at Model railway Shows. The modular design enables the combining of individual layouts in any quantity, enabling BLTG to create a very small through to a very large and impressive layout, depending on the space available at a given show.
- Gary is very creative in his use of Technics and Lego Mindstorms and including these in Train Layouts, e.g. he has built operating train traversers, grain loaders and his current project is making a selection of different sideshow rides to compliment the Lego Ferris wheel set. Early prototypes have already proven popular at Lego shows, and these will be a draw card at all future shows.



An Impressed public at one of the Model Railway shows. This layout was 15m x 2m and for 3 days during the Brisbane Railway Model show had crowds 2 to 3 deep at most times.



With the release on Lego kit #4957 Ferris Wheel, Gary built 4 other sideshow rides to compliment the kit. They are shown here being put together ready for a Model Railway show along with other Model team and technic kits.



Gary at the Workshops Rail Museum with the A10 Steam locomotive and carriages which he was commissioned to build for the interactive display.