

MEMBERS' NEWSLETTER

RAILWAY LUNCHEON CLUB

Visit to Olympic Park

Gary Hughes reports:

Olympic Park Station is unique in that it was not built by Railcorp, but by its owners, the Sydney Olympic Park Authority. It was approved by the NSW State Government in 1995, and the building contractor was Leighton Contractors Pty Ltd. The station was opened on 8 March 1998 by then Premier Bob Carr and cost \$95m. It was built specifically to serve the Olympic Park precinct and is designed for the handling of large crowds. The station is leased from the Sydney Olympic Park Authority by Railcorp and staffed by Railcorp employees. The station has different signage, clocks, platform and train indicators, seating and architectural features than normal Railcorp stations.

The Luncheon Club visited Olympic Park on 18 May 2011, where Railcorp Duty Manager Vikas Bhatia took our group through the control facilities, from where both train movements and crowd control are monitored. He also showed us the various features of the station which has four platforms in a special configuration for the handling the large crowds who attend the major events. Vikas explained how these crowds are controlled at the station in both the smaller (less than 8000) and larger (8000 – 15000) modes.

Our thanks go to Vikas for his detailed and informative address to the group and his handling of the many questions, and thanks also to Stuart Sharp for his usual informative notes.

The next outing is on 15 June 2011, when will be going to the Central Warehouse at Clyde. We meet on the overbridge at Clyde Station after the arrival of the 10.40am down Emu Plains service (10.14am ex Central). As there are no suitable facilities at Clyde, we will be going to Auburn RSL for lunch.

In July it's our annual Hunter excursion, and we are going to Waratah. Ed Tonks will lead this tour. In August it we are off to Lindfield. In September, it is our 2-day tour to Goulburn - the booking form is on page four of this newsletter.



Olympic Park Station on 18 May 2011. A large digital non-standard sign is on the right. Image:- David Taylor

Forthcoming tours

- June 10/14:** To Broken Hill by 621/721 railcars
Tour fully booked
- June 15:** Luncheon Club: Clyde
- June 20:** Luncheon Club: Waratah
- July 23:** Three CPHs to Gloucester Snow Festival
Booking form attached
- August 6/7:** Winter Winelander to Wallangarra
Booking form in May newsletter
- August 17:** Luncheon Club: Lindfield
- Sept 20/21:** Luncheon Club: Goulburn
Booking form attached
- October 13:** Normanton (Sunshine Express Tours)
(Expressions of interest sought -10 places only)

For more info call our Tours Hotline on **02 8394 9019**.

Please note: The proposed weekend tour to the Dorrigo Steam Railway & Museum has been postponed until 2012.

New from Belbin Video

FORGOTTEN FILMS



A PRICELESS RECORD OF AUSTRALIAN STEAM IN THE 1940s AND 50s FROM 16MM KODACHROME FILM



FOR GENERAL EXHIBITION

FROM THE BELBIN COLLECTION

At the September 2006 members' meeting, the raw video footage of this program was run by courtesy of Graeme Belbin. It features 16mm colour movie footage of railways around Australia from the late forties, fifties and sixties. The longest segments covers NSW government and private railways and now features synchronized sound. This long-forgotten never seen before film was found in a suburban garage. Recommended viewing at only **\$40.00**

ARHS ARCHIVES

RESEARCH SERIES DVDS B1, B2, B3, B4 & B5

Bulletin on DVD @ \$25* each

1935/50, 1950/59, 1960/69, 1970/79 & 1980/89

Now also available:

NSW Digest on DVD 1963-73 @ \$25*