

**RAILWAY LUNCHEON CLUB
ADAMSTOWN STATION**

In sunny weather, typical of the Hunter, our group of about 40 de-trained at Adamstown on Wednesday 21st May 2014, for our monthly outing, on this occasion ably led by local historian and ARHS member Ed Tonks.

With frequent interruptions from the many freight and local train services, Ed took the group through the history of the Adamstown region and especially its connection with coal lines such as those to Ebbw Vale (later connected to Lambton C Pit), Redhead and Belmont. Ed's presentation was enhanced by copies of a series of 10 old photos and diagrams, which were handed out to the group on the day. A truly memorable experience, capped off by lunch at the nearby Gates Hotel, the history of this hotel and others nearby being treated by Ed with his usual expert manner.

Our thanks go to Ed for his usually lively commentary and notes, both on the website and handed out on the day.

Our next outing will be on Wednesday 18th June when we will be riding the new light rail to Dulwich Hill. Meet at the Light Rail station on the Colonnade at Central at 10.30am. At Dulwich Hill, Stephen Halgren will present the history of this station, and then we will adjourn for lunch at the General Gordon Hotel at Sydenham, necessitating a short train journey. Notes for Dulwich Hill are now available on the Luncheon Club page of the ARHSnsw website.

On Wednesday 16th July, John Oakes will be showing us the old station site and tunnel at Stanwell Park. Catch the 8.13am Kiama train from Central (No. 25 platform). This outing will require the hiring of a bus which will cost participants approx \$15 per head. Notes for this outing will be available on the Luncheon Club page of the ARHSnsw website from early June.

Report by Gary Hughes



Above: Members of our group listen intently as Ed Tonks talks about the history of the Adamstown region. Image: Gary Hughes



Above: Adamstown Station as captured by photographer Ralph Snowball in 1908. With the Up main signal set for clear, one hopes that the two fettlers will get clear of the line!! Ed Tonks Collection

Below: A similar view of Adamstown Station, taken on 21st May 2014. Image: Gary Hughes



Forthcoming Tours

- June 6-9:** North West Branchlines Tour with 621/721
- July 19:** Southern Steam Tram Lines of Sydney. Bus tour of the Arncliffe, Rockdale and Sutherland/ Cronulla lines .
- July 29/Aug 3:** Farewell tour on the Great Queensland "Lander" Trains with ARHS Qld Division Westlander, Inlander and the Sunlander Services.
- 27/28 Sept:** Ski Tube and Floriade two-day Tour
- 17/27 Oct:** Steam Incorporated New Zealand Ab608 return to service. Tours to Wanganui/Napier/Auckland
- Nov 8:** Mullet Creek Revisited
- November :** 402 Club tour
- 14 December:** End of year function TBA

An event in Sydney to celebrate 90 years of service for the remaining operational CPH Rail Motors is to be arranged when a suitable date is known.

For more information ARHSnsw Tours @ Redfern 02 8394 9019