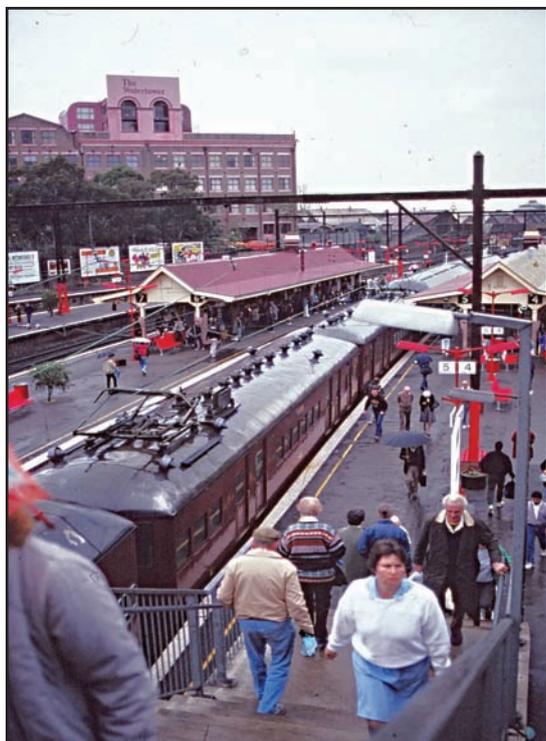


Members Photo Competition

The May topic was "Peak Hour" and the winner for the month was Chris Sim. His entry - Redfern 1992.

Chris Sim took out second place as well with a photo of Varanasi, India 1990.



Upcoming subjects are:

June - In the Shed

July - Cold Weather

August - Guards Vans

Railway Luncheon Club

Report on Outing to Oatley. 16 May 2018.

Apart from a reported amount in excess of \$20m having been spent recently on new carpark, overbridge and lifts, Oatley Station in the Illawarra region of Sydney also has its own history. Opened in 1886 as Oatley's, it became Oatley's Platform in 1889 and back to Oatley in the following year. In 1905 the line was deviated about 100 meters to the west to ease the grade between the Georges River and Mortdale for Sydney bound trains and this meant that the original station had to be moved accordingly. Whilst much of the station building's original design remains to this day, it has seen many changes and improvements of the years and in 2014 the then Minister for Transport, Gladys Berejiklian, announced a major upgrade. This involved three new lifts which included a new overbridge, new stairs, commuter carpark and landscaping.

Of interest is that much of the route of the original line remains today as a pleasant park area between the station and Oatley's shopping precinct. Against this background we decided to have a look at Oatley, and on 16 May 2018 John Oakes led our group of about 36 to trace the route of the original line with its features such as embankments being obvious. Our walk was followed by lunch at the Oatley Hotel. Our thanks go to John for his efforts, which included many notes (now on the website) and also for conducting another walk after lunch for those interested to follow the original line to the Georges River and then over the first Como Bridge and onto Como Station. Thanks also to Stuart Sharp for his usual informative commentary on the history of the station, his notes also being available on our website.

Our next outing is on 20 June when Neville Pollard will be leading our group for a look at some of the heritage remnants of the Lapstone Zig Zag. We will be hiring a bus to take us from Emu Plains Station the top road of this Zig Zag and then from Knapsack Viaduct to Emu Plains for lunch at O'Donoghues Hotel. The bus hire will necessitate a booking form.

On August 15 and 16 we are running a 2 day tour, led by Ed Tonks, to look at the reminders of former coal mines and railways beyond Fernleigh to Catherine Hill Bay. Booking forms available in this Newsletter, at the Redfern office and on the ARHSnsw website.

Gary Hughes

Railway Luncheon Club Manager

ARHSnsw Tours

Below is the long term plan for the upcoming tours with the Society. It is our commitment that the membership get first option for the tours before it gets promoted to the wider community, so I would encourage you to book early as they do sell out and we do only have limited positions on each Tour.

Upcoming Tours

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| June 9-12 | - | A Two State Adventure, Albury and Seymour (Read Comments) |
| June 20 | - | Lapstone ZIG-ZAG Site outing with the Luncheon Club - Seats still available |
| July 8 | - | A Passenger Train to Rylstone - Filling fast |
| August 15/16 | | Beyond Fernleigh to Catherine Hill Bay with Ed Tonks, ARHS Luncheon Club |
| September 23 | | "The Hawkesbury River Railway Bridges" book launch cruise. Brooklyn to Dangar Is then Gosford and Woy Woy |
| October 2 Days | | Date TBA - John Oakes Sydney Suburban Forgotten Sidings Rail Tour |
| November 2-5 | | ARHS 402 Club Central West Tour |

It is important to note that whilst all booking forms are not included in the newsletter, they are all available from the office. Alternatively, just call the office and we can take your bookings by phone or we can email you what you require.

For further information and Booking Forms please contact: ARHSnsw Tours on 02 8394 9019 or 0428 333 443