



FOR ALL WHO ARE INTERESTED IN RAILWAYS

# Members' newsletter

Official newsletter of the Australian Railway Historical Society (NSW Division) • Editor: Ross Verdich • Issue: **June 2012**

## June 2012

Sat 2	RRC open. S/hand book sale at Redfern 10am to 3pm
Tue 5	RRC open. S/hand book sale at Redfern Noon to 4pm
<b>Wed 6</b>	<b>Members' Meeting:</b> Allan Baird Illawarra Steam DVD Part 2
Sat 9	ARHS Railway Resource Centre Closed
Sun 10	Bookshop open (NSWRM steam weekend at Central)
Mon 11	Public Holiday: Bookshop open
Tue 12	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open
<b>Tue 12</b>	<b>Newcastle Members' Meeting:</b> <i>Michael Taylor's Swiss Railways</i>
Fri 15	Brisbane Tour with RMS 621/721 Railcar set. 4-days.
Sat 16	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open
Tue 19	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open
Wed 20	Luncheon Club - Strathfield Station
Sat 23	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open
Tue 26	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open
Sat 30	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open

## July 2012

Tue 3	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open
<b>Wed 4</b>	<b>Members' Meeting:</b> Mike Moy - Train Operations
Sat 7	RRC open. S/hand book sale at Redfern 10am to 3pm
Tue 10	RRC open. S/hand book sale at Redfern Noon to 4pm
<b>Tue 10</b>	<b>Newcastle Members' Meeting:</b> <i>TBA</i>
Sat 14	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open
Tue 17	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open
Tue 17	Luncheon Club - Two-day Hunter Tour
Wed 18	Luncheon Club - Two-day Hunter Tour
Sat 21	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open
Tue 24	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open
Sat 28	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open
Tue 31	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open

## 'FAIR TO RARE'

### OUR SECOND-HAND BOOK SALE

### WILL NOW BE HELD EVERY MONTH

### on the 1st SATURDAY & 1st TUESDAY

( Next on Saturday 2 JUNE 10am to 3pm & Tuesday 5 JUNE 12pm to 4pm)

Upstairs @ REDFERN for Australian & Overseas Books from \$1 TO \$999!

PERSONAL SHOPPERS ONLY

Sydney meetings:	Members' meetings are held in Sydney on the first Wednesday of the month. Meetings commence 6.30pm (seating available from 6pm)	At the 'Mitchell Room', 1st floor, Sydney Mechanics School of Arts, 280 Pitt St, Sydney (between Park & Bathurst Sts)
Newcastle meetings:	Members' meetings are held in Newcastle on the second Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm.	At the New Lambton Community Centre, cnr Alma Rd and Cromwell St, New Lambton
Bookshop:	Monday to Friday: 9am to 5.30pm Saturday: 9am to 4pm	Phone: 02 9379 6633 • Fax: 02 9379 4745 Email: sbo@arhsnsw.com.au
Rail Resource Centre:	Tuesdays: 12pm to 4pm Saturdays: 10am to 3pm	Email: resources@arhsnsw.com.au (Ph 02 9699 2736 and fax: 02 9699 1714, please note requests not taken by phone)
Administration and Mail Order:		Phone: 02 9699 4595 • Fax: 02 9699 1714 Email: mail@arhsnsw.com.au
Tours:	As advertised	Infoline: 02 8394 9019 or 0428 333 443 www.arhsnsw.com.au

# MEMBERS' NEWSLETTER

## RAILWAY LUNCHEON CLUB SCENIC WORLD KATOOMBA

In a departure from our normal style of outings, 47 members and friends made the journey to Katoomba on 16 May 2012 to visit Scenic World. As well as being the home of the world's steepest railway, the famous Scenic Railway, Scenic World also boasts the Skyway and Cableway, both giving magnificent views of the Jamison Valley.

In spectacular weather (for a change!!), on arrival at Katoomba Station the group was conveyed to Scenic World by one of the local double deck buses. Unfortunately Phil Hammon from Scenic World was not able to be present, but none the less we were then given a conducted tour of the various features at Scenic World, including rides on all three of the services. We were then treated to lunch in the famous Revolving Restaurant. In a well received gesture, Scenic World presented each participant with a copy of their book "The Burning Mists of Time", which documents the history of this region.

Upon our return to Katoomba Station, again by double deck bus, Stuart Sharp gave a lively presentation of the history of this well known Blue Mountains railway station.

Our thanks go to the staff at Scenic World who went out of their way to enhance our visit, and to Spencer Ross for his assistance.

The next outing for the Luncheon Club is to Strathfield on Wed 20 June. We meet at the Sydney end of Platforms 3/4. Lunch will be at the nearby Whelan's Hotel. On 17 and 18 July it's our two-day Hunter Tour, and the booking form for this tour is in this newsletter.

In August we are going to Eastwood.

...

*Gary Hughes*



The Luncheon Club group at Katoomba Station. The enamel station sign dates from the opening of the present station building in 1891. Image: Peter Neve

## MAY MEMBERS'S MEETING GUEST SPEAKER

ARHSnsw member and ARH author Trevor Edmonds presented a lecture titled 'The Future of Our Past'. Trevor had noted in recent travels within NSW and across Australia that heritage objects, memorials and some museums had shown evidence of neglect when they were supposed to be an permanent memory. He gave the following examples:

- An officially sanctioned and funded mining museum had closed in Western Australia due to its location and a lack of visitors. It was gradually deteriorating as the elements were allowed to take over with no one occupying the site. When it was open it suffered from poor display panels and a lack of meaningful exhibits.
- The commemorative marker for the 1917 joining of the rails near Ooldea on the Trans-Australia Railway had collapsed into a ruinous heap following the introduction of mobile fettlers' camps. (Refer to page 29 in May 2012 *Australian Railway History* for a recent image.)
- The war memorial to those fallen in the Great War mounted on the lower wall of Goulburn's Platform 1 is obscured by a inappropriately placed CountryLink seat.

Other examples of neglect were given but these were the most significant in Trevor's lecture. An aging populace can and does cause unintentional neglect though there being no-one around who can look after the memorials (or even remember what they were erected for!). Funding will always be an issue too. He welcomed questions and suggestions on what can be done from the audience.

George Gettens thanked Trevor for a thought provoking lecture to conclude the evening.

## NEW ARHSNSW MEMBERS

5012	David RUDELL
5013	John CRONSHAW
5014	Chris FEGAN
5015	Graeme COX
5016	Roderick ARNOLD
5017	Harry BELL
5018	Kevin VICKERS
5019	Benjamin SUMMERS
5020	Darryl MOLONEY
5021	Zachary STOKES
5022	Christopher SECCOMBE
5023	Ronald WEBB
5024	John O'BRIEN
5025	Barry SKELTON
5026	Raymond SULLIVAN
5027	Bruce HELMAN
5028	Victor WALKER
5029	Allen KAVANAGH
5030	Bob CLUTTERBUCK
5031	Neil O'CONNOR
5032	Jonathon DRUCE
5033	Andrew BROWN
5034	Garry JONES

# MONTHLY SLIDE COMPETITION



The monthly slide competition topic for May was 'NSW Railway Stations pre 2000'. The winner was Alex Grunbach with his superb slide of Buxton Station in 1968 (on the Picton to Mittagong Loop line) with the late Mal Park standing on the platform.

A February 1967 image by Nev Pollard reproduced on the left was not entered but should have been (GM forgot to on Nev's behalf!) as it illustrates the very quaint Geradan (mileage 262m 62ch) near Gooloogong on the Eugowra Branch. It was merely an unnamed halt with the opening of the line in 1922 but gained the name Geradan in 1927 and the 'platform' in 1936.

It is understood that Geradan was used by the local children on their way to and from school during the depression years. The station sign and the sleeper-built station are contrasts in the railway's capital spending. But the platform was functional for its limited usage and the sign could not be missed. The station was formally closed in May 1968. Absolutely no trace of this 'station' exists today; even the railway track is covered in weeds and dirt. But there was not much to see in the first place! The view is looking south with the line to the terminus at Eugowra continuing to the right.

Upcoming subjects for the Monthly Slide Competition for the rest of 2012 are:

- June—Working on the Railway
- July—Goodwin-Alco 45 Class 50 Years since introduction
- Aug—Spirit of Progress/Intercapital Daylight Express
- Sept—Contrasts in NSWGR station design over the years
- Oct—Unusual steam locomotives of the world
- Nov—Railway Signage
- Dec—Annual Members' Slide and video/DVD night

Contestants are to submit digital images at least 24 hours beforehand to Redfern via email: [mail@arhsnsw.com.au](mailto:mail@arhsnsw.com.au)

**A reminder that contestants should limit their submissions to five slides or digital images only. The subject of the contest should also be the image's focus. Image submissions without a date, location or description will be rejected.**

## Forthcoming tours

**June 15 to 18:** To Brisbane & Beyond with RMS 621/721 Railcars (*Booking form attached.*)

**June 20:** Luncheon Club - Strathfield Station

**July 17/18:** Luncheon Club two-day tour to Hunter Valley (*Booking form attached.*)

**July 28/29:** Winter Winelander to Wallangarra ARHS Qld Div

**August 11:** Hawkesbury River Bridge Cruise (*Booking form attached.*)

*More information can be obtained by calling the Society's Redfern Office on our Tours Hotline number (02) 8394 9019.*



**To BRISBANE & BEYOND**

**A Rail Car Cruise on Set 621/721 - 15 to 18 June 2012**

**Telarah-Paterson-Taree-Wauchope-Kempsey-Macksville-Coffs Harbour-Grafton-Casino-Kyogle  
-Brisbane-Fisherman Islands and Roma Street to Landsborough**

With the regular planned track work and complete shut downs of the Short North and Main North lines over the June long-weekend by ARTC and RailCorp, this tour has been moved to the following week-end to enable us to get to Brisbane. Now that The Rail Motor Society has been granted access to the standard gauge line beyond Border Loop into Queensland, this will be our first tour in the 621/721 Rail Cars to travel over the line into Brisbane and the first standard gauge passenger train to the Fisherman Islands Port of Brisbane branch.

Our best option is to start the tour from Telarah and Paterson. On Friday 15 June we expect to depart Paterson at 7.15am and first travel south to pick-up at Telarah at 8am. Then travel northwards along the North Coast line, pausing for lunch at Wauchope and then on to Grafton for our first night's rest. Departing Grafton on Saturday morning, we proceed north to Border Loop and on to Roma Street Station in Brisbane. The afternoon will be spent exploring the Port of Brisbane branch to Fisherman Islands. A packet lunch will be provided on this leg. On return to Brisbane, the Holiday Inn above the Roma Street Station is our overnight accommodation.

On Sunday we join the QR preserved 2000 Class Rail Motors for a journey along the QR North Coast line to Landsborough whilst our ARHS Qld Division members take our train for a return trip to Kyogle.

We rejoin our train at Roma Street mid-afternoon for the return trip to Casino for the overnight stay. Our departure for home on Monday will be about 8am with a lunch break at Macksville. Our expected return to Paterson/Telarah is 8pm.

The tour cost includes all rail travel, lunches, dinner, bed & breakfast accommodation on a twin share basis (with limited single supplement accommodation available at Grafton, Brisbane and Casino) and on-board morning and afternoon teas. Items of a personal nature and drinks at the motels are at your own expense. Secure parking is available at the Rail Motor Museum at Paterson. Accommodation in Paterson and Telarah can be arranged on request for Thursday and Monday nights.

**BOOKING FORM: A RAIL CRUISE TO BRISBANE ON SET 621/721-15 TO 18 JUNE 2012**

Mail to: ARHSnsw Tours or fax (02) 4956 3370 Pay at: ARHSnsw Bookshop  
PO Box 4083 Rail Heritage Centre  
EDGEWORTH, NSW, 2285 SYDNEY CENTRAL STATION

Please book me on the full 4-day tour including the QR 2000 Class trip to Landsborough on Sunday 17 June.

.....Seats ARHSnsw members and guests twin share @ \$1250.00 \$.....  
.....Seats Non members twin share @ \$1375.00 \$.....

I would like to have some free time in Brisbane on Sunday.

.....Seats ARHSnsw members and guests twin share @ \$1200.00 \$.....  
.....Seats Non members twin share @ \$1325.00 \$.....  
.....Single Supplement (limited availability) @ \$ 215.00 \$.....

2% Credit Card Payment Surcharge \$.....

**Total payment** \$.....

I require .....twin share.....Double accomodation. Special dietary requirement.....

I require accommodation in Paterson or Telarah on Thursday night 14 June.....

I require accommodation in Paterson or Telarah on Monday night 18 June.....

Name.....

Address.....Postcode.....

Telephone (home)..... (mobile).....Membership No. ....

Name(s) of accompanying person(s).....

**PREFERRED PAYMENT BY CHEQUE/MONEY ORDER/CASH** for \$.....

Or please DEBIT my VISA or MASTERCARD (add 2% surcharge to payment)

Card No. ....Expiry ...../.....

Signature .....Date .....

Tickets and Itinerary confirmation will be posted to your address 10 days before departure.

**ARHSnsw Tours Infoline (02) 8394 9019 or 0428 333 443**

ABN 96 000 538 803

ARHSnsw (ABN 96 000 538 803) is not responsible for last minute changes to train composition, tour route or destination(s).  
Refunds: up to 30 days prior-100 %; less than 30 days to 7 days-90 %; less than 7 days-NO REFUND

OFFICE USE ONLY: Date booking rec'd .....Date processed .....Car.....Seat(s).....Tickets sent.....

**RAILWAY LUNCHEON CLUB TOUR  
DUNGOG MAITLAND SINGLETON TOUR  
TUESDAY 17 & WEDNESDAY 18 JULY 2012**

Come and join us for an informative two-day adventure exploring the railways in the Dungog, Maitland and Singleton regions.

On Tuesday 17 July, depart Sydney on the 7.15am Casino XPT due to arrive at Dungog at 10.42am. After an inspection of the station area, join the coach to visit the gate keeper's house, the bridge over the Williams River, Hospital Hill, railway barracks and the former station master's house. Travel to Paterson via Wallarobba, Hilldale, Martins Creek and Paterson Stations. Lunch will be at the Paterson Tavern. Visit various heritage sites in the town before travelling via Mindaribba to Maitland Station and Yard for inspections.

Our overnight stay will be at Rutherford at the Maitland City Motel and dinner will be at the adjacent Maitland City Bowling Club. After dinner Ed Tonks will speak to a slide show presentation.

Wednesday breakfast will be at 7am also at the Bowling Club. Depart the motel at 9am visiting heritage railway sites at Lochinvar, Greta and Branxton on the way to Singleton Station and the Hunter River Railway Bridge. Lunch will be at the Agricultural Hotel. The coach will then transport you back to Broadmeadow to catch a CityRail Intercity service to Sydney.

Tour cost includes travel in our chartered coach, overnight dinner, bed and breakfast (twin share and limited single supplement) at the Maitland City Motel accommodation and Maitland City Bowling Club meals. Substantial tour notes are included in the cost and will be available for collection from the bookshop prior to the event. By arrangement the remainder will be distributed on arrival at Dungog. Lunches at Paterson and Singleton, drinks and items of a personal nature will be at your own expense. You will need to make your own booking on the CountryLink XPT and purchase your own CityRail ticket for return travel to Sydney.

Book early as accommodation is limited to only 42 persons and a maximum of 50 passengers on the coach.

**Booking Form: Railway Luncheon Club Dungog Maitland Singleton Tour on 17 & 18 July 2012**

Mail to: ARHSnsw Tours or fax (02) 4956 3370 or pay @:ARHSnsw Bookshop  
PO Box 4083 Rail Heritage Centre  
EDGEWORTH, NSW, 2285 SYDNEY CENTRAL STATION

Name.....

Address.....

.....Postcode .....

Telephone (home)..... (mobile)..... Membership No. ....

Name(s) of accompanying person(s).....

Special dietary requirement.....

Accommodation required.....Twin share.....Double.....Single

ARHSnsw members and guests twin share@ \$205.00 \$.....

Limited single supplement@ \$40.00 \$.....

Total \$.....

**PREFERRED PAYMENT BY CHEQUE/MONEY ORDER/CASH** for \$.....

Or please DEBIT my VISA or MASTERCARD

Card No. .... Expiry ...../.....

Signature ..... Date .....

Tickets and Itinerary confirmation will be posted to your address 10 days before departure.

**ARHSnsw Tours Infoline (02) 8394 9019 or 0428 333 443**

ABN 96 000 538 803

ARHSnsw (ABN 96 000 538 803) is not responsible for last minute changes to train composition, tour route or destination(s).

Refunds: up to 30 days prior-100 %; less than 30 days to 7 days-90 %; less than 7 days-NO REFUND

OFFICE USE ONLY: Date booking rec'd .....Date processed .....Seat(s)allocated.....Tickets sent.....

***IN THE WAKE OF THE 'GENERAL GORDON' CRUISE***

**Hawkesbury River Bridge Inspection**

**Saturday 11 August 2012**

Following on from our ARHS Resource Centre Manager Bill Phippen's, lecture at the recent Trainworks Innovation by Accident Exhibition, now come and join us on a special cruise on the Hawkesbury River.

Departing from Brooklyn at 10am, Bill Phippen will be providing a commentary as we view from the water the pylons of the first Hawkesbury River Bridge and hear why the bridge failed. View the construction site of the second bridge and learn how the new bridge was built.

Cruise then to Dangar Island for lunch and a lecture by David Reynolds of the Dangar Island Historical Society on how the island played a part in the bridges' construction. We will then cruise to Gosford following the route as close as possible of the 'General Gordon' paddle wheeler that conveyed passengers across the river between the rail heads and Gosford prior to the bridges' construction. Due to silting of Mullet Creek it is not possible to sail by ferry to the Mullet Creek Station site located at the bottom of the 1 in 40 grade south of the Woy Woy Tunnel.

We return to Brooklyn at 5pm. Travel to Hawkesbury River by CityRail's 8.45am Wyong service from Central or the 8.50am Sydney service from Wyong and walk the short distance to the Brooklyn Ferry Wharf. The return CityRail Sydney service departs Hawkesbury River at 5.47pm and the Wyong service departs at 5.45pm.

**Should you decide to drive, parking is limited at Brooklyn.**

Morning and afternoon tea is included on board the ferry. Bring a picnic lunch or purchase lunch from the café on Dangar Island. Tour notes will be distributed on board the ferry

**BOOKING FORM -**

**In the wake of the General Gordon Cruise Saturday 11 August 2012**

Mail to: ARHSnsw Tours  
PO Box 4083  
EDGEWORTH, NSW, 2285

or fax (02) 9699 1714

Pay at: ARHSnsw Bookshop  
Rail Heritage Centre  
SYDNEY CENTRAL STATION

Please reserve for me:

.....Seats ARHSnsw Members & guests	@ \$80.00	\$ .....
.....Seats Non-Members & guests	@ \$90.00	\$ .....
	Total	\$ .....

Name.....

Address.....Postcode.....

Telephone (home)..... (mobile).....Membership No. ....

Name of accompanying person(s).....

I will join the train to Hawkesbury River at ..... STATION

For catering advice: I intend to purchase my lunch at the Dangar Island Café .....

**PREFERRED PAYMENT BY CHEQUE/MONEY ORDER/CASH** for \$.....

Or please DEBIT my VISA or MASTERCARD

Card No. ....Expiry ...../.....

Signature .....Date .....

ARHSnsw (ABN 96 000 538 803) is not responsible for last minute changes to tour route or destination.  
Refunds: up to 30 days prior-100 %; less than 30 days to 7 days-90 %; less than 7 days-NO REFUND

OFFICE USE ONLY: Date booking rec'd .....Date processed .....Persons booked.....Tickets sent.....