



Members' newsletter

Official newsletter of the Australian Railway Historical Society (NSW Division) • Editor: Ross Verdich • Issue: April 2013

April 2013

Mon 1	Easter Monday Public Holiday. Bookshop & RRC closed
Tue 2	RRC open. S/hand book sale at Redfern Noon to 4pm
Wed 3	Members' Meeting: John Ward slide presentation <i>Topic: Sydney Harbour Ferries & Shipping</i>
Sat 6	RRC open. S/hand book sale at Redfern 10am to 3pm
Tue 9	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open
Tue 9	Newcastle Members' Meeting: John Ward presentation.
Sat 13	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open
Tue 16	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open
Wed 17	Railway Luncheon Club — Newtown Station facilities
Sat 20	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open
Sun 21	Postponed CPH Tour — An Autumn Day on the South Coast
Tue 23	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open
Sat 27	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open
Sat 27	Bookshop closed for annual stocktake
Sat 27/Sun 28	Bridges of the Hunter Valley — Ed Tonks Tour
Tue 30	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open

May 2013

Wed 1	Members' Meeting: Jim Longworth — Early Railways
Sat 4	RRC open. S/hand book sale at Redfern 10am to 3pm
Tue 7	RRC open. S/hand book sale at Redfern Noon to 4pm
Sat 11	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open
Tue 14	Newcastle Members' Meeting: AGM Photo Comp/Quiz
Tue 14	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open
Wed 15	Railway Luncheon Club — Farewell to Sydney's Monorail
Sat 18	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open
Sun 19	Sydney Freight & Goods Line Tour with 621/721 Railcars
Tue 21	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open
Sat 25	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open
Tue 28	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open

Please note that the bookshop will be closed all-day on Saturday 27 April for the annual stocktake.

Forthcoming Tours

April 21:	Autumn Day on South Coast on CPHs <i>(A few seats are available)</i>
April 27/28:	Ed Tonks' Bridges of the Hunter Tour <i>(Booking form attached)</i>
May 19:	Southern Freight & Goods Line Tour <i>(Booking form attached)</i>
June 8 to 11:	Annual June Long-Weekend Tour Benalla and Oaklands with 621/721 <i>(Book early to avoid disappointment.)</i>
Sept 3 to 21:	Trans Siberian. Moscow to Beijing <i>plus Metro & rail museum inspections.</i> <i>(Brochure with full itinerary available)</i>
Sept 7:	Explore Mullet Creek by Boat <i>(Limited seating available)</i>
Sept 20 to 22:	Proposed Dorrigo Tour
Nov 9 to 19:	Proposed NZ North Island Tour

Members' Slide Competition

March's winner was Chris Sim with his slide of railmotor HPC 402 at Whitton Station on the Hay Branch.

Upcoming subjects are:

- April—NSWR steam locomotive watering facilities
- May—Out of the ordinary. Strange trains
- June—Upper & lower quadrant signals
- July—Silhouettes
- August—Tripleheaders
- September—Crossing shots
- October—Locomotive depots by night

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

Submissions are limited to five slides or digital images only. The

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	The bookshop is located at Rail Heritage Central on the Concourse of Sydney Central Station
Rail Resource Centre:	Tuesdays: 12pm to 4pm Saturdays: 10am to 3pm	67 Renwick Street, Redfern, NSW, 2016 (only during advertised opening times)
Administration and Mail Order:	Phone: 02 9699 4595 • Fax: 02 9699 1714 Email: mail@arhsnsw.com.au	67 Renwick Street, Redfern, NSW, 2016 (no general access—by appointment only)
Tours:	As advertised	Infoline: 02 8394 9019 or 0428 333 443 www.arhsnsw.com.au

MEMBERS' NEWSLETTER

RAILWAY LUNCHEON CLUB CROYDON STATION

With the weather in our favour, around 45 members and friends came to Croydon on Wednesday 20 March for the first outing of the Luncheon Club for 2013.

After a welcome from the local CityRail CSA, Joe, who also took the time to answer many questions on what the new CityRail might look like, the group heard of the history of the various buildings which now adorn the five platforms. The buildings are from three distinct periods, the oldest building is on Platform 5 and dates from 1891. The building on Nos 3/4 platforms dates from 1926 when the sextuplication was being carried out and is typical for the time, with plain brickwork and no adornments. It is similar to most built at the time between Redfern and Strathfield. The 'newest' platform building is on platforms 1/2 and was built in 1942. The former overhead booking office was removed and the current one built in 1996. The remains of the stairs giving access to the former Up 'fast' platform (platform now demolished) were noted as was the former subway access at the city end of the platforms.

A short trip on an Up service brought the group to Ashfield Hotel for lunch.

The next outing is to Newtown on Wednesday 17 April 2013. We meet on the unpaid forecourt area at the entrance to the station. Lunch will be at the Courthouse Hotel at Newtown.

For the future, in May we are going for a farewell ride on the Monorail, June is to Kiama and in July our annual Hunter outing is to Cockle Creek, to be led by Ed Tonks. Our two-day outing for this year is to Bathurst and places west on 22 and 23 of October.

Gary Hughes

AN IMPORTANT RAILWAY LUNCHEON CLUB SAFETY MESSAGE

An incident occurred at the Croydon Luncheon Club meeting on 20 March. An unidentified person was photographing station infrastructure within the yellow line very close to the edge of the platform with their back to 100km/h trains on the Down Main. This is very dangerous practice and is in breach of RailCorp safety regulations. Please stay behind the yellow line at all times. Any member found in breach of this rule or failing to observe the instructions of the Luncheon Club organiser will be immediately barred from outings.



The Luncheon Club group at Croydon Station's 1996-built overhead booking office.
Image: Peter Neve.



The 1942 platform building is on the left, the 1926 one in the centre and the oldest, dating from 1891, on the right.
Image: Peter Neve



The long abandoned stairs leading to the former Up 'fast' No.1 Platform at Croydon.
Image: Nev Pollard

Grand St Petersburg then on to the Iconic Trans-Siberian Rail Journey

by Private Train-the Tsaren Gold from Moscow to Beijing

Exclusive for ARHSNSW Members • 03 – 22 September 2013

This is one of the last great rail adventures, the legendary Trans-Siberian Railroad. Join our Private Train and set this dream of a lifetime on track. Experience Russia, Mongolia and China in the most comfortable, safest and pleasurable manner.

DEPART: 03 September 2013 from Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane with Singapore Airlines, fully escorted and inclusive of all touring, meals and much more.

PRICE: from \$11,960 p.p. twin share (Compartment categories on the train range from shared bathroom facilities to private ensuite facilities).



For further information please call Imperial China Tours, Sydney (02) 9221 0266, from elsewhere 1300 303 101 or Email: tony@imperialchinatours.com

The Last Winelander? A report on the 9 & 10 March 2013 Winelander

Yet again Ray Edser of the Queensland Division managed an admirable tour from Brisbane to Stanthorpe and the border town of Wallangarra. Spencer Ross organised a contingent from NSW who occupied a separate carriage in the seven car consist hauled by locomotive 2484. We departed on time at 7am.

As we travelled through the flat terrain out from Brisbane, the site of the flood devastation of 2011 in the Lochyer Valley was indicated. Evidence of the surging water remained in extensive wetlands, boggy fields, and scoured water courses. From the hills the heavy downpour was concentrated to develop a surge of water which the creeks could not contain so the force spread out to cause terrible destruction. As we viewed the recovery we marvelled at the resilience of people in coping with such an experience.

Deep cuttings came before more flatter track as we passed Murphys Creek passing loop for a coal train of 44 wagons pulled by three QR locomotives. More winding track ahead as we traversed ridges and spurs of steep mountains with scenic vistas across valleys, especially as we ascended up the Granite Belt. Many kangaroos were among the patches of trees and verdant pastures. A lone fox streaked away as the noisy monster stretched around tight curves. Grazing stock of cattle and horses contrasted with the fields of sorghum and maize. The granite terrain was similar to that around Armidale in NSW, with exposures of eroded pink granite.

There were three sessions of wine tasting on board the Club Car before lunch on both days, whites on Saturday and reds on Sunday. A selection of three were: Simply White 2009 Hidden Creek Verdelho and 2012 Ballandean Estate Viognier, with a platter of assorted cheese and fruit pieces with cracker biscuits. The qualities of each wine were explained which gave us a better appreciation of each as we tasted and shared opinions with our friends. This was a splendid aperitif before lunch of ham and salad, followed by frozen fruit mousse. Other refreshments were available at the bar throughout the journey.

Near Warwick, nestled in a valley, was the Connolly Dam which supplied the town. The station building was a handsome sandstone structure, in contrast to that at Toowoomba of red brick of grander proportions, both of heritage value. In the latter we were able to inspect the tea refreshment rooms, a survivor from busier times, splendidly maintained with a display of museum items from the earlier times of travel and refreshment. Some of our passengers availed themselves of the opportunity to purchase items.

On arrival at Stanthorpe, most of the contingent went onto to Wallangarra. Some of us preferred to sample more of the local wines at several vineyards. A short bus journey delivered us to Summit Estate and Heritage Wines. At first an extensive tasting, in a formal manner seated at tables, of whites and reds followed. Brief tasting notes augmented the excellent description of each, which included: verdelho, chardonnay, classic dry white, pinot noir, shiraz, shiraz tempranillo, rose, moscato, botrytis and tawny port. Some blends were unusual. At the next winery, in contrast, an informal tasting was adopted, where several efficient attendants catered to individual preferences. Succinctly, the description in the 'Stanthorpe Granite Belt Wine Visitors Guide', aptly identified its distinctive 'Atmospheric cellar door'. The interior had a range of unique style furniture and ornaments. Wines available included: marsanne, viognier, frotiqnac, reserve shiraz, reserve merlot, 'Moonshine Madness' – a fortified liquor wine with a chocolate flavour!

We were impressed with the extent and quality of the wines available, as well as astonished at the number of vineyards in the region. We could have lingered longer to widen the tasting experience. (A long weekend would be widely recommended.) The bus conveyed us to our accommodation, the Boulevard and Apple and Grape motels, located beside the flowing Quart Pot Creek, a scenic park popular with water fowl.

Our dinner was at the highly acclaimed Anna's Restaurant, a buffet of Italian dishes 'par excellence'. Those who went to Wallangarra had dinner on board. The weather had been quite co-operative, just some drizzle in the evening.

The return journey on Sunday retraced our route, leaving at 10am, after breakfast brought to our rooms. As before a slow passage from Toowoomba was necessitated by trackwork as we descended the escarpment, winding past restored and stabilised track and slopes, caused by erosion from severe storms. Numerous tunnels were a feature too. Splendid panoramas of the valley and mountains were afforded. Lower down, away from the thick forests, in the open areas more kangaroos sped away from the track. Several stretches of abandoned cuttings and bridge pillars were visible.

Before lunch a tasting of reds was given with a brief description each: Lucas Estate Fresio, 2010 Bance Ridge Petite Verdelho, 2006 Grant Ridge Fergus Hill Merlot. Once on the flatter track the train speed increased. There were wild fowl in abundance on ponds and

wetlands. Swans, herons, black ducks were conspicuous, as well as egrets accompanying the grazing cattle, while hawks and kestrels coursed in search of prey.

The train reached Roma Station ahead of scheduled time. Farewells exchanged as the passengers parted for various home destinations. On board acknowledgements were made of the efficiency of the crew that made sure the success of the tour, especially Ray Edser. He urged us to write to the Qld Minister for Transport in support of retaining several of the current carriages of this tour, whose future is contentious, and their availability vital for such tours continuing. The excursion was a great success with smooth operation and management as well as friendly atmosphere encourage. Congratulations to all those responsible.

Thank you to Boris Sokolov for writing this report.



Clyde/GM-built 2484 at head of ARHS Qld Winelander at Stanthorpe under a grey sky prior to departure for Roma St. Station on Sunday morning 10 March 2013.

Image: Spencer Ross

BRIDGES AND BEYOND

A LOOK AT THE BRIDGES IN THE HUNTER REGION

with Ed Tonks

Saturday & Sunday 27 & 28 April 2013

Enjoy a weekend exploring some of the bridges associated with railway and roadway workings in the Hunter Region with our noted historian, Ed Tonks. The tour will commence at Broadmeadow Station where we join our coach departing at 10am for our two days of exploration. We will drive to Maitland and to the Belmore Bridge for our first inspection before proceeding to Paterson to inspect the road and rail bridges. Enjoy a pub lunch and continue on to the Gostwyck Bridge and a look at Martins Creek. Travel then to Vacy to inspect the town and bridge via Horn's Crossing Road. Drop into the Camyr Allyn Winery for a taste of the local wines. Call at Gresford to inspect the Suspension Bridge, Historic St Anne's Church and Cemetery, then the Pound's Crossing Bridge.

We will then continue on to Singleton via Redbourneberry Bridge with a stop at the Agricultural Hotel opposite the station to enjoy a refreshment before booking in for our overnight stay at the Quality Inn.

On Sunday, we will check out railway operations at Singleton with an inspection of the rail and road bridges, travel then to Elderslie, the Luskintyre Bridge and onto lunch at the Lochinvar Hotel. Spend time train spotting at Maitland before returning via Sandgate to view any activity over the Hunter River South Arm Bridge on the line to Kooragang Island. Return then to Broadmeadow in time to catch the 4.41pm Intercity Service to Sydney.

Travel to Broadmeadow by catching the 7.21am Intercity Service from Sydney. It arrives at 9.52am to join our coach to take us to our various destinations. Pack walking shoes, as there will be some areas only accessible on foot.

The weekend includes overnight dinner bed and breakfast accommodation at the Quality Inn, Singleton. Lunches on both days will be at your own expense. There is adequate parking in the area adjacent to Broadmeadow Station, for those who are choosing to drive.

BOOKING FORM: Ed Tonk's LOOKING AT THE BRIDGES IN THE HUNTER REGION

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 reserve for me..... Weekend Package Twin Share Accommodation Members and Guests	@ \$190	\$.....
Please reserve for me..... Weekend Package Twin Share Accommodation Non Members	@ \$210	\$.....
Limited Single Supplement	@ \$ 50	\$.....
2% Credit Card Payment Surcharge		\$.....
TOTAL (GST Incl.)		\$.....

Name.....
 Address.....Postcode.....
 Telephone (home)..... (mobile).....Membership No.
 Name of accompanying person.....
 Special accommodation.....Dietary requirement.....

PREFERRED PAYMENT BY CHEQUE/MONEY ORDER/CASH for \$.....
 Or please DEBIT my VISA or MASTERCARD (add 2% surcharge to payment)
 Card No.Expiry/.....(Add 2% above)
 SignatureDate

Tickets and Itinerary confirmation will be posted to your address 10 days before departure.
ARHSnsw Tours Infoline (02) 8394 9019 or 0428 333 443

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.....Seats.....Tickets sent/...../.....

ARTC SOUTHERN FREIGHT AND GOODS LINES

A TOUR WITH 621/721 RAILCAR SET

Sunday 19 May 2013

Join ARHSnsw Tours and The Rail Motor Society on a journey over the new ARTC Southern Goods Line.

Our tour will commence from the Paterson Museum and pick up passengers at Maitland, Broadmeadow, Cardiff, Fassifern, Wyong and Gosford to depart around 8.30am from Hornsby and then North Strathfield.

We have requested to travel via Olympic Park (Old Pippita and Abattoirs Line), Chullora Complex, the new Southern Freight Line to Macarthur via Leightonfield Yard, Glenlee Colliery triangle and on to Tahmoor Colliery Loop. Return to Campbelltown for a lunch break.

Recommencing the tour, we travel via Liverpool to the Yennora Siding complex, Clyde Yard, Rosehill, Lidcombe Triangle, Regents Park Triangle to Enfield. Then to Port Botany via the Suburban Goods Line passing the sight of the Dulwich Hill extension of the Light Rail System at the closed Wardell Road triangle.

Departing Port Botany we retrace our tracks through Enfield to check out the storage sidings for Sydney's withdrawn non-air conditioned double deck electric S Sets, passing the Flemington Markets and former livestock sidings site to North Strathfield, Hornsby and returning to Paterson.

Tour cost includes all rail travel in Rail Cars 621/721 with morning and afternoon teas whilst travelling.

BOOKING FORM: ARTC FREIGHT LINE AND GOODS LINE SUNDAY 19 MAY 2013

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

Please book me on a tour of the new ARTC SOUTHERN FREIGHT LINE BY 621/721 RAILCARS

ARHSnsw & TRMS Members and guests.....Seats	@ \$110.00	\$..... (GST incl.)
Non-membersSeats	@ \$120.00	\$..... (GST incl.)
Credit Card Payments, please add 2% Service Charge		\$.....

TOTAL \$..... GST incl.

I will join the train at.....Station

Name.....
 Address.....Postcode.....
 Phone number (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

Card No.Expiry/.....
 SignatureDate

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VICTORIAN VENTURE: ALBURY, BENALLA & OAKLANDS

Annual June Long Weekend Tour 8 to 11 June 2013

Sydney Central – Moss Vale – Goulburn – Yass – Harden – Cootamundra – Junee – Wagga Wagga – The Rock – Culcairn – Albury – Wodonga – Wangaratta - Glenrowan - Benalla – Yarrawonga - Oaklands

Celebrate the 80th Birthday of the ARHS by travelling and exploring the delights of the Main South to Albury. Also experience our first Victorian tour in the restored 621/721 DMU Set from the Rail Motor Society, Paterson.

Our expected Saturday departure from Sydney Central Station is at 7am following the newest route to the south via the East Hills Line to Glenfield and the Main South line via the spreading southern suburbs to Campbelltown, Picton and on to the Southern Highlands passing Mittagong, and Bowral. Moss Vale is our first stop. Enjoy the crisp winter air as we proceed to Goulburn, Gunning, Yass, Harden and then Cootamundra for lunch. Continue south to the once grand railway town of Junee, then Wagga Wagga, Uranquinty, The Rock, Henty, Culcairn and on to Albury where we will stay for the next three nights.

After a hearty breakfast we will rejoin the train to be the first NSW Heritage Rail Cars Tour to travel into Victoria. Travelling south across the Murray River and the Victoria / New South Wales Border through Wodonga, Chiltern, Wangaratta, Glenrowan to Benalla where we take the recently re-gauged branch line to Yarrawonga to cross the border and the Murray River again and continue to the once dual-gauge station at Oaklands. Lunch will be provided here before we return to Albury.

Monday will be an off-train day where we will be transported by coach on a tour to Wodonga, Bandiana and Yackandandah (The National Trust has classified this whole town). A little further on we reach the old goldfields town of Beechworth with over 30 buildings also classified by the National Trust. We will have a professional Beechworth tour guide join us for the town tour. A wine tasting and lunch will be at the nearby Amulet Winery. A visit to the Telegraph Station is also included to view the HO scale model of Beechworth Station and yard circa 1960 when the line was open (closed in 1976). Dinner this evening will be at Albury's Commercial Club.

After an early breakfast we will depart Albury for our return journey. From Junee we ascend the Bethungra Spiral and on to Cootamundra for lunch. Continuing our travels we head north retracing our forward journey. Our evening arrival in Sydney is expected to follow the evening peak embargo on special trains. An evening light snack will be provided on board. The train will then return to Paterson.

The tour will start and finish at Sydney Central Station. Other pickups and set downs can be arranged en-route by application. Tour cost includes rail travel, the coach tour to Beechworth, transfers, dinner bed and breakfast accommodation at the Commodore Motel, Albury, all lunches, morning and afternoon teas whilst travelling on the train and an evening snack on Tuesday. Tour notes will be provided on departure from Sydney. A souvenir 621/721 mug is included.

Limited single supplement will be available upon request. Items of a personal nature/drinks are at own expense.

BOOKING FORM for Oaklands June Long Weekend Tour

Mail to:	ARHSnsw Tours PO Box 4083 EDGEWORTH, NSW, 2285	or fax (02) 4956 3370	Pay at:	ARHSnsw Bookshop Rail Heritage Centre SYDNEY CENTRAL STATION
Please reserve for me.....	Seats ARHSnsw Members and Guests	@ \$1325.00	\$.....	(GST incl)
Please reserve for me.....	Seats non-ARHSnsw Members and Guests	@ \$1395.00	\$.....	(GST incl)
	Limited Single Supplement.....	@ \$ 155.00	\$.....	(GST incl)
I require Twin Share.....	Double Accomodation.....		\$.....	(GST incl)
	2% Credit Card Payment Surcharge		\$.....	(GST incl)
		TOTAL	\$.....	(GST incl)

Name.....
 Address.....Postcode.....
 Telephone (home)..... (mobile).....Membership No.
 Name of accompanying person.....Special accommodation/dietary requirement.....

PREFERRED PAYMENT BY CHEQUE/MONEY ORDER/CASH for \$.....
 Or please DEBIT my VISA or MASTERCARD (add 2% surcharge to payment)
 Card No.Expiry/.....(Add 2% above)
 SignatureDate

Tickets, timetable and accommdoation confirmation will be posted to your address 10 days before departure.

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