



# Members' newsletter

Official newsletter of the Australian Railway Historical Society (NSW Division) • Editor: Ross Verdich • Issue: April 2014

## April 2014

Tue 1	Railway Resource Centre open
<b>Wed 2</b>	<b>Members' Meeting: Dave Rollins 4472 Flying Scotsman</b>
Sat 5	Railway Resource Centre open
Tue 8	Railway Resource Centre open
<b>Tue 8</b>	<b>Newcastle Members' Meeting: John Ward's Slide Night</b>
Sat 12	Railway Resource Centre open
Tue 15	Railway Resource Centre open
Wed 16	Luncheon Club Outing to Sydenham Station
Fri 18	Good Friday Public Holiday-Bookshop closed
Sat 19	Railway Resource Centre closed
Mon 21	Easter Monday Public Holiday-Bookshop closed
Tue 22	Railway Resource Centre open
Fri 25	ANZAC Day Public Holiday-Bookshop closed
Sat 26	Railway Resource Centre closed
Sat 26/Sun 27	Ed Tonks' Newcastle Harbour Area Mines Tour
Tue 29	Railway Resource Centre open
Wed 30	Bookshop closed for end-of-year stocktake.

## May 2014

May 1	Bookshop closed for end-of-year stocktake
Sat 3	Railway Resource Centre open
Tue 6	Railway Resource Centre open
<b>Wed 7</b>	<b>Members' Meeting: Bob McKillop</b> <i>Researching &amp; Writing Railway History</i>
Sat 10	Railway Resource Centre open
Tue 13	Railway Resource Centre open
Tue 13	Newcastle Members' Meeting: <i>Annual general meeting and slide night.</i>
Sat 17	Railway Resource Centre open
Tue 20	Railway Resource Centre open
Wed 21	Railway Luncheon Club — Adamstown Station
Sat 24	Railway Resource Centre open
Sat 24	Canberra Branch Opening Centenary
Tue 27	Railway Resource Centre open
Sat 31	Railway Resource Centre open

### Members' Photo Competition

March's subject was "NSWR Sidings". The winner was Lester Pasley's image of Rookwood Cemetery Siding. Upcoming subjects are:

**April**—NSWR Riverina Branches.

**May**—Last Runs.

**June**—Turntables

(Contestants are to submit digital images at least 24 hours beforehand to by email: [mail@arhsnsw.com.au](mailto:mail@arhsnsw.com.au) Digital images cannot be submitted on the night. Submissions are limited to **FIVE** slides or digital images only. The subject should also be the image's main focus. Contestants must know when and where slide/image was taken and mark the slide accordingly otherwise image will be ineligible to win.)

### STOP PRESS:

The July 29 to Aug 7 "The Great Landers Tour" is now open for bookings. This will be a joint farewell tour on all the Great Queensland "Lander" service trains with the ARHS Qld Division. Ride on the Westlander, Inlander and the Sunlander trains in a clockwise direction with a coach bridging the gap between Charleville and Mt Isa via Blackall, Longreach and Winton. A limited number of first class roomette and twinette sleeping berths are available. Tour restricted to 24 passengers only. (Booking form on ARHSnsw website or call 02 8394 9019)

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
Redfern Bookshop:	Monday to Friday: 10am to 5pm Saturday: 9am to 4pm	67 Renwick Street, Redfern, NSW, 2016
Rail Resource Centre:	Tuesdays: 12pm to 4pm Saturdays: 10am to 3pm	67 Renwick Street, Redfern, NSW, 2016 (only during advertised opening times)
GM, Administration and Mail Order:	Phone: 02 9699 4595 • Fax: 02 9699 1714 Email: <a href="mailto:mail@arhsnsw.com.au">mail@arhsnsw.com.au</a>	67 Renwick Street, Redfern, NSW, 2016 (by appointment only)
Tours:	As advertised Infoline: 02 9699 4595 or 0428 333 443	<a href="http://www.arhsnsw.com.au">www.arhsnsw.com.au</a>

**RAILWAY LUNCHEON CLUB**

**BATHURST AREA TOUR**

On 18 and 19 March, 48 members and guests visited the Bathurst district. The landscape was spectacular after recent rain. Fun was a key objective of the tour. The fun began on the XPT service where the staff were friendly and helpful. The staff were puzzled why so many people wanted to detrain at Rydal. They were told the tour group did it for fun.

Spencer Ross displayed his usual high level of care by the presence of a bus virtually on the platform. The participants were introduced to local member, Len Truscott, who was the tour leader. Len excelled in his conveyance of local knowledge and tour organisation. The group stopped for a squiz at Tarana Station before a slow journey up the hill to Oberon. On the way, bridges, pump houses and station sites were all observed.

The Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway site at Oberon was visited. A number of volunteers escorted the tour group around the site, showing them the two 73 Class locomotives, four-wheeled goods wagons and the two open-end American suburban carriages. One of the most interesting features of the station precinct is the Cc2 type off-platform, male toilet. It is the only intact, extant Cc2 toilet in NSW and, more importantly, its layout is significantly different to the department standard drawing. There was much excitement about this discovery and the Society members could hardly believe they could have so much fun in one day.

Onwards to Bathurst, the group inspected Raglan Station and all the other interesting railway tidbits in the area. Passing Bathurst Station, the group noticed a bunch of workers in high-visibility vests. They had just completed the very last installation of the Opal card readers, Bathurst being the last of 308 stations so fitted. History was being made while the Society was present.

On the second day, participants inspected the Bathurst Rail Fabrication Centre. Rails were butt-welded with a grand display of sparks and point components were milled. All this was done just for the tour participants. The experience was another big fun thing.

We also swished our way out to Georges Plains and took in the splendour of the station from a distant hill. The bus even took a quick lap around the Mount Panorama racing car circuit.

Everyone had a great time thanks to Len Truscott, Colin Millard, Ed Tonks and Spencer Ross. Is it possible that so much fun can be achieved again? Come to the next outing and see.

The next Luncheon Club outing is on Wednesday, 16 April. The destination is the railway infrastructure that surrounds Sydenham Station. Meet outside the paid area at 1100.

*Report by Stuart Sharp*

*Photos by Ed Tonks*



*Above: The Luncheon Club group at Rydal Station at the tour's beginning.  
Below: Oberon Station is now looked after by the Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway Inc. The two 73 Class will eventually be used on the branch line.*



*Above: The roadside entry to Bathurst Station.  
Below: Georges Plains Station looks still to be reasonable condition.*





# REDFERN RAILWAY BOOKSHOP



## REDFERN UPDATE

The Society's Redfern Railway bookshop has been up and running smoothly for over a month now. Our volunteers have come with us and their familiar faces will make our customers feel at 'home'. The Renwick Street premises have been owned by the Society for 20 years now and the Society's 'home' has never been as busy with the bookshop's relocation, together with Bill Phippen's bustling Rail Resource Centre. However, former Central Railway bookshop staff, Ivar Sorrasson and Roy Howarth, have now left the Society's employment. Ivar had been with us for over four years while Roy took up the bookshop manager's duties in early 2013.

While the Central Bookshop was fantastic for its location, it did suffer from RailCorp's insistence that no permanent shelving or displays be placed against the heritage-listed sandstone walls or the expansive windows. And, of course, the lighting was abysmal for a bookshop. The lighting was seemingly designed to use the most expensive components and replacement of the bulbs was expensive, awkward and often!

What Redfern offers is a full display of new books, magazines and DVDs, plus a complete wall of second-hand books that are proving to be very popular with personal shoppers. If you are seeking rare and out-of-print books then we may have it for you on our shelves but you will have to visit us as there are far too many to list. Also on offer are custom-framed prints and plans of various railway subjects representing not only NSW but also Australia and the World.

The bookshop has four display racks of railway magazines totalling almost 80 individual titles. It is probably the largest range of titles in any railway bookshop. The image above by Roy Howarth shows only one half of the stock available for sale in the bookshop.

We are also discussing the possibility of selling small collectable railway items such as lamps and builders plates. More next month.

**DVD SALE**  
**50% off selected**  
**brand new US**  
**DVDs.**

**At the ARHS Redfern**  
**bookshop until sold**  
**out.**

**(email us for a list at:**  
**sales@arhsnsw.com.au)**



## EXETER RAILWAY CRASH

13 March 1914

Just before midnight on Friday 13 March 1914, the Down Temora Mail collided with the No. 12 Fast Goods in heavy fog at Exeter in the NSW Southern Highlands. The centenary of this crash, the worst up until that time on the NSW Railways was remembered in a memorial service on Thursday 14 March 2014 at St Aidan's Anglican Church at Exeter. A plaque was then unveiled on the Up Platform of the station. The plaque has been inscribed with the names of all 14 people who lost their lives. Another 24 were injured.



Exeter Signal Box on the northern end of the Up platform. The station building's awning can be seen behind. At the time of the crash, No.12 Fast Goods was reversing into the loop which became the Down Main with duplication.

Image: Adrian Compton



Looking north along the Up Platform. The white X marks the approximate crash location.

Image: Rail Resource Centre Collection.

## The 1954 Royal Tour of NSW

Retracing the journey taken by Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke of Edinburgh from Bathurst to Central Station on Friday 12 February 1954



Presented by State Records NSW, ARHSnsw & Transport Heritage NSW Ltd

On display at: Western Sydney Records Centre  
143 O'Connell Street, Kingswood  
10 March — August 2014

Mondays 9am-5pm, Saturdays 10am-4pm  
Enquiries: 02 9763 1788

## Forthcoming Tours

- Apr 26/27: Ed Tonks' Newcastle Harbour Area Mines Tour  
(Booking form on page 5)
- May 24: Centenary of opening of the Canberra Branch and ARHS ACT Division Museum Tour
- June 6-9: North West Branchlines Tour with 621/721  
(Booking form on page 6)
- July 19: Southern Steam Tram Lines of Sydney. Revisit the Arncliffe, Rockdale and Sutherland/Cronulla lines
- July 29/Aug 7: Farewell tour on the Great Queensland "Lander" Trains with ARHS Qld Division Westlander, Inlander and the Sunlander Services (Booking form on website)
- 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 Admin @ Redfern 02 9699 4595



