



Members' newsletter

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

VOLUNTEER CALL VOLUNTEER CALL VOLUNTEER CALL

We are seeking voluntary assistance from Sydney-based members.

Firstly, the upkeep of the Railway Resource Centre's Intranet is quite an onerous task for our existing volunteers. We are seeking volunteers to assist and provide back-up as required. Some experience in HTML code would be an advantage.

Secondly, volunteers who would like to assist with retail sales at the Society's Redfern bookshop. Assistance with selling on Monday to Fridays is urgently needed. The bookshop's hours on these days are 10am to 5pm. You can work either a full day or alternatively, a split shift from 10am to 2pm or 12 noon to 5pm. Regular attendance one day per week is essential to enable rosters to be workable. Some computer knowledge is required but good customer service skills are desirable.

If you would like to assist please call Ross Verdich or Grahame Thurling on 9699 4595.

Email to: mail@arhsnsw.com.au

October 2014

Wed 1	Members' Meeting: <i>Trevor Edmonds Exeter train disaster</i>
Sat 4	Bookshop and Railway Resource Centre closed
Sat 4/Sun 5/Mon 6	AMRA Model Railway Exhibition at Liverpool
Mon 6	Public Holiday — Redfern Bookshop Closed
Tue 7	Railway Resource Centre open
Sat 11	Railway Resource Centre open
Tue 14	Railway Resource Centre open
Tue 14	Newcastle Members' Meeting: <i>Larry Greentree</i> <i>North China Coal Railways</i>
Wed 15	Luncheon Club — Regents Park Station <i>with Nev Pollard</i>
Sat 18	Railway Resource Centre open
Tue 21	Railway Resource Centre open
Sat 25	Railway Resource Centre open
Sat 25	Rookwood Railway Walk <i>with John Oakes</i>
Tue 28	Railway Resource Centre open

November 2014

Sat 1	Railway Resource Centre open
Tue 4	Railway Resource Centre open
Tue 4 to Sun 9:	The Great Tablelander Tour to Cairns & Mareeba
Wed 5	Members' Meeting: <i>Peter Sage World Railway Bridges</i>
Sat 8	Railway Resource Centre open
Tue 11	Railway Resource Centre open
Tue 11	Newcastle Members' Meeting: <i>TBA</i>
Wed 12 to 16:	402 Club Tour to Albury/Benalla/Boree Creek/ Cootamundra/West Wyalong/Naradhan
Sat 15	Railway Resource Centre open
Tue 18	Railway Resource Centre open
Wed 19	Railway Luncheon Club — Moss Vale <i>with Stuart Sharp</i>
Sat 22	Railway Resource Centre open
Tue 25	Railway Resource Centre open
Sat 29	Railway Resource Centre open
Sat 29	Richmond Line 150th Celebration — Tour with CPHs

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	Phone: 02 9699 4595 • Fax: 02 9699 1714 Email: sales@arhsnsw.com.au 67 Renwick Street, Redfern, NSW, 2016
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) 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: mail@arhsnsw.com.au 67 Renwick Street, Redfern, NSW, 2016 (by appointment only)
Tours:	As advertised	Infoline: 02 9699 4595 or 0428 333 443 www.arhsnsw.com.au

**RAILWAY LUNCHEON CLUB
MEADOWBANK RAILWAY BRIDGES**

In keeping with our desire to provide variety to our outings, on Wednesday 17 September our group of about 45 was treated to a presentation by RRC Manager Bill Phippen OAM, on the various design features of both the Meadowbank bridges and the complexities of their construction.

The first Meadowbank Bridge was opened on 17 September 1886, (128 years ago on the day of our visit!) concurrent with the opening of that section of what we now call the Main Northern Line. The bridge was built by Andrew and Robert Amos, contractors for construction of the section of the line from Homebush to Hawkesbury River. The bridge is a lattice girder design, similar to that at Como but of double track whereas Como was single track, and the various bridge components were fabricated in Britain. Being built before the widespread use of steel, Meadowbank Bridge was constructed from wrought iron.

By the late 1940s heavier train loads, coupled with its age, meant that the first bridge had to be replaced. The initial plan was to replace it with two new bridges of a steel truss design, similar to the two short trusses of the then new Hawkesbury River Bridge (and the same as built at Cockle Creek), the second bridge being necessary for the planned quadruplication of the Main Northern Line.

Construction of the piers for the first of the new bridges was suspended in 1953, but when work was resumed in the late 1970s, the era of the truss design had given over to the steel box girder, and coupled with an integral concrete decking, this design meant that the need for a second bridge was no longer necessary to provide for the proposed four tracks. The new bridge was opened in two stages between 15 and 25 May 1980.

Our thanks go to Bill for his professional commentary, and also for his informative notes which cover not only the Meadowbank bridges, but some factors of bridge design generally. These notes are now on the Luncheon Club page of the ARHSnsw website.

The next outing is on Wednesday 15 October when Life Member Nev Pollard will present some of the history of Regents Park and the Potts Hill Branch. We meet on Regents Park Platform at the Lidcombe end at 11.00am. Lunch will be at the Royal Oak Hotel at Lidcombe, necessitating a short train journey departing Regents Park at 11.54am.

For the future, on 19 November, Stuart Sharp will be returning and will show us some history of some of the railway buildings at Moss Vale. This will be the last outing for this year.

Report by Gary Hughes



The first Meadowbank Bridge nearing completion in 1885. The timber falsework used to support the bridge components during construction is clearly evident. The view is looking north towards Meadowbank.

Image: ARHSnsw RRC 004945



The second Meadowbank Bridge during construction in 1979. The floating crane is positioning one of the box girders onto the piers. The view is looking south towards Rhodes.

Image: ARHSnsw RRC 033441



Our group on the old Meadowbank Bridge as RRC Manager Bill Phippen describes some of its features. The old bridge is now a pedestrian walkway and cycleway.

Image: David Taylor

Forthcoming Tours

- October 25:** Rookwood Railway Walk (*Tour fully booked*)
- November 4/9:** The Great Tablelander Tour to Cairns & Mareeba
(*Booking Form on Page 4*)
- November 12 to 16:** 402 Club Tour to Albury/Benalla/Boree
Creek/Cootamundra/West Wyalong/Naradhan
(*Booking Form on Page 5*)
- November 29:** Richmond Line 150th Celebration
(*Booking Form on Page 6*)
- December 14:** Members' and volunteers' day—
Lake Macquarie Light Rail, Toronto

For more information ARHSnsw Tours @ Redfern 02 8394 9019 or
Spencer Ross on 0428 333 443.

Members' Photo Competition

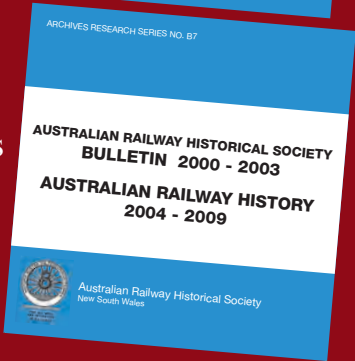
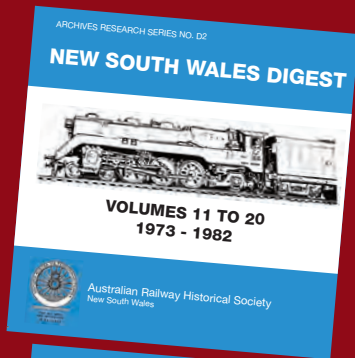
September's subject was 'Streamlined 38 Class in Service' and there were a couple of entrants. Peter Sage and his photo of 3801 on the Western Endeavour out of Sydney near Farmers Creek was judged to be the best.

Upcoming subjects are:

- October**—NSWR Buildings gone but not forgotten*
- November**—Sydney's Central Station*
- December**—Members' Annual Slide/DVD night*
- January**—NSW Steam Tours to Remember*

(Contestants are to submit digital images at least 24 hours beforehand to: 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.)

What's New at the ARHSnsw Bookshop



Now in digital format:

- THE RAILWAY NEWS' FIRST 50 YEARS
1956 - 2006: only \$35
- NEW SOUTH WALES DIGEST
VOL 11 to 20 1973 - 1982: only \$25
- BULLETIN/AUST RAILWAY HISTORY
2000 - 2009: only \$25

September Members' Meeting

Due to being ill at the time, Life Member Alex Grunbach was unable to present at the September Members' Meeting a slide show on his early 1970s visit to South Africa. His presentation will be rescheduled to early in 2015. Instead, we viewed a professionally digitised 8mm film from the Rail Resource Centre on the Camden Line from the B Parle collection.

2014 Annual Report

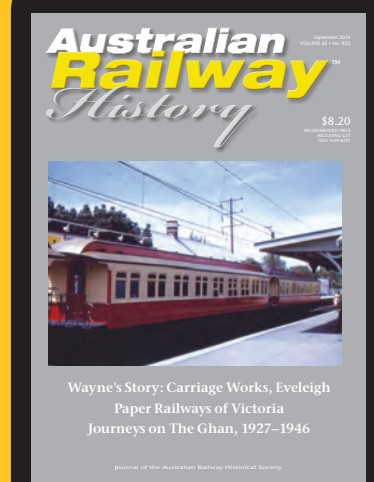
In accordance with our previously announced policy, the 2014 Annual Report can now be viewed at the Society's website: www.arhsnsw.com.au Members who require a paper copy are requested to contact the Secretary by telephone at 02 9699 4595.



ARHSnsw is pleased to announce that *Australian Railway History* and *Railway Digest* have been approved by Apple and are now available on the App Store for iPhone & iPad devices.

They are also now available on Google Play. Amazon apps will be available shortly.

Please note these apps are completely separate subscriptions from your existing hard-copy subscriptions. They are, for example, in the case of Apple apps, subscribed to via the iTunes facility on Apple devices. ARHSnsw cannot provide support when these apps are used. We are working with our app developer to offer more value to our digital and hard-copy subscribers including, possibly, combined subscriptions.



Wayne's Story: Carriage Works, Eveleigh
Paper Railways of Victoria
Journeys on The Ghan, 1927-1946

CELEBRATE RICHMOND LINE

150th ANNIVERSARY *plus*

90 Years in service of CPHs

Saturday 29 November 2014

Join ARHSnsw Division Tours and The Rail Motor Society on a journey in CPH Rail Motors 1, 3 & 7, to celebrate the 90th year of service provided by these rail motors over the lines they once serviced prior to electrification. We also celebrate the 150th anniversary of the opening of the Richmond Line from Blacktown.

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. The morning travel will be over the freight line to Meeks Rd and on to Waterfall.

Return to Sydenham to reverse and travel on the East Hills Line where the rail motors once provided the service between Kingsgrove and East Hills. Continue to Campbelltown to reverse again to travel via Liverpool to Sefton and the Lidcombe triangle to head west to Blacktown.

It is hoped a cross with the special anniversary steam train on the way to Richmond. During our lunch break, The Rail Motors will provide a shuttle to Riverstone for locals. We then return to Strathfield before heading north to return to Paterson.

Tour cost includes all rail travel in Rail Motors 1, 3 & 7 with morning and afternoon teas provided whilst travelling.

Booking form for:			
150th Celebration of the Richmond line on Saturday 29 November 2014			
Mail to:	ARHSnsw Tours 67 Renwick Street REDFERN NSW 2016	or fax (02) 9699 1714	Pay at: ARHSnsw Bookshop 67 Renwick Street REDFERN NSW 2016
Please book for me:Seats ARHSnsw & TRMS Members and guests	@ \$110.00	\$..... (GST incl.)
Seats Non-Members	@ \$120.00	\$..... (GST incl.)
	2% Credit Card Payment Surcharge		\$..... (GST incl.)
		TOTAL	\$..... (GST incl.)
I will join the train at.....Station			
Local shuttle tickets will be available for sale at Richmond Station on Saturday 29 November 2014.			
Name.....			
Address.....			Postcode.....
Telephone (home).....		(mobile).....	Membership No.
E-mail.....			
Name(s) of accompanying person(s).....			
PREFERRED PAYMENT BY CHEQUE/MONEY ORDER/CASH for \$.....			
Or please DEBIT my VISA or MASTERCARD			
Card No.	<input style="width: 20px; height: 20px; border: 1px solid black;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 20px; height: 20px; border: 1px solid black;" type="text"/>	Expiry <input style="width: 20px; height: 20px; border: 1px solid black;" type="text"/> / <input style="width: 20px; height: 20px; border: 1px solid black;" type="text"/>
Signature		Date	
Tickets and timetable confirmation will be posted to your address 10days 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 tour route or destination(s). Refunds: up to 30 days prior-90 %; less than 30 days to 7 days-50 %; less than 7 days-NO REFUND			
OFFICE USE ONLY: Date booking rec'd/...../..... Date processed/...../..... Car.....Seats.....Tickets sent/...../.....			