



# Members' newsletter

Official newsletter of the Australian Railway Historical Society (NSW Division) • Editor: Ross Verdich • Issue: January 2015

## January 2015

Thu 1	New Year's Day — Redfern Bookshop Closed
Sat 3	Railway Resource Centre open
Tue 6	Railway Resource Centre open
<b>Wed 7</b>	<b>Members' Meeting: Warren Miller Indian Narrow Gauge DVD</b>
Sat 10	Railway Resource Centre open
Tue 13	Railway Resource Centre open
Tue 13	<b>Newcastle Members' Meeting: Tom Holmes' Slides</b>
Sat 17	Railway Resource Centre open
Sun 18	Tour to Kiama via Moss Vale/Robertson—RMS 621/721
Tue 20	Railway Resource Centre open
Sat 24	Railway Resource Centre open
Mon 26	Australia Day — Redfern Bookshop Closed
Tue 27	Railway Resource Centre open
Sat 31	Railway Resource Centre open

## February 2015

Tue 3	Railway Resource Centre open
<b>Wed 4</b>	<b>Members' Meeting: Nev Pollard VIA Canadian Ride</b>
Sat 7	Railway Resource Centre open
Tue 10	Railway Resource Centre open
<b>Tue 10</b>	<b>Newcastle Members' Meeting: Vintage Film Night</b>
Sat 14	Railway Resource Centre open
Sat 14	Tour: Manly Tramlines Revisited with Vic Solomons
Tue 17	Railway Resource Centre open
Sat 21	Railway Resource Centre open
Tue 24	Railway Resource Centre open
Sat 28	Railway Resource Centre closed

*The Society's Council & Staff  
wish all our members  
a Happy New Year!*

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
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)
GM, 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

**Forthcoming Tours**

**January 18: A Summer's Day South with 621/721 Railcars**  
(Booking Form on Page 4)

**February 14 : Manly Tramlines Revisted by Bus**  
(Booking Form on Page 5)

**March 21: The new Southwestern Line & Lavender Bay on 621/721.** (Booking Form on Page 6)

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

**1 to 20 AUGUST 2015**

**ARHSnsw TRANS SIBERIAN TOUR**

This tour is especially designed for railway enthusiasts by ARHSnsw in conjunction with Imperial China Tours.

It starts in Beijing where both the Beijing Railway Museum (in Tiananmen Square) and the larger suburban China Railway Museum will be inspected. A visit to the Great Wall and Forbidden City is also scheduled.

A Chinese train will then take the tour participants on an overnight journey to the Mongolian border city of Erlian for transfer to the The Tsaren Gold Private for an 11-day Trans Siberian journey. Extended stops will be made at Ulan Bator, Ulan Ude, Lake Baikal, Irkutsk, Novosibirsk, Yekaterinburg and Kazan before arriving in Moscow for three nights. The Kremlin, Red Square and the Moscow Metro are amongst the "attractions".

We then travel to St Petersburg via the high speed Sapsan train. While in St Petersburg visits to the brilliant St. Nicholas Church, Peter the Great's grand summer estate, Petrodvorets (Peterhof), the former imperial Winter Palace (Hermitage Museum), the Peter and Paul Fortress and the incredible Spilt Blood Cathedral and Catherine's Palace.

There will be visits to the Central Railway Museum which is undoubtedly the country's best museum concerned with railways and to the Museum of Artillery.

Singapore Airlines flights to Beijing and from St Petersburg via London are included in the tour cost. A land only option is available. For more details and tour costs see banner ad below.

**The Members' Photo Comp....**

.....was not held in December. Instead our annual members' slide and video night free-for-all was conducted. Topics contributed included Iceland, Switzerland's RHB, Mumbai's amazing city station (also known as Victoria), the suspended railway in Germany's western central city of Wuppertal and a 13 minute edited video of 3801 travelling to Robertson in 1994.

Probably the highlight was the youtube contribution of Neville Pollard and Kevin Mirah titled "Island Shunters". A fascinating documentary about a gang of shunters on day shift working in the old Darling Harbour railway yards. (Apparently, officially sanctioned by the then PTC of NSW). The film won the documentary section of the AFI awards in 1979. The youtube link is:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z4fqoFfrg8o>

Upcoming subjects are:

**January**—NSW Steam Tours to Remember\*

**February**—Freights over the Blue Mountains\*

**March**—Railway Accidents\*

**April**—Railway Sunsets\*

(Contestants are to submit digital images at least 24 hours beforehand to: [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 the slide/image was taken and mark the slide accordingly otherwise image will be ineligible to win.)



The Trans Siberian tour will travel in the Tsaran Gold Private Train for 11 days

**The Iconic Trans Siberian Rail Journey & Grand St Petersburg**

**by Private Train – the Tsaren Gold from Beijing to Moscow**

**Exclusive for ARHSNSW Members • 01 – 20 August 2015**

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:** 01 August 2015 from Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane with Singapore Airlines, fully escorted and inclusive of all touring, meals and much more.

**PRICE:** from \$14,690 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](mailto:tony@imperialchinatours.com)

## November Tours

### Great Tablelander Rail Tour to Cairns and Mareeba 4 to 9 November 2014

There were 15 members of the Society's NSW Division who travelled to Brisbane to join ARHS Qld's Farewell to the M Class Lander Cars on a five day daylight tour to Cairns and Mareeba.

Our on time departure from Roma Street saw the train hauled by vintage EE locomotive 1620 along the North Coast line to Gympie North, Maryborough and on to our first night off train accommodation in Bundaberg. Our 8am departure on day two saw our train passing through grazing country to Gladstone and Rockhamton. This continued to St Lawrence and Flagggy Rock where cane fields dominated the landscape to our second overnight stay at Mackay.

Day three also started at 8am continuing through cane fields to dryer country at Bowen. Cane returns through the Home Hill and Ayr region. On our arrival in Townsville we were met by a coach for a local tour including the magnificent panorama from Castle Rock. An earlier departure at 7am had us passing Ingham, Tully and Innisfail before reaching our destination, Cairns.

Our last day on tour also saw a 7am departure from Cairns for the climb up the range to Kuranda and on to Mareeba with a stop at Barron Falls on the way. Our return to Cairns saw the end of our five day trip.

Thanks must go to the ARHS Qld and their volunteer crew who managed the train and catered for our lunches in the dining car.

The sudden death of ARHS Qld Tours Manager, Ray Edser, on Sunday evening 9 November from a heart attack bought a sad conclusion to the tour. We will all miss Ray with his enthusiastic attention to Heritage Rail Tours in Queensland.

### 402 Club

#### A Rail Cruise of Southern Branch Lines 12 to 16 November.

An early 5.30am start from the Rail Motor Society Depot at Paterson with travel through the morning peak to Hornsby and North Strathfield to pick up the majority of our passengers saw us a few minutes behind the timetable until Moss Vale was reached.

Proceeding south to our destination Albury where arrival was seven minutes ahead after a lunchtime stop at Goulburn and a refuelling stop at Junee Loco. Martins Bus Service in Albury provided a bus for the transfer of our 15 passenger and crew to our accommodation for the first two nights.

Our departure on day two was on time heading further south into Victoria to Benalla where we reversed and headed north west on the branchline through Yarrawonga and back across the border to Oaklands once joined by a NSW branchline from The Rock. Following lunch at the local hotel, our return departure was an hour and 40 minutes behind our table. This was not considered a problem for our passengers who were enjoying the travel and checking out the working of trains under Victorian control.

Day three saw us heading north again to Junee to refuel 402. Whilst this activity was taking place, the passengers were taken on inspection of the ARTC Junee Control Centre. Our thanks to Doug Bennett for making this possible.

Heading further north to Harden where our 16th passenger joined us for the return to Cootamundra West for our continuing to Temora and journey our next overnight stay at West Wyalong. Temperatures had reached 42 degrees during the day but all were undeterred and looking forward to our next day's adventure to Naradhan. After an inspection of the yard and surrounds we returned to West Wyalong

to pick up lunch before proceeding to Stockinbingal to reverse for the run to Forbes and our next overnight stay at Parkes.

Our last day saw an on time departure for Orange and on to Bathurst for lunch. Departing 11 minutes early we continued to enjoy ahead of time running to Lithgow. Now some 46 minutes early we enjoyed a leisurely run down the mountains to Penrith to await a local departure ahead of us to Parramatta. With track work ahead, Pilot working was in place for our passage to Clyde. Rejoining the freight line at Flemington Junction we proceeded to North Strathfield to farewell the majority of our passengers. Departing still 36 minutes ahead of the table, this margin was maintained for the balance of the tour.

Our special thanks to all at the Rail Motor Society who made sure 402 ran to its potential and to our crews who made the tour possible.

### 150th Celebration of the Richmond Line

On Saturday 29 November, 70 Society Members and friends boarded The Rail Motor Society's CPH Rail Motors Nos 1, 3 & 7 between Paterson and North Strathfield to celebrate two significant occasions.

Firstly, the 150th anniversary of the opening of the Richmond line from Blacktown and secondly, 90 years in service of the recently restored CPH No. 3. Our tour train was one of three heritage trains to visit Richmond for the Celebration. THNSW's Heritage Express provided a train hauled by steam locomotive 3642 and Stephen Preston hired railcar set 621/721 for a private tour and also provided a shuttle to Mulgrave for local and retired railway workers. Our train was to be the last to arrive, to provide local shuttle runs to Mulgrave.

To fill in the morning the CPHs travelled from North Strathfield via Flemington Junction along the freight line to Meeks Road Junction and on to Waterfall — former pre-electrification destination from Sutherland. Speed restrictions on the freight line created a delay to our train and our arrival at Richmond was 29 minutes late. The first Mulgrave shuttle was cancelled due to the delay and very tight service scheduling on the line. But with thanks to Ross Verdich and Shane O'Neil sufficient tickets were sold at Richmond during the morning to cover the running of the second shuttle to Mulgrave whilst our passengers had their lunch break.

Richmond Station was decorated with banners and historic photo boards and promotional material was distributed by a Sydney Train's Manager and station staff. Our departure was on time, travelling direct to North Strathfield and Hornsby for our passengers before returning to Paterson, again on time.

*Thank you to Spencer Ross for writing the three November Tour reports.*



*Waratah Set A45 contrasts with the Rail Motor Society's "Tin Hares", CPH 7,3 and 1, stabled in Platform 1 at Richmond on 29 November during the Richmond Line's 150th Celebrations. Image: Adrian Compton.*

**A SUMMER'S DAY SOUTH - A TOUR WITH 621/721 RAILCARS**

**Sunday 18 January 2015**

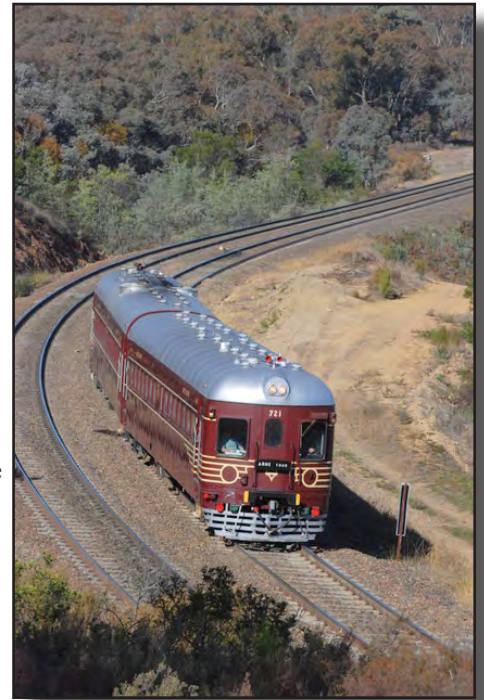
Join ARHSnsw Tours and The Rail Motor Society on our annual summer's day rail journey. This year our destination is Kiama via the Main South to Moss Vale and the cross country line to Unanderra.

Our tour will commence from the Paterson Museum and pick up passengers at Maitland, Broadmeadow, Cardiff, Fassifern, Wyong and Gosford. We depart Sydney Central at about 9.30am travelling via Sydenham and Meeks Road Junction to the Goods Line through Enfield and onto the Southern Freight Line to Macarthur South. Enjoy a Devonshire morning tea as we re-join the Main South through Menangle, Bowral and Moss Vale. Our crew will change ends and we then reverse to travel on the cross country line through Robertson to Summit Tank where we stop briefly to enjoy the panoramic vista. We then proceed down the escarpment to Unanderra. Here we reverse again and proceed south to Kiama. There will be over two hours to spend in Kiama to enjoy a picnic lunch beside the water or finding special treats whilst visiting the seaside markets. Walk through the shopping centre or to the blowhole and enjoy the summer sunshine.

Our return journey departs at 4.00pm with a brisk run up the Illawarra enjoying the coastal ocean vistas though Stanwell Park and on to Waterfall. Our train is timetabled to arrive at Sydney Central at 6.00pm before returning to Paterson.

Seating is limited to 90 passengers, so book early to ensure a good seat. Tour cost includes morning and afternoon teas on board.

Historic line side notes will be distributed on departure from Central.



**BOOKING FORM:**

**A SUMMERS DAY SOUTH in the 621/721 RAILCARS on Sunday 18 January 2015**

**Mail to:** ARHSnsw Tours  
67 Renwick Street  
REDFERN, NSW, 2016

or **fax** (02) 9699 1714

or **Book 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.)
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$..... (GST incl.)</b>

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

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.  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 consist, tour route or destination by the train operator.  
Refunds: up to 30 days prior-90 per cent; less than 30 days to 7 days-50 per cent; less than 7 days-NO REFUND

OFFICE USE ONLY: Date booking rec'd ...../...../..... Date processed ...../...../..... Car.....Seats.....Tickets sent ...../...../.....

**THE MANLY TRAMLINES REVISTED  
A BUS TOUR WITH VIC SOLOMONS**

**Saturday 14 February 2015**

The tramways of the Manly Region operated in three stages. Commencing firstly in 1903 with horse drawn, followed by steam and finally electric trams until October 1939, when buses replaced all services.

Come and join us on this adventure to trace the lines of the Manly System from the Spit to Narrabeen with tramway historian, Vic Solomons. Many of the areas in which the system ran have now seen major road and building development over the years, however there is still some remnants remaining.

Our vintage single deck bus will depart the Bus Museum at Leichhardt Depot at 0930 hrs, picking up at the Lee Street Bus Stop at Railway Square at 10.00 hrs and return by 17.00 hrs.

There will be a stop at a suitable location for lunch. BYO or you may purchase your lunch requirements.

**Book early as seats are limited.**

**BOOKING FORM:**

**THE MANLY TRAMLINES REVISTED ON SATURDAY 14 FEBRUARY 2015**

**Mail to:** ARHSnsw Tours  
67 Renwick Street  
REDFERN, NSW, 2016

or **fax** (02) 9699 1714

or **Book at:** ARHSnsw Bookshop  
67 Renwick Street  
REDFERN, NSW, 2016

Please book me on the Manly Tramlines Revisted Tour on Saturday 14 February 2015:

Name.....

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

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

E-mail.....

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

I will join the tour at Leichhardt Depot.....OR Railway Square.....

..... ARHSnsw Members and guests @ \$50.00 \$..... (GST incl.)

.....Seats Non-Members @ \$55.00 \$..... (GST incl.)

*I would like a copy of the Manly Lines of the Sydney Tramway System*

by Ken McCarthy edited by David Keenan @ \$22.50 \$..... (GST incl.)

**TOTAL \$..... (GST incl.)**

**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

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OFFICE USE ONLY: Date booking rec'd ...../...../..... Date processed ...../...../.....Seats.....Tickets sent ...../...../.....

**621/721 RAIL CAR TOUR**  
**EXPLORE THE SOUTH-WESTERN SUBURBAN LINE TO LEPPINGTON PLUS**  
**GLENLEE TRIANGLE - EAST HILLS - CENTRAL - BANKSTOWN - OLYMPIC PARK**  
**NORTH SYDNEY AND LAVENDER BAY**



**Saturday 21 March 2015**

**J**oin ARHSnsw Tours and The Rail Motor Society on an exploration journey in Rail Cars 621/721 to celebrate the opening of the new South-Western Suburban Line to Leppington.

Our tour will commence from the Paterson Museum and pick up passengers at Maitland, Broadmeadow, Cardiff, Fassifern, Wyong and Gosford to start the tour around 9.30am from Hornsby. Travel then to North Strathfield and then via the Southern Freight line to Macarthur and on to the Glenlee triangle. Return to Glenfield to reverse and travel on the new suburban line to Leppington. Reverse and return via the East Hills line to Sydney Central Station for a lunch break.

Depart Central travelling via the Bankstown line to Regents Park and Lidcombe where we divert to the Olympic Park Loop and returning via North Strathfield to Hornsby again to reverse for a trip down the North Shore Line to North Sydney and Lavender Bay. Return to Hornsby where the tour ends. Passengers can return north to Paterson.

Tour Cost includes rail travel in Rail Cars 621/721, tour notes and morning and afternoon teas provided whilst travelling.

**BOOKING FORM:**

**Mail to:** ARHSnsw Tours  
67 Renwick Street  
REDFERN, NSW, 2016

or **fax** (02) 9699 1714

or **Book at:** ARHSnsw Bookshop  
67 Renwick Street  
REDFERN, NSW, 2016

**Please book me on the Tour to Celebrate the Opening of the new SOUTH-WEST SUBURBAN BRANCHLINE to Leppington in 621/721 RAILCARS on Saturday 21 March 2014.**

book for me:	.....Seats ARHSnsw & TRMS Members and guests	@ \$95.00	\$..... (GST incl.)
	.....Seats Non-Members	@ \$105.00	\$..... (GST incl.)
	2% Credit Card Payment Surcharge		\$..... (GST incl.)
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$..... (GST incl.)</b>

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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.  Expiry  /

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

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