



Members' newsletter

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

December 2015

Tue	1	Railway Resource Centre open
Wed	2	Members' Meeting: Bill Phippen NSWGR & T Gallipoli Casualties
Sat	5	Railway Resource Centre open
Sun	6	Members & Volunteers Xmas Function at Valley Heights
Tue	8	Newcastle Members' Meeting: Dave Rawlins
Tue	8	Railway Resource Centre open
Sat	12	Railway Resource Centre open
Tue	15	Railway Resource Centre open
Sat	19	Railway Resource Centre open
Tue	22	Railway Resource Centre open
Fri	25	Christmas Day Bookshop closed
Sat	26	Boxing Day Railway Bookshop & Resource Centre Closed
Mon	28	Public Holiday Bookshop Closed
Tue	29	Railway Resource Centre Closed

January 2016

Fri	1	New Years Day Bookshop & Resource Centre Closed
Sat	2	Bookshop Open, Railway Resource Centre Closed
Tue	5	Railway Resource Centre open
Wed	6	Members' Meeting: Speaker: Warren Miller 50s film nostalgia
Sat	9	Railway Resource Centre open
Tue	12	Railway Resource Centre open
Tue	12	Newcastle Members' Meeting: TBA
Sat	16	Railway Resource Centre open
Sun	17	Annual Summer's Day Tour on South Coast (CPHs)
Tue	19	Railway Resource Centre open
Sat	23	Railway Resource Centre open
Tue	26	Australia Day - Bookshop & Resource Centre Closed
Sat	30	Railway Resource Centre open

*The Society's Council & Staff
wish all our members
a Very Merry Christmas and 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

Tour Schedule

December 6: Christmas Function at Valley Heights

January 17: Annual Summer's Day on South Coast (CPHs)
(Booking form on Page 4)

March: 100th Anniversary of the Metropolitan Goods Lines
(Booking form in January Newsletter)

For more info contact ARHSnsw Tours 02 8394 9019 or 0428333443.

Members' Photo Competition

The subject for November's competition was 'Dining on the Railways'. Many entries were received showing dining on the railways from all over the world. The winning entrant was Peter Sage with his image of dinner underway in the Southern Aurora's RMS dining car. His image below was judged to be the best.



Upcoming subjects are:

December—Sydney's CBD Transport as it was up to 12 months prior to closure for Light Rail Construction

January—NSW Railways Snow Scenes

February—The Sandstone Heritage of the NSW Railways

March—Signal persons at work

April—NSW Diesels at Work circa 1960s/1970s

May—Sydney's Forgotten Goods Lines (100-year anniversary)

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. No prints will be accepted.

The subject should also be the image's main focus.

We expect contestants to submit a caption with each digital image and in the case of slides to know when, where and why the photo was taken.

The winning image may be used for publicity purposes in the Society's print and digital media.

Image at right: Some of our group pose for Nev Pollard's camera at the former Shale Works site. The brick tower behind once had a steel tank on top. The Liverpool Range, with its notorious Ardglen Tunnel, forms the backdrop

**RAILWAY LUNCHEON CLUB
MURRURUNDI**

Report on two-day tour to Murrurundi on 18 & 19 November 2015.

The railway of the Upper Hunter, from Muswellbrook to Murrurundi and on to Willow Tree, has been something special to rail fans for generations, but curiously has seen little on the ground tour activity. To correct this anomaly, the Railway Luncheon Club conducted perhaps its most ambitious tour ever with a two-day look-see at what this region has to offer. The surviving stations between Muswellbrook and Willow Tree, current train operations and Murrurundi's former industrial shale works relics all came in for close inspection by our group, ably led by the experts that we have in this field.

Our thanks go to Ed Tonks (you don't run a tour in the Hunter unless you have the expertise of Ed), Stuart Sharp, Col Millard, Paul Horder and of course our Tour Director and bus driver Spencer Ross. And a special thanks to those on the ground in Murrurundi, the accommodation and meal venues, and especially the Murrurundi and District Historical Society and Marilyn McColl from "Valhalla", the home of the former shale works. Without them all the tour could not have taken place.

The Luncheon Club is now in recess until next year. General outings for the Luncheon Club will re-commence on 16 March 2016 when we will be inspecting the Railway Institute at Devonshire St Sydney. In addition, our normal lunch only outing to the Great Southern Hotel will be held on 17 February.

Gary Hughes



A blast from the past. Murrurundi Station as it appeared on 5 December 1959. Image: Gary Hughes





Where is it? Can you also guess what is not quite right? A gem of a photo taken in November 2015 by John Oakes.

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