



Members' newsletter

Official newsletter of the Australian Railway Historical Society (NSW Division) • Editor: Ross Verdich • Issue: February 2017

February 2017

Wed 1	Members' Meeting: <i>Bill Phippen - 1st Hawkesbury River Bridge Photo Album</i>
Sat 4	Railway Resource Centre open
Tue 7	Railway Resource Centre open
Sat 11	Railway Resource Centre open
Tue 14	Railway Resource Centre open
Tue 14	Newcastle Members' Meeting: <i>J Beckhaus Slovenian Rlwys</i>
Sat 18	Railway Resource Centre open
Tue 21	Railway Resource Centre open
Sat 25	Railway Resource Centre open
Sun 26	Tour - General Gordon Hawkesbury River Cruise
Tue 28	Railway Resource Centre open

March 2017

Wed 1	Members' Meeting: <i>James Dalton - ARHSnsw Strategy</i>
Sat 4	Railway Resource Centre open
Sat 4	Thirlmere Festival of Steam
Sun 5	Thirlmere Festival of Steam
Tue 7	Railway Resource Centre open
Sat 11	Railway Resource Centre open
Tue 14	Railway Resource Centre open
Tue 14	Newcastle Members' Meeting: <i>Bill Phippen's RRC Images</i>
Sat 18	Railway Resource Centre open
Tue 21	Railway Resource Centre open
Sat 25	Railway Resource Centre open
Sat 25	ARHSnsw New Zealand Tour (to Sun 8 April)
Tue 28	Railway Resource Centre open

ARHSnsw Member Survey

Members, if you have not returned your Member Survey Form as yet we urge you to do so (it was included in the January magazine and newsletter package). We are a not-for-profit organisation that exists for its members and others interested in railways. To help the Society continue to serve the needs of the railway enthusiast community, we would be interested in your answers to this short survey. Your participation is much appreciated. Completion of the survey will put you into the draw for a \$50 voucher at the Society's bookshop.

If you would prefer to complete the survey on-line, please go to:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RHSXDHM>

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

February 26: 'General Gordon' Hawkesbury River Cruise
(Sorry, tour full - waiting list only)

March 25 to April 8: ARHSnsw New Zealand Tour
(Booking form on Page 4 of this newsletter)

April 21 to 23: Blayney to Orange 140th Anniversary Tour
(Booking form on Page 5 of this newsletter)

June 9 to 13: Broken Hill & Peterborough with 621/721
(Booking form on Page 6 of this newsletter)

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

Vale Tony Woodland

Long-time ARHSnsw member Tony Woodland passed away on 16 January. He joined the Society in 1979 and was a regular volunteer in our Railway Resource Centre at Redfern up until October 2013 when Parkinson's Disease began to affect his ability to get into Redfern.

He was an avid photographer who had two autobiographical photo-album styled books published by Railmac Publications titled *Rail Tales of New South Wales Vol 1 & 2*.

His funeral service was held on the 24 January.

Vale Alan Websdale

Alan passed away in October last year. He had been a member since 1978. He was also a regular volunteer in the Railway Resource Centre at Redfern up until several years ago. He was a quiet unassuming man who performed his voluntary work in the RRC without any fuss.

The Society has been very fortunate in being the recipient of his railway, tram and bus books from his estate. We thank his niece Karen for arranging the transfer of the books to us.

NSWR'S Laundry

Australian Railway History magazine has in preparation an article on the NSW railway's laundry. However, there is very little information to be found. If anyone has any material or information on it would they please contact Jim Longworth care of the ARH Editor on (02) 8394 9017.

RAILWAY LUNCHEON CLUB

The Luncheon Club outings for 2017 commence on Wednesday 15 March when we will be looking at some of the railway infrastructure remaining between Erskineville and Alexandria. We meet at Erskineville Station at 10.30am on No.1 platform under the awning towards the Sydney end. Lunch will be at a nearby hotel.

Notes for this outing should be available on the Luncheon Club page of the ARHSnsw website in early February.

There will be no outing in April. In May we are planning to go to Minto, and in June to look at the new stations at Cheltenham and/or Concord West.

Gary Hughes, Manager, Railway Luncheon Club.

Members' Photo Competition#

The January competition's title *'From the footbridge'* was most successful with 34 individual entries received, including our first overseas entrant who ended up having one of his images win the competition. This underscores the benefits of a digital only competition in that virtually any member from all over the world can enter.

UK-based member Richard Horne won the competition with his evocative image of NSWGR Pacific locomotive 3828 on the 6.35am departure from Newcastle Station on 3 July 1966 (see below).



The runner-up was Adrian Compton with his image of Cootamundra loco with 48s, 81s and L254 on 28 April 2007. Upcoming subjects are:

February—Green diesels#

March—Unfulfilled plans#

April—Shunting#

The photo competition is now held for the submission of digital images only. Slides or prints cannot be accepted.

The Society's Board hopes this will encourage more entries in this digital age. Contestants are to submit digital images at least 24 hours beforehand to: mail@arhsnsw.com.au . Digital images cannot be submitted on the night.

Contestants who cannot scan and email their print/slides may come to the Redfern Bookshop no later than seven days beforehand to have their photos scanned. In most cases the print/slides will be returned at the Members' Meeting.

Contestants are to submit a caption with each digital image and to know when and where the photo was taken. The subject should also be the image's main focus. Submissions are limited to **FIVE** digital images only.

No prize will be given on the night but the winning image will be entered into a contest at the December Members' Meeting when a winning prize plus a runner up will be awarded. Note: Images submitted from throughout the year will be considered, not just the winning entries.

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

Tour Report: CPHs to Port Kembla via Moss Vale & Robertson

A well-supported excursion in the heritage CPH rail motors Nos 1, 3 and 7 from the Rail Motor Society at Paterson took place on Saturday, 19 November 2016.

Participants joined the tour at stations from Paterson to Concord West. From here we travelled via the Southern Sydney Freight Line to Macarthur where we joined the Main South via Picton to Moss Vale Junction and onto the cross country line to Robertson. On arrival a BBQ lunch of steak or sausage sandwiches was provided by our hosts, The Robertson Station Heritage group.

The historic station is currently under restoration by the heritage station group. We were informed and viewed the work in progress to correct the concrete cancer in the station's modular concrete walls. The catering for our group assisted in raising funds towards this. There was time for inspecting the displays of photos and a splendid model of the station precinct. Items were available for purchase, including *80 Years and More of the Mountain Railway* by Ian Wallace.

The afternoon offered impressive scenery as we descended to the coastal plain via Summit Tank. Dombarton, through a wet sclerophyll forest walk with patches of rainforest vegetation. Glimpses of the coast were impeded by a mist, so the panorama anticipated at the lookout was not as awe-inspiring.

Down past Unanderra towards Port Kembla Station we continued via the Allens Creek triangle. Unfortunately, access to the platform was not available. The features of the steel works, past and present, were commented on by Gary Hughes, as we passed stations used by workers, such as Lysaghts. Only one blast furnace was operational, but revegetation made visibility challenging.

Northwards we headed via Coniston to Wollongong and



*The CPHs pause at Robertson for lunch on 19/11/16:
Image Spencer Ross*

beyond via the scenic Illawarra Line. Tunnels and viaducts were noted including the once troublesome Otford tunnel, which caused much discomfort in the steam era. Deviations were necessary, with a winding route, crossing the spectacular viaduct over Stanwell creek. The gradient had been reduced from 1 in 40 to 1 in 80.

It was disappointing that the proposed travel on the Metropolitan Colliery branch line did not eventuate. The tour was otherwise successful, with the efficient crew of drivers and catering personnel ensuring the day ran smoothly. Refreshments of tea or coffee with biscuits were greatly appreciated.

The tour notes provided extensive information about the development of the rail lines, stations and steelworks. Thanks are due to all that contributed to the day, especially Tours Director Spencer Ross.

Thank you to member Boris Sokoloff for writing this report.

Voluntary Positions Available

Bookshop Assistant - Fridays

There is currently a vacancy for a person, preferably with retail experience, to perform voluntary sales assistance in our Redfern bookshop on Fridays. The hours are 10am to 5pm.

Knowledge of Australian railways would be a distinct advantage. Experience with using computers and in particular Windows PCs is desirable.

Training can be provided for those applicants with no retail experience.

Please contact Ross or Grahame on 9699 4595.

Subscriptions Assistant

A vacancy exists for a volunteer with good computing skills to perform data entry for the Society's annual membership and monthly subscription renewals.

Experience with using Microsoft Access is desirable but not essential as training can be provided for those applicants with no experience using Access software.

The work will be performed at Redfern and the days and hours are flexible.

Please contact Ross or Grahame on 9699 4595.

ARHS_{nsw} NEW ZEALAND TOUR
25 March to 8 April 2017

A RHS_{nsw} in conjunction with ARHS Qld & Guidepost Tours presents our 15 Day tour to New Zealand.

Fly from your home port to Christchurch where our tour will start. Highlights of this tour include travel on all three TranzRail Services: A return trip on the *TranzAlpine* to Greymouth, the *TranzCoastal* (if running due to earthquake damage) from Christchurch to Picton and the *Northern Explorer* from National Park to Auckland.

Other highlights include a walk along the Charming Creek Railway, explore the Denniston Incline Museum and heritage railway site with overnight stays at Westport, enjoy a great meal on the Christchurch Dinner Tram and visit rail and tramway museums on both Islands. Experience the Cook Strait Ferry crossing from Picton to Wellington, enjoy a steam tour behind Ja1271 to Taihape, two-days travel in the restored RM31 rail motor, a cruise on the *Waimarie* paddle steamer and experience the wonderful two-day tour in the rail carts from Stratford to Okahukura. A visit to MOTAT before the return flight from Auckland will complete the tour.

The tour cost is for the land content tour of New Zealand only. Air fares will be arranged through our travel agent at best price at time of booking the tour. If you wish to arrange your own flights, they will need to coincide with the morning flights to Christchurch for the group transfer to our accommodation.

A full itinerary with Conditions of Travel is available on application or when booking the tour.

BOOKING FORM: A Tour of New Zealand 25 March to 8 April 2017

Mail to: ARHS_{nsw} Tours or **fax** (02) 9699 1714 or **Pay at:** ARHS_{nsw} Bookshop
 67 Renwick Street 67 Renwick Street
 REDFERN, NSW, 2016 REDFERN, NSW, 2016

Please book me on this tour: ARHS_{nsw} members and guests @ \$6925 \$
 Single Supplement @ \$975 \$
 For Credit Card payments, please add 2% \$
TOTAL (GST Incl) \$

Please arrange my air flights to Christchurch.....Return from Auckland.....
 (Flights can also be arranged from Brisbane or Melbourne on request.)

Name.....
 Address.....Postcode.....
 Telephone (contact no.)..... (mobile).....Membership No.
 E-mail.....
 Name(s) of accompanying person(s).....
 Preferred Name(s) on Name Badge(s).....
 Please note your **special accommodation or dietary** requirements.....
 I hold a current Australian PassportOther PassportI require Travel Insurance Information

PREFERRED PAYMENT BY CHEQUE/CASH for \$.....or please DEBIT my VISA or MASTERCARD (Add 2%)

Card No. Expiry /

SignatureDate

ARHS_{nsw} Tours Infoline (02) 8394 9019 or 0428 333 443

ARHS_{nsw} is not responsible for the last minute change of locomotives, train consist, tour route or destination by the train or tour operator.
 Tickets and confirmed itinerary information will be sent 14 days before departure. *Refunds: see Conditions of Travel.*
 (ABN 96 000 538 803)

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

