

Members Newsletter



Official newsletter of the Australian Railway Historical Society (NSW Division) • Editor: Paul Scells • Issue: **June 2018**

Members Update

Being the start of June and the start of winter, I hope you all have prepared for the coming months and the colder conditions. It's half way through 2018 already; so much has happened and so much more is to come.

In the coming month we will see our new website come to life and enable all users to interact with the Society online. I will have a larger article in the July newsletter to help you navigate the new site.

Along with the new site will be the introduction of the new RRC system which will also give you the opportunity to investigate the past from your computers at home.

Thank you all for the renewal of your memberships, it has been another good year of renewals with the last of them coming through now.

There has been a lot of work put in around upcoming tours, you will see the new booking form in the newsletter, I would encourage you all to book in advance as these do fill up quickly. If you have never been on one of our tours, you will not be disappointed by joining one of them.

If you have never been to a members meeting, I would also encourage you to come along and be part of our monthly get together. You will receive updates from the Society as well as enjoy a presentation from a fellow enthusiast. The photo competition always sparks excitement; I call for more participation from all, soon there will be the introduction of the lucky member draw.

As members you are always welcome to become part of our volunteer team and the team at Redfern would love to see you either at the office or at one of our events.

Paul Scells
General Manager

Members Meetings - Dates and Speakers

Sydney

June 6 - David Honer - South African Railways

July 4 - David Jehan - Hudson Brothers

Newcastle

June 12 - Russell Butterworth - China Rail 1986

July 10 - Ed Tonks - Great Britain Part 2

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
Railway Resource Centre:	Tuesdays: 12pm to 4pm Saturdays: 10am to 3pm	Email: resources@arhsnsw.com.au Ph 02 9699 2736 Fax: 02 9699 1714	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 8394 9019 or 0428 333 443	www.arhsnsw.com.au

Members Photo Competition

The May topic was "Peak Hour" and the winner for the month was Chris Sim. His entry - Redfern 1992.

Chris Sim took out second place as well with a photo of Varanasi, India 1990.



Upcoming subjects are:

June - In the Shed

July - Cold Weather

August - Guards Vans

Railway Luncheon Club

Report on Outing to Oatley. 16 May 2018.

Apart from a reported amount in excess of \$20m having been spent recently on new carpark, overbridge and lifts, Oatley Station in the Illawarra region of Sydney also has its own history. Opened in 1886 as Oatley's, it became Oatley's Platform in 1889 and back to Oatley in the following year. In 1905 the line was deviated about 100 meters to the west to ease the grade between the Georges River and Mortdale for Sydney bound trains and this meant that the original station had to be moved accordingly. Whilst much of the station building's original design remains to this day, it has seen many changes and improvements of the years and in 2014 the then Minister for Transport, Gladys Berejiklian, announced a major upgrade. This involved three new lifts which included a new overbridge, new stairs, commuter carpark and landscaping.

Of interest is that much of the route of the original line remains today as a pleasant park area between the station and Oatley's shopping precinct. Against this background we decided to have a look at Oatley, and on 16 May 2018 John Oakes led our group of about 36 to trace the route of the original line with its features such as embankments being obvious. Our walk was followed by lunch at the Oatley Hotel. Our thanks go to John for his efforts, which included many notes (now on the website) and also for conducting another walk after lunch for those interested to follow the original line to the Georges River and then over the first Como Bridge and onto Como Station. Thanks also to Stuart Sharp for his usual informative commentary on the history of the station, his notes also being available on our website.

Our next outing is on 20 June when Neville Pollard will be leading our group for a look at some of the heritage remnants of the Lapstone Zig Zag. We will be hiring a bus to take us from Emu Plains Station the top road of this Zig Zag and then from Knapsack Viaduct to Emu Plains for lunch at O'Donoghues Hotel. The bus hire will necessitate a booking form.

On August 15 and 16 we are running a 2 day tour, led by Ed Tonks, to look at the reminders of former coal mines and railways beyond Fernleigh to Catherine Hill Bay. Booking forms available in this Newsletter, at the Redfern office and on the ARHSnsw website.

Gary Hughes

Railway Luncheon Club Manager

ARHSnsw Tours

Below is the long term plan for the upcoming tours with the Society. It is our commitment that the membership get first option for the tours before it gets promoted to the wider community, so I would encourage you to book early as they do sell out and we do only have limited positions on each Tour.

Upcoming Tours

June 9-12	-	A Two State Adventure, Albury and Seymour (Read Comments)
June 20	-	Lapstone ZIG-ZAG Site outing with the Luncheon Club - Seats still available
July 8	-	A Passenger Train to Rylstone - Filling fast
August 15/16		Beyond Fernleigh to Catherine Hill Bay with Ed Tonks, ARHS Luncheon Club
September 23		"The Hawkesbury River Railway Bridges" book launch cruise. Brooklyn to Dangar Is then Gosford and Woy Woy
October 2 Days		Date TBA - John Oakes Sydney Suburban Forgotten Sidings Rail Tour
November 2-5		ARHS 402 Club Central West Tour

It is important to note that whilst all booking forms are not included in the newsletter, they are all available from the office. Alternatively, just call the office and we can take your bookings by phone or we can email you what you require.

For further information and Booking Forms please contact: ARHSnsw Tours on 02 8394 9019 or 0428 333 443

Resource Centre Update

Over 1200 NSW Railway employees were killed in The Great War. Their names were recorded on the WWI honour boards, which used to be displayed on the concourse of Sydney Station. It's very pleasing to see that Transport Heritage NSW is restoring these boards in time for the 100th anniversary of the Armistice. The RRC has been contracted to research each of those recognised on the Boards, and provide a short history of their railway and military service. This is a very large project involving a number of our volunteers. Our task is to retrieve each employee's record card and their military records from the Australian War Memorial and National Archives and compose the story of their (often short) lives. This project is being led by Bill Phippen, and while the stories are often emotionally draining, the work is as fascinating as it is important. Thank you to all involved so far and we look forward to sharing the results via THNSW once complete. We are required to complete at least 200 names by November 2018, with the remaining 1000 completed by November 2019. However, we are well on track to complete the work ahead of time.



Membership and Magazine Subscriptions

The launch of the new website in June, will coincidewith the introduction of our new membership and magazine subscription packages. These changes will only affect new members. **If you are a current member then your package will not change.**

The introduction of these changes have been a result of group discussions from within the Society as well as between the Youth Focus Group we held. The aim is for more value and choice. From these discussions we have concluded that there was a need to make changes.

The main changes to becoming a member at ARHSnsw are:

- New membership does not include ARH magazine; subscriptions are separated
- You start with a basic membership and add options to it
- Options include
 - a) Discount on purchases at the Bookshop and RRC
 - b) Discount on Magazine subscriptions
- We will be introducing Associate membership and
- Corporate membership packages
- Discounting annual fees for continuous membership years (only available for new members, not current members)

Magazine subscriptions will also be changing and you will now be able to select between a printed magazine or a digital magazine. There will also be the option for both if you wish.

In the coming newsletters, there will be a lot more detail on all the membership, magazine subscriptions and website so it will be easy to navigate through and utilise to its full potential.

Update from the Bookshop

"Crown Land to Closer Settlement – Railways and land reform in the Temora region", by Neville Pollard, tells the story of the railways and land reform in the south-west of NSW and their role in the settlement of this important wheat growing area.

It's a fascinating and comprehensive history and well worth reading for historians and railfans alike. 264 pages, \$92.

Crown Land to Closer Settlement

Railways and land reform in the Temora region



Neville Pollard



The Hawkesbury River Bridge is the largest single asset in the care of the Sydney Trains. Situated in an obscure bend in the river it is unseen by the public, except when they cross it. Two bridges have had to be built, side by side, both technically challenging for their time, and both requiring spectacular, and well photographed, engineering feats to move the huge steel spans into place. 329 pages, \$88.

Order your copy:

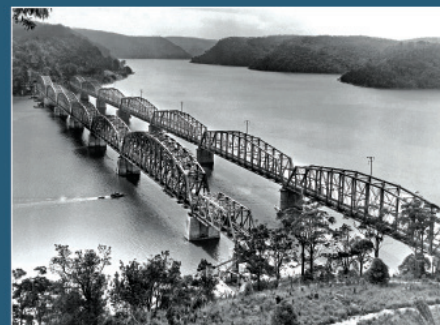
Online: <http://www.railwaybookshop.com.au/>

Via phone: (02) 9699 4595

Via mail order: 67 Renwick St., Redfern 2016

The Hawkesbury River Railway Bridges

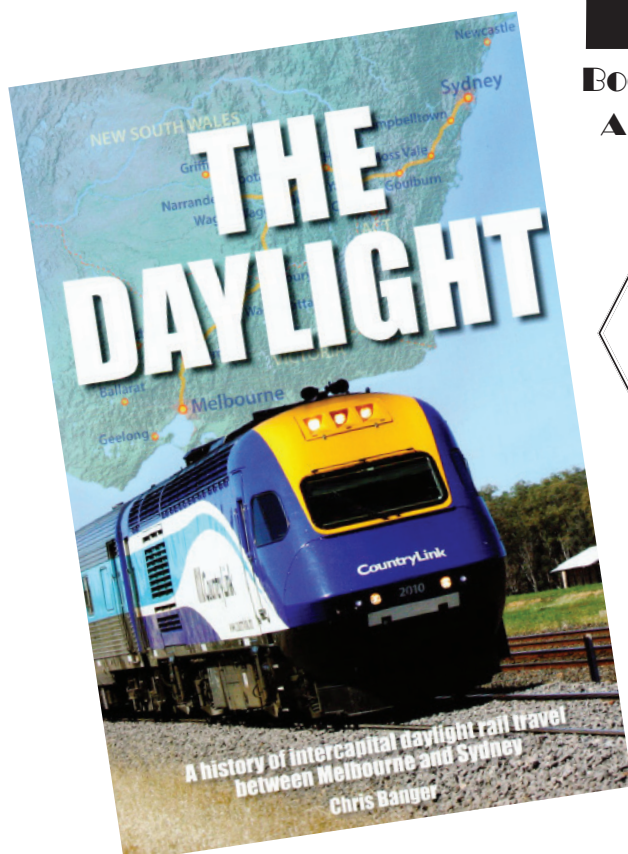
Bill Hippen



BOM

Book of the Month

A monthly promotion on ARHSnsw publications



\$115
Now
\$90

A HISTORY OF INTERCAPITAL DAYLIGHT RAIL TRAVEL BETWEEN MELBOURNE AND SYDNEY, BY CHRIS BANGER.

IT COVERS THE STORY OF THE DAYLIGHT RAIL SERVICE FROM THE SPECIALS OF THE LATE 1930s THROUGH TO TODAY'S XPT SERVICE (AS IT WAS OF MARCH 2014).

THE APPENDICES INCLUDE A HISTORY OF THE RIVERINA EXPRESS AND ITS SUCCESSOR THE RIVERINA XPT, A HISTORY OF THE RUB TYPE CARRIAGES USED ON THE LOCOMOTIVE HAULED DAYLIGHT SERVICE, NOTES ON THE TYPE OF TICKETS AND BUFFET MENUS USED ON THE DAYLIGHT SERVICES, AND A HISTORY OF THE CURRENT GRIFFITH DAYLIGHT RAIL SERVICE.

Sophie Nicolas
Bookshop Manager

MEMBERS' NEWSLETTER**ARHSnsw Tours Overview****A TWO STATE ADVENTURE - ALBURY and SEYMOUR****June Long Weekend 9/10/11/12th June 2018**

Take this opportunity to travel on our annual June long weekend Rail Cruise in The Rail Motor Society's 621 / 721 restored rail cars on a unique 4 day trip to Albury and Seymour. Departing Sydney on Saturday morning at about 7.00am our train will travel via the Main South to Goulburn. A light snack will be provided as we proceed south from Campbelltown through Picton, Mittagong, Bowral and Moss Vale for a short stop to stretch the legs before continuing on through Goulburn, Yass Junction, Harden, Cootamundra and Junee for lunch in the iconic Station Refreshment Room. Continue on through Wagga Wagga, The Rock, Henty, Table Top and Culcairn to our destination, Albury. Transfer by coach to our accommodation at the Paddle Steamer Motel for the next 3 nights. Enjoy a Happy Hour drink in the Bar before Dinner in the Dining Room.

On Sunday after a hearty country breakfast we transfer to Albury Station to join our train to continue across the Murray River into Victoria passing Wodonga, Wangaratta, Benalla and Euroa to Seymour. On arrival we will inspect the restored Refreshment Room before joining our local bus for a town tour. Our Destination will be the Seymour Railway Heritage Centre where we can inspect the exhibits and enjoy lunch in their former broad gauge Spirit of Progress VR Dining Car and the Norman Parlour Car. Rejoin our train for a spirited return run to Albury and transfer to our Motel. Happy hour again before Dinner in the Dining Room. On Monday, again following Breakfast, join our coaches for a day following the closed Victorian Branch Line to Wahgunyah. Departing at 9.00am travel via Wodonga to Springhurst where the branch left the main line travelling through Lilliput Rutherglen and Wahgunyah to Corowa for lunch at the Corowa Chocolate and Whisky Factory. On the way we will stop at Campbell's Winery and the Rutherglen Brewery for tastings and purchases if you wish to do so. Check out the Railway scene at Corowa before returning to Albury via the Murray Valley Highway through Howlong. Dinner tonight will be a Smorgasbord at the Albury Commercial Club, our coaches will transfer us for this event.

On Tuesday, say farewell to our Motel and transfer to Albury Station for our return journey to Sydney stopping for lunch at Harden. Continue on to Sydney with a leg stretch at Goulburn to expected arrival at 7.00pm.

Accommodation in Albury for 3 nights at the Paddle Steamer Motel will be on a twin share, dinner, and bed and breakfast arrangement. Single supplement will be available upon request. Hunter Region patrons may join the train en route to Sydney on Friday 8th June 2018 on application.

Tour cost is all inclusive and covers rail travel, 3 nights Dinner Bed and Breakfast accommodation, lunches, a day tour by luxury coach to the Rutherglen Wine Region of North East Victoria, entry to venues with morning and afternoon teas whilst travelling on the train.

Tour Notes will be distributed on departure from Sydney.

ARHS Railway Luncheon Club - LAPSTONE ZIG-ZAG Site Outing**Wednesday 20 June 2018**

The Railway Luncheon Club invites members and guests to explore some of the archaeological remains of the Lapstone Zig Zag at the foot of the Blue Mountains, on Wednesday 20th June 2018. Opened with the line to Weatherboard (now Wentworth Falls) in 1867, this is probably the first example of a Zig Zag railway in NSW and carried trains to and from the west until it was replaced by the notorious Glenbrook Tunnel in 1892. Our chartered coach will leave Emu Plains Station after the arrival of the inter city service which leaves Central at 9.18am and due at Emu Plains 10.09am. After our arrival at the Knapsack Viaduct Car Park, we will inspect this viaduct and then walk to the top points of the Zig Zag. We then return to the coach for the trip back to O'Donoghue's Hotel at Emu Plains for lunch.

This tour will be led by Neville Pollard, and will be restricted to 45 people. Note that train travel to and from Emu Plains Station and lunch at O'Donoghue's are NOT included in the tour cost and are your own responsibility.

Be sure to wear suitable clothing and footwear as there will be considerable walking and stair climbing on this outing in winter weather.

A PASSENGER TRAIN TO RYLSTONE**Sunday 8th July 2018**

The Rail Motor Society and ARHS NSW Division are now able to run a heritage train to Rylstone Station with the line now opened by the Country Rail operator John Holland. Come and join us and be among the first to travel along the recently opened extension from Kandos to Rylstone on the truncated Mudgee line. On Sunday 8th July 2018 our train will consist of the 3 CPH Rail Motors Nos. 1, 3 and 7 from the Rail Motor Society at Paterson. A departure from Sydney Central is expected around 7.40am. Enjoy a Devonshire Morning Tea served at your seat while you admire the winter scenery as the train crosses the Great Dividing Range through the Blue Mountains. At Wallerawang we take the branch line through Piper's Flat, Portland, Cullen Bullen, Ben Bullen and onwards through the magnificent Capertee Valley. Continue passing Clandulla, Charbon and Kandos to our destination at Rylstone. Following a short stay our train will return to Kandos for lunch expected around 1.00pm, there will be a short walk to the Kandos Hotel where a typical Country Pub lunch will be served. There is the option also to bring your own picnic lunch or make your own arrangements. After lunch, take a walk along the Main Street taking in the life of what is now a quiet country town before returning to the Station. Re-join the train for a 3.00pm departure that is due to return to Sydney Central by 8.30pm. Afternoon tea will be served as we return through the afternoon glow so spectacular in the Capertee Valley. The train will pick up and set down at Strathfield, Parramatta, Blacktown and Penrith.

Tour Notes will be available on departure from Sydney.

ARHSnsw**Railway Luncheon Club.****Tour to Beyond Fernleigh to Catherine Hill Bay, Wednesday and Thursday 15 and 16 August 2018**

The Railway Luncheon Club invites members and guests on a tour to explore the remnants of the coal mines and their associated railways located beyond Fernleigh to Catherine Hill Bay. Led by local historian and well known ARHSnsw member, Ed Tonks, we will spend the two days exploring the history of mines and their railways which played a significant role in the industrial development of Newcastle.

Travel to Morisset via the Newcastle intercity service departing Central at 8.15am and due to arrive at Morisset at 10.09am. From Morisset join our coach which will, for the next two days, take us to see what remains of these important elements of Newcastle's history, commencing with Catherine Hill Bay and concluding, on the second day, with the Belmont Line. The overnight stay will be at Warners on the Bay Hotel. Lunch on the first day will be at the Swansea Hotel and is included in the tour cost, whilst lunch on the second day will be at the Gates Hotel at Adamstown at your own expense. The tour will conclude at Broadmeadow Station in time to connect with the 4.29pm intercity service which is due at Central at 6.56pm.

The tour cost will include coach hire for the two days, lunch at Swansea Hotel on the first day and overnight accommodation on a dinner, bed and breakfast basis at Warners on the Bay Hotel.

The tour cost does NOT include rail travel to Morisset and return from Broadmeadow, lunch on the second day at the Gates hotel at Adamstown or drinks and items of a personal nature. To keep the group to a manageable size and within the limits of available accommodation, we are limited to 40 participants, so book early to avoid disappointment.

MEMBERS' NEWSLETTER