

MEMBERS' NEWSLETTER

RAILWAY LUNCHEON CLUB EASTWOOD

From as far afield as Canberra, Junee, Newcastle and of course Sydney, over 40 members and friends came to Eastwood on Wed 15 August to see what this busy station has to offer those with an interest in railway history.

Originally called Dundas, Eastwood was opened as a small standard timber roadside station on 17 September 1886, concurrent with the opening of the railway between Strathfield and Hornsby.

The station name was changed to Eastwood on 1 September 1887, taking this name from the nearby property Eastwood House, built in 1840 by William Rutledge.

This property was acquired by Edward Terry in 1863 and the house remains as part of Marist Brothers School. Both Rutledge's and Terry's names are perpetuated in Rutledge Street with its railway overbridge and Terrys Creek running under the lines at the station.

Led by our three guides, the group saw the platform faces showing a mixture of styles and construction periods, the sites of the various buildings, including the overhead booking office, track changes over the years, former railway residences and the details of three nearby accidents.



*Eastwood's Platform 3 looking south. A V Set has stopped in Platform 1.
Image: Ray Pickard*



*Looking north along Eastwood's Platform 3 as Waratah Set A8 departs.
Image: Ray Pickard*

The newer, and non-standard, platform awnings built in 2009 have obliterated all traces of the former buildings.

Our thanks go to Ian Wallace and Stephen Halgren for their assistance, and to others in the group who had some special association with Eastwood. A special thanks also to the acting SM Chris, who not only welcomed the group to her station, but accompanied us for the entire tour – the first time a Railcorp officer has done so.

On completion of the tour, we adjourned to the adjacent art-deco Eastwood Hotel for lunch.

The next Luncheon Club outing is to Otford on Wednesday 19 September 2012. Catch the 9.03am Dapto intercity service from Central, which is due at Otford at 10.07am. After completion of the tour, catch the 11.16am train from Otford to Sutherland for lunch at the Royal Hotel. This outing will be led by John Oakes. The notes for Otford are now available on the ARHSnsw website.

On 17 October, Nev Pollard will be showing us Emu Plains, and in November we will be going to the Gosford Electrical Depot.

Gary Hughes

OUR SECOND-HAND BOOK SALE

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