

**RAILWAY LUNCHEON CLUB  
SYDENHAM STATION**

Sydenham Station received a makeover last year so to inspect what has been done our Luncheon Club group of about 40 made the short journey to Sydenham on 16 April 2014.

Ably led by Life Member Stuart Sharp, we looked at where the money was spent to improve the overbridge facilities, with its many shortcomings being noted.

A couple of short walks enabled the group to look at the former Parcels Office, dating from 1963, and other railway bits and pieces, including a two-storey former residence. Unfortunately the demolishers beat us and have removed all traces of the former Station Master's residence.

The day was concluded with lunch at the nearby General Gordon Hotel.

The next Luncheon Club outing is on 21 May, when Ed Tonks will be showing us some of the lesser known history of Adamstown. We meet on the Down platform at Adamstown Station at 10.29am, after the arrival of the Newcastle service which leaves Central at 7.45am. Note that this is normally an eight-car set, and you need to be in the rear four cars to alight at Adamstown. Lunch will be at the Gates Hotel adjacent to the station.

On 18 June we plan to ride the new light rail from Central to Dulwich Hill, where Stephen Halgren will take us through the history of this station. Meet at the Light Rail stop on the Colonnade at Central at 10.30am. Lunch will be at the General Gordon Hotel at Sydenham which will involve a short rail journey from Dulwich Hill.

Notes for these outings are now available on the Luncheon Club page of the ARHSnsw Website.

On 16 July John Oakes will show us the old station and environs at Stanwell Park. Note that this tour will require a bus, the cost of which will be met by a small contribution of about \$10 each from participants on the day.

*Report by Gary Hughes*



*Above: A former railway residence at Sydenham which is now commercially leased. The recently demolished Station Master's residence was to the left, diagonally opposite this residence. Image: Peter Neve.*



*Above: The 1963 vintage former Parcels Office at Sydenham.*

*Image: John Beckhaus.*

*Below: The group listen intently as Stuart Sharp explains some of the features of the "new" Booking Office on Sydenham Station overbridge.*

*Image: Peter Neve*



**Forthcoming Tours**

- June 6-9:** North West Branchlines Tour with 621/721  
*(Tour full — waiting list only)*
- July 19:** Southern Steam Tram Lines of Sydney. Bus tour of the Arncliffe, Rockdale and Sutherland/ Cronulla lines. *(Booking form on Page 4)*
- July 29/Aug 3:** Farewell tour on the Great Queensland "Lander" Trains with ARHS Qld Division Westlander, Inlander and the Sunlander Services. *(Booking form for sitting accomodation only on website)*
- 27/28 Sept:** Ski Tube and Floriade two-day Tour
- 17/27 Oct:** Steam Incorporated New Zealand Ab608 return to service. Tours to Wanganui/Napier/Auckland
- Nov 8:** Mullet Creek Revisited
- November:** 402 Club tour
- 14 December:** End of year function TBA

An event in Sydney to celebrate 90 years of service for the remaining operational CPH Rail Motors is to be arranged when a suitable date is known.

*For more information ARHSnsw Tours @ Redfern 02 8394 9019*