

RAILWAY LUNCHEON CLUB

DULWICH HILL

The Light Rail service to Dulwich Hill opened on 27 March, so after a few months to let it "settle down", the Luncheon Club made it an outing on 18 June. The size of our group (a bit over 60), made it necessary to split up and utilise three different tram services to go the full distance of 12.8km from Central to Dulwich Hill. After meeting up at the new Dulwich Hill Tram (or Light Rail) station, we were treated to a presentation from Stephen Halgren of the history of the area, the suburban railway, the goods lines and Dulwich Hill Station itself.

It was noted that it is a pity that in the planning process for the light rail, a better access from the Light Rail Station to Dulwich Hill Railway Station couldn't have been provided, and it was noted also that with three modes of public transport (train, light rail and a nearby bus service), Dulwich Hill does have a commuter car park on the southern side.

It turned out to be a truly memorable day in perfect weather, which was capped off by lunch at the General Gordon Hotel at Sydenham, a few minutes train ride away. Our thanks go to Stephen for his expert commentary and for his informative notes which are now on the website.

The next outing is on Wed 16 July and we are going to Stanwell Park to look at the old Otford Tunnel and station site. The tour will be led by John Oakes, and we meet at Stanwell Park Station at 9.18 am after the arrival of the service which departs Central (No.25 platform) at 8.13am. Lunch will be at the Royal Hotel at Sutherland. Due to the distances involved, a bus has been hired and it is necessary to book for this outing. The cost is \$15 per head and a booking form is included with this Newsletter. Notes for this outing are now on the Luncheon Club page of the ARHSnsw Website.

In August we are going to Teralba where Ed Tonks will show us the history of this station and the surrounding area. We meet at Teralba Station at 11.14am after arrival of the service which departs Central at 8.45am. Lunch will be at Club Macquarie at Cockle Creek. Notes for this will be available on the website in late July.

In September Bill Phippen will be showing us the old and new Meadowbank Bridges.

Report by Gary Hughes



Above: The group listen on as Stephen Halgren presents his expert commentary. An M Set with M12 leading is on the Up Bankstown line. Image: Shane O'Neil.

June Members' Meeting

Entertainment at the June meeting was by Neville Pollard with a talk entitled 'Terrorist or Trainspotter - Photographing Trains in Uganda.' He told of his experience photographing an old diesel hydraulic locomotive at Kampala station last April where he was not permitted to photograph it anywhere else than under the station awning. Photographing inside the cab frightened the daylight out of one of the drivers. All this was due to the fear of terrorism from Al Shabaab militants from Somalia who have infiltrated neighbouring Kenya. Well maintained carriages on the opposite platform cannot not be used because of the deplorable state of the track between Kampala and Jinja.

Neville was apprehended by two soldiers from the Ugandan Army for photographing the rail bridge over the Nile at Jinja, the second largest city. The problem was that the power station that supplies much of Uganda's power might have been able to be seen in the background of his image and, therefore, be used for terrorist purposes. He was released after much talking and deleting one of the images in their presence.



Ugandan Railways diesel locomotive 73U03 standing in Kampala station. Neville could only photograph this engine under the awning. Note the sand on the buffer beam, presumably the sanders didn't work.

Members' Photo Competition

June's subject was 'Turntables' and the winner with a digital submission was Antony Roth with his image of an ABT loco being turned at Dubbil Barril in the Tasmanian western wilderness.

Upcoming subjects are:

- July**—NSW Clyde/GM 422 Class
- August**—Freights in the Blue Mountains
- September**—Streamlined 38 Class in Service
- October**—NSWR Buildings gone but not forgotten

(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. The subject should also be the image's main focus. Contestants must know when and where slide/image was taken and mark the slide accordingly otherwise image will be ineligible to win.)

Forthcoming Tours

- July 19:** Southern Steam Tram Lines of Sydney
- July 29/Aug 3:** Farewell tour on Great Qld "Lander" Trains
- 27/28 Sept:** Ski Tube and Floriade two-day Tour
- Nov 8:** Mullet Creek Revisited
- November :** 402 Club Tour
- 14 December:** End of year function TBA