



## August 2010 Newsletter

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*September monthly meeting - Wed. 1<sup>st</sup>  
at 7.30pm at the Oberon RSL Club.  
August working bee: 7<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> incl.*

Welcome to the August newsletter. Keep watching the local papers for reports of OTHR events as we plan to continue featuring OTHR as much as possible in the local media. As most of you will know by now, the two diesels have arrived. Also, OTHR now has a shiny halo... read on ...

### **Diesel Locos arrive at Oberon!**

The two 73 class diesels arrived under tow at Tarana Station at about 1:50pm on Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup> July. As they were running ahead of schedule, very few OTHR members actually saw them arrive! However, many good photos are now up on the new website, so check it out. These two diesel locos (7307 and 7321 – see photo) are in very good condition, requiring only a few minor repairs to put them in running order. They were stabled at Tarana siding overnight and moved by low-loader on the Sunday morning, via the Hazelgrove Rd, to Oberon. Due to wet and boggy ground at the station site it proved impossible to safely unload the locos at the station on the Sunday. A quick Plan B was initiated and the locos were unloaded at a secure site in the industrial area of Oberon. Currently they are having their batteries re-charged and some mechanical work done to prepare them for being moved onto the track at Oberon Station.

### **August Working Bee: 7<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup>**

#### **Working Bee Dates for 2010**

<b>August:</b>	<b>7<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>September:</b>	<b>18<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>October:</b>	<b>16<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup></b>
<b>November:</b>	<b>13<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>December:</b>	<b>TBA</b>

The July working bee replaced sleepers on the “coal shed line” and on the run-around line in the station yard. The August workbee will concentrated on sleepers in the station yard and at the northern end of the site, near Albion St – in preparation for offloading the locos there. A plan is being drawn up for the DA to erect the Burruga sheds in the NW corner of the site.

If you can help please contact Track Manager Peter Culley on 0427 042 448 as soon as possible. Free accommodation is still being generously donated by the Big Trout Motel and the Titania Motel. Please let Laurie Evans know as soon as possible if you require accommodation- Ph 6336 1254.



## **A BIG Thank You....**

The Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway group owes a huge vote of thanks to all those – and there were many – who assisted in so many ways to achieve this great day for OTHR.

For the earlier transfer of the locos from Port Botany to Eveleigh, we need to say thanks for the generosity of **Lachlan Valley Railway** who moved the locos at cost, **3801 Ltd** who provided temporary shelter and workshop facilities at Eveleigh and **Goodwin Alco** who donated the use of locos 4501, 4833 and fuel used on that day.

For the operation of getting the diesels towed over the Blue Mountains, we again need to thank the following organisations and volunteers:

**Lachlan Valley Railway**, including Tony Healey who gave initial approval and Gavin Knowles who organised timetabling and liaison with ARTC and RailCorp. Also Jason McIntyre, David Matthews, Ray Morris, Steve Davis and Steve Preston who volunteered their time for various train crew and maintenance functions.

**Goodwin Alco** who co-ordinated the activities in Sydney and donated the use of loco 4501 and the fuel used for the transfer to Tarana.

**3801 Ltd** who provided access to and storage for the locos at the Eveleigh Large Erecting Shop.

Kevin Grubb and Trevor Kaminski from **KG Rail** who managed the worksite protection at Tarana on the Sunday morning.

The moving of the locos from Tarana to Oberon would not have been possible without the willing efforts of the people from Lithgow - **Turner & Central Cranes** with their large mobile crane plus **Henry Plant and Equipment** with two low-loaders. Not forgetting of course, Shane's Crane from **Moorhead Engineering**, Oberon.

And last but not least, the willing **OTHR volunteers** who worked on the locos while they were at the Large Erecting Shop to ready them for the long trip to Tarana. These include Graham Williams, Rick Fletcher, Tim Arnison, Shane Moorhead, Jason McIntyre, Dave Matthews, Bob Gioia, Col Parry, Dave Rostron and Steve Preston.

To all these people and organisations OTHR can only say a great big **THANKYOU!**

## **Carriage History**

The third and final part of Russell Merriman's historical story will appear in the next issue of the Newsletter – space permitting.

## **Shiny Halo Award**

At the Centroc Expo last Thurs night at Citigate, Mt Panorama OTHR was one of the winners of a Shiny Halo Award – sponsored by Country Energy. President Shane accepted the award (and the \$500 cheque!) on behalf of OTHR. More on this story as space permits.

## **Spring Raffle**

The Spring Raffle is now underway, with tickets at \$2.00 each now selling. A fabulous first prize has been donated by the Mudgee Miniature Railway Co-op Society. This comprises two return tickets, Mudgee-Gulgong-Dunedoo, travelling by historic CPH railmotor between Gulgong and Dunedoo. Three course meal at Dunedoo Bowling Club, with a Murder Mystery Show. Two nights' accommodation for two at the Wanderlight motel, Mudgee on the long weekend of 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> October.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> prize is a value-packed basket of local Oberon produce – not to be missed!

The 3<sup>rd</sup> prize is a mouth-watering meat hamper from Oberon Farm Meats – value \$50.

Prizes are to be drawn on the Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> September.

All members are asked to consider donating to the local produce basket mentioned above. We particularly need local jams, honey, cakes, etc.

## **Workbee Catering**

Any OTHR member who can donate food items for the hungry and hard-working fettleers of the working bee crew is asked to contact Lynette Ireland on 0428 490 809, prior to the working bee. Any donations will be greatly appreciated and will help OTHR conserve some of our precious funds.

## **OTHR's NEW website –**

The new website manager is Julie Stott, who is working hard to bring you a quality website with all the information you were able to access on the old website. During the development of the new site, valuable contributions have also been made by Allan McLennan and Bill Muldoon. The new website appears at the masthead of this newsletter – check it out and let us have your comments.

## **Station Access**

Due to continued wet conditions, workers and visitors are reminded to use the previous access to the station area by way of the large gates off North St, near the "Rail Trail" sign. There is now a "board-walk" across the tracks.

**NB:** Please send suggestions and material to incorporate in the Newsletter to Col at... [taranaob@activ8.net.au](mailto:taranaob@activ8.net.au) Please put "OTHR Newsletter" in the subject line so your email will not be deleted!