



February 2016 Newsletter

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The 10th Anniversary Dinner held in the rolling stock shed on Friday 12th February was a great success. The 40 people who attended the dinner enjoyed great music by Carla and Dave Disco and excellent food. Many thanks to the ladies who provided the desserts, to Peter Culley for cooking the vegetables in his unique keg steamers and all who helped with the food and preparation for the dinner. It is our active volunteers who help make these events a success.



Carla and David our Music Makers for the night

*Local
butcher
Wayne
Barker
tackles the
roast*



The assembled diners in the rolling stock shed enjoying the music and the food!

Next Meeting

General Meeting

7:30pm, 2nd March, 2016

Working Bee News

The February working bee was mainly dedicated to the clean-up and preparations for the Steam & Vintage Fair - and also for the Anniversary Dinner that was held on the Friday night - see photos. The condition of the rail yard received many favourable comments during the Fair - a thanks to all OTHR volunteers involved.

The upcoming March working bee will see the focus shift back to trackwork near the recently installed Lowes Mount Rd level crossing. Some existing track here has already been re-aligned (see Jan. Newsletter) following the shifting of the Highland Pine fence and preparations are underway to lay the gentle S-bend to connect our track to the Lowes Mount Rd crossing.

Next Working Bee

Saturday, March 5th to

Wed, March 9th

It is believed that council is about to start drainage works in preparation for the re-building of the perway near the Borg factory complex.

If you can join our dedicated band of hard-working volunteers and assist with the work during the March working bee - please contact our Track Manager, Graham Williams, on 0422 596 438. Even a few hours assisting the team can make a big difference - step up and have a go!

Raffle Winners

During the Steam & Vintage Fair open day OTHR ran a very successful raffle. Thanks are due to the sponsors for the prizes:

- Mayfield Gardens for 2 open tickets to the garden
- Jim and Lyndle Hawkes for the framed print of the steam train
- Mawhoods IGA for donations to the hamper
- Oberon Pharmacy for hamper donation
- Local members for donations to the hamper.

The winners of the raffle were Alec Lewis from Bathurst, 1st Prize; Leo Clegg from Skoda Tatra 2nd prize and John Kluger from Skoda Tatra (Victoria) 3rd Prize. OTHR congratulates the winners and hopes they enjoy their prizes.

Steam and Vintage Fair, 2016

The Highland Steam & Vintage Fair for 2016 appears to have been a raging success, with a great number of vehicles in the street parade, including at least four steam traction engines – most impressive!

The Oberon Station precinct was well patronised, with many more people through the gate compared to last year – helped by the fine weather no doubt.



A few “firsts” were achieved this year – the new OTHR flag flying on the new flagpole – thanks to the OTHR flag pole erectors, pole painters and vexillologists.

Also for the first time we had the collaboration with the Skoda/Tatra Car club <http://skodatatransw.org/> who had a most interesting stand near the front gate.



The Bathurst Miniature Railway Society was again present, running their 7 ¼” gauge steam and diesel locos providing fun rides for the general public.



Heritage Display Roster 2016

As you know, the OTHR Heritage display is open to the public on the first Saturday of each month. For this year, 2016, we still have a few vacancies on the roster to fill – see table below – so if you can help out here please let Secretary Elaine know asap. The times are from 10am till 2pm on a Saturday and can be very interesting talking to people who keen to learn of our plans for the heritage rail operation.

Jan 1st	Tim Arnison
Feb 6th	Ian Davis
Mar 5th	Elaine Boxer
April 2nd	Col & Glenda Bembrick
May 7th	----
Jun 4th	----
Jul 2nd	----
Aug 6th	----
Sept 3rd	Col & Glenda Bembrick
Oct 1st	----
Nov 5th	----
Dec 3rd	----

Tarana Dinner Train

On Saturday 13th February the Lithgow State Mine Railway group www.stateminerailway.com.au/ ran a dinner train with a restored rail motor set from Lithgow to Tarana and return. The assistance of the Lachlan Valley Railway Society www.lvr.com.au/ in providing an expert crew enabled this project to be accomplished in a most efficient manner.

These magnificently restored rail motors (set 726/661) are a credit to the dedication and skills of the state Mine Rail team. As they arrived at Tarana (see photo below) the gleaming paintwork had to be seen to be believed – the interiors were also in immaculate condition.



With unit 726 leading, the State Mine Rail motor pulls into No 2 Platform on the down line at Tarana

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Our Ordinary General meeting minutes are now available on our website www.othr.com.au

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