



June 2012
Newsletter
 PO Box 299 Oberon 2787
<http://othr.com.au>



It's now official – State Member for Bathurst, Paul Toole is the new Patron of OTHR. We welcome Paul Toole into our ranks and note that he has already paid a visit to the Oberon Station precinct and expressed a keen interest in our project.

As you read this newsletter I can confirm that stage two of the shed roofing has been erected and the northern end of the station site is now looking very different – even compared to last month.

Funds held by Oberon Council will shortly become available for the painting and restoration of the Oberon Station building.

SPECIAL PURPOSE WORKING BEE

June Working Bee:

The June working bee will be concentrating on the erection of the second roof section for the large rolling stock shed – the first section being successfully erected last working bee – see photos next page. Our thanks to Paul Duncan who came up with the cordless drill requested in the last issue.

Apart from our regular volunteers, anyone with special steelworking skills is encouraged to attend the working bee to give us the benefit of their experience.

Next General Meeting:
7:30pm 4th July

| <u>Working Bee Dates for 2012</u> | |
|--|--|
| June | 9th – 16th |
| July | 7th – 14th |
| August | 4th – 11th |
| Sept | 1st – 8th |
| Oct | 13th – 20th |

MEMBERSHIP REMINDER

Members are reminded that, following the March AGM, annual fees became due – but they haven't changed! No need to fill in a form if you are renewing – just post us a cheque (\$15.00) and include your up to date contact details (phone, email, etc) please. Also, it is easy to pay via our website – using paypal, direct bank transfer or credit card. We value your membership, so please continue to support our heritage rail project.

School Visit

On the 10th May Oberon Station received a visit from 80 Oberon Infants School pupils. A fine, sunny day was enjoyed by all, with Kylie Moorhead and Arthur Robinson on hand to assist with the visit. Inspection of the station buildings and yard were included in the program as well as a good look at the diesel locos and the restored rolling stock. It seems that the efforts of OTHR made a good impression on the youngsters, who enjoyed their excursion into the past – learning about the workings of the railway in times gone by. Perhaps we will see some future OTHR members in years to come?



If you can attend this June working bee, please let Track Manager, Peter Culley, know as soon as possible – Peter's contact details are – 0427 042448.

Fettler Accommodation

The Oberon Men's Shed team is now offering accommodation to our out-of-town fettlers. The only cost of this overnight accommodation will be to join the Men's Shed at an annual fee of \$10. You will need to bring your own blankets, swag or sleeping bag – the Men's Shed is located within the Oberon Showground. There is a toilet, but no shower on site – however, the new owners of the Jenolan Caravan Park – Bob & Sally Parrington - have generously offered their showering facilities to OTHR members staying at the Men's Shed. Members will need to show their OTHR accreditation ID to the owners to qualify for this very generous offer of free showers.

If you are one of our out-of-town volunteers requiring accommodation over the workbee days please contact Laurie Evans (Ph 6336 1254). He is the co-ordinator for fettler accommodation.

Workbee Catering

OTHR members who can assist with catering for our fettlers should contact Lynette Ireland on 0428 490 809. Volunteers are required to assist with the morning teas and lunches for our hard-working fettlers. Also, any edible donations will be greatly appreciated.

Community Chest Cheque



On Friday 18th May secretary Kylie met with Ian and Warwick Mawhood of the Oberon Supa IGA to receive the “Community Chest” cheque – being presented above by Ian Mawhood. OTHR has been very fortunate over the last few years to receive these donations from IGA, which have been a vital addition to our funding, enabling the heritage rail project to proceed in leaps and bounds. Thank you IGA!

New Zealand visitors

This coming Saturday, 16th June (the last day of the working bee) will see two New Zealand visitors at Oberon Station. Neil and Jane Oppatt will be looking at our branch line from the point of view of “Railcruising”. (see article in the April Newsletter). Come along and find out about this innovative idea for tourist use of the railway. We will have the opportunity to tell our visitors about our future plans for the Oberon Tarana Line.

Transport Request

One of our members, Wayne Dempsey, has located a workers carriage at Tamworth that OTHR could acquire for the cost of transporting it to Oberon. Mr Dempsey said that he would inspect the carriage if he could get transport to Tamworth and report back to OTHR about the condition and size of this item. Wayne lives in Sydney, so anyone travelling to and from Tamworth in the near future is requested to get in touch with Wayne at 9412 2606.

Katoomba Winter Magic Festival

Katoomba is celebrating the winter solstice by a festival on June 23rd, which includes steam trains across the Blue Mountains. Trains depart from Liverpool, Westmead and Blacktown. You can also join the train at Penrith. Departure is 0820 from Liverpool and arrival is 1145 at Katoomba. Returning from Katoomba the departure is 1545. Various classes of carriage are provided, with return fares starting from “standard class” \$105 adult or \$100 for seniors. For more info and the complete range of prices phone 02 9379 1110 or see <http://www.heritageexpress.com.au>

Rolling Stock Shed Progress

As some of you may already know, the first section of the large rolling stock shed was erected during the last working bee in May. Some of the exciting photos of this major task are shown below. The size of the shed structure can be gauged by the home signal in the foreground.



First Shed Section



Unfortunately, during the very high winds in recent weeks, some of the shed roofing in place at the end of the last working bee was damaged, as well as some of the roofing on the ground awaiting erection. Temporary repairs have already been carried out and as the shed erection proceeds these repairs will be finalised. Keep watching this space for more photos of the second stage of the shed erection.

Reminder...

Ordinary General meeting minutes are now available on our website. Go to the “About” tag and to “Meetings” on the drop-down menu. You can now easily find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/OTHR.Inc Check out the events calendar on our website.

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