



# November 2010 Newsletter

PO Box 299, Oberon 2787  
<http://othr.com.au>  
Secretary: phone: 6336 1211  
Email: [conners@activ8.net.au](mailto:conners@activ8.net.au)

*December monthly meeting - Wed 1<sup>st</sup>  
7.30pm at the Oberon RSL Club.*

Welcome to the November newsletter. I imagine most of you have now seen the OTHR display in the local IGA. The next big event is the upcoming **Clearance Sale** at the Oberon Showground. Judging by last year, this will be a huge event – don't miss it !! – we need your support! Also, our annual Xmas BBQ is now scheduled – see below- an event not to be missed.

## Annual Clearance Sale

The monster Clearance Sale will be held on Sunday, 14<sup>th</sup> November at the Oberon Showground. This is the **Annual Central Tablelands Combined Clearance Sale** of the OTHR group, supported by Oberon Council. Catering will be provided by the local service clubs, Rotary and Apex. Come along and enjoy the day.!

Further information is available at [www.OTHR.com.au](http://www.OTHR.com.au) or by emailing [clearingsale@othr.com.au](mailto:clearingsale@othr.com.au). Alternatively, the event co-ordinator, Bill Muldoon, may be contacted on 0427 361438. Forms for submitting items are available on the website or from Visitor Information Centres in Lithgow, Oberon and Bathurst. Items may be delivered up to 2 days before the event.

## OTHR Xmas Party BBQ

To be held on Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> December (the last day of the working bee!) at Oberon Station – at NOON. A lamb spit roast will be provided, but please BYO drinks – alcoholic or otherwise. Accomplished cooks are asked to bring a dessert of some kind – contact Lynette on 042 490809 for suggestions re comestibles. All members and friends are invited to come and join in the Xmas spirit and take the opportunity to see the progress of work in and around the station. I'm sure you will be impressed with what has been achieved by Track Manager Peter Culley and his team of able and willing fettlers.

It's been a long time since the station looked like this.....! Oberon station in 1984 (Tony Woodland).



## November Working Bee: 13<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup>

<b>Working Bee Dates for 2010</b>	
<b>November:</b>	<b>13<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>December:</b>	<b>27Nov - 4Dec</b>
<b>XMAS BBQ</b>	<b>Sat 4<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>

*Please note the unusual dates (above) for the December working bee.*

By the time you read this, our drawings & plans should be completed for the Loco/rolling stock shed to be built in the NW corner of the station site. The Oberon Council will be assisting in levelling the area.

A major event this coming working bee will take place on the Wed 17<sup>th</sup> Nov at Oberon Station. At lunchtime John Cooper and Paul McDonald from the disbanded TRAK group will be presenting OTHR with various items of perway and station equipment. Their previous generosity is much appreciated, so please turn up so we can all give them a big thank you on this occasion.

**URGENT APPEAL:** *More willing workers are needed to support the working bees so that various essential tasks can be accomplished. OTHR volunteers have made tremendous progress to date with the whole project, but there are now many tasks that need our combined attention to enable our tourist trains to commence running on the line. As the weather warms up(?), please seriously consider assisting on these working bees. As always, tea, coffee and a good lunch is provided to the hungry fettlers.*

If you would like to help, please contact our Track Manager Peter Culley on 0427 042448. Free accommodation is still being generously donated by the Oberon community. Please let Laurie Evans know if you require accommodation - Ph 6336 1254. Also, if you can assist with catering or donations of food please ring Lynnette Ireland on 0428 490809.

## Research Success

Keen OTHR member John Tuckerman has managed to turn up a copy of the NSW Railways Weekly Notices – No 41, 12 Oct 1923 – which announces the opening of the Tarana to Oberon Branch Line for commercial traffic. Running times, fares, level crossings, and signalling arrangements are all detailed. Copies will be made for our Systems Manager and the OTHR archives.

### **The Dinner Train Experience**

The Lachlan Valley Railway Dinner Train took a group of OTHR members and friends from Tarana Station to Bathurst on the evening of 16<sup>th</sup> October. LVR diesel loco 4701 hauled the four carriage train through the Tarana Valley into Bathurst in the late afternoon. An enthusiastic group enjoyed a memorable meal at The Hub in Keppel St, with an open fire burning in the grate – most welcome considering the temperature outside, after snows in Bathurst and Oberon that morning.



A happy and relaxed group of diners eventually boarded the train for the return journey to Tarana (see above).

### **Rail Heritage Forum, Sydney**

Col & Glenda Bembrick were the OTHR representatives at the RHA Members Forum held in Sydney on the Sunday, 10<sup>th</sup> Oct. This forum ran for most of the day and included various speakers from the Heritage Rail “industry” – people involved in the running, building and safety aspects of heritage rail operations. Of particular note was the presentation by Eamonn Seddon, CEO of Puffing Billy Railway. Their website is worth a look .... <http://www.puffingbilly.com.au/>

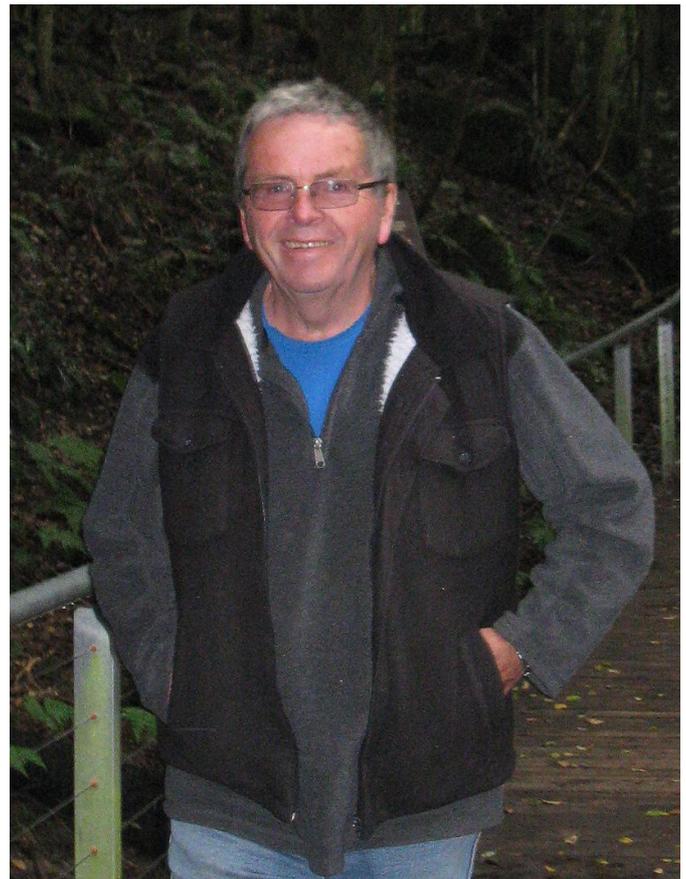
### **XMAS Hamper Raffle**

Our latest raffle is for a sumptuous Xmas Hamper. The raffle will be drawn on 18<sup>th</sup> Dec and donations of non-perishable ingredients are now urgently required. These can be dropped off to Bill Muldoon in Thrifty-Link. Tickets are available by contacting Lorraine Fielding on 042 5289245 or [lpf@activ8.net.au](mailto:lpf@activ8.net.au)

### **Steam & Vintage Fair 2011**

It's not too early to put these dates on your calendar as a reminder for 2011. The hugely successful **Highlands Steam and Vintage Fair** is coming to Oberon once again. This memorable event will be held over three days from Friday 11<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> February at the Oberon Leagues Sport & Recreation Club grounds, Lowes Mount Rd. OTHR will be closely associated with this event via displays at Oberon Station. More details in future issues of this Newsletter.

### **Member Profile: Ian Davis, OTHR Systems Manager**



Ian started work in 1961 as a Field Engineer at the National Cash Register Company, repairing their range of mechanical retail products. Later he transferred to sales and into Product Marketing. Ian was responsible for Banking and ATM products in Australia and later relocated to the USA, working in Latin America, Middle East, Africa and South America.

After returning to Australia in 1990 he joined Telstra in a Product Marketing role responsible for domestic and international packet switched services in their international division. After many role changes he became Product Marketing manager responsible for satellite data communications which provided opportunities to work on the 2000 Sydney Olympics.

Leaving Telstra in 2000, Ian progressed through a number of companies, finally becoming responsible for all international data communications for Verizon. When Ian retired in 2007 he moved to Oberon for a bit of peace and quiet. He is also President of the Oberon Men's Shed, on the Showground Trust and on the Aged Care Committee. So much for a quiet retirement!

**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!