



September 2013 Newsletter

PO Box 299 Oberon 2787
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Next Meeting

Ordinary General Meeting & AGM

7:30pm 2nd October, 2013

Upcoming Working Bees:

7th – 13th September

12th – 18th October

As can be seen highlighted above, we are now coming up to our Annual General Meeting, where committee members are elected. Consequently, the Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway group is looking for new Committee members.

Do you have some free time and organisational skills? Do you have basic computer skills? If you do, would you consider a position on the OTHR Organising Committee? We are looking to recruit keen new members at the Annual General Meeting to be held on the 2nd October in the Oberon RSL Club.

The Committee positions do not entail any physical work at the railway or during the working bees, instead communication and organisational skills are required. The Committee meets twice a month, once in a General Member Meeting and once as Committee only. The purpose of the Committee Meetings is to plan and organise the events and processes required to get the OTHR running. We are particularly interested in new members with OH&S or Safety Management Systems experience.

This is a great opportunity to be involved in a local project, to meet new people from the community and participate in social events at the railway. The usual committee positions will be appointed at the next AGM, so please contact one of the members below as soon as possible to discuss the process.

If you are interested in joining this exciting heritage rail project and would like some more information please contact OTHR President Tim Arnison on 0428 250 402, Peter Culley on 0427 042 448 or Kylie Moorhead on 0409 826 436.

Membership reminder.... Now Due!!

The full annual membership for OTHR is still only \$15 per person – send your cheque to our Treasurer Marjorie Webb at the address on the masthead. You can also easily pay online at our website or by direct deposit – BSB 062-632, Acc: 1004 9851 – but don't forget to include your name! Don't delay ... join today!

During the current (Sept) working bee we will be building on the success of the last two, where major progress was made. Transport and crane availability permitting, the rail will most probably be moved to Oberon station yard. If time permits, preliminary work on the new roads into the shed may commence and it is hoped to do further work on the carriage repairs. A lot of this essential work can now take place under cover with the carriages now housed in the shed.

The weather has now warmed up a little, so roll up and take part in this exciting stage of our heritage rail project. Your input is needed and appreciated!

If you can attend the coming *October* working bee, please let our Track Manager, Peter Culley know as soon as possible.

– Peter's contact details are – 0427 042448.

Fettler Accommodation

The Oberon Men's Shed team continues to offer accommodation to our out-of-town fettlers. The only cost will be to join the Men's Shed at an annual fee of \$10 – an absolute bargain! Any volunteers requiring accommodation over the working bee days should contact Laurie Evans (Ph 63361254) - co-ordinator for fettler accommodation.

Working Bee Catering

Members who can assist with catering for our fettlers should contact Lynette Ireland on 0428 490 809. Volunteers are required to assist with the catering - any edible donations will be greatly appreciated.

Burruga Sheep Show

An information stand for OTHR was manned at the Burruga Sheep Show by Col & Glenda. A steady stream of visitors passed through the doors of the hall and the OTHR stand was well positioned at the entrance. OTHR notebooks, pens and key rings were on sale, the pens proving most popular. A satisfactory number of information brochures and membership forms were handed out to interested visitors and at least one promise of a working bee volunteer was noted.

Station Open Days

Oberon station will be open on two Saturdays – 5th & 12th Oct - for groups of walkers taking part in the “Festival of Walking”. Volunteers to assist in showing the visitors around on these days are required between the hours of 10am and 3pm. – contact the Secretary.

November Spring Fair

A major Spring Open Day will take place on 2nd November. This will be in conjunction with our friends from the Oberon Heritage & Collectors Club. There will be tractor, truck and vintage car displays as well as a 1913 Ruston Proctor traction engine in steam. Also, a small scale steam loco will be operating on a display length of track. Food and drinks will be available for all visitors. OTHR locos and rolling stock will of course be open for inspection. Come along and have a day outing with a difference.



Contacts: Secretary, Elaine: Ph 02 6336 0441, and by Email: admin@othr.com.au

Our Ordinary General meeting minutes are now available on our website. You can also easily find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/OTHR.Inc

Check out the events calendar on our website, plus new photos of current events.

Newsletter Editor, Col: taranaob@activ8.net.au

The Bush Telegraph

A recent inspection of “retired” rolling stock held in Bathurst Yards (see Aug 2011 Newsletter) has proved that all three items could be usable by OTHR. A letter has been sent to John Holland Rail requesting that these carriages be moved to the Rail Workshop siding for easy retrieval in the future.

The remaining load of fishplates from Leadville have been retrieved – thanks to Tim & Sue Arnison. Rail and other equipment from Coolah & Leadville deposited at the Moorhead Engineering property needs to be brought to the Station precinct.

A final Engineering Certificate for the rolling stock shed has been acquired. The one remaining task is to have a qualified person test the flow rate on the fire hose reels before final approval will be granted by Council.

The restoration of Frame A from Leadville is now progressing in the “Sectionman’s Workshop” – otherwise known as the Editor’s barn – at Napoleon Reef. Cast iron items have been sandblasted and zinc sprayed prior to spraying with matt black epoxy enamel.

A replacement Facing Points Lever label (for one of the Leadville frames) has been donated by John Parker – to whom we extend our thanks. This donation was expedited by members Ashley Bugden and John Tuckerman. Thanks are due all round!

A quantity of heavy rail has been acquired which is earmarked for the Lowes Mount Rd level crossing. This means that more detailed planning for this major exercise can now commence. This crossing will require several hundred metres of newly aligned perway as well as the section that crosses Lowes Mount Rd about one kilometre north of the station. Meantime, work continues on the Albion St crossing track fabrication.

The “industrial archaeology” work at Carlwood station site has now progressed to the stage of positively identifying

the old concrete foundations of Frames A and B. The remains of Frame B have been cleaned up and are now protected



from further damage (see photo). The Frame A remains are at present undergoing similar treatment and should be completed during the current September working bee.