



August 2015 Newsletter

PO Box 299 Oberon 2787
www.othr.com.au

Sponsor:
RELIANCE
CREDIT UNION
you first. always.

Plans are now well in hand for the OTHR display at the BATHEX exhibition at the Bathurst Showground over the weekend of 26th and 27th September. OTHR will have a stand there featuring two of our track maintenance vehicles, the Section Car or Ross' Rocket plus the Sheffield Velocipede trike.

Graham Williams and Arthur Robinson have volunteered to show off their fine railway uniforms over the two days.

We will also feature historic photo displays, memorabilia items and membership information. This will also be an opportunity to sell some of our range of souvenirs.

The BATHEX features collectables, gems, stamps, glassware, coins, model railways and heaps more. It is a major event for Bathurst and the region and should give us a great deal of publicity.

We could do with a few more volunteers to man the OTHR stand over the Saturday and Sunday, so if you can spare a few hours on one or other of those days please contact our Secretary, Elaine.

Next Meeting

General Meeting

7:30pm, 2nd September, 2015

In October – on the Sunday 25th – OTHR will be holding a film afternoon at the Lithgow Valley Film Society cinema in Lithgow. This event will be in the nature of a fundraiser and a 10th Birthday bash.

**Lithgow Valley Film Society
COMMUNITY CINEMA**

The films to be shown are “Ghost Trains” which includes the history of the Wolgan Valley railway, plus “Man from Cox’s River”, an excellent story about brumbies in the Burragorang Valley. More details in future Newsletters and a flyer. An afternoon tea will be served at Interval and bus transport is being arranged from Oberon for a modest cost.

Come along and make this a memorable social event to mark OTHR’s 10th birthday year!

Working Bee News

The August working bee will have concluded as you receive this Newsletter. My apologies for the incorrect dates for the August working bee in the last Newsletter – regular fettlers would not have been fooled, but no one picked up on my boo-boo so no corrections were sent out at the time. Again, my apologies.

Track Manager, Graham Williams, reports that the re-sleeping under the turnout to the Public Works Siding (coal shed) is now finished and this means that of the 4 turnouts in the yard that had to be restored, 3 have now been finished. The next turnout to receive attention will be the one at Lever E down near Scotia Ave.

Next Working Bee

Saturday, September 5th to

Wed, September 9th

When that is finished it will mean that all the tracks in the yard - i.e. main line next to the platform and the loop road have been completely restored and so the yard can be certified as fit for traffic.

If you can join our dedicated band of hard-working volunteers and assist with the work during the *September* working bee – please contact our Track Manager, Graham Williams, on 0422 596 438. Graham is always keen to hear from members who are prepared to step up and have a go! Even a few hours assisting the team can make a big difference.

Progress on the re-sleeping of the turnout to the Public Works Siding



Down the Track

Planning and negotiation are underway to retrieve HS36 from Broadmeadow and return it to Oberon, where it can be housed under cover while awaiting restoration. For some time now this carriage has been “earmarked” for OTHR by the Rail Transport Museum and it is to be hoped that we can bring this project to fruition.



HS 36 is a major historical artifact for the branch line. This carriage spent most of its life on the Oberon line. Following restoration, it will form a major part of our heritage display. Major funding will be needed to transport it to Oberon station and your committee will be exploring the possibility of Government grants.



Signage for Shed

The manufacture of the new OTHR signage for the rolling stock shed is now completed – thanks to Mark Taylor of Oberon for a very impressive job. The signboards are currently under cover in the rolling stock shed - weather and manpower permitting, these will be erected during the next working bee. Watch this space for photos.

OTHR Flag

This has now been delivered and looks very smart indeed. The flagpole erection team now has to swing into action. It should be an eye-catching addition to our display at the next Steam and Vintage Fair.

Around the Traps

The new OTHR Brochure has now reached the preliminary proof stage and is in the capable hands of Permanent Press in Bathurst. Thanks to Chris and Kathy Sogaert for their valued input on the final design.

Meanwhile, back in the station yard, much sleeper replacement work has been going on apace. Photo below shows the progress of re-sleeping of the turnout to the Public Works Siding – looking north along the run-around loop, with the rolling stock shed in the far background.



*** Reminder - Membership Renewal ***

At this time of year we need to remind our members that fees are due for the coming 12 months. In spite of postal charges increasing recently, our fees have remained the same this year at \$15 per person.

This represents very good value for our members and we can assure them that every last cent will be applied to getting this heritage railway up and running.

You may pay by sending a cheque to our Treasurer John Brochie at the address on the masthead. Alternatively, you may pay by direct debit - please remember to include your name. The bank details are:- BSB 062 632, Account: 1004 9851. A membership form can be downloaded from our website.

Vale John McMahon

Mayor of Oberon for the last three years and long-time keen supporter of OTHR, John passed away on Tuesday, July 14th. Sincere condolences to all his family and friends from all of us in OTHR.

Contacts:

Secretary, Elaine: Ph 02 6336 0441,

and by Email: admin@othr.com.au

Newsletter Editor: Col – taranaob@activ8.net.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