



July 2015 Newsletter

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

Sponsor:
RELIANCE
CREDIT UNION
you first. always.

Various plans are afoot for events that OTHR is connected with in the latter part of this year. These include fundraisers, film shows and exhibitions in Bathurst.

The latter event is the BATHEX exhibition at the Bathurst Showground over the weekend of 26th and 27th September. OTHR will have a stand there featuring one of our track maintenance vehicles, 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. OTHR members will need to make up a roster to cover manning the stand over the two day period. Contact Secretary Elaine if you can help out on these days.

Next Meeting

General Meeting

7:30pm, 5th August, 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 – so come along and have a most enjoyable time. Two films will be shown, including one on the history of the Wolgan Valley railway – more details in future Newsletters. An afternoon tea will be served at Interval and bus transport is being arranged from Oberon.

As you know, Col & Glenda have recently returned from a trip to South Australia with Insights Tours. Too many highlights were experienced to relate them all, but here we are arriving at Port Augusta via our rail motor through the Pichi Richi Pass.



Working Bee News

The July working bee will be concluding as you receive this Newsletter. Recently, the run-around road in the station yard has had 130 sleepers replaced, with only a few more to go to complete the job. Track Manager, Graham Williams has been ably assisted in this project by Arthur Robinson and Martin Salmon – thanks guys!

The current working bee will see up to 80 sleepers gauged and pinned along the Highland Pine fence, near Frame D (see photo below) and approaching the Lowes Mount Rd crossing.

In preparation for the crossing work a rail swap is now underway with our colleagues at Zig Zag Railway. Some heavy rail will be acquired for the approaches to the level crossing.

If you can join our dedicated band of hard-working volunteers and assist with the work during the August 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! All our hungry fettlers are provided with a satisfying lunch each day!

Next Working Bee

**Saturday, August 8th to
Wed, August 12th**

Meanwhile, on the administration front, Ian Davis reports that a number of our SMS documents are now re-written and ready to be reviewed by the Committee at the next meeting. Ian has (until recently) been assisted in this unspectacular but essential job by Greg Bourne and they have both put in many hours on this task. Greg has had to relinquish his Committee positions due to other pressures on his time, but we thank him for his valuable input over the last months.

Frame D along the Highland Pine fence where much track work has taken place recently – on the approaches to Lowes Mount Rd.



Valuable donation

As a result of a fortuitous set of circumstances too long to relate here, Col Bembrick was able to make a significant donation to OTHR last Wednesday night.

Col presenting his windfall cheque to President Tim Arnison at the Oberon RSL Club.



Down the Track

An OTHR flag has been ordered and is now in preparation. This

will be on display at the station on open days and other events. The design is similar to the banners we display on our locos. But first of all we have to erect a flagpole!



As you read this newsletter we hear that the cast iron components of Frame B from Leadville have been sandblasted courtesy of Barry Hughes of Oberon. Many thanks, Barry! These will now go into the "Sectionman's Workshop" at Napoleon reef and be fully



restored by Col over the next few months. The photo below is the 'before' photo – watch this space for progress reports. The March Newsletter shows how they will look (hopefully) when they are finished.

The Mark I draft of the new OTHR brochure you have been hearing about was submitted to the Committee Meeting for discussion. Valuable feedback was gained from Tim Arnison and Elaine Boxer. Col is currently re-designing and modifying the brochure to produce a Mark II draft for consideration by the members. It is hoped to have this second draft finalised in the very near future so we can proceed with the printing and distribution of the final version. Costings of various printing options are currently being explored.

Around the Traps

OTHR has recently received another valuable donation – this time from a donor who wishes to remain anonymous. This *rail saw* will now enable us to carry out work on joining of the rail to the Albion St level crossing, and of course, the Lowes Mount Rd crossing in the not too distant future. Many thanks to our donor – you know who you are – and you can be assured that OTHR will make very good use of this essential piece of equipment in the future as work proceeds down the line towards Carlwood and beyond.

We are currently waiting on the final official paperwork from Greg Noble re the certification of our new roads 1 and 2 into the rolling stock shed. Once this is signed off, then the loco move into the rolling stock shed will take place using the Lachlan Valley Railway accreditation for moving the locos. We expect this to happen very shortly. Getting the locos under cover and out of the weather will be a great help in their preservation and future maintenance. Watch this space for photos!

Signage for Shed

The manufacture of the new OTHR signage for the rolling stock shed is now underway – Mark Taylor of Oberon is progressing with the job. This new signage will consist of the OTHR logo in black and white on a large board attached to the north end and the east side of the shed. When in place this latest addition to our shed will certainly give OTHR more "exposure" in the local



community. By way of comparison, the impressive shed signage for the Peterborough Heritage Rail Centre is illustrated above....

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