



September 2015 Newsletter

PO Box 299 Oberon 2787
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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.

Next Meeting

Annual General Meeting

7:30pm, 7th October, 2015

The next meeting is our AGM and we are looking for new Committee members. If you would like to join our group and take a part in getting the railway going again, please contact Tim Arnison on 0428 250 404.

Film Day at Lithgow.

In October – on the Sunday 25th – OTHR will be holding a film afternoon at the Lithgow Valley Film Society cinema in Lithgow. Tickets are \$15 each including afternoon tea..

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. Tickets are available at Cobweb Craft shop in Oberon and from the Secretary – send your order to PO Box 299 and tickets will be mailed to you.

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

Working Bee News

The September working bee will be underway when you receive this edition

Track Manager, Graham Williams, reports that the re-sleepering 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. A big thankyou to Barry Webb for removing tons of soil from the area as it has been excavated from around the sleepers.

Next Working Bee

Saturday, October 3rd to

Wed, October 7th

If you can join our dedicated band of hard-working volunteers and assist with the work during the *October* working bee **from the 3rd to 7th Oct**– 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.

Plans for the October working bee are to source some 80lb rail to facilitate the construction of the crossing for Lowes Mount Rd. Oberon Council plans to complete this crossing in November 2015.



NEW DOCUMENTARY

**THE MAN FROM
COXS RIVER**

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.

Goodbye Doug

Long-time member and avid photographer, Doug Booker is leaving the district and moving to Canberra to be near family. Doug has been photographically recording the progress of work at the railway and has a huge catalogue of photos which he has generously donated to OTHR. Col will have this catalogue so we are able to dip into it when needed.

Thankyou Doug for all your work and friendship, we wish you well in the future.

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 been printed and is being circulated to tourist venues and businesses around town

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.

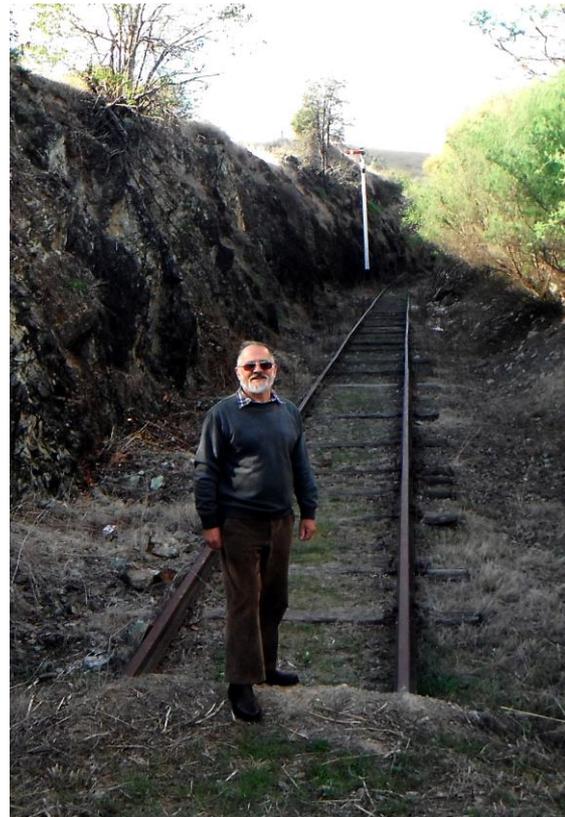
You may pay by sending a cheque to our Treasurer John Brotchie at the address on the masthead. Alternatively, you may pay by direct debit - please remember to include your name. The bank details are:- BSB 062 632, Account: 1004 9851. A membership form can be downloaded from our website.

Thanks to Mark Langdon.

Graham Williams reports that Mark has taken the old seat from the plough van and generously had it re-upholstered in the correct green vinyl. Graham has now re-installed it in the plough van. Thanks to Mark for this in kind donation.

Quiz for the dedicated.

Where is this section of abandoned section of NSW rail line? Note the home signal in the background.



Contacts:

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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