



## September 2008 Newsletter

PO Box 299, Oberon 2787  
[www.ozsite.com.au/oberonrailway](http://www.ozsite.com.au/oberonrailway)

Secretary: phone: 6336 1211  
email: [conners@activ8.net.au](mailto:conners@activ8.net.au)

This month's newsletter is early and will be shorter as we wish to draw some urgent matters to your attention. Most of them relate to fundraising.

We have applied for several grants and will continue to apply for any funding that is relevant to our organisation. However, it is important for OTHR that fundraising is a continuous process and uses as many strategies as possible. OTHR's Management Committee welcomes fundraising ideas from members so please give our secretary a call.

### Spring Raffle

The three super Spring Raffle prizes were described in our August newsletter. We have enclosed 5 tickets for all members with this newsletter and request that the ticket stubs, unused tickets and raffle money be returned **by 18th October** as the raffle will be drawn soon after. Please send them to:

The Treasurer  
Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway Inc.  
PO Box 299  
Oberon NSW 2787

If you would like more raffle tickets, please give our Secretary a call or email her (see details above) and they will be posted to you.

### Thank you

Our grateful thanks go to members Kathy and Chris Segart of Permanent Press Printers for their generosity in printing the raffle tickets free of charge for OTHR.

### Bush Poetry & Bush Music Night

**Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> November**

Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway in conjunction with the Burruga Agricultural Bureau is sponsoring a night of Australian Bush Poetry and Music at the Oberon Showground on **Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> November**.

It will be a fun night for all the family. Full details about the Night, performers and ticket prices will be sent to members early in October, so put the 8<sup>th</sup> of November in your social diaries.

### New Members

Welcome to new members Tony McCoy (Bass Hill), and Luke Adamson (Oberon). We appreciate your support and look forward to seeing you at OTHR's activities.

### Annual Central Tablelands Combined Farm Clearance Sale

**Sunday, 16<sup>th</sup> November 2008**

This project developed by Chris Stott, our Finance Co-ordinator should prove to be one of OTHR's most exciting events of the year. Many farms and households have machinery, equipment and household items that are surplus to the owners' requirements but will often be of significant value to someone else. OTHR's clearance sale provides a venue for sellers and buyers to come together in a professionally organised event.

The Clearing Sale will be held at the Oberon Showground and there will be an auction for all items with a reserve price of \$200 or more and other items will be sold by private treaty. As well as large items you can bring a truckload of items, a trailer load or sell from your car boot.

Put **Sunday, 16<sup>th</sup> November** in your diary for a fun day and contact Tim Arnison from OTHR's Management Committee for more details about the event (ph. 6335 6307). More information about the clearing sale will be included in the October Newsletter and a special events flyer to be sent out in early October.

### Office of Rail Heritage Award

In our July Newsletter we told readers that OTHR had won the prestigious award of "Community Relationship Building" at the Annual Awards ceremony held at the Power House Museum on 30<sup>th</sup> July. We have now received the photo below from the Office of Rail Heritage showing our proud President Bill Muldoon receiving the award.



*President Bill Muldoon receives OTHR's award from RailCorp CEO, Rob Mason.*

## September Working Bee

OTHR members came from the Central Coast, Katoomba and Bargo to join with local volunteers from Oberon and Tarana for a working bee lacking rain and snow. What have we done to deserve fine weather? We started the week off with many maintenance tasks and serviced all machines including sleeper trolleys, air drills and OTHR's tractor. Unfortunately due to a delay in receiving a spare part for the excavator our experienced fettlers laid over 200 sleepers manually. The excavator will definitely be operational for the October working bee.

A key focus of the working bee was cleaning up the Hazelgrove Siding area. A large pine tree that had grown in the middle of the lines had been chopped down several months ago so here was an opportunity for a giant barbecue. Twenty-five members gathered on Friday evening to watch the tree burn and celebrate the week's work with some well-cooked Oberon sausages.

Negotiations are well under way to acquire a pressed concrete railway station building that will be erected at Hazelgrove Siding. When erected, this building will be a replica of the railway structure that originally stood at Hazelgrove.



*Fettlers Dale Adamski and Ross Allen pinning and gauging new sleepers on the track near our "Head Office".*

## October Working Bee

This working bee will take place from the 4<sup>th</sup> to the 11<sup>th</sup> October inclusive. Already two of our out-of-town members are booked into the Big Trout Motel while they are working on the track.

### Thank you

Our grateful thanks go to the McGrath Family for their generous support of OTHR's activities by donating accommodation for our out-of-town fettlers. It has made a huge difference to our numbers during the weeklong working bees.

## September Monthly Meeting



*OTHR members waiting to meet the candidates who stood for the recent Oberon Council election.*

Twenty-eight OTHR members attended our delayed September meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup> September to hear presentations by Council candidates, Ron Bailey, Bill Dawson, Ian Doney, Bev Evans, Jill Evans, Zsuzsanna Handelsmann, Margaret Kilby, Sam Lord, John McMahon and Keith Sullivan. Members appreciated being able to meet the candidates face to face and found the meeting helpful in being able to exchange ideas about issues relating to the railway restoration project.

Thank you to the candidates who joined our members for this special meeting. The election results will be announced after this newsletter is published. We congratulate the successful candidates and look forward to establishing a productive working relationship with all Councillors to ensure that our dream of bringing the Oberon to Tarana railway line to life becomes a reality.

### **Future Working Bee Dates**

**4<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> October inclusive**

**1<sup>st</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> November inclusive**

**13<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> December inclusive**