



History on the Move

Newsletter of Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway Inc. February 2023



Sometimes some manpower is required.

A significant milestone, among others, with the bogies of one of our 1897 End Platform Carriages rolled out for maintenance, inspection, and recommissioning.

**OTHR Membership Fee 2022/2023 now due.
Renewal form page 25 of this Newsletter**

Patrons

Paul Toole

Deputy Premier NSW, State Member for Bathurst, Leader of NSW National Party. Minister of Regional New South Wales and Minister for Police.

Andrew Gee

Federal Member for Calare.

Committee

Gregory Bourne

President, Public Officer

Ken Lingabala

Vice President

Engineering Manager - Infrastructure Manager

David McMurray

Secretary

Jessie Bijok

Treasurer.

Michael Clark

HS36 Project Manager

Michael O'Kane

Events Manager

Mark Handel

Rolling Stock Manager

Line Managers

Elaine Boxer

Catering Manager

Mark Langdon

Asset Manager

Mick Sanders

Operations Manager

Alex Boromisa

Facebook Moderator

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1957 at the station a long time ago

President's Message

This has been the busiest week for OTHR for years. On Monday we had three different contractors on site.

- Complete Asset Management had an early start by moving rail from the yard and taking it to the area near the level crossing on Lowes Mount Road. The weather has been good this week they have made excellent progress.
- Tim Elderton of Lithgow Rail Workshop arrived with a team of four and they set about the business of lifting one of the end platform cars. I was amazed how quickly they jacked it up and rolled out the bogie for inspection and servicing. A few minor problems were identified.
- Tim had organised Echo Inspections from Orange to be on site to ultrasound the axles on each bogie in the morning. In spite of their age they were in good shape and no cracks were detected.

Paul Toole was in the yard on Friday to announce the result of a grant from the Stronger Country Communities Fund Round 5 which we had applied for last year. The \$172,455 has been tied to improvements to the Hazelgrove station area. We will be able to restore the turn around loop and make a more substantial platform as well as some other improvements to the site.

We will be having a visit from ONRSR on March 15th "The purpose of the site visit is to observe progression of restoration works to Hazelgrove and discuss variation of accreditation with operator" (OTHR). We are already working on reviewing SMS documents which will be scrutinised by the ONRSR officers.

Two important dates this week are

Open Day this Saturday 4th 10.00 to 2.00

**Bi-monthly General Meeting Wednesday
7.30 pm at Oberon RSL**

**Greg Bourne
President,
Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway Inc.
Email: admin@othr.com.au
Mobile: 0437 389 684**

Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway Inc. Mission Statement

To be an accredited rail operator to run a tourist train from Oberon station to Tarana station on the main western line. This would allow for tourists to ride a heritage train along the Oberon Tarana branch line which was also known as the pioneer line.

Further, the running of this train would generate tourist related jobs in the Oberon area and give residents in the Oberon/Bathurst area an opportunity by volunteering at OTHR to enhance rail heritage in the local area.

**Network with other rail heritage groups and museums at Valley Heights, Lithgow, Zig Zag, Bathurst, and Cowra to form a Heritage Railway partnership to prioritise and promote the area as a
Railway Tourist Precinct**

Important contacts

- Mail: PO Box 299 Oberon NSW 2787
- Email: admin@othr.com.au
- Website: www.othr.com.au
- Facebook: www.facebook.com/OTHR.Inc

Editor's thoughts

Knee deep in it and being productive.

January started off slowly and for a time I thought there would be nothing much to write about. Then it all happened

A rush of projects occurred just after the end traditional Christmas break.

The January edition of the OTHR Newsletter has full details but just let me recap.

Projects underway include:

- Refurbishment of Locomotives
- Painting of interior of End Platform Carriages
- Extensive maintenance and recommissioning of carriages
- Earthworks and planning for infrastructure in Oberon Station Precinct
- Start of earthworks to build a station and landscaping at Hazelgrove
- Replacing the missing link of rail between Albion Street and Borg Gate 6
- A visit from ONRSR will take place on Wednesday 15th March.

As I said at the beginning of this column, we're knee deep in it and we're productive.

"Amateurs sit and wait for inspiration, the rest of us just get up and go to work.

Stephen King"

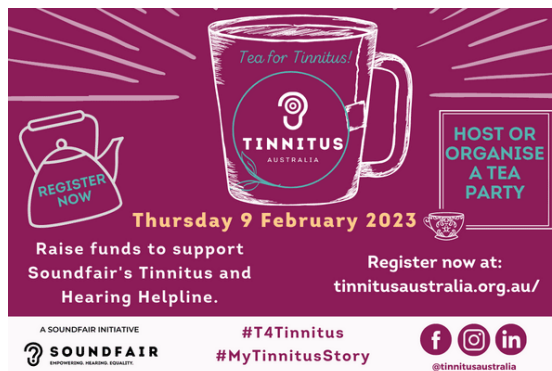
Bi-monthly General Meeting

Reserve the date **Wednesday 8th February 2023**

**Oberon RSL, Dudley Street, Oberon
7.30 pm**

**Note: Bi-monthly General Meetings
are now scheduled for the 2nd
Wednesday of every second month.**

General Meeting



Tea for Tinnitus!

REGISTER NOW

TINNITUS AUSTRALIA

HOST OR ORGANISE A TEA PARTY

Thursday 9 February 2023

Raise funds to support Soundfair's Tinnitus and Hearing Helpline.

Register now at: tinnitusaustralia.org.au/

A SOUNDFAIR INITIATIVE

SOUNDFAIR ENGINEERING. HEARING. EQUALITY.

#T4Tinnitus #MyTinnitusStory

f @ tinnitusaustralia

In February, OTHR is supporting Tinnitus Australia. What is Tinnitus? Tinnitus is a hearing condition where people hear noises, hisses or hums that have no external source and is often called "ringing in the ears." It can be constant or occasional, loud or soft, mild or severe and can be heard in one or both ears or "in the head". Want to learn more? Visit www.tinnitusaustralia.org.au



The OTHR Committee has a romantic side, so we would like to wish all our members and readers a very Happy Valentine's Day.

Success!

Australia Day Celebrations in Oberon is the prestige event in Oberon Village's calendar.

In 2023 Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway was nominated as Volunteer Group of the Year; President Greg Bourne received nominations for Volunteer of the Year and Citizen of the Year.

Unsurprisingly, Greg was awarded Volunteer of the Year.



Volunteer of the Year Greg Bourne (left) with Oberon's Ambassador, Viv Katsounis and Oberon's Mayor, Mark Kellam.

Upon accepting the award, Greg said that it wasn't his alone as he had a very strong Committee and Volunteers backing him.

He also gave praise to Committees and Volunteers from past years without whom, he and OTHR would not be receiving the accolades in 2023.



Further Grant announced.

Friday 27th January last was a momentous day for OTHR when Paul Toole, Co-Patron of OTHR, Deputy Premier, Police Minister and Minister for Regional NSW announced a further grant.

The grant, \$172K, was provided to assist OTHR to build the Hazelgrove Station, turnaround and landscaping the area including picnic grounds, display area and disability/unisex toilet facilities.

The Committee of OTHR thanks the NSW State Government most sincerely.

The State Government sees the benefits that will accrue to the Central Tablelands/ Central West when our project opens later this year.

To the left.

End of day: sleepers with rail in place on plates

This section to the east of Lowes Mount Road is looking good although there is more work to be done

Progress on the OTHR New Entrance



Reinforced wall under construction

The last working bee took place on Saturday 28th January. Working conditions were rather warm with the temperature reaching 34C. However, our crew are a hardy bunch and weren't put off.

If you were thinking about volunteering, why not make an enquiry at admin@othr.com.au. There are many jobs to be undertaken and we can certainly use your expertise. Not experienced? Don't let that put you off; we'll soon teach you.



Another angle showing the retaining wall.

Missing link replaced.

CAM Contractors returned to Oberon on Monday 30th January to restore the missing 400 metres of track between Albion Street and the Borg complex Gate 6 in Lowes Mount Road.

Work has progressed at a rapid rate with completion due around 6th February.

This is the final piece to the puzzle and OTHR will have an uninterrupted railway line from Oberon to Hazelgrove.



Survey pegs ready for the new piece of railway line in Lowes Mount Road with preparatory work in the background.



Earthworks outside the Borg factory looking South towards Oberon.



Same stretch of work with road base; looking North from Oberon.

Meanwhile at the other end of the track

Work continues for the preparation of the turnaround loop and station complex at Hazelgrove.



Base has been laid prior to the commencement of building the turnaround loop.



Survey peg in position for the North end righthand turnout



Rail stored in readiness for the building of the turnaround loop.



Intense discussion about the Locomotive refurbishment.

The two OTHR Locomotives are receiving a makeover just in time for the official re-opening of the Oberon Branch line on 3rd October.

Can you imagine how spectacular they'll look when completed!!

Group Visits Oberon.

We've had a follow up visit by the "N" Gauge Model Railway Group in the last couple of weeks.

They were in Oberon to measure some parts of the line to assist in the grand display they are proposing for the October Centenary Celebration.

These enthusiasts will be playing an active role in Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway Inc's Centenary of the opening of the branch line in October 2023.

Plans of what they are going to be displaying sound fantastic and we can't wait to see what eventuates.

More to come in future newsletters.



Preparing to lay line.

Inspection of Carriages underway.



Some preliminary work underway for carriage inspections. Photo shows Tim Elderton and Dave LRW employee (standing) and OTHR working on the undercarriage.

Tim Elderton, Managing Director of the Lithgow Railway Workshop called into our workshop on 12th January last to start preliminary work on inspection and certification of the End Platform Carriages prior to them entering service on the Oberon railway line.

In observing work completed thus far, Tim made the following comments:

“I have never seen headstocks as good as this.”

“I’m very positive on how level/straight CBA850 was after the truss rod work.”

Tim and his team began work at our workshop during this Monday 30th January and will finish Friday. The axle ultrasound technician will work on the End Platform Cars axles on Monday and return Friday to work on the two locomotives.

LRW employees lifted the carriages and rolled out the bogies prior to a thorough inspection. The inspection

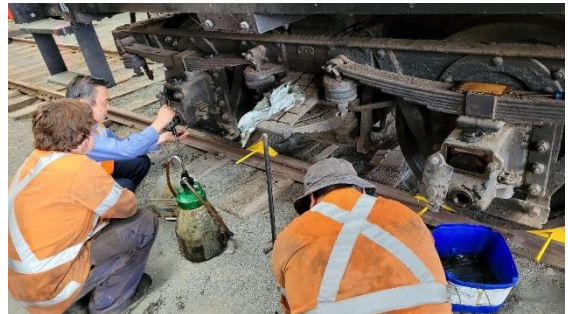
- was extensive

- nothing untoward was found
- minor repairs were completed
- brake hoses replaced
- we are waiting for the certification certificates when the book work is completed

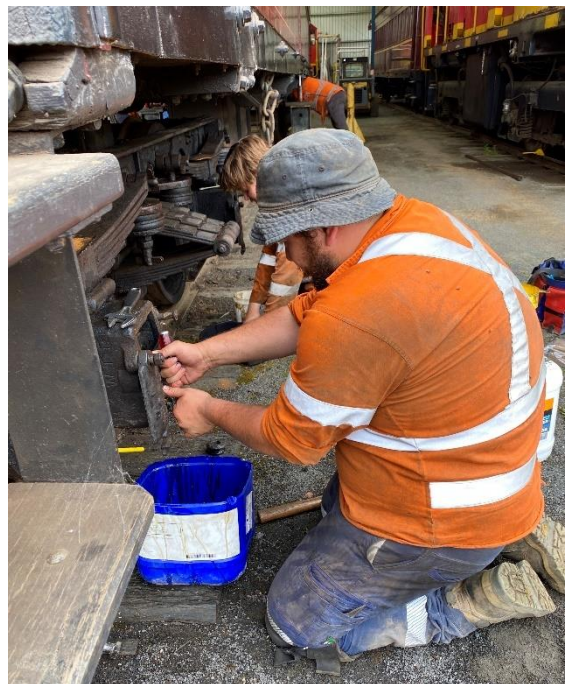
This work was carried out over three days.



Set of bogies rolled out for inspection.



Principal LRW, Tim Eddleton and his workers working on a set of bogies.



Staff from LRW performing maintenance on axles

Railway is on track.

We chat with Secretary Dave.

So starts a lengthy chat with Dave McMurray conducted by Peter Bowditch, Reporter for the Oberon Review.

“The Oberon Review sat down for a chat with Dave McMurray, Secretary of the Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway (OTHR).

OR: 2022 was a big year for OTHR, with work finally starting on getting the railway back into service. You must be both excited and relieved.

DM: We certainly are both. It has taken a lot of work and patience to get this far.

OR: What have been the biggest challenges over the last year?

DM: Apart from the weather which has been a problem for everyone and competing demands on the contractors, everything has gone as well as expected. There are always surprises in a project like this, especially as the track has been unused for over 40 years, but there’s been nothing that caused any major delays or changes to the plan.

OR: There always seems to be naysayers about any project like this. Have you met any real opposition over the time its taken to get the project started?

DM: There have always been people saying it would never happen and if it did it would be a waste of money, but all this has gone quiet since the restoration work started.

There are a few people with properties along the route who have been concerned about access across the line but we believe that all those problems have been solved.

OR: There have been some suggestions that restoration all the way to Tarana could be financed if the line were to be used to transport timber into and out of Oberon’s mills. What is OTHR’s take on this?

DM: To open the line for that sort of freight would require three things – transferring ownership of the line to the State Government, ballasting and sleeper replacement and more work to bring the track up to

an acceptable standard for heavy freight. Any one of these would remove the “heritage” aspects of the line. We would love to have the line running all the way to Tarana, and this objective is in our mission statement, but not at the expense of losing the heritage classification.

OR: It looks like most of the work on restoring the tracks has been completed. What is left to be done?

DM: The section between the Albion St level crossing and the one on Lowes Mount Rd has to be rebuilt. Part of the right of way is currently used by Highland Pine for storage but an amicable solution has been found.

OR: When can we expect to see trains running on the tracks?

DM: As soon as the last piece of track is in place we can start doing short training runs over it. There is a lot of work still to do before we will have a fully functioning rail operation. Both crews and rollingstock have to be certified before there can be any thought of carrying paying passengers, and there is still a lot of work to be done on the carriages and locomotives. There will be excitement at the first movement across Albion Street but it will just be the start of many weeks and months of the work needed to get into full operation.

OR: So, what can we expect to see in 2023?

DM: October 2023 will see the 100th anniversary of the opening of the railway, so we have big plans. Before we can hope to have regular trips on the line between Oberon and Hazelgrove and a new tourist attraction in town. The 2022 Railway Ball was an enormous success and the 2023 one will be bigger and better, held in October to celebrate the centenary. Work will continue to improve the line and its environs and plans will be put into place for future developments.

OR: Apart from just running a train shuttle between Oberon and Hazelgrove, what are the plans beyond that?

DM: We have two major plans to follow the opening of the line. One is to do landscaping around Oberon station to improve pedestrian and wheelchair access

to the station, relocate the entrance to make room for trains and to increase parking. The other plan will take more time and will be the rebuilding of Hazelgrove station combined with development of a picnic and playground area at that end of the line. This will allow tourists to travel to Hazelgrove and spend some time there before coming back.

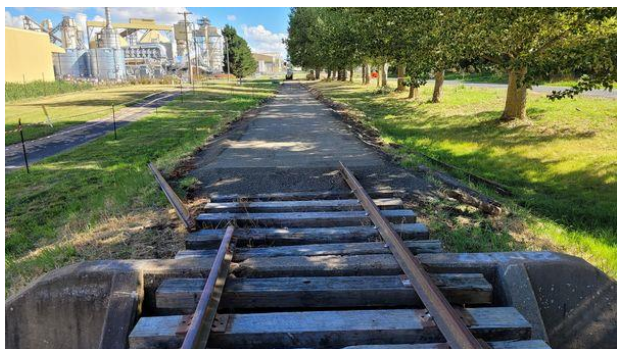
We would also like to work with Council to improve the walking track beside the line, with some rest stops along the way. This would allow people to walk one way and catch the train back.

OR: What benefit do you see the railway bringing to Oberon?

DM: Currently, the two biggest tourist attractions in the area are Jenolan Caves and Mayfield Garden. The distance between the two means that tourists seldom visit both. By putting another major attraction between the two, visitors will be encouraged to spend some more time and hopefully more money in Oberon. We would like to have arrangements with both Mayfield and Jenolan to offer combined tickets, and this would benefit all three attractions.

OR: When will trains run all the way to Tarana?

DM: Please don't ask questions that are impossible to answer. Lets get the first part of the job done before we get too carried away with the future. One thing I do know is that the lessons we have learnt so far will make the next stage a little easier, but when it will happen, nobody can say.



100 CLUB

Your chance to win \$1,000.00

You can win \$1,000.00 by investing in our fund raising with a chance to win.

The draw is open to all readers of this Newsletter.

A simple way for you to invest to help secure our future.

It works this way:

- Purchase a ticket for \$20.00
- There are only 100 tickets sold.
- When all 100 tickets are sold, we will draw one ticket with your chance to win \$1,000.00
- Simply fill in the entry form that is located at the end of this newsletter, email it to us (or in need post it) and bank your funds to our bank account, detailed in the form.
- Reference your name in the banking details. **This is particularly important.**
- Once we match your entry form with your deposit, we will issue a ticket in your name and email it back to you.
- If you win, we will email you and publish your name in the next available newsletter.
- We will ask for your banking details at that point and direct credit your win.

OTHR Committee's draw will be final, and we won't accept any further claim.

This is a wonderful way to support the Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway Inc and at the same time have a 1 in 100 chance to win \$1,000.00.

The plan is to run 100 Clubs regularly, so the chance to win will be on-going. We have checked with all States and Territories in Australia and have been cleared to run the 100 Club, no matter where you live.

The third OTHR 100 Club is now underway. Get your ticket/s now.

Application form is at the end of this newsletter.



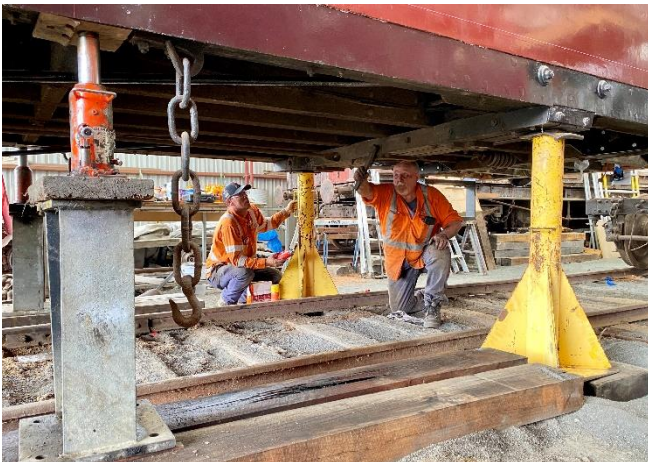
CAM workers preparing sleepers for installation of the lost 1/2 kilometre.

A Reminder....

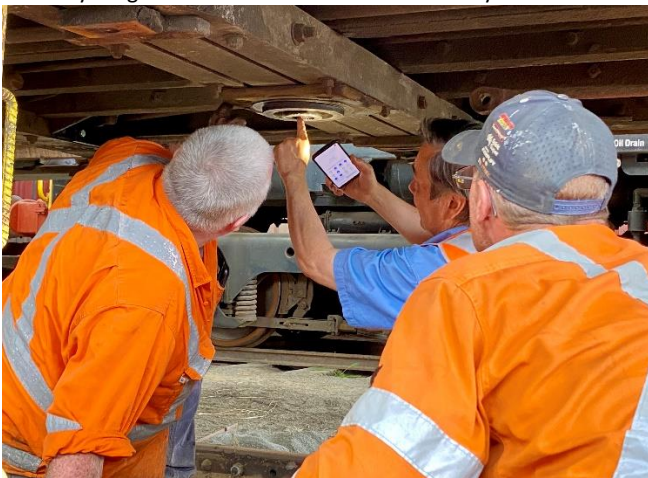
OTHR Membership is due for renewal on 1st July 2022

\$40.00 for 2022/23

Renew Now!!



Everything was examined and where necessary crack tested



Short Term Goals

A new range of goals to be achieved as soon as possible follows:

Immediate:

- Continue the fit for use certification on the two locomotives and end platform cars.
- Vegetation Control in the Oberon yard and rail corridor to Hazelgrove.

Ongoing to February 2023

Reconstruct and have the Oberon to Hazelgrove section of track certified.

Complete the process of ensuring the two locomotives and end platform cars are certified fit for use.

Apply for variation of existing accreditation to become a Rail Transport Operator Oberon to Hazelgrove.

Continue the review of SMS and Operational Procedures documents.



Oberon Branch line Centenary.

It's now less than a year 'til the Oberon to Tarana branch line turns 100 years on 3rd October 2023.

What an exciting time to celebrate and your committee is starting the planning process.

This is an ideal opportunity for all members to get involved. What ideas do you have?

Contact the committee at admin@otr.com.au

We'll consider everything.



Attention Events Directors!

Should your Association...

be planning a road trip to Oberon in the next couple of months, be aware that our Carriage Café will be out of service for essential servicing and maintenance.

Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway Inc still offers alternative and interesting venues within the Station precinct.

Contact Dave McMurray on 0408 606 889 or admin@othr.com.au to discuss your proposed visit and discover other delightful places to visit when in Oberon NSW.

There's more than you imagine!

OTHR Events Calendar

2023

Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway Inc is entering the next phase of operations.

There is always capacity for your club, association, or you to visit the Oberon Station Precinct and surrounds at other times of the year.

We can put together a remarkably interesting event for a group that will leave you in awe of Oberon activities and big toys for boys.

Our initial contacts are:

admin@othr.com.au or
tourism@oberon.nsw.gov.au

Keep an eye on this column for future events or book yours now, you will not be disappointed.

**Don't forget, our next Open Day will be Saturday
4th February, 2023**

10.00 AM – 2.00 PM. On this occasion the Open Day is part of Oberon's Seniors Festival and entry is free for seniors in February only.

13th February. Pittwater Motor Car Club

Marriage at the Railway.

Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway Inc. offers the quite different Oberon Precinct as a venue for weddings and other photo or filming opportunities.

Should marriage be in the offing, or you know a relative or friend who is about to marry, OTHR is offering a unique venue for that exclusive wedding photo that you will treasure for all time.

You have the choice of the Oberon Station or the Station and Train.

Enquiries can be made at:

admin@othr.com.au

Hiring fees are incredibly competitive.



*Looking for a vintage style wedding at the railway?
Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway can assist.*

Want to volunteer but don't know how to go about it?

Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway Inc. is a volunteer group working to bring a major tourist attraction on-line later in 2022 or early 2023.

We are looking for motivated people to work in a volunteer capacity in all sorts of occupations. You don't need to know about railways; just have a desire to serve a community by volunteering your skills with an enthusiastic group of other volunteers.

If you have skills in Catering, Cleaning, Accounting, Business Administration, Computers, I.T., Carpentry, Cabinet Making Diesel Mechanics, Fettleing, General labouring, People Skills, or any other vocation, and can take directions and work with a team, then OTHR wants you.

Be a part of potentially a great tourist attraction for the Central Tablelands/Central West and NSW.

Find out what it takes to become a valued volunteer working with an experienced and enthusiastic team.

Enquire at: admin@othr.com.au or Mobile 0437 389 684 (President, Greg Bourne)

We have some incentives.

Are you thinking that you might like to volunteer but live too far away and it's just too expensive to travel to Oberon for a day or so to help.

We are offering genuine volunteers the opportunity to come to town for the purpose of volunteering by way of incentives that're designed to take away some of the expense.

If you think the incentives may tip you over the line by making volunteering with OTHR less expensive, then talk to President Greg Bourne on Mob. 0437 389 684 to find out how we can make your Oberon volunteering a little more affordable.

Our Code

Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway Inc. (OTHR) is a not for profit, member-based organisation. We have a responsibility to strive to make informed, consistent, and ethical decisions.

Our code is a public statement that OTHR is committed to doing the right things the right way. Our code applies to all OTHR committee members and members.

We are proud of our culture, and understand it is continually shaped by the behaviours and attitudes demonstrated on a day-to-day basis by all our people.

Our code includes references to relevant OTHR requirements (OTHR policies and procedures) and other helpful tools and resources.

No code of conduct can ever cover every situation, OTHR relies on you to use sound judgement and speak up when you have questions or concerns.

All committee members, members, volunteers, and employees of OTHR are representatives of OTHR and are expected to act responsibly and professionally.

As a representative of OTHR, you are expected to act in the best interests of OTHR and to conduct yourself in a manner that does not discredit:

- An individual team member, having regard to their position held within OTHR, or
- The reputation of OTHR.

Whenever there is conflict or a difference between an applicable legal requirement and Our Code, you must apply the strictest standard.

Our partners, and third parties, can also have a direct impact on the reputation of OTHR through their behaviours and actions. For this reason, we want to work with our partners to ensure that they share our commitment to safety, ethics, and compliance.

We also expect and encourage all our contractors and their employees to act in a way that is consistent with Our Code. We will take appropriate measures where we believe they have

not met our expectations or their contractual obligations.

Important Information.

Help us bring our heritage railway to life by becoming a financial member of the Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway Inc.

Membership of Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway Inc. is a valuable way you can contribute to our vision. Individual annual membership costs \$40.00 per year from 1st July 2021 and new members are welcomed at any time during the year.

Membership is required to cover insurance for any volunteer work you can contribute. Membership is due at the end of June annually.

Refer to OTHR website to download an application or see the application form at the end of this Newsletter.

Volunteers Wanted.

If you are a Carpenter or Apprentice Carpenter with some experience, have time to volunteer a couple of hours every now and then and can see yourself in this roll, then call Greg Bourne.

Greg is President of OTHR and would love to have a chat about you volunteering on a great railway project.

Call him now on 0437 389 684
Email admin@other.com.au



Tim Elderton at work on one of the bogies

OTHR
OBERON TARANA HERITAGE RAILWAY

NOW RECRUITING VOLUNTEERS FOR TRAINING
DRIVERS • CONDUCTORS • GUARDS
ONBOARD STAFF • CATERERS • TRADIES

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Details: other.com.au



Compacting the base ready to receive the line.

About Oberon.....

February in Oberon sees us well into Summer. Days are long and quite warm although nights can be a bit chilly.

Oberon always has something special happening that will be sure to impress City Slickers and Country Hicks alike.

This month we present:

- 4th February, Oberon Community & Farmers Market
- 4th February, OTHR Open Day

- 4th February, Oberon Regional Museum and Skoda & Tatra Register Museum Open Day
- 11th February, Oberon Show
- 12th February, Rockley Artisan Markets
- 25th February, Oberon Rodeo
- 26th February, Tarana Twilight Markets
- Every Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, Oberon Military Museum.



OBERON

More than you imagine.

Come and check us out, say “G’Day” to the locals and we’ll certainly extend the hand of friendship. Oberon has heart stopping action thru to genteel activities in February.

For the latest in what’s happening check with the knowledgeable girls at the Oberon Visitor Information Centre.

Oberon is always welcoming of groups of all genres. Some of the recent visitors to the Oberon Station Precinct have been:

- Packard Automobile Club of Australia Inc.
- The Winter Lunch
- 107.5 FM Orange radio station outside broadcast.
- Two small group private viewings of rail buffs and photographers.
- One private group visit
- Portland Car Club, Portland NSW
- Group of Model Train enthusiasts
- Secondary Visit by Model Train Enthusiasts

Oberon has an enthusiastic team available help you plan an action-packed itinerary, whether it is for a day or a week.

Contact the girls at the Oberon Visitor Information Centre on 02 6329 8210 or Dave McMurray from OTHR on 0408 606 889 to discover the possibilities.

Oberon, the perfect place to base yourself for a day, a few days, or a week!

Oberon is just two hours from Sydney’s Western Suburbs, two and a half hours from Canberra, and an easy and lovely drive from Dubbo as well as the Hunter Valley.

One thing’s for sure, you will be more than welcome in Oberon! There is a team of friendly locals here to help. Contact us any time to discuss.

Did you know....

that on Open Days OTHR has a pop-up café in one of the carriages at the station.

Come along and try our scrumptious scones, mouth-watering cakes with tea or coffee.

Our café staff would love to look after you.

\$15.00 pp gets you entry to the station precinct and morning tea, children (under 18) \$10.00 pp.

Yet another good reason to come along and see what the railway folk are doing at the station.

Coffee lovingly prepared by our amazing volunteer staff at the Café Carriage.



*Some of OTHR’s merchandise.
This is a fundraiser for OTHR and at the same time gives you a memento of a great project.
Got yours yet?
An order form is at the end of this newsletter.*

Monthly Open Days.

Are held on the first Saturday of the month.

Next Open Day is Saturday 4th February 2023.

We need volunteers for Open Days. Volunteers will meet and greet visitors, show them through the displays and try to answer any questions.

All that's required is a broad knowledge of OTHR history and an ability to talk with people. The work is rewarding and fun. Great friendships can form at these days.

Some changes have been made, with the establishment of a professional though small railway interpretive display. An entry fee of \$5.00pp (children under 18 free), and a pop-up café serving Devonshire Teas for an additional \$10.00 pp.

The result has seen a significant increase in visitors comprising locals and tourists
Your committee is also actively advertising for group visits, and we are providing a railway experience bar none.

Groups are starting to line up and results so far have been encouraging. If you are a member of another group, say a car club or Rotary or Probus or a gardening club, etc. and that group is looking for an excursion, please suggest they book a group visit to Oberon Station.

Admission \$5.00 pp (children under 18 free),
Devonshire Tea \$10.00 pp.
Oberon District Museum \$5 pp.
Skoda and Tatra Museum entry by way of a donation.
For group visits, see <http://other.com.au> for contact details.

Event Organisers....

There's so much to do in Oberon and surrounds.
When puzzling about where your next extended run should go, give Oberon a thought.

Located in the New South Wales Central Tablelands and about 180K from Sydney, Oberon punches above its weight when it comes to attractions and points of interest.

Apart from the Oberon Heritage Station Precinct now hitting its straps, there are another four interesting museums covering all sorts of genres and each guaranteed to please your members, the stunning Mayfield Garden close to town and another small but spectacular garden located in town open subject to seasons.

Jenolan Caves is now only accessed via Oberon and advice concerning access should be sought from either Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway Inc or the Oberon Visitor Information Centre.

There is Oberon's fantastic park in the town centre, "The Common" and Lake Oberon just a couple of kilometres out of town; both have sites suitable for a display as does the Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway Inc. All sites have inviting and varied backdrops.

Runs are catered for with the Oberon Visitor Information Centre having produced a series of maps of our back roads and range from approx. 30Ks to 300Ks starting and finishing in Oberon and all on sealed roads.

Accommodation is no problem for small groups up to say 60, but for larger groups advice should be sought from Oberon's Visitor Information Centre. Tasty food is available ranging from traditional Café style or Pub Food through to Bistro style or even an upmarket restaurant at Jenolan Caves. There are fabulous country pubs and cafes scattered throughout the district at places like Tarana, Hampton, and Rockley.

Discuss partaking in the famous OTHR gourmet "Fettler's Lunch" or morning tea in the pop-up Carriage Café. OTHR caters to groups from 10 upwards for a meal in a unique "olde worlde" setting.

As Oberon is situated mid-way on "The Tablelands Way" cities and towns such as Goulburn, Crookwell, Taralga, Bathurst, Orange, Sofala, Rylstone, and Mudgee, are within an easy day's drive even allowing for site-seeing along the way.

Have a chat to Dave McMurray from OTHR on 0408 606 889 first up to find out how you can plan a few days or a week in Oberon.



Preparing the pathway for the railway

Sleeper Club



Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway Inc's Sleeper Club is a wonderful way of contributing to the rebuilding of our great project.

When investing in a sleeper you'll receive a Certificate noting your purchase and this can make a wonderful and unique gift for any rail buff, your family, or friends. A great idea for Birthdays, a Special Event or even Christmas.

An investment is \$100 per new sleeper.
Get yours now!

Working Bees.

We will be trying to have at least one weekday and each Saturday throughout the year. Keep an eye on the website or OTHR Facebook page for up-to-date information. If you are not a regular participant, please make contact – details at othr.com.au

**Personal Protective Equipment must be worn.
Current membership is a necessity to ensure
insurance compliance.**

Contact Greg Bourne, President.

Email: admin@othr.com.au

Mobile 0437 389 684

We are always on the lookout for volunteers for working bees.

Volunteers are required to participate in allocated tasks.

Not all work is onerous and can be as little or as much as you can put in. There is a job for everyone. You don't have to attend every working bee, just the ones that fit in your timeframe.



We had a surveyor on site every day - just to get the position and levels right

You will take away experiences from your time at Oberon.

Some of the benefits of volunteering are:

- Developing new skills
- Meeting new people
- Assisting with a meaningful and important cause
- Contributing to the community
- A sense of belonging.

Remains of a 100year old culvert currently being replaced by our contract team CAM.

Welcome New Members.

OTHR is always looking for new members. Interested in railways or the Oberon to Tarana railway track, why not give your support by becoming a member?

Not So Well

If anyone hears about any member on the sick list, please let the editor know via President Greg so we can send get well wishes on behalf of the association.

Remembering

Let us know of the passing of any of our members so we can acknowledge them appropriately. Contact President Greg with all details.

Say Whaaat???

- What do you call a woman who knows where her husband is at night?
A widow.
- He said... Shall we try swapping positions tonight?
She said...That's a good idea.... you stand by the ironing board while I sit on the sofa.
- Why are blonde jokes so short?
So men can remember them.
- What is the one thing that all men at singles bars have in common?
They're married.



Finding solid ground.



Oberon Station Precinct and Train are for hire for photo shoots and films.

Whether it's a wedding, school formal, family reunions, settings for filming or any occasion, send a message to admin@othr.com.au with your enquiry.

Our rates are extremely competitive.



Don't forget that the 100 Club Raffle is available to **all readers** of this newsletter.

Draw No 1 was won by Matthew Pritchard of Flagstaff Point in SA.

Draw No 2 was won by David Laing of



Brand new fish plates as well as new nuts and bolts - obviously yet to be pinned



CAM workers preparing sleepers for laying on the track

Sponsors

Seeking funding continues to be one of your committee's priorities.

Sponsorships are an especially important part of the funding of our activities. It matters not whether a person or company contributes cash or kind, each will be considered as a sponsorship. The reason is that any person or company that contributes in kind is helping us in as much as we don't have to pay for those services and the sponsor is foregoing income. The committee needs to seek cash sponsors and this task is ongoing.

We now have seven sponsors on board, all sponsors offer in kind support for which we are extremely grateful.

Would you like to become a sponsor? Contact President Greg to find out how you can participate in OTHR's exciting sponsorship deals. There are a few sponsorship levels available. By sponsoring OTHR and its vision you will become a partner of the programme.

Primary Sponsor. Oberon Council



OBERON

MORE THAN YOU IMAGINE

Oberon Council is a proudly independent council which has supported OTHR from its very beginning. The council administers the Oberon Local Government Area and is second to none when looking after the community.

Silver Sponsor



Oberon Earthmoving is your complete Civil and Earthmoving Contractor.

Contact Zac for a quote.



Owned and operated by the Voytilla family, Titania Motel is located very conveniently to the Oberon Station precinct.

The Voytilla is offering a 10% discount to all group bookings mentioning they are in Oberon for the Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway Inc. experience.
Contact: (02)6336 – 1377

reception@titaniamotel.com.au

Bronze Sponsor. Jenolan Holiday Park

Jenolan Holiday Park offers a range of accommodation in Oberon to suit everyone. Would you like to book your accommodation now?

Your hosts: Don and Lyn

Phone: 02 6336 0344

jenolancaravanpark@bigpond.com

7 Cunynghame Street, Oberon NSW 2787

Bronze Sponsor. Highlands Motor Inn

Highlands Motor Inn, quality accommodation at an affordable price. We don't work to a budget; we work to exceed your expectations.

Contact (02) 6336 – 1866

77 – 79 Dart Street, Oberon NSW 2787

Bronze Sponsor. Oberon Trash Pak.

Oberon Trash-Pak is a family business owned and operated by Wayne & Michelle White. Services offered are regular out of town garbage service, septic tank, and grease trap pump outs. Oberon Trash-Pak offers Domestic and Commercial Mini Skip Bins, Portable Toilets, Rubbish Removal. "You don't have to live in town to get a regular garbage service"

Contact 0427 104 318 or 6336 – 2049.

Bronze Sponsor. Oberon Outdoor and Electronic.



Oberon Outdoor and Electronic is the locally owned hub for all your electronic, DIY and outdoor needs. Contact Soap (Neale Evans) to discuss all your outdoor and electronic needs.

125 – 127 Oberon Street, Oberon NSW 2787

Phone 6336 – 0199

Email: soap7@iinet.com.au

Random Photos of Work happening right now.



Surveying the track-



OTHR Cap. - Maroon with white OTHR logo fits all sizes. Purchase today and be a part of the OTHR team. Proceeds go towards the refurbishment of the Oberon to Tarana line.

Priced at \$29.00 non - members, \$24.00 members. Price includes GST and Postage and Handling anywhere in Australia. Overseas will incur extra postage.

OTHR Badge - Reproduced from the original OTHR badge, metal, and enamel.

Priced at \$15.50 non-members - \$13.50 members. Price includes GST and Postage and Handling anywhere in Australia. Overseas will include extra postage.

OTHR Whistle - A novelty whistle for your collection. **Priced at \$24.50 non-members – \$19.50 members.** Price includes GST and Postage and Handling anywhere in Australia. Overseas will include extra postage.

OTHR Coffee Cup
Black with white OTHR lettering. Flip top 2 Go. **Priced at \$29.00 non-members, \$24.50 members.** Price includes GST and Postage and Handling anywhere in Australia. Overseas will incur extra postage.

OTHR Beanie
Maroon with white OTHR logo. Fits all sizes. Lovely fleecy feel and is warm. Purchase today and be a part of the OTHR team. **Priced at \$39.99 non-members, \$34.00 members.** Price includes GST and Postage and Handling to anywhere in Australia. Overseas will incur extra postage.



Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway Inc.
 PO Box 299, Oberon NSW 2787
 email: admin@othr.com.au
 Website: - othr.com.au
 Phone President 0437 389 684
 ABN 98 107 506 208

Merchandise Order Form

Product/Quantity:
Name:
Mailing address: Street Number: _____ Street _____
Or Post Office Box Number
Suburb or Town
State and Postcode
Your contact details.
Phone: _____
Email address: _____

Price includes GST and Postage and Handling anywhere in Australia. Overseas will incur extra postage.

Description	Number	Total
Caps at membership price \$24.00		\$
Caps at non-members price \$29.00		\$
Badge at membership price \$13.50		\$
Badge at non-membership price \$15.50		\$
Whistle at member price \$19.50		\$
Whistle at non-member price \$24.50		\$
Coffee Cup at member price \$24.50		\$
Coffee Cup at non-member price \$29.00		\$
Total		\$

Payment can be made in the following ways:

- **Cheques** - made payable to Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway Inc. and mailed to PO Box 299 Oberon NSW 2787
- **Cash** - can be paid direct to our Treasurer at any of our bi-monthly general meetings or at an Open Day.
- **Direct Bank Transfer** – our bank details are **BSB: 062 632 Account number: 1004 9851**. Please include your name as the reference statement.



Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway Inc.

PO Box 299, Oberon NSW 2787

email: admin@othr.com.au

website: othr.com.au

Phone President: 0437 389 684

ABN: 98 107 506 208

Renewal or Application for Membership

I/We wish to renew my membership or to apply to become a member of the Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway Inc. and agree to be bound by the Articles of Association of the organization and its Rules and Regulations

Name	
Mailing address	Street Number _____ Street _____ Or Post Office Box Number _____ Suburb/Town _____ State _____ Postcode _____
Phone	Mobile _____ Home phone _____
Email address	

Tick appropriate box

Membership is \$40.00 per person

\$ _____

Donation

\$ _____

Total amount payable

\$ _____

*All donations are tax deductible.
The treasurer sends a receipt for membership which will also include information of any donation*

Payment can be made in the following ways:

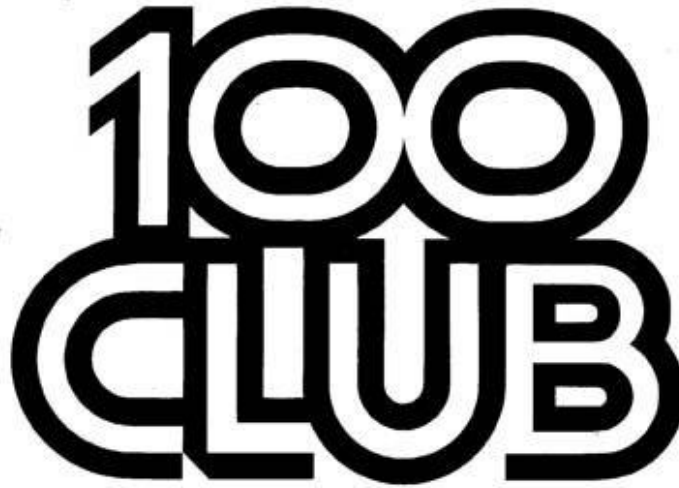
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- Please include your name as the reference statement

Expertise (Please complete if you are joining OTHR for the first time) Indicate any skills, expertise, or areas of interest you may be able to share with us as the railway is being restored ready for operation. We need members with a wide range of skills from labouring, catering to professional management.

Membership represents a significant financial contribution to our organization. Members receive regular newsletters and invitations to special events. Membership is required to cover insurance for any voluntary work you can contribute.

Signed:

Date:



Number of Tickets @ 20.00 each:

Name:	
Address:	
Email Address:	
Telephone Number:	
Amount Banked:	\$ (Be sure to reference your name in the deposit)
Date	
OTHR Bank details	BSB: 062 632 Account No: 1004 9851
Email this entry to:	admin@othr.com.au

Office use only