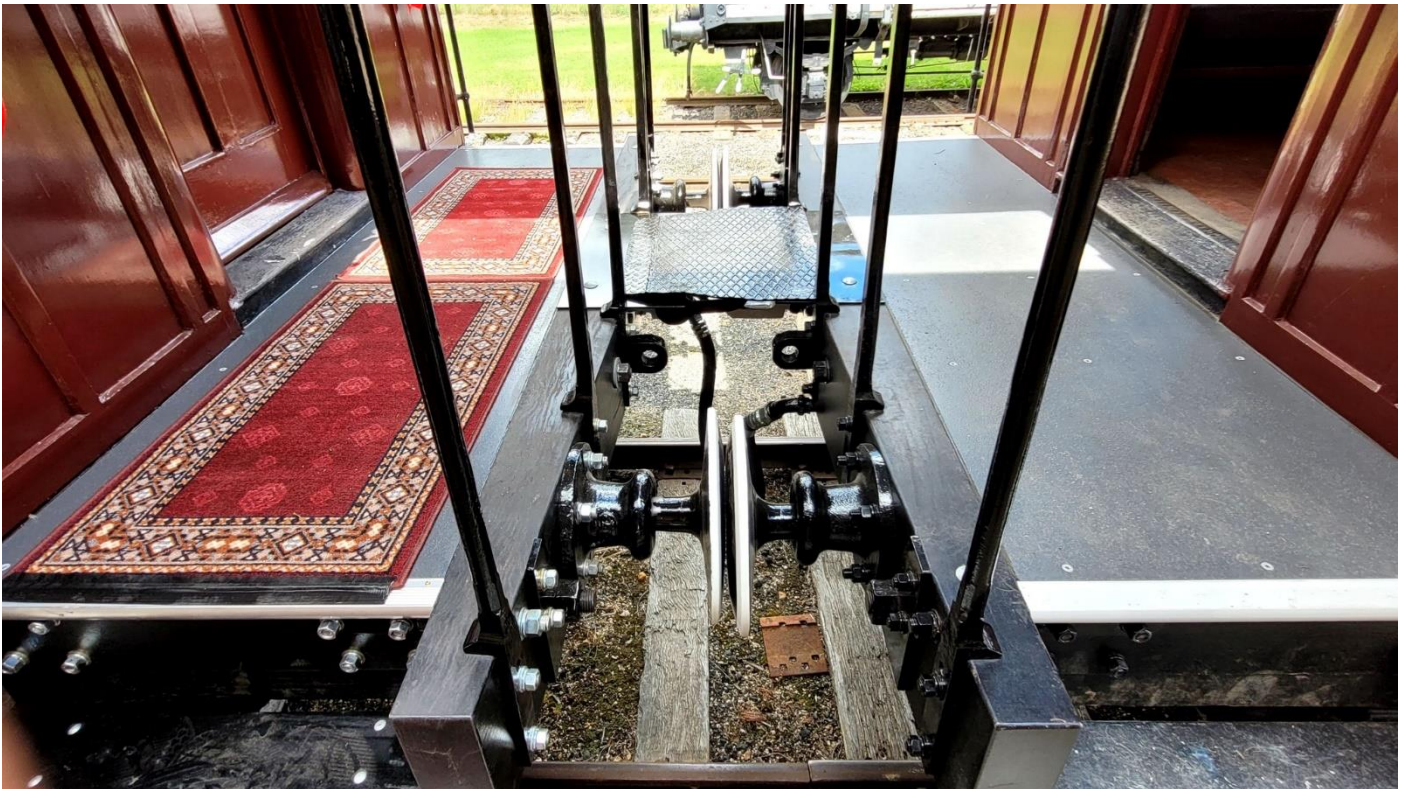




History on the Move

Newsletter of Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway
February 2024



The quality of OTHR workmanship in our workshop is on show here in restored Set 21 at Oberon Station.

Patrons

Paul Toole

State Member for Bathurst

Andrew Gee

Federal Member for Calare

Committee

Gregory Bourne

President, Public Office

Michael Clark

Vice President

Elaine Boxer

Secretary, Catering Manager

Jessie Clark

Treasurer

Michael O’Kane

Events Manager

Mark Handel

Rolling Stock & Track Manager

Line Managers

Mark Langdon

Asset Manager

Mick Sanders

Operations Manager

Alex Boromisa

Facebook Moderator

Jon Bennett

Training Supervisor

President’s Message

Vice-president Michael Clark finished the work on HLF854 on the Wednesday 31 January. This was just in time to build the consist of carriages for the trip to the station platform for the February Open Day. Many more visitors attended and morning teas and merchandise sales were very encouraging.

With the improvements to the End Platform Cars behind us the restoration work on HS36 has commenced. The main focus at the moment is repairing the roof and guttering.

Vegetation control has continued during the last month. All of the track in the Oberon yard and that from Albion Street to the Hazelgrove stop block has been completed. We are trying to find a “good weather day” to deal with the noxious weeds Blackberry and St John’s Wort in various parts of the corridor.

Work on the Hazelgrove loop line has continued but there have been some minor difficulties to overcome – the most significant being a problem with the cess and drainage next to the position of the southern turnout which has been addressed. We are hoping that the laying of the loop and southern turnout will be completed by the end of the February. There will then be work to complete on installing ground frames and rodding.

In recent times David McMurray has resigned from his position on the committee and OTHR. I would like to thank David for his contribution over the past ten years. The position of secretary has been filled by Elaine Boxer, a current committee member. Elaine was the secretary for many of the years between 2012 and 2017.

Greg Bourne
President

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.

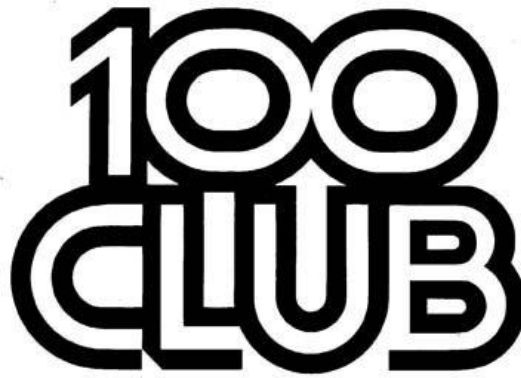
Further, the running of this train would generate tourist related jobs in the Oberon area and give residents in the Oberon/Bathurst area an opportunity by volunteering at OTHR to enhance rail heritage in the local area.

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



Oberon Station Precinct and Train are for hire for photo shoots and films. Whether it is a wedding, school formal, family reunions, settings for filming or any occasion, email admin@0thr.com.au

Our rates are competitive.



**Draw No 4 is now selling.
Your chance to win \$1,000.**

You can win \$1,000 by investing in our fund raising with a chance to win.

It's a simple way for you to invest to help secure our future.

It works this way:

- Purchase a ticket for \$20.
- There are only 100 tickets sold.
- When all 100 tickets are sold, we will draw one ticket with your chance to win \$1,000.
- Simply fill in the entry form that will be located at the end of the February 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.
- 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.

We have checked with all States and Territories in Australia and have been cleared to run the 100 Club, no matter where you live.

Get your ticket now for a chance of winning. Application form at the end of this Newsletter.

Oberon Australia Day Nominations.

The following nominations were received:

Greg Bourne, President, Citizen of the Year.

Dave McMurray, Secretary, Volunteer of the Year

Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway Inc, Volunteer Group of the Year.

Unfortunately unlike last year, this year OTHR was unsuccessful in achieving an award.

January February Breakdown

The accompanying photos show a pictorial of work done in January and February



Line being removed by OTHR Volunteers to accommodate the Southern Turnout



Resulting in a gap in the main line at the southern end of the station site.



Adding bottom layer of ballast to the formation for the southern turnout



Sleepers laid in place as surveyed, looking North.



A view of the Northern Turnout and start of the loop line with rail snaking into the distance.



Looking back to the north showing commencement of the loop line.

Sponsors

OTHR has a large number of local sponsors. They are listed on our website using this link.

<https://othr.com.au/sponsors/>



Southern crossing and check rails in place ready for "pinning down" this coming weekend



February 1st HS36 was moved to the middle road of the rolling Stock shed



Checking out the timber under the guttering on HS36. Quite a bit of rot to deal with.



Completer Rail working on the Hazelgrove loop line

New type of Carriage.

“National Advocate, Thursday 6 March 1941.

A new type of carriage is now in service on the Oberon – Tarana railway. The carriage is a combination of a guard’s van and passenger coach having accommodation for 40 passengers and will be of ample capacity for the average needs of the service to Oberon....”

This is most likely a reference to HS36 now back in the OTHR Rolling Stock Shed and now being restored. On restoration it will once again be put into service on the Oberon to Hazelgrove section of the Oberon to Tarana Railway line.



HS36 drawn up at Oberon Station having been delivered back to be restored.

So... you think you want to volunteer?

OTHR is seeking expressions of interest from members who would like to join the training program to become qualified carriage attendants, guards, station attendants, drivers and second persons as well as other important roles.

These roles will require other regular forms of volunteering to support OTHR.

Your interest should be lodged with the President or Secretary at admin@othr.com.au

Important information about moving rolling stock:

Shunting in the yard will not be frequent but regular as movements are required. Typically shunting would occur in bringing rolling stock to the station for display at open days, special events and rallies.

Medicals:

The level of certification depends on your level of interest.

- Driver Level 1 medical certificate
TMV operator Level 2 medical certificate.
- For all volunteers there is a site induction and further training depending on the type of volunteer assistance you wish to undertake.
- OTHR needs to comply with the guidelines of ONRSR – the Office of the National Rail Safety Regulator and other Laws either Federal or State.



Monthly Open Days Morning teas and Light Lunches

Monthly Open Days are continuing on the first Saturday of the month, morning teas and light lunches are available in the carriage, HLF854

We will host group tours of the Oberon Heritage Precinct on request. There is also opportunity for catered functions in the carriage. Contact admin@othr.com.au

Some changes have been made, with the establishment of a professional though small railway interpretive display. An entry fee of \$5.00 pp (children under 18 free).

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, such as a car club, Rotary, 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 (18 and over),

For group visits: see <http://othr.com.au> or contact President Greg

Working Bees.

It's your railway, be a part of its development!

Regular working bees are now occurring every Saturday and most weekdays. Keep an eye on the website or OTHR Facebook page for up-to-date information.

Personal Protective Equipment and orange Hi-Viz must be worn.

All volunteers are required to pass a General Induction Program. On track volunteers will need to progress to Rail Safety Worker (RSW) status.

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 many tasks. If you can help, contact President Greg.

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. 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.



**Annual Renewals are due 1st July annually.
Make sure you don't miss future benefits and the pleasure of being part of a vibrant group of volunteers.**



**The next Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway Inc. General Meeting will be held on
10th April 2024 Oberon RSL, 7.30 PM**



And then 10th July and 9th October 2024

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.*

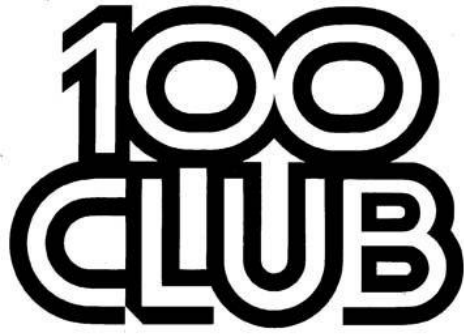
Payment can be made in the following ways:

- **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.
- **Direct Bank Transfer** – our bank details are **BSB: 062 632 Account number: 1004 9851.**
- **PayPal via our website.**
- 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:** _____



**Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway Inc.
Your 1 in 100 chance to win \$1,000.00.
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.

Draw No:	
Ticket No:	