



Minutes of the General Meeting
Wednesday 2nd August 2017 at 7.30 pm
Oberon RSL Club

- 1. Present:** Col & Glenda Bembrick, Graham Priddle, Ken Lingabala, Arthur Robinson, Greg Bourne, Martyn Salmon, Barry Webb, Peter Culley, John Brothie, Tim Arnison, Elaine Boxer.
- 2. Visitors:** Phil and Jenny O'Reagan.
Guest Speaker. Peter "Bugs" Harvey gave a most interesting talk on the history of the postal service in and around Oberon. He brought stamps and postcards with obliterations from post offices and receiving offices around Oberon. Mail for Oberon originally came via O'Connell and there were 30 odd offices in the district.

3. Minutes from the previous meeting:

The Minutes from the meeting of the 7th June 2017 were accepted as a true and accurate record;

Moved G Priddle.....; Seconded: T Arnison..... Carried.

4. Safety Management

No safety issues identified.

5. Committee Reports.

President:

- There are a number of grants that the Committee is pursuing at the moment. One is to inspect and repair the carriage bogies and the locos. This will be through State Government grants.
- Museum Grants: these are currently available and OTHR will apply for the development of a DVD on the History of the Railway for use in the heritage display and for sale. A professional interview with Wayne Dempsey on carriage building is also an option.
- The Committee is in the process of obtaining quotes for a review of the web page. It is considered that it is time for the web page to be modernised and made user friendly.
- The Heritage Operators Licence has been submitted to TfNSW for signing
- The signed copy of the Variation of Accreditation from ONRSR to allow movement of track maintenance vehicles has been received. The next process will be to seek accreditation for shunting and work train movements in the yard.
- **Heritage Display.** The store room is completed and the office equipment will be moved into it during this working bee. The station will be used for display only and all members need to agree on how the memorabilia will be displayed. A number of issues was raised: the rooms need painting; cataloguing of artifacts need to be undertaken; labelling of displays needs to be clear and legible; the model railway is not appropriate at this stage for display, perhaps a display of the rolling stock would suffice; Col developed a plan for the layout of the display- the key ideas are
The Parcels Room: Focus.... The Origins and the Steam Era.
The Main Office Room: Focus.... The Diesel Era and freight transported.
The Station Masters Office: Focus.... A period reproduction of the office circa ?1930.
The Ladies Waiting Room: Focus.... The OTHR works and progress.
The members agreed to start with this plan initially. Col and Glenda are willing to take a role in this project but will require assistance. Any members interested in helping please contact a Committee member.

- **Timber.** OTHR was donated some timber from fallen trees. This has been cut and stacked in the louvered van and when cured will be used to repair the S Trucks.
- **Track Certification Course.** OTHR has been approached by Tumbarumba & Crookwell rail organisations to participate in a training course. Any members who have an interest in this course, please contact Tim. It will probably be in Sept/Oct 2017.
- **New roof for the carriage.** This is scheduled to occur in August, hopefully there will be no more delays from the repairer.
- Visit from Bathurst Frail Aged Group. The Committee will request a postponement of the visit to allow us to get the station display in order.

8. Other Business

- Tim attended the auction in Canberra of the Australian Rail Heritage Association ACT Division rolling stock and equipment. There were lots of suburban carriages & sleeper cars. OTHR bid successfully for a sleeper inserter for narrow gauge track at \$275. Goulburn Crookwell bought the standard gauge sleeper inserter. The highlight of the auction was the sale of steam engine 3102 for \$37,000.
- Greg Bourne agreed that the web page needed up-grading and would be happy to participate in a review of the site.
- Col Bembrick presented a new survey plan of the station yard. He has both electronic and hard copies for use by the members. It now requires services to be included on the plan. He would like to thank Charles Hazelwood for his assistance with the survey of the yard. As it stands the plan is a scale drawing and does not include the ground frames. He can add these in.
- The three lever ground frame recently donated and repaired is in the yard. Col would like to make this an interactive display situated at the platform, possibly north of the station building. Peter suggested adding points and a semaphore. This could be done in 2 stages.
- Arthur raised the issue of ownership of the signal box in the paddock near the tip. It is located on the rail easement which is currently on Oberon Council Lease. Could this be claimed by OTHR?

The meeting: closed 9pm. . Next meeting **5th October 2017.**