



**Minutes of the Annual General  
Meeting  
Held on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2019  
At Oberon RSL Club**

1. **Call to Order.** Meeting opened 7.30PM
2. **Present:** Brenda Lyon, Phil O'Regan, Arthur Robinson, Barry Webb, Martyn Salmon, John Brotchie, Mark Handel, Pam Dellow, Brian Dellow, Tim Arnison, John Boxer, Elaine Boxer, Col Bembrick, Glenda Bembrick, David McMurray, Graham Williams.
3. **Apologies:** Ken Lingabala, Peter Culley
4. **Guests:** Michael Clark, Jessie Bijok. Wendy Connor, Sandra Handel, Clint Dowsett, Lisa Dowsett.
5. **Minutes of meeting of 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2018.**

*That the minutes from the previous Annual General Meeting as tabled be accepted as a true and accurate record.*

*Moved: Elaine Boxer Seconded: Tin Arnison. Carried.*

**6. President's Report**

It is my pleasure to report on the progress of the Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway Inc. for the twelve months from October 2018 to October 2019.

**Membership.** The membership of the group has increased in the last year. We are very grateful to those members who chose to include a donation when the yearly subscription was paid. The numbers on the books is very good but the committee needs to find ways to get the non-Oberon residents on site and become involved in Open Days and Working Bees. There has been some discussion around increasing the number of working bees and having a monthly weekend which are focussed on jobs that need to be done.

**A Major Achievement** was the successful variation to our accreditation from the Office of the National Rail Safety Regulator (ONRSR) for the addition of Diesel Locomotives and Shunting Tractor to our rolling stock operations. We have not operated a shunt in the Oberon yard at the time of writing because there are some lengths of rail that need to be changed before appropriate track certification can be granted.

**Major projects** that have developed this year and are:

- The restoration of the station platform
- The community development grant programme Federal Government Grant \$1.5 million.

These have placed considerable demands on the administrative skill of various committee members. Obtaining a grant is one thing and then the follow-on bookwork is another.

**Working Bees.** The working bees that are run on the Wednesday and Thursday of the bi-

monthly General Meetings have been successful in terms of the amount of work completed. We are constantly looking for new participants.

**Track work.**

- Installing timbers and sleepers
- Repair of the compensator timbers and subsequent adjustments of rods, cranks and levers.

Other completed tasks during working bees have been de-cluttering the rolling stock shed and storage container, office work on the asset register and SMS documentation.

**Heritage Operators Licence (HOL) the northern most point at 208.409km just south of the Snake Valley Creek Bridge.**

This application has been in place since December 2017 and the most recent advice from John Holland Rail and Transport for New South Wales is most encouraging. There have been recent discussions between John Holland Rail and the Oberon Council to resolve the land ownership and use issues.

When the HOL is issued then further applications for variations to our accreditations will have to be made to ONRSR.

**Open Days, Car Clubs and Group Bookings.**

On the first Saturday of each month the Station and Oberon Railway Yard are open to visitors. The numbers on these Saturdays are very variable. During the last twelve months several car clubs have visited and boosted our financial situation somewhat. The most recent was the Horseless Carriage Association. The next big group will be the AJS and Matchless motorcycle club on November 3<sup>rd</sup>.

None of the above could occur without the help of the committee.

**Vice – President Martyn Salmon** with a working background in rail, has amassed an incredible number of hours in the preparation of SMS documents as well as attending working bees and then at other times just coming down to the yard to do some weed control. He has been an excellent host and storyteller in the visits of Car Clubs and Group Bookings.

**Treasurer, John Brotchie** has kept the books and followed the procedures in place to ensure that an accurate membership list is maintained. He is a member of the merchandise subcommittee.

**David McMurray** has continued to be the major writer in grant applications. He is a member of the merchandise subcommittee. He is also the editor of the newsletter which is appreciated by members of the group.

**Graham Williams** has continued with the good work of Track Manager and his daily presence in the yard means that many small jobs are completed.

**Ken Lingabala** has worked for ARTC and John Holland Rail and continues to be involved in major rail planning structures around the State. His knowledge in engineering overseeing contract matters is constantly being put to good use by OTHR.

## **7. Treasurer's Report.**

*That the report tabled is a true and accurate report.*

*Moved: John Brotchie, seconded: David McMurray. Carried.*

There was some discussion about the value of our assets and insurance values, from the floor.

## **8. Election of Office Bearers.**

### **Executive Officers**

President: Gregory Bourne nominated. No other nominations and he was elected unopposed.

Vice-President: Martyn Salmon nominated. No other nominations and he was elected unopposed

Secretary: No nominations received. Gregory Bourne will fill the position until a suitable candidate can be found.

Treasurer: John Brotchie nominated. No other nominations and he was elected unopposed.

### **General Committee**

David McMurray

Ken Lingabala

Graham Williams

All nominated. No other nominations and they were elected unopposed.

Meeting Closed 7.55 PM

Chairman's signature