



History on the Move

Newsletter of Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway March 2021

**Focusing on HS36 Composite Brake Branch-line Sitting Car
On loan from the NSW Government Moveable Heritage Collection
managed by Transport Heritage NSW**



Talk and negotiations went on for many years and it arrived in Oberon from Broadmeadows on the 16th of February

The unloading went well after some time was spent widening the roadway into the yard.

It is an important acquisition for OTHR because the many years it was used on the Oberon Tarana branch line

A couple of "on site photos" of the arrival on 16th February.

"Coaching Stock of the NSW Railways,
Volume 1" from Eveleigh Press

HS36

Built as AJ1 in March 1891, became
AJ36 in 1892 converted to HS36
December 1935 and used on branch
service until retired.

Listed on the NSW Office of
Environment and Heritage Website



<https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/ViewHeritageItemDetails.aspx?ID=4807015>

Patrons

Paul Toole

State Member for Bathurst, Deputy Leader of NSW National Party, Minister for Transport and Roads.

Andrew Gee

Federal Member for Calare, Minister assisting the Minister for Trade and Investment, Minister for Decentralisation and Regional Education.

Committee

Gregory Bourne

President, Public Officer

Ken Lingabala

Vice President

Engineering Manager - Infrastructure Manager

David McMurray

Secretary

John Brotchie

Treasurer.

Graham Williams

Track Manager.

Michael Clark

Committee man

Michael O'Kane

Events Manager

Line Managers

Elaine Boxer

Catering Manager

Mark Langdon

Asset Manager

Mark Handel

Rolling Stock Manager

Denis Turner

Driver Training Manager

Mick Sanders

Operations Manager

Alex Boromisa

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President's Message

Our editor has focused on HS36 this month. You can see from some of the photos that there is a lot of work to do. Jennifer Edmonds, Heritage and Collections Manager, TRANSPORT HERITAGE NSW is visiting Oberon next Wednesday to discuss "the way forward" for this "ambitious" project

The "Oberon to Hazelgrove Project" is moving along. A small group walked the line from Hazelgrove to Oberon at the end of last year. Vice-president, Ken Lingabala, counted the sleepers that needed replacing, checked culverts and the condition of the rail at that time. He has developed a preliminary scope of works from the "excursion". Last Friday and Monday we met with representatives from Rail Engineering Companies who will use the information to prepare detailed design and scope.

This detail will form basis of the tender document for the construction for the restoration of the rail line Oberon to Hazelgrove.

Following from the meetings with ONRSR at the end of last year we had a half day follow up meeting to consider the risk management document as well as the progress that has been made on the updating of the SMS documents. Michael Lane has spent many hours working on the SMS upgrade.

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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 e 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.



HS-36 finally comes home.

Editor's thoughts

March – what a month!

Actually several small steps on the path to success.

The excitement began in late February with the arrival, after a lot of discussion with THNSW, of HS - 36 one of the most historically significant carriages in New South Wales. This month the newsletter will be an HS-36 overload!

Tenders have been called from Rail Engineering Companies to develop a detailed design and scope which will form the basis of tender documents for the refurbishment of the rail line to Hazelgrove.

OTHR General Meetings will resume in April and to kick our meetings off on 7th April 2021 we will have a special guest Darrell Hair, retired International Cricket Umpire. Darrell has a million great stories to talk about, so you shouldn't miss this first meeting in over twelve months.

A benefactor has donated \$50K to OTHR. This will be used on rolling stock certification, improvements and converting our refrigeration van to a kitchen.

Your committee has negotiated a regular fortnightly radio spot with Community Radio Station 107.5 FM based on Orange NSW. The first spot commenced on 22nd February with an interview with President Greg Bourne.

Next Open Day will be Saturday 6th March.

And so a very busy 2021 is underway.

“Coming together is a beginning;
Keeping together is progress;
Working together is success”



*To all our readers...Happy St Patricks Day
from the OTHR Committee.*

**WITH COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS
SLOWLY BEING LIFTED, OTHR
WILL BE RESUMING BI-MONTHLY
MEETINGS FROM 7TH APRIL
2021.**

**SPECIAL GUEST: DARRELL HAIR
RETIRED INTERNATIONAL
CRICKET UMPIRE.**

Immediate Goals

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

1. Obtain full track certification for the Oberon Yard area.
2. Gain approval for the HOL North of Albion Street to approximately 500m north of the Hazelgrove Station.
3. Apply for variation to existing accreditation for Rail Infrastructure Manager & Rail Transport Operator to approximately 500m north of the Hazelgrove Station.
4. Apply for variation to existing accreditation to operate work trains to Hazelgrove.
5. Apply for variation to existing accreditation to operate tourist trains to Hazelgrove.

Baby Steps towards the future

The Committee of OTHR has called for a Scope of Works for the refurbishment of the Oberon to Hazelgrove branch line.

This is the first step to ascertain what work is required to get the track to the point of train operations in the future.

Your Committee has walked the track on several occasions and has a fair idea of what is needed and those costing were applied in obtaining the Federal Government Grant.

Your committee has called on a number of private rail construction companies to submit quotations and tenders for this first step will close around Mid-March 2021.

A Generous Benefactor has emerged

A generous benefactor has emerged and donated \$50K to Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway Inc.

These funds are to be used in fitting out our refrigeration van as a commercial kitchen for our café/restaurant used at Open Days and Special Events.

This Donation was very welcome and allows OTHR to advance another step towards achieving the vision of running rail tourist operations in the not too distant future.

Your Committee would like to remind all readers that this organisation has charitable status and all donations are tax deductible.

If you would like to make a donation small or large, it would be more than appreciated.

Confidentiality is absolute. You can discuss with any of our committee members at any time.

We're on Air!

Following discussions with the committee of Radio Station 107.5 FM President Greg Bourne was involved in an extensive interview about our vision and latest projects on Monday 22 February.

It is proposed that we have a regular segment each Monday fortnight at about 10.00 AM.

Whilst we have had the odd interview on other stations this is the first time in years that we have been invited to talk about OTHR on a regular basis.

Like OTHR, 107.5 FM is a community based organisation operated by unpaid volunteers. The station provides a wide variety of programmes but mostly it's about music that takes us back to our youth. It broadcasts out of Orange NSW and broadcasts across the Central Tablelands and Central West of NSW. You can live stream President Greg's interviews each Monday fortnight.

HS-36 is finally home!

Wednesday 17th February 2021 was a red letter day for Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway Inc.

HS-36 or the Composite Brake Branch-line Sitting Car was returned to the Oberon Station Precinct from whence it transported local passengers 57 years ago.

This March Newsletter is a celebration of that return.

For many months, your Committee has entered into negotiations with THNSW to return HS-36 to Oberon and it's now here subject to a strict management agreement as to its use and restoration.

HS-36 entered service in March 1891 and holds State Historical Significance and is extremely rare, possibly being the last surviving carriage of its type in New South Wales.



The unveiling commences.

Welcome home HS-36!

New Feature for OTHR.

Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway Inc. is introducing the Oberon Precinct and Train as a venue for wedding and other photo 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 via our email address:
admin@othr.com.au

Hiring fees are very competitive.

Positions Vacant

Your committee is looking for members to step up and take a part in the responsibility of running a large-scale volunteer enterprise, namely the Oberon to Tarana Heritage Branch Line as a tourist attraction.

Within the next few months and into the future OTHR will be continuing the building of a wonderful community project involving the operations of trains as a tourism attraction that will be the envy of the Central Tablelands and the Central West, if not New South Wales.

Specifically, the following positions have been identified and will need to be filled in due course:

- Finance Manager – needs to be filled soon.
- Safety Manager – needs to be filled soon.
- Curator, Oberon Station Interpretive Display.

All positions will be filled by members, the railway community or the general public with appropriate skills suited to the job.

OTHR also needs skilled tradespersons of all types. For example, Carpenters, Plumbers, Electricians, Boilermakers, Painters plus more.

Please also contact Greg Bourne as above your experience.

HS-36 certainly has history.

Built by Hudson Bros as one of twelve branch line composite cars of the "Thow" type, HS36 entered service in March 1891 as a composite branch-line sleeping car No1 with two sleeping, one first and one second-class sitting compartments, plus a small luggage compartment. It was coded and renumbered AJ36 in October 1892. The sleeping compartments were largely disused in service in the 1920's, although generally the fittings remained in place for occasional use. The car was converted to first-second-guard's car in December 1935 by extension of the luggage compartment into the former first class sitting compartment. A guard's duckett and new doors were provided, the original luggage compartment doors being panelled over. Otherwise the vehicle is not generally altered and was recorded HS (second use of code). These carriages were allotted to branch line work on the Batlow, Oberon and Dorriggo lines, predominantly forming the passenger and guard's accommodation on mixed freight trains that operated on these lines. HS36 was taken out of service and condemned in October 1964 and set aside for the New South Wales Rail Transport Museum. This vehicle was relocated to Broadmeadow in April

2009 after many years of storage at the RTM at Thirlmere.



Getting ready to transfer HS-36 back onto the line.

So... you think you want to volunteer?

OTHR is seeking expressions of interest from members who have the necessary accreditation to drive 73 Class Locomotives or those who would like to learn/train.

Step 1: Your interest should be lodged with the 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.

HS-36 Statement of Significance.

Composite Brake Branch-Line Sitting Car HS-36 has heritage significance as an example of an all-compartment carriage built to the designs and specifications of NSW Railways Chief Mechanical Engineer, William Thow and, as such, illustrates late nineteenth century developments in carriage construction, common components and steel fabrication for carriage underframes. It is rare as it retains its original 1890's papier-mache exterior panelling and significant elements of its 1890's composite sitting interior in virtually original condition. It is an intact example of the use of timber panelling with leather seats in compartment décor, associated with both the first-class and second-class passenger facilities of the late nineteenth century. The carriage is considered rare as one of the few surviving examples of a "Thow" type branch line composite sitting and sleeping carriage as used on the NSW rail system.



General scene of activity featuring the heavy lifting equipment supplied by Shane Moorhead's cranes.

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 possible 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.



Fish River Bridge.

HS-36 Description.

HS-36 was designed and made by NSW Government Railways. The builder was Hudson Bros, Redfern, NSW. The construction years were 1891 and 1935.

Externally this carriage has a timber body on a steel underframe, sheathed with compressed fibreboard and tongue and groove boards. It has square ends and screw couplings with buffers, and a mansard roof constructed with timber and covered with malthoid. Its body is sheathed with compressed fibreboard (possibly the original papier-mache) over the passenger section and tongue and groove boards over the guards section. It has wooden framed single pane windows each with a ventilation apparatus directly above it. The car is fitted with battery boxes, switchboard and water tank.

Internally the carriage can be entered through five doorways down each side. The interior is divided into four separate compartments or "dog boxes", three toilets and a guard's compartment. There are both first and second class compartments each with facing seats. The carriage is lit with pendant lighting which is missing its fittings. The floor is

constructed of timber and is lined with lino covering. The car appears to retain sections of its original papier-mache sheathed boards. The First class compartments retain their original Wunderlich pressed metal ceiling panels. A compartment for the carriage of dogs is located in the guard's end of the vehicle. The passenger doors are timber framed, outward opening with a single window pane and ventilation apparatus. Passenger toilet facilities with separate toilets for each compartment accessed in the First class compartments by lifting one of the seats. Many original fittings remain, including wire luggage racks, breakdown equipment boxes porcelain basins and toilets, brass door handles and locks, hand and grab rails, guards duckett lookouts, double hinged guards doors.

The car rides on steel 2AA (5338/5339) bogies with plain journal bearings, oil filled axle boxes and 2 spoked and 2 disc wheels with four holes. The vehicle is fitted with Westinghouse air braking system, consisting of a 3 ½ inch (Bulb) triple valve and 12 inch brake cylinder acting on rake rigging applying clasp braking to each axle. A mechanical hand brake on a pedestal mount is fitted in the guard's compartment. The vehicle is fitted with hooked draw gear and standard passenger buffers. There are two steel framed timber battery boxes hung from the underframe as well as a belt driven 24v generator.

Length: 14.02m

Width: 2.59m

Height: 3.71m

Tare: 24.8t

Capacity: 16 first class, 14 Second class



The activity increases.

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 \$30.00 per year 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 at the end of this Newsletter.

HS-36 Exterior Physical Condition.

Apart from the general outward appearance the external condition of the vehicle is good with very little noticeable structural damage evident. HS-36 appears to retain sections of its papier-mache sheathed boards though degraded, with the timber lining boards on the guards end in good condition with only minor decay. The majority of damage comes from vandalism (i.e. Windows and door glazing.) There's a section of the roof gutted on the No 2 end, which has failed. The guard's lookout duckett s are complete although showing signs of decay of timber components.

The underframe is in good condition and shows general surface corrosion and heavy road grime with localised minor wastage and pitting along the top edges of the structural members. Truss rods are secure with the underframe and body exhibiting a minor upward cant. 2AA bogies appear complete with spoke and disc wheels retaining an acceptable profile and wear. Minor surface corrosion and heavy road grime are present.

Over 50% of the Indian Red paint finish is missing or failing on the body with the underframe

components having less than 30% of their original black painted finish present under heavy road grime. The roof membrane appears to be failing in areas.

Westinghouse air brake equipment is complete and operational while the remaining running gear, axle boxes and wheels are heavily encrusted with dirt and oil and although intact their condition is unknown, however this vehicle has been moved by rail to the current location (Broadmeadow) in 2009. The mechanical hand brake on a pedestal mount fitted in the guard's compartment is operational.

The vehicle is fitted with hooked draw gear and standard passenger buffers, which are complete and secure. The two steel framed timber battery boxes hung from the underframe are secure with one door missing and minor rot evident. The belt driven 24V generator is complete although the leather belt is missing.

Back on the tracks.

Secured your New Merchandise Yet?

Reusable Coffee/Tea cups have been added to our merchandise range.

Priced very competitively at \$13.00 plus postage for members or \$17.50 plus postage for non-members.

A practical flip top cup for all uses or for display with your OTHR memorabilia.

Get yours now!



New Town Signage.

About Oberon.....

March is the start of Autumn with leaves starting to colour up as the trees descend into Winter's dormancy.

Evenings and nights are becoming distinctly fresh but none the less retains that beautiful climate for which Oberon is renowned.

Oberon generally has events planned every month ranging from markets to museum open days to winery visits and gardens.

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:

- Various seniors bus groups.
- School Children.
- "Downunder Jampot Rally" organised in conjunction with the AJS & Matchless Motorcycle group and OH@CC.
- Standard and Triumph Car Club.
- Rotovanners.
- A Bathurst Retirement Village.

Oberon has an enthusiastic team available to 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 week or a few days or even just a day!

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.

Oberon, More Than You Expect.



We would appreciate you passing this newsletter to others who might be thinking about a wonderful and vibrant trip to a spectacular part of Australia.



A peek at a future event in Oberon NSW.

HS-36 Interior Physical Condition.

Internally the vehicle's condition exhibits years of neglect; however there is no structural damage evident. The guard's compartment internal condition is good with walls and flooring in sound condition and doors operational. Damage is evident caused by the removal of electrical components and the potbellied stove. General rubbish and spare parts litter the floor.

The compartments internal condition appears poor however they exhibit many original features. Which

are complete including doors, seats, panelling and pressed metal ceilings. The linoleum flooring has failed however the floorboards are sound. Internal surfaces are covered with dirt and grime however they are in good condition. The seating is largely complete though damaged by exposure to the elements. Toilet compartments are structurally complete with doors fitted however fittings are missing. A large number of seat components are loaded in the second class compartments which not all may belong to this vehicle. The reinstatement of the original or missing components and painting would be required to bring this vehicle up to a presentable standard.

The internal surfaces are highly soiled and degraded with peeling paint and varnish in areas. Original varnished surfaces and paint colours in areas of the passenger compartments are in good condition and offer valuable research material. The Wunderlich pressed metal ceilings have a failed Manilla paint system, while the boarded ceilings in the Second class compartments and Masonite ceiling in the guard's compartment are in good condition. The guard's compartment wall finishes are in good condition under general dirt and grime.

Switchboards, light fittings and switches, have been removed from the vehicle. Compartment fittings including brass door handles and locks are complete and operational. Four of the compartment luggage racks are missing however the rest are complete and secure. Compartment mirrors and pictures are weather damaged or missing. The three toilet compartments are missing fittings including wash basins and toilet bowls, with their roof mounted water tanks complete. The guard's compartment fittings including breakdown equipment boxes and shelves are complete, however electrical equipment is missing and the upholstery on the seats is failing.



General interior condition.

Working Bees.

If you want to be a part of the weekday working bees then contact us.

Personal Protective Equipment must be worn.

Working Bees will start at 9.00 AM and will generally finish around 3.00 PM.

Contact:

Greg Bourne

President

Email: admin@othr.com.au Mobile: 0437 389 684

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

Generally, volunteers are required to participate in allocated 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.

Monthly Open Days.

The next Open Day will be Saturday, March 6th and will coincide with the Oberon Farmers Market.

Volunteers will be required to meet and greet visitors, show them through the displays and try to answer any questions.

If you wish to volunteer at the open days, please contact President Greg. All that's required is a broad knowledge of OTHR history and an ability to talk with people. The work is rewarding.

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), and a pop-up café serving a Devonshire tea for an additional \$10.00.

The result has seen a large 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 (18 and over), Devonshire Tea \$10

Oberon District Museum admission \$5.

Skoda Tatra Museum entry by way of a donation.

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



*Snakes Valley Creek Bridge
Photo Doug Booker*

Welcome New Members

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

This month we welcome:

Wally Bell from Wagga Wagga, NSW
Kevin Holdsworth from Faulconbridge, NSW
Emily Bradley of Oberon NSW
Scott Bell of Oberon NSW.

We also welcome new members

Colin Trusler
Phillip Fowler
Brendan Holden

Unfortunately we have no other details for Colin, Phillip and Brendan. So we can complete your membership registration could you complete the membership form at the end of this newsletter and forward it to us as soon as convenient

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???

- I went to the toy store and asked the Assistant where the Schwarzenegger dolls are and he replied "Aisle B, Back"
- How can you tell when you've run out of invisible ink?
- When everything is coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.
- The early bird may get the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese.



HS36 Inside the guard's compartment



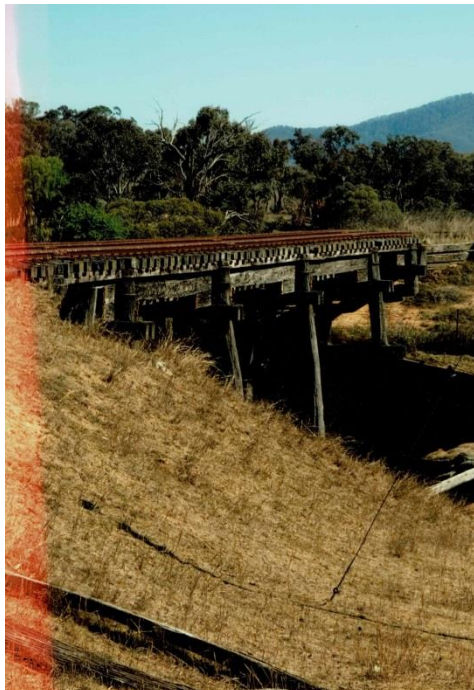
Some of OTHR's enthusiastic volunteers waiting for HS-36 to be unloaded.

OTHR for Hire

Have a special event and need a unique backdrop? Oberon Station Precinct and Train are for hire for photo shoots.

Whether it is a wedding, school formal, family reunions or any occasion, send a message to admin@othr.com with your enquiry.

Our rates are competitive.



*Emu Creek Bridge?
You gunzels can clarify.
Photo Doug Booker*

Training

Training is an ongoing issue for OTHR. Some of the training can be conducted in house and some needs to be done externally.

A couple of areas are being examined just now and include:

- Rail Safety Workers Certificate. This can be done online.
- TMV Training. This can be done in house. There is a Medical Certificate requirement.

- Locomotive Driver Training. We have a permanent trainer/assessor
- Responsible Service of Alcohol Certificate can be done externally online.
- Working with Children Certificate. This can be done online and is free for volunteers.

And here's why HS-36 is Significant!

Historical Significance

Composite Brake Branch-Line Sitting Car HS-36 has historical significance. It illustrates the late nineteenth century change in carriage construction materials and design, particularly the change to standardised body construction, common components and steel fabrication for carriage underframes, and is a relic of the first series of carriages built to the designs and specifications of William Thow. The carriage saw use on country branch line railway services in NSW, and is a remnant of the earlier design for composite carriage facilities which was superseded over time in favour of dedicated individual carriages.

Associative Significance

Based on current knowledge, Composite Brake Branch-Line Sitting Car HS-36 is not known to have any special associations with people or events of significance in a local or state context.

Aesthetic Significance

HS-36 has a high level of aesthetic significance. Its appearance and materials reflect the aesthetic approaches and expectations current at the time of the construction of the carriage. It is a well preserved example of the form of timber panelled and leather seat compartment décor associated with both the first-class and second-class passenger facilities of the late nineteenth century.

HS-36 has technical significance. This series of cars were originally sheathed in papier-mache boards but this was generally replaced during their service life, generally with tongue and groove panelling. The fittings and facilities in the carriages are examples of technologies and practices which are no longer practiced.

Social Significance

HS-36 is likely to have a degree of social value for the community-based associations who have demonstrated an ongoing interest in its conservation and management. The item may also have a degree of social significance to a broader section of the community linked to its historic, aesthetic and associative values.

Research Potential

HS-36 has a high level of research significance. The carriage has the potential to reveal information regarding the use of papier-mache exterior panelling in 1890's carriage design and construction – an unusual method of construction. The carriage is also significant as one of the few "Thow" type passenger vehicles which remain relatively unaltered from its original construction, with original varnished surfaces and paint colours in areas of the passenger compartments in particular offering valuable research material.

Rarity

HS-36 has rarity significance. The carriage is considered rare as one of the few surviving examples of a "Thow" type branch line composite sitting and sleeping carriage as used on the NSW rail system. It is one of the few "Thow" type passenger vehicles which remain relatively unaltered from its original construction in the 1890's, and retains its original; 1890's papier-mache exterior panelling and significant elements of its 1890's interior in virtually original condition, rare surviving example of these characteristics.

Representativeness

HS36 is a good example of the materials, appearance and methods of construction of

"Thow" type passenger carriages of the late nineteenth century. The interior contains representative examples of the first and second class passenger and guard accommodation provided for country branch line travel on the NSW Railways in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. The carriage is also significant in that it demonstrates how the railways adapted and altered carriages and facilities generally in line with technological and commercial conditions.

Integrity/Intactness

HS-36 retains a high level of integrity and intactness. The car is a rare surviving example of an 1890's composite sitting interior in virtually original condition which appears to retain its original 1890's papier-mache exterior panelling and other significant elements. This remains virtually unaltered since its conversion in the 1930s, including many original features from the 1890s.

Assessment Criteria

Items are assessed against the State Heritage Register (SHR) Criteria to determine the level of significance.



Shunting HS-36 into the Rolling Stock Shed.

Where to now?

HS-36 needs to be preserved and restored according to Transport Heritage NSW.

OTHR is privileged to receive management of HS36 and to this end takes its responsibilities seriously.

OTHR is putting together a preservation/restoration management team to oversee this work.

Preservation and restoration has a very different character to other restorations and great care needs to be taken to retain this carriages character and function.

It will be a longer term project subject to funding.



Safe in storage.



Members inspect HS-36's condition.

OTHR Precinct A Must See!

Make sure you keep up to date with work in progress at the Oberon Station Precinct and the Oberon branch line.

The heritage listed PC3 station building contains a small interpretive centre consisting of memorabilia and a photo display of the history of the Oberon to Tarana branch line.

OTHR Open Days now feature our train drawn up to the station, where you can enjoy a Devonshire Tea at our pop up café in one of the American style End Platform Carriages.

The wider Oberon Heritage precinct houses a variety of rolling stock most of which is rare and has a story to tell. Ask any of our enthusiastic volunteers for the low down on the machinery.

OTHR, Oberon District Museum and the Skoda Tatra Museum are open between 10 AM and 2 PM on the first Saturday of each month, coinciding with the Oberon Farmers Market.

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.

A great idea for Birthdays, a Special Event or even Christmas.

The investment is \$100 per new sleeper.

Get yours now!

Sponsors

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

Sponsorships are a very 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.

Currently we now have four 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 COUNCIL

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

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?

Mob: 0418 619 709

7 Cunninghame 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.

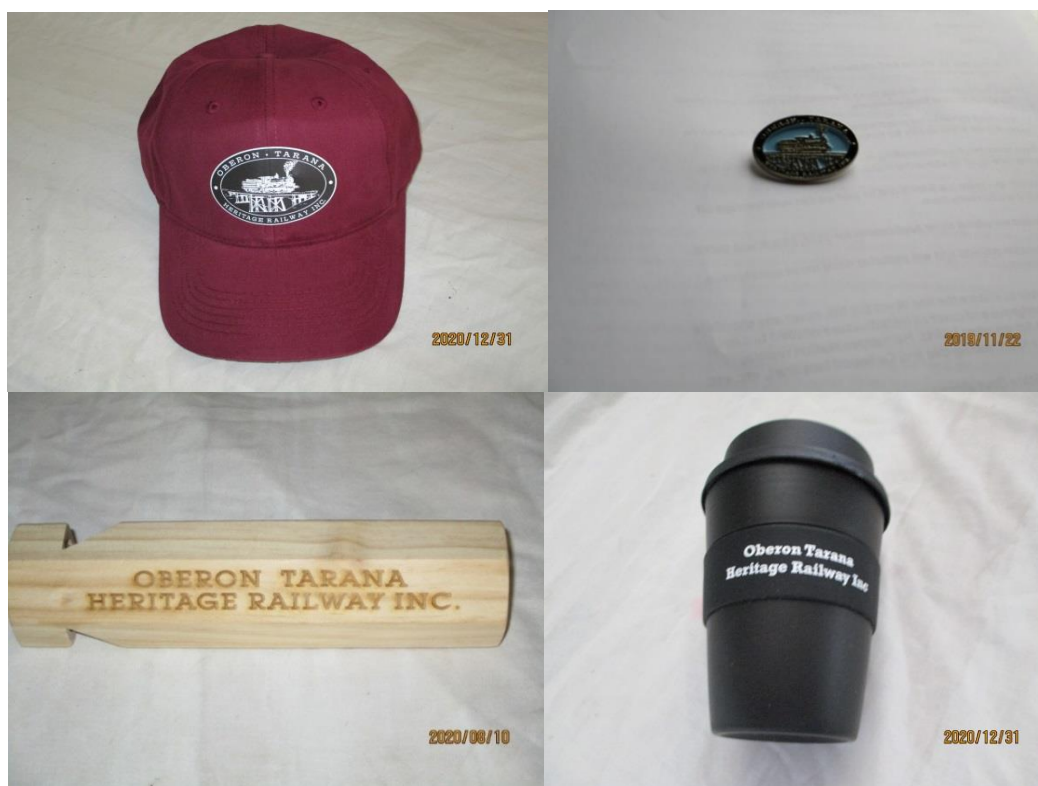
Oberon Trash-Pak offers Domestic and Commercial Mini Skip Bins, Portable Toilets, Rubbish Removal.

"You don't have to live in town to get a regular garbage service"

Contact: 0427 104 318 or 6336-2049

Official OTHR Merchandise

Buy Now.



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.



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.



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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	

Membership is \$30.00 per person

Donation

Total amount payable

Tick appropriate box

☐

\$ _____

☐

\$ _____

\$ _____

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
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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 are able to contribute.

Signed: _____ **Date:** _____