



# History on the Move

Newsletter of Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway  
April 2024



**An early morning visit to Hazelgrove  
Looking North along the main line and the turn around loop**

## **President's Message**

We have had a good start to April. Successful working bees at Hazelgrove, track work in the yard as well as good progress on the projects in the rolling stock shed. Attendance at the first Saturday Open Day was low due to the weather forecast. The news services for Friday and Saturday recommended that unless it was necessary then do not travel. Fortunately, the people who had tickets for the high tea were able to make it and a good time was had by all.

The committee meets on the second Wednesday of each month. We have decided to produce the newsletter every second month. It will be sent out after the committee has met.

**Greg Bourne**  
President

Email: [admin@otr.com.au](mailto:admin@otr.com.au)

Mobile: 0437 389 684

**The next Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway Inc. Quarterly General Meetings  
10<sup>th</sup> July and 9<sup>th</sup> October 2024 Oberon RSL, 7.30 PM**

## Patrons

**Paul Toole**

State Member for Bathurst

**Andrew Gee**

Independent 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

## 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.



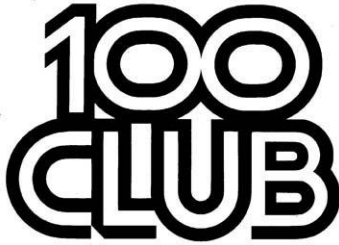
The committee is advertising for group visits. We can provide a railway suited to your group. If you are a member of another group, such as a Car Club, Rotary or Probus and the group is looking for an excursion, please suggest they book a group visit to Oberon station.

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](mailto:admin@0thr.com.au)

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

**You can win \$1,000 by investing in our fund raising  
It is a simple way for you to invest to help secure our future.  
There are only 100 tickets sold.**

- To purchase a ticket, print out this entry form fill it in and email or post it to us.
- 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 will not 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 Tarana Heritage Railway Inc.  
Your 1 in 100 chance to win \$1,000.00.  
**Number of Tickets @ 20.00 each:**

<b>Name:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	
<b>Email Address:</b>	
<b>Telephone Number:</b>	
<b>Amount Banked:</b>	<b>(Be sure to reference your name in the deposit)</b>
<b>Date</b>	
<b>OTHR Bank details</b>	<b>BSB: 062 632 Account No: 1004 9851</b>
<b>Email this entry to:</b>	<a href="mailto:admin@othr.com.au">admin@othr.com.au</a>

**Office use only.**

<b>Draw No:</b>	
<b>Ticket No:</b>	

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New track work in the Oberon Yard completed in March  
Getting ready for the delivery of End platform Car 1958



Delivery started with the blocking off of Albion Street for a few minutes last Sunday

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Craig Parkinson from Australian Train Movers rolling the carriage off the low loader  
It is an intermediate carriage and will fit very neatly between CBA850 and HLF854 in the  
future - after restoration. It first came into service in March 1891

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## Locomotive Report

A few years ago, it was decided to repair and certify 7321 and 7307 for future use on our railway. 7321 was in the better condition and was tackled first. The condition of the body was in a much worse state than first thought. Most of it caused by rust from its use at the Sydney docks.

The short end cab was removed and repaired followed by extensive repairs to the main cab and doors to engine compartment, compressor, and cooling compartment. All the brake gear was removed and sent away for overhaul and certification. The air reservoir tanks were stripped for ultrasonic testing. Fuel tank inspection covers were removed, the tanks drained and washed out. Years of silt had settled in the tanks and the job was more than challenging because of the confined space and accumulated silt.

The axle boxes have been stripped and greased. The axles have been ultrasonically tested and both locos passed the axle test with flying colours.

Next issue – More repairs and painting Mark Handel



## Track Report.

Since our contractors finished replacing and rehabilitating the line between Oberon Yard and Hazelgrove some faults outside their scope of works have received attention. There were four lengths of rails with damaged or chipped joints as well as 190 tight joints.

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We used two lengths of rail from the southern turnout area at Hazelgrove and 2 more were located from our in-stock reserves. Two were installed near the summit and 2 more near Borg gate 6.

The contractor turned his attention to the 190 tight joints. Each joint took a couple of hours to repair. This work took place over a couple of months at the end of last year and in January. All the faults have been rectified. The line is looking good.

Work at Hazelgrove on the runaround loop continues in earnest. The loop is now connected to both north and south turnouts. The southern turnout is currently being completed. Most of the rail is down with just some plating, gauging, and screwing to finish off. The turnout will then be jacked and packed to allow four rail welds to be performed welding our 71.5lb main rail to the 94lb turnout. This will happen in May after which the ground frames will be connected.



Sign noting the donation from the State Government for the funds that enabled this work. The station, picnic and toilet facilities are still to come.



Looking back to the north showing commencement of the loop line. Next issue – Details of the work at Hazelgrove Mark Handel

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## HS36 Update

Now that all four headstocks and platforms on both our 1897 end platform cars CBA850 and HLF854 have been renewed and completed we have been able to shunt HS36 into the middle road of the rolling stock shed to finally attack its restoration.

The last month or so has seen many old nail and screw holes in the framework drilled and glue dowelled to allow a firm base for cladding works.

Part of the west side gutter was missing. Removal of that section of gutter was required revealing quite a bit of rot in the rail behind. All of this has been cut out and new timbers spliced in. New gutter and roofing timber is currently being milled by a local tradesman. Further investigation revealed that the remaining gutter sections had to come off to allow access for matchboard replacement around the guard's compartment. In reality this was a good thing as it allowed proper restoration of the existing gutter piece.

Work has also commenced on the roof with the removal of around 50% of the vents and hoods for repair. These were all banged up and had to be fully stripped of paints etc for repair. Many had hairline cracks requiring soldering to restore to serviceable condition. Work will continue on the roof until complete.



Left - Vent on removal from the roof  
Below – Vent after repairs



Michael Clark – HS36 Project Manager

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10<sup>th</sup> July and 9<sup>th</sup> October 2024 Oberon RSL, 7.30 PM**





## Open Days Morning teas and Light Lunches

Monthly Open Days are continuing on the first Saturday of the month, Devonshire teas (\$10) and light lunches (\$15) 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.

An entry fee of \$5.00 pp (children under 18 free).

Contact Secretary Elaine Boxer:  
admin@othr.com.au  
Website <http://othr.com.au>

## Working Bees - It is your railway, be a part of its development!

Regular working bees are now occurring every Saturday with opportunities during the week if you are available.

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](mailto:admin@othr.com.au) Mobile: 0437 389 684

You do not have to attend every working bee, just the ones that fit in your timeframe.

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.

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](mailto:admin@othr.com.au)

### 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.

**The next Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway Inc. Quarterly General Meetings  
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# Membership Renewal

**Annual Renewals are due 1<sup>st</sup> July annually.**

"Well, it's not all beer and skittles at OTHR. For example, recently there has been some subdivision near our Hazelgrove site along Black Bulloch Road. This has resulted in some new entrance ways being put in that has altered the water runoff dynamics resulting in addition water and sediment entering our cess. Council engineers have been consulted and we are hopeful there will be a solution."



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## 2024 Event Sponsors.

The OTHR Committee congratulates the following local businesses who have committed to partnering our events in 2024

They are listed on our website using this link.

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

Sponsor	Address or Telephone	Type	Web URL
Oberon Council	02 6329 8100	Gold	<a href="https://www.oberon.nsw.gov.au/">https://www.oberon.nsw.gov.au/</a>
Mawhoods IGA and Liquor	02 6336 0344	Gold	<a href="https://igaoberon.com.au/">https://igaoberon.com.au/</a>
Elders - Emms Mooney	02 6336 1109	Gold	<a href="https://emmsmooney.eldersrealestate.com.au/">https://emmsmooney.eldersrealestate.com.au/</a>
Titania Motel	02 6336 1377	Gold	<a href="https://www.titaniamotel.com.au/">https://www.titaniamotel.com.au/</a>
Oberon Earthmoving	0411 729 732	Gold	<a href="https://www.oberonearthmoving.com.au/contact-us">https://www.oberonearthmoving.com.au/contact-us</a>
The Rockley Pub	02 6337 9415	Gold	<a href="https://www.therockleypub.com.au/">https://www.therockleypub.com.au/</a>
Oberon CRT	02 6336 1506	Silver	<a href="https://www.crt.com.au/store/oberon-industrial-farming-supplies/">https://www.crt.com.au/store/oberon-industrial-farming-supplies/</a>
Sauls Grading Services	0409 361 557	Silver	
Reliance Bank	157 Oberon Street 02 6336 0451	Silver	<a href="https://www.visitoberon.com/business/financial-professional-services/reliance-credit-union/">https://www.visitoberon.com/business/financial-professional-services/reliance-credit-union/</a>
Royal Hotel Oberon	113 Oberon Street 02 6336 1011	Silver	<a href="https://royalhoteloberon.com.au/">https://royalhoteloberon.com.au/</a>
Jenolan Caravan park	7 Cunynghame St	Silver	<a href="http://www.jenolanholidaypark.com.au/">http://www.jenolanholidaypark.com.au/</a>
Oberon Lifestyle Properties	83 Oberon Street 02 6336 0179	Bronze	<a href="https://oberonlifestyleproperties.com.au/">https://oberonlifestyleproperties.com.au/</a>
DJ's Cafe	169 Oberon Street 02 6336 1528	Bronze	<a href="https://www.oberonaustralia.com.au/1224/djs-cafe/">https://www.oberonaustralia.com.au/1224/djs-cafe/</a>
Spark Electrical	Oberon Street	Celebration	<a href="https://sparkedelectrical.com.au/">https://sparkedelectrical.com.au/</a>
Oberon Bakehouse	159 Oberon Street 02 6336 1075	Celebration	<a href="https://www.tripadvisor.com.au/Restaurant_Review-g504263-d13223293-Reviews-The_Oberon_Bakehouse-Oberon_Blue_Mountains_New_South_Wales.html">https://www.tripadvisor.com.au/Restaurant_Review-g504263-d13223293-Reviews-The_Oberon_Bakehouse-Oberon_Blue_Mountains_New_South_Wales.html</a>
Kringle Cottage	159 Oberon Street 0428 412 757	Celebration	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/morethanjustachristmasshop/">https://www.facebook.com/morethanjustachristmasshop/</a>
Oberon Pharmacy	135 Oberon Street 02 6336 1466	Celebration	<a href="https://www.oberonpharmacy.com.au/">https://www.oberonpharmacy.com.au/</a>
Barkers Butchery	171 Oberon Street 02 6336 1516	Celebration	<a href="https://www.oberonaustralia.com.au/1213/barkers-butchery/">https://www.oberonaustralia.com.au/1213/barkers-butchery/</a>

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 email: [admin@othr.com.au](mailto:admin@othr.com.au)  
[website: othr.com.au](http://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.

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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:** \_\_\_\_\_

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