



History on the Move

Newsletter of Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway
April 2026



Patrons

Paul Toole

State Member for Bathurst

Andrew Gee

Independent Member for Calare

Committee

Casual Vacancy
President

Elaine Boxer

Secretary, Catering Manager
Public officer

Michael O'Kane

Events Manager

Michael Clark

Vice President

Jessie Clark

Treasurer

Trent Elliott

Committee Member

Line Managers

Mark Langdon

Asset Manager

Alex Boromisa

Facebook Moderator

Volunteer Today. Call Elaine Boxer on 0409 777 580 for details.

Welcome to our April 2026 Newsletter

A lot has been happening over the last two months. We hope you enjoy reading about it in the following pages.

Just a reminder that the fiscal year will be coming to an end soon and so will your current membership. Please consider renewing your membership before year end and continue to support OTHR. As always, OTHR deeply appreciates your ongoing support through membership and donations. Our Renewal/New Member form is located on the last page of this newsletter or on our website at <https://othr.com.au/membership/>

Any new members joining after March will be entitled to membership to the end of the following fiscal year.

Regarding year end, our AGM will be held early this year on Saturday, July 18th at 1:30pm in the Oberon library. Further details will be communicated to members closer to this time.

Finally, don't forget about our Mothers Day High Tea. Treat Mum to something special. Details within.

OTHR Management Committee

Working Bees - It is your railway, be a part of its development by Volunteering

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

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

We have spare high vis vests that can be used by volunteers.

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

Contact: Elaine Boxer Secretary

Email: admin@othr.com.au Mobile: 0409 777 580

Volunteer Today. Call Elaine Boxer on 0409 777 580 for details.

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.

As We Continue Through 2026

As we get closer to running, we will require more volunteers involved in the training program to become qualified carriage attendants, guards, station attendants, drivers and second persons as well as other important roles. These roles will also require other regular forms of volunteering to support OTHR.

It is your railway! Be involved and register for volunteering today. Please lodge your interest with the Secretary at admin@othr.com.au

Medicals:

It is a requirement that certain roles require certain levels of medical certificates.

- 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.

Current Work in Progress

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our volunteers that have attended working bees over the last two months. A lot of progress has been achieved and it is indeed encouraging to see that total volunteer hours are on the increase.

Training

We have recently undergone further familiarisation training for Yard Ground Shunter. On job training continues. This is an important role to ensure safe movements of rolling stock within the yard precinct.

Hazelgeove Station Precinct.

Many of you would be aware that we have a NSW State Grant to put in place a turnaround loop, station platform and picnic area at Hazelgrove. The last few months have been very busy in this regard with a lot achieved.

Many sleepers have been replaced with the help of our new members Sam and Logan. Only a few more need replacing.

Tim Barnes has been busy with his excavator and made a lot of progress shaping and compacting the mounds of dirt for the platform and cutting in the edges to enable marking out and drilling of the required retaining wall columns. All of the required concrete posts for the station have been manufactured and will be ready for installation shortly. Tim and Michael have prepared the pad for the picnic shelter ready for the concrete pour. The four steel posts for the shelter structure have been concreted in place while Mark Langdon assisted with cutting and welding closed the ends of our main shelter rafters. Jessie also assisted with hand weeding the track of woody weeds as well as general labouring.



Preparing pad for picnic area



Pad ready for pour



Logan and Sam after a day of helping with sleeper replacement



Leveling of earth for Hazelgrove platform

Easter Open Day.

The Open Day on April 4th was a huge success, we had visitors from far and wide, despite the petrol prices and closure of the Victoria Pass. Some visitors came all the way from Newcastle. Many of the visitors enjoyed morning tea and lunch in the carriage so good sales on food and beverage.

Our next Open Day will be on the June long weekend and we are trialling Sunday as an alternative to Saturday.



Set 21 at station for Open day

April Travelrite Tour Group

A group of rail enthusiasts enjoyed a lovely afternoon tea courtesy of Jessie and Mike. This group had been touring around many rail heritage precincts. After spending time having a wonderful lunch at Renzaglia Wines they were treated to fabulous afternoon tea treat in HLF854 stabled at the platform. We imagine they were all pretty full by the end of it all so a walk to the rolling stock shed was in order with Nathan giving them a good tour of everything in place.



Afternoon Tea ready for devouring

Volunteer Today. Call Elaine Boxer on 0409 777 580 for details.

Canberra Model Railway Expo

Under the invite of the George's River Model Railway Club, Elaine, Jessie and Michael represented OTHR at the Canberra model Railway Expo, spreading the word, as it were.

There was a lot of interest in our group with all the usual questions being asked. The GRMRC was setup next to us with their updated "N" scale model of the Tarana to Oberon pioneer branch line. Their model was met with great applaud. Truly a credit to them.



New Reception Building Progress.

We finally have the construction certificate from Council so we can commence erection of the building. This will be happening shortly so keep an eye out.

Volunteer Today. Call Elaine Boxer on 0409 777 580 for details.

HS36 Progress.

Most time spent these last two months was on the continued refurbishment on the east frame section between compartments B36 to C36 including the cutting out of rot and splicing in of new timbers including a lot of work around the bottoms of the drop light frames where they had split, rotted and come away. Drilling and dowelling of all old nail and screw holes. Sill drainage was corrected while rusted and wasted knee braces were removed. Rot was removed from the B36 east door frame striker area new timbers spliced in. All frame elements received a bitumen coat. Installed U shaped under vent panels. Installed all trims in this section. This section has now been undercoated by Mike and has come up really nicely.

Mike had sanded back the first top coat of Tuscan Red and has since applied a second coat. The depth of paint is now starting to shine through.



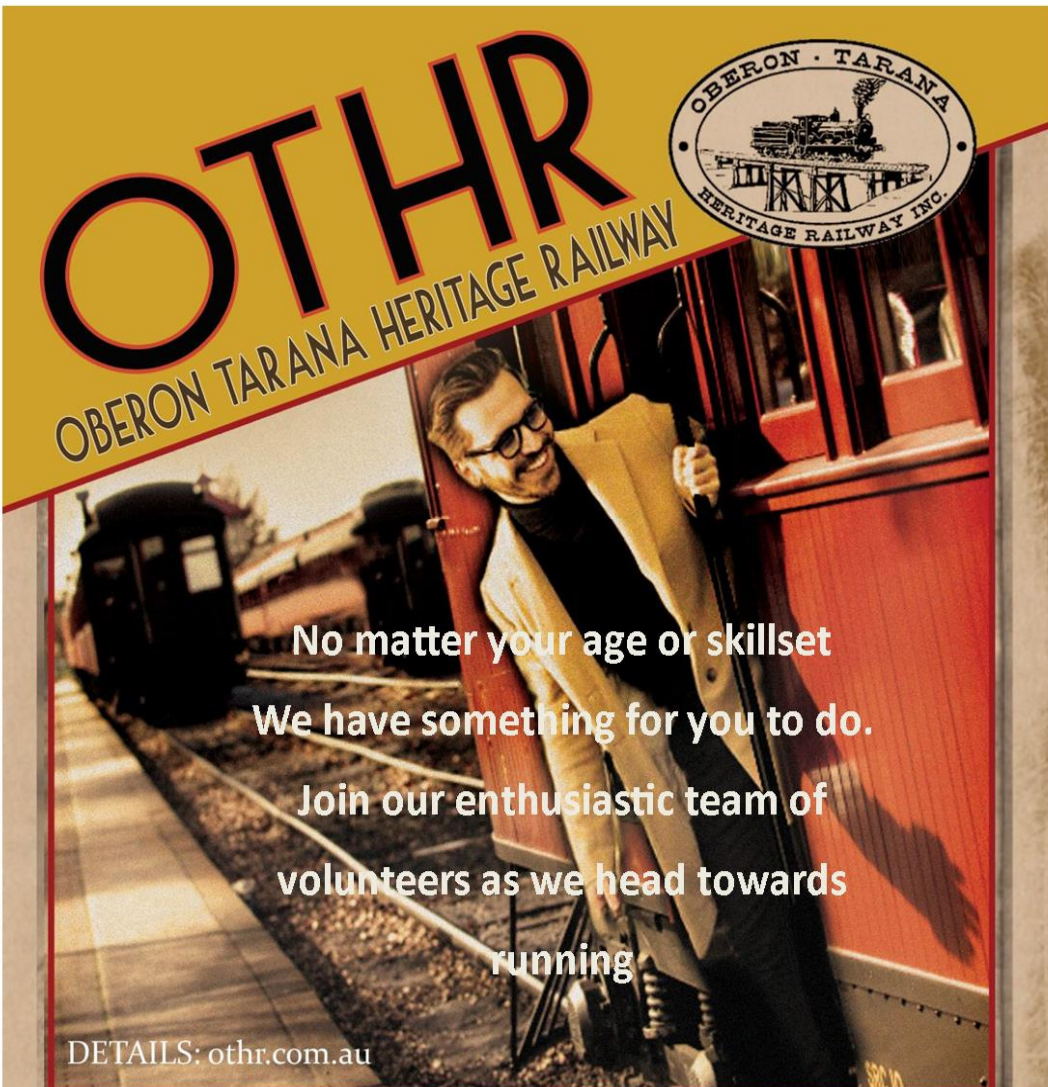
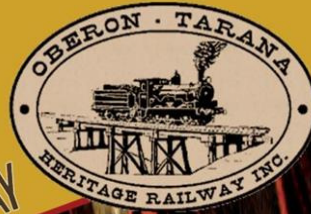
B36/C36 before



B36/C36 after

OTHR

OBERON TARANA HERITAGE RAILWAY



No matter your age or skillset
We have something for you to do.
Join our enthusiastic team of
volunteers as we head towards
running

DETAILS: othr.com.au

NOW RECRUITING FOR TRAINING
DRIVERS · CONDUCTORS · GUARDS · ONBOARD STAFF · CATERERS · TRADIES

GET ON BOARD

Volunteer Today. Call Elaine Boxer on 0409 777 580 for details.

From the Heritage Galley



Missed our famous on board lunches?
You might like to try this one yourselves.

Chocolate Slice with Candied Orange and Almond

Makes 12 slices

Ingredients

- 30g blanched almonds
- 120g milk chocolate
- 120g dark chocolate
- 100g candied orange peel
- 40g ghee
- 6-8 slices candied orange

Preparation

1. ***Line a loaf pan with greaseproof paper with some overhang to wrap at the end.***
2. ***Chop almonds and candied peel and set aside.***
3. ***Chop chocolates and carefully melt in double boiler with the ghee.***
4. ***Take off the heat and mix in chopped almonds and candied peel.***
5. ***Transfer to loaf pan, decorate with candied orange slices then cover with overhanging paper.***
6. ***Place in fridge to set (approx. 2 hours)***
7. ***Slice and serve.***

Upcoming Events

Mothers Day High Tea

Wish to celebrate Mum on Mothers Day but are lost as to where to take her? Then book a table aboard our 1897 dining car HLF854 and enjoy our first class high tea prepared by our wonderful catering team. Time is running out to book tables of two as Mothers Day is just around the corner. Book now and don't miss Out! Your Mum will love you for it!



Mothers Day
High Tea

Join us on board our vintage dining car
For a sumptuous High Tea for Mothers Day
At Oberon Railway Station, North Street
Oberon

1pm Sunday 10th May
\$75pp Includes complimentary Bubbles
Tables hold 2 people only

TICKETS

<https://www.ticketebo.com.au/oberon-tarana-heritage-railway/the-mother-s-day-high-te-2026>



More information on our web page www.OTHR.com.au

Volunteer Today. Call Elaine Boxer on 0409 777 580 for details.

Open Day

Our next Open Day will be held on Sunday June 7th from 10am-4pm. Morning teas (\$10) and light lunches (\$15) can be purchased in our Heritage Carriage at the railway station. See more details on our web page www.othr.com.au

Guided tours of the station building and rolling stock shed can also be organised. Entry and tour is \$5.

Book a visit to the OTHR Precinct
Get a group together or suggest it to a group that you are a member of.

Group Bookings are Always Welcome

**Morning or Afternoon Tea
Special Lunches
All Linked to a Tour of the Precinct**

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



Volunteer Today. Call Elaine Boxer on 0409 777 580 for details.

Supporters of OTHR

OTHR would like to acknowledge the ongoing support from the local business community. Without this valuable support OTHR would struggle to attract volunteers and continue to progress to running a tourist train.

Titania Motel
Highlands Motor Inn
Jenolan Cabins
Oberon Council.



Volunteer Today. Call Elaine Boxer on 0409 777 580 for details.



PO Box 299, Oberon NSW 2787
 email: admin@othr.com.au
[website: othr.com.au](http://www.othr.com.au)
 Phone Secretary: 0409 777 580
 ABN: 98 107 506 208

Renewal or Application for Membership
Annual Membership runs from July 1st to June 30th

I/We wish to renew 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 however EFT is preferred.

- **Direct Bank Transfer** – bank details are **BSB: 062 632 Account number: 1004 9851.**
- **PayPal via our website at <https://othr.com.au/membership/>**
- **Cash** - can be paid direct on Open Days

****** Please include your name as reference on your EFT transfer ******

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.

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:** _____

Volunteer Today. Call Elaine Boxer on 0409 777 580 for details.