



# Members' newsletter

Official newsletter of the Australian Railway Historical Society (NSW Division) • Editor: Ross Verdich • Issue: **November 2010**

## November 2010

Tue 2	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open
<b>Wed 3</b>	<b>Members' Meeting:</b> ORH Representative describes the S170 Railway Heritage Register
Sat 6	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open
Tue 9	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open
<b>Tue 9</b>	<b>Newcastle Members' Meeting:</b> Max Maughan Videos
Sat 13	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open
Tue 16	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open
Wed 17	Railway Luncheon Club: Schofields Station
Sat 20	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open
Sat 20	Railcars 621/721 Sydney Suburban Tour
Sun 21	Railcars 621/721 Sydney Suburban Tour
Tue 23	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open
Sat 27	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open
Tue 30	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open

## December 2010

<b>Wed 1</b>	<b>Members' Meeting: Members' slide &amp; video night</b>
Sat 4	ARHS Railway Resource Centre Open
Sun 5	ARHS Volunteers' Tarana/Bathurst Tour
Tue 7	ARHS Railway Resource Centre Open
Sat 11	ARHS Railway Resource Centre Open
<b>Tue 14</b>	<b>Newcastle Member's Meeting: Dave Rollins presentation</b>
Tue 14	ARHS Railway Resource Centre Open
Wed 15	Railway Luncheon Club: Petersham Training College
Sat 18	ARHS Railway Resource Centre Open
Tue 21	ARHS Railway Resource Centre Open
Sat 25	Christmas Day
Tue 28	NSW Public Holiday-ARHSnsw Bookshop & RRC Closed

**Due to a Mailing House error, some members may not have received their October magazines. Please advise us if you have not, on (02) 9699 4595.**

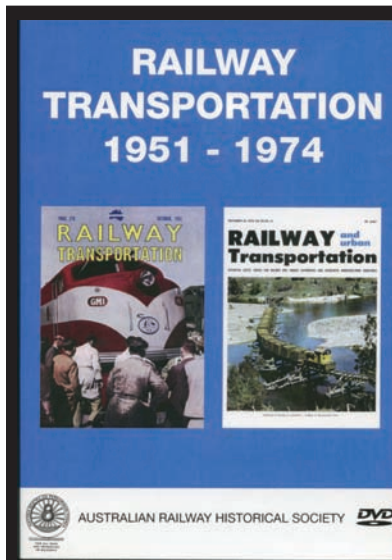
## Slide Competition

The October topic was 'Bridges Down Under' and the winner of the competition was Chris Sim.

Upcoming subjects are:

- November—Tasmanian Government Railways
- December—Members' Slide & Video night
- January—Railway Staff at Work

Contestants are encouraged to submit digital images at least 24 hours beforehand. Images submitted via CD are to be sent to our Redfern office and images via email to: [mail@arhsnsw.com.au](mailto:mail@arhsnsw.com.au)



**Now available on DVD from the bookshop! The complete *Railway Transportation* collection on a four DVD set. Only \$45\***

**Also available on DVD: ARHS Bulletin 1937-1950 & NSW Digest 1963-1973 Each DVD only \$25\***

Sydney meetings:	Members' meetings are held in Sydney on the first Wednesday of the month. Meetings commence 6.30pm (seating available from 6pm)	At the 'Mitchell Room', 1st floor, Sydney Mechanics School of Arts, 280 Pitt St, Sydney (between Park & Bathurst Sts)
Newcastle meetings:	Members' meetings are held in Newcastle on the second Tuesday of each month at 8pm.	At the New Lambton Community Centre, cnr Alma Rd and Cromwell St, New Lambton
Bookshop:	Monday to Friday: 9am to 5.30pm Saturday: 9am to 4pm	The bookshop is located at Rail Heritage Central on the Concourse of Sydney Central Station
Rail Resource Centre:	Tuesdays: 12pm to 4pm Saturdays: 10am to 3pm	67 Renwick Street, Redfern, NSW, 2016 (only during advertised opening times)
Administration and Mail Order:	Phone: 02 9699 4595 • Fax: 02 9699 1714 Email: <a href="mailto:mail@arhsnsw.com.au">mail@arhsnsw.com.au</a>	67 Renwick Street, Redfern, NSW, 2016 (no general access—by appointment only)
Tours:	As advertised	Infoline: 02 8394 9019 or 0428 333 443
<a href="http://www.arhsnsw.com.au">www.arhsnsw.com.au</a>		

# MEMBERS' NEWSLETTER

## MEMBERS' MEETING REPORT

John Dunn, the author of the Comeng series of books which detail the history of the Commonwealth Engineering Company at Granville NSW, spoke at our October members' meeting. The lecture also followed-on from his August 2010 *Railway Digest* article on overseas trends in double-deck intercity designs.

John is a rolling stock design professional and started his career with Comeng at the time the 1955 Sydney suburban cars were under development. He finished with Comeng in 1989 when the company was sold. Since that time he has been a passenger rolling stock consultant and has been a proponent of developing Sydney's double-deck designs, especially the successor to CityRail's interurban V Sets.

John displayed images of various double-deck designs over the decades from around the world, both successful and unsuccessful. He displayed an artist's image of a design Comeng developed for a double-deck trailer car in 1959 for Sydney but Tulloch Ltd at Rhodes subsequently built the first double-deck trailer cars. Comeng, though, had later success with the S Sets and V Sets.

Up to date deliveries in Europe of double deck cars from the three main builders, Bombadier, Althsom and Stadler were shown and John explained the economics and efficiencies of various designs now on offer from those builders. Significantly, the latest Stadler DD cars for the Swiss Railways, which John recently inspected, would fit the NSW loading gauge with little alteration and would be an ideal replacement for the now up to 30 plus year old V Sets.

The lecture gave good insight into how double-deck car design around the world has evolved and the technical efficiencies of each. It was a behind-the-scenes study that was well-appreciated by the attentive audience.

George Gettens thanked John for his talk and presented him with a gift from the Society's bookshop.

## CHANGED BOOKSHOP OPENING HOURS

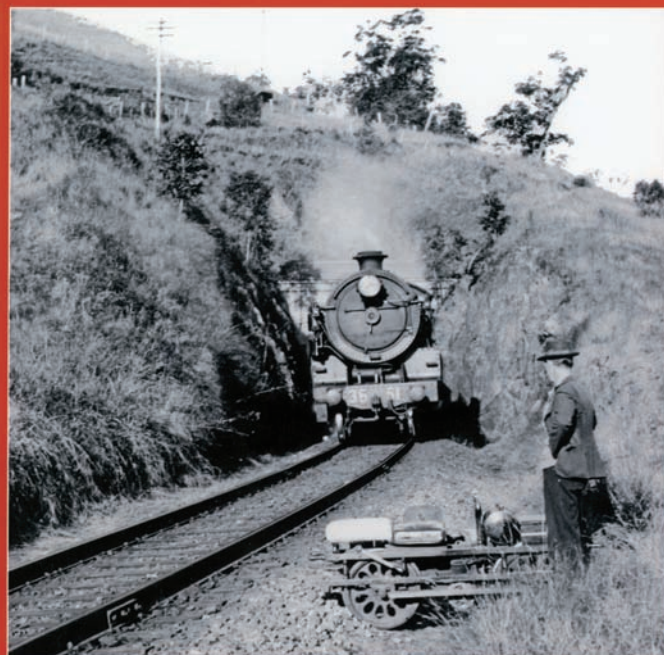
Monday to Friday: 9am to 5.30pm

Saturday: 9am to 4pm

### *Triking the Length*

A Short History of Railway Track Vehicles  
in New South Wales

1855-1984



Jim Longworth



FOR ALL WHO  
ARE INTERESTED  
IN RAILWAYS

Australian Railway Historical Society New South Wales Division

NOW AVAILABLE AT BOOKSHOP

RRP Only \$59\* (less member's discount)

## Forthcoming tours

**November 17: Railway Luncheon Club:**  
Schofields Station

**November 20/21: 621/721 Sydney Suburban tour.**  
*Booking form attached.*

**December 15: Luncheon Club:**  
Petersham Training College

**January 23: CPH Railmotor Tour - Nos. 1, 3 & 7**  
**Another Summer's Day on the South Coast**  
*Booking form attached.*

**February 21/22: Winelander to Wallangarra**  
*Booking form attached.*

**February 27: 50 years since closure of Sydney Trams**  
*Booking form in next newsletter.*

For more info call our Tours Hotline on **02 8394 9019.**

## SYDNEY'S ELECTRIC TRAINS



A PERSONAL HISTORY

GEOFF MOSS

Australian Railway Historical Society NSW Division

AVAILABLE EARLY DECEMBER 2010

RRP Only \$49\* (less member's discount)



# MEMBERS' NEWSLETTER

## RAILWAY LUNCHEON CLUB

### VISIT TO HELENSBURGH ON 20TH OCTOBER 2010

Over 40 members and friends gathered at Helensburgh on Wed 20th Oct for the Luncheon Club's monthly outing. After a welcome by the SM, and an inspection of the signalling facilities, Stuart Sharp and John Oakes led the group on a tour of both the current (1915) station, and its predecessor which was opened in 1889.

The Illawarra line was opened between Waterfall and Coalcliff on 3rd Oct 1888, but Helensburgh Station was not opened until Jan 1889. The platform building followed 2 years later and was a "classy" brick structure. An SM's, and 2 other, residences were also provided and these are still extant. The station was situated in the narrow space between nos.3 and 4 tunnels and its establishment was due to pressure from the local Metropolitan Colliery. Indeed, it is believed that the name Helensburgh is derived from the name of the Colliery Manager's daughter, Helen.



*The 1889 Helensburgh Station, minus the building which was demolished long ago. The entrance to No.4 tunnel is in the background. Image: David Taylor*

The second (and current) Helensburgh station was opened on 30th May 1915 together with the deviation between Helensburgh and Lilyvale. Both the station platform and building are unique in being curved, this being a feature of only a few stations in NSW.

Among the features of the current station are:-

- "Standard awning brackets" supporting the platform awnings,
- Name of station expressed at bottom of the lower window sashes,
- Cement rendered moulded string course around the building exterior,
- Four-panel external doors
- Fan lights over doors
- Nine-panel small, multi-coloured glass in the upper window sashes,
- Ornamental moulding under the window sills,
- Nine inch diameter "Breech's cowls" (ventilators) through the roof ridge over the toilets,
- Brick chimneys topped with terracotta pots,
- Timber screen with vertical T and G "V" jointed boarding outside the men's toilet, which matched the vertical boarding on the building's gables, &
- Timber finials at each end of the roof.

The group then adjourned back to Sutherland for lunch.

The next outing is to Schofields on Wed 17th November. We meet on the platform there at 11am. Note that the previously advertised outing to Carlingford has been postponed until next year due to illness of one of the staff at the Produce Shed.

*Gary Hughes*



*The current Helensburgh Station. The curved platform and building are evident. Image: Stuart Sharp*

**WINELANDER to STANTHORPE and WALLAN-GARRA**

**Saturday & Sunday 19 & 20 February 2011**

The Queensland Division of the ARHS has offered us a carriage on their Winelander train. The tour cost is all inclusive with meals on board, wine tasting and double/twin share Motel accommodation at Stanthorpe on Saturday Night. A limited Single Supplement is available to early bookers.

Departing BRISBANE at 7.00 am (EST) on Saturday 19th February 2011, Travel through Brisbane's Western Suburbs to Ipswich and Rosewood, the end of the suburban electrification. The countryside then becomes more rural as we proceed to Grandchester where the tortuous climb of the Little Liverpool Range begins. The next town is Laidley, which marks the start of the fertile black soil plains of the Lockyer Valley. Onward the train takes us through Forest Hill, Gatton, Grantham and Helidon before we again start to climb. These are the foothills of the Great Dividing Range and after Murphy's Creek the climb begins in earnest. Imagine the railway workers of 1866 with picks and shovels carving out the cuttings and tunnels to enable trains to reach the Darling Downs. As we approach the summit, note the panorama that unfolds on the left of the train as we approach the Garden City, Toowoomba. Travelling south, we encounter grain-growing areas. Wine Tasting (whites) and Lunch will be served as we proceed through the small towns of Cambooya, Greenmount, Clifton and Nobby before reaching Warwick. Climbing further through another range we reach the Granite Belt country at Dalveen. This area is famous for apples, pears and stone fruit. Several more small towns are passed to reach The Summit, which is the highest point on the railway in Southern Queensland.

You may wish to leave the train at Stanthorpe to join the Wineries Tour with Dinner at Claudia's Thunderbolt Farm Country Restaurant on Saturday Night.

Or continue to the rarely visited by train, State Border station at Wallan-Garra. This line is listed for permanent closure in the plans to rationalize QR operations in the very near future. See the Station Museum and what is left of the extensive change of gauge facilities that once existed here. Dinner will be served in the Dining Car on the return journey to Stanthorpe on Saturday Night.

A late start will be made on Sunday morning with more wine tasting (reds) followed by lunch as we have a leisurely return run to Brisbane arriving late afternoon.

The train will be made up with Air-conditioned carriages from the Sunlander and Westlander trains hauled by a QR Diesel Electric Locomotive.

You will need to make your own arrangements to get to Brisbane and return.

**BOOKING FORM**

Mail to: ARHSnsw Tours  
PO Box 4083  
EDGEWORTH, NSW, 2285

or fax (02) 4956 3370

Pay at: ARHSnsw Bookshop  
Rail Heritage Centre  
SYDNEY CENTRAL STATION

Please reserve for me..... Seats on the Winelander Tour to Stanthorpe including the Winery Tour @ \$440.00 \$ .....  
Please reserve for me.....Seats on the Winelander Tour to Wallan-Garra @ \$440.00 \$ .....  
Limited Single Supplement @ \$ 60.00 \$ .....  
2% Credit Card Payment Surcharge \$ .....  
**TOTAL (GST Incl.) \$ .....**

Name.....  
Address.....Postcode.....  
Telephone (home)..... (mobile).....Membership No. ....  
Name of accompanying person.....

**PREFERRED PAYMENT BY CHEQUE/MONEY ORDER/CASH** for \$.....

Or please DEBIT my VISA or MASTERCARD (add 2% surcharge to payment)

Card No. ....Expiry ...../.....(Add 2% above)

Signature .....Date .....

Tickets and Itinerary confirmation will be posted to your address 10 days before departure.

**ARHSnsw Tours Infoline (02) 8394 9019 or 0428 333 443** ABN 96 000 538 803.

ARHSnsw (ABN 96 000 538 803) is not responsible for last minute changes to train composition, tour route or destination(s).  
Refunds: up to 30 days prior-100 %; less than 30 days to 7 days-90 %; less than 7 days-NO REFUND

OFFICE USE ONLY: Date booking rec'd .....Date processed .....Car.....Seats.....Tickets sent.....

# 621/721 AROUND the CITY TOUR

**Saturday & Sunday 20 & 21 November 2010**

ARHSnsw Tours and The Rail Motor Society invites members and their guests to join them on a weekend travelling in the restored 621/721 two-car heritage diesel set over the Sydney suburban system and goods line network that rarely sees a passenger train.

On Saturday, 621/721 will depart Paterson at 6.00am for the run to Hornsby to commence the tour at about 9.00am. Travel to Lavender Bay via North Sydney, return to Hornsby and down to North Strathfield and on to Carlingford. Return to Clyde to reverse and travel to Richmond for lunch. On the return trip, travel via the 'Y' link to Liverpool and Campbelltown, then via Leightonfield Loop through Enfield and Cooks River to Port Botany. Return to Marrickville to reverse and travel to Central at about 4.30pm to complete the day's tour.

On Sunday, depart Central about 9.00am and run to Glenfield via Wolli Creek and East Hills. Reverse and return to Sydenham, reverse again and then via Campsie, Bankstown, Sefton Park Junction, Regents Park, Lidcombe triangle to Clyde and Sandown. Return via the Flemington Goods Junction and the goods line to Meeks Road and then onto the Illawarra line to Sutherland and travel on the recently opened duplication to Cronulla to inspect the new terminating train arrangements and have lunch. Return to Sutherland to reverse once again for a spirited run further south on the Illawarra line along the escarpment to Scarborough. Return via Meeks Road East Fork past the XPT Depot to Sydenham and on to Central to complete the day's tour at about 5.00pm. 621/721 will then depart on the return journey to Paterson.

Lunch stops on both days have been scheduled, however, this will depend on the final timetable arrangements. Where possible, photo stops at stations and terminal locations will be arranged.

For Hunter Region members of ARHSnsw or The RAIL MOTOR SOCIETY, you can join the train en-route to Hornsby on Saturday 20 November or on the return from Central on Sunday 21 November for no extra charge. Non-members will be charged \$20 each way. Overnight B&B accommodation in Sydney at own cost can be arranged for those who wish to participate in the weekend tour. Tour notes and complimentary morning and afternoon teas will be available on board the train on both days.

## BOOKING FORM: 621/721 AROUND THE CITY TOUR on 20 & 21 November 2010

Mail to: ARHSnsw Tours or fax (02) 4956 3370 Pay at: ARHSnsw Bookshop  
 PO Box 4083 Rail Heritage Centre  
 EDGEWORTH, NSW, 2285 SYDNEY CENTRAL STATION

Please reserve for me.....Seats for Saturday 20 November	@ \$99.00	\$..... GST incl.
Please reserve for me.....Seats for Sunday 21 November	@ \$99.00	\$..... GST incl.
Please reserve for me.....Seats for Saturday/Sunday 20/21 November	@ \$190.00	\$..... GST incl.
Non-members.....Seats for Saturday 20 November	@ \$110.00	\$..... GST incl.
Non-members.....Seats for Sunday 21 November	@ \$110.00	\$..... GST incl.
Non-members.....Seats for Saturday/Sunday 20/21 November	@ \$210.00	\$..... GST incl.
I would like to travel on 621/721 from Paterson to Hornsby on Saturday 20 November @ \$20.00		\$..... GST incl.
I would like to travel on 621/721 from Central to Paterson on Sunday 21 November @ \$20.00		\$..... GST incl.
Credit Card Payments attract a 2 per cent surcharge =		\$..... GST incl.
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$..... GST incl.</b>

Name.....Membership No. ....

Address.....Postcode.....

Telephone contact number (home)..... (mobile).....

Name(s) of accompanying persons.....

I require B&B accommodation in Sydney on Sat night 20 Nov.....Single supplement.....Twin share.....Double.....

PREFERRED PAYMENT BY CHEQUE/MONEY ORDER/CASH for

Or please DEBIT my VISA or MASTERCARD (add 2% surcharge to payment)

Card No. ....Expiry ...../.....

Signature .....Date .....

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Office Use Only: Date booking rec'd .....Date processed .....Car.....621...721.....Seats.....Tickets sent.....

# ANOTHER SUMMER'S DAY ON THE SOUTH COAST

OUR FIRST TOUR WITH THREE CPH RAIL MOTORS. Nos 1, 3 & 7

**23 January 2011**

Join ARHSnsw Tours and The Rail Motor Society for another summer's journey over the Illawarra Line to Nowra (Bomaderry). This will be the first run for the Society with the restored CPH No.3 in the consist.

Our tour will commence at about 8.00am from Sydney Central with a brisk run to Waterfall. Enjoy the magnificent scenic run along the line through Stanwell Park to Thirroul and Wollongong with a diversion to Port Kembla Inner Harbour loop before rejoining the main line at Unanderra and proceeding to Kiama and along the coast to Nowra.

Seating is limited to 90 passengers, so book early to ensure a good seat.

Photo stops have been requested at suitable locations throughout the tour. ARHS Newcastle and TRMS members and guests may travel from Paterson, Maitland or Broadmeadow with other pickups as arranged along the line to Sydney.

Tour cost includes morning and afternoon teas on board, a fish and chips lunch at the Bomaderry RSL Club and historic lineside notes. An alternate meal can be arranged if required.

## **BOOKING FORM: CPH Tour-Another Summer's Day on the South Coast on 23 January 2011**

Mail to: ARHSnsw Tours or fax (02) 4956 3370 Pay at: ARHSnsw Bookshop  
PO Box 4083 Rail Heritage Centre  
EDGEWORTH, NSW, 2285 SYDNEY CENTRAL STATION

Members and guests .....Seats @ \$90.00 \$..... GST incl.

Non-members .....Seats @ \$99.00 \$..... GST incl.

**TOTAL \$..... GST incl.**

Name.....Membership No. ....

Address.....Postcode.....

Telephone contact number (home)..... (mobile).....

Name(s) of accompanying persons.....

I will join the train at.....Station

PREFERRED PAYMENT BY CHEQUE/MONEY ORDER/CASH for

Card No. ....Expiry ...../.....

Signature .....Date .....

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