



Members' newsletter

Official newsletter of the Australian Railway Historical Society (NSW Division) • Editor: Ross Verdich • Issue: **January 2012**

January 2012

Mon 2	New Year's Day - Bookshop & RRC closed
Tue 3	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open
Wed 4	Members' Meeting: Andrew Everett talk on Charles Merz
Sat 7	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open
Tue 10	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open
Tue 10	Newcastle Members' Meeting: Railway Film Night
Sat 14	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open
Tues 17	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open
Sat 21	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open
Sun 22	Railmotor Tour Another Summers Day on the South Coast
Tue 24	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open
Thur 26	Australia Day - Bookshop closed
Sat 28	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open
Tue 31	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open

February 2012

Wed 1	Members' Meeting: Bill Laidlaw Asian High Speed Rlys
Sat 4	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open
Tue 7	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open
Tue 7	Newcastle Members' Meeting: TBA
Sat 11	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open
Tue 14	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open
Sat 18	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open
Sat 18	Winelander Tour to Wallangarra with ARHS Qld Div
Sun 19	Winelander Tour from Wallangarra with ARHS Qld Div
Tue 21	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open
Sat 25	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open
Tues 28	ARHS Railway Resource Centre open

Forthcoming tours

January 22: Another Summer's Day on the South Coast. *Booking form attached.*

February 18 & 19: Winelander with ARHS Qld. *Booking form attached.*

March 29 to April 17: NZ North Island with Darjeeling Tours. *See advertisement page 2.*

June 15 to 18: To Brisbane with Railcars 621/721 (*Still in planning stage but this is the weekend after the June long weekend to avoid the usual trackwork.*)

For more information call our Tours Hotline on (02) 8394

Members' Slide & DVD Night

The annual member's slide and DVD night was held in December. Many thanks to all who submitted especially to John Oakes for his St James Tunnel Walk DVD which documented the mystery and adventure of this one time-Society operation.

Upcoming subjects are:

January—Colourful Oz locomotive combinations

February—Australian railways less than 3'6" gauge

March—Railway Accidents/Collisions/ Mishaps

April—Southern Aurora (*celebrate 50th Anniversary*)

Contestants are to submit digital images at least 24 hours beforehand to Redfern via email: mail@arhsnsw.com.au

A reminder that contestants should limit their submissions to five slides or digital images only. The subject of the contest should also be the image's focus.

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: mail@arhsnsw.com.au	67 Renwick Street, Redfern, NSW, 2016 (no general access—by appointment only)
Tours:	As advertised Infoline: 02 8394 9019 or 0428 333 443	www.arhsnsw.com.au

MEMBERS' NEWSLETTER

RRC INTRANET

Geoff Lillico is continuing to add files to this invaluable resource. There are now well in excess of 60,000 files available for viewing.

There are, however, a good number of copies of serial publications which still need to be added. We are seeking the assistance of members in providing a loan of intact, but unbound, copies of these missing issues for scanning. Members who have a collection of loose magazines who are willing to lend them to the RRC for that purpose are asked to drop a note to:

glillico@arhsnsw.com.au

Geoff will contact you and provide a full listing of our current requirements. We do NOT require any ARHSnsw Division publications, but are particularly anxious to obtain a good number of railway in-house journals and Divisional magazines from interstate.

RAILWAY LUNCHEON CLUB SYDNEY SIGNAL BOX

Due to pre-Christmas mailing deadlines, the report on this 21 December inspection will be published in the February newsletter.

VOLUNTEERS ARE URGENTLY REQUIRED IN THE RAILWAY RESOURCE CENTRE AT REDFERN & ALEXANDRIA

At Redfern, the RRC manager, Bill Phippen, would like to hear from members who have good computer skills to help out with data entry within the RRC. The volume of scanning now being achieved requires the images to be listed appropriately and quickly.

At Alexandria, Ian Fathers' small team of Alan Bailey and Maria Rangel has been reduced with the departure of Maria to the NSW South Coast. Thank you Maria for your excellent voluntary work for the Society! Ian's team has been sorting and entering the data of the thousands of railway plans held at Alexandria. At a very conservative estimate there are some 7,000 plus plans to be entered. They have reached over 1000 entries on the spreadsheet. If two (2) further personnel can be recruited, the work load including back data entry and checking of plans stored at Alexandria against entries on the remnant data base might be finalised.

The work at Redfern and Alexandria requires some experience in using computers. Interested applicants are advised to contact the RRC Manager Bill Phippen on 9699 2736 or email: whippen@arhsnsw.com.au

Members, remember our great NZ South Island tour in 2010? Well, we are now offering a comprehensive tour of the North Island early in 2012, in partnership with Darjeeling Tours of the UK & NZ. It will feature special steam haulage on the mainline as well. Call (02) 8006 5075 or (02) 8394 9019 or email to enquire or ask for an itinerary.

NEW ZEALAND North Island Steam Explorer



29 March to 17 April 2012

Join us on this escorted tour to New Zealand, a country which never fails to delight the rail enthusiast and general traveller alike. During this 19-night tour of the North Island we explore a mix of the country's rail heritage and modern passenger services. You'll enjoy three days of main-line steam excursions, some steam on the water, plus visits to an eclectic mix of heritage transport attractions. The centrepiece of the tour is the Easter Jazz Festival at Tauranga, with steam-hauled trains operating from the town to complement the live music scene in the streets. A magical combination and plenty for partners to enjoy!

We've partnered with Darjeeling Tours Limited, a UK based tour operator who have been running specialist railway holidays for ten years, to offer our readers this exciting tour which will be accompanied by an ARHSnsw Councillor.



**BOOK EARLY TO
AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT!
PRICES FROM
AU\$4,995**
(Excludes international flights)

Darjeeling Tours
Limited

+61 (0) 2 8006 5075

ARHSnsw Tours Hotline
+61 (0) 2 8394 9019

www.darjeelingtours.co.uk
tours@darjeelingtours.co.uk

Darjeeling Tours Limited, Lime Tree Lodge, Thorpe Road, Mattersey, Doncaster DN10 5ED, United Kingdom
NZ Office: 18 Park Avenue, Titahi Bay, Porirua 5022 New Zealand

A SUMMER'S DAY ON THE SOUTH COAST

A TOUR WITH 621/721 RAILCARS

Sunday 22 January 2012

Join ARHSnsw Tours and The Rail Motor Society on a journey over the Illawarra Line to Nowra (Bomaderry). Our tour will commence from the Paterson Museum and pick up passengers at Maitland, Broadmeadow, Cardiff, Fassifern, Wyong and Gosford to depart at about 8am from Sydney Central with a brisk run to Waterfall. Enjoy the magnificent scenic run south from Stanwell Park to Thirroul and Wollongong with a short diversion via the Port Kembla Outer Harbour loop before rejoining the main line at Unanderra. Proceeding then along the coast to Kiama and Bomaderry



(Nowra). There is a short walk for a fish and chips lunch at the Club.

Our return journey will depart Bomaderry and return to Berry where we will allow an hour for those who would like to take the short walk to explore the village with its unique business centre and shops. 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. Return to Sydney is expected to be at about 7pm before returning to Paterson.

Tour cost includes morning and afternoon teas on board, a fish and chips lunch and line side historic notes.

(Image courtesy of Ross Verdich)

BOOKING FORM: A Summer's Day on the South Coast by 621/721 Railcars, 22 January 2012

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

OR fax (02) 4956 3370

OR Book at: ARHSnsw Bookshop
Rail Heritage Centre
SYDNEY CENTRAL STATION

ARHSnsw TRMS Members and guestsSeats @ \$95.00 \$..... (GST incl.)

Non-membersSeats @-\$105.00 \$..... (GST incl.)

Credit Card Payments, please add 2% Service Charge \$.....

TOTAL \$..... GST incl.

Name.....Membership No.

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

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

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

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

Or please DEBIT my VISA or MASTERCARD

Card No.Expiry/.....

SignatureDate

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 consist, tour route or destination.
Refunds: up to 30 days prior—100 per cent; less than 30 days to 7 days—90 per cent; less than 7 days—NO REFUND

Office Use Only: Date booking rec'dDate processedTickets sent.....

WINELANDER to STANTHORPE & WALLAN-GARRA

Saturday & Sunday 18 & 19 February 2012

ARHS Queensland has again offered us a carriage on their Winelander train. Departing BRISBANE at 7am (EST) on Saturday 18 February, travelling 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 Anna's 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 arriving in the late afternoon at Brisbane.

The train will be made up with air-conditioned carriages from the Sunlander and Westlander trains and hauled by a QR diesel locomotive. This could be the last chance to travel in these carriages due to their imminent withdrawal from service.

The tour cost is all inclusive with meals on board, visits to local wineries on Saturday afternoon, with wine tasting, an evening meal and double/twin share bed & breakfast motel accommodation at Stanthorpe on Saturday night. A limited single supplement is available to early bookers.

You will need to make your own arrangements to get to Brisbane and return and any pre-tour and after tour accommodation.



Image from the ARHSnsw RRC shows the dual gauge wye at Wallan-garra.

BOOKING FORM for 18 & 19 February 2012 Winelander

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 on the Winelander Tour to Stanthorpe including the Winery Tour @ \$495.00 \$
 Please reserve for me.....Seats on the Winelander Tour to Wallan-Garra @ \$495.00 \$
 Limited Single Supplement @ \$ 65.00 \$
 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)
 SignatureDate

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'dDate processedCar.....Seats.....Tickets sent.....