



# History on the Move

Newsletter of Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway Inc. October 2022



**September/October sees the Oberon to Hazelgrove track restoration moving full steam ahead.**

**Photo shows the CAM team rapidly progressing work.**

Photo Michael Clark

**OTHR Membership Fee 2022/2023 now due.  
Renewal form page 25 of this Newsletter**

**Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway  
Events in November and December 2022**

There will be no First Saturday Open Days in November and December because we will be taking part in special events that have been set up and supported by Oberon Council.

**November - Oberon Outdoor Festival**

Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup> November	8.30 am – 11.00 am Cars and Coffee 10.00 am – 3.00 pm Open Day
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**December - Oberon End of Year Festival**

Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	10 am – 3.00 pm Open Day Admission is free on this day
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There is no change to the working bee dates and times. We have a working bee each Saturday from  
9.00 to 4.00

If you available on weekdays please enquire if there is something on during the week

There usually is!!

Greg Bourne. Email [admin@othr.com.au](mailto:admin@othr.com.au) or mobile 0437 389 684



**Some of the preparatory on Albion Street Level Crossing**

## Patrons

### **Paul Toole**

Deputy Premier NSW, State Member for Bathurst, Leader of NSW National Party. Minister of Regional New South Wales and Minister for Police.

### **Andrew Gee**

Federal Member for Calare.

## Committee

### **Gregory Bourne**

President, Public Officer

### **Ken Lingabala**

Vice President

Engineering Manager - Infrastructure Manager

### **David McMurray**

Secretary

### **Jessie Bijok**

Treasurer.

### **Michael Clark**

HS36 Project Manager

### **Michael O'Kane**

Events Manager

### **Mark Handel**

Rolling Stock Manager

## Line Managers

### **Elaine Boxer**

Catering Manager

### **Mark Langdon**

Asset Manager

### **Denis Turner**

Driver Training Manager

### **Mick Sanders**

Operations Manager

### **Stephen Joyce**

Rail Safety Manager

### **Alex Boromisa**

Facebook Moderator

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## President's Message

It has been a very busy fortnight in Oberon. The AGM has been and gone. There was only one change. John Brotchie who had been the Treasurer for 8 years did not want to continue in that position. He was replaced by Jessie Bijok who has a lot of experience in similar roles in Sydney organisations.

This year because the payments made by the Department of Infrastructure have exceeded a quarter of a million dollars our level of reporting to the Department of Fair Trading moved to Tier 1. The level of accountability and financial returns has increased.

I am pleased to report that the work on replacing the headstocks and the truss rods in carriage CBA850 is nearing completion. An inspection and certification will follow.

The work by CAM has moved along quite well. There have been some unplanned breaks due to the weather and some of the team members catching covid. Our fitters have enjoyed the conversations with the supervisors and we have learnt a lot about laying and repairing track.

There has been a lot of discussion at committee level about the Hazelgrove end of the tourist railway. An ambitious plan is developing and we would like to have a longer and more substantial platform for the safety of passengers. Plans for the original PC1 type of building are readily available and we are fairly sure that we can make a replica. The turnaround loop is seen to be a necessity and talks have started with a railway surveyor who develop a plan that uses the turnouts we have in stock at this stage. Enquiries have commenced to source more timbers and rail for the loop.

Make sure that you pay for your ball tickets by next Friday. Event organiser - Michael O'Kane ([mokups@gmail.com](mailto:mokups@gmail.com)) is your contact.

**Greg Bourne**  
**President,**  
**Mobile: - 0437 389 684**  
**Email: [admin@othr.com.au](mailto:admin@othr.com.au)**

## 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**

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### Important contacts

- Mail: PO Box 299 Oberon NSW 2787
- Email: [admin@othr.com.au](mailto:admin@othr.com.au)
- Website: [www.othr.com.au](http://www.othr.com.au)
- Facebook: [www.facebook.com/OTHR.Inc](http://www.facebook.com/OTHR.Inc)

## Editor's thoughts

Flat out.

Busier than a one-armed paper hanger in a breeze - that's OTHR now.

The refurbished track is rapidly taking shape thanks to our contractor CAM. Re-sleepering of the track is largely done, and the major level crossings are receiving attention. Plenty more work to be completed by the end of October, weather permitting.

Refurbishment of the End Platform Carriages, HS36 and the locomotives continues unabated under the keen eyes and skilful hands of our volunteers.

Planning for pathways and toilets at Oberon station are underway, and construction is not far off.

Your committee is turning its attention to Hazelgrove with planning underway to build a platform, waiting shed, picnic area, toilet, drainage and finally landscaping.

We are examining training requirements for every new volunteer position that needs to be in place prior to commencement of operations.

Grant applications continue to be submitted for all aspects of our enterprise.

And let's not forget regular Open Days and Group Visits.

There's also The Great Railway Ball, Oberon Outdoor Festival incorporating the next Cars and Coffee, and Oberon's End of Year Festival.

We are never standing still here in Oberon, NSW.

"One of the best protections against disappointment to have a lot going on.  
Alain de Botton"



*Major level crossings are currently being rebuilt.  
Picture shows commencement of restoration of the  
Albion Street crossing  
Photo Michael Clark*



October, Australia's Breast Cancer Awareness Month, provides an opportunity for us all to focus on breast cancer and its impact on those affected by the disease in our community.

Breast cancer remains the most common cancer amongst Australian women (excluding non-melanoma skin cancer). Survival rates continue to improve in Australia with 89 out of every 100 women diagnosed with invasive breast cancer now surviving five or more years beyond diagnosis.

Take time this month to self-examine and head to your medical practitioner if you notice any change in your breasts what-so-ever.

OTHR is a great supporter of a healthy body, and this includes detection of breast cancer at any stage.

**Men, you are not immune either.**

Take the time in October to become aware of your body.



*Another photo of the Albion Street Crossing. Since the photo was taken the crossing has been completed  
Photo Michael Clark*

## It's full steam ahead



*Left to right: Mark Handel, OTHR Track Manager, Andrew Gee, Member for Calare, Alan Herbert (CAM), Greg Bourne, President OTHR.*

From Andrew Gee's, Member for Calare and OTHR Co-Patron, Facebook Page:

"It's full steam ahead for the terrific Oberon – Tarana Railway team!

The group are three months into works to rebuild the historic railway line, last used in 1979

With re-sleepering and alignment of the track from Oberon to Hazelgrove all but complete, work will start later this week on upgrading the Albion Street level crossing to ensure it can carry heavy truck traffic.

The works are being carried out by Complete Asset Management and assistance from volunteers from the Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway."



**The Ball is On and fully Booked  
But if we have a cancellation??  
You could indicate interest to  
Michael O'Kane  
([mokups@gmail.com](mailto:mokups@gmail.com))**



*A good shot of a Huck Bolt  
Huck bolts are a pin & collar combo that are permanently clamped together making them ideal in applications that require a vibration resistant solution. Very good to hold a check rail in position*

## Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway Upgrades Are Full Steam Ahead

From the Andrew Gee Community Page in the Oberon Review Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2022:  
“It was great to recently drop in to the Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway to see the progress being made on the new track!

The works will ensure the historic attraction meets safety standards and caters for the rush of tourists expected once the precinct and line are fully functional.

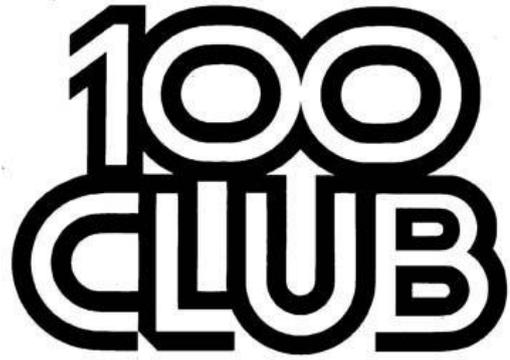
In 2019 the Australian Government supported the Heritage Railway with \$1.5 million in funding to open the first section of track between Oberon and Hazelgrove. This section of track is now well underway.

Each week volunteers at the Oberon Tarana heritage Railway Incorporated work alongside Complete Asset Management (CAD) to breathe a little more life into the 24.3km long tourist track using reclaimed timber sleepers, some of which were salvaged from the Sydney Harbour Bridge.

Hundreds of volunteers have dedicated countless hours over the last 15 years to painstakingly restore the line so that the tracks can carry passengers once more. This will be the first of its kind to open since the Zig Zag Railway in the 1970s.

Unique tourist attractions like the Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway are a major drawcard for visitors looking for an impressive and authentic regional experience.

I’m looking forward to seeing the project finished with plans for the reopening scheduled for Easter 2023!



### Your chance to win \$1,000.00

You can win \$1,000.00 by investing in our fund raising with a chance to win.

**The draw is open to all readers of this Newsletter**

A simple way for you to invest to help secure our future.

It works this way:

- Purchase a ticket for \$20.00
- There are only 100 tickets sold.
- When all 100 tickets are sold, we will draw one ticket with your chance to win \$1,000.00
- Simply fill in the entry form that is located at the end of this newsletter, email it to us (or in need post it) and bank your funds to our bank account, detailed in the form.
- Reference your name in the banking details. **This is particularly important.**
- 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 won’t accept any further claim.

This is a wonderful way to support the Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway Inc and at the same time have a 1 in 100 chance to win \$1,000.00.

The second OTHR 100 Club is now underway. Get your ticket/s now.

Application form is at the end of this newsletter

## A Reminder....

**OTHR Membership was due for renewal on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022**

**\$40.00 for 2022/23**

**Renew Now!!**

## Short Term Goals

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

### Immediate:

- Continue the fit for use certification on the two locomotives and end platform cars.
- Vegetation Control in the Oberon yard and rail corridor to Hazelgrove.

### Ongoing to January 2023

Reconstruct and have the Oberon to Hazelgrove section of track certified.

Complete the process of ensuring the two locomotives and end platform cars are certified fit for use.

Apply for variation of existing accreditation to become a Rail Transport Operator Oberon to Hazelgrove.

Implement the completed review of SMS and Operational Procedures documents.



*Level crossing at Borg Panels Gate 6 is taking shape.  
Photo Michael Clark*

## Oberon Branch line Centenary.

It's a little over a year 'til the Oberon to Tarana branch line turns 100 years on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2023. What an exciting time to celebrate and your committee is starting the planning process.

This is an ideal opportunity for all members to get involved. What ideas do you have?

Contact the committee at [admin@othr.com.au](mailto:admin@othr.com.au)  
We'll consider everything.



### CBA850

Project Manager, Michael Clark, has been active in the rolling stock shed and so has completed the very detailed and excellent work on the headstocks and truss rods of CBA 850. This project is nearing completion. We intend to invite Tim Elderton from Lithgow Rail Workshop over for inspection and certification of the work. Michael has been assisted on a regular basis by Michael O'Kane, Nathan O'Regan, Mark Handel and Mark Handel and Greg Bourne



*Team work was the essence of the truss rod replacement*

## Karl Schaefer remembers....

"I remember, very well, when the Tarana – Oberon Branch Line (as it was correctly known – UP End, from which the lines originate, always precedes the Dn – to the terminus) was abandoned and prior, when we were responsible for and paid (from the Division Engineer's Office, W&W Bch., Bathurst), both the Fettling Gangs at Tarana, one of which cared for a short Section of Track from the MW on the Branch Line for a few kms towards Oberon itself. (Reasonably confident, Bert McKinnon was the ganger of "16 Gang, Oberon" at the time the gang was disbanded and I'm pretty certain, Bill Cosgrove was the Ganger there, when I started the job, 2 days after I left school in 1961 – might be, my memory isn't as good as it was/I think it is and it was vice versa – definitely remember the names of both Gangers at Tarana, one of whom, tragically, dropped dead in the pub at Tarana on the night of his retirement "do" – last day worked. We were responsible for maintenance of the line and all infrastructure, including the buildings, around that neck of the woods, as far west (on the "real" Main West – Broken Hill Line was, in fact, only a "Branch" line in those days – MW terminated at Bourke) as Wellington, SW to Kingsvale and NW to Binnaway, on the Branch Lines and the various "Pioneer" Lines off the "branches". Not sure if it has ever really occurred, but rail lines in NSW cannot be "closed", without an Act of Parliament being passed – easy way out for various, devious governments has simply been to treat them as being disused and/or withdrawing services and maintenance and in the latter case, it becomes exceptionally easy to withdraw services as the tracks become unfit for use, or using the old pretext, when floods (occasionally fires) damaged a section of, especially, the "pioneer" Branch Lines. Not sure about these new rail trails, to be honest

as I suspect, as much as I can appreciate them as a former, enthusiastic (road bike and race rider, the formations and rights of way being preserved, supposedly, in perpetuity as public lands and not sold off to the cockies whose lands (the truth be told, stolen from the First People of Australia), through which many pass, they wont preclude possible reopening to rail traffic or for use by heritage rail operators for tourism/historic rail journeys. Definitely brings back memories of the days when NSW had a genuine, government owned service to all parts of the State and not this Mickey Mouse bullshit system we've largely, by default, handed over to private enterprise. My greatest regret is that, despite many of the Branch Lines, such as Tarana – Oberon, Craboon – Coolah, even Blayney – Harden & Wallerawang – Gwabegar and the numerous off-shoots from the B-H being under the control of the DE Bathurst, I failed to travel on most of them, but I guess I can at least say I did travel by "trike" (DE's "flivver"), over quite a few Kms of the W'Wang – Gwabegar Line between Mudgee – Capertee one memorable trip with the DE of the day. (Managed one time, about 38 years ago, a trip with my family from Cowra – Canowindra – Cowra (former place where we had three fettling gangs and later two gangs and even at Koorawatha, from which the Koorawatha – Grenfell ran, three gangs), on a LVR steam hauled excursion, but never the full run from Cowra to Eugowra. I also remember, with considerable affection, many of the track vehicles used, especially by the W&W Branch, many of which were maintained by our own team of mechanics (based in Bathurst), and some which were actually built and overhauled in the PWS Bathurst ( whose Wages Staff we also paid from the DE, Bx's office), and the many components for, in particular, Villiers Mk.8E quadricycles and other TVs, which were manufactured there and in the other PWS's Newcastle, Chullora and Goulburn. Needless to say, I also remember the names of many of the Gangers across the Division – wonderful old

bush blokes in the main, and several (two especially – one from Grenfell and the other, Gulgong – great coincidence there – the legendary Henry Lawson) whose handwriting was copper plate and others, probably worse than my own, which even I readily admit is “BA” – with great affection and admiration.” Sorry about the length of my rant/history lesson, but please feel free to pass on my thanks to whomever it is who provided the Newsletter from the area I still call/regards as “home” i.e., Around Bathurst.

Cheers

Karl”

No, thankyou Karl; and it gives us immense pleasure to reproduce your “rant” for the benefit of our readers – Editor.



*Destination Hazelgrove.*

*OTHR has big plans for this area that includes a replica of the Station building, a platform that is disabled friendly, a picnic area and toilet.*

*Now for the funding??*

*Ron Preston collection*

## Upgrade is on track.

From the pages of the Oberon Review  
Thursday, September 22, 2022:

### “Heritage railways rebuild is on track

Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway (OTHR) are pleased to announce that work is continuing the upgrade of the railway line between Oberon and Hazelgrove.

Complete Asset management (CAM) have been busy even if they are not always working in plain sight. Almost all the sleepers that needed replacing have been replaced and work is now progressing on the several level crossings along the stretch of track.

Many of these crossings are on private or farm access roads but several are on roads which carry a reasonable amount of traffic, and upgrades are done in a way that inconveniences the least number of people. Some of the upgrades involve extra work, an example being the crossing on Black Bullock Road. This crossing is now wider because the upgrade includes some essential work to divert water flow away from the edge of the road.

The latest work is on the level crossing on Albion Street. Closing the road for several days needed for the work to be done. While the work is being done the only access to Albion Street to the Highland Pine Plant is coming in from the roundabout at Abercrombie and O’Connell Roads, with all other traffic being redirected. This means that some heavy traffic, including log trucks, will be passing through residential streets, but it’s only for a few days.

“We apologise for the inconvenience,” OTHR President, Greg Bourne said,

“everyone will forget it when the railway is finally open, bringing in tourists and carrying passengers next year.”

According to CAM Project Manager, Dave Horder, the next major disruption in the rebuilding of the railway will be upgrading the crossing at the entry to the Borg plant on Lowes Mount Road.

The crossing on Lowes Mount Road itself just needs some cleaning, something which will make anyone travelling to anywhere on the Tarana side of the crossing happy. It’s a long way around if Lowes Mount Road is closed for

any length of time. At the same time, the crossing on the road into the tip will be rebuilt.

Work is expected to start on Monday, September 26.

OTHR hopes to have the railway between Oberon and Hazelgrove running early in 2023”



*Starting the rebuild of the Albion Street, Crossing. CAM workers on site Photo Peter Bowditch*

## **And from Oberon Mayor's Column of the same paper...**

“The work on the railway line to Hazelgrove has progressed well with trackwork mostly complete and only the road crossing at Albion Street, the Borg Gate, Rutters Ridge and the Tip Road to be completed over the next 10 days or so. Soon, the major milestone for the Heritage Railway to get up and running between Oberon and Hazelgrove will be in place. I believe the aim is for tourist trips on the line to commence in late 2023.

Mayor Mark Kellam”



*The Tip Road is another level crossing taking shape. This road needed to be kept open, so the crossing was poured in two parts.*

*Photo Michael Clark*



*Newly laid concrete at the Tip Road crossing.*

## **Attention Events Directors! Should your Association...**

be planning a road trip to Oberon in the next couple of months, be aware that our Carriage Café will be out of service for essential servicing and maintenance.

Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway Inc still offers alternative and interesting venues within the Station precinct.

Contact Dave McMurray on 0408 606 889 or [admin@othr.com.au](mailto:admin@othr.com.au) to discuss your proposed visit and discover other delightful places to visit when in Oberon NSW.

There's more than you imagine!



*New truss rod alongside the old. The old one had thread damage and the engineering report indicated the diameter had narrowed too much*

# OTHR Events Calendar

## 2022

Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway Inc is entering the next phase of operations.

Your committee is filling the calendar quickly and this will assist you in making decisions to visit the Oberon Station Precinct. There is always capacity for your club, association, or you to visit the Oberon Station Precinct and surrounds. We can put together a remarkably interesting event for a group that will leave you in awe of Oberon activities and big toys for boys.

Our initial contact is: [admin@otr.com.au](mailto:admin@otr.com.au) or [tourism@oberon.nsw.gov.au](mailto:tourism@oberon.nsw.gov.au)

First Saturday Open Days have been cancelled for November and December. We expect that they will return in the New Year



*Devonshire Teas for all the family. Temporarily discontinued until the New Year*

## Marriage at the Railway.

Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway Inc. offers the quite different Oberon Precinct as a venue for weddings and other photo or filming opportunities.

Should marriage be in the offing, or you know a relative or friend who is about to marry, OTHR is

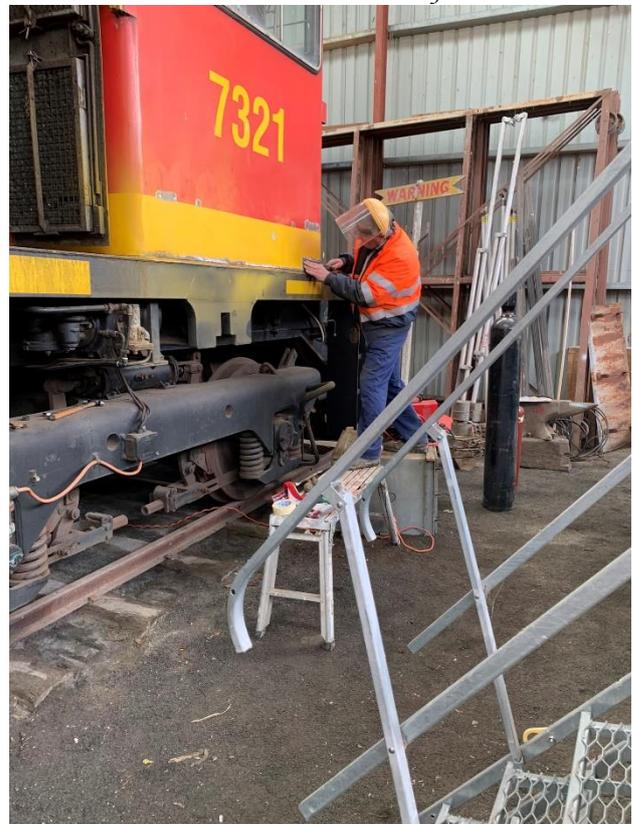
offering a unique venue for that exclusive wedding photo that you will treasure for all time.

You have the choice of the Oberon Station or the Station and Train.

Enquiries can be made at: [admin@otr.com.au](mailto:admin@otr.com.au)  
Hiring fees are incredibly competitive.



*You could be the wedding couple with Oberon Station Precinct as a backdrop.*



*Rust repair on 7321*

## Want to volunteer but don't know how to go about it?

Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway Inc. is a volunteer group working to bring a major tourist attraction on-line later in 2022 or early 2023.

We are looking for motivated people to work in a volunteer capacity in all sorts of occupations. You don't need to know about railways; just have a desire to serve a community by volunteering your skills with an enthusiastic group of other volunteers.

If you have skills in Catering, Cleaning, Accounting, Business Administration, Computers, I.T., Carpentry, Cabinet Making Diesel Mechanics, Fettleing, General labouring, Interpersonal Skills or any other vocation, and can take directions and work with a team, then OTHR wants you.

Be a part of potentially a great tourist attraction for the Central Tablelands/Central West and NSW.

Find out what it takes to become a valued volunteer working with an experienced and enthusiastic team.

Enquire at: [admin@othr.com.au](mailto:admin@othr.com.au) or Mobile 0437 389 684 (President, Greg Bourne)

## We have some incentives.

Are you thinking that you might like to volunteer but live too far away and it's just too expensive to travel to Oberon for a day or so to help.

We are offering genuine volunteers the opportunity to come to town for the purpose of volunteering by way of incentives that're designed to take away some of the expense.

If you think the incentives may tip you over the line by making volunteering with OTHR less expensive, then talk to President Greg Bourne on Mob. 0437 389 684 to find out how we can make your Oberon volunteering a little more affordable.

## 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 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
- 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.

## 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 \$40.00 per year from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021 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 form at the end of this Newsletter.



*Hazelgrove - The original ceramic pipes were blocked and had to be removed in order to get storm water away from the track*

## Volunteers Wanted.

If you are a Mechanic or Apprentice Mechanic with some experience, have time to volunteer a couple of hours every now and then and can see yourself in this roll, then call Greg Bourne.

Greg is President of OTHR and would love to have a chat about you volunteering on a great railway project.

Call him now on 0437 389 684 or email [admin@other.com.au](mailto:admin@other.com.au)



*Volunteers are needed to fill all sorts of roles at OTHR.*

## About Oberon.....

Spring has arrived and the days are starting to lengthen. Unfortunately, the weather Gods haven't been kind and it seems like the rain and cool days will never end. Best to still pack a cardigan when coming to Oberon this time of year.

Nevertheless, Oberon always has something on the go and momentous events that will be sure to impress City Slickers and Country Hicks alike.

This month we present:

- 8<sup>th</sup> October Malachai Nights presents Catherine Britt

- 9<sup>th</sup> October Film Screening “Italian Baroque Circa” at the Malachai
- 15/16<sup>th</sup> October Gairloch Garden Spring Opening
- 21<sup>st</sup> Author Talk Eugenia Miroshnikoff at the Oberon Library
- 22<sup>nd</sup> October 50<sup>th</sup> Rockley Rodeo
- 29/30<sup>th</sup> October Gairloch Garden Spring Opening
- **29th October “The Great Railway Ball”**



*Action at the Oberon Rodeo*

Come and check us out, say “G’Day” to the locals and we’ll certainly extend the hand of friendship. For a small country town there’s something to suit every taste in entertainment.

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:

- Cars and Coffee
- Vintage Sports Car Club of Australia.
- Private visit from a Dubbo group
- Probus Club of Tomaree, NSW
- Packard Automobile Club of Australia Inc.
- The Winter Lunch
- 107.5 FM Orange radio station outside broadcast.

## Gardens in Oberon?

Gairloch Garden is an elegant country garden located in Oberon. In central western NSW. Stretching over 2400 sq. metres, it was developed by the owners Meg and Peter Low. The garden is presented in a series of themed areas through extensive use of hedging and timber and masonry trellis along with stunning water features throughout the garden; you will find a croquet lawn, garden chess, walk-through gardens, and a variety of terracing. A variety of animals help bring the garden to life with a number of bird aviaries.

The garden was featured in both the Better Homes & Gardens television programme and magazine. Central West Lifestyle magazine also presented the garden in the Spring 2016 edition.

You can add the Gairloch Garden to your Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway Inc. experience subject to seasons.



*One of the beautiful garden rooms at Gairloch Garden*

Oberon has an enthusiastic team available 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 day, a few days, or a week!

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 imagine

## Did you know....

That on Open Days OTHR has a pop-up café in one of the carriages at the station.

Come along and try our scrumptious scones, mouth-watering cakes with tea or coffee. Our café staff would love to look after you. \$15.00 pp gets you entry to the station precinct and morning tea, children (under 18) \$10.00 pp.

Yet another good reason to come along and see what the railway folk are doing at the station.



*Some of OTHR's merchandise.  
This is a fundraiser for OTHR and at the same time  
gives you a memento of a great project.  
Got yours yet?  
An order form is at the end of this newsletter.*

## Event Organisers....

There's so much to do in Oberon and surrounds. When puzzling about where your next extended run should go, give Oberon a thought.

Located in the New South Wales Central Tablelands and about 180K from Sydney, Oberon punches above its weight when it comes to attractions and points of interest.

Apart from the Oberon Heritage Station Precinct now hitting its straps, there are another four interesting museums covering all sorts of genres and each guaranteed to please your members, the stunning Mayfield Garden close to town and another small but spectacular garden located in town open subject to seasons.

Jenolan Caves is now only accessed via Oberon and advice concerning access should be sought from either Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway Inc or the Oberon Visitor Information Centre.

There is Oberon's fantastic park in the town centre, "The Common" and Lake Oberon just a couple of kilometres out of town; both have sites suitable for a display as does the Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway Inc. All sites have inviting and varied backdrops.

Runs are catered for with the Oberon Visitor Information Centre having produced a series of maps of our back roads and range from approx. 30Ks to 300Ks starting and finishing in Oberon and all on sealed roads.

Accommodation is no problem for small groups up to say 60, but for larger groups advice should be sought from Oberon's Visitor Information Centre. Tasty food is available ranging from traditional Café style or Pub Food through to Bistro style or even an upmarket restaurant at Jenolan Caves. There are fabulous country pubs and cafes scattered throughout the district at places like Tarana, Hampton, and Rockley.

Discuss partaking in the famous OTHR gourmet “Fettler’s Lunch” or morning tea in the pop-up Carriage Café. OTHR caters to groups from 10 upwards for a meal in a unique “olde worlde” setting.

As Oberon is situated mid-way on “The Tablelands Way” cities and towns such as Goulburn, Crookwell, Taralga, Bathurst, Orange, Sofala, Rylstone, and Mudgee, are within an easy day’s drive even allowing for site-seeing along the way.

Have a chat to Dave McMurray from OTHR on 0408 606 889 first up to find out how you can plan a few days or a week in Oberon.

## Here’s another reason to consider Oberon as a Destination.



### Meet our newest Sponsor.

Owned and operated by the Voytilla family, Titania Motel is located just minutes from the heart of Oberon, NSW in a quiet neighbourhood where a peaceful stay is assured.

This 19 room, 3 1/2-star motel is ideal for all enthusiasts coming to Oberon for the Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway experience.

The motel provides a variety of accommodation options - from small double, twin rooms, family rooms, 2-bedroom self-contained apartment and a three-bedroom cottage.

Longer stays are a speciality according to Denise Voytilla who is offering all groups a 10% discount booking some time in Oberon.

An added feature is the Motel has a lounge area that can be used by groups as a lounge/meeting/dining area.

Ask about using the room when booking your stay.

Be sure to mention you are coming to Oberon to be a part of the Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway experience at the time of booking.

Contact (02) 6336 1377

[Reception@titaniamotel.com.au](mailto:Reception@titaniamotel.com.au)

## 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.

An investment is \$100 per new sleeper.  
Get yours now!

## Working Bees.

We will be trying to have at least one weekday and each Saturday throughout the year. Keep an eye on the website or OTHR Facebook page for up-to-date information. If you are not a regular participant, please make contact – details at other.com.au

**Personal Protective Equipment must be worn.  
Current membership is a necessity to ensure insurance compliance.**

Contact Greg Bourne, President.  
Email: [admin@othr.com.au](mailto:admin@othr.com.au)  
Mobile 0437 389 684

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

**Volunteers are required to participate in allocated tasks.**

**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.

## Welcome New Members.

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

## 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 Whaat???

- Hear about the new restaurant called Karma? There's no menu – you get what you deserve.
- I went to buy some camouflage trousers yesterday, but I couldn't find any.
- I tried to sue the airline for losing my luggage. I lost my case.
- Is it ignorance or apathy that's destroying the world today?  
I don't know and don't really care.



Oberon Station Precinct and Train are for hire for photo shoots and films.

Whether it's a wedding, school formal, family reunions, settings for filming or any occasion, send a message to [admin@othr.com.au](mailto:admin@othr.com.au) with your enquiry.

Our rates are extremely competitive



Don't forget that the 100 Club Raffle is available to **all readers** of this newsletter.

Draw No 1 was won by Matthew Pritchard of Flagstaff Point in SA.

Draw no 2 is open and I'd hate you to miss a 1 in 100 chance of winning \$1,000.00

**There are tickets available.**

It's simple to enter; just go to the end of this Newsletter, download the entry form, fill it in and follow the instructions.

Don't delay in joining the 100 Club: \$20.00 per ticket with a 1 in 100 chance of winning \$1,000.00.

You or any of your club members can enter. Go halves with a mate or quarters with four others.

**You will be helping a great association.**

You may mail your entry and payment to PO Box 299 Oberon NSW 2787 if you wish.

## Sponsors

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

Sponsorships are an especially 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.

We now have seven 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.

OTHR has added a new sponsor – The family-owned Titania Motel. When staying in Oberon choose to stay at one of Oberon's finest motels.

## Primary Sponsor. Oberon Council



**OBERON**  
MORE THAN YOU IMAGINE

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

## Silver Sponsor

**Civil & Earthmoving Contractors**

Specialising in all your Rural Property and Lifestyle Block needs

Driveways & Access Roads | House pads | Detailed earthworks  
| Septic Systems | Drainage | Land Clearing | Material Supply | And more

Contact Zac today for a quote  
0411 729 732 or [zac@oberonearthmoving.com.au](mailto:zac@oberonearthmoving.com.au)

Oberon Earthmoving is your complete Civil and Earthmoving Contractor.  
Contact Zac for a quote.



Owned and operated by the Voytilla family, Titania Motel is located very conveniently to the Oberon Station precinct.

The Voytilla is offering a 10% discount to all group bookings mentioning they are in Oberon for the Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway Inc. experience.  
Contact:

(02)6336 – 1377

[reception@titaniamotel.com.au](mailto:reception@titaniamotel.com.au)

## 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?  
Your hosts: Don and Lyn

Phone: 02 6336 0344

[jenolancaravanpark@bigpond.com](mailto:jenolancaravanpark@bigpond.com)

7 Cunyngame 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

## Bronze Sponsor. Oberon Outdoor and Electronic.



Oberon Outdoor and Electronic is the locally owned hub for all your electronic, DIY and outdoor needs.

Contact Soap (Neale Evans) to discuss all your outdoor and electronic needs.

125 – 127 Oberon Street, Oberon NSW 2787

Phone 6336 – 0199

Email: [soap7@iinet.com.au](mailto:soap7@iinet.com.au)



**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.

**OTHR Beanie**

Maroon with white OTHR logo. Fits all sizes. Lovely fleecy feel and is warm. Purchase today and be a part of the OTHR team.

**Priced at \$39.99 non-members, \$34.00 members.**

Price includes GST and Postage and Handling to anywhere in Australia. Overseas will incur extra postage



**Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway Inc.**

PO Box 299, Oberon NSW 2787

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

## 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.



**Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway Inc.**

PO Box 299, Oberon NSW 2787

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
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- **Direct Bank Transfer** – our bank details are **BSB: 062 632 Account number: 1004 9851**
- 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.

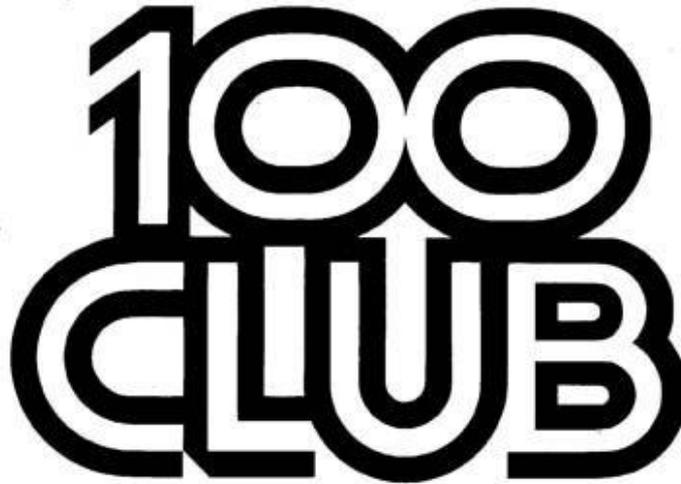
**Signed:**

**Date:**

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**Number of Tickets @ 20.00 each:**

<b>Name:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	
<b>Email Address:</b>	
<b>Telephone Number:</b>	
<b>Amount Banked:</b>	\$  (Be sure to reference your name in the deposit)
<b>Date</b>	
<b>OTHR Bank details</b>	<b>BSB: 062 632</b> <b>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**