

The Trips Times

Issue Number 90

June 2019

The Newsletter of the Thirroul Railway Institute Preservation Society



Members,

Welcome to this, the latest edition of TRIPS Times. Our very big news is that repainting of the complete interior of the institute along with the re-oiling of the red cedar wall paneling is now complete. As well, brand new curtains have also been installed on all the windows. This project has been paid for thanks to a Community Grant from the NSW State Government. TRIPS now has an interior looking fantastic so make time to drop in and have a look.

A special thanks is in order to member Heather Hill who wrote our successful grant application.



Painter John Hamalainen painted and oiled the interior and Barnes Interiors supplied the new curtains.

Our treasurer Brigitte undertook a project to source and procure a brand new hanging system for TRIPS' collections of historic photographs and memorabilia. After the painting was completed, this new hanging system was installed by TRIPS members and the enormous task of re-hanging and improving the exhibition of the collection was undertaken.

TRIPS on the web....TRIPS.ORG.AU

Member John Devenish has designed a blog and website for TRIPS. You're invited to log on trips.org.au to keep up to date with TRIPS news.

TRIPS also thanks Michael Stephenson of State of Bean coffee for arranging the free hosting of the site for us.

Featuring one of TRIPS regular hirers....

Trips last function was its end of year celebration at the institute and we were fortunate and grateful to have the entertaining music of the **The Thirroul Pick** – our local Bluegrass music group. Our sincere thanks to musicians, members and guests for making this a very special occasion.

The Thirroul Pick meet regularly at the institute and host special concerts featuring Bluegrass musicians from around Australia and the world. Their most recent concert on Saturday 18th May with their international guest musicians playing to a sell-out crowd.

The Thirroul Pick – “Pick” is the Bluegrass term for jam session

The Thirroul Pick, whose home is at the Thirroul Railway Institute, grew out of late night Bluegrass jam sessions at the Illawarra Folk Festival. Since 2006 pickers have been gathering every month in Thirroul to share their love of Bluegrass and Old-time music. In that time the Thirroul Pick has gone on to become a regular fixture on the Australian Bluegrass and Old Time music calendar.



A dedicated and enthusiastic core group of pickers have kept the Pick going over the years, along with an ever-changing array of visitors, who come from near and far to share their love of Bluegrass music. Musicians regularly travel from Sydney, the South Coast and the Southern Highlands to join in the jam sessions.

The Pick welcomes all levels of ability and is a great place to meet like-minded players, as well as share tunes, skills and information. The more experienced players are always happy to share their knowledge with those that are new to the music. Non-musicians are also welcome to come along and listen or have a chat with the musicians.

More recently, the Thirroul Pick has become the host of Bluegrass concerts. The Railway Institute has become a regular stop for many well-known Bluegrass and Old Time musicians touring Australia from the USA and Great Britain, as well as featuring many local acts.

The group meets on the 3rd Saturday of each month (except January & August) at 7.30pm.

To find out about upcoming events, you can join their email list by sending a message to Thirroul Pick manager Mark Balesi. E: markbalesi@hotmail.com or T: 0413 373 596.

Upcoming maintenance.

Your management committee are busy obtaining quotes for the exterior painting of the institute. The current paint is fast nearing the end of its life and the plan is to have the painting completed by the end of this year.

Upcoming Events and Dates for the Diary

Working Bee Saturday 15th June 8am til 9am - We will be conducting regular maintenance of the institute, including its gardens and toilets – your effort and time is greatly appreciated.

Management Committee Meeting Saturday 15th June at 9am at the Institute.
All members very welcome.

Next year is TRIPS 100th birthday. Plans are afoot to mark this milestone with a major celebration. On **Saturday 21st November 2020** a celebratory dinner featuring guest speaker and TRIPS member, historian Dr Joe Davis along with great music is being planned – stay tuned for more details in future TRIPS Times.
Note the date!

Treasury:

A big thank you is in order to Andrew Stephenson at Daley and Co in Wollongong for all his work and assistance with installing a new and updated accounting system. This helps our volunteer treasurer, Brigitte, to maintain TRIPS accounts efficiently and transparently. TRIPS especially appreciates that Daley and Co provided not only the system but their time and expertise free of charge. So if you have reason to be seeking a reputable local accountant, you may consider Daley and Co in Kembla St., Wollongong



The TRIPS membership year is from 1st July so membership renewal for 2019/20 is coming up. The same Membership fees (\$10 per member) are unchanged from previous years. Our treasurer Brigitte will send you your membership receipt. TRIPS really appreciates your continuing support.

Payment by direct credit to:

TRIPS, Commonwealth Bank
BSB: 062 607
Account No. 00903395
Please add your name as reference.

Thankyou!