

CONSERVING RAIL HERITAGE

The NSW Government endorsed a Sustainable Rail Heritage Asset Management Strategy in 2006 to ensure the State's rail heritage assets are conserved for current and future generations to appreciate and enjoy.

The Strategy aims to encourage the ongoing care of the State's most significant items of rail heritage by volunteer based organisations that are committed to sharing our rail story with the general public.



The Rail Motor Society is based at Paterson in a restored Station Master's cottage. The historic town is located on the NSW Lower North Coast just 50 kilometres north of Newcastle.



Office of Rail Heritage



OPENING HOURS

The Depot and Station Master's cottage are open to the public on the third Saturday of every month between 10:00am and 3:00pm. Inspections by appointment are also available.

STREET ADDRESS

Rail Motor Society Depot and Museum
Webbers Creek Road
Paterson NSW 2421

POSTAL ADDRESS

Rail Motor Society
PO Box 445, Charlestown NSW 2290

CONTACT

Phone: 02 4954 4904

Mobile: 0416 224 531 (Operations Manager)

Web: www.railmotorsociety.org.au

Email: trmssec@bigpond.com

BE INVOLVED

We welcome new members and encourage you to participate in the restoration and maintenance of rolling stock or assist in operating tours across NSW. For more information or to apply for membership visit our website.

RAIL MOTOR SOCIETY



PATERSON



OUR STORY

Experience the glory days of rail travel on board a rail motor dating back to 1923 and view some of the best conserved heritage rolling stock in NSW.

The Rail Motor Society, based about 50 kilometres north of Newcastle in the historic town of Paterson, comprises a group of volunteers dedicated and passionate about restoring, maintaining and operating rail motors.



Referred to as 'Tin Hares' by railway staff because they were introduced at the same time as Tin Hare greyhound racing – the 42-foot rail motors were built by what was known as the NSW Government Railways and entered service in 1923 – working across the State for over 60 years.

When the last remaining 'Tin Hares' were retired in 1984, the Rail Motor Society was founded to conserve some of these vehicles.

Based at Paterson, the group operates out of the old Station Master's cottage in Paterson Goods Yard – offering visitors unique tours on board the historic rail motors, both around the local area and across the State.

The area around the cottage has affectionately been named 'The Depot' by the Society's volunteers and consists of a huge working shed and an isolated track with two carriages for crew accommodation and amenities.

Step back in time and take a rail motor tour or simply visit 'The Depot' and witness heritage rolling stock being restored to their former glory first hand.



OUR TREASURES AND EXPERIENCES

Our members have worked tirelessly to restore our extensive heritage listed fleet of rail motors.



(Above) 400-class set at Whitton in the 1950s.

(Below) The last surviving 600-class units. The 600 Class 2-car units were introduced in 1949 for country service. Constructed principally of aluminium, they represented a new era of rail motor design in NSW.



TOURS

Experience the thrill and old-world charm of these rail motors and take one of our tours. The Society operates a range of tours from local day trips to long weekend and multi-day getaways across NSW.

CHARTERS

The rail motors are also available for private hire providing a unique venue for special events such as a weddings, anniversaries or birthdays. Private charters are available for larger groups.



Bookings need to be made at least six weeks ahead. For more information contact the Society's Operations Manager, Bruce Agland on 02 4996 4666 or at aglandb@bigpond.com