

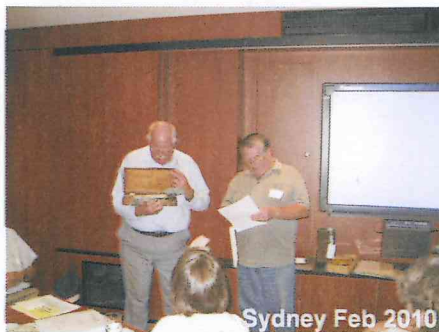
Cataloguing for the future

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It is the nature of the Railways that small objects are collected over time. From flags, to tools, books, clothing, instruments and anything else that you can think of, we all probably have a least one, and most likely more. These objects all tell important stories and are as much a part of our rail heritage as the locomotives themselves. It is for this reason that during February, 14 Rail Heritage Precincts from around NSW came together to participate in a cataloguing workshop put on by the Office of Rail Heritage. Over two one-day sessions held in Sydney and Wagga Wagga, participants actively engaged with the cataloguing processes to assist them record small objects in their care, and expand and conserve the stories behind our rich and vibrant rail history.



Bill Storer from Museums Australia facilitated the workshops. Bill, with his extensive knowledge and experience, went through the best techniques for identifying and describing them, putting us onto the path of engaging our objects to tell our rail heritage stories.



Yet the day was not all work, after providing the theoretical basics it was time to play. Objects from both rail and maritime heritage gave all cataloguing a fascinating object. Most notable were several maritime flags, and the NSW Government Railways labourers book from the late 1910's to the 1920's, which included such professions as Rat Catcher.

All in all the day was a great success and it is thanks to all of the participants, who with their eager minds and willingness to learn allowed Bill to share his knowledge and experiences, and remember when cataloguing - *it is all hands, and the cook.*

Bill is still available to answer any questions you may have about the process until the end May.