

## Climax 'Twilight Train', October 6 2018

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Melbourne turned on a beautiful sunny afternoon for the Climax 'Twilight Train' on Saturday 6 October, with 52 guests attending on the day (54 booked). The departure point was Menzies Creek station where David Baker and his crew had the Museum open in pristine condition for guests to view the displays, both inside and outside the main Museum building.



With departure scheduled at 5.00 pm, guests began arriving at the station in time to register, have a look at the Museum and observe the Climax loco arrive from Emerald at 3.45 pm. A light afternoon tea was provided on the platform and guests were

invited to join the train, which left from 1 Road Menzies Creek for Lakeside at 5.01 pm arriving in 1 Road at Emerald at 5.35 pm.

Most of the guests took the opportunity to alight from the train to watch and photograph the Climax move to the turntable and turn bunker first to complete the journey to Lakeside, leaving Emerald at 6.10 pm and arriving at Lakeside at 6.26 pm.



Guests alighted from the train to stretch their legs and watch the Climax run around and also check out the foundations of the new signal box on the station platform.

Leaving Lakeside at 7.10 pm, the train arrived in 1 Road Emerald at 7.47 pm in time to pass the Down 'Night Train' which arrived in 2 Road. With the cool night descending, it was a relaxing trip to Menzies Creek, leaving Emerald at 8.03 pm and arriving at Menzies Creek at 8.22 pm.



Guests walked to the Museum where they were treated to a superb roast dinner and dessert. After dinner, guests again took the opportunity to wander around the Museum and enjoyed a presentation by John Robin on the Museum's Shay

loco and its life at the Alishan Forest Railway in Taiwan.

Special thanks to a number of people who made the 'Twilight Train' another resounding success

- a. Caleb Fielding and Terri Lark (CLOC ) for co-ordinating the entire trip and ensuring it ran as smoothly as it did.
- b. David Baker, Ben van der Linde and their Museum crew for setting up the Museum and the displays for guests to appreciate.
- c. Brenda Saunders for manning the sales table and all the other members of the CLOC Committee who assisted on the day.
- d. Climax driver Don Marshall with firemen Murray Holmes and David Crawford, conductors Charlie Gormley and Jeff Gazzard and guard Michael Thornton plus all the crew and volunteers on deck to ensure that the Climax and the entire 'Twilight Train' event ran faultlessly.

**Phil Matthews**

*Climax Locomotive Operating Committee (CLOC)*