

# Durundur Bulletin

## Newsletter of ANGRMS, the Australian Narrow Gauge Railway Museum Society

Margaret Street, Woodford PO Box 1135, Woodford QLD 4514 ISSN 0158-785x, ABN 92 009 872 011, ACN 009 872 011

Volume 32 Number 309 May/June 2011



Washing down the Gemco (Bob Gough, Brian Webber and Michael Wood), 2011. Neil Trevorrow photographer

Running Days: First and Third Sundays Trackwork Days: 12 March, 9 Apr, 14 May

Work Days: Every Saturday; Light Duties on Third Wednesday

**Our Safety Goal - No Injuries** 

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#### **Scheduled Activities**

**General Meetings**: Second Friday: Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec; combined with LRRSA at the BCC Library, Garden City Shopping Centre, Mt Gravatt; 7:30 pm, entry from 7:00 pm (after hours entrance at rear of Library)

**Light Duties Work Day**: Third Wednesday of the month. The gates open 9.30 am to 4.00 pm.

#### **Bequests**

We appreciate your help and support now, but consider mentioning us in your will so your contribution to ANGRMS can be remembered. A bequest can be left for a particular project and commemorated through the placement of a permanent plaque or the naming of the project.

Bequests also allow us greater access to grants when a matching contribution is required from us or to assist with additional costs. For more information, contact the President.



Greg Stephenson and Ryan Silk show some of the 10th Australian Narrow Gauge Convention participants around the Woodford site, 25 April 2011. Lynn Zelmer photographer.

## **President's Report**

Terry Olsson, President

During March, ANGRMS again held it's AGM on a Saturday on site at Woodford. This is certainly proving to be beneficial with a lot more members attending than attended when we held the AGM on a week night in Brisbane City. Unfortunately the weather was not kind to us this year so the post meeting BBQ was not very successful.

I am very pleased to announce that the following were elected/re-elected:

President: Terry Olsson; Vice Presidents: Bob Gough and Gordon Anderson; Secretary: Ian Thompson; Treasurer: Steve Baker and Ordinary Board Members: John Parnell and Peter Hall.

I would like to welcome Peter to the Board and look forward to working with all of the Board during the coming year. Greg is taking a break from the Board this year and I would like to thank him very much for his help during the last year. He will still be looking after our track work.

It was with great sorrow that I learnt of the passing of Eric Kropp in late March. Eric enjoyed his time at Woodford and will be greatly missed.

As mentioned elsewhere, we held an extra running day on Easter Monday, mainly for delegates from the Tenth Australian Narrow Gauge Convention held at Ipswich over Easter. The delegates who visited our railway came from all over Australia, with most not having visited our site for many years. It was very pleasing to hear their positive comments about our site and how much nicer and cleaner it looks.

Being another 610mm (2ft) gauge railway operator and museum, it was great to receive a visit from delegates who are also members of the Illawarra Light Railway Society at Albion Park in NSW. Those of us that operate narrow gauge need to work together as we have similar problems/issues. They also suffered flood damage earlier this year, but were quickly back up and running.

While the majority of members have renewed their membership promptly, I would like to remind those members who have not done so to send in their membership renewal as soon as possible.



Green Malcolm Moore and an ex-Condong Mill wholestick cane truck temporarily on the head shunt last November (2010) while its compound is being rebuilt due to the Margaret Street widening. Badilla sugar cane, an early Australian variety, grows along the fence. Terry Olsson photographer.

## Remember - safety first!

## **Safety and Training Report**

Gordon Anderson, Vice President, Safety and Training

#### **Training**

Congratulations to Mick Ewer who has completed his training for Station Master and Fireman – Bundaberg Fowler No.5

#### Safety Alert ATHRA No 53: UK RAIB Bulletin – Foxfield Light Railway.

A worker was injured when he attempted to board the brake van of a slowly moving train. The investigation found that there were a number of differences between the requirements of the railway's Safety Management System and rules, and what was actually happening.

This alert is on the Notice Board in the Station Masters Office. Please take the time to read it as it highlights the need to comply with the Safety Management System and the rules, as well as the need to regularly read your SMS Manual in order to refresh your memory. ANGRMS has a very good safety record and we do not want unsafe practices to creep in. The safety rules exist for a reason – to help keep you and others safe.

#### **Some Civil Notes**

#### **Track Maintenance Work**

Greg Stephenson, Track Day Coordinator

Work continues on the construction of the service track. Refabricated points have been completed with the point lever bolted down and operational. There will be a 1 in 100 upgrade from the points to the service pit. This will reduce the depth of excavation of the pit, with the floor of the pit approximately 400 mm below existing ground level.

One full load of ballast has been used so far and another wagon load should be required. Ralph Cumner has loaded ballast wagon twice in the last month. On Sunday 3 April 2011, he also dug out two stumps near the storage compound. This will allow the existing storage track to be extended in the future.

#### Nambour Bogie Open Wagon

#### Bob Gough

Work is progressing with all the  $(75 \times 50 \text{ mm})$  or  $(3 \times 2)$  hardwood laying flat, this has been drilled, counter sunk, nut & bolted to the steel frame. The centre timbers have a 25 mm (1") hole for the bogie pins as the pin heads sit on top of the centre timber and are 25 mm thick so they do not protrude into the floor timbers.



Test fitting the 150 x 25 mm (6 x 1) hardwood floor timbers for the Nambour open bogie wagon. The 75 x 50 mm (3 x 2) centre and edge timbers can be seen on the far end. Bob Gough photographer.

We will have to drill 75 mm (3") hole into the floor timbers for the head of the bogie pin after all 36 floor timbers are cut to size. Six holes will also be drilled, four on the outside edges, two in the middle, then counter sunk for 216 50 mm galvanised wood screws to hold the 36 floor board in place.

The six end boards require four 12 mm x 37 mm nuts & bolts each. The doors will be the last timber work, including the stanchions to hold the six doors shut.

It has been suggested to oil the timbers with linseed oil.

The bogies were removed and hand cleaned; the bearings were removed, dismantled and cleaned. A couple will have to be renewed. Bob Gough made an axle box puller, which is a big help on bogie rebuilds.

#### Railmotor Trailer PL111.

#### Peter Hall

Work continues on PL111 with a start made in lifting the old wooden floor. This will allow for the fitting of the new timber side rail and areas of the chassis frame to be painted. The bases of the rib structure will also be renewed.

## **Operations, Sales And Marketing**

Terry Olsson, Operations, Sales and Marketing

#### **Public Running Days:**

Public running days continue on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month. The impact of the floods earlier this year, the wet weather, and rising prices such as fuel are having an impact on our passenger numbers, however we are managing to maintain similar numbers to last year.

#### **Special Running Days**

Brian Webber is the co-ordinator for special running days and group bookings. Therefore if you have any suggestions or contacts in bus companies, car clubs etc please let Brian know (Ph 07 33542140 or e-mail bwebber5@bigpond.com.)

## Bus Groups/Car Clubs, etc.

We had a special running day for a Cross Country Bus group on the 15th March, with the train doing a couple of trips before the passengers reboarded the bus to travel up town for lunch. Brian Webber provided his usual excellent talk to the passengers about our railway and some railway history.

As part of our normal running day on the 3rd of April, we had a visit from the Sunshine Coast MG Car Club, who travelled by train to Storey Brook Cottage for lunch.

In conjunction with the Tenth Australian Narrow Gauge Convention held at The Workshops Rail Museum at Ipswich on the Saturday and Sunday of Easter, we held a special running day on Easter Monday. As this day was also ANZAC Day, we only ran between 1pm and 4pm, with a considerable number of the delegates from the convention attending (along with their wives). Greg Stephenson and Ryan Silk provided tours of the areas not normally available to the general public.

We have another bus group booked for Sat 27th August so please mark this in your diaries.

#### Weddings

Although we have had several enquiries, we presently have no weddings booked. We are not pushing this aspect of our operations until we can get the RM coach back into operation to provide an all weather vehicle.

#### **Shows**

Tenth Australian Narrow Gauge Convention 23/24th April (Easter Saturday and Sunday) 2011 – This event has now passed and we had a very successful sales stand at this convention. Thank you to Brian Webber who staffed the stand along with myself over the two days, as well as Bob Gough, Wayne Harman and Greg Stephenson who also assisted with the transport and setting up/dismantling of the stand.



Brian Webber and Terry Olsson staff the ANGRMS sales booth at the 10th Australian Narrow Gauge Convention, Easter weekend, The Workshops Rail Museum, Ipswich. Lynn Zelmer photographer.

AMRA Show - 29th April and 1st and 2nd May 2011 - This annual model train show will have been held by the time you read this and I will let you know how it went next edition.

Toowoomba Model Train Show – 4th and 5th June 2011 – This show is a valuable sales and marketing outlet for us. We will have our normal running day on the Sunday so if you can help please let me know.

Caboolture Historical Village Show - 2nd and 3rd July 2011 - As well as assisting this local historical organisation our being there is a valuable marketing outlet and PR exercise for us

Strathpine Model Show – 20th and 21st August 2011 – This show is another valuable marketing outlet for us as it is also part of the same shire. It is also a valuable sales outlet for us. Please mark this weekend in your diaries as it will be a busy weekend with our running day on the Sunday.

#### **Monthly Statistics**

	March 2011	April 2011
Paying Passengers	237	240
Guards Sheet	298	329

#### **New Sales Items**

There are no new sales items but there are a few new items to be released at the AMRA show.

## Vale Eric Kropp, 1955 - 2011



It was with great sorrow that we recently learnt of the passing of Eric Kropp on the 28 March 2011. Eric was born in Maryborough (Qld) in 1955, and lived in Brisbane in recent years.

Eric joined ANGRMS not long ago, but soon became an active member in the train operations area. He was also keen to help out at shows and enjoyed his time at ANGRMS very much. His bright and cheery manner will be missed and our sympathies go out to his wife Brenda.

Bob Gough, Ian Thompson, David and Diane Thornton and Terry Olsson represented ANGRMS at Eric's funeral on Tuesday 5 April.

## **George Bond, Life Member**

In the long distant past, George Bond was elected to Life Membership of ANGRMS. Over the years it has been forgotten whether he ever received a letter or certificate and if it had been lost. As he is in his 98th year, it is



appropriate that he have a certificate to place on his unit's wall alongside Life Member certificates for the Australian Railway Historical Society Queensland Division and the Queensland Family History Society.

On 12 April Brian Webber presented Life Member George Bond with a new certificate on behalf of ANGRMS. The wording says "In recognition of his support ANGRMS since its formation and his dedication and support for recording the history of narrow gauge railways in Queensland "

George was very grateful to receive the certificate as, although he does not now have the stamina to enjoy a trip to visit Woodford, he is still particularly interested in what has been achieved and what is happening at the Durundur Railway through reading DRB and Light Railways.

## **Rail Tickets: Thomas Edmonson**

Neil Trevorrow

While browsing through an old American magazine, I found the following piece and thought it might be of interest to DRB readers. The magazine entitled "Railroad" was one of a collection kindly donated to ANGRMS by Tony Weber. Each month this magazine contained a question and answer segment and this appeared in the August 1975 edition.



"Q. 20: Who was Thomas Edmondson?

A: The originator of the standard railway ticket. Born in Lancashire, England in 1792, he became a clerk on the Newcastle & Carlisle Ry. In 1837,

dissatisfied with the N&C system of making out individual tickets for passengers, he invented a machine for printing railway tickets on cards of standard size, numbered consecutively, and a press for stamping dates on the tickets. Almost identical date-presses are still in use today. But the N&C was not interested in the invention, so Edmondson applied to the Manchester & Leeds Ry., where he then became employed. His system was soon adopted for general use throughout Britain and elsewhere, including the US and Canada. (see note). The inventor patented his idea, charging railways 10 shillings a mile per year for using it, and died in 1851 in his 59th year."

Note: Australia also. The tickets we issue today at Woodford Station are Edmondson tickets. Our date press is a development of that patented by Thomas Edmondson.



The oldest locomotive in the Society's collection (0-4-2T Decauville, 1897) was photographed some years ago by Steve Malone. Only 9 tons in weight it was the first locomotive at Mulgrave Sugar Mill and was sold to Invicta Mill when Mulgrave Mill became the first mill to fully dieselise in 1955.



Some of the 10th Australian Narrow Gauge Convention delegates who visited Woodford on the special running day, 25 April. Terry Olsson photographer.

