



Durundur **Bulletin** *Railway*

*Australian Narrow Gauge Railway Museum Society,
trading as the Woodford Railway, is located
25 km west of Caboolture in Woodford, Queensland*

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Ralph Cumner's backhoe sorting and selecting panels of track at Margaret Street, 5 April 2014. Greg Stephenson photographer.

Running Days: First and Third Sundays

**Trackwork Saturdays: 17 May, 21 June, 19 July and 16 August
2014**

Work Days: Every Saturday; Light Duties on Third Wednesday

Our Safety Goal - No Injuries

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Scheduled Activities

General Meetings: 21 Feb, 4 Apr, 13 Jun, 8 Aug, 17 Oct, and 12 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 each month. The gates open 9.30 am to 4.00 pm.

Donations and Bequests

Donations to the Society's Museum Fund are tax deductible. Please make cheques payable to the 'Australian Narrow Gauge Railway Museum Society' and mail to the PO Box above or deliver in person. Remember to include a note indicating that it's a donation, plus your name and address so that a receipt can be posted to you.

We appreciate your help and support now, but also consider mentioning the Society in your Will. Donations/bequests can be for a particular project or for museum development (restoration or infrastructure). For details, contact the President.

President's Report

Terry Olsson, President

The society's AGM was held on Saturday 29 March. The following were elected and I look forward to working with them during the coming year to continue the exciting progress we are making at our Woodford site.

President: Terry Olsson; Vice President: Bob Gough; Vice President (Safety and Training): Vacant at AGM but Noel Haynes appointed at Board meeting on 10 April, Secretary: Ian Thompson; Treasurer: Steve Baker; Board Members (2 positions): John Parnell, with one position still vacant.

I would like to thank these people for volunteering for these positions. As can be seen we still have a vacancy for one Board member so if you can help your society by filling this position please let me know.

I would like to thank Noel for taking over the role of Safety and Training Manager from Gordon. Noel has extensive experience in this area in both Queensland Rail, then in the Rail Safety area of Queensland Transport. Noel will take a while to settle into this new role and I would like you all to make him welcome. I would also like to thank Dave Caruzzo who has offered to learn the Safety Manager role over time, as well as Ryan Thomas, Barry Rogers and Neil Trevorrow who have agreed to take on certain tasks to help spread the work load as well as broaden ANGRMS' skill base in this important area.

Last year the Moreton Bay Regional Council purchased the block of land out the back of our Woodford station site. The council has decided to develop this land for use by various local community groups, as well as for future expansion of ANGRMS' depot facilities as we extend the railway towards D'Aguilar. While we do not need these additional facilities at this time, it is very important that we plan for the future so that the land is available when we need it. It will also be good for ANGRMS to be part of a community group hub. The council appointed Lat27 consultants to develop a concept plan for the site (including any changes to our existing area) and Greg Stephenson and myself have been spending a lot of time on this recently.

I would like to thank all of those members who took the time to consider the various ideas and provide valuable feedback. I was very impressed at the effort some members went to in order to find out what was proposed and why, plus take the time to provide comments. Some of these comments by members have been very useful and have been incorporated in to the current draft concept. The members at the recent AGM endorsed the current concept.

A final consultation will be held by the consultants at the Caboolture Council chambers at 5.30pm on Tuesday 29 April. The concept will then be finalised before presentation to Council by 30 June. Once the concept is agreed to there are still a lot of details to be sorted out before it is at the “sign on the dotted line” stage but it is looking good for ANGRMS. While there will be some disadvantages, such as handing over control of the picnic area to council, the advantages will far outweigh these.

As mentioned in my Operations, Sales and Marketing report, after an initial successful period of operation, it was decided to bite the bullet and replace the driving wheel springs on Netherdale which had several broken leaves. Finding a suitable spring works who can undertake this task on locomotive springs has proved quite a challenge. We only managed to locate a few throughout Australia and were lucky to find one at Northgate in Brisbane. The challenge was then to find suitable sized spring steel but the work is finally underway. This will complete the last major mechanical issue on Netherdale.

April was a busy month for ANGRMS with several significant happenings..

A significant rolling stock milestone took place on the running day on Sunday 6 April when the 84 year old Grovers wagon was returned to passenger service after overhaul. A big thank you to Ryan Thomas who was project leader. Peter Hall is working on drawings for a roof similar to the other passenger cars.

On 5 April, a major milestone took place in regard to the track extension. On this date the resleepered set of points near the level crossing was moved into place, and several prefab concrete sleepered track panels were moved from Woodford station to Storeybrook and placed in the correct alignment. More prefab track panels will be moved to site shortly then the hard work begins of ballasting, levelling and lining them. There is still a lot of physical work as well as paper work to be undertaken before we can connect this new track to our network and run trains over it. We need more workers to help with this exciting development so if you can come along or know someone who can help with this exciting development please let Greg or myself know. While there are some jobs which need skills, etc., there are many more where no special skills are required.

During April, work also continued with the repainting of the ex-Wamuran station building, with only a few finishing touches still required. Back in 2009 the other major timber buildings on site were repainted but the Wamuran building was not done.

25 April was ANZAC Day and we need to remember the important part that the mainline railways and the large light railway network played in World War 1. Roads and road vehicles were still in their infancy then so they were

limited in what they could move. A number of railway squadrons were formed to operate these railways, including some light railway squadrons consisting of Australian railway volunteers. ANGRMS laid a wreath at the Woodford service in honour of all of the railway men and women who served in the Great War and other conflicts, some of whom paid the supreme sacrifice.

And finally just a quick note on Gordon Anderson - for those who are not aware Gordon has not been well for some time and unfortunately has been diagnosed with a terminal sickness. He is back at home and getting around but obviously not all that well. He still takes an active interest in what we are up to at ANGRMS. If you wish to visit Gordon call Moya first, and you must not have any sort of disease as his immunity is low. Our thoughts are with Gordon and his wife Moya.

Remember - think about what you are doing, take your time, and do a job safely. It is more important to go home safe than rush through a job.

Remember – safety first!

Some Civil Notes

Greg Stephenson, Track Day Coordinator

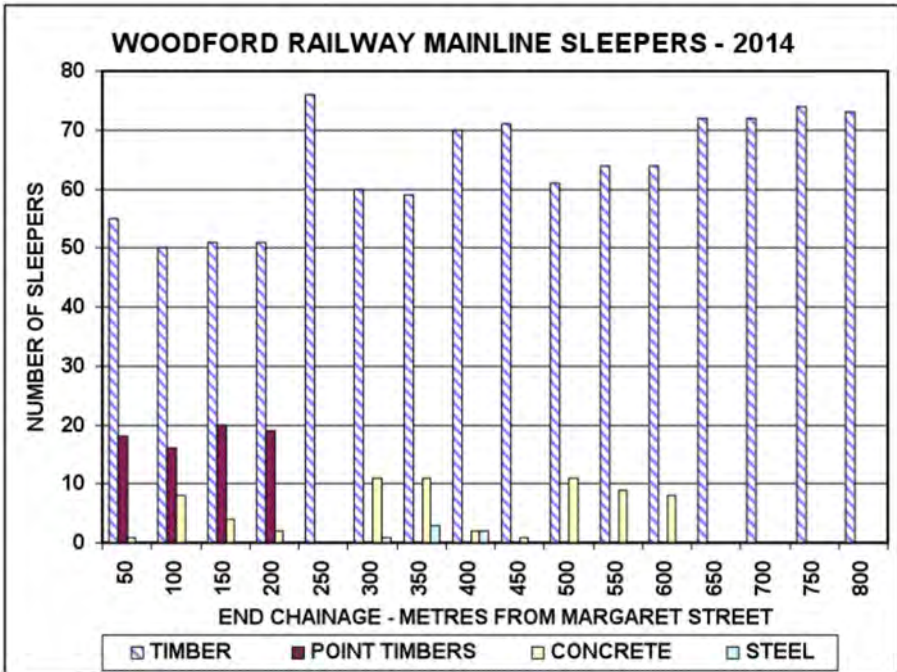
Former Wamuran Station Building

Two full days were spent over the Easter break repainting of the former Wamuran Station building. Work continued on from that undertaken over the Christmas and New Year holiday period and is now virtually completed with just some trim and window sills yet to be painted. This weekend was chosen because members would be on site over night allowing doors and windows to be left open while paint was drying. The remaining painting will be given priority in the near future.

Track Maintenance Work

It is vital that we continue with our regular maintenance on the existing track and position ourselves for the long term. In the last 18 months, whilst we have done regular sleeper renewals, we have only put one timber sleeper into the mainline – the rest being concrete or steel. The one renewed in timber was a point timber in Woodford Station and it was retained for “heritage” reasons in a highly visible public area.

As the following graph shows, the vast majority of our mainline sleepers are still timber, but we are starting to make inroads between Ch 250 and Ch 600 (Distance in metres from Margaret Street) with concrete and timber replacements.



The monthly track work parties will generally be held on the third Saturday of the month and are scheduled for Saturday 17 May, 21 June, 19 July and 16 August 2014.

Peterson Road

Preparations continue for the track laying at Peterson Road. On 15 March 2014, 42lb/yd rails were transported to the area and unloaded. These rails were stored at Margaret Street on bolster wagons that also came from Nambour Sugar Mill. This also freed up the bolster wagons to transport panels of 60lb/yd rail that came from Ingham.

On 5 April 2014, months of preparation finally came together with Ralph Cumner having his backhoe on site. The morning started with loading the steel ex-Douglas Shire Tramway open wagon with ballast for later use – no point having a backhoe on site and not having the ballast wagon filled! We had selected panels of track that had compatible types of 60lb/yd rails for the Peterson Road mainline and Ralph sorted these out and loaded them on the bolster wagons.

Ralph drove the backhoe around to Peterson Road, while the load of track panels with GEMCO in the lead set off at snails’ pace. At Peterson Road,

Ralph did some final excavation near the level crossing. We had been replacing point timbers (sleepers) with steel sleepers on one set of points and it was now time to shift these into position. Ralph lifted, dragged and generally coaxed these points into their final location.

By that time, the train had arrived from Margaret Street and the track panels were lifted into place. We now need to bolt up fishplates and do final aligning and levelling of the track with ballast. We still need to assemble 2 sets of 60lb/yd points to connect up the mainline. However, it is good to see positive progress and the planning come to fruition. Once again, the help and support of Ralph Cumner in making his time and backhoe available has been a very significant benefit that is very much appreciated.

In “spare” moments, as well as work continuing on sorting, processing and stacking the Ingham concrete sleepers for future use, we are also gathering track bolt components for fish-plated joints. These preparations should minimise delays when we commence track laying using these materials at Peterson Road.



Moving pointwork at Peterson Road. Greg Stephenson photographer.

Operations, Sales And Marketing

Terry Olsson, Operations, Sales and Marketing

Passenger numbers are slightly up on this time last year but there is still room for improvement if we are to keep up with rising costs. I would like to thank everyone on the running day team for their outstanding customer service. We are getting good feedback regarding this with a lot of return visits. During this period Netherdale was only used once due to crews still

needing training plus its removal from traffic to have the driving wheel springs replaced (due to several broken leaves).

Date Claimers:

AMRA Show - 3 and 4 May 2014 – By the time you read this, the AMRA show will have passed. A report on how it went will be in the next issue of DRB.

Thursday 8 May 2014 – Some of the Moreton Bay Regional Council volunteers who staff the Tourist Information Centres will be paying us a visit on this day.

Friday 16 May 2014 – A bus from Bundaberg will be visiting us on this day. A train will not be required.

Toowoomba Model Train Exhibition – 31 May and 1 June 2014 – This show is only a month after AMRA this year so again I am looking for assistance (plus on the Friday to set up). The Toowoomba area is a good revenue source for us so this show is another important fund raiser. The Sunday is also one of our regular running days at Woodford.

Monday 30 June 2014 – we have a special charter on this day so your help is needed.

Strathpine Model and Hobby Show – 23 and 24 August 2014 – In addition to this show, as those of you on my e-mail list will know, there will also be an Antique Machinery show on at Woodford Show Grounds this weekend and we will be having a special running day on the Sunday. Therefore we lots of help on this weekend.

Saturday 6 September 2014 – While not yet finally confirmed, we look like having a wedding special on this day so please mark it in your diary. In addition to the train crew we will need help in the morning to clean and prepare the train.

Saturday 25 October 2014 – Also not yet finally confirmed, we look like having a special run on this day so please mark it in your diaries.

Monthly Statistics

	March 2014	April 2014
Paying Passengers	132	145
Guards Sheet	160	190

New Sales Items

Way It Was DVDs Volumes 8 and 9 – These two volumes continue the excellent series being produced by WaterStreet Productions. These will be available at the AMRA show. Price to be confirmed but expected to be the same as previous volumes - \$34.95 plus postage if required.