



Durundur **Bulletin**
Railway

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

Volume 39

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September/October 2018



Woodford Station platform upgrade, 19 July 2018. Terry Olsson photographer.

Running Days: First and Third Sundays

**Trackwork Saturdays: 15 September, 20 October,
 17 November and 15 December 2018.**

Work Days: Every Saturday

Our Safety Goal - No Injuries

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Scheduled Activities

General Meetings: 2018: 16 Feb, 20 Apr, 15 Jun, 17 Aug, 19 Oct, and 14 Dec at 7:30 pm, entry from 7:00 pm; combined with LRRSA at the BCC Library, park and enter at rear 107 Orange Grove Road, Coopers Plains, a 10 minute walk from Coopers Plains Railway Station or a phone call to Dan Sheehan or Bob Gough for transport to the venue. A bus stop is at the front of the shopping centre and Express buses run services from the stop.

Light Duties Work Day: Normally 3rd Wednesday of the month. Contact Neil Trevorrow m:0402051546 if planning to attend.

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

As reported elsewhere, the last couple of months have been a very exciting time for our railway with two major platform upgrades undertaken. A big thank you to everyone involved!

During this time, with help from Tony Lindsay, we also moved the third shelter shed into place. Greg took the opportunity to replace some deteriorated timber in one of the posts while I bolted the table and chairs down. This shelter was available for the birthday party group on 5 August.

The impression passengers get when they visit our railway is a very important part of marketing our railway. The platform upgrades, refurbished female toilets and sales counters, along with the work Greg's track team and Ryan's rollingstock team undertake to ensure we have reliable track and rollingstock, all contribute to this. Everyone can be very proud of their contribution.

Unfortunately during the last couple of months, the air compressor on Gemco failed resulting in extra unplanned work for Ryan! As a preventive measure, it was decided to also dismantle and check Netherdale's air compressor. Ryan took the opportunity to overhaul the air compressor, with new pistons and rings fitted. Thanks Ryan.

Work on the new ballast wagon has been delayed, with Ryan undertaking some work on the railmotor trailer during the last couple of months. During August, work was also undertaken on Melbourne's boiler preparing it for an inspection prior to fitting of the tubes.

A big thank you to *Carroll's Suspension* at Wacol who inspected and tested the driving wheel springs for the Perry. They have also provided a test certificate.

As reported by Greg on the next page, the track team have continued with replacing defective timber sleepers, as well as undertaking the usual mowing.

Thanks to Wayne Harman for undertaking repairs to our mowers.

Remember – safety first!

Safety and Training Report

Dave Caruzzo, Safety Manager

Safety is a very important part of our operation and ANGRMS remains committed to providing a safe railway.

Communication is a very important part of safety and member feedback is always welcome. Remember there is a suggestion box in the Station Master's Office at Woodford station. Any suggestions will be discussed at the next board meeting.

During the preceding two months, a RBT was conducted with no adverse outcomes.

Two hazards have been reported in the HAZARD Log located in the SM's Office. Both concern power outlets in the cottage and workshop, the outlets have been tagged "DO NOT USE" until attended to by an electrician.

With the completion of the new platform at Woodford and upgrade of the platform at Peterson Road, the yellow safety lines near the edge of the platform have been repainted. While this not a requirement of our SMS, most parents and children understand the significance of the line these days. Station staff are always to be aware of visitors movements on the platform.

Some Civil Notes

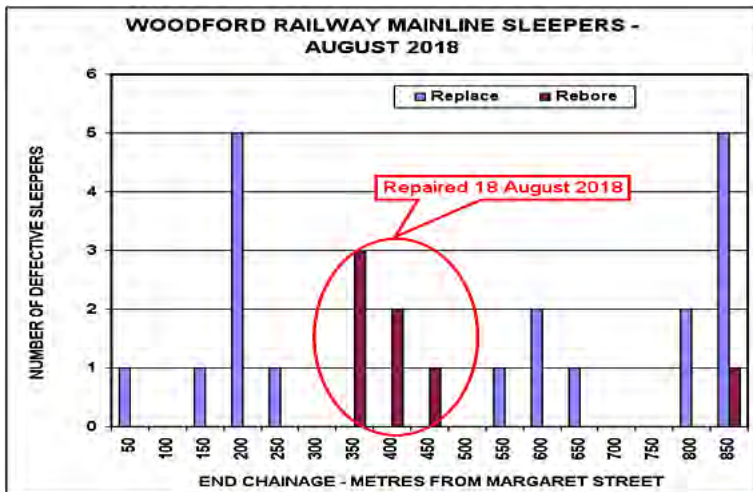
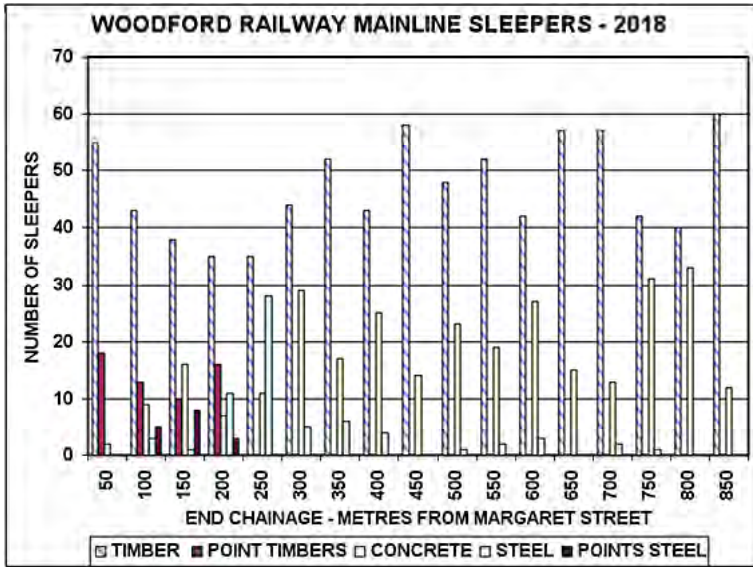
Greg Stephenson, Track Day Coordinator

Track Maintenance

In preparation for the upgrades to Woodford and Peterson Road station platforms, we needed to empty the ballast from the Port Douglas steel open wagon. The opportunity was taken to ballast and pack some steel sleepers and to top up the ballast in some low spots along the mainline. We also replaced 9 timber sleepers with ex-Ingham concrete sleepers in the Workshop siding beside the BLC Wagon body.

With all the work that we have done over recent months, it was an opportune time to assess what we have achieved (see top figure on next page). Overall, we have replaced 31% of the mainline sleepers with steel or concrete. This ranges from just 2.7% between Ch 0.0 and Ch 50 up to 52.7% between Ch 200 and Ch 250. With nearly one-third of the mainline sleepers renewed, we are well positioned for the future and continuing this strategy will reduce our sleeper replacement commitments in the long term.

As shown on the second figure below, the sleeper condition has been re-assessed and there are some areas where there had been additional deterioration since the previous independent inspection. Between Ch 150 and Ch 250, we will use steel sleepers to replace the timber sleepers. Around Ch 600, the two sleepers are joint sleepers and will also be replaced in steel. These steel sleepers are being fabricated and await installation on a future track day. The sleepers shown as requiring "re-boring" between Ch 300 and Ch 400 were re-drilled and re-spiked on 18 August 2018.



Future track days will concentrate on renewing these defective timber sleepers in steel or concrete. It is proposed to continue these renewals with the monthly track work parties generally being held on the Saturday before the second running day of the month and are planned for **15 September, 20 October, 17 November and 15 December 2018.**

Locomotive Storage Shed

As we are well advanced on mainline maintenance, we have commenced construction of the bypass road at the locomotive storage shed with the concrete sleepers and steel point bearers laid out awaiting positioning of the rails.

Operations, Sales And Marketing

Terry Olsson, Operations, Sales and Marketing

In addition to the upgrades of both our Woodford and Peterson Road station platforms covered elsewhere in this DRB, on the first running day in July we broke our previous record by carrying 407 passengers!!

One of the problems we faced with the large numbers we have had recently is they tend to all come in the morning (on the 407 passenger day, 345 were carried before lunch). I don't know what the solution is to spreading the patronage so if you have any ideas let me know. When thinking of solutions we need to be careful not to just transfer the problem somewhere else – for example would a discounted price in the afternoon just transfer the problem to the afternoon??

Due to the platform work preparation carried out prior to the running day on 15 July, plus possible delays with the platform work, along with no cash register and credit card facilities for the run on 5 August, a deliberate decision was made to minimise some of our marketing leading up to these two runs. This resulted in lower passenger numbers on these days but we were back to normal marketing for the run on 19 August. Unfortunately that running day was cold and very very windy!

During August we attended the Pine Rivers Model and Hobby Show. Unfortunately this show clashed with the Pine Rivers Show and patronage was well down. Sales wise this show does not generate much income after you deduct the cost of the site, but it is a valuable marketing opportunity to hand out our flyers and promote our railway. I would value members thoughts on if we should continue to attend this show and if we do is there something else we can do for a better return – such as exhibit a model railway and just hand out flyers with no sales for example??

By the time you read this we will have also attended the AMRSQ Heritage Fair at Woodford Showgrounds. This year we did not do any sales, only giving out flyers and promoting our railway due to lack of members available to attend. Thanks to Samantha Smith for helping out with this show.

As mentioned last month, in line with the recent ban on one use plastic bags we have purchased some paper bags which can be used for books, etc. Due to the cost, these bags will be for sale for 50c.

Monthly Statistics

	July 2018	August 2018
Paying Passengers	440	245
Guards Sheet	450	285

Platform Upgrade Work – Woodford and Peterson Road

Terry Olsson

Both our Woodford and Peterson Road platforms had begun to deteriorate to the point where they were becoming safety issues. Platforms are also an important part of our front face to our passengers and they certainly did not present a good image!

Both platforms received significant work during the three week period between our running day on 15 July, and the next running day on 5 August. In addition to the actual work done during this period, there was a significant amount of preparation work done over the period leading up to this time. The three weeks were certainly a very exciting time for Woodford Railway.

Woodford Platform

The old wooden timber face and timber cope had deteriorated and needed replacing. It was also decided to raise the level of the platform in front of the D'Aguilar building to provide level entry to our sales room along with the Ladies toilets and Station Master's office. Doing so also improved passenger access to our train. The platform in front of the Wamuran building had been built to the same level as the building floor some time ago, but still needed the timber face and cope replaced.

Because of the cost involved, we applied for a State Government Gambling Fund grant and after previous failed attempts, we were successful earlier this year. Because of the amount of work involved, we needed to undertake the work when we had a period of three weeks between running days.

Unfortunately, after several on site meetings, and only a matter of weeks out from the targeted commencement date, the concreting contractor advised us they were withdrawing their services. Luckily *JLE Concepts and Construction* of Caboolture had a job deferred and agreed to undertake the work. Not only that, but they offered to undertake the work at not much over the Grant amount!!! A BIG thank you to *JLE Concepts and Constructions*.

After the end of the running day on 15 July, rollingstock normally left in the platform road and loop was moved away and platform seats, etc., removed and stored elsewhere.

Between Monday 16 and Friday 20 July, JLE removed the old platform face and cope, as well as the necessary sections of the existing platform top. After preparing the site and setting up formwork, etc., concrete was poured on Thursday 19, with three concrete trucks used. ANGRMS members were on site the entire time.

During the following weekends before the running day, the site was cleaned up, a yellow line added to the front of the platform, buildings cleaned and platform seats, etc., returned to the platform.

We now have a platform which is safer and provides improved access to the D'Aguilar building and our passenger cars. The work will also significantly reduce future maintenance which is a big plus!! We can all be very proud of this platform and I would like to thank everyone involved.

Peterson Road Platform

Peterson Road platform had also started to deteriorate, and with the opening of the upgraded café was not only becoming a safety issue but presented a very poor image.

With the upgrade work happening on the Woodford platform, and most of us busy with that work, Samantha Smith very generously offered to look after the work on the Peterson Road platform and surrounds. She was assisted by Pete from *Pete's Dingo and Mini Excavator* hire. Samantha decided to undertake this work at the same time as the Woodford station platform work so the whole railway would have upgraded platforms for the running day on 5 August.

The dirt and some of the smaller pieces of broken concrete from work on the Woodford Platform were moved to Peterson Road to widen the platform there. The platform was also extended about 4m so the loco cab is now on platform, and the deteriorated timber coping replaced. The entire timber cope was painted and a yellow line added.

Road base was brought in to improve the platform top, as well as to improve the walkway to the café. This work also improved drainage in these areas. Old wooden sleepers were placed along the walkway and edge of the garden areas.

A "Storeybrook" nameboard was obtained several years ago for this station but with changes to the café the nameboard was never erected. A while ago the decision was made to rename this station "Peterson Road" to overcome any issues associated with café name changes. Samantha rebuilt the station name board and has now erected the sign.

In addition to the work on the actual platform, a fence and signage were installed at the entry/exit to the café. Samantha and Pete also undertook to beautify the area behind and leading to the platform. Using some old surplus

railway wheels, an old wagon body and underframe previously located in the area at the bottom of the embankment leading from Woodford station, and the now surplus Perry cowcatcher, they have added a fantastic railway atmosphere to the area.

To finish it off, they have installed some plants and spread mulch supplied by the new café owners.

We now have a platform and surrounds which are not only safer, but present a marvellous image for our passengers. With all of the work and money spend on the new look café we now have an area we can be proud of. Thank you to all involved.

All platform upgrade photos Terry Olsson photographer.



Woodford Station platform upgrade 18 July 2018.



Woodford Station platform upgrade 19 July (above) and 22 July 2018 (below).





Peterson Road platform upgrade, 20 July (above) and 4 August 2018 (below).





Peterson Road platform upgrade, 18 August 2018 (above and below).

