

Durundur Railway *Bulletin*



Newsletter of 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 29

Number 295

Nov/Dec 2008



In the experienced hands of Shane Yore, Babinda Mill's *Russell* and *Josephine* power across the North Johnstone River Bridge, in former Goondi Mill territory, before attacking the grade on the opposite side, November 2008.

Photo: Raymond Mewes

Trackwork Days: Saturdays 10th Jan, 14th Feb, 14th March and 4th April 2009.

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Scheduled Activities

Track Work Parties

10th January, 14th February, 14th March and 4th April 2009.

General Work Parties

Every Saturday

Running Days

First and Third Sundays

Our Safety Goal - No Injuries

President's Report

Terry Olsson: (or via the Society PO Box), or e-mail sales@angrms.org.au

Another year has flown by. On behalf of the ANGRMS Board and myself, I would like to wish everyone a very happy and safe Christmas and New Year.

For the size of our workforce, we certainly achieved a lot during the past year. When you are regularly on site, unfortunately you tend to just take the changes for granted. It is great to be there on running days and hear the good comments by people who have not been there for awhile. While we still have a lot to achieve, slowly but surely we are making progress.

As noted in Greg's report last issue, 2009 makes 100 years since the railway opened to Woodford. Greg has set a goal of constructing a new platform, runaround loop and mainline at Storey Brook by December next year. This is a significant but achievable project to mark the centenary. Please come along and give Greg a hand during the coming year, and be a part of marking this important event.

ANGRMS is a member of ATRQ which is the statewide umbrella group representing Tourist and Heritage Railways/Tramways in Queensland. Twice a year ATRQ has what they call the Chuff Awards, which are aimed at recognising outstanding T & H volunteers within the state. Therefore, it is with great pride that I can announce that our Steve Baker has won the Chuff Award for Customer Service for the latter half of 2008. Even though it is only a small group, ANGRMS has many dedicated and outstanding volunteers, and this award only confirms this. To make this award even more special, this is the third year in a row that ANGRMS has won a customer service award!!! Well done Steve.

It took awhile, but Bundy is now back in action. Safety is very critical when it comes to things like boilers, so we want to make sure everything is done correctly even if it takes time. Following inspection by our boiler inspector, Peter Ford, a weld procedure was produced and a specialist welder engaged to do the work. There are only a few specialists who can work on riveted boilers, so we had to wait for one to come from Gladstone to do the work. It is certainly great to see an expert welder at work. Following the repair, all fittings were replaced and a hydrostatic test conducted. A big thank you to all involved – Peter Hall, Bob Gough, Mark Gough and Geoff Wilson.

An important part of getting our name out there is giving talks to various groups. In early November, Greg Stephenson and myself, attended a meeting of Caboolture Rotary. Greg was the guest speaker and presented a very interesting talk on ANGRMS. Thanks to Greg for presenting this talk, and to Joe for arranging the visit.

Fortunately ANGRMS suffered only very minor damage in the storms in early November; however fellow ATRQ member Brisbane Tramway Museum Society at Ferny Grove were not so lucky with extensive damage. I am sure that I speak for all ANGRMS members when I say our thoughts go out to this group and we hope for a speedy return to normal.

The two 3ft 6 inch gauge four wheel ballast wagons which have been on site for many years have been sold to West Coast Wilderness Railway in Tasmania. Bob Gough has spent many hours retrieving these wagons and preparing them for transport. Not only has this cleaned up another part of our site, but the money from their sale will go towards repairing and accrediting the 2ft gauge bogie ballast wagon on site.

Mainly through the efforts of Bob Gough, the Board recently investigated the possibility of obtaining the two passenger cars from the now closed Melaleuca Station railway just over the border towards Murwillumbah. These carriages were being sold without bogies. After considerable discussion, the Board has decided not to purchase these carriages for a variety of reasons. One of the major ones were we felt the effort required to return these to service could better be used on existing items on site. A big thank you to Bob (and Jill) who drove all the way down there on a very wet day to inspect the carriage bodies.



Steve Baker, Greg Stephenson and Terry Olsson replace sleepers at Storybrook Station. This section will remain as access to the rail stockpile when the new station is developed. Photo: Bill Blannin.

Safety and Training Report

Gordon Anderson

Remember – Safety First

Training

I have commenced a review of ANGRMS's Training and Resource Manual. The last revision of this Manual was in the 6th January, 2006. As part of this review, I have commenced discussions with Members who are at present undergoing training to discover your aspirations within the Society. Please do not hesitate to approach me on any concerns you may have in your training. The Board is at present reviewing ANGRMS's Training in general.

As part of this upgrade in Training at the October Board Meeting the following appointments were made:

- I will take on the role of training for Sales, Station Master and Guard positions.
- Steve Baker will be Principal Trainer for Fireman and Driver positions.
- Peter Hall will be the Trainer for the theory and practical day to day maintenance of the boilers and locomotives.

Peter has also volunteered to assemble a Manual for ANGRMS to support the above training.

The above Trainers will be supplemented by suitably qualified Members of the Society. The names of the supplementary Trainers will be listed in the updated Training and Resource Manual, as was the case in our existing Manual.

From Paul Rollason, President, ATRQ.

Review of the March 2008 Draft of the "Guide for Training and Competency assessment skills for steam locomotives boiler Fireman (Operators)"

This document, when issued in its final form, will form the basis of training of Fireman/Driver positions for all accredited Rail Operators.

Rail Safety Notices

From Queensland Transport:

Rail Safety Investigation Report-fatal injuring of two rail maintenance workers, Singleton N.S.W., 16th July 2007.

As a result of this Report, a Rail Safety Notice Action Report has been issued by ANGRMS and placed on the Notice Board in the Station Master's Office. Please take the time to read this Report. This Report once again emphasizes the correct procedures when working near or adjacent to track when locomotives or trains are operating, also correct hand signals and shunting operations. Read your Operations Manual regularly to maintain ANGRMS present safety record.

Rail Industry Safety Notice No 23

Potential defects in spoked wheels and drawhooks.

This Notice was discussed at the September Board Meeting.

Spot Checks

Queensland Transport has developed a Spot Audit program for all Accredited Rail Operators in Queensland. QT has advised ANGRMS that they will be conducting Spot Audits on our Railway in the near future. These Spot Audits will have a specific focus and be of limited duration.

Amendment 6

There are several Members who have not returned their completed Form FO-001, Amended Record for Amended 6 of ANGRMS's Operations Manual. Having current Operations Manuals is part of the accreditation process. Please update your Manual and return Form FO-001 to save the Society having to issue you with a reminder.



Rear of QCWA Cottage sanded back for repainting. Guttering has been removed for replacement as has the rear landing. Photo: Bill Blannin.

Operations, Sales And Marketing

Terry Olsson: (or via the Society PO Box), or e-mail sales@angrms.org.au

Good news – Bundy is back in operation!

While it took awhile, safety is top priority when it comes to boilers. Performing the repair involved assessment by our boiler inspector, preparation of a weld procedure, then performing the work by a suitably qualified person (who in this case came down specially from Gladstone to do the work). I would like to thank Peter Ford, Dave Pickering, Peter Hall, Bob Gough and Mark Gough for their efforts.

Public running days continue on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month.

While it is great to see some rain, it has affected patronage at some of our running days. Using the Gemco (while Bundy was under repair) has not helped patronage. Wayne Harman has commenced work on preparing the Baguley diesel for registration. At least then if we do have another failure of Bundy, a side rod diesel will help maintain customer interest. Obviously if we can get someone to take on repairs to Melbourne, this will also help by providing a backup steam locomotive.

As mentioned last month, we are still looking for someone to assist with marketing. There are still a lot of people out there who do not even know ANGRMS exists. We need to target these people, along with car clubs, bus companies etc if we are going to maintain and hopefully improve our passenger numbers (and therefore or income). This is going to become even more important in the future as economic times get harder.

Roster

HELP NEEDED – David Mewes has advised that due to various reasons, he is no longer able to prepare the running day roster. Therefore, we are looking for someone to take on this role. The roster is only prepared every six months, and only requires someone with internet and phone access. As you do not need to be on site, this is an ideal way for someone to help who cannot visit site regularly or even at all. Please do not leave this to the members who already have a full work load.

As noted last month, we are still desperately short of operations staff. We have come very close to having to cancel running days recently, so if you can help please let me know. Even once every couple of months will be a great help. During a large part of next year, several of our regular operations staff will be unavailable due to Q150 commitments, so we will be even more short than normal.

In the interim, I will be preparing the next roster so if I have not contacted you, please contact me and let me know when you will be available (or not available) during the six months to June 2009.

Monthly Statistics:

	Sept 08	Oct 08
Paying Passengers	120	107
Guards Sheet	166	115

Extra Running Days/Group Visits

Bus Charters:

There have been no bus charters during September or October.

Car Clubs:

There have been no car club visits during September or October.

Weddings:

There have been no wedding charters during September or October.

We do have a wedding booked for Easter Saturday next year, so please let me know if you are available to help with this one.

Shows:

SANDGATE HOBBY SHOW – 7th and 8th March 2009:

We have again been invited to this show, and an application has been submitted. Please earmark this date in your diaries and let me know if you can help.

AMRA - 2nd to 4th May:

We have again been invited to this show, and an application has been submitted. Please earmark this date in your diaries and let me know if you can help. This show is our major income boost for the year, but the Sunday is also a running day plus some of our regulars may be away on Q150 commitments this year so we will need all the help we can get.

Sales Items:

DVD- AUSTRALIAN INDUSTRIAL STEAM.

This newly released DVD from Ross Rail Video has a lot of old footage of industrial steam from all over Australia, plus some more recent footage of preserved industrial steam locos. While ANGRMS is not featured, this is quite a large coverage of narrow gauge. A must for anyone interested in Industrial steam locomotives and railways.

Cost: \$39.00 plus \$6 postage if required.

For new Price Lists please see our website www.angrms.org.au.



Geoff Wilson is seen applying the first coat of paint to the QCWA Cottage.

Photo: Bill Blannin.

Track Matters

Greg Stephenson

Annual Independent Track Inspection

On Saturday 6th December 2008, our annual independent track inspection was undertaken by Phil Hardy, an experienced Trackmaster. The inspection found that the standard of track is generally good and suitable for the required traffic task. Two medium priority defects were located. One of these is the weed spraying through Freeman Cutting. A small area needs re-spiking around Ch 430. Five single defective sleepers were identified. Four of these were replaced on the afternoon of the inspection. The other will be removed when points are inserted into the mainline for the new Storybrook Station.

This report confirms the effectiveness of our regular track days in maintaining the condition of the track and I would like to thank all those who have contributed to this vital task over the last year.

Special thanks must go to Phil Hardy for making his time and expertise available to satisfy this important safety requirement.

Track Maintenance Work

Over the last few months work has continued on sleeper replacements particularly at Storybrook Station and at isolated locations along the mainline. The opportunity has been undertaken to lift and pack the ballast in several locations in Freeman Cutting and between the Workshop Points and the Compound Points. Several point timbers have also been renewed in the Workshop sidings.

Clearing of the neighbouring property has removed problems with tree roots through Freeman Cutting. However, now that the area is more open, keeping the weeds under control has required constant attention. Bill Blannin has continued to regularly treat the weeds. Unfortunately, the recent wet weather has lead to prolific growth and hampered spraying efforts. Hopefully, conditions will be more favourable in the near future.

We plan to continue our commitment to routine maintenance activities with the monthly track work parties held on the second Saturday of the month. The track work days are scheduled for **Saturdays 10th January, 14th February, 14th March and 4th April 2009**. The April track day has been brought forward to avoid a clash with Good Friday.

Donation of Ballast

The on-going maintenance works exhausted our supplies of ballast. Fortunately, Bracalba Quarry has donated 40 tonnes of QR size ballast and 13 tonnes of unscreened deco for general filling works. This will allow us to continue with routine maintenance activities and some track improvement activities. We are most grateful to Bracalba Quarry for their continuing support of our activities.

Storybrook Station (Peterson Road)

Planning and preparation work for the new Storybrook Station are continuing and it is anticipated that work will commence early in 2009.

Our goal is to open the new Storybrook Station in December 2009 as our main focus of the centenary celebrations for the opening of the Caboolture to Woodford Section of the Kilcoy Branch.

It is an ambitious target, but one I'm sure we can meet with the same dedication and commitment shown to the Woodford Station project.

QCWA Cottage

Work continues on repainting of the QCWA Cottage. Whilst the old paint was being removed, it was found that parts of the back landing were in poor condition. This has now been removed and will be rebuilt. We are also investigating covering the landing to prevent future decay and to protect the rear door from the rain.

Progress in recent weeks has been slower than expected due to wet weather. We have been reluctant to spend the day painting when storms and showers are forecast and some special mid-week painting days were cancelled due to rain. This project will continue as time and weather permits.



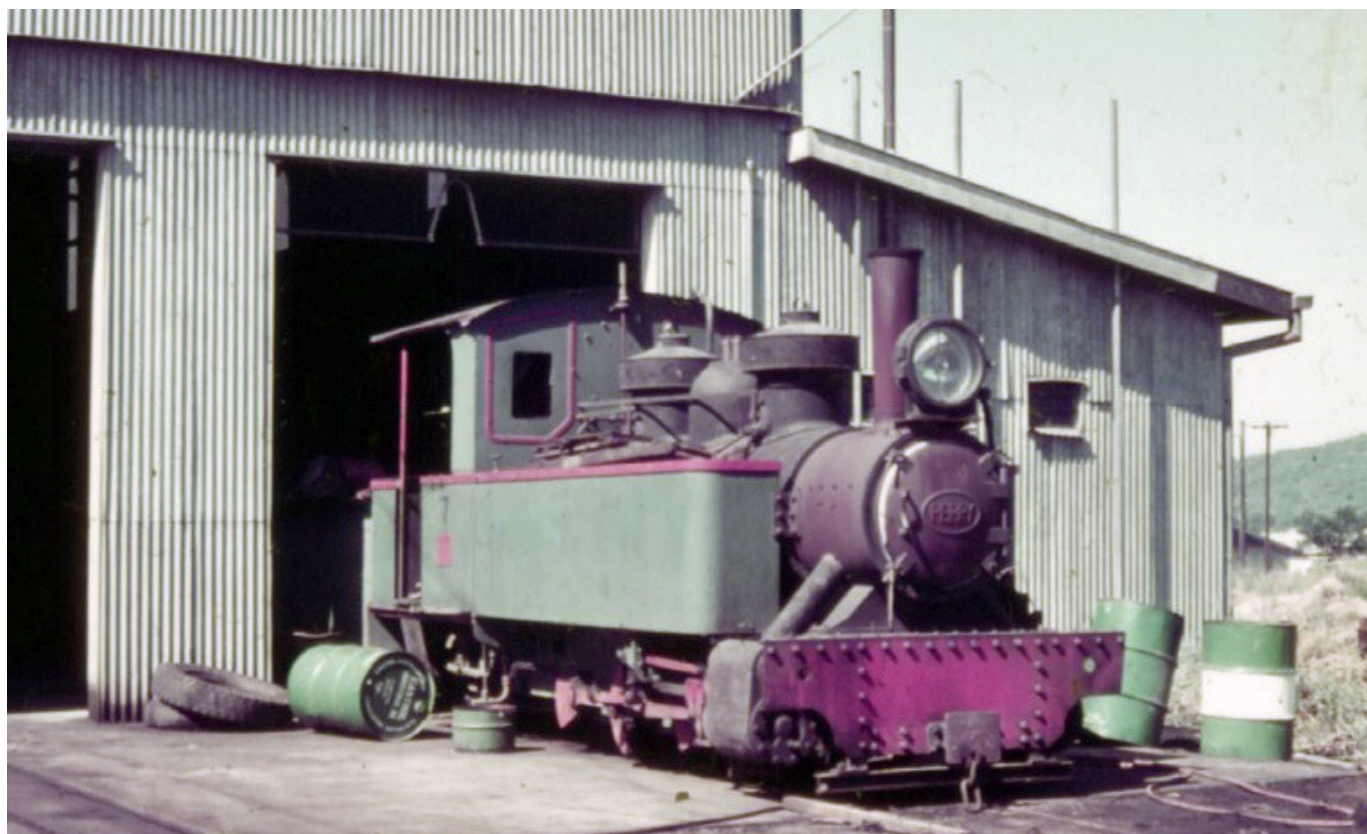
Mackay Sugar's Eimco, *Farleigh*, rests on shop bogies at Racecourse Mill only a few days after the end of the 2008 season. Photo: Raymond Mewes



The season had not quite finished at Invicta Mill when E.M. Baldwin *Norham* was snapped at the back of the mill without her bonnet, November 2008. Photo: Raymond Mewes



BFC3 trundles past with her first load of passengers for the day at the Bundaberg Botanic Gardens, October 2008.
Photo: Raymond Mewes



Babinda *Number 7* sits outside the locoshed towards the end of her career.
Date and photographer unknown.