

Durundur Railway Bulletin



Newsletter of the Australian
Narrow Gauge Railway Museum Society

Margaret Street, Woodford

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Australia Day 2009 sees Australian Sugar Cane Railway's three operational steam locomotives, *Germany*, *Invicta* and *BFC No.3*, pulling away from the depot on the first run of the day, whilst *Valdora* sits quietly by.

Photo: Wendy Driver.

Trackwork Days: Saturdays 14th March, 4th April and 9th May 2009

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Scheduled Activities

Track Work Parties	Saturdays 14 th March, 4 th April and 9 th May 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

It is Annual General Meeting time again. We have been holding our AGM in Brisbane on a Wednesday night for quite a few years now. This was done in order to try and make it easier from the majority of our members who live in Brisbane to attend. Unfortunately numbers have continued to drop off despite us trying various things to attract members. Therefore, this year we thought we would try something different.

On behalf of myself and the ANGRMS Board, I would like to invite all members to attend our AGM to be held at our Woodford site on Saturday 14th March. Please come along and find out what has been happening in your society. We would also value your input and ideas. For those who have not been on site for awhile, one of the Board Members will be more than happy to show you what has been happening, plus what is planned. After the meeting, we will be holding a BYO BBQ and train ride – an ideal opportunity to socialise and just relax.

Joe Cohan-Cramp has offered to take on the role of co-ordinating grant applications, something we have badly needed for awhile. You do not get grants if you do not apply – something which has resulted from the existing working members just being too bogged down with other high priority work. Recently, members of the Board got together and had a “brain storming” exercise about what we need to improve our site. Out of this fell a “wish list” of things we would like. Naturally things will change depending upon what grants are available when, but the highest priority item on our “Wish List” is a loco shed. This is important if we are to look after our running fleet, and not see any restoration work wasted by sitting out in the weather. Another important issue raised is the construction of a sunken inspection pit to make rollingstock inspections and maintenance easier.

While on the subject of grants, through the efforts of Brian Webber, we applied for a Q150 grant to produce a book on the Caboolture Kilcoy Railway and our part in its history, to mark the 100th anniversary of the railway reaching Woodford. Unfortunately, we were not successful in obtaining any Q150 funding, but will be pursuing other grant opportunities as the Board feels this is important to help mark the centenary.

The “museum” side of our society is something we do not want to forget, and something the Board has been concerned about for awhile. Unfortunately all the issues such as accreditation involved in running a railway tend to dominate our time. Through the efforts of Joe Cohan-Cramp, we were successful in obtaining a grant to get a suitably qualified consultant to prepare a Conservation statement for us. Greg Stephenson, Joe, and myself had our first meeting with her on site in early January. Looks like there will certainly be a lot for us to think about. In parallel with this Conservation Statement, long time member (and an expert in many things narrow gauge) John Browning, has generously offered to prepare Significance Statements on our assets. Not only are both of these documents now prerequisites for any museum type funding, but the Board considers them very important if we are going to make the right decisions regarding the future of this important part of the Society.

In order to prepare her Conservation statement and make the best recommendations for the society and the relevant items, the consultant has asked the Board to determine exactly what museum items we own or are otherwise in our trust, including any items held off site by members or past members. I stress very strongly that this is not intended to be having a go at anyone; in fact it is the exact opposite. The ANGRMS Board is fully aware that we have been lacking in suitable storage facilities for a lot of items on site, and allowing these to be held off site was the best thing at the time and we appreciate it. Every current member will soon be receiving a letter in the mail asking if they have any society property in their care, or if they know where any is. You will also be asked for any suggestions regarding its future, including if you are happy to continue

looking after it, at least in the short term. Please fill this form in, even if you have nothing, so the consultant and do her bit and the Board can make the right decisions.

Another area of the society where things have been changing is in the area of training loco crews in the operation of boilers and steam locomotives. Peter Hall has had considerable experience with this sort of training, and has generously offered to prepare a new training manual for training Fireman and Drivers. Gordon Anderson has also commenced reviewing other aspects of our training. It will be a long and slow process, but at least it is now underway. Thank you Peter and Gordon.

A couple of our members have been very sick of late, and on behalf of the ANGRMS Board plus all of the members, we would like to wish Moya Anderson and Bob Deskins a full and speedy recovery.



Steve Baker and Geoff Wilson preparing to transfer trimmed sleepers to rail wagons, whilst Greg Stephenson cuts another sleeper to length. Even the off-cuts are recycled as loco fuel.

Photo: Bill Blannin.

Safety and Training Report

Gordon Anderson

Remember – Safety First

Alerts

Mobile Phones:

Members are advised not to use Mobile Phones when engaged in Train Operations or in performing such other duties as shunting procedures.

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.

Occurrence Classification & Reporting Guidelines

ANGRMS has received from Qld Transport (Rail Safety Unit) an amended set of Occurrence Classification and Reporting Guidelines. These Items consist of the following:

- (a) Guideline for the Top Event Classification of Notifiable Occurrences and
- (b) Guideline for the Reporting of Notifiable Occurrences.

These Amended Guidelines and Report Forms are to be used in all future Notification to Qld Transport (Rail Safety Unit) of any Notifiable Incidents or Accidents.

The orange folder containing these documents, with spare forms, is located with ANGRMS's Manuals in the Station Masters Office.

The implementation of these new procedures will be discussed with our Volunteer Workforce at future Toolbox talks. If any Volunteer has any questions on these new procedures, please contact me or any Board Member.



RMP Baguley, *Mulgrave No. 1*, pokes her dismantled nose through the workshop door during the first steps in her overhaul, 2009. Photo: Terry Olsson.

Operations, Sales And Marketing

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

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

This time of year is always quite for us and we have managed a similar level of patronage as last year. However, with ever increasing costs, and as tougher economic times start to take their toll, it will become increasingly important to improve our marketing and attract more passengers. We could easily double or triple our present patronage using the carriages presently in use. Obviously, if we can find someone to take on the railmotor trailer repairs, this would approximately double our capacity as well as providing an “all weather” carriage. Mark Gough (son of well known member Bob Gough) has agreed to take on the role of providing articles etc to the local Caboolture newspapers and radio station. Even though he is busy with many other projects. Brian Webber has agreed to take on some marketing in Brisbane papers etc. A big thank you to both of these people – if you have any ideas please let them know.

As well as items in newspapers etc, we need someone to take on contacting and co-ordinating groups such as bus companies, car clubs etc. This job is one which can be done from home at a time to suit you. As our running costs are relatively fixed, and our volunteers have already given up their time to be on site, additional patronage such as a bus or car club, gives us a much needed boost in revenue. Depending upon the size of the group, we can also cater for special running days. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you can help in this regard.

One problem we seem to face is patronage dies off in the afternoon. With over 20 000 leaflets out there advertising we run until 4pm, with Bundy already in steam, and with volunteers having already given up their valuable time to be on site, we need to get a greater benefit from this time. I am certainly no expert, and would very much value ideas and suggestions on how we could improve in this regard – perhaps a discounted fare for locals?

Roster

HELP NEEDED – We have still not had any offers to take on this important role. As mentioned last month, the roster is only prepared every six months, and only requires someone with e-mail 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.

A shortage of Operations Staff continues to be a problem. As noted last month, we are still desperately short of operations staff. Fatigue Management means our operating staff need to have a meal break around 1pm. Unfortunately this can still be a busy time patronage wise. With no extra suitably qualified staff on hand, this means we have to shut the train down. So, even if you can only spare a few hours around this time, any help will be much appreciated. This year, several of our regular operations staff will be unavailable due to Q150 commitments, so we will be even shorter this year. Please let me know if you can help, even if it is only once every couple of months – training can be provided.

I would specially like to thank Steve Baker for his regular help on running days. He has had to stand in at short notice on many occasions, and without his help, we would have had to cancel running days on more than one occasion as no one else was available.

Monthly Statistics:

	Nov 08	Dec 08
Paying Passengers	98	94
Guards Sheet	123	111

Extra Running Days/Group Visits**Bus Charters:**

There have been no bus charters during November, December or January.

Car Clubs:

There have been no car club visits during November, December, or January.

Weddings:

We 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. Confirmation has been received that we have been accepted. 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.

TOOWOOMBA MODEL TRAIN EXHIBITION – 13th and 14th June 2009:

We have again been invited to this show. Even though it may at first glance seem a long way from Woodford, it is in reality not that far through Crows Nest or other similar routes. It is surprising how many people you talk to at this show that regularly travel through Woodford. I will be away up north during this time, so Gordon Anderson has kindly offered to help out. This means we will not be able to move our usual range of items to Toowoomba, so a small site will be requested this year. Please let Gordon know if you can help out.

Sales Items:**DVD- STEAM, RAILS AND SUGARCANE**

This footage has been around for some time now, but has now been released on DVD by Rowlingstock Productions. There is some really interesting old footage of steam in the canefields, as well as on QR. A must for anyone with an interest in “how things used to be”.

Cost: \$33.00 plus \$6 postage if required.

DVD- COAL, STEEL AND GRAVEL

This footage has been around for some time now, but has now been released on DVD by Rowlingstock Productions. There is some really interesting old footage of various NSW industrial railways used in the coal, steel and gravel industries. It is surprising just what used to be there. A must for anyone with an interest in “how things used to be”.

Cost: \$33.00 plus \$6 postage if required.

DVD- NEWINGTON NAVY ARMAMENT

This footage has been around for some time now, but has now been released on DVD by Rowlingstock Productions. There is some really interesting of the tramway previously used to move munitions around the Newington Navy depot. A must for anyone with an interest in Industrial Railways and or Navy history.

Cost: \$33.00 plus \$6 postage if required

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



Ralph Cumner using his backhoe to load ballast into the steel ex-Douglas Shire Tramway open wagon on Saturday 31st January 2009. Photo: Bill Blannin.

Track Matters

Greg Stephenson

GEMCO Diesel Locomotive

There has been an on-going problem with the generator in this locomotive. Previous attempts to overcome the problem had not proved fully successful. The generator has now been reconditioned and refitted. It was then found that the new regulator was faulty. The points in the original regulator were cleaned and it was refitted and the batteries are now charging. We anticipate that we can now abandon the practice of using the battery charger to keep the batteries in this locomotive charged.

RMP Baguley “Mulgrave No. 1”

Work continues on preparing this locomotive for accreditation. Mechanically, the locomotive is in good condition. Oil and air filters and fan belts have been replaced. Leaks in the compressed air system are being eradicated by replacing seals where necessary. Attention has turned to repairs to the cab steps and removing rusted areas at the front of the bonnet. Once the repairs to the bodywork are complete, it is planned to repaint the locomotive in a blue and yellow colour scheme worn at Mulgrave Mill.

This project is being co-ordinated by Wayne Harman, assisted by Bob Gough and junior member Ryan Silk.

Track Maintenance Work

55 tonnes of QR size ballast and 13 tonnes of unscreened deco for general filling works donated by Bracalba Quarry were delivered on 13th December 2008. Ralph Cumner loaded our ballast wagon the following Saturday. This ballast is the same material as supplied by Bracalba Quarry to the Trackstar Alliance for the QR Caboolture to Beerburrum Deviation.

A “hole in the road” had developed in the Storeybrook end of Freeman Cutting. This was found to be due to a wet patch in the track bed caused by the side drain becoming blocked during the clearing operations on the adjoining property. The drain has been cleared and the track lifted and levelled and packed with the new larger ballast. Whilst this QR size ballast packs more tightly than the small ballast previously used, it is somewhat harder to handle manually. Once in place, it should outperform the small ballast.

Bill Blannin has continued to regularly treat the weeds along the mainline. 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 14th March, 4th April and 9th May 2009**. The April track day has been brought forward to avoid a clash with Good Friday.

Storeybrook Station (Peterson Road)

Preparation works for the new Storeybrook Station are continuing. Ex-QR sleepers were acquired some time ago and stored behind the ex-Wamuran Station building. These have now been trimmed to length and transferred to ex-cane trucks for transport to Peterson Road when required. In addition, rails for the new pointwork have been reclaimed from the storage area at Peterson

Road. Wet weather on Saturday 31st January 2009 provided an opportunity to sort out track bolts and other hardware.

Our goal is to open the new Storeybrook 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.

QCWA Cottage

Work continues on repainting of the QCWA Cottage. 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. This project continues as time and weather permits.



Junior member Ryan Silk assisting Wayne Harman in removing the manufacturer's name plate from the front of Mulgrave No. 1 so that the rusted panel work can be repaired. Photo: Bill Blannin.

Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) Grant

The Moreton Bay Regional Council partners with Arts Queensland through the Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) to support locally determined arts and cultural priorities. Under the funding area of contemporary collections and stories, RADF grants can support documentation, preservation and interpretation projects.

Through the efforts of Joe Cohan-Cramp, we were successful in obtaining RADF funding of \$3,900 to engage a suitably qualified consultant to prepare a Preservation Plan and Collection Condition Assessment of the ANGRMS Collection.

We have appointed a Conservator to undertake this study and prepare the necessary plan and documentation.



**Queensland
Government**
Arts Queensland

**The Regional Arts Development Fund is a
Queensland Government and Moreton Bay
Regional Council Partnership to support local
arts and culture.**



ANGRMS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2009

All members are invited to attend the 2009 Annual General Meeting of the society, to be held at our site in Margaret St Woodford, commencing at 3pm on Saturday 14th March.

Please come along and hear/see what we have been up to during the last year, and hear what we have planned for 2009. As this year is 100 years since the QR railway reached Woodford, it is a significant year, and we would welcome you ideas/suggestions.

After the meeting, everyone is invited to join us in a BYO BBQ, and if opportunity permits, a train ride. This is a good time to socialise with other members, and generally relax.



No.26 rolls down the main street of South Johnstone with a rake of full bins for the Mill, only a few days before the end of the 2008 season. Photo: Raymond Mewes.



All is quiet at the Millaquin Mill's locoshed, as locos await their next call to duty, October 2008. Photo: Raymond Mewes.