

# Durundur Bulletin

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

Volume 35 Number 328 July/August 2014



The Saturday rail party consisting of Terry Olsson, Greg Stephenson, Wayne Harman, Tony Webber, Ryan Thomas and Steve Baker move a length of 42 lb. rail at the Peterson Road extension site, 7 June 2014. Bob Gough photographer.

**Running Days: First and Third Sundays** 

Trackwork Saturdays: 19 July and 9 August 2014 (Second

Saturday) and 20 September 2014

Work Days: Every Saturday; Light Duties on Third Wednesday

**Our Safety Goal - No Injuries** 

ANGRMS: Margaret Street, Woodford (PO Box 1135, Woodford Qld



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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

Sadly I have to begin this months report by advising of the passing Gordon Anderson. Gordon was a very active member and strong supporter of ANGRMS. As well as being a Board member, Gordon was our Training and Safety Manager, took an active role in train operations on public running days, and dabbled in many other vital roles. Gordon will certainly be missed and on behalf of everyone in ANGRMS I would like to pass on our condolences to his wife Moya – we are all thinking of her at this tough time. Moya would like to thank everyone who was there for Gordon during the last 12 months, everyone who attended the funeral on 29 May, plus everyone who has provided support since. A separate biography is included below.

On a happier note, we were very pleased to receive advice during the month that Moreton Bay Regional Council has now adopted a new regional donations in lieu of Rates and Charges levied by Council and Unity Water policy. This applies to eligible community organisations who own or are trustee for parcels of land in the shire. Applicable from 1 July 2014, ANGRMS is eligible for this and being the owner of three parcels of land it will be a huge benefit to us. On behalf of ANGRMS I would like to thank the council for this fantastic initiative as well as their general ongoing support for our society.

As part of their ongoing efforts to work closer with heritage groups and to help us to provide a safe railway, two representatives from Queensland Transport - Rail Safety Division – will be visiting our Woodford site on Sunday 13 July 2014. Commencing at 10am they will give a talk on rail safety as well as meet with as many members as possible. It is always better to put a name to a face, and I would encourage as many members as possible to attend. ANGRMS will be putting on a BBQ lunch after for those members who attend so please let me know as soon as possible (by the Wednesday before at the latest) if you will be attending so we can cater.

Remember safety first - 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!

## VALE Gordon Anderson – 1938 to 2014

Gordon was born in Lota, Brisbane in 1938 and educated at Taringa and Wooloowin State Schools. After completing his scholarship year he entered

the workforce and eventually trained as a Draftsman for McWilliams Consulting, where he remained for the rest of his working life.

The start of his drafting career coincided with the advent of high rise buildings in Brisbane and he was subsequently involved in drafting plans for the SGIO Building (now Suncorp Metway Plaza), as well as Block 7 at the Royal Brisbane Hospital and numerous sites for Expo '88 and the State Library at Southbank. He also travelled throughout regional and rural centres in Queensland, undertaking steel and concrete inspections and drafting plans for many country hospitals.

Whenever possible he indulged his passion for railways and steam locomotives and loved nothing more than to read and research the history of railways in Australia and prepare maps for local railway publications. (He was also known for regaling co-workers with a train tale or two on a Monday morning, after a weekend spent indulging his hobby!)

Upon retirement Gordon took up voluntary duties at Woodford Railway Museum and continued to assist with a variety of activities until his passing. During his time at ANGRMS, he undertook various roles including Board member and Safety and Training Manager. Gordon was one of those quiet achievers who saw a job that needed doing, and just got stuck in and did it. For those who did not know, Gordon was such a strong supporter of ANGRMS that he was dressed in his ANGRMS uniform at the funeral.

He will certainly be missed! Our condolences to his wife Moya.

## **Some Civil Notes**

Greg Stephenson, Track Day Coordinator

## **Former Wamuran Station Building**

The repainting of the exterior of the former Wamuran Station building has now been completed.

#### **Peterson Road**

There has been steady progress on track laying at Peterson Road. Work has concentrated on connecting up the set of points that Ralph Cumner lifted into place in April. We have started laying 42lb/yd rail from the level crossing back towards the existing main line. This will form the passing loops whilst the main line will be laid in heavier 60lb/yd rail.

To lift a length of 42lb/yd rail and carry it from the temporary stockpile to passing loop location, we need at least 6 people. On two occasions, we have co-opted people from workshop projects to help position rails to allow fabrication of the panels of track to continue. We have also requisitioned Dave Carusso's utility to transport concrete sleepers from the Margaret

Street stockpile to Peterson Road work site. This saves considerable double handling as the utility can be backed up to sleeper stockpile and the sleepers delivered directly to track bed where they are required.



Greg Stephenson and Steve Baker marking the location of the sleepers on the rail. Ray Wu, Dave Carusso and Kerry Rasmussen and are waiting to place more sleepers before lifting the rail into place on the sleepers, 14 June 2014. Sue Rasmussen photographer.

On the 42lb/yd rails, we are using the "round-hole" sleepers with the bolted rail clips to hold the rails onto the sleepers. It has been a rapid learning experience to come up with suitable techniques for installing these clips. The bolts need to be inserted from the bottom of the sleeper, so we roll the sleeper onto its side, insert the bolt and loosely place the nut on temporarily. The sleepers are then rolled over and placed at the correct spacing. The rails are lifted onto the sleepers and the process of fitting the clips started. The nuts are removed, the clips placed and the nuts replaced and tightened. Final adjustment of the sleeper location is undertaken with a crow bar placed between the clip and the rail. This is a time consuming process, but one that

we anticipate will not have to be repeated on these sections of track for many years.

The final alignment and levelling of this track will be undertaken with ballast. However, since we still need to assemble 2 sets of 60lb/yd points to connect up the mainline and passing loop, the ballasting is still some time away.

In "spare" moments, we are also gathering the components for fish-plated joints. These preparations minimise delays when we commence track laying using these materials at Peterson Road.



Kerry Rasmussen, Steve Baker and Dave Carusso positioning a rail before lifting it onto the sleepers, 14 June 2014. Sue Rasmussen photographer.

#### Track Maintenance Work

It is vital that we continue with our regular maintenance on the existing track and position ourselves for the long term. Our plans are to continue our sleeper renewals in concrete or steel. A number of sleepers under rail joints will be replaced in steel. The ex-QR steel sleepers for these locations have been cut and await welding of the "shoulders" for Pandrol clips. With some careful planning, it has been found that 3 joint sleepers can be fabricated from 2 ex-QR sleepers with no wasted off-cuts.

The monthly track work parties will generally be held on the third Saturday of the month and are scheduled for Saturday June, 19th July, 9th August (2nd Saturday) and 20th September 2014.

### **Position Vacant - Diesel Locomotive Driver on Saturdays**

As the current construction work is being undertaken at Peterson Road, we need the work train to transport tools, materials and people from Margaret Street to Peterson Road. Steve Baker normally drives the work train but is away from Mid-July to September, so without a locomotive driver there can be no progress at Peterson Road. We are keen to hear from any of our drivers that would like to assist and diversify their driving experience on Saturdays.

# **Operations, Sales And Marketing**

Terry Olsson, Operations, Sales and Marketing

Passenger numbers were again up slightly on this time last year, largely due to high passenger numbers on the 18 May running day. On this day we had two groups plus two birthday parties which kept everyone busy.

During May we attended the AMRA show at Doomben and unfortunately income was down approx. 25% on last year's figures. This was largely due to fewer people through the door, limited new products, and generally tough times.

We also attended the Toowoomba Model Railway show at the end of May and income was slightly up on last year as they had a slight increase in numbers through the door.

Both shows were unusual in that the actual number of sales was down with lengthy periods between sales. They were also unusual in that we normally make considerably more sales on the Saturday, whereas this year we sold as much on the Sunday as the Saturday. A big thank you to everyone who helped with these shows – without your help we could not have made the sales that we did.

During May and June our Gemco diesel again carried the work load with Netherdale out of service most of this time having the new wheel springs made and fitted. Apart from some minor work Netherdale is now ready for regular use again.

#### **Date Claimers:**

**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. Therefore we lots of help on this weekend.

**Sunday 31 August 2014** – We now have a car club visiting on this day so we are looking for a crew.

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**

	May 2014	June 2014
Paying Passengers	174	110
Guards Sheet	215	121

#### Sales Items

**Queensland Cab Rides** – Another excellent production by Water Street Productions, this time featuring the view from the loco cab on several Queensland Lines. Price: \$39.95 plus postage if required.



Lift off!. Melbourne's boiler being removed as restoration continues. May 2014 Ryan Thomas photographer.