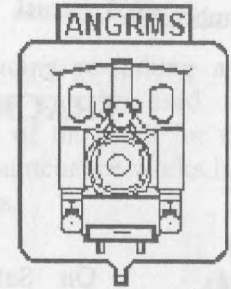




DURUNDUR RAILWAY BULLETIN



Newsletter of ...

The Australian Narrow Gauge Railway Museum Society

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TRACK MATTERS - By Greg Stephenson

Annual Track Inspection



On Saturday, 4th December 1999, we had our annual independent inspection of the condition of the running tracks of the Durundur Railway. The inspection was undertaken by David Pope - an experienced Civil Engineer who is employed by Queensland Railways. We are particularly fortunate in having David Pope donate his time and expertise as his role within Queensland Railways in the Track Standards Auditing Area means that there is no-one more suited to undertake these inspections. The practical advice offered also helps in expanding the knowledge of Society members in what are the critical items to be monitored.

These independent inspections also demonstrate our commitment to safety and are comparable to the independent boiler inspections that are arranged for the steam locomotives. These inspections are highly regarded as part of our Rail Safety Accreditation.

One of the main advantages of David Pope's inspections is that he prioritises any defects observed which allows us to concentrate our maintenance resources into areas that offer the greatest improvement in track condition. Due to our being able to better direct our efforts, his general comments were that the condition of the mainline has improved compared to the 1998 inspection and is much improved on the condition at the 1997 inspection.

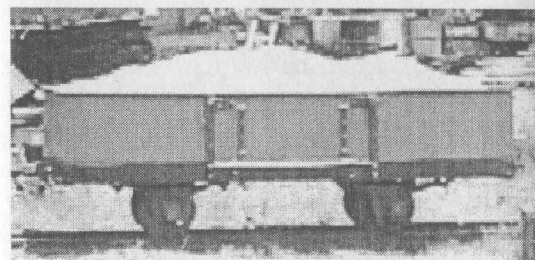
Around 45 sleepers in the mainline were marked for replacement. This is a considerable improvement on the 77 sleepers marked last year. Most of these are in isolated locations however some clusters of bad sleepers are located on the straight at the Peterson Road end of Freeman's Cutting and will receive the highest priority.

The siding to the compound continues to be of concern. Due to deterioration of the sleepers, the dog spikes were not holding causing the rail gauge to open beyond reasonable limits which could result in a derailment.

Some work needs to be undertaken on this siding including re-spiking and insertion of some "reclaimed" sleepers before the siding can be used for unrestricted access. This siding will be eliminated as part of the work for the redevelopment of the compound and the passing loops so maintenance works had been deliberately restricted on this siding for the last few years.

Trackwork Party of Saturday 11 December 1999

The following Saturday, a scheduled trackwork day concentrated on removing a "hollow" in Freeman's Cutting. The section of track was lifted about 150mm (6inches) and nine sleepers installed. Two of these were additional sleepers to correct the spacing. The section was then ballasted with nearly a full load of ballast being placed in this area. The day was interrupted by rain on several occasions and it is a credit to all those involved that the work was completed under the trying conditions.



This day also saw the return to "navvies" duties of Douglas Shire Tramway No.8 - the steel open wagon used for ballast. This had been removed from service for repainting and fitting of couplers in preparation for the projected movie.

It has been returned to the work train until required. The day also saw the first use of three steel wholestalk trucks on the work train. These were removed from the storage track and are now used for carrying sleepers and tools. Their low height makes them easier to load.

With the work completed on Freeman's Cutting, it has been possible to remove the speed restriction through this area and is the culmination of a concentrated effort of many trackwork days.

Year 2000 Trackwork Days

As a result of the progress on trackwork in the previous year and the extent of work still required, one Saturday a month will be allocated to trackwork. Initially this will concentrate on replacing sleepers before progressing into construction of the passing loops later in 2000.

The first trackwork day will be January 15, 2000. The trackwork days will then be the SECOND SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH which for 2000 will be February 12, March 11, April 8, May 13, June 10, July 8, August 12, September 9, October 14, November 11 and December 9.

It is only with your support that we can continue the progress of the Society and without a sound track we can't run trains! We look forward to seeing you on some of these days.

To be part of a Track WorkDay, simply turn up on site by 9am. Any amount of time you can offer would be gratefully accepted.

Greg Stephenson

OUR COLLECTION - By Ken McHugh



In the 21 years I've been associated with the Society, I have never been able to match up the name of one of our locos with what it looked like. But recently I came across a great little publication "A Guide to the Locomotives of ANGRMS" compiled by D Mewes in 1998. David has gathered some technical data, a brief history and mixed with this some of his own antidotal notes to form a "fact sheet" on most of our collection of locomotives. Taking this a step further, photographs have been taken of each loco and for the first time everyone can now read about a loco and see which one it refers to.

Throughout the year, I will present a different locomotive each month and where possible, provide a "before" photo. To kick off this month, I've chosen R.D.Rex and many thanks to Bill Blannin for the before photo on this occasion.

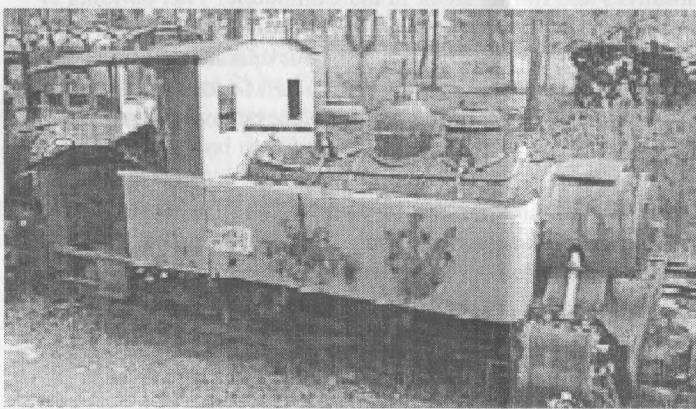
FACTS

Name	RD REX	Wheel Arrangement	0-4-2T
Built By	Perry Engineering, Adelaide, Australia	Weight	14tonnes
Build #	7650-49-1	Horse Power	
Year	1949	Cylinders	2 @ 10" x 14"
Drive Wheels	28"	B.P.	180psi



This is a photo of R.D.Rex in 1959 at Mossman with what appears to be a light goods train

R.D.Rex in 1958 at Mossman. Photo by Bill Blannin



R.D.Rex is currently located on the "middle" road of the Compound, 2nd from the Brisbane end.

BACKGROUND

R.D. Rex was built for the Douglas Shire Tramway operating between Mossman and Port Douglas. This Tramway, built in 1899, operated until 1959 hauling general goods, passengers, sugar cane and raw sugar.

The Mossman Sugar Mill took over the tramway in that year and R.D.Rex was retired to a park in Mossman a few years later.

After being donated to our Society in 1975, it was transported to Rocklea for storage before being moved to Woodford in 1979.

Next month will be Allison and so anyone with a good photograph of her, please contact me as soon as possible.

Ken McHugh

PRESIDENTS REPORT - By David Mewes

Happy New Year to all our members and readers!



1999 was a year that saw good progress at Woodford and, during the course of the year we planted the seeds for some major developments on our site.

During October, we made application to the Jupiter's Casino Community Benefit Fund for a grant to build a shed over the locomotives and rolling stock in the Compound. This building is desperately needed to help minimise deterioration of our valuable collection of locomotives and rolling stock. This building will also serve as a running shed for our operational locomotives. In the longer term it is intended to become an exhibition hall for our static locomotive and rolling stock displays. Results of this application will not be known until March this year.

During December we made application to the Caboolture Shire Council for a grant to erect a machine shop as an annexe next to the current workshop building. This will replace the current BLC storage shed that will be moved elsewhere as a secure storage shed. A pit road with a roof over the top will be built on the opposite side of the workshop building as a part of this project. Results of this application should be known about June/July this year.

In both cases "Career Solutions" of Caboolture have expressed an interest to undertake the construction of the buildings concerned. Career Solutions is a training and job placement agency in Caboolture, helping unemployed people to gain the skills necessary to help in their prospective employment opportunities. They also manage Work for the Dole schemes. Tony Lindsay and myself have had a number of meetings with senior Career Solutions staff and they are very keen to help our Society and, in turn, help their unemployed clients to gain new skills.

This issue sees a new editor take the reins of our magazine. I welcome Ken McHugh who is very keen to see the magazine develop further for our members and readers. Ken is a very enthusiastic supporter of the Society but finds with a young family, he cannot get to Woodford as often as he would like. Ken has offered his services as our Magazine Editor which is something he can do in his own time at home. (and thus continues to help the Society). A big thankyou to Laurie Erb who is standing down as Editor. He has done a great job over the years but other pressures now call on his time and have made it difficult for him to maintain a regular schedule for the magazine.

I appeal to all local members to consider helping the Society in some way. We particularly have a desperate need for volunteers on trackwork days that are held on the second Saturday of each month. The Engineering Branch will be looking at setting aside selected Saturdays as special work party days for other projects during each month. Our workshop staff under Leslie Beahan has a good team of workers who are helping Leslie in his activities in restoring and maintaining our locomotives and rolling stock. There is a constant need to maintain the grounds and gardens around the site. Simple tasks such as mowing and gardening are constantly needed. If you would like to find out how you can help then please do not hesitate to contact me.

It has been very gratifying to me during the past twelve months, to see the continuing (and in fact increasing) support of the local Woodford community and also the increasing support of the Caboolture Shire Council and staff. The Society has shown it is keen to be involved with the local community and supports events and activities that are important to the town of Woodford and the Shire of Caboolture.

We also congratulate Board Member, David Thornton and Society volunteer, Diane How on their recent marriage.

Our sincere condolences are extended to Board Member, Tony Lindsay following the recent passing of his mother. Tony was further devastated when his car was stolen from outside Paul Rollason's house the Saturday evening before Christmas. Police recovered the car a few days later, effectively stripped. Tony is now in the process of rebuilding his car.

ENGINEERING BRANCH

The lining out on PLEYSTOWE No.5 has now been completed. Our thanks go to Gordon Grieve from All Small Signs Woodford for the excellent artwork.

A rail rack is under construction at the Peterson Road end of the Margaret Street site. This is being built using lengths of 20lbs rail and will be used to house the point frogs and blades. Point throws and other pointwork parts will be stored in this area.

Ex-Douglas Shire Council all-steel 4-wheel open wagon No.8 is used on ballast train duties. This wagon is now joined by an ex-CSR all-steel 4-wheel wholestick cane truck as a tool wagon along with two steel framed wholestick cane trucks with wooden staunchions which will be used for sleeper transport.

A display area is also being built along the Margaret Street frontage of our site. This consists of a length of ballasted track in a fenced enclosure. At least three wagons will be placed on display here. Most likely these will be: -

- 1) Ex-CSR all-steel wholestick cane truck
- 2) 0Steel framed wholestick cane truck with wooden staunchions
- 3) Wooden wholestick cane truck.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Our January monthly meeting was held on Wednesday, 5th January. Entertainment took the form of a slide show presented by David Mewes showing scenes of ANGRMS activities since 1971. Some scenes caused some mirth and memories of people we have met and befriended over the years. It was good to reminisce with early scenes of our Woodford site and activities and achievements made.

Our next monthly meeting will be held on: -

Wednesday, 2nd February, 2000 commencing at 8.00pm
The meeting location is Scouting Association of Australia
32 Dixon Street
AUCHENFLOWER

We will also have our sales department at the meeting. Come along for genuine member's discounts!

SALES DEPARTMENT

We have a number of new books on sale, some in limited supply so be quick. These are MEMBERS PRICES.

A Queensland Sugar Cane Railway Album	\$15.00	R. Gough and B. Webber
Tasmania's Hagans	\$18.00	G. Murdoch
Powelltown	\$16.00	F. Stamford
Arsenic & Molasses	\$26.00	F. Stamford
Locomotive Profile Steam Cane Tramway Locomotives	\$29.00	Lindsay Crow and John Sargeant
Narrow Gauge at War Vol II	\$29.00	Keith Taylorson
The Light Track From Arras	\$24.00	T.R. Heritage (1931)
Bagnall Narrow Gauge Locomotives	\$19.00	Catalogue (1910)
Narrow Gauge Railways Two Feet and Under	\$27.00	Leslie S. Robertson (1898)
Light Railway Construction	\$12.00	E.R. Calthrop (1897)
BB18¼" Coffee Cup	\$10.00	
Train Whistle Blow'n - At Nambour!	\$28.00	Our own Video of our main loco. Have you got your copy yet?

The dates in brackets indicate the original publishing dates for these titles. These books are reprints, in some cases updated, by Plateway Press in the U.K.

Please let David Mewes know if you want a copy of any of these books as only a few copies of each have been obtained.

INTERESTING INTERNET SITES

The Internet site this month is www.lrrsa.org.au

This is the official site for the Light Railway Research Society of Australia. It has some very interesting information on timber tramways and sugar cane railways under the link – What is a Light Railway.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

It is that time of the year again to remind you that your annual Membership Subscriptions due on the 1st January 2000. Please refer to the enclosed notice for details. Prompt payment is greatly appreciated.

We are still not sure how the GST will impact on the Society. Steve Baker, our Treasurer, is liaising with our Society auditor, Kirby Leeke, on this issue. It appears that the Australian Tax Office is still not really sure how the tax will affect our activities either.

NOMINATIONS FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Don't don't forget that nominations for the Board of Directors close at 5pm on the 2nd February 2000. Nominations may be made on the form supplied with the December issue of the magazine or on a form in like format. Positions being sought are: -

President
Vice Presidents (2 positions)
Secretary
Treasurer
Board Members (2 positions)

David Mewes

ROSTER REPORT - By George McHugh

(George is our Senior Driver & Roster Clerk)



I have 3 things to report on. Firstly roster crews should have already received the January - March 2000 roster. If you haven't received your copy, please contact me as soon as possible.

Secondly, I would like to thank all those who participated in the Christmas / New Year Roster. Your commitment and willingness to assist throughout this special time made my job much easier.

Thirdly, each year I receive several bookings from organisations seeking a mid week train ride.

There are a few people I can (and do) call upon to assist on these days, but I would like to get a few extra names on the list so that I don't fall short. These bookings are financially beneficial to the Society and require the member to be on site less time than a standard Sunday running day. Similar to a standard running day, it is necessary to be accredited in the job you're performing but all in all it is usually a short, fun time.

Finally if anyone is asked or takes a telephone call from any organisation or individuals seeking a special running day or hire charges, please pass them on to me. I'll coordinate everything (inc cost). If this process can be followed, it will save us a lot of time and effort.

Thanks,

George McHugh

INTERESTING INTERNET **INFORMATION****Monthly Member Meetings**

8pm, 1st Wednesday of every Month
 Scouting Association of Australia
 32 Dixon Street, AUCHENFLOWER

Woodford Site

Margaret Street, Woodford, Queensland

Trackwork Parties 2nd Saturday of Each Month
General Work Parties Held every Saturday
Running Days Every Sunday 10 - 4pm

Key Contacts

NAME	EVENT	NUMBER
David Mewes	President & meetings	3273 2014 or mewesdj@powerup.com.au
Ken McHugh	DRB Editor / Webmaster	3269 5521 or kensuzy@bytesite.com.au
Paul Rollason	Safety and Training	3278 9110
Greg Stephenson	Track Workdays	3844 9269
George McHugh	Roster Clerk & Special Running Days Coordinator	3265 6834
Woodford	Phone in SM's Office	07 5496 1976

Internet

www.angrms.org.au

Number of times our homepage was visited in December 1999
 252

Key Dates

1/1/2000 Membership fees due
 15/1/2000 9am - Trackwork day, Woodford
 (special day over & above rostered days)
 2/2/2000 5pm - Nomination close for the ANGRMS Board of
 Directors
8pm - Monthly Meeting

COVER PHOTO - Some of the members who participated in the
 'Emergency Training Course'.