

Durundur Bulletin

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

Volume 43

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September/October 2022



ANGRMS' stand at AMRSQ Heritage Fair, Woodford Show Grounds 26 August 2022. Terry Olsson photographer.

Running Days: 1st and 3rd Sundays
Trackwork Saturdays: Saturday before the
second running day of the month
Work Days: Every Saturday as required

Our Safety Goal — No Injuries

ANGRMS: Margaret Street: Woodford (PO Box 1135, Woodford Qld 4514); Station Master's Office, Woodford (07) 5496 1976; ISSN 0158-785x, ABN 92 009 872 011, ACN 009 872 011



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General Meetings: **2022**: 18 Feb, 17 Jun, 21 Oct and 16 Dec, 7:30pm entry from 7:00pm. Combined with LRRSA at the BCC Library, park and enter at rear 107 Orange Grove Road, Coopers Plains; 10 minute walk from Coopers Plains Railway Station or a phone call to Dan Sheehan or Bob Gough for transport to the venue. Bus stop at the front of the shopping centre and Express buses run services from the stop.

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.

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

Communication is an essential part of safety. As well as taking the time to let others know what you are doing before and while undertaking a task, your feedback is always welcome. Remember there is a suggestion box in the Station Master's Office at Woodford Station and any suggestions will be discussed at the next board meeting.

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President's Report

Terry Olsson, President

Happy 50th Anniversary ANGRMS!!

ANGRMS was officially incorporated on 27 September 1972 making us 50 years young! Despite major events such as the Insurance crisis in the early 2000s and then COVID a couple of years ago we have survived! This is an incredible achievement for any organisation and I would like to thank everyone who has helped over the years. Running a railway is very much a team effort and we could not have done it without you,

We are holding a special lunch event at the Woodford Golf Club on Saturday 24 September to mark this social occasion. Prior to the lunch, we will be meeting at our Woodford station site where we will plant a ceremonial tree, officially open the Workshop annex, and name our ballast wagon 'Joe' after Joe Cohan-Cramp who was instrumental at the time in getting work started on it. I would like to thank Laurie Erb and his wife Carolyn for the tremendous effort they have put into organising this event.

For a whole range of reasons we have decided to cancel the planned open day on Sunday 2 October. Other commitments, including the unplanned but very much welcomed track training courses, have meant we simply would not be ready for an open day with all the extra work required before hand.

Instead, thanks to the generous support and incredible help from AMRA Qld (Australian Model Rail Association) we will be holding a model railway show in our loco shed instead. We will also now be operating our train on that day (in the open day plan we did not move any trains) but will not be dropping off or picking up from Woodford Gardens on this day. Because of this, and as an extra fund raiser, AMRA will be holding a sausage sizzle on this day.

Therefore we will need a lot of extra help on this day so please keep this day free.

After a comment I heard recently from a member I would like to clarify that the recent track workers we have had on site are from a training company and are only there while undertaking their training course. While it would be great if it happened, these are not a whole bunch of new ANGRMS' volunteers.

While they have been of incredible help with our trackwork, it has just meant we have been doing different tasks, etc. We are still just as busy as ever and help is always needed.

Thanks to an invitation from LRRSA and the efforts of Bob Gough, a number of ANGRMS members visited Russell Savage's private railway near Cooroy on Sunday 11 September. All I can say is this railway is amazing! A big thank you to Russell for allowing us to visit and hosting us for the day.

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Sadly I need to report the passing of long time member Bill Blannin. Bill passed away on Thursday 11 August after a long battle with Dementia. Blll was born on 3 July 1932 and grew up in the Eagle Junction/Toombul area. At the time of his death Bill was 90 years old and a very happy man right to the end.

Bill was as a good worker at ANGRMS for many years, and continued to be a supporter in the later years when his health prevented him from attending. Bill was also a member of QPSR at Swanbank for a number of years, and was heavily involved in AMRA at Zillmere. He originally displayed model train layouts at their annual shows before in later years providing a very interesting photo display. He also looked after the exhibitor's tea room at the shows and it was always a pleasure to go in there and be welcomed by Bill.

Several of us represented ANGRMS at Bill's memorial service at AMRA club rooms at Zillmere on Saturday 17 September. I would like to thank AMRA, and in particular Bob Mawson, for organising this event.

Remember — Safety First

Safety and Training Report

Dave Caruzzo, Safety Manager

RBT (ANGRMS has a zero tolerance on alcohol and non-prescription drug use)

No Adverse results were recorded on RBT testing on 18/09/2022.

Medical booklets

A reminder for those who participate in activities on site at Woodford, medical booklets are available as an entirely voluntary way of having your important medical and other information on site in case of an incident. These booklets are kept in a locked box and are confidential. Information will only be provided to emergency services if needed, but if you chose to do so, can also be used as a useful way of having any medicine, etc., you are on pre-recorded if you are a rail safety worker and subject to ONRSR (Office of National Rail Safety Regulator) random drug and alcohol testing.

If you have previously provided a medical booklet, please contact Terry Olsson or myself and check it is up to date. If you have not previously provided one (and wish to do so) please contact Terry Olsson or myself. This a voluntary request.

Training

Chris Henderson has now commenced training as a diesel fireman.

Summer safety reminder

With the warmer weather members are reminded to be aware of snakes. Never put your hands under something to lift it if you cannot see under it. Qld Health Poisons Helpline is 13 11 26 – if life threatening call triple 000.

Trial – loco whistle code entering Woodford Station Yard

With the recent clearing of land for the housing development in Norm's old block we have found that we are hearing the loco whistle as it departs Peterson Road more clearly now. This, combined with the construction of the workshop annex, means there is an increased risk that station staff at Woodford station may not be aware the train is approaching if the usual single whistle blast is used.

Therefore, we are trialling the use of two short whistle blasts when entering Woodford Station Yard.

ANGRMS' Rail Safety Policy

At the last Board meeting, the ANGRMS Rail Safety Policy was reviewed. This policy was found to still be applicable and is as follows:

It is the policy of The Australian Narrow Gauge Railway Museum Society to conduct our business in a manner that includes proper consideration of personal injury, property damage, train operation safety, workplace health and hygiene and to comply with relevant legislation whilst continually improving the way ANGRMS works.

Workshop Annex Door

As part of the construction of the wheelchair friendly concrete entry ramp into the door on the side of the new workshop annex, we are also erecting a barrier fence on the railway track side. The intention of this barrier is to stop people exiting the workshop annex from walking directly onto the adjacent track.

General

With the drier weather approaching members are reminded to take extra care when using equipment which might emit sparks such as grinders, etc.

The current fire rating should be reviewed before beginning any operations. The Australian Fire Danger Rating System (AFDRS) uses four ratings – Moderate, High, Extreme and Catastrophic. As well as roadside signs on the way to Woodford, the current fire rating can be found on the BOM website.

Woodford platform has recently been water blasted to reduce the hazard of growth buildup, etc., on the concrete as it can be slippery when wet.

Track Matters

Greg Stephenson, Track Day Coordinator

Certificate II in Rail Infrastructure Course

The fourth class of trainees undertook their practical experience from 27 June to 6 July 2022. The training is provided under the "Tracking For Queensland" program and funded under the Skilling Queenslanders for Work initiative. This project is run by Movement TwentyTwo Inc with the Registered Training Organisation (RTO) CERT Training delivering the rail specific training.

For some time, we had planned to rectify some kinks in the mainline at the start of Freeman's Cutting. Closer inspection revealed that when the mainline was originally laid some short lengths of previously curved rail had been used in this location. The best solution was to replace the rails. Fortuitously, we had 2 long lengths of suitable straight rail that we had recovered from Ingham in 2013. Prior to the trainees commencing, we cut the existing rails and drilled holes for fish plate bolts and installed temporary fish plates. For the trainees' exercise of changing rails and maintaining fish plates, they removed the original rails and inserted the new rails. This also included replacing all timber sleepers in a 50metre section to connect to the work completed on the previous courses.

They gained further rail change-out and fish plate maintenance experience when replacing all remaining timber sleepers in the passing loop at Woodford Station. They also replaced all remaining timber sleepers in the head shunt at Woodford Station.

To put this into some context of what it means for our railway, in January 2022 54.1% of the mainline sleepers were steel or concrete. After 4 practical classes 79.6% of these sleepers are now steel or concrete. The Woodford Station passing loop is now fully concrete or steel sleepers. The fourth group of trainees completes the current training commitment of Movement TwentyTwo Inc. However, they have received funding for an additional 100 trainees in the new year.

Other Works

With the significant commitment from ANGRMS members as part of the Rail Infrastructure Course, other activities on the mainline have been restricted to regular inspections and vegetation control. However, on the entry road to the workshop, a section was renewed with 8 ex-Ingham "square hole" sleepers with gauge spikes.

As part of adding the annex to the existing workshop, the former BLC wagon body shed was demolished. The Peterson Road end of this shed contained various track tools and components like fish plate bolts and nuts. Some time ago, a $3.0m \times 2.7m$ garden shed was donated by former member Geoff Wilson. Behind the CWA Cottage, a concrete slab was poured in conjunction with the floor slab for

the workshop annex. The garden shed has now been assembled, fitted out with shelves to provide suitable storage for the track tools and components.

Operations, Sales and Marketing

Terry Olsson, Operations, Sales and Marketing

We have been lucky weather wise during the last two months so patronage has been good. As we move into the warmer weather, as per normal we can expect passenger numbers to drop off.

On 19 July we ran a special charter for one of Scott McGregor's railway tours. This worked very well and hopefully we can get more of these charters.

Redcliffe Community Bus continue to bring regular visitors on running days, with passenger travelling one way to Woodford Gardens where they have lunch. We also had a visit from Cross Country Tours on the first running day in August. These visits on public running days certainly help boost our numbers.

As well as the model railway show on the first running day in October, on the second running day in October we have two bus visits plus a group from Petrie Lions visiting thanks the efforts of Geoff Howes.

We exhibited a model railway layout at the Pine Rivers Model and Hobby expo in early July. I would like to thank AMRA for their assistance preparing the layout before the show, as well as assisting during the show. These shows are a very important part of our marketing with a good number of brochures given out.

On 26 and 27 August we had a display at the AMRSQ Heritage Fair at the Woodford Show Grounds. A big thanks to Morry who looked after this show over the weekend. Being in our backyard so to speak it was important that we attended.

A shortage of operations staff continues to be an issue so if you would like to help or know someone who would like to help with this society activity please let myself or one of the other Board members know.

Date Claimers

ANGRMS/AMRA Woodford Model Train Show – Sunday 2 Oct: As advised in the Presidents report, instead of an open day we will be holding a model railway show in our loco shed. This model railway show is being sponsored by AMRA. As we are also running public trains that day we will need as many helpers as we can get.

AMRA Brisbane Model Train Show – Saturday 6 and Sunday 7 May 2023: We now received the application form for this show in the Brisbane Show Grounds. This is our major show for the year so please mark these dates in your diary. Because the Sunday is also our public running day at Woodford we will need as much assistance as we can get. Also please remember help is needed on the Friday to set up.

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Monthly Statistics

	July 2022	August 2022
Paying Passengers	488	408
Guards Sheet	546	453



New Signal Box on Russell Savage's private railway near Cooroy, visited by LRRSA and ANGRMS members, 11 August 2022. Terry Olsson photographer.