



Durundur **Bulletin** *Railway*

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

Volume 44

Number 384

November/December 2023



Netherdale Test Run 10 years ago. R Thomas 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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Donations and Bequests

Donations to the Society's Museum Fund are tax deductible. Donations can be made either by Direct Transfer, cash or cheque made payable to the "Australian Narrow Gauge Railway Museum Society" and posted to the PO box above. 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.

President's Report

Terry Olsson, President

We recently had an issue where some information was posted on a Facebook site which could have caused problems with one of our sponsors.

Therefore I would like to remind all members that any info posted on the ANGRMS' members Facebook site is confidential and is for ANGRMS members ONLY. If you wish to distribute any info from this Facebook page contact Ryan or myself for permission first. Similarly for anything you hear or are told on work days, etc.

We will be having another track training course on our site from 23 November to 1 December inclusive. Please be aware that weekday access to our Woodford site will be restricted during this time so please check with Ryan or Greg Stephenson if you are planning to visit our site during this time.

Tony Lindsay, Paul Rollason, and Ryan have been working on fitting a new exhaust pipe to Goondi. Overhaul of this historic locomotive will take time due to the demands of other work and limited volunteer availability.

As well as the obvious things like maintaining our track and rollingstock, there are numerous other tasks which need to be done including maintenance on our buildings. During the last couple of months Greg Stephenson has been steadily working away on replacing the rotten rear steps and patio timbers on the rear of the cottage.

We are always looking for additional volunteers so if you would like to assist, or know of someone who would, please let myself or one of the board members know. There are a whole range of tasks which need doing and a lot of them do not require any special skills.

How time flies – July this year marked 10 years since we were in Ingham gathering our first concrete sleepers, while October marked 10 years since Netherdale was returned to service.

It is almost that time of year again. This edition of DRB includes a notice about our annual Christmas get together which will again be held on site at Woodford on Saturday 9 December. Please come along, relax, and enjoy the facilities we all put a lot of effort into maintaining during the year.

Christmas BBQ — Saturday 9 December 12:30pm on site at Woodford

We are again having a lunch function. This will avoid the likely late-afternoon storms and assist those members who wish to get home before dark and the traffic builds up on the highway.

We will be having a cold meal again this year (ham and salad, etc.). If you have special dietary requirements please let us know. While ANGRMS has some chairs, bring along your comfortable camp chair if you prefer.

We have all had a busy year this year so please come along and relax. We put a lot of time and effort into maintaining and operating our railway, so let's sit back and enjoy it!

Remember — Safety First

Safety and Training Report

Dave Caruzzo, Safety Manager

Random Breath Tests

Random Breath Tests were conducted on all Rail Safety Workers on 3 and 17 September running days with no adverse results.

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

Training

Training of Chris Henderson as a diesel driver has continued while Geoff Howes has commenced training as a guard. Roland Paroz (who has been a guard with Queensland Rail has been assessed as an ANGRMS trainer for guards.

Assurance Activities

As a requirement of our accreditation, and as part of our on-going commitment to safety, the Safety Manager undertakes assurance checks at intervals throughout the year on things like our Safety Management System, Risk Register, etc. These are then presented to the Board who discuss them at a board meeting. We have now completed our assurance activities for 2023.

Summer Weather

With the recent onset of the hot summer weather, members are reminder to take regular rest breaks and keep up their fluids by drinking lots of water. When you are busy it is easy to not drink enough water – make sure you make a point of stopping at regular intervals to rest and have a drink. Where possible work in the shade.

Summer also means a high fire danger so take extra care and check for any fire bans, etc.

Track Matters

Greg Stephenson, Track Day Coordinator

Kolin Sugar Beet Railway (Kolínská řepářská drážka) - An Interlude in the Czech Republic

Recently, I attended the World Road Congress in Prague in the Czech Republic. With our return flights booked for Monday, we had the weekend to explore. On Sunday, 8 October 2023, our adventure began with a Metro ride from I P Pavlova to the Prague Railway Station where we caught a Czech Railways' service to

Budapest in Hungary. After a 45minute trip, we alighted at the first stop, Kolin where we caught a local bus for the 2km trip to the Kolín-Sendražice terminus of the Kolin Sugar Beet Railway.

The original Kolin Sugar Beet Railway was constructed in 1894 by Adolf Richter, a grandson of the Knight Frantisek Horsky. It was the oldest sugar beet line in Bohemia. A 10.6 km line with a 0.9 km branch line was used to carry sugar beet to the Kolin Sugar Refinery and survived into the early 1960s. When the line closed, the track and anything made of steel was sold for scrap and its wooden wagons were sold to serve as sheds in gardens and farms. All that remained was the old railway alignment.

A Civic Association was established in 2000 to reconstruct the oldest part of the railway. Supported by various sponsors 4.5 km of the railway from the terminus in Kolín-Sendražice to Býchory has been restored. The majority of the railway was built by the Association members, who also undertook the reconstruction of the buildings, engines, carriages, and wagons. The grand opening of the first restored section took place on 23 June 2007. By 2015 further stages brought the railway to the current terminus in Bychory.



An open wagon with provision for wheelchairs and prams and racks for bicycles. KSBR website.

Trains operate on weekends and all bank holiday from 1 May to mid-October – our visit was the last regular operating day for the season. There are six return services per day departing at 9:45am, 11:00a., 12:15.m, 1:30pm, 2:45pm and 4:00pm. There are one steam and four diesel locomotives and, depending on the

weather conditions, 4 open or 4 roofed and heated carriages together with 2 carriages for the disabled, prams and cyclists.



"Kacka" 0-4-0T Steam Locomotive BS 80 in the loco shed. Built in 1951 by CKD Sokolovo Praha Liben. KSBR website.

Only steam or diesel are provided on any running day in accordance with a published schedule. The train fares reflect the type of locomotive in service on the day. It is interesting that there is a fare for dogs who seem to be less concerned about the type of locomotive as the same fare applies to steam or diesel! One Australian Dollar is approximately 14 CZK.

	Steam Engine	Diesel Engine	Trolley (to Sendražice)
Adults	230 CZK	180 CZK	40 CZK
Kids (6 – 15 years)	130 CZK	110 CZK	30 CZK
Retired, student	130 CZK	110 CZK	30 CZK
Family (2 adults + 2 – 3 kids)	680 CZK	550 CZK	110 CZK
Dog	50 CZK	50 CZK	20 CZK

In a country where it costs 10 to 20 CZK to use a public toilet, it was reassuring to see that "Toilets are placed on the first floor of the main building. You may also find a barrier free WC" and "At the Býchory station are placed two chemical toilets, also barrier free and all toilets are free."

As we watched operations, it became apparent that apart from the locomotive driver the train crew were children who undertook their duties under the watchful

eyes of the driver. At 16 years old, our tour guide, who could speak English, was a veteran of six years' service with the railway and referred to the train crew as "kids"! He acted as translator when we were introduced to President who was a founding member of the Association. They take a lead from the well-known "Children's Railway" in Hungary and have undertaken training activities and exchanges between the two railways.

Talking with their President, it was obvious that they share many similar issues as our railway. Apart from the basic formation, they have had to establish all their own infrastructure, buildings and rollingstock. Whilst the children play a big part in their train operations, they always require "adult" volunteers for the heavy manual tasks like track work and skilled restoration work. Their main customer base is families with children, and with their rollingstock and operation a ride longer than the current 4.5 km wasn't justified. They only have one steam locomotive, and really need at least one more as back-up to ensure that a steam locomotive is available on advertised steam train days.

Our guide was intrigued that someone from Australia knew about their railway, let alone managed to find their way to ride their train. It was through the internet that I found their website (<https://en.reparskadrazka.cz/>) which is available in English and how to make the various travel arrangements and connections. Visiting the Kolin Sugar Beet Railway and discovering the similarities with the operations of the Woodford Railway Museum was a highlight of my trip to the Czech Republic.

Operations, Sales and Marketing

Terry Olsson, Operations, Sales and Marketing

While we had good passenger numbers in September, by the last running day in October summer temperatures had arrived. This resulted in October figures being down compared to previous months, a trend expected to continue over summer.

The first running day in September coincided with the Moreton Bay Regional Council Heritage Festival. This helped boost our numbers that day and it was also Father's Day.

While we were not been able to drop off passengers at Woodford Gardens on two of the running days in September/October, we did have three car club visits during this time as compensation. One of these was the Pontiac car club which, thanks to Chris Malone, usually visits us at least once a year. Visits by car clubs (or other groups) are a great boost with little or no extra effort on our part so if you know of any groups please encourage them to visit.

As noted below, we are now back having a display at the Pine Rivers Model Train and Hobby Expo at the end of November. Any assistance will be greatly appreciated.

A shortage of operations staff continues to be an issue on public running days 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.

Monthly Statistics

	September 2023	October 2023
Paying Passengers	334	244
Guards Sheet	446	205

Date Claimers

PINE RIVERS MODEL TRAIN & HOBBY EXHIBITION – Saturday 25 and Sunday 26 November 2023.

We had previously decided not to attend as we could not guarantee being able to get a layout to this show. However the show organisers have since contacted us with a vacant spot and we will now have a photo display and brochure distribution.

I am now looking for helpers over these two days to assist with this excellent opportunity for promoting our railway. Please let me know as soon as possible if you can help.



Track Training Course 8 September 2023. R Thomas Photographer.