



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 45

Number 385

January/February 2024



First passenger train over 100% steel/concrete sleepers, 3 December 2023. 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



Terry Olsson	President, Operations, Sales and Marketing	m: 0429 100 911 terryolsson1@hotmail.com
Dave Caruzzo	Safety Manager	m: 0436 372 318 dcaruzzo2ft@outlook.com
Ian Thompson	Secretary	m: 0421 239 309 ianthompson359@gmail.com
John Parnell	Treasurer	m: 0419 676 084 parnell.clayfield@gmail.com
Greg Stephenson	Track Day Coordinator	m: 0423 417 326 greg.stephenson@outlook.com.au
Brian Webber	Special Running Days, Group Bookings	(07) 3354 2140, bwebber@tpg.com.au
Lynn Zelmer	Webmaster, DRB Editor	lynn@zelmeroz.com

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

I hope you all had a great Christmas and have a fantastic new year.

2023 has just flown by and it has been another busy one for ANGRMS. A big shout out and thank you to each and every member who helped in any way during the year. You can all be very proud of yourselves. For such a small group it never ceases to amaze me how much we achieve with so few.

Having said that we are still desperately short of volunteers on both running days and work days. If you are not already doing so, or know of someone who might be interested, please come along and help out. Even if it is only one day a month for example it is still a big help. As noted in my Sales and Marketing report, there are lots of ways you can still help even if you have trouble getting to site, cannot carry out heavy work, etc. If we can get enough people interested we can also commence mid-week work days.

DATE CLAIMER – The **2024 AGM** will be held at our Woodford Railway site commencing at 2pm on Saturday 30 March. Nomination forms will be sent out shortly so please consider standing for the ANGRMS Board and giving some existing Board members a well-earned break.

As can be seen in Greg's track report, thanks to the help provided by the RTO we are now six years ahead of our track target!! With just the headshunt points at Margaret Street end of Woodford platform remaining in timber sleepers, a significant milestone was reached when the passenger trains on 3 December travelled over 100% concrete and steel sleepers!!

Sadly we recently learned of the passing of Ian Harper. Thank you Ian for remembering us in your will. Our condolences go out to Ian's family.

With the focus having to be on the track training courses as they are an opportunity too good to pass up on, unfortunately rollingstock work has been limited over the last few months.

As mentioned in Davo's report Chris Henderson has been undertaking training for diesel driver while Geoff Howes has been undertaking training as guard. A big thank you to both of them for stepping up, and once trained they will be welcome boost to operations.

Ray Williams, who has been in charge of the Woodford Fire Station for many, many years retired at the end of 2023. A big thank you to Ray for his help and support over the years and we wish him a long and happy retirement.

The fridge in the cottage died in the extreme heat recently and I would like to thank Shane Yore for donating a replacement.

Remember — Safety First

Safety and Training Report

Dave Caruzzo, Safety Manager

Random Breath Tests

RBTs were conducted on the 19 November and 3 December running days with no adverse results.

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

Training

Chris Henderson continued training as driver on Netherdale and Geoff Howes continued training as Guard on running days over the reporting period. Thanks to Terry Olsson and Shane Yore for overseeing those training for their respective Rail Safety Worker positions.

Steve Baker was passed by ANGRMS Board as Station Master after his reassessment.

Building and Grounds

Moreton Bay Regional Council (MBRC), now City of Moreton Bay, conducted a termite inspection (07/11/2023) within the lease area, infected sites identified were treated.

Fatigue - Heat Stress

Queensland summer weather can produce high temperatures and high humidity. As we progress through summer, the number of warmer days will increase, increasing the risk of experiencing a heat related illness such as heat stress.

Heat stress occurs when the body cannot control its temperature and it begins to rise internally.

Symptoms of heat stress include heavy sweating, flushed skin, dizziness, persistent headache and nausea/vomiting. If you feel any of these symptoms let those around you know.

Factors influencing heat related illnesses include:

1. Environmental factors – higher air temperature, higher humidity, low air flow, low wind speed;
 2. Work factors – the type of work occurring (hot works), heat sources (reflective surfaces), clothing/PPE requirements preventing cool air or the ability to drink water, the length of a task when in direct sunlight;
 3. Personal factors – age, acclimatisation, pre-existing medical conditions, level of fitness.
- Heat Stress can affect anyone of any age.
 - Heat Stress may take affect some time after the event.
 - Keep cool and stay hydrated (drink water often).

- Rest if you feel exhaustion.
- DO NOT operate any machinery or keep working, REST.
- If you continue to feel unwell, tell someone, the safety and well being of all at ANGRMS is a priority.
- We should always be aware of people riding the train in adverse heat conditions. The Guard's kit includes water carried on the passenger train, bottled water available at the Margaret Street platform.

In case of a life-threatening situation call triple zero (000) and stay on the phone for advice.

Potential Fire Risk

In the event of a Fire Ban, equipment such as welders, grinders, BBQ, or anything that has potential to produce a spark SHOULD NOT BE USED. To check for current bans search on the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) website — Queensland Fire Danger Ratings (Southeast Coast).

Track Matters

Greg Stephenson, Track Day Coordinator

Certificate II in Rail Infrastructure Course

This year's final intake of trainees from Movement TwentyTwo Inc were onsite from 23 November to 1 December 2023. Registered Training Organisation (RTO) CERT Training again delivered the rail specific training.

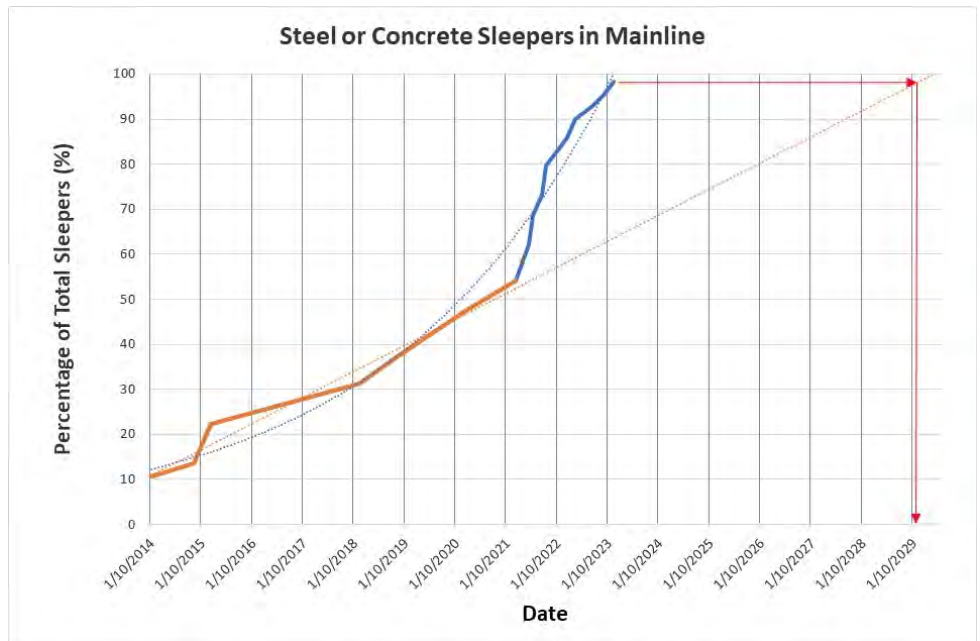
This group reconstructed the track through Peterson Road Station. When the main line is relocated for the future extension, the track at the current station will be a dead-end siding.

The existing 60ld/yd rail was recovered for use on the future mainline and replaced with 42lb/yd rail. We had earlier prepared transition rails which they installed beyond the "Covid Junction" points. All remaining timber sleepers were removed and the whole section completed with round hole concrete sleepers recovered from Ingham in 2013. New ballast was placed, the track lifted and lined and the ballast packed. This exercise renewed 65m of track and covered most of the core competencies required in replacing sleepers and fasteners, lifting and moving rails and installing fish plated joints. The final day was spent at Woodford Station gaining experience using the correct tools to install and remove Pandrol 'e' clips and learning the basic principles of servicing points.

Although no dates have been set, it is expected that there will be 4 intakes of trainees in 2024. Please remember that this training is under the control of the RTO — not ANGRMS — meaning that access to the rail corridor is restricted during these times.

Progress Review

The conclusion of this course marks the completion of two years of our participation with Movement TwentyTwo Inc and CERT Training in the practical component of the Certificate II in Rail Infrastructure. At the end of this course, 98.2% of sleepers in the mainline are steel or concrete with just the 18 timber sleepers in the head shunt points at Woodford Station to be replaced. The steel bearers have been fabricated and await the next course for their installation. The following chart shows that our long-term renewal rate from 2014 to 2021 had been around 100 sleepers per year as shown in the "orange" line. Assuming that we could continue at that rate, which was becoming more challenging each year, the "orange" dotted line was the predicted progress. The "blue" line shows the progress since the courses commenced. Through participation in the courses, we are where we might have expected to be in October 2029, ie 6 years earlier.



As well as the mainline, the passing loop at Margaret Street station, the Workshop head shunt and some of the Workshop points have been re-sleepered. As well as the trainees benefiting from the practical experience, we have also learnt many skills in working with larger groups of people from many cultural backgrounds.

Whilst this has been very good progress, it hasn't come without significant involvement and expenditure from the Society. To maximise the benefit of the

trainees availability, the works need to be planned and appropriate material sourced and fabricated. Special thanks are due to Ryan Thomas and the workshop team who have been cutting and welding steel sleepers for point work and fabricating square head bolts for the ex-Ingham round hole concrete sleepers.

Those who have contributed to purchase of materials, especially additional prestressed concrete sleepers and their collection from Isis Sugar Mill in Childers, have allowed these works to proceed. Ballast from Bracalba Quarry has added to the value of the training as well as the quality of the completed works. Ralph Cumner continues to play a valuable role with his truck and backhoe.

The efforts of those who have helped in the day-to-day activities when the trainees are on-site cannot be praised enough. Without that commitment, the outcome for the trainees and the work completed would be seriously diminished.

Operations, Sales and Marketing

Terry Olsson, Operations, Sales and Marketing

Unfortunately the hot weather really set in during November and December, resulting in a drop in patronage. At the end of September we had been averaging 192 passengers per running day, but the lower patronage since then meant we dropped to an average of 169 passengers per running day by the end of the year. The tough economic times of late have certainly not helped.

The 17 December running day was our worst one patronage wise for the year with only 46 passengers carried. This was due to a combination of reasons – extreme heat with heat wave warnings, no power or phone all day on the Saturday due to storm damage in the area (we had to do a Facebook post Saturday evening saying we weren't sure if we would have credit card facilities), and being the lead up to Christmas.

During 2023 we carried a total of 3970 passengers compared to 4416 during 2022. While this is a drop of around 9%, if you take into account missing one running day during 2023 as first one for 2023 was New Years Day, that figure reduces to around 5% drop. Considering the tough economic times this is still a good result.

I would like to thank everyone not only in the operations team but those who work behind the scenes for their help and professionalism during the year. Things like Brian and Geoff who showing passengers around behind the scenes has proved to be popular and helps with the "entertainment/tourism" aspect of our operation.

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

I would like to thank Steve Malone and Graeme Prideaux (photo right) who stepped up at short notice to look after the ANGRMS stand at the Strathpine Model Railway show 25 November 2023. Steve provided a narrow gauge layout which proved very popular. Being mid-way through a track training course at Woodford that weekend Steve and Graeme's help was very much appreciated. This is an excellent example of how members who struggle to get to Woodford can help the society in other ways.



Presentation of our site is a very important value adding aspect of our public operations. Samantha's improvements to the Woodford and Peterson Road stations, plus the gardens/plants Ryan and Elsie have been doing, are more examples of tasks members can assist with that don't involve railway skills, training, etc., etc.

Date Claimers

AMRA BRISBANE MODEL TRAIN SHOW – Saturday 4 and Sunday 5 May 2024.

This show is now only our major marketing and sales event for the year, meaning it is a significant income source both directly and indirectly. Because we also have a public running day on the Sunday, and at this stage do not know how we will be positioned in regard to 2024 track courses, we really need a lot of help that weekend – not just to set up and dismantle, but also during the show. Please mark this weekend in your diaries now — do not leave it to the usual few who are also trying to do a lot of other society activities.

Sales Items

We have recently acquired some metal medallions (They are officially called Railway Coins but other than being round are more like a medallion). They have a steam cane loco on one side and a cane diesel on other side. They come with a small plastic mount so you can display them on a shelf, etc. Cost: \$18.90 plus postage.

Monthly Statistics

	November 2023	December 2023
Paying Passengers	177	97
Guards Sheet	228	128