ANGRMS

Durundur Railway Bulletin

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

Volume 47 Number 402 November/December 2026

Mark working on Miallo, 17 September 2026. Terry Olsson photographer.

Running Days: 1st and 3rd Sundays

Trackwork: Saturday before 3rd Sunday

Work Days: Every Saturday as required

Rolling Stock/Mechanical Work Day: last Sunday

Our Safety Goal — No Injuries

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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.

* Note that from 30 November 2026 we will be unable to accept cheques.

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

Sadly, I have to report of the passing of long-time member Robert Dow on 6 October – our condolences go out to Bob's family.

As well as being a financial life member of ANGRMS, Bob was at one time the Queensland Coordinator for LRRSA (Light Railway Research Society of Australia) – I have fond memories of attending meetings at Mt Gravatt Library where we would hear all about the latest light railways news as well as what books LRRSA were working on. With the assistance of others like Danny and Owen, there were also some great excursions during Bob's time inspecting a number of old light railway sites.

In later years Bob founded "Rail Back on Track", the predecessor of the current "Better Transport Queensland". What began as a forum for rail enthusiasts grew into a powerful voice for better public transport across Queensland, helping shape public conversation on everything from Go Card to major projects such as the Springfield Line and Cross River Rail.

As can be seen elsewhere in this edition of DRB, we will be holding our annual Christmas get together on Saturday 12 December. We spend a lot of time and effort maintaining our Woodford site – let's sit back, relax and enjoy it. For catering purposes please let Elsie know if you will be attending by the preceding Sunday – which is a running day.

On 11 September I had the privilege of representing ANGRMS at the official launch of the Krauss locomotive display at Buderim on the Sunshine Coast. The Buderim-Palmwoods Heritage Tramway Incorporated group have done a fantastic job preserving this historic locomotive which worked on the 2'6" gauge Palmwoods to Buderim tramway which operated from 1914 to 1935. The locomotive is on display in the main street of Buderim 24/7 and is well worth a visit. Aaron from ANGRMS assisted with repainting the locomotive prior to display.

A significant amount of our time is spent reviewing (and lobbying for needed changes) to various draft standards and other documents. One of these is the 2024 NTC medical standard which introduced the Stop Bang sleep apnea testing – which is having a massive negative impact on both T&H railways and commercial type railways, etc. Unfortunately, this requirement was introduced as a one-size-fits-all with no provision within the same category for the massive variation in risk of the various railways across Australia.

A big thank you to Ryan and Laurie Foley who, along with myself, have spent a huge amount of time challenging the introduction of this requirement and its one-size-fits-all approach. Therefore, it was very pleasing to attend the ATHRA

webinar on this topic after the ATHRA AGM on 12 October and find ATHRA is now lobbying for change when it comes to low risk T&H railways.

In addition to what Greg has reported elsewhere in this edition, there has been a lot of other activity on site. Aaron, Peter and Davo have continued cleaning up the area down near the creek, as well as other parts of the site – including cleaning buildings, cutting back vegetation near buildings, and planting grass in parts of the picnic area.

Mark Dorman has continued work on the static restoration of Miallo, while Aaron and his helpers have been powering along with the work on Mossman. If you have not seen it lately, have a look when you are next on site – the new engine compartment doors look fantastic!!

Like everything now days, there is always the paperwork!! Ryan has continued steadily plodding away on the certification documentation for Mossman along with some other items on site.

On behalf of the Board and myself, I hope you all have a great Christmas and New Year. A big thank you to everyone who has helped the society throughout the year in a whole range of ways.

Member's Christmas Get Together

On Saturday 12 December we will be holding our annual Christmas get together from 12.30pm on site at Woodford.

Being a "warm" time of year, we will be having a cold meal again this year (ham and salad, etc.).

With the likelihood of storms later in the afternoon at this time of year, we will again be having a lunch. This will also assist those members who wish to get home before dark and the traffic build up on the highway.

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!

While ANGRMS has some chairs, bring along your comfortable camp chair if you prefer.

Enquiries: Terry Olsson Ph 0429100911 or e-mail terryolsson1@hotmail.com

For catering purposes, please RSVP to Elsie Knight (ph 0428 446 768 – text preferred, or email ekknight1@outlook.com.au). Elsie can also be contacted on site on public running days. If you have not already done so, please RSVP by Sunday 6 December.

Remember — Safety First

Safety and Training Report

Dave Caruzzo, Safety Manager

Drug and Random Breath Tests

Random alcohol testing was conducted during the reporting period with no adverse results.

Training

Bob Freebairn has completed his training hours as Diesel driver and completed the Theory Test. Next time he is on site will undertake the practical test from ANGRMS Assessor Mark Dorman.

Once Bob has passed that last test, the Board will officially approve him as an ANGRMS diesel driver at its next Board meeting.

Mark Dorman has finalised a new Shunting Manual which will be officially adopted at the next Board meeting.

Safety Reminder

When a train driver sees someone near the track who is not there performing shunting, etc., it is very important that they know you have seen them.

Therefore, if your duties require you to be near an active track and you see a train/locomotive approaching let the driver know you have seen them by raising your right arm above your head. The driver will normally blow the whistle when they see you but don't necessarily wait for that or rely on that. The responsibility rests with you to let the driver know, and to move to a safe place well back from the track (at least 3m).

Site Awareness

As the weather warms up, be aware and take care when you move around the site. A lot of areas don't see use every day and these areas may have become a haven for snakes, spiders, and ticks, etc. Never just put your hands under something to lift it unless you can see/have checked underneath.

Due to the ongoing development in the area our site could also become a haven for displaced animals.

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

Track Matters

Greg Stephenson, Track Day Coordinator

Trackwork

Whilst the timber sleepers from Point #22 to the inspection pit at the workshop have been replaced with prestressed concrete sleepers previously recovered

from Victoria Sugar Mill, Ingham, final packing and shaping of the ballast remains to be completed.

On the storage siding from Point #22 towards the workshop, timber sleepers have been replaced and existing concrete sleepers respaced. Recovering, screening and sorting the existing ballast for re-use has been a time-consuming process. Because the prestressed concrete sleepers have a smaller surface area than the timber sleepers, closing up the spacing helps in distributing the rail loads to the supporting ground and reduce the volume of ballast required. Final packing and shaping of the ballast had been scheduled for Saturday 17 October but was postponed due to wet weather.

To replace the remaining sleepers on this siding, an Innisfail Tramway bogie wagon will need to be relocated. Planning is currently underway to strengthen this wagon to allow for its relocation.

We are still on schedule to have all sidings serving the workshop converted to steel or concrete sleepers before Christmas.

Robert (Bob) Dow

It's very sad to hear of the passing of Robert Dow. Although born in Victoria, he settled in Brisbane prior to his retirement from Royal Australian Army Medical Corps where he had enlisted as a Private and retired as a Captain. A Vietnam veteran and QUT lecturer in medical science, Bob will be remembered for his public transport advocacy through the on-line community *Rail Back on Track* (RBOT), which he launched in 2006. What started as a forum for rail enthusiasts became a mission for better public transport.

Bob was a life-long railway enthusiast – his grandfather Peter Dow travelled to Queensland in the 1950s and photographed cane train operations. His time as a narrow-gauge modeller combined with his deep interest in railway heritage, made significant contributions in promoting those sectors especially through Lynn Zelmer's CaneSIG website. Bob demonstrated his support for the Society by becoming a financial life member.

Ticks at Woodford

Over the last few months several of the workers on-site, especially those clearing the area beside the workshop, have been bitten by ticks. In my case, after working on the sidings near the workshop, I have had two tick bites. The most recent, resulted in some swelling in neck which required a course of the antibiotic Doxycycline. The experience made me look at what are recommended treatments for tick bites. Most of the government medical websites have appropriate information and recommendations.

What are ticks?

Common bush ticks or scrub ticks often attach to people. Ticks bury themselves in the skin and scalp. Some Australian ticks release venom into the blood. If a tick

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attaches, there may be swelling, redness and pain in the area. Other symptoms may take a few days to develop, including blurred vision, headache, weak legs and arms and unsteady walking. In rare cases ticks can carry bacteria which may cause illness.

Strategies to lower the chances of tick bites include:

- Keep your skin covered in areas where there might be ticks. Wear a long-sleeved shirt and tuck it into your trousers. Tuck your trousers into your socks and wear a wide-brimmed hat.
- Wear light-coloured clothing to make it easier to see ticks.
- Use an insect repellent that contains DEET, picaridin or lemon eucalyptus. Use an insecticide that contains permethrin on your clothes when in areas where ticks are found.
- Avoid bush and long grass, especially after rain.
- Brush your clothes and check your skin for ticks before going inside.

  After you leave the area, check your whole body for ticks. Look carefully at the back of the head and neck, groin, armpits and back of the knees.

Further information about the management of tick bites in Australia, including First Aid for tick bites, is now available on the Society's website [News page] and has been extracted from the Australian Government, Department of Health and Aged Care Factsheet "Management of tick bites in Australia"

[https://www.allergy.org.au/patients/insect-allergy-bites-and-stings]

Operations, Sales and Marketing

Terry Olsson, Operations, Sales and Marketing

Roland has been putting an extra effort into our Facebook page recently and this is showing good results with steadily increasing passenger numbers – a big thanks to Roland. Like most marketing it will take time to have the required effect. The weather has also been kind to us of late with a significant reduction in the number of rainy or forecast rainy days. We are moving into the hotter time of year which naturally does not help passenger numbers.

Handing out brochures is still a very important part of our marketing. Thank you to those members who helped out at the Pines Rivers Model Railway show in October. We don't do sales at this show but thanks to one of our members we did display a narrow-gauge themed model railway as well as giving out brochures.

We have been invited to have a stand at the Woodford Lions Street parade this year which will be great opportunity to market our railway locally. Please let me know if you can assist giving out brochures, etc.

Group visits such as car clubs on running days are a great way of boosting our passenger numbers for no extra cost. Thank you to Geoff Howes who arranged a visit by some members of the Hash Club on our running day on 18 October.

Date Claimers

LIONS WOODFORD STREET CARNIVAL AND LANTERN PARADE – Saturday 28 November 2026.

If you can help please let myself know fairly soon (by end October at the latest) so I know whether to accept. Please do not leave it to the same few!!

Monthly Statistics

	September 2026	October 2026
Paying Passengers	125	186
Guards Sheet	161	276

Sales Items

Innisfail Tramway – by J Armstrong and G H Verhoeven.

We now have a supply of the soft cover version of this excellent book. Originally the Geraldton Shire Tramway, this tramway became part of the Queensland Government Railways who operated it until 1974. A great read with lots of photos historic information, and diagrams. Cost: $29.95 (plus P&P if applicable)

Buderim Krauss Display at Official Launch, 11 September 2026. Terry Olsson photographer.

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