



RAIL HERITAGE WA

Members Newsletter

August 2008



FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Friday 8 August 8pm Entertainment Meeting - Vince Baker, President HVTR will address the meeting on the rehabilitation of the line from Alumina Junction to Dwellingup & Etmilyn following the bush fire damage. Whilst services are running to Etmilyn, no trains have run from Pinjarra to Dwellingup this year as the track and bridges are still being repaired. **All welcome.**

Note: this will be followed by a brief meeting namely the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting – specifically for the presentation of the audited financial report for 2007/8

Saturday 30 August Museum Busy Bee 10am to 4pm

The Museum Busy Bee returns! Can you find a couple of hours to come along and join in on this day? There are always many jobs to do and the most interesting way is for a group of people to work together and enjoy the company of other rail enthusiasts.

Some of the jobs aren't exciting but do help improve the public areas and presentation of the museum. By then the weather should be warm enough to paint out graffiti as well!

A sausage sizzle lunch will be provided – if you wish to have lunch could you contact Philippa on 9379 1424 (evenings) or email pmrogers@iinet.net.au to assist with catering.

Friday 12 September 8pm Entertainment Meeting Bob Pearce will give a talk at the September meeting titled “**Train control through the years**” Bob has now retired but for many years worked as a Westrail then Westnet Rail Train Control Officer. He has seen many changes over the years, and he will give an insight into some of those changes as well as some of the tricks and traps of the trade.

Sunday 21 September – Trek the Trail This year the Trek along the Railway Reserve Heritage Trail (and beyond) will start in Mundaring Sculpture Park.

SUNDAY 12 OCTOBER - RailFest

If not in your calendar, then please mark this date now.

Negotiations are underway with ARG to provide two locomotives for the power parade. The Morsecodians will demonstrate the old telegraph technology and the Bus Museum will be bringing an old railway bus and lots more to come.

If you are interesting in contributing to the day please talk to Philippa or Graham – and we would love someone to coordinate the publicity for the event.

From Your Council, August 2008 (Ian Studham, Secretary)

- The recent AGM saw a change in **several key Divisional Council positions**. We have a new President in Brian Williams. Brian has formerly served as Society Secretary and more recently has held a normal councillor position. Another newcomer is Paul Tranter, who has stepped up to take on the job of Treasurer. Paul is most welcome in this, his first time on Divisional Council. Joining Council for the first time in many years is Society stalwart Geoffrey Higham, as a normal councillor.
- These changes also herald the retirement of long serving President Jim Oliver, who in recent times has been battling ill health and had to withdraw from Society activities. Jim's major contribution to the Society over many years was acknowledged at the AGM in a motion of thanks and recognition which was carried with applause by the assembled membership on the night. **Divisional Council wishes to publicly extend our thanks to Jim and his wife Joy** for all the time and effort they have given over the years.
- Another key person who had taken a step back from frontline service is **Philippa Rogers**. Philippa has served as Treasurer for quite a number of years, however most will be aware that at different points in the past 20 years she has also taken on the jobs of Secretary, Vice-President and President. Through all of this she has been the person who has written virtually all of the Society's grant applications resulting in many of the museum infrastructure improvements and rollingstock restoration projects we have been able to undertake over the years. Philippa has stepped down to a normal councillor position for a well deserved rest but will still be assisting the treasurer in certain areas and will also be representing the museum as a reporting councillor.
- At its first meeting Council determined who would be doing what, resulting in a number of the projects currently on the boil coming under overall Council control. However specific areas have become the reporting responsibility of certain people. Allan Brinkworth and John Wearmouth are dealing with restoration and maintenance, Roy Daley takes on locomotives and large plant, Ian Carne has responsibility for Boyanup, Geoffrey Higham is the rep for Sales and Publications and Philippa Rogers, as mentioned, represents the Museum. Another councillor representing the museum and getting involved in the areas of publicity and events management is desirable. We have a vacant council position which was not up for re-election this year, however Council is able to co-opt an appropriate person into this position. If you think you could contribute in this way, and are interested in playing a part in the decision making core of our Society, please contact me on secretary@railheritagewa.org.au or on 9272 4462.
- Outgoing Treasurer Philippa Rogers was recovering from a hospital stay at the time of the AGM, and so no financial report or auditors report was able to be presented. Resultantly, the AGM was adjourned until such a time as this can be done. It is planned to **re-convene the AGM at the August General Meeting** to deal with these issues. This should be brief and will allow us to complete our AGM requirements for another year.
- A detailed plan of action is being developed for **the platform renewal works** following the meeting held on the 13th July. It has been decided to split the overall project into discrete segments to make things more manageable and also to minimize disruption to museum events and activities. Hence the first phase of the work will see the platform retaining wall and top capping along the existent platform renewed prior to Railfest. While the work can be summed up in a single sentence, there is much to do before, during and after including removal and re-instatement of the rail line along the platform. Anyone who is willing to roll up their sleeves and get involved is most welcome, and every endeavour will be made to keep everyone informed of timelines and workdays.

The 'Westland' - issue 259

Issue 259 of the society's journal is now being printed and will be on sale in August. It will be included in the next mailout to members. This issue has two main articles resulting from historical research by members, with a Kalgoorlie theme. It is hoped that our journal's new format will encourage members and friends to present research results through this medium.

Stanbridge's Hobby Shop have kindly agreed to assist by advertising in the journal, so please support them. This advertising helps us to afford more colour pages!

The next issue will go to print in October, and the editor (Geoffrey Higham) welcomes all contributions.

Model Railway Items Sale

On Friday 19 September the Society will be offering for sale some Gauge 1 model railway items. This date has been chosen as it is the day that the Hornby Collectors' Club of Australia is visiting the museum and may wish to take advantage of this opportunity.

Members can submit their offers (sealed envelope bids) to the Secretary, Rail Heritage WA, P O Box 363, Bassendean marked 'Model Railway Sale'. Bids may be for one item or part or the whole lot. A silent auction will occur on the day if more than one person is interested in an item and members are welcome to attend on the 19 September if they wish. To inspect the items (located at the museum), please contact Graham Watson (9250 1084) or on grahamwatson@optusnet.com.au. Note: bidding is open to non-members as well.

- Lot 1: Gauge 1, Bing for Bassett-Lowke circa 1921 onwards clockwork LMS 4-4-2 Precursor Tank no. 6810 in correct LMS livery.
- Lot 2: Gauge 1, Bing for Bassett-Lowke circa 1930 LMS carriages – 1 x 1st class no.2784 and 2 x 3rd/brake no.2783.
- Lot 3: Gauge 1, Bing for Bassett-Lowke circa 1925/30 – 2 goods wagons – Lowko Spirit and N E Brake.
- Lot 4: Gauge 1, 2 x goods wagons of part believed Bassett-Lowke underframe and handbuilt body.
- Lot 5: Gauge 1, 0-4-0 tank engine clockwork Primus by W. Butcher and Sons Ltd UK circa 1935.
- Lot 6: O Gauge comprising pre-war Hornby Station accessories, a Britains Hand Trolley and sacks of unknown make.

Boyanup Report (Ian Carne)

The last 6 months have had many frustrations in as much as it was like dancing the "Last Lager Waltz" you know the one where you take two steps forward and four steps backward and then you finish up on your backside in the street.. The frustrations were caused by a series of breaking and entry the last taking place during the last school holidays two weeks ago. Cleaning up after they let the fire extinguishers off fixing fences and all the rest of the work associated with their illegal activities to volunteers valuable time away from other works. This has put the SWDC grants program behind schedule by about 2 months. However I believe we are at the bottom of the "J" curve and the future is starting to look a lot brighter.

Jobswest, a Bunbury based training company, have taken on the cottage garden as their field studies area and hands on training area for their Horticultural class. This is a great step forward as it relieves present volunteers having to do pruning, garden maintenance etc etc. they commenced two weeks ago and each Friday is their field day at the cottage. In the short amount of time you can see the difference they have made.

TAFE Southwest:- The heavy machinery section have shown interest in becoming involved in maintaining some of old machinery engines and the likes of the TA, Jardee, etc. The smaller items will be taken to their Bunbury workshops the loco's etc they will have an excursion to the museum every now and then. This will give the students a variety and a look at the old style workings and a sense of community involvement of which the instructors feel is a must in any training.

Railway Institute Bunbury. The Bunbury committee have paid a visit to the museum and selected an area on which to place their building. They are now negotiating with management and going through the pros and cons of building design. It will certainly be an all round asset having them on site, and they are keen to set up at the museum.

An on site meeting with Dave Pattenden Assistant Superintendent of Bunbury Regional Prison and Norm Chapple of the Boyanup Foundation. The meeting was to discuss if inmates from Bunbury Regional Prison could assist us in few chores under the section 95 program. Dave Pattenden was most impressed and he sees several possibilities with training in mind. But first off they have to finish some work for CALM then they will head our way in about September. So we are looking at them building work benches, a clean up along the drain, general site clean up, rolling stock painting and repairs a whole host of things.

Contact was made with Harvey Community Radio 96.5fm requesting consideration of a Community announcement for Volunteers at the museum. Harvey Community Radio have responded that they will be happy to put a plug on air for us and have asked if we would like a live on air interview as to what's happening at Boyanup This coupled with a flier that should be ready for distribution this weekend, will hopefully bring some new blood to enjoy a bit of fellowship and to gain an interest in what is happening at Boyanup.

It is sad to report that Terry Coleman can no longer assist us with carpentry skills. By the time you read this Terry will have moved from Eaton to an aged care facility at Harvey. I can't thank Terry enough for his efforts, Terry was there most Wednesdays and Sundays working on ACM391. He is going to be hard to replace.

Grants:- Currently we have applications in for two grants. One is for upgrading of existing fencing for approx \$14000.00 this grant is from proceeds of crime. The second grant is a local grant from the Chefs long Table Luncheon. We have applied for \$3000.00 for a single phase MIG welder and Oxy set. But complying of a further four grants is in hand more of that in the future.

An expression of interest was lodged with the RIFP for some \$200.000 for new Male and Female ablutions block plus the upgrading of the trackage and a new 70ft inspection pit. However we were unsuccessful. So we institute plan "B" - where there's a will there's a way

Today - Monday 28/07 saw the completion of our SWDC grant with the concreting finished of the roundhouse floor. I am determined to have a safe working environment for our volunteers with proper facilities to work in. So now you know what we have been up to at Boyanup.

Cheers

‘Hard work – soft light’ (48 months, 48 minutes)

We thank the Public Transport Authority (especially Lynda Gray) for their loan of a collection of framed images that feature in the Southern Suburbs Railway Commemorative book “48 months, 48 minutes”. These have created an interesting exhibition for visitors (and members too), which began with a talk at the opening of the exhibition by the photographer, Kevin Scott, on 29 June. The interesting book with these creative images can be purchased from the museum for \$55.

The framed prints will now be distributed by the Public Transport Authority to sponsors of the photography and of the book "48 months, 48 minutes". The PTA have indicated that Rail Heritage will be given at least one of the prints.

A big thank you to Geoffrey Higham for organising the exhibition, talk and story in the local paper and to Don Yates for the creation of the banner at the museum which promoted the exhibition.



Museum (Philippa Rogers)

It is pleasing to announce that we have been successful in obtaining a **Lotterywest grant** for improving access at the museum – mainly the platform retaining wall, surface and dock but also providing easier access to our photographic collection through scanning and cataloguing.

Work will start later in August with the relocation of the carriages from the platform in order to remove the old track and provide clear access for the retaining wall installation. The Australind buffet car will be placed under the roof and made accessible for birthday parties. Stage 1 with the retaining wall, new capping and re-laid platform track is scheduled to be completed in time for RailFest. Stage 2 of the platform work will commence after that. So it'll

be a busy few weeks but the most disruptive part will be after RailFest when services are laid underneath the new concrete surface.

This will be a huge task and some has to be done by ourselves, also contractor management, coordination, etc. Everyone's help is appreciated!

X class track – on the weekend of August 2 & 3, the track underneath Vice-Regal car AN413 was rebuilt with good sleepers (donated by the PTA). This is the section next to the slightly leaning X1001. Over the next couple of weeks X1001 will be moved slowly and carefully onto this solid section of track so that the section of track it has been sitting on can also be replaced. One could say it is good practice for the platform track relaying – but I wouldn't dare! Thanks to Ian R, Ian S, Dom, John W and Roy for their work in making this happen. I'm sure they would be happy to 'teach' others.

It is intended to form a **museum sub-committee** again that manages the museum (public area). Under the constitution all sub-committee members are appointed by Council, so I am seeking people to nominate themselves to be part of that sub-committee (preferably by 27 August). Being on the sub-committee means being responsible for some aspect of the museum – but does not mean having to do it all yourself! I see the following components to the museum:

- Planning e.g. upgrades, new development
- Publicity & public programs e.g. kiosk management, promotion, advertising special events, school & group visits, museum souvenirs, external displays & outer community events
- Administration e.g. rosters, volunteer recruitment, training and support
- Site management e.g. maintenance of facilities, safety, storage, risk management, liaison with WAMRC
- Curator e.g. collection management, displays, significance, interpretation, oral history, archive & research liaison including digital, policy development
- Financial management e.g. budget preparation, requests for expenditure, kiosk banking, grants
- Collection preventative conservation, restoration, liaison with Restoration & Maintenance

Working in association with Archives and the Research Officer.

In addition there are a number of items still to be addressed from previous museum planning days.

There is also a vacant council position that I hope will go to someone prepared to support our Museum through taking on a role such as Publicity and Public Programs. ... are you interested ?

It is timely to re-form this sub-committee as National Standards for Museums will shortly be released. Being seen to at least be taking steps to meet these standards will be very important for us.

Here is the overview of the expected standards.

SUMMARY OF GUIDING PRINCIPLES AND NATIONAL STANDARDS FOR AUSTRALIAN MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES

PART A: MANAGING THE MUSEUM

- The museum has a sound legal and management framework that follows recognised museum ethics and protocols.

- The museum is effectively managed, sustainable and publicly accountable.
- The museum manages its workers to make the best use of their skills and knowledge, and achieve the museum's purpose.
- The museum is a secure, well-managed facility that presents a positive public image.

PART B: INVOLVING PEOPLE

- The museum is used, supported and valued by diverse communities as a worthwhile place to express, discover and share significant stories, ideas and objects.
- The museum presents its most significant collection items, stories and themes through engaging exhibitions and programs.
- The museum is committed to its current and potential audiences, and caters for their needs and interests through its communications, programs and services.

PART C: DEVELOPING A SIGNIFICANT COLLECTION

- The museum collection represents the significant stories and interests of its diverse and changing communities.
- The museum preserves its significant collections for future generations

Restoration and Maintenance

Is it just a co-incidence or just bad luck that our regular mid-week work days (Tuesday and Thursday) seem to have been wet ones? Still regardless of the weather there is plenty to do and you are welcome to come along and join in.

Best wishes to our Vice-President and mid-week coordinator Allan Brinkworth for a quick recovery from surgery. The crew miss you!

News from Collie

Most members will have been aware that earlier this year the Collie Shire Council called for Expressions of Interest for the acquisition and relocation of the V and W class steam locos that have been stored in the Apex Park.

As a result of local concern the Council at its meeting 22 July determined that they would give the Collie Historical Advisory Committee an opportunity to refurbish the V and W class locomotives on the current site – with a \$10,000 funding for materials. The proviso is that the work should be done prior to 1 October 2008 (!) and that works must be sympathetic to their heritage. All volunteers to be inducted before allowed on site.

A possible future location for the locos is the Old Timber Mill site.

Should the refurbishment not take place within that time frame then the Council will return to the Expressions of Interest submitted to determine the future of the locomotives.

Museum Roster (Paul Collin)

DATE	KIOSK/SALES	SITE SUPERVISION	OPEN/CLOSE
Sun 10 Aug	G Higham R Higham	A De Smalen	A De Smalen
Sun 17 Aug	P van der Waal S Rayner	Vol required	G Watson
Sun 24 Aug	B Peacock P Hopper	T Gillett	P Collin
Sun 31 Aug	J Austin C Lofthouse	K Freind	K Freind
Sun 7 September	P Tranter P van der Waal	T Gillett	G Watson
Sun 14 Sept	S Mackay L Hunter	A De Smalen	A De Smalen
Sun 21 Sept	K Freind W Gray	T Gillett	K Freind
Sun 28 Sept	J Austin C Lofthouse	Vol Reqd	G Watson
Monday 29 September	P Rohan B Peacock	A De Smalen	A De Smalen

Council Contact details

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