



RAIL HERITAGE WA

Members Newsletter

December 2008



FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Friday 12 December 8pm Entertainment and Christmas Social Meeting

Bring along your slides (and a plate of food) to share!

Friday 9 January 2009 8pm Entertainment- Graham Watson will select 16 mm films of WA from the Archives for projection. Danny Brennan has recently donated film, etc taken in W.A. of Railways for publicity purposes.



**FRIDAY 13 FEBRUARY 2009 8PM (at Museum) –
50TH BIRTHDAY MEETING.**

**DO NOT MISS –mark this night in your calendar
now. Some great memories to be shared!**

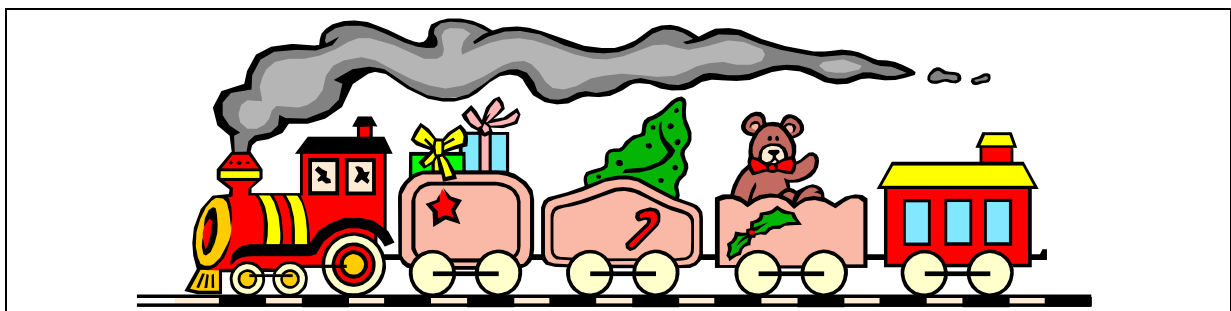


Sales -Whether you come on the meeting night, on a Sunday afternoon or place an order by mail or through the website, there are some great Christmas present ideas on sale at the museum. We are selling an interesting 2009 calendar of the Mundaring Weir with interesting construction photos. A good range of books and DVDs are also available, as well as some Thomas the Tank Engine toys for children.

Membership

It is time for RHWA to upgrade its Strategic / Business Plan. In light of recent changes this will be a vital document as part of being able to move forward. In order to enable all members to have a say in the process, we have identified some key questions and included these in a survey in this mail out. This is your chance for your ideas to be tabled, so do take the time to think about the future and return the forms! (Either by post or drop into the museum by 28 January 2009)

We have been around for almost 50 years – quite an achievement, but our next moves are probably similar in importance to the acquisition of the museum site.



From your RHWA Council best wishes are extended to all members and their families and our supporters for Christmas and the New Year.

Museum (Philippa Rogers)

Gardens: The late rains have presented us with a batch of weeds unlike any seen for many years. This is quite a challenge to manage at the moment and anyone who can help with the gardens will be warmly welcomed on Tues, Thurs or the weekends. Little things make a difference, like Jane's action - she waters the pots of plants every Sunday afternoon. Thanks also to Theo for his weeding work.

Increased opening hours –Beginning from 1 March the museum will be open on Wednesdays and Sundays each week, but not open on public holidays – these always cause a problem as to whether we are open or not! We have had a most satisfactory indication of interest for the commitment of opening and closing the museum every Wednesday and Council is finalising arrangements with that person. The 1 March will also be the date for an increase in entry fees to the museum – the first since GST was introduced i.e. almost nine years. Well overdue!

Interpretation Planning. We were fortunate to receive a Cultural Heritage – Interpretation grant from Lotterywest for \$14,500 to enable a consultant to prepare an Interpretation Plan for the whole museum. This will be undertaken by Latitude Creative Services in 2009.

Rolling Stock Report (Allan Brinkworth)

AYC 510 - Its interior in final stages of fit out and is awaiting new carpet to permit installation of seats. The exterior paint work almost completed too. Unfortunately 3 of the P/A speakers are missing and are difficult to replace being an odd size

Bullion van – in its 100th birthday year its secondary roof repairs proceeding slowly but thoroughly including unusual timber work. The other materials for its main roof repair on hand. We are contemplating which of 3 different interior layouts, used over the years, to restore for display and will examine carefully the remaining interior.

Australind cars AYC 500 and AYD 550 are both undergoing end door repairs

ARA – exterior side deterioration its being assessed and a budget drawn up.

AVL 314 and AF 261- Hopefully work will recommence on these two cars in the near future

ZF 441 (four-wheel brake van) - major repairs on North side progressing

AVDP (relay van) – Corrosion damage and doors receiving appropriate treatment

ARD 83 – (Wegmann twinette) Vestibule restoration completed

YX 86 steam loco - Surface preparation for repaint commenced The **Lake View & Star loco** frame is being treated with rust inhibitor.

Situation Vacant – Newsletter editor / compiler

This is a task that can be undertaken in the comfort of your home at a time you choose! Email communication is essential to ensure current news. You don't even have to visit the museum – in fact you could live in the country or even interstate.

However the current 'fill-in' editor will **not** be able to do this after December. As there is no mailout in January then we need a new editor for February 2009 and beyond.

Please contact Philippa on pmrogers@iinet.net.au or evenings on 9379 1424 or weekends at the museum or on 0417 961187 to discuss this.

Boyanup (Ian Carne)

By the time that you receive this mail out, the upgrading of the perimeter fence should be completed. This will improve the security of the area and in due course visitor movements. The Gangers Cottage, old club rooms and the AH coach are fenced off from the main museum area.

November saw the graduation of the Horticulture Class and the presentation of their Horticulture Certificate 2. The transformation of the cottage grounds is to be seen to be believed. A Certificate of Appreciation bearing the logos of RHWA & the Boyanup foundation was presented to each student.

On Monday 1 Dec Norm Chapple and I representing RHWA & Boyanup Foundation turned on a thank you BBQ for the section 95 crew. Lately the crew has been busy dismantling things considered to be of a hazard. The cleaning up process has nearly been completed with about another couple of days to see it finished. Tree pruning will be undertaken over the next couple of weeks. This is an educational course with a qualified instructor giving training in the operational requirements in the use of Chain Saws and Pole Saws. A certificate of Competence is issued on completion.

Don Brett & Allan Dhu have stripped down the seized gear box on the Fairmont Gangers Trolley. New bearings and seals have arrived, so the rebuild will commence on Sunday 7th Dec. The bent and broken brake rigging on Trolley No 317 was sent over to the Collie group for straightening and welding and is now back ready for painting. My thanks to the Collie guys. It is nice to be able to work in with other like minded people.

Well that's about it, except to say *'Merry Xmas & Happy New Year to all'*

Life after Midland Workshops – the moves continue

Tuesday 11 November saw two rail movements out of the old Workshops. The first was XA1405, AYS 461, AY 26 and an ARA hauled by AB 1534 to Bassendean – a huge thank you to ARG for all the work leading up to this event. The second involved the movement of five standard gauge car through the yard to Bellevue. These were ARF 85, ARE 106 (both sold to Gemco for conversion to crew cars and have already left the state), restored cars ARE 107 (Wegmann roomette) and AVEP 350 and finally EH 54. The last, our only turtle backed CR car, is in external stripped down condition, and without nowhere else to store it has to be moved into the open at Bassendean. Of course there is no room at Bassendean either Our thanks to South Spur Rail for their great cooperation with this exercise.

In order to manage the Midland Development Authority's request that we empty our material from the Oil Store RHWA has put together a grant to Lotterywest asking for some shed modifications and storage containers. We have also asked for funds to develop a storage area for the small artefacts that are unable to be stored / accessed within the Exhibition Building.

The MRA have offered us rail material sufficient to cope with the track changes we have to make at the Museum to accommodate items including the old Prospector. We are grateful for this and are currently trying to locate a place to store it! At this stage it has to be removed by mid- February so time is again an added concern.

Museum Roster (Paul Collin)

DATE	KIOSK/SALES	SITE SUPERVISION	OPEN/CLOSE
Sun 14 Dec	A Drakeford S Rayner	T Gillett	G Watson
Sun 21 Dec	P van der Wal P Tranter	Vol Reqd	P Collin
Sun 28 Dec	P Rohan A De Smalen	T Gillett	A DeSmalen
Wed 31 Dec	J Bond G Costello	Vol Reqd	G Watson
2009	J Austin	T Gillett	P Collin
Sun 4 Jan	C Lofthouse		
Wed 7 Jan	S Barber G Watson	Vol Reqd	G Watson
Sun 11 Jan	A DeSmalen S MacKay	T Gillett	A DeSmalen
Wed 14 Jan	J Bond K Freind	Vol Reqd	K Freind
Sun 18 Jan	L Hunter P Tranter	T Tobin	G Watson
Wed 21 Jan	P vanderWal S Rayner	Vol Reqd	P Collin
Sun 25 Jan	G Higham R Higham	A DeSmalen	A DeSmalen
Wed 28 Jan	K Freind J Bond	T Gillett	K Freind
Sun 1 Feb	A Higgs A Drakeford	M Searle	G Watson
Sun 8 Feb	B Peacock P Rohan	T Gillett	P Collin
Sun 15 Feb	A DeSmalen S Rayner	T Tobin	A DeSmalen
Sun 22 Feb	J Austin C Lofthouse	T Gillett	G Watson