



RAIL HERITAGE WA

Members Newsletter

June 2021



FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Sat 5 June	Museum Workdays – preparation for Model Expo
Sun 6 June	Mini Model Railway Expo – 10am to 4pm Railway Museum
Sat 12 June	2pm Annual General Meeting , Railway Museum Please endeavour to attend and enjoy afternoon tea too.
Sun 20 June	Guided talk 2pm <i>Diesel locomotive development</i> by Simon Barber
Mon 21 June	CORE Technical Tour at Railway Museum
Sat 10 July	Entertainment meeting 'The operation of the Claremont Signal Cabin during Royal Show Week during the early 1960s' by Shane Burke
Sun 18 July	Guided talk 2pm 'Food on Rail' by Brian Williams
Sat 21 August	150th Anniversary of Railways in WA – see invitation

FROM THE PRESIDENT (Brian Williams)

Another month has passed us by and we are now approaching the Annual General Meeting to be held on Saturday 12th June 2021. Following on from the successful talk by Metronet's Owen Thomas the Committee has decided to hold the meeting in the Exhibition Building which will allow extra space to cater for the COVID-19 spacing requirements and the comfort of members.

I wish to extend my thanks to Philippa Rogers for her excellent planning skills in the organising of the Volunteer Day held on Saturday 22nd May at Bennett Brook Railway, Whiteman Park. Thanks also to Bob Baker, Ross Parker, Simon Mead and others at BBR for an enjoyable train ride around the loop and eventually to Mussel Pool where Ross conducted a tour of the Workshops.

I am again seeking the assistance of members to cover the position of Site Supervisor at the Museum on Wednesday afternoons between 1pm and 4pm. Curtis Perry who performed this task for some time has now obtained full time employment and I thank him for his assistance over the past couple of years, or longer.

While in the thanking mood I extend my thanks to members Ian Studham, John Wearmouth, Braeden Hesford, Dominic Bennett, Noah Greenfield for their continued efforts in the restoration work on G233 'Leschanault Lady' at Boyanup and Philippa for her efforts. Kerry Ayerst, the Treasurer for the last couple of years, is not seeking re-election this year and I wish to acknowledge and thank her for efforts in updating the Society's Financial Documentation and procedures.

EVENT HAPPENINGS (Philippa Rogers)

On Sun 16 May Jeff Austin presented his talk on **Researching your WA Railway Family** to a small but very appreciative audience. The extent and breadth of Jeff's knowledge and dedication as our Research Officer was evident. There were some follow up enquiries to Jeff and myself. Lovely to get an email back that said: 'made my day'.



On Saturday 22 May thanks to a grant from Lotterywest through Volunteering we were able to celebrate National Volunteer Week with a **Volunteer Outing to Bennett Brook Railway**. Not only did BBR members give us a great time and it was good to see what they have been working on, but the rainy weather held off so we could enjoy a nice lunch as well.



At our Entertainment meeting on 8 May a large group of members and friends were treated to an informative and fascinating insight into the '**Development of Metronet to cater for Perth and its growth**'. It was great to hear someone as passionate about his work as Mr Owen Thomas, Executive Director Infrastructure and Land Planning, Metronet and realise how much long-term planning is now part of these new developments.

MUSEUM (Philippa Rogers)

Mini Model Railway Expo – Sunday 6 June 2021 10am to 4pm

We have had great interest and support from the modelling community and more.

There will be a general working bee the day before the event – which is more about set up. This will be from 10am to 4pm. If you have a couple of hours to spare, that would be very helpful.



Mini MODEL RAILWAY Expo

10am to 4pm Sunday 6 June 2021

Railway Museum, 136 Railway Parade, Bassendean

Fun for the whole family!

- Model railway layouts in action – different sizes and gauges
- See dioramas and talk to modellers about their activities.
- **U-drive** and puzzle layouts by AMRA for children of all ages
- **Ride-on** miniature trains from Northern Districts Model Engineering Society
(Gold coin donation per ride and enclosed footwear required for the rides)
- Great display built with **LEGO** by the WA Brick Society
- Go 'Behind the scenes' at the WA Model Railway Club



All the usual great trains and exhibits to explore!
Well-stocked book shop and lots of 'pre-loved' books.
Sausage sizzle and refreshments.

'Thomas' will be there

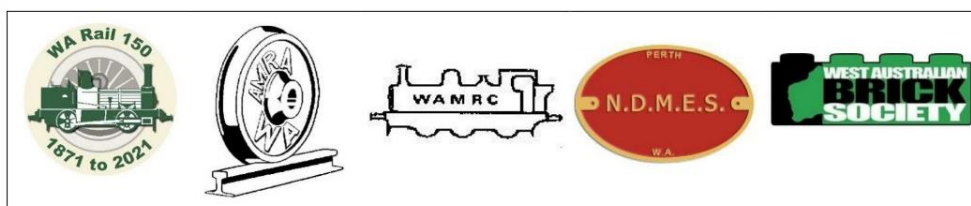
To keep COVID SAFE please book online
(only limited tickets at the door) at
<https://www.trybooking.com/BQPNX>

Just the normal museum entry fee applies -
(\$5 children 4 and over, \$8 concessions, \$10 adults)

www.railheritagewa.org.au

www.facebook.com/railheritagewa

Tel. 08 9279 7189



RAIL HERITAGE WA Founders and operators of The Railway Museum

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING and COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS

Our 2021 AGM will be held on Saturday 12 June at 2pm in the Exhibition Building at the Railway Museum.

The following nominations for Management Committee have been received:

President:	Brian Williams
	Philippa Rogers
Vice-President:	Dominic Bennett
Secretary:	Ian Studham
Treasurer:	Alan Uhe
Management Committee:	Graeme Bradley, Jeff Steadman

MEMBERSHIP

Thank you to those who have promptly paid their membership subs for the coming year.

New RHWA jackets are being ordered – check out the details elsewhere in this newsletter!

CONFERENCE ON RAILWAY ENGINEERING (CORE) (Bruce Keay)

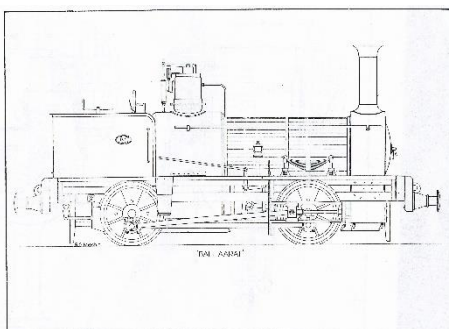
We have now received more details for this bi-annual rail conference. RHWA are supporting the conference through the use of our museum facilities for the lunch period between technical tours on Monday 21 June.

The tour programme for delegates is quite extensive, Denny Ave, RTOI Operations Centre, Claremont station, John Holland Plant Site, Forrestfield Airport, Airport Station and Bayswater Junction. Most tours offer a midday break at our Museum where a lunch will be catered. Final details probably won't be available until close to the day for numbers but we will be opening the Museum from 10:00am to 3:00pm. We may need some access control earlier and later than those times.

RHWA needs to build contacts with these rail companies so need several people to guide delegates around the museum and staff for our entry desk. Delegate entry will be prepaid but we need to keep track of numbers and we should be able to sell some publications.

I will explain what the conference programme is at the AGM and ask for your support for the day, even if you can only help morning or afternoon. Please let Brian Williams or Bruce Keay know if you can help.

OF INTEREST



Graham Watson and Trent Stanley have both noted the following interesting video and recommend it to members to view. It is the history of "Ballaarat" and includes a comparison with the Tallylyn locomotive "Dolgoch" which was built in 1866 by Fletcher, Jennings & Co.

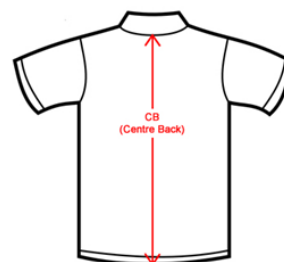
The link is here: https://youtu.be/F6TIs_xL2wk



Rail Heritage WA Jacket

- with embroidered logo

A navy adults' water resistant softshell jacket
Breathable comfort, warmth & style for all



Details

- 100% polyester mechanic stretch fabric bonded with microfleece
- 3 layer Softshell fabric 245gsm
- Waterproof rating 10,000mm and breathability rating 800mm
- Front slant pockets with reversed opening for better water repellency
- Adjustable sleeve opening
- Slim fit

Sizing (chest 1/2 measure)

ADULTS	S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	4XL	5XL
(1/2)	56	58.5	61	63.5	66	68.5	71.5	74.5
<u>Centre</u> back length	72	74	76	78	80	82	83	84

LADIES	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24
<u>BUST</u> (1/2)	47.5	49.5	51.5	53.5	56	58.5	61	63.5	66	68.5
<u>Centre</u> back length	62	64	66	68	70	72	74	76	78	80

Some sample sizes of jacket will be available at the museum from 5 June.

A very special deal for this jacket has been done through Jatu clothing for our members and volunteers. The jacket is by JB Wear – the same brand as our polo shirt.

COST: just \$40 includes logo

Name and contact phone:

Size:

Payment preferred through Direct Debit: ANZ BSB 016 255 Acc 1002 68979 and advise Philippa by email (or call 0417 961187) or through the kiosk at the Museum.

Send your order by 12 June to Philippa pmrogers@inet.net.au or bring it to the Museum eg at the AGM. You will need to pick up your jacket from the Museum from the end of June.

WA RAIL 150 Activities (Philippa Rogers)

You will find attached to this newsletter a formal invitation to the **official WA Rail 150 event at Wonerup House** on 21 August 2021. Numbers are limited but Rail Heritage WA members will be included – provided that you RSVP by 31 July!

There is an open invitation to all to attend the next day's activities at the South-West Rail and Heritage Centre in Boyanup when Leschenault Lady will return to steam.



Upcoming 2021 Meeting entertainment

10 July Entertainment meeting ***'The operation of the Claremont Signal Cabin during Royal Show Week during the early 1960s'*** by Shane Burke

14 August: Wes Olsen will speak on *'My Railway Experiences'*

11 September: General Meeting - Allan Tilley will speak on : *Western Mining's Koolanooka- Geraldton iron ore operation - Australia's First Iron Ore Export Project.*

Museum Guided Tours – all welcome (2pm)

20 June *Diesel locomotive development* by Simon Barber

18 July *Food on Rail* by Brian Williams

15 August *Rail in suburbs / 140th of Fremantle to Guildford* by Geoffrey Higham

19 Sept *General Museum Tour or WA Rail 150* - volunteers

21 Nov *'Signalling'* by Chris French and Justin Smith

FROM JEFF AUSTIN – Paris World Exposition 1900

In 1900 the WAGR Workshops at Fremantle built three 4-wheel wagons and sent them for display at the Paris World Exposition. This is the story of wagons 4557-4559.

During the Victorian era there were a number of world and colonial exhibitions. These were generally in Europe, and vast events showcasing the cultures and products of countries from all over the world. Western Australia contributed to some of these events, principally as a colony of the British Empire, but in 1900 the various colonies of pre-Federation Australia, were invited to exhibit at the Paris World Exposition.

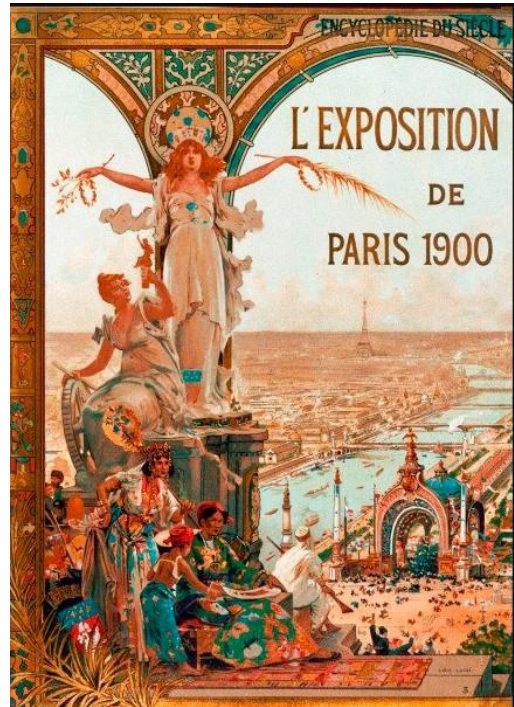
The organizers of the WA display arranged to send a variety of agricultural products, but they also wished to highlight the wealth of mining and timber resources within the colony.

To exhibit the WA timbers, 3 railway wagons were built from imported English ironwork at Fremantle Workshops using karri timber. They were –

Iw 4557 (later G 4557): 4-wheel, high sided wagon

Jw 4558 (later H 4558): 4-wheel, low-sided wagon

M 4559 (later I 4559): 4-wheel, timber wagon



At the Exposition, Western Australia shared a pavilion with Canada in the Palais de Trocadéro (seen in this image above), a magnificent building overlooking the Eiffel Tower.

The entrance to the WA display was quite imposing, with the trunks of a jarrah and karri tree framing the doorway. Inside was much like a district display at the Perth Royal Show, with much farming produce and natural resources. Prominent in the room was wagon, Iw 4557 which had the side doors open and contained a selection of wines from the Swan Valley. However, the room also housed a display which turned out to be a 'show-stopper'!

The WA organizers realized that the colony was only a 'minnow' in amongst the grand pavilions of the world superpowers, but they were nevertheless determined to make an impression. In 1900 WA had vast amounts of one commodity – GOLD! The government put together a display of minerals which featured a dazzling mountain of gold bullion and became a big attraction for the visitors to Paris.



Two H class wagons, H 1143
& H 3065 P08008

The other two wagons, Jw 4558 and M 4559 were displayed at the Bois de Vincennes on the outskirts of Paris. This was largely an agricultural and machinery exhibition but also featured railway rolling stock.

The Exposition opened on 14 April 1900 and closed on 5 November, by which time 48 million visitors had viewed the displays. The WA pavilion had been very successful and when the awards were handed out, it received one of the highest awards – Grand Prix for the minerals display. The railway wagons were awarded a bronze medal.

The display had been so successful, that it was then invited to the Glasgow International Exhibition in 1901. All the WA exhibits, including the gold and three wagons, were packed up and sent to Glasgow. That exhibition was opened by HRH Princess Louise, Duchess of Fife on 2 May 1901. Once again the gold bullion was a major draw card and by the time the event closed on 9 November, 11.5 million people had visited.



G class wagon, G 3695 P08863

This event was also very successful and attracted the attention of the forthcoming Colonial Exhibition, Royal Exchange in London. This time only the gold and some exhibits were sent, excluding the railway wagons. That exhibition opened on 10 March 1902, by which time the railway wagons and other exhibits had been sent back to WA. During their absence from WA, the WAGR had re-classified all passenger and goods rollingstock in September 1900. The wagons returned to WA, given their new classifications and issued to traffic in 1902.

Their subsequent history was –

G 4557 : high sided wagon; written off 31 May 1950

H 4558 : low-sided wagon; converted to 'shunters float' N 4558, 29 January 1955. Written off 6 February 1968

I 4559 : timber wagon; converted to 'flat wagon' N 4559, 23 February 1924. Written off 26 October 1971



I class shunters float with G 123 at Bunbury in January 1967 (P Hopper, P11245)

(Ed: In our collection we have I 277 built 1894 by Bristol Carriage and Wagon Co and H 1995 built 1896 by Oldbury Carriage and Wagon Co – both at Bassendean)

ARCHIVES (G Watson)

Requests For May 2021

No	Subject	Purpose
40	Coorow collision details, 1992	Family history
41	B. Armstrong, gold mines engine driver	Family history
42	Notham collision photos, 1961	Local history
43	Train travel in WA, 1952	Family history
44	Donnybrook station photo 1944	Local history
45	Dropper fence details	Local history
46	Greenhills, Chidlow employee housing photos	Family history
47	Donnybrook good shed scales	Local history
48	W. Gidney, WAGR employee record	Family history
49	R.N. Johnston photo, Works Manager, Midland	Family history
50	Yealering picnic trains	Local history
51	Wyalkatchem & Korrelocking SM's	Local history
52	H. Jennings, WAGR employee record	Family history
53	D. Ripp, WAGR employee record	Family history
54	A. Reeves, WAGR employee record	Family history
55	The Westland ticket price, 1952	Family history

50 years Ago this month – June 1971



Wonnerup monument after installation with ARHS President Noel Zeplin and Secretary Edwin Woodland. (P05813)

Premier John Tonkin unveiling the plaque on the monument to commemorate the Centenary of the first steam railway in Western Australia. In the background, behind the Premier is ARHS President Noel Zeplin.

(G Higham P10149)



RA 1908 heads the ARHS tour train for the Centenary of Railways in WA. Here it is at Bunbury.

(R Taylor P06648)





X 1030 'Mooroon' at Capel on the Centenary train to Wonnerup. (R Taylor P06649)



G 233 'Leschenault Lady' at Wonnerup on an ARHS tour train for the Centenary of Railways. (R Taylor P00650)

REPEAT BUSINESS – AYD BUFFET CAR (G Bradley)

Recently at the museum, a visitor arrived to make a booking for a child's birthday party during July this year. The lady (Sheila) had the museum booking form she had downloaded from our website and mentioned that the promotional photo on the form depicting a party group was from her son's 7th birthday during May 2006 (he is now a 22-year-old).

After Sheila was shown around our 2 coaches available for parties, she was still keen to select the buffet car and confirmed with a deposit.

This was an interesting coincidence in that the son's party photo is on our current booking form and that Sheila was making another booking for the same venue some 15 years later.

The Australind buffet cars initially AYD 550, now AYD 540, have certainly been a great venue for children's birthday parties.



NEWS FROM AROUND THE STATE (Simon Barber)

PTA / METRONET

Airport Line Delay

The commencement of services on the Forrestfield – Airport Link railway has been postponed to the first half of 2022. The reason given by officials has been delays to the provision of construction materials such as steel for the project, caused mainly by restrictions imposed by the Covid-19 pandemic. The delays are not expected to impact the cost of the project.

Metronet Funding Federal Budget

The 2021 Federal Budget delivered by the Morrison Liberal – National Party Coalition on 11 May has provided a funding boost for some key components of Metronet.

- Hamilton Street-Wharf Street grade separations and elevation of associated stations, including Queens Park Station and Cannington Station on the Armadale railway.
- An enhancement of the Byford Rail Extension project, with a new grade separated rail crossing at Armadale Road and an elevated station at Armadale.
- Funding towards the Metronet High Capacity Signalling project.

(Further information can be sourced from the Government of Western Australia website <https://www.mediastatements.wa.gov.au/>)

Lakelands Station

Concept designs have been released for the new Lakelands station, which will be located between Warnbro and Mandurah on the Southern Suburbs Railway. The station is expected to be opened during 2023. Lakelands will be the second station following Aubin Grove to be added to the Mandurah railway since its opening in 2007. Car parking capacity at Mandurah is also planned to be increased.

U201 (Locomotive)

The sole locomotive in the Transperth fleet, U201, has received a repaint into a primarily yellow colour scheme. PTA lettering and logos have replaced the Engenco / Coote Industrial emblems. The work was carried out in the PTA compound at Bellevue, and the locomotive ran light engine from there to Claisebrook on 21 April. This is the fourth colour scheme worn by the unit since being imported to Australia from the Philippines by South Spur Rail Services during 2007.



(Photo – Simon Barber)

WATCO AUSTRALIA

C508 has joined the fleet of locos leased by Watco from Rail First Asset management to service the BHP Nickel West contract. Two other C class units are also being overhauled prior to being worked across. Originally in service for Victorian Railways, the C class units are making their first intrusion into Western Australia since South Spur ran two trains on behalf of SCT during 2006. These two services used three and two C class units respectively.

FORTESCUE METALS GROUP

FMG has set up a test plant in Hazelmere and is evaluating future technology options for its mechanical equipment. SD90MAC-H2 locomotive 904 has been road hauled to Perth and will be first unit in the programme. This loco originally had a 265-H prime mover, which was replaced by FMG with a 16-710G3 engine. The company is looking at “green” technology for powering its loco fleet into the future, with 904 possibly to become a prototype or a test bed for the work.

CBH GROUP RAIL CONTRACT

The contract for the operation and logistical support of the CBH rail assets is due for renewal from 1 May 2022. CBH has invited a number of rail companies, including incumbent operator Watco, to make submissions for the contract which will run for a further ten years.

CBH wholly owns a rail fleet consisting of 28 locomotives and 574 wagons. The chosen operator provides crews for the services, handles the servicing requirements for the rolling stock and organises train pathing for movement of grain throughout the network. It is expected that the successful applicant will be announced in the second half of 2021, allowing time to make necessary preparations.

Aurizon has been involved in the movement of grain in the Geraldton zone since February, working in partnership with Watco. Two Aurizon sets have been operating, one with two P class units, and one with a single P class.

FROM COLLIE RAIL HERITAGE GROUP

We have Emeco Transport and cranes at either end at the ready to move AQA 343 from Bassendean to Collie as soon as access is arranged at the RHW end. The Collie group need something to restore and the AQA will be well received and restored to its former glory.

The first Heritage Skills training course in Australia with a pilot project involving local trades, TAFE and Collie Rail heritage at the Collie Railway Goods Shed is about to kick-off. Key stakeholders will be working with the Heritage Skills Association WA, to trial the Inter-generational Project Based Model, in starting to address the lack of Accredited Heritage Skills Training in WA. Stage 1 of the Pilot Project has the green light to go.

(Ed: AQA 343 will be on long-term loan to the Collie Rail Heritage Group from Rail Heritage WA)

OTHER SOUTH-WEST ACTIVITY

DONNYBROOK GOODS SHED PRECINCT

The redevelopment of the area surrounding and including the Goods Shed at Donnybrook will be officially launched on Saturday 19 June 2021.

We are lending the GHD wagon from Boyanup (currently bare timbers as arrived from DFES) to be used as an art project for the day as well as a rolling presentation on a screen featuring WA Rail 150 with particular emphasis on the south-west including Leschenault Lady. This will serve as a promotion for both the Railway Museum in Bassendean and the South-West Rail and Heritage Centre.

MOVEMENTS

On 27 May 2021 V 1213's tender was moved from Pemberton. Joe Foster photographed parked 'between' the South-West Rail and Heritage Centre and the Bull and Bush Tavern in Boyanup.



It was also reported on Facebook that SSM No.2 was moved from Pemberton to Jardee and the small ex-Bunning shunting loco was moved to Pinjarra.

SOUTH-WEST RAIL AND HERITAGE CENTRE (Philippa Rogers)

There was a rather wet day forecast for the May Open Day which was featured as part of the Capel Maker's Trail. Duties on the day were undertaken by the SW Model Railway Club and the featured 'makers' were the blacksmiths. Fortunately, the weather held for the morning and though it rained from around 12pm, people kept coming and over 130 people (as well as volunteers for the multiple groups) came along.

The blacksmiths put on a fine show and included two teenagers who are 'learning' the trade. Great to see this trade being passed onto another generation.

In the workshop, Gary Mick and Ian have replaced the floorcovering to virtually complete the wonderful restoration of ACM 391.



RESTORATION AND MAINTENANCE

(P Rogers)



Progress continues on G 233 and this photo shows clearly the before and after of an extensive cleaning of its wheels. But the task was more complicated and challenging as it required the removal of the connecting rods so that all parts of the wheel can be reached.

One side was relatively easy but the other side not so and highlighted a couple of other jobs that were needed.

Around the museum, Graeme B and Laurie are working on the cab of E30. Graeme V and Kevin are working on the end of JV 33 while Andy has been applying rust treatment to the BAS (Comm Rail ballast hopper) in preparation for a new coat of black paint.

John B and Les has been producing and painting frames for additional interpretation signs that will be created around the site.

John C has been doing the testing and tagging of our equipment. All extension leads that could be found have been checked. If you have some hidden away please make sure they are left for John to check as not all those tested were compliant!

AY 455

The society has four AYs in its collection, previously obtained with the intent of using on tour trains, so the decision has been made to dispose of one of these. AY 455 is at Boyanup and having lost its roof covering in a storm fourteen years ago, its condition has rapidly deteriorated. As such it was in the poorest condition of the four and a request made to the Government to allow us to sell it. This permission must be sought as part of the original donation conditions.

Permission was granted with the proviso that the money is to be placed into a government account. It can be released by the Minister for Transport if they are satisfied with the proposed use of the money.

Hotham Valley Railway has purchased the AY, with bogies, for a price that reflects its condition and has arranged to collect it from Boyanup on Wednesday 2 June.

MUSEUM ROSTERS

DATE	TICKETS/SALES	SITE SUPERVISOR	DUTY SUPERVISOR
WEDNESDAYS		Museum open 1.00pm – 4.00pm	
2 June	A de Smalen	S Rayner	Vol Reqd A de Smalen
9 June	A de Smalen	G Bradley	Vol Reqd A de Smalen
16 June	A de Smalen	S Rayner	Vol Reqd A de Smalen
23 June	A de Smalen	G Bradley	Vol Reqd A de Smalen
30 June	A de Smalen	S Rayner	Vol Reqd A de Smalen
7 July	A de Smalen	G Bradley	Vol Reqd A de Smalen **
14 July	A de Smalen	S Rayner	Vol Reqd A de Smalen **
21 July	A de Smalen	G Bradley	Vol Reqd A de Smalen
28 July	A de Smalen	S Rayner	Vol Reqd A de Smalen

**** School Holidays – Museum opens 11.00am**

DATE	TICKETS/SALES		SITE SUPERVISOR	DUTY SUPERVISOR
SUNDAYS	Museum open 1.00pm – 5.00pm			
6 June	Mini Model Railway Expo -special roster			
13 June	A de Smalen	B Williams	C Forsey	A de Smalen
20 June	Vol reqd	B Keay	D Raine	Vol reqd
27 June	L McBeath	M Miles	G Higham	G Higham
4 July	K Freind	B Horton	C Forsey	B Horton
11 July	A de Smalen	B Williams	G Watson/ M Gillooly	A de Smalen
18 July	Vol reqd	M Miles	D Raine	Vol reqd
25 July	L McBeath	B Williams	G Higham	G Higham
1 August	K Freind	B Horton	G Watson/ M Gillooly	B Horton