

Friends of Archer Park Station & Steam Tram Museum Inc

URL: QldRailHeritage.com/ArcherPark

TRAM TRACKS

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Visitor Numbers

Archer Park has had its best visitor numbers this year during the month of August: 815 people visited Archer Park and 450 people rode on the tram.

Admission Prices Rise

Rockhampton Regional Council has put the admission prices up for the public to visit the museum. Most other venues have had price rises as well, with Archer Park's adult ticket going up to \$7.00 each and concession up to \$5.00 each. Students now pay \$4.00 each and a family ticket is \$18.00. Discussions are also ongoing about joint ticketing with other RRC venues.

Restoration of 1007

Work on Sleeping car JCS 1007 is progressing well with John Cole and Dave Schulz painting and repairing all the windows on the restored side of the coach. Dave has done wonders with some of the windows which some required woodwork to bring them back to nearly new.

Some visitors question what appears to be a junk pile consisting of old woodwork, work benches, etc., near the carriage. However, frequent visitors will observe that the piles are constantly changing as the carriage restoration progresses, and they will eventually disappear.



Above and left: Preparing the tram for operation, 31 August 2008. *More Carriage Shade Capers* photos on the last page.

Happenings and Coming Events

Archer Park has been invited to host the ATRQ (Association Of Tourist Railways Of Queensland) meeting in February or March next year. Archer Park is a member and ATRQ rotates its meetings throughout Queensland.

Aurilea and Phi Augustine have left for a tour of Europe and will be away for about a month.

We welcome our first new volunteer for quite a while to Archer Park, Elizabeth Schatowski daughter of our long time volunteer Norma Hoffmann is fitting in very nicely at Archer Park and experienced one of our hectic days on Sunday with Carriage Shade Capers.

The All Classic Motor Club, who displayed six of their cars at Archer Park on Sunday, might hold some of their motoring functions at Archer Park in the near future.

We should get the motor out of the Tampa 6 vehicle back from Rimrock Small Motor shop early September after being reconditioned. Hopefully it will be up and going for our next Carriage Shade Capers Day in October.

We are still waiting for the new batteries to become available for DEL 1614 and then a big

change around will happen, with the two coaches being placed together so the public can walk through both coaches without having to get up and down steps.

The Mt Morgan Information and Rail Centre have been approached to hold a regional rail heritage group (CQCRGN) meeting up there in September. Narelle is looking at dates in September that she could hold a meeting. No other CQ Groups have put their hand up so far to hold a meeting for the rest of 2008.

Andrew Simpson has been helping get the Mt Morgan Tourist Information and Rail Centre back on track. Accreditation is the main priority, then to get their quads up and going. Andrew is spending two days a week on the Mt Morgan project over the next three months organised by Council.

It's good to see one of our volunteers who in the past worked with QR undertaking the competency course to be a conductor. John Cole is coming in on a Sunday and learning the ropes.

Robert Read and family have rejoined the Friends and Robert is looking forward to taking his turn at driving the tram on Sundays again.

Lynn Zelmer has begun recording sessions with Blair Jamieson and Bill Head. The results may be useful for volunteer training and adding to our exhibits, as well as being a useful local history resource.

Q150 Steam Train Visit

Queensland celebrates 150 years of independence from New South Wales on 10 December 2009. As part of the celebrations, the Q150 steam will travel throughout Queensland starting in April 2009.

Details can be found at www.q150.qld.gov.au, but generally speaking, the train is scheduled to be in the Rockhampton area from 19-28 April, 23-24 May, with day trips in the area.

Dennis' Correspondence

Dennis would like to thank all the volunteers who worked on Sunday for Carriage Shade Capers and the tram crew who had a full tram every time it left the platform. "Thanks for the hard and constant work vollies."

An e mail from a Christchurch, New Zealand visit to say since going back to NZ has written

an article about our tram in the Ferrymead Tramway Museum Newsletter.

Talking to a chap in the Netherlands via e mail after his request for information about the Purrey Steam Tram and the history of the railways in Queensland. He's purchased some books and I have sent him a history of Rockhampton, some prints on Archer Park and a tourist map of Rockhampton.

A letter of thanks to Mr. Andrew Nittins for his donation of railway memorabilia.

Our first Incident and Accident Report sent to Qld Transport, even though we haven't had any incidents or accidents. A compulsory monthly report has to be sent to Qld Transport (see update below).

Rail Accreditation Update

The restrictions on Archer Park's rail accreditation include the requirement to provide details of any accidents/incidents to Queensland Rail Transport Safety Unit and to provide a General Accident/Incident Monthly Report, even if there has been no event/s. Both types of report have to be provided on a designated form.

Volunteers need to be aware of these requirements so that details of any accident/incidents are properly recorded for reporting purposes and to help avoid such accident/incidents in the future.

August Carriage Day Capers

The first Carriage Shade Capers day for this year saw 312 visitors to the museum and 216 passengers on the tram.

The photographs in this issue deliberately focus on some of the set-up activities and people, rather than the visitors. Thank you everyone who helped make the day a success.













Above and left: Preparing for Carriage Shade Capers, 31 August 2008.

Web Site Update

The most recent addition to the Friends' web site (QldRailHeritage.com/ArcherPark) is colour versions of the photos in this issue. We've kept *Tram Tracks* as a black and white document to optimise its printing on a photocopier or laser printer, but you can usually find colour copies of *Tram Tracks* photos on the site.