



**Friends of Archer Park Station & Steam Tram Museum Inc**

URL: [QldRailHeritage.com/ArcherPark](http://QldRailHeritage.com/ArcherPark)

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# TRAM TRACKS

## Annual General Meeting

The Friends AGM will be on Wednesday, 28 April at 3:30 pm. Don't forget to fill out the form if you wish to be on the Executive of the Friends. The appropriate form should be in the kitchen.

Remember also that memberships are now due and you must be a financial member to stand for election or vote at the AGM.

## Volunteer Activities

The volunteers have clocked up 931 hours of volunteering for the month of March at Archer Park, and this is not counting what the executive of the Friends and the editor of this Newsletter do after hours.

Peter Egan one of our long time volunteers is leaving us this week, Peter has reached retiring age and is ready to move on, we will certainly miss him. All the best Peter for the future.

New Volunteer Mick Treasurer has been working on the Tamper Six and its maze of wires and has got them sorted out and now working various switches. Mick is also looking at putting wheels under the Tram Trailer undercarriage.

Dave Schulz has installed an industrial insect killer in the kitchen. The ladies in the kitchen have said flies are a problem when they are preparing food.

John Kennedy is working on a VW Compressor which was at the Igloos at the Heritage Village, John has put the compressor up on to a rail flat top and when restored will be used out on the rail line on maintenance work.

## New Brochures

The new brochures have arrived and a copy is available for download from the web site as well. Suggestions for where they should be distributed are always welcome but please encourage school groups, etc., to download and

print their own copies from the website [[QldRailHeritage.com/archerpark](http://QldRailHeritage.com/archerpark)].



Rail car QR M016 at the end of the station platform during heavy rain, 28 March 2010. Lynn Zelmer photographer.

## Notes from the Coordinator

With all the heavy rain in Rockhampton recently Archer Park has seen its fair share of water inundating various rooms in the museum, many of the downpipes coming off the roof are rusted out and water is coming in everywhere.

We are again experiencing pigeon problems with pigeons starting to nest high up in the building. The volunteers are sick and tired of cleaning platform, chairs and tables after they have dropped their calling cards everywhere.

If everything goes to plan Archer Park could see a Thomas the Tank Engine event happen in the near future, I will keep you posted on this one.

Another event which could happen next year involves a community based service club and could see around two hundred people take part in a welcoming dinner at the museum. Another one to keep you posted on.

Our first Bush Poets Night was a disaster with only thirty people coming to listen to some good



bush poetry and music. The problem seems to be advertising isn't done until the day of the event, and this never works in our favour. I've decided to change the date for the June Bush Poets Night to Tuesday, 8 June, as Thursday is generally a shopping night for Rockhampton.

The Purrey Steam Tram is operating perfectly so far, touch wood, we only lost a week from the running calendar when the tram blew out a superheater tube. Because we decided to replace all eleven tubes this took a little extra time to achieve.

The new air horns which were fitted when we stopped running the tram in November last year for some unknown reason didn't work when we resumed running in the middle of February. It was found that a wire to the little compressor was put on in the wrong place and when put back the right way worked the horn beautifully. You can now hear the horn from one end of the street to the other so there shouldn't be any excuse for motorists not hearing us going over the level crossings now.

The proposed motel and war museum are a step closer to being built across the road from Archer Park, another section of the proposal got the green light from council last week and the proposed access into an underground car park which was to go from Archer Park's car park will now be changed to the street on the other

side of the site, which is good news for our museum.

We at Archer Park believe in the long run the new motel development will be good for Archer Park and bring more visitors to the area.

A member of the public has donated a old fashioned hat box to go with our ports in the museum, this section represents that part of the museum used for the loading of ports and baggage for train travel. And another has donated some early photographs of first aid teams from Rocky in or around 1947.

We are still waiting to see if council will find the money to bring C17 988 up from Ipswich. It's not cheap to transport locos or trams around. 988 was the steam loco and tender from Movie Word which had the Harry Potter theme but we will not be allowed to keep that livery (very high licensing fees) if it comes to Archer Park.

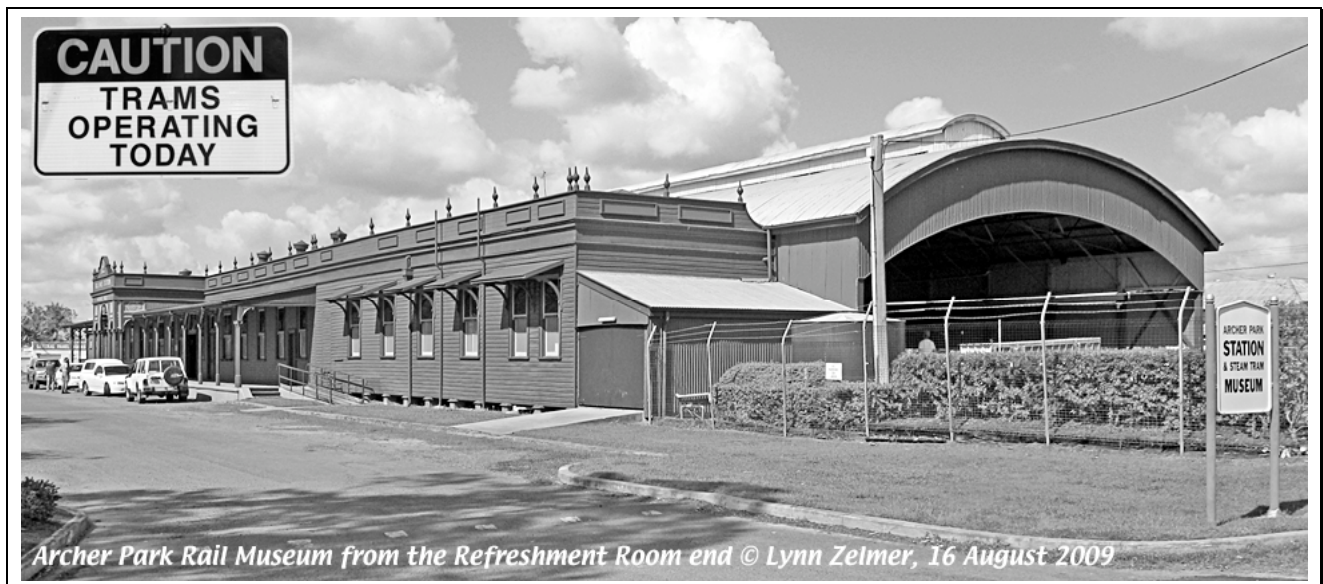
We have been advised by QR that they will hold their First Aid competitions at Archer Park this year as they have done every second year.

I would like all volunteers when they receive their new Blue Cards to bring them in and show me as they have to be put into the computer to be on record, this is the law. As the law states, anyone who doesn't have a blue card ,or who hasn't applied for a renewal, may be asked to leave where they are working.

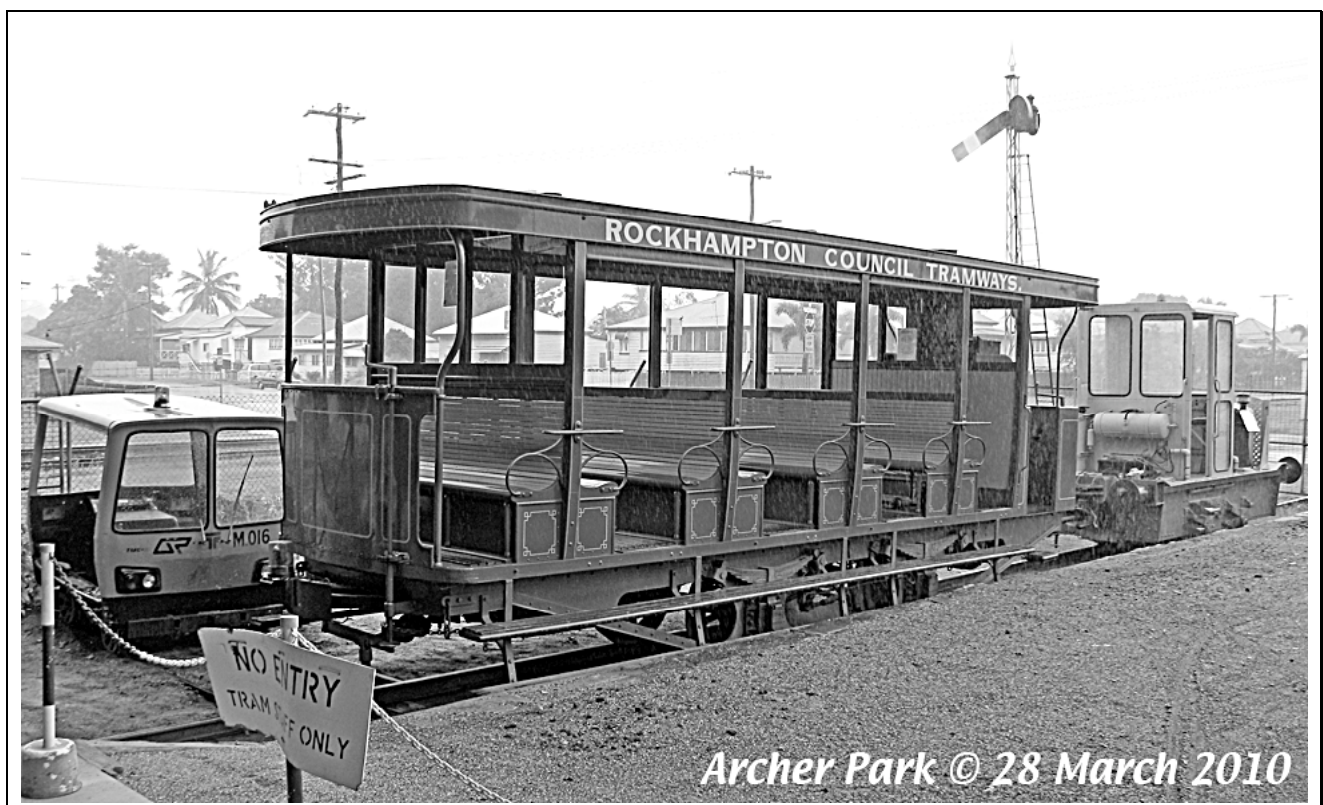


The Mt Chalmers station in 1908. Courtesy Emu Park Museum, photographer unknown.





The station on an operating day mid-2009. Lynn Zelmer photographer.



Readying the tram during heavy rain, 28 March 2010. The tram is under steam with rain pouring off the roof, but cannot begin its operating session until the Citra has been returned to the other end of the station. Lynn Zelmer photographer.

Next Page: Bush Poet's Night, 11 March 2010. QR's carriage shade does work and it's very useful during the rains, but we would need much better lighting on the platform to get better photos of evening activities. Lynn Zelmer, photographer.



