



Friends of Archer Park Station & Steam Tram Museum Inc

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TRAM TRACKS

Date Claimers

August 12: Coppabella State School tour

August 15: Carriage Shade Capers

August 17-18: QR First Aid Days

October 2: Regional rail heritage meeting, at the Bundaberg Rail Museum

Notes from the President

I would like to arrange a couple of social events for all volunteers and their friends, away from the bounds of Archer Park so that we can all get together socially away from all the hard yakka of volunteering.

I am quite open for suggestions as to the form and venue of these outings and welcome any suggestions. Maybe we could combine with other groups, eg: Friends of the Gardens or Heritage Village. I was thinking along the lines of bare-feet bowling, croquet or indoor bowls... please give me suggestions.

Along the same lines, now is the time to start planning the Christmas function and I would like everyone's input into the venue and format of the afternoon or night. Don't be afraid to make suggestions that are markedly different to anything we have done in the past. Your idea may be just what we are looking for. Let me know your thoughts.

Merv Edmonston

Ph 4928 1930

Volunteer Activities

Congratulations to John Cole and Mick Treasure (photo at right), who successfully passed their recent four hour steam ticket practical and theory exam.

Volunteers clocked up 748 hours of work at Archer Park during June, plus the normal unrecorded hours for Executive duties, etc.

The June Carriage Shade Capers day was a huge success with 400 visitors coming to visit by 1:00 pm, and with very positive feedback received from the day.

Unfortunately the first Wednesday School Holiday Programme this year was a let down with only 27 adults and children visiting.



Congratulations to Mick Treasure (left) and John Cole, our newest accredited drivers, during a break on a recent Sunday operating day.

The Friends have decided to keep the same colour in club shirts, with a little difference around the collar and pockets in the way of a darker blue piping for the women's shirts.

Merv Edmonston arranged a 'Fam' tour for Capricorn Tourism who, and along with people from the CQ Military and Artefacts Museum, met at Archer Park on Tuesday, 20 July for the tour and smoko.

Notes from the Coordinator

Rockhampton Regional Council has put all our admission and leasing charges up from 1 July. See the signage at Archer Park or our web site for details.

QR has given Archer Park the green light to be donated a special box wagon. This wagon will

be used as a workshop and for storage of tools and paint.

We have another new quote for moving the C17 988 Steam loco from Ipswich; it has come in about \$5000 better than the last quote and would be a back loading exercise.

QR are all set to hold their First Aid Competitions at Archer Park on the 17th and 18th August 2010. Our ladies are going to be kept very busy handling all the food for the event.

The Chevy Club held their dinner and award night at Archer Park on Saturday, 17 July. One hundred and seventy people attended and yours truly worked alone from 2 pm until 11:30 that night—you could say I was stuffed the next day as I lined up for work Sunday morning.

The Governor's visit was arranged from the Mayor's office. I know some people were upset because they weren't invited but I was required to submit only the names of the volunteers who normally worked that day to the Mayor's office, with a limit of seven—something to do with security.

Allenstown State School has rung about a short tour of Archer Park in the near future, they wish only to spend a half hour at the museum as they have other places to visit on the same day.

ARHS Rosewood has informed me that they wish to bring passengers off their trains when they come through Rocky on or around 16 August with around four tours within the month. The only problem is they wanted to arrive at the museum at 4 pm to go for a tour and wanted the tram to operate as well. RRC is against having tourists visit after 4 pm closing time and the tram running at this time of night.

WEA Travel from South Australia are bringing a group of fourteen tourists through the museum on Friday, 23 July.

On Thursday, 19 August the Commonwealth Bank is holding a seminar for the aged in the refreshment room. Around sixty people will be attending with seating in seminar/theatre style.

Archer Park House Keeping: Rockhampton Regional Council provided recommendations from their recent audit to tidy up our sheds.

This has now been done so I ask all volunteers to keep these sheds tidy and put all tools back where they come from. It creates a problem for

other volunteers when they can't find tools, and wire and other bits and pieces not be just thrown on the floor in the sheds.

Remember that Archer Park is a museum first and a workplace second. Each day everything, and I mean everything, should be put away in its proper place. This includes putting electric powered tools back into their boxes, not just into the sheds.

Please remember that we don't want a visitor falling over a tool or ladder or something that hasn't been put away, and the museum has got to be kept clean and tidy at all times.

It only takes one bad accident or one bad comment and our visitor numbers will fall.

I do also ask that all volunteers keep their eyes open and if you see jobs that should be done, please don't think someone else will see or do it.

For example, I have found signs on the lower platform that have been damaged and should have been replaced. No one who saw this did anything about their replacement, and didn't tell me about them. And I don't know what our visitors thought when they tried to read these water and oil stained exhibit inscriptions.

If you haven't anything to do please pick up a duster and get rid of some of the dust on exhibits in our exhibit rooms. It is not only a job for the women... men can do this also, and will avoid continued criticism about dusty exhibits.

I have also had a complaint that on our big tram days our tram crew sit down and have smoko when there are people lined up for a tram ride. Please guys, have your smoko before you start working the tram or when QR is bringing trains through. And please remember to tell the people waiting why you are sitting down when the tram is not going.

Remember the old saying the customer is always right and the customer comes first.

Tram Operation Cautions: I would caution new Tram drivers to be very vigilant when crossing the level crossings in Cambridge and Archer Streets. Don't forget to blow your horns before traversing these crossings.

Vigilance is also required as you bring the tram along the platform track: watch for kids running on the platform or people who are standing on the wrong side of the yellow line. Please sound your horn when entering or leaving the station.

Teamwork: I would like to point out that our volunteers work as a team. I have been saying this since 1992 and whatever we do at Archer Park, we work together, we eat together and we communicate together.

It would be quite easy for someone to become ill or have a heart attack somewhere in the museum so I urge teamwork very strongly. It's useful to at all times know where other rostered volunteers are and, if you have to leave the museum for some reason please let me know. It's only courtesy and respect, not only for your work mates but also management.

We all have our part to play in the running of this museum but always remember we are a team. I liken this to a war: one man doesn't win a war on his own, it takes many men to win a war, or a good team of soldiers.

Dennis Sheehan

Community Solutions: 'Get Set for Work'

Young people from this program have been doing a good job assisting at Archer Park one morning each week. Many thanks to them and the 'Community Offenders' program, who also assist one half day per week, for their support.



Cameron Hudson with Archer Park's Henry and John concreting, June 2010.



Daniel Jensen, Phil Augustine, Cameron Hudson and Pat Riordan mixing concrete, June 2010.



Ty Jenkin, La-Toya Dilger and Kelly Smith (Program Co-ordinator) cleaning the Billard, June 2010.



Grason Thinee at the mixer, June 2010.



Safe working: Early morning operations move the Citra so that the Purrey Steam Tram is available for Carriage Shade Capers, 27 June 2010.



A new generation learns about the operation of the Purrey Steam Tram: 4 July 2010.