



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

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

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# TRAM TRACKS

## Date Claimers

**Sunday, 28 August:** Family Fun Day, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, \$2 entry, Tram Rides \$2.50, stalls, classic cars, sausage sizzle, and more.

**Tuesday, 6 September:** Bush Poets, Barbecue and Song Night, 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm, \$5.00 entry, burgers on sale.

**Monday, 19 September:** School Holiday Programme, 10:00 am to 1:00 pm, short tram rides, karaoke, history questionnaire, food.

**Monday, 26 September:** School Holiday Programme, 10:00 am to 1:00 pm, short tram rides, karaoke, history questionnaire, food.

## Volunteer Activities

A former volunteer, Noel Burke, has passed away. Noel was a volunteer at Archer Park for quite a few years and was secretary at one time.

We are experiencing a shortage of volunteers and on some days have only one volunteer to talk to visitors. Kitchen staff would also like more ladies to give a hand in that area.

It is very hard on big days at the museum to get sufficient volunteers to help out and future events have to be looked at closely. If we cannot run these events with the volunteers we have, we may have cancel them. Encouraging your friends to volunteer helps us all.

There is a form in the kitchen to fill in on with your preferences for Christmas dinner: what date/day of the week would you prefer, and would you like to have a lunch or dinner at night. Please take time to think about it and respond on the form... you might have some new ideas that we haven't thought of.

## Notes from the Coordinator

Please read the appended notice from RRC (page 6) with the new requirements for Blue Cards and volunteer membership forms. As explained by RRC staff at the June meeting, all

volunteers need to fill out the new forms as well as keeping me informed of changes that affect their Blue Cards.

The School Holiday Programme held in June and July was well attended with fifty one people on the first Monday and one hundred and fifty three on the second Monday of the school holidays.

Visitor numbers have picked up in the last month with Sundays seeing the best results with around the one hundred visitors coming to the museum and having a tram ride on that day.

The Rocky Rockers Rock & Roll Group have had to find a new home for their dance classes. They first went to the CQ Leagues Club (Brothers) and are now at the Masonic Club. They were at Archer Park for nineteen months so with them gone visitor numbers will drop by around 120 per month.

A Community based group have now a group of people who volunteer their services on a Friday doing landscape gardening, I have been advised that they will also be working on a Wednesday as well. So far they have pruned most of the bushes and shrubs in the gardens opposite the museum.

Carriage Shade Capers in June was a huge success with an all time record of five hundred and fifty six visitors for the day. In common with other RRC activities, the Capers will now be called Family Fun Day with \$2 entry.

We are hoping that some of the rail groups around Queensland may have some parts for our C17, the feelers have gone out and some things are starting to filter through.

The Purrey Steam Tram had a problem on Sunday 2 July when a 9 inch section of steam hose between the steam pump and the check valve on the boiler sprung a leak. Fitters were called in to replace the special hose and re-

clamp, but on the following Sunday the new hose sprung a leak again. The tram crew took the new clamp off and put two of the old style clamps back on, this did the trick and no more leaks appeared. The problem was that the new clamps bottomed out and there was not enough thread left to fully tighten, the top clamp was OK.

The office at the museum has a new scanning, photocopying, fax and printing machine. It is a fantastic machine, prints in colour and replaces two other machines for printing and photocopying.

The outside electricians have not yet returned to wire up coach 434 ( Central Division General Managers Coach) to restore its original lighting and work with Car JCS 1007. The transformer which will run the lights in both coaches will have a new 15 amp cable installed to run it.

On Sunday 31 July the Combined Rail Groups Network is taking up an invitation by the various rail groups around Gladstone to attend a rail day at the Calliope Village. This is also a big market day at the village, so not only will we be talking to the rail groups but taking in the markets as well. There will be no sit down dinners this time, food may be bought from one of the food outlets around the markets.

The Refreshment Room floor is being sanded and recoated with two coats of polyurethane, it has been around nine years since the floor was first done and showing a lot of wear.

Because of Work Place Health and Safety regulations the roof of coach 434 can't be easily painted. Restrictions on how high scaffolding can be erected, and working heights for people using scaffolding, means that volunteers aren't allowed to work on the coach above a certain height. This being the case a private painting contractor has been called in to give a quote, a costly way to go but rules are rules.

There is a new folder in the kitchen for volunteers to indicate when they are going to be absent from Archer Park for whatever reason. This helps with knowing when we don't have enough volunteers to successfully tour guide visitors around the museum.

As the Operations Coordinator is the qualified Council supervisor of the kitchen it would be appreciated if he is advised of staff (volunteer) changes, when a person is going to be away and

any changes or breakdown in equipment used in the kitchen.

We are requiring more volunteers urgently. If someone is absent it puts a lot of strain on the volunteers who are left to work twice as hard to make up for the shortfall, and this must be obvious to museum visitors on those days.

Friday 8 July an independent audit was undertaken of Archer Park's rail operations and systems with Queensland Transport also providing an officer to keep an eye on proceedings. We haven't officially heard how we went but by all accounts we went OK.

A problem recently occurred with a volunteer driver who fired up the diesel loco without following proper Rail Safety procedures.

All tram crews are to get permission from the Heritage Technical Officer or the Operations Coordinator to fire up or start any rail vehicle at Archer Park, that person has to sign the key register book before taking keys or handles to operate a rail vehicle and then sign the keys back in when finished with that vehicle.

*Dennis Sheehan*

## **The Maturity of the Heritage and Tramway Tourist Sector**

[Reprinted from *The Electric Telegraph*, 10: July 2011, the Victorian heritage and rail tram publication. You can download their newsletter from their website ([www.atr.org.au](http://www.atr.org.au)).]

This year is the 60th anniversary of the beginning of the Heritage Rail movement in the UK with Tom Rolt and his colleagues taking the first tentative steps to save the Tallylyn Railway. In Australia Puffing Billy is 57 years old and a number of other Heritage rail organisations have achieved 40 years. For example the trams at Bendigo have been operated longer by the Bendigo Trust than any other operator in the history of the city.

With the aging of all of our heritage railway groups a new challenge arises. This is that as the pioneers of our group's age and indeed die; a new generation of people are taking over the reins. The pioneer looks back at the organisation that has been created by his group and suddenly realises that the institution is no longer proceeding in the way that it was set up and the values that caused it to be set are being

discarded by the new operators i.e. the new generation!.

Things that were held sacrosanct by the pioneers are suddenly being discarded and indeed the successors are often not railway enthusiasts and have no connection with the hobby but are nevertheless attracted into the ranks. As people retire these people move into the upper regions of the management and have little sense of the heritage that the group was set up to preserve, often discarding key elements as they do not understand the reason why!. This causes great angst among the surviving pioneers who laboured hard to preserve it.

The question that has to be asked is why it was preserved in the first instance and how do we inculcate this into the next generation with the reasons for this, otherwise all the work that we done over the years was for naught.

[Editor's note: Succession planning and the education of new members are important challenges for any rail heritage organization, including the Friends of Archer Park.

ATRQ, the Queensland rail heritage organization, also has a web site ([www.atrq.net](http://www.atrq.net)).]

### **RRC HR Policies: Code of Conduct**

This document can be found on the employee section of the RRC web site and is based on the Public Sector Ethics Act 1994.

According to the document:

Rockhampton Regional Council has a commitment to providing the highest level of ethical standards and the community needs to have confidence that employees work in an environment which promotes trust, respect and honesty.

...

The 'Code of Conduct' is not intended to be harsh or restrictive to individual ideals and opinions or difficult to administer but is simply a statement of what most people would agree are commonsense principles to guide the behaviour of all employees of Council.

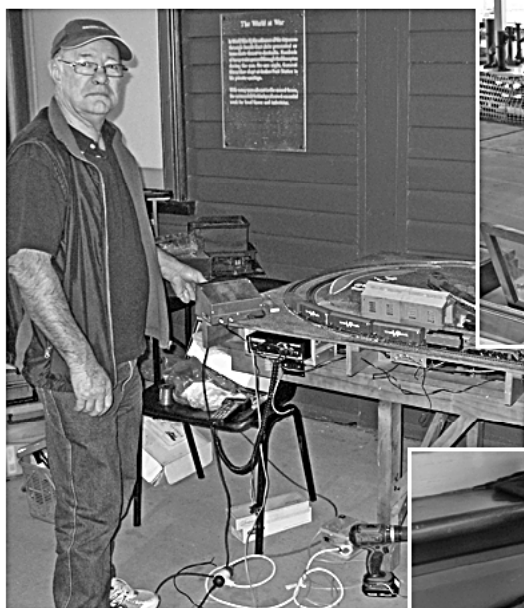
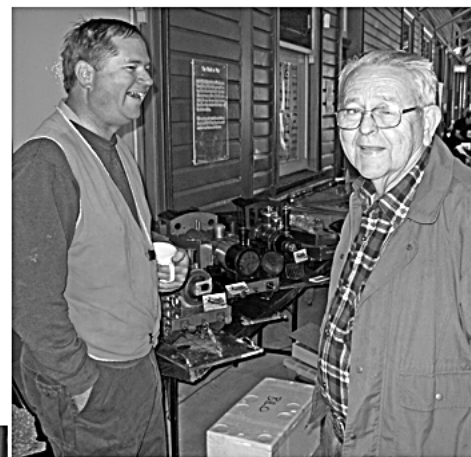
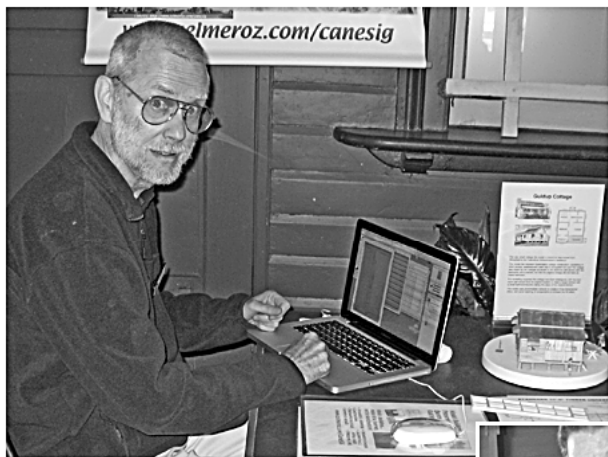
[Editor's note: Like most such documents, it's likely all in the interpretation for a particular situation. Dennis has access to the employee section of the RRC web site and can provide a copy of the Code if requested.]



QR C17 935 at Port Curtis Junction, heading south on the mainline with the branch behind. Peter Bruce photographer during his North Coast trip in 1964.



Selected scenes from Carriage Shade Capers, June 2011



Selected scenes from Carriage Shade Capers, June 2011



## **Communication for Volunteers**

### **Collection of Volunteer Application forms**

Council needs to re-issue application forms to volunteers.

There are 3 critical reasons for us to do this;

1. Council has moved to one new confidential system for the storage and management of all volunteer information.
2. The application form has changed slightly and therefore we need to ensure that we have the same information from all volunteers.
3. We need to ensure that we have captured all volunteers from across the region in this system.

In addition Council needs to ensure that volunteers hold a current Blue Card. Council requires all volunteers to update and return the required Volunteer and Blue Card forms.

### **Non-Blue Card Holders**

All volunteers are required to hold a current Blue Card, therefore Council requires all Volunteers who do not currently hold a Blue Card to fill in an application form to obtain a Blue Card. There is no cost to you as a volunteer and if you have any concerns with filling out any of the above forms please speak your nominated staff member who will assist you.

### **NB:**

It is an offence to apply for a Blue Card if you are aware that you are not eligible to apply or have been convicted of a child related offence.

If you have any concerns about your ability to lodge a form please speak to your nominated staff member or Debbie Broome 4936 8591 who will discuss with you your options.

### **Current Blue Card Holders**

If you currently hold a Blue Card and any of your details have changed since your last application or renewal, please fill in the change of details form, as it is an offence under the Commission for Children and Young People and Child Guardian Act 2000 for you not to report any changes in details to the Commission and you may be held personally liable.

If you currently hold a blue card that is nearing expiration, you will need to renew your application by filling in a renewal form as soon as possible.

Council acknowledges that Volunteers do not always visit Councils work sites each week, therefore all required forms will be available from your work site to fill in and return to the same site within one (1) month.

This information will be collected by nominated staff at each site and returned to the Community Services office in the School of Arts building where it will be placed into an electronic system for each site to access.

All information collected will remain confidential and only selected key staff will be able to access your information. If you have any concerns or questions regarding this process please speak to your nominated staff member as below;

- Dennis Sheehan – Archer Park Station Ph 4936 8191

Or you can contact Debbie Broome, Senior Project Officer directly on 4936 8591.

Thank you for your assistance.

Debbie Broome  
Senior Project Officer  
Rockhampton Regional Council