



**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

24 August – Family Fun Day

22 September – School Holiday Program

29 September – School Holiday Program

26 October – Family Fun Day

## Friends of Archer Park

President: Phil Augustine 0429 094 377

Vice President: Lyn Pegler

Treasurer: Ross Carter 0407 038 065

Secretary: Helen Hansson

Museum Coordinator: Janice Seymour

Meetings of the **Friends of Archer Park** are normally on the fourth Wednesday of the month in the refreshment room, so the **next meeting is 12:30 pm, 27 August 2014.**

## President Phil's Notes

### Accreditation

Our main achievement in recent days has been "Accreditation as a Rail Transport Operator" by the Department of Transport. This should really lift the profile of our Friends Association as a committed, responsible, and industrious band of Volunteers.

There is still much to be done to review and simplify our documentation for operational and administrative procedures but our Coordinator and her team of dedicated and positive thinking advisors are doing wonders.

### Museum Activities

The Family Fun Day at the end of June was a good one with well over 400 through the door. We were missing a few of our usual stalls but, with the entertainment by the International Dancers, our best display of old cars, Ice Cream van, etc, all seemed to enjoy the day. We even had a Channel 7 camera man cover the day for a news item.

The visitors for our two school holiday days were less than we had hoped but still fair. A bit more promotion may be needed here.



Phil Augustine with the Minister for the Department of Environment and Heritage, Hon Andrew Powell MP, 16 July 2014. Photo from Department of Environment and Heritage Protection.

A significant event for us was the Executive Briefing Forum by the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection on the evening of 16 July. Janice has more on the evening elsewhere in this newsletter but the feedback I had from the Department and others present was that Archer Park Museum was a magnificent venue and we might be considered favourably in awarding grants or other support.

The most positive thing for me from the activity of the past couple of months has been the way our Volunteers have stepped up to help – not

only for the special activities but also the mundane weekly tasks.

### **Business Performance**

We have only been managing the Museum for just over three months and had a lot to learn – but our Treasurer assures us we are doing OK financially. Visitor numbers are down from previous years but we are picking up a little extra revenue from venue hire and kitchen sales.

Coordinator Janice is very switched on when it comes to promotion. She has done a lot of work, mostly in her own time, to spread information about us right across the city, chatting up media contacts, getting email lists for advising of our activities. This should start to improve visitor numbers later in the year – we've already had several big school group bookings for the next few months.

### **On a sad note**

One of our old stalwarts, Blair Jamieson, has been very ill in and out of hospital over the last month or so. We all miss Blair and hope for his recovery soon.

*Phil*

### **Coordinator's News**

#### **Soft drink/water sales**

In case you haven't noticed, we have a new system for stocktake of soft drink and water sales. Please check the form each time you buy or sell and put a mark in the correct column for volunteers or public.

#### **Ministerial Visit**

Thanks to all the volunteers who did a lot of extra work to help set up for the venue hire and visit from the Minister for Environment and Heritage on 16/7/14, those who helped on the night, and of course Phil who was the star of the evening.

We had a very successful evening with the Minister giving us a Certificate of Appreciation and a letter to advise we would receive a \$1,000 donation.

I also had a chat with the Minister and was advised of a Restoration Grant that we can potentially access. The team at APRM are already discussing possibilities for a 15 August deadline. Your feedback would be appreciated.



The Minister and representatives of DEHP. Left to right: Deputy-Director General Dean Ellwood, Executive Director Reuben Carlos, Director General Jon Black and the Minister, Hon Andrew Powell MP, 16 July 2014. Photo from Department of Environment and Heritage Protection.

#### **APRM Volunteer Shirts**

The Executive Committee has developed a policy for uniforms for Volunteers. For shirts, we have catalogs at the sign-on counter for you to look at and talk to Lyn Pegler. She will help you choose two kinds of shirts for women and two kinds for men; I have quotes for the next meeting for you to make a group decision. Please remember that shirts are purchased by the volunteer if they choose to have one.

#### **Around the Museum**

Unfortunately we could not run the Tram on Sunday 20 July due to having accreditation requirements which have now been resolved (RRC staff no longer required).

We have received a reply from RRC in regard to permission to replacing the carpet in the QR carriage that has carpet bug. We have been given permission to put carpet or vinyl down if we wish.

The owner of the 1007 carriage has also advised that we have permission to replace the carpet with the stipulation that it be correct carpet to fit

the period of the carriage. We hope that we can get a grant for this.

New sales stock has been received in the last month and put into place. Some went into the new glass fronted cabinet that Dave Schultz built - it looks great Dave.

Ross will still back me up on annual leave or holidays, and he'll still be our treasurer. However I'd like to extend our thanks to him for stepping up with RRC negotiations and training me in the Coordinator's position.

*Janice*



Rockhampton Down Goods, C17 957, 1 November 1966. Weston Langford photographer. 108183



Photos of the International Dancers on the platform weren't of publishable quality, but we can at least show some of the cars on exhibit at the back side of the museum precinct during the last Family Fun Day, 29 June 2014. Lynn Zelmer photographer.