



Friends of Archer Park Station & Steam Tram Museum Inc

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TRAM TRACKS

Date Claimers

2016

Sunday, 28 February – Family Fun Day

Wednesday, 30 March – School Holiday Activities

Wednesday, 6 April – School Holiday Activities

Sunday, 24 April – Family Fun Day

Wednesday, 27 April – Annual General Mtg

Sunday, 26 June – Family Fun Day

Wednesday, 29 June – School Holiday Activities

Wednesday, 6 July – School Holiday Activities

Sunday, 28 August – Family Fun Day

Wednesday, 21 September – School Holiday Activities

Wednesday, 28 September – School Holiday Activities

Sunday, 23 October – Family Fun Day

Note that in 2016 School Holiday Activities are on Wednesdays.

Friends of Archer Park

Acting President: Dennis Sheehan

Vice President:

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, 24 February 2016.**

2016 Membership

Membership dues for 2016 are now due.

Coordinator's Report

The Executive Committee and I hope that everyone had a happy and safe Christmas and New Year. We hope that this year will be another successful one for the station and our members.

Donation – we are pleased to announce that Mr Bill Byrne MP has donated \$2,000 for us to get aluminium steps made up for the CMW21.

Tram Activities – Both the Tram and Billard are having their yearly servicing at the moment. The commencement of the Tram will be delayed as we must replace all the steam tubes and with the holiday period we are waiting for suppliers to return to work.

Due to a delay in receiving the steam pipes we will not get the tram back on the track until at least 14 February as fitting will not commence until 8 February.

Hopefully this will not affect our planned February Family Fun Day, we have sent out posters and other promotion for 28 February as planned.

WPH&S – Members please make a point of familiarising yourselves with our Emergency Quick Response Guide that is in the Ticket Office and Kitchen. Please also have a refresh of the Workplace Health & Safety information that is in the white folder on the members' table on the platform. This information is to assist us and our visitors to stay safe at Archer Park.

It is the time of year when we do our annual refresh of the Fire & Evacuation Procedures. Those that have not re-done theirs since December 2015 please come and see me so that you can do your paperwork – it only takes around 10 minutes! I am trying to get everyone's due in December/January of each year.

Safety – as a result of our education and compliance visits from Queensland Transport in 2015 we have had to improve our internal safety auditing process. With the support of Qld Transport Ross, Dennis and myself have developed new systems and the required documentation.

I have certainly learnt a lot about rail safety and over the past months we have put many hours into making sure APRM is compliant.

Grants - This year we are waiting on outcomes for 2 grants – to set up our Control Panel and to purchase a set of mobile scaffolding. We hope we are successful with both and will let everyone know if we are.

Membership – we wish Wilma Coghlan well as she moves to Brisbane with her family. Wilma has been a member of Archer Park for nearly 10 years and we will miss her.

We also wish Gary McLellan all the best for the future as we won't see him as often as we did previously due to his move to Yeppoon. He will stay as a member and we hope he pops in to say hello and have a cuppa when he is visiting Rockhampton.

Jared Press is also taking a break as he commences his study this year. We look forward to his return when gets time. We thank all of them for their valued work.

On that note - we are looking for more members to volunteer on a Sunday in the Ticket Office as the roster only has 2 people at the moment and we need 4. If you are happy to run the register and tell the visitors about Archer Park you will be most welcome!

Library - We are happy to have been able to assist both Bundaberg and Mt Morgan Railway Museums with a donation of Library Books that had double ups in our library in the Refreshment Room. Anyone that is heading to Bundaberg please let us know if you can make a delivery?

Please remember that all members are able to read and borrow books when they wish to. We also have a Technical section of our Library Books that are kept in the office and are available for research and borrowing with a limited few that cannot leave the station. We are about to set up a lending system.

Dave Gettins has just donated a book, “In the Tracks of the Last Steam Trains”, which we did not have previously to the Library.

Work for the Dole - We hope to have the work for the dole project build us some rock block surrounds to our coal and coke pits, getting rid of the old wooden sleepers that are there at the

moment. They will also plant some new shrubs to replace the ones that died along the fence that are to be provided by RRC, who also repaired the watering system to that area.

CWM21 – some of our members have started doing work on this carriage by pulling down some of the old damaged ceiling. Fixing the floor is the first big item on the agenda. Dave Shulz is busy getting quotes on materials and making plans. Ross has done up a plan for what work is required and our members will do the restoration work over the next year or so.

Tram Trailer Exhibit – we have installed wheels under the Tram Trailer and will commence preparing exhibits for display on it, and will have to work out signage for them.

Tampa 6 – we have had a new alternator fitted to the Tampa 6 at the end of last year and we hope to operate it on Family Fun Days for an extra attraction for our visitors.

Visitor - We had a visit from Doug Press, one of the people who assisted in the rebuild of the Tram for the 1988 Bi-Centenary. I was lovely for Doug to visit the station and see the Tram whilst it was pulled down for its service after all his work on it many years ago.

All the best – we wish Jan Wallace, former Heritage Village Services Coordinator, all the best in her new position of Coordinator of the Cosmos Centre in Charleville. We will miss your support and help that you gave us throughout the last few years.

Janice Seymour

Fires and Closures

Rail heritage generally has a low profile in the Australian landscape as most Museums are volunteer operated and dependant upon grants, donations, sales of memorabilia, etc.

It is particularly sad to see South Gippsland Tourist Railway close and the devastating fires in WA have likely also closed the Yarloop Workshops.

Information on the SGTR has been circulated to members by e-mail and provides a timely wake-up call for APRM to improve our volunteer recruitment.

WA Fire Destroys Yarloop Timber Workshops



The Yarloop timber workshops were a local museum providing a much loved tourist attraction in a small Western Australian town. Unfortunately, the mainly timber buildings (above) and most of the museum's collection disappeared during Waroona bush fire early January 2016.

Your editor visited the workshops in 1994 and was most impressed with the collection of steam era equipment, and especially the masters for sand casting (below) that enabled the workshop to repair any of Millar's equipment used in the area's timber industry. Located far from any conventional repair facilities the workshop had, for example, masters for every piece of the gear assembly of their geared locos, a casting shop, lathes and other machines to manufacture replacement parts.

Yarloop was a small town but there were enough dedicated locals, supplemented by others from Perth and further away, to have the museum operational year round. It will be sorely missed.

[History and additional photos: www.yarloopworkshops.com.au]

