

**Friends of Archer Park Station
& Steam Tram Museum Inc**
PO Box 573, Rockhampton, Qld 4700
Australia

Ph: 07 4936 8191 Fax: 07 4927 0120
E-mail: archerpark@bigpond.com
URL: archerparkrailmuseum.com
F: facebook.com/ArcherParkRailway/



ARCHER PARK
RAIL MUSEUM

2020 Date Claimers

As of 23 March 2020 the Archer Park Rail Museum will be temporarily closed due to Covid-19.

Wed 1 July School Holiday Activities

Wed 8 July School Holiday Activities

Sun 23 August Family Fun Day

Wed 23 September School Holiday Activities

Wed 30 September School Holiday Activities

Sun 25 October Family Fun Day

Friends of Archer Park

President: Ricky Weir

Vice President: John Kennedy

Secretary: Elaine Alexander

Treasurer: Paula Roberts

Facility Safety Officer: Shaun Hudson

Rail Safety Officer: Ian McCully

Rollingstock Supervisor: John Kennedy

Track Supervisor: John Kennedy

Museum Coordinator: Janice Seymour

Meetings of the Friends of Archer Park are now normally on the fourth **Wednesday** of the month in the refreshment room.

Coordinator's Report

We want to advise some important points with the Covid-19 closure of the museum:

Membership: Members can still pay their membership for 20/21 – over the phone by EFTPOS or post a cheque – but no problem if you need to wait until we return to operation. Members' meetings will be skipped until the AGM.

AGM: The APRM Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 27 May 2020 at 12.30pm – and can be attended by phone,

FaceTime or at the Museum. We will need to keep numbers down if Covid-19 concerns are still here.

Details for phone and FaceTime attendance will be circulated via phone and e-mail.

Nomination Forms can be emailed out and must be submitted 14 days prior to the AGM (Wednesday 13 May).

We will assess the situation as we get closer to the date and can put the meeting back to June.

General Operations: The Treasurer will, with the support of Janice,

- Do the stocktake next week that is required at the end of the financial year
- work with the accountant to get the financial audit done for the AGM
- do all the regular treasurer duties of paying bills, reconciling accounts, etc.

Rail Safety and General Administration: We must make sure that the facility and all duties required for our accreditation with the Office of the National Rail Safety Regulator are maintained.

Janice will continue to be employed and will work her usual amount of hours, with the support of the Management Committee, until further notice.

Janice will continue, with the Management Committee and Safety Officer, to do:

- the required monthly Safety Management System Audits – 10 between now and the end of June
- Assist in the review of our documentation that is required – 12 documents, some big – between now and the end of June

Janice will continue to work on the project with the paperwork catalogue and maintain various support documentation and general duties.

We have one direct Centrelink volunteer, Robert, who has agreed to continue to come and

assist with the mowing, etc., to maintain the facility in a good condition.

Some cleaning will need to be done, and we may possibly call on some younger members to assist Janice with this.

RRC: We are in contact with the RRC Manager, Communities & Culture, John Webb, working with him to ensure that things continue to work smoothly in the background during our closure.

CWM21- Camp Wagon: The outside of the wagon is in the process of being painted by the Jobs Qld group of trainees and we hope to have it finished prior to any Covid-19 closure of their program. We are leaving some window frames and bits and pieces to be painted by our own members/volunteers in the future.

Ticket Office: We are also planning to repaint the Ticket Office bench and place clear plastic over it to solve the issues we had with wear and tear on this area.

Promotion: We hope you have all seen the APRM Commercial on WIN TV that has aired during February and March. We believe our good numbers of 415 visitors at the February Family Fun Day were helped by the advertisement as it was a rainy day which normally would drop our numbers.

Donation: - We would like to send out a big Thank You to **Dobinsons Spring and**

Suspension who donated \$500 to Archer Park, to assist with the on-air advertising costs of our TV Commercial.

Sunday Tram Crew, Ticket Office and Kitchen Roster: I will contact people that are on these rosters when we are getting close to opening again.

Best Wishes: We hope that all our members stay healthy and happy during this difficult time, and look forward to seeing you back at the Museum – hopefully in the not too distant future.

We will do our best to keep you up-to-date and will both email and post out information, and occasionally phone members, to see how you are all going.

Janice Seymour

2020 Visitor Guide

A copy of the 2020 Visitor Guide is included with the distribution of this newsletter so that you are familiar with the information we are providing to visitors.

YouTube: Steam in the Sugar Season Mackay Queensland mid-1960s

QR steam operations related to the sugar industry (bulk sugar, molasses, etc.), not the sugar tramways:

<https://youtu.be/HbUuJNsvuVU>.

ARCHER PARK

RAIL MUSEUM



HOME OF THE PURREY STEAM TRAM

A self guided tour around a selection of exhibits at the Archer Park Rail Museum.

Archer Park Station

Archer Park station was originally opened for rail traffic in December 1889. The heritage-listed station is now owned and operated by Rockhampton Regional Council, and has been run as a rail museum since 1999.

When the station was built, Rockhampton had two main railway stations - Stanley Street and Archer Park. For a time, Archer Park surpassed Stanley Street as the most utilised station. Before most families had their own car,

Archer Park provided the departure point for seaside excursions to Yeppoon and Emu Park. As steam began to be replaced by diesel, the increased haulage capacity of diesel meant that trains could be longer. Archer Park Station's platform wasn't long enough to accommodate the newer longer trains, and Stanley Street became the main Rockhampton station. Archer Park closed as a railway station in 1970.

The Purrey Steam Tram

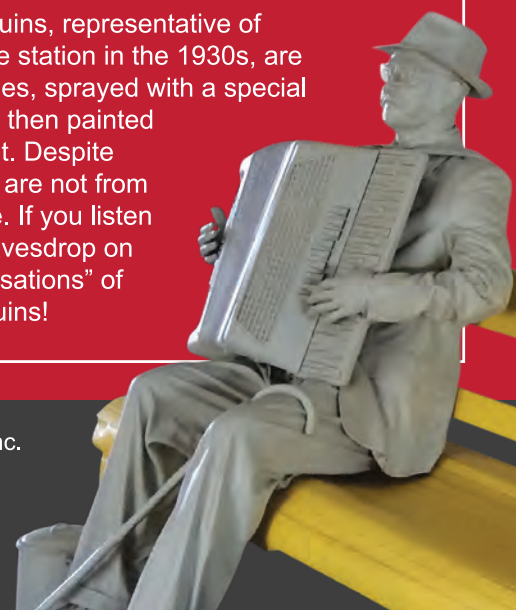
One of the station's most popular exhibits is the Purrey Steam Tram. This Purrey tram is the only surviving working example in the world. Built in

Bordeaux, France, a fleet of nine trams and six trailers made up Rockhampton's original public transport system. The trams ran from 1909 to 1939 (see route map in the Tram Room at the station). In that time the trams

ran 4,526,932 miles, and transported 40,514,933 passengers. Our tram was painstakingly rebuilt by Rockhampton City Council workers at the Rockhampton Bus Depot and was officially commissioned in June 1988.

On the Platform

Our station mannequins, representative of people who used the station in the 1930s, are made with real clothes, sprayed with a special hardening resin and then painted with a car body paint. Despite looking similar, they are not from Expo 88 in Brisbane. If you listen carefully you can eavesdrop on some of the "conversations" of our station mannequins!



Managed by Friends of Archer Park Station & Steam Tram Museum Inc.
Archer Park Museum | Denison Street | Rockhampton
Phone: 4936 8191 | Email: archerpark@bigpond.com
<https://www.archerparkrailmuseum.com/>

This project received assistance from Rockhampton Regional Council's Community Assistance Program.

AROUND THE STATION

Sleeping Car JCS 1007

This carriage is on loan to Archer Park Rail Museum from a private rail enthusiast. This coach was built in Ipswich in 1921 and saw extensive service between Brisbane and Cairns, passing through Archer Park on its way. Later in its life, JCS 1007 was placed into the train that ran from Brisbane to Dirranbandi.



Special Car 434

Special Car 434 is on loan to Archer Park by Queensland Rail. This car was the personal carriage of the General Manager of the Central Queensland Railway District. The carriage was built in Ipswich in 1903 as Sleeping Car No.360 and was converted to the Special Coach in 1939/1940 and renumbered No. 434.



Brown Bomber - C17 988

Built in Maryborough in the 1950s, this C17 Class 4-8-0 locomotive spent some of its years after being decommissioned on display at Movie World on the Gold Coast. The C17 series was so successful that its design continued from the 1920s to the 1950s. Lighter than some locos of the period the C17s were used throughout Queensland to haul mail, passengers and other goods. The last of the C17 engines were nicknamed "Brown Bombers" after their distinctive livery and in reference to world champion boxer Joe Louis who was also known as "the Brown Bomber".



Billard Locotractor No. 11E2

Contrary to appearances, this yellow locotractor was not used as a sugar cane loco. It was built in Tours, France, in 1948 as a mining engine and was used by a French Company on mining and dam projects around Australia. This loco is used as the shunt engine for the Purrey Steam Tram.



Rail Communications

Children are welcome to use the two 1920s telephones, one in the Station Master's office and the other in the signal box. Or the more adventurous can tap out a message on the Morse Code keys (please tap lightly). You can also pull No.19 signal lever to raise or lower the red and white signal down the track between the station and Archer Street.



Refreshment Rooms

The restored piano in the Refreshment Room was originally built in 1863 in England and restored by Terry Kirwan of Rockhampton in 2000. The music you hear was played on this piano by Kev Doyle, a well known pianist in Rockhampton. On the walls around the Refreshment Room are photos and stories of locals who were involved with Archer Park Station over the years.



If you have any questions, our knowledgeable staff and volunteers will be only too pleased to hear from you!