

Friends of Archer Park Station & Steam Tram Museum Inc

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Meetings of the Friends of Archer Park Station & Steam Tram Museum Inc. are held on the 4th Wednesday of the month commencing at 12.30pm in the office, unless otherwise advised by the Secretary.

Newsletter schedule: Feb/May/Aug/Nov.

2024-5 APRM Date Claimers

Friday 20 December 2024 – Monday 06 January 2025 — Christmas/NY Closure

Sunday 23 February 2025 — Family Fun Day

Wednesday 09 April 2025 — School Holiday Specials

Wednesday 16 April 2025 — School Holiday Specials

Friday 18 April – Monday 21 April 2025 — Easter Closure

Sunday 27 April 2025 — ANZAC Family Fun Day

Sunday 22 June 2025 — Family Fun Day

Wednesday 02 July 2025 — School Holiday Specials

Wednesday 09 July 2025 — School Holiday Specials

Sunday 24 August 2025 — Teddies on the Tram Family Fun Day

Wednesday 24 September 2025 — School Holiday Specials

Wednesday 01 October 2025 — School Holiday Specials

Sunday 26 October 2025 — Family Fun Day

Friends of Archer Park Management

President/Safety Officer: Ricky Weir

Coordinator/Treasurer: Paula Roberts

Assistant Coordinator/Secretary: Emma Barnes

Rollingstock & Track Supervisor: John Kennedy

Relief Coordinator/Catalogue Officer: Kate Jones



ARCHER PARK

RAIL MUSEUM

UPCOMING AT ARCHER PARK RAIL MUSEUM

We wish all our members and the readers of this newsletter a very safe and healthy Christmas and Happy New Year. Archer Park Rail Museum will be closed to the public from 1.30pm on Thursday 19 December 2024 through to 10am Monday 06 January 2025.



THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF ARCHER PARK RAIL STATION

On Sunday 17 November, the staff of Archer Park Rail Museum along with dignitaries and the public celebrated the 125 years of Archer Park Rail Station. The visitor numbers to the museum exceeded expectations from both members and management with a total of 749 including VIP's and performers.

There were several dignitaries in attendance at the 125th Anniversary including:

Senator, the Honourable Matthew Canavan,
Senator for Queensland

The Honourable Andrew Powell, Member for
Glass House, Minister for Environment and
Tourism; Minister for Science and Innovation

Mrs Donna Kirkland, Member for Rockhampton, Assistant Minister for Mental Health, Drug and Alcohol Treatment, Families and Seniors and Central Queensland

Mayor Tony Williams, Mayor of the Rockhampton Regional Council

Councillor Shane Latcham

Councillor Grant Mathers

Councillor Edward Oram

Councillor Elliot Hilse

Councillor Marika Taylor

Mr Robert Schwarten, former member for Rockhampton; and

Mr Greg Hallam, Queensland Rail Historian

We would also like to acknowledge the following who could not attend the event due to different contributing factors including:

The Honourable Michelle Landry MP, Member for Capricornia

Councillor Drew Wickerson, Deputy Mayor of the Rockhampton Regional Council

Mr Mitchell Gitsham, Deputy Chairperson of the Rail Preservation Society of Queensland Inc.

The team at APRM like to thank the event's live performers: Rockhampton State High School; Ridgeland State School; the Rockhampton Highlanders Pipe Band; Mr Ian Huxley and North Rockhampton State High School.

Thanks also to the team behind the scenes who helped create the displays – Kate, Emma, Emily and Austin and to those who helped set up across the three days prior to the event. A massive thank you to the Central Queensland Animal Society Inc (CQASI) who helped in the kitchen and barbecue.

A list of our sponsors and supporters are attached to the back of this newsletter. All sponsors, CQASI and performers will receive certificates acknowledging their support of the 125th Anniversary.

OTHER NEWS FROM APRM

In August 2024, APRM had our first ever *Teddies on the Tram* Family Fun Day. We had 231 visitors through the door and it was great to see so many children who, along with their parents, brought their teddies out for the day. Attached to this newsletter are some of the

photographs from the day including the teddy on the tram and staff photographs.

In early October, our track maintenance crew repainted the yellow safety line along the platform as it was becoming faded and some of the paint was peeling. This was a small project management had on the books from early 2024 and was completed in time for the 125th Anniversary.

In late October through early November the Refreshment Room and Kitchen were out of action for a week as the aging air conditioner was failing. Thanks to TVH along with Rockhampton Regional Council – a new air conditioner was installed prior to the 125th Anniversary. This will allow for visitors and staff to sit in the air conditioning during the warm months of the year.

MEMBER'S NEWS

We are pleased to welcome two new members to our ranks here at APRM – Emily Barrett and Qing Ji. Emily has been a volunteer with us since early January of this year and has worked wonderfully well with Paula, Emma and Kate in preparing for the 125th Anniversary along with other administrative duties. Ji joined us a volunteer back in June and has worked in the refreshment room along with Josh and the other attendants. Please make both ladies welcome.

In later October, John and Ricky had their Safety Access The Rail Corridor (SARC) renewed and reissued; with Richard, Emma and Paula completing their SARC training a few days earlier. The five management members passed with flying colours and will have their SARC cards with them at all times.

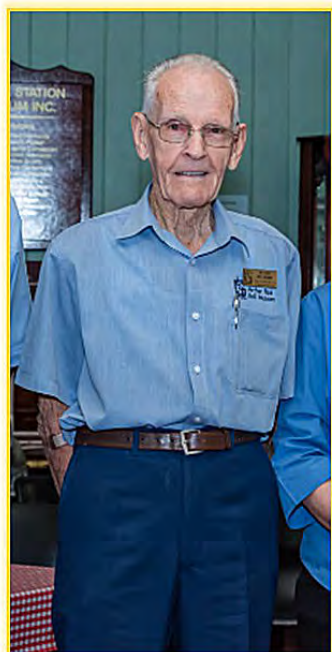
Members have celebrated the Christmas season at the Rockhampton Leagues Club on Saturday 30 November 2024. Photographs from the member's Christmas party are available on our Facebook page.

VALE BILL HEAD 1929-2024

It is with a heavy heart that we inform everyone about the passing of Bill Head on Saturday 19 October 2024. Bill was a very popular and beloved tourist guide, especially with the students from local schools, in particular the Rockhampton Grammar School.

He was a life member of Archer Park Rail Museum from 2001 until this year; but retired

from volunteering when COVID struck in 2020. As a mark of respect, all members stood in silence at the October members meeting. Bill was acknowledged in the Wall of Remembrance at the 125th Anniversary of Archer Park Rail Station and a toast was raised to him at the staff after party.



TRAM OPERATIONS

The Purrey Steam Tram will be out of service from Monday 25 November due to annual service. We are hoping to have the tram back in operation the first weekend in February 2025.

We also welcome Damien Clark as the new trainee Conductor to the tram crew team. Damien will continue to be in training until the early new year.

We continue to advertise our Tram Crew flyer on Facebook and Instagram, looking for both Conductors and Tram Drivers.

VISITOR NUMBERS & TOURS

We thank Bayview Tower, Yeppoon for the continue attendance throughout the year. Our tour guides – Alex, John, Tony and Josh have provided several tours throughout the year.

Up until Monday 25 November we have had 4288 visitors through the door. It has been a very good year so far and we look forward to seeing what the rest of 2024 and the beginning of 2025 brings.

VENUE HIRE

As of 1 January 2025, Archer Park Rail Museum will be increasing the prices of the venue hire due to ongoing costs with other items. This will affect the price including events such as: weddings; photography shoots; hire of the refreshment room and hire of the station complex.

The new prices from 1 January 2025 are as follows:

Wakes	
Monday-Thursday 8.30am-3.30pm (max 2 hours)	\$300.00
Friday, Saturday, Sunday (max 2 hours)	\$350.00
Wedding Ceremonies	
Min 3 hours	\$500.00
Extra per hour	\$150.00
Birthday Party (food supplied)	
Per Child	\$25.00
Extra Adults (Not Parents of child having birthday)	\$10.00
Refreshment Room	
Monday-Thursday 8.30am-3.30pm (min 3 hrs)	\$450.00
Monday-Thursday extra per hour	\$90.00
Friday, Saturday, Sunday (min 3 hours)	\$450.00
Friday, Saturday, Sunday (extra per hour)	\$150.00
Photos – Foyer & Platform	
Min 2 hours	\$350.00
Extra per hour	\$150.00
Station Complex including Weddings	
Monday-Thursday 8.30am-3.30pm (min 2 hrs)	\$875.00
Friday, Saturday, Sunday (8 hr day)	\$1400.00
Extra per hour	\$250.00

GRANTS

In September 2024, Paula and Emma submitted a grant application to CleanCo for funding towards the 125th Anniversary. The outcome of this grant is still unknown and we will not be informed until after this newsletter has been published. We will update you in the first newsletter of 2025.

BUSINESS THANK YOUs

Throughout 2024 Archer Park Rail Museum dealt with several businesses throughout Rockhampton; the Capricornia district and Queensland. We would like to thank those businesses including:

Rockhampton Regional Council

Queensland Rail – Far South Control,
Townsville

Campbells Warehouse, Rockhampton

Hopkins Brothers

J&C Legh General Engineering

AP&P

Murray View Souvenirs

The Souvenir People

Tiki Café and Takeaway

Coles, South Rockhampton; and

Intricate Details Photography.

We look forward to the continued support throughout 2025 and into the years ahead!

MERCHANDISE

Don't forget – member's get a 10% discount on all merchandise. We have a wide range of merchandise including socks; pens; notebooks; whistles; stubbie coolers; trains and so much more! They are a great idea if you are looking for either a birthday or Christmas present to give a family member or friends locally, state wide; interstate or overseas! The APRM Forthwall merch store is also available at: <https://archerparkrailmuseum-shop.forthwall.com/en-aud>. We have cups; laptop sleeves and stickers available with more merchandise coming in 2025!

We still have some limited edition 125th anniversary coins and merchandise available – make sure you purchase it before it goes.

*Paula Roberts and Emma Barnes
(Coordinators)*

Photos: AUGUST 2024 FAMILY FUN DAY

back of the Purrey Steam Tram.



Above: Kate, Josh and Margaret

Right Top: Tony and Margaret

Photos: 125th ANNIVERSARY

Right Centre: Jo with The Hon. Andrew Powell, Minister for Environment & Tourism, Minister for Science & Innovation and Donna Kirkland, Member for Rockhampton on the



Previous Page Right Bottom: John, Richard, Ricky, Paula & Emma with Donna Kirkland, Member for Rockhampton.



Above: The VIP guests at the 125th Anniversary. Back row: Councillor Elliot Hilse; Paula; Sen. Matthew Canavan; Councillor Grant Mathers; Emma. Front Row: Ricky; Mayor Tony Williams; Councillor Marika Taylor; Councillor Edward Oram; Councillor Shane Latcham



Above: Damien, Alex, Jo, Michael with Donna Kirkland, the Member for Rockhampton

Below: Current staff of Archer Park Rail Museum aboard the Purrey Steam Tram. From left to right: Matthew, Rob, Michael, Trevor, Richard, Jo; Josh; Emma; Alex Limkin; Damien; Tony; Margaret; Kate; Helen; Paula; John K; John C. Absent: Ricky; Trent; Emily & Ji



Archer Park Rail Museum

Supporters and Sponsors



ARCHER PARK
RAIL MUSEUM

Sponsors

Archer Park Rail Museum would like to acknowledge the following sponsors of the 125th celebration



Platinum Sponsor



ARCHER PARK
RAIL MUSEUM

Friends of Archer Park Station & Steam Tram Inc.

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Contact us: email: admin@archerparkrailmuseum.com

phone: 07 4922 2774

address: 51-87 Denison Street, Rockhampton, Qld, Aus, 4700

Open: Sundays 9am-1pm; Monday-Thursday 10am-3pm. Closed Friday, Saturday and all public holidays. Tram operates: February-November.

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Silver Sponsors

Michelle Landry MP
Federal Member for Capricornia



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