



# RAIL HERITAGE WA

*Members Newsletter*

*May 2017*



## FOR YOUR CALENDAR

*Please note – Meetings will normally be held at 2pm second Saturday of the month, except for January. Why not put them in your diary now.*

**Saturday 13 May at 2pm. Entertainment Meeting. Members photos, Railways of the North-West.** There is a long history of small narrow gauge and large iron ore railways in the North-West of WA. Bring along your digital or slide photographs for presentation on the afternoon so that we can see this fascinating area.

**Saturday 20 May at 2pm. Railfest Planning Meeting at the Museum.**

**Sunday 28 May. SWRHC Open Day at Boyanup. Trains, trains, trains - and more trains.**

**Saturday 3 June to Monday 5 June. AMRA Model Railway Exhibition.**

**Saturday 10 June at 2pm. Annual General Meeting. See separate notice below.**

**Sunday 8 October. Railfest 2017**

Keep the date free for the major event for the year.

## Annual General Meeting and Nomination to Positions

The Annual General Meeting will be held on **Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2017 at the Railway Museum, 136 Railway Parade, Bassendean, starting at 2pm.** Business of the meeting will include receipt of reports on Society operations, and the election of office bearers. The positions that are up for re-election are President, Vice-president, Secretary, Treasurer and four Committee Members. A nomination form for these positions is attached, and completed forms need to be returned to the Secretary by 21<sup>st</sup> May 2016. Nomination forms will also be available at the general meeting, and will be available over the counter in the entry hall during normal museum opening times.

All members are invited to consider the positions that are available, attend the AGM and be involved in the management of your Society.

## Dual Gauge Track Project Manager – Expression of Interest

Later this year we will be having some dual gauge trackage installed at our Bassendean site by an external contractor. RHWA members and volunteers are invited to submit an expression of interest for the position of Project Manager to plan and coordinate this work. Whilst the work

cannot be undertaken until RHWA has accreditation to move rollingstock approved by the Office of National Rail Safety Regulator preliminary negotiations should commence no later than 10 June 2017. A sum of money has been set aside for the Project Manager and will cover the whole project from initial negotiations to the end of construction and placement of vehicles back onto the new trackage. It will include some intense periods of activity.

Scope of work for the contract includes:

- Negotiation with Office of National Rail Safety Regulator re: proposed works
- Negotiations with UGL with regard the work to be done, the timings, the use of their siding for storage, an interface agreement and approval to proceed
- Negotiations with the selected contractor re: start times and access to onsite space and facilities
- Ensure that the work undertaken by the contractor uses the correct allocated materials owned by RHWA and is consistent with the engineering drawings
- Coordination of shunting activity on the Bassendean private siding with regard to UGL requirements and in compliance with RHWA's accreditation procedures.
- Coordination of works with site users including the WAMRC and public access to the museum
- Be liaison between all parties and reporting regularly to the RHWA Management Committee as to progress and / or issues.

Expressions of interest (no more than two pages) to be sent to the President [president@railheritagewa.org.au](mailto:president@railheritagewa.org.au) no later than 4pm Tuesday 23 May 2017.

## **Railfest Planning Meeting (President)**

A planning meeting for this year's Railfest will be held at the Museum on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May at 2pm. It is important that we make arrangements for this major event in our annual calendar, to be held on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October. All welcome to help contribute to the running of the Society.

## **SWRHC News – February Open Day (Norm Chapple)**

Yet another fine morning saw the crowds turn up to the SWRHC to see and learn about some trades and crafts that technology has left far behind but that are still practised by some as a hobby or as a business today. At the end of the day, over 400 visitors had turned up (150 in the first half hour!) to see 30 artisans at work.

On display was rug rag making, sewing with a hand operated machine, felting using alpaca wool, wooden toys being hand made, book binding, portrait drawing, hand tools from pre-electric tool days, lace making, knot tying, wood turning, weaving, spinning and string musical instruments being hand made as well as a demonstration of rope making. Our sincere thanks go to these folk who gave of their time and skill to be a part of this day - and yes, Traditional Trades Day will be on again in April next year!

And, as usual, our on site groups were in full swing - the blacksmiths showing how metal used to be used to make various items, our old machinery men having a couple of equally old machines chugging away, the Men's Shed showing their hand made woodwork and John, Roy and Gary showing how railway rolling stock used to be built and repaired a century ago. Even the model railway guys got into the "old" act by running several steam locomotives on the layout to show what trains used to be like, with Picko's sound equipped loco being a great drawcard.

Not to be outdone, our volunteers turned on the old fashioned charm and service that was a feature in days gone by - well done and thank you Graham at the door, Eevee, Carolyn and Anne in the Picnic Van, Steven and Kelly at the sausage sizzle and Philippa and Don on the raffle. In the spirit of days gone by we raffled a copy of "Rails Through the Bush", a massive book that tells the history of the timber industry in WA and the important part played by the railways. It was

won by Julia from Mandogalup and she was thrilled as she told us that it was the first thing she had ever won - apart from her husband's heart of course!

And the kids weren't forgotten as we had a number of "old time" activities for them to try, replicating what we who are getting on used to do to keep ourselves amused as kids.

Our May Open Day on the 28th is themed "Trains, trains, trains - and more trains". It will be a multi-event day. At 11am we will unveil our thus far secret addition to the site which should be a great hit with "train tragic" kids and following that, and again at 12.30pm, I will lead a posse of interested visitors through the back blocks of the site to show what else we have that is not on front line display in terms of rolling stock - please note that covered footwear will be required for this. Added to this adventure we will have some new interpretive panels on display that illustrate the history of a number of the items of rolling stock. And all of our usual attractions will be on hand to make it a big day out for visitors.

And now for the news that many of you have been waiting for - if all goes to plan, Leschenault Lady's boiler will make a triumphal return to Boyanup in readiness for this open day - and we'll spend a bit of time on our back blocks tour checking it out. Then the fun will begin as we commence the job of putting it back on the frames and connecting up all the bits and pieces so that she will again be in operable condition.

Further good news is that we have been successful in gaining a grant from the Shire of Capel to begin the concreting of the floor of the machinery side of the roundhouse. This will make it much more pleasant for visitors to walk through, reduce the dust that is the enemy of preserving old machinery and allow us to rejig the displays to better tell the stories of some of the local area's industries.

To keep up to date with what is happening at the SWRHC, check out, and like, our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/SouthWestRailandHeritageCentre/> or contact me through [swrhc@railheritagewa.org.au](mailto:swrhc@railheritagewa.org.au) or call on 0459 712 552. We are always keen to hear from people who are looking for something to do with their spare time - we can find a niche for you at the SWRHC, whether you are skilled in some way or a complete novice.

## **100 Years Ago in the Weekly Notices (Peter Hopper)**

In late April, Yerbillon and Dedari were removed from all timetables and rates books, with the stopping places in the future to be No 5 and 8 Pumping stations respectively.

On the last day of April Kookynie and Morgans were closed as booking stations, while the next day Kondinin was opened as booking station.

At Cullalla on the MR a new siding was opened, rate mileage 52m ex Midland Junction, for goods and passengers; Mail trains were not to stop.

The Kondinin - Emu Hill railway was under construction, and PWD began accepting traffic for Bendering siding, 256m66ch.

At Borden, a portable stock race and hurdles were provided.

The Bolgart – Calingiri extension was opened on 24/5/17, with the timetable published in the WTT to operate from then. Staff and Ticket section was Bolgart to Calingiri, with Calingiri unattended.

At both Claymore and Balingup scotch blocks were installed on the crossing loop.

In the latter part of May a deviation was installed following an accident at Olive Hill on the Brunswick Junction to Collie line; this deviation was to remain in place until the 10<sup>th</sup> June.

## Newsletter items (Peter Hopper)

Deadline for the next issue of this newsletter is Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2017. If you have any items for publication please contact me via email at [rhwanewsletter@iinet.net.au](mailto:rhwanewsletter@iinet.net.au), see me at a general meeting, or post to me at Newsletter Editor, PO Box 363, Bassendean, WA 6934.

## Museum Rosters

### Last minute changes (Peter Hopper)

If you need to make any last minute changes to your rostered day and time, please try and make a swap or alteration with someone else on the list. If you are unable to, please contact me on my mobile – 0408 944 771.

### Sunday Museum Roster (Paul Collin)

Date	Kiosk/Sales	Site Supervision	Duty Supervisor
7 May	K.Freind, P.Hopper	M.Searle	K.Freind
14 May	A.de Smalen, P.Rohan	J.Austin	A. de Smalen
21 May	A.de Smalen, A.Murray	Vol required	A.de Smalen
28 May	A.de Smalen, M.Miles,	M.Searle	A.de Smalen
4 Jun	K.Freind, P.Hopper	M.Searle	K.Freind
11 Jun	P.Hopper, S.Mackay	P.Collin	P.Hopper
18 Jun	P.Hopper, J.Austin	A.Murray	P.Hopper
25 Jun	A.de Smalen, M.Miles,	L.McBeath	A.de Smalen

### Wednesday Museum Roster (Lynda Butler)

Date	Kiosk/Sales	Site Supervision	Duty Supervisor
10 May	A.de Smalen	S.Rayner, G.Bradley, C.Perry	L.Butler
17 May	A.de Smalen	S.Rayner, G.Bradley, C.Perry	A.de Smalen
24 May	A.de Smalen	S.Rayner, C.Perry	L.Butler
31 May	A.de Smalen	S.Rayner, G.Bradley, C.Perry	A.de Smalen
7 Jun	A.de Smalen	G.Bradley, C.Perry	A.de Smalen
14 Jun	A.de Smalen	S.Rayner, C.Perry	A.de Smalen
21 Jun	A.de Smalen	G.Bradley, C.Perry	L.Butler
28 Jun	A.de Smalen	S.Rayner, C.Perry	L.Butler