



Friends of Archer Park Station & Steam Tram Museum Inc

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TRAM TRACKS

Date Claimers

17 Feb 2013: Tram resumes operation

8 Apr 2013: School Holiday Activity

28 Apr 2013: Family Fun Day

1 May 2013: Annual General Meeting

24 Jun 2013: School Holiday Activity

30 Jun 2013: Family Fun Day

1 Jul 2013: School Holiday Activity

25 Aug 2013: Family Fun Day

23 Sep 2013: School Holiday Activity

30 Sep 2013: School Holiday Activity

27 Oct 2013: Family Fun Day

Friends of Archer Park Executive

President: Dot Marshall

Vice President: Wilma Coghlan

Treasurer: Ross Carter 07 4922 2774

Secretary: Phil Augustine 0429 094377

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 February 2013.**

Museum Activities

The Friends' Christmas Party at the Masonic Club on Saturday 8 December was a great meal and all enjoyed going somewhere different and not having to clean up afterwards. The event was also an opportunity to farewell Bruce Lentell, our Council boss for the last several years, who retired at the end of 2012 after more than thirty years with Council.

I know all our volunteers join in welcoming our new Heritage Operations Coordinator. Jan Wallace has joined the team with a wealth of knowledge of the tourism industry and is based at the Heritage Village. Jan coordinated events at the Pilbeam Theatre before coming to us.

Rodney Lauga and Edy Doherty donated a beautiful rare clock to the museum in the past week. Both these chaps are from QR, Rod is now retired and was a watchmaker in the railways. The clock is a "Vienna Regulator" built around 1885 by Gustav Becker in Germany. The clock adorned the walls of each of the railway managers from 1885 to 2010, after which it gathered dust in a corner of the building until Rod came by it and restored it to its former glory. Councillor Rose Swadling accepted the clock on behalf of Council.

At long last we are some progress in stopping the public from parking in the museums car park. The RRC Local Laws group have started putting notices on the vehicles to move or be booked. On any one day over forty cars have been parked in the car park, some parking right in front of the museum. This would cause problems if we had a coach visiting or a function at the museum. As well, it is difficult for visitors to park when they do visit. Unfortunately they would probably turn around and go somewhere else.

Mark Bull Electrician has installed a new two way point under the platform lip for charging the tram and Billard batteries, eliminating draping long leads over carriages, which not only looks bad but is also a safety issue

A box of Qld Railway crockery was donated to Archer Park recently: cups, saucers, plates and dishes were amongst the collection. There were three different colour schemes, depicting crockery used in refreshment rooms and refreshment cars over many years.

Volunteer Bob Rallings, an ex-electrician, looks like he might have the English Electric Diesel Loco 1614 ready to start up. Bob went through all the battery setup and wiring, and found some cables were hooked up wrong. For over 18 months no one had been able to start the loco

and the volt metre in the cabin showed zero. Mid-December Bob had a set of lights lit and the volt metre showing a reading of 95.5 volts. Maybe soon the old girl will kick in if there is enough power in the batteries.

On Thursday December 20 our last organised tour took place for 2012 for thirty children from Vacation Care at the Rockhampton Grammar School.

Archer Park was open for business over the Christmas period for the first time in many years. The only closed days were Saturdays, Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Years Day. As expected a lot of our volunteers were away on holidays and the Tram was out of service for scheduled maintenance. A special thank you to everyone who worked over this period to help keep the Museum open.

From myself and Rockhampton Regional Council I would like to wish all our volunteers, staff and their families a Safe and Happy New Year and thank each and everyone for all their hard work, time spent at Archer Park and your friendship. I look forward to working with you all again in 2013.

Dennis Sheehan

New Medical Standards for Safeworking Personnel

New rules apply for people who perform safe-working duties on tourist and heritage railways.

The National Transport Commission's new medical standard for Rail Safety Workers comes into effect across Australia from January 2013.

Many aspects of the new standard are similar to the guidelines which have been in use since 2004, two areas have changed significantly.

The following changes apply to both RSW 1 and RSW 2 workers, which account for most volunteers in the tourist and heritage sector.

Diabetes – all workers who take medication for diabetes (tables or insulin injections) will need a clearance letter from a treating specialist in diabetes.

Sleep apnoea – workers will now have their Body Mass Index (BMI) measured. Those with a BMI of more than 40 will be referred for a sleep study. People with a BMI of 35-40 may also be referred for a sleep study. If sleep apnoea is confirmed, they will be deemed unfit for rail safety work.

You should discuss these matters with your medical advisors. Please be aware that some volunteers might temporarily be unavailable while the new requirements are processed.

Extracted from The Victorian Transport Tourist and Heritage Rail eNews, Nov 2012.



Archer Park Down Goods with C17 965. Weston Langford photographer [31 October 1966 108151]