



**Bundaberg Steam Tramway Preservation  
Society Inc** trading as

# **Australian Sugar Cane Railway**



# **ANNUAL REPORT 2008**

It is with pleasure that I present the 31st Annual Report of the Bundaberg Steam Tramway Preservation Society Incorporated. 2007 was a record breaking year but 2008 saw the Society recognized Nationally and records broken. Here's what happened:-

## MEMBERSHIP

In 2008, Alex Hulstaert, Susan McIntosh, Sandra Mandate and Jario Suokahlio were welcomed.

Sadly, retired engineer Harvey Flanders died in December. Over thirty members attended his funeral and paid their respects. Harvey gave many hours to the Society sharing his expertise both at meetings and in the workshop. His stories about the sugar industry and locomotives will be missed.



## MEETINGS

The University of the Third Age in Woongarra Street is the venue for the monthly meetings. Meetings are well attended and following some meetings there has been training about Quality Assurance by Alan Beidermann.

A BBQ was held on July 19 with night photo opportunities as a locomotive was under steam. A Christmas Sausage Sizzle was held on December 20 and a night run on Valdora followed.

## ROLLINGSTOCK - LOCOMOTIVES

All locomotives and rolling stock were registered with Work Place Health and Safety.

### ***Invicta* Leeds Fowler 11277 O-6-2T**

*Invicta* worked most of the year with no major problems. All bearings settled in and run smoothly. Minor maintenance was carried out as required.



### **Germany Orenstein and Koppel 0-4-2T**

Germany did not operate during 2008 as it was waiting for ash pan repairs.



### **No3 Bundaberg Fowler 0-4-2T**

No3 had an inspection and welding repairs were carried out by Bruce Potter, pressure welder, on the firebox as per procedures prepared by welding inspector Ron Pazzan.

### **No1 Bundaberg Fowler 0-6-2T**

No 1 is in dry storage.

### **Planet**

Sands were returned to operating order and the engine is used for minor shunting duties.

### **Valdora Baldwin Diesel**

Valdora is used for major shunting duties and operated every Tuesday and Thursday during school holidays. A new air compressor was fitted during the year.



### **Carriages**



Regular weekly inspections are undertaken. Rubber blocks supplied by Consolidated Plastics, as used by the sugar cane railways replaced the coil springs. Roof edges have been refurbished. Every item of rollingstock has now been fitted with Auto-couplers which allows for uniformity and improving safety with shunting duties.

## **FACILITIES**

The half of the Permanent Way Maintenance Facility previously occupied by the Bundaberg City Council was vacated so that the Society could use all of the building. The pedestrian crossings were repainted.

## KEY ACTIVITIES

### Permanent Way Maintenance

The track is inspected every Monday and Friday by Ron Atkinson and Keith Geddes - the Society Track Maintenance Supervisors. Maintenance was undertaken on the steel bridge with 19 sleepers being replaced. Maintenance days were organized with work being carried out near the Rose Garden and Locomotive Storage Facility.



### Permanent Way Extensions

One hundred and fifty metres of track extensions was laid and cracker dust was laid on the extension. Ron Stitt, Sugar Cane Railway Engineer supervised the setting down of the track.

### Rollingstock Maintenance

Tuesdays continue to be well attended. Saturdays following the meeting also provides opportunity for those working to assist with maintenance of locomotives and carriages. Maintenance Co-ordinator Ross Driver prepared work orders and Tom Dowell prints the orders out each week. Dave Twiss continue to do the shopping run and has built up a great rapport with many local businesses.

### Passengers

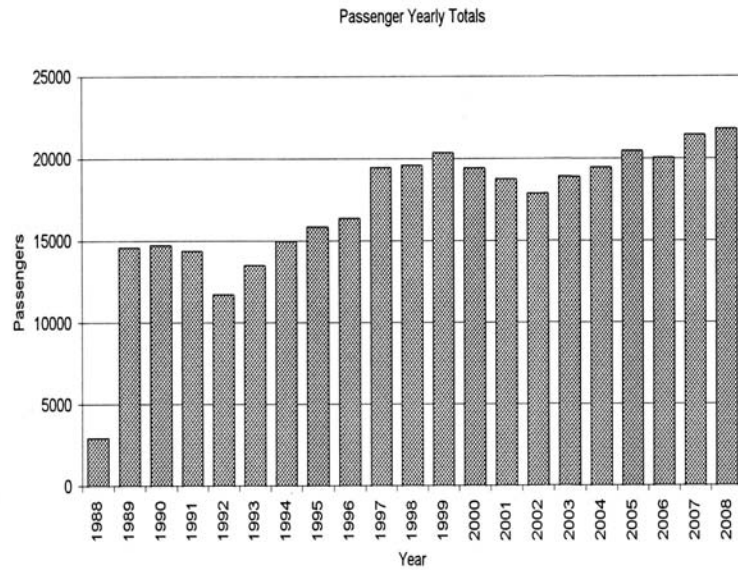
Another record year saw 21776 passengers carried on 94 running days. This is despite the café being closed. This is the 4th year where more than 20000 passengers were carried. Thanks to the guards who count passengers and record the information each running day and to Chris Williams who collates this information and



to the members who worked in the 374 roster spots during the year. The roster continues to run smoothly - thanks to members who are able to as-

sist at short notice when the need arises. To date a total of 356,384 passengers have been carried since operations commenced.

YEAR	TOTAL	Run Days	Avg/Run Day
1988	2941	14	210
1989	14564	68	214
1990	14721	68	216
1991	14358	68	211
1992	11700	68	172
1993	13510	68	199
1994	14976	68	220
1995	15832	68	233
1996	16365	68	241
1997	19436	68	286
1998	19583	68	288
1999	20358	68	299
2000	19403	69	281
2001	18726	69	271
2002	17876	71	252
2003	18893	71	266
2004	19455	70	278
2005	20453	78	262
2006	20027	75	267
2007	21431	94	228
2008	21776	94	232



## Quality System

Risk Assessment sheets have been introduced and are being completed by crews on operating days and for maintenance activities. This is part of the Quality Procedures. The Society's training manual for steam locomotive drivers is being reviewed and updated. Many thanks to Robyn Brazier for retyping this manual. The management committee meet with Alan Beidermann each month to continue the implementation of a Quality System

## Assets and Stores

Tom Dowell continues to record Society assets and he has compiled a computer data base for this information. All stores are labelled and easily assessable. A grant application to the Bundaberg Regional Council for the purchase of storage cabinets for flammable materials was successful and cabinets have been purchased and installed.

## AWARDS

On Australia Day, the Society received a certificate from the Bundaberg City Council for Community Event of the Year for the Recommissioning of *Invicta*.

The Society nominated and was awarded the Steam Locomotive Restoration Award for 2008 from the Association of Tourist and Heritage Rail Australia.



ASSOCIATION OF TOURIST & HERITAGE RAIL AUSTRALIA

ABN 19 755 744 868

## **AFFILIATIONS**

### **Association of Tourist Railways Queensland Inc**

The Society was represented at a meeting in Ipswich. Information relevant to our Society disseminated from this source is presented for members at the meetings.

### **Central Queensland Rail Group**

During 2008 the Society was not able to send representatives to the Central Queensland Rail Group meeting but were kept informed by Denis Sheehan the co-ordinator.

### **Botanic Gardens Attractions**

The Society was represented at the meetings of the Gardens Attractions by David Twiss and myself. Councillors Barnes Forgan and Wilkinson have attended during the year. This year the Hinkler Hall of Aviation was opened and the Society was represented by David Twiss.

### **Promotional activities**

Write ups about the Society were included in the *Light Railway* magazine this year.

**OPSM** staff volunteered to man a stall at the station for Community Eye Care in January and the Society donated the day's takings to assist with this work.

Again this year the **Scouts** 'raced' the train which provided publicity in the local media as did the **Teddy Bear's Picnic** in September.

The **RSL Retirement Home** visited in February and the **Salvation Army** brought guests in September. **Cross Roads** again visited on 7 November. On May 16 the train operated a night run for **Museums Alight** and two train loads of visitors were shown the locomotives in their storage facility and enjoyed a night ride.

**Steve Malone** presented members who worked on the restoration of *Invicta* with copies of the DVD he made. The DVD is now on sale at the station.

A **dinner** to celebrate the 20th anniversary of operation and 30th anniversary of the Society was held at the East Bundaberg Club on 15 November. Jack Dempsey, MP, attended and presented years of service awards. Later in the month he spoke in State Parliament of the work of volunteers within the Society. Souvenir glasses and coasters were purchased for the

event and to sell as souvenirs. A new Honour Board was also purchased to honour the event.

New postcards were also purchased - they were printed locally - all locomotives are now available on postcard.

The train was hired for several weddings through the year.

### **WHAT'S UP THE TRACK?**

2009 will see the completion of the track extension. The lease will be completed with the Regional Council so that funding can be sought for the extension to the locomotive storage facility. Further restoration work of locomotives will continue when funding for the building project is received as space is limited at present.

### **Thanks**

Without assistance from the following, operations would not be possible.

**Lynn Zelmer** maintains the Society's information on the Web. Lynn continues to have updates on line promptly - thanks Lynn.

**Lions Club of Bundaberg North** for their kind donation - this was used to purchase the computer that is used for work orders and maintaining Society records.

In March the Bundaberg City Council join with others to become the **Bundaberg Regional Council** and many new councilors were elected. The Council and its Senior Management visited on December 1 to meet with members and view the facility. Gardens Staff work co-operatively with members to assist with smooth operations.

**Chris Kingston** kindly donated books and photo albums that belonged to Jeff and Len Kingston who were both members of the Society. These will assist in maintaining our archives.

Businesses in the city also assist: Thanks to **Rechenberg Security** for monitoring the premises; **Anchorage Welding** for being available to complete work as requested; **Wilson Enterprises** and **Semco Sales** for their assistance during the year. **Ron Pozzan** assists as Welding Inspector.

**Bundaberg Sugar** continues to be a corporation that assists with the loan of items such as measuring equipment. Staff and workers at Bundaberg Sugar also give of their time to advise and assist when asked by the Society.

## Management Committee

**Patron.** Bob Truscott and his wife Dorothy both received the Order of Australia Medal in the Queens' Birthday Honours - in recognition of their service to the community. Bob continues to pop in some Tuesday and Sundays to chat with members.



**Committee Member,** Ron Atiknson visits the facility twice a week and works with Keith to check the track and arrange for its maintenance.



**Vice President,** Ron Stitt, Cane Railway Engineer with Bundaberg Sugar, is involved in the Quality System meetings and is coordinating the track extension.



**Treasurer,** Chris Williams continues to manage the finances of the Society as well as the statistics. Chris also attends Quality System meetings when work allows.



**Secretary,** Ross Driver also works on the Quality System preparing documents for discussion at the meetings. Congratulations to Ross for completing his university studies this year. His planning expertise is of assistance to the Society.



The Society continues to work as a well oiled machine - this does not happen without input from all members- thank you to all who give of their time be it for the roster or other work required to make the Society operate. Members work together as a team to provide a quality product to its customers - a safe ride on a train either hauled by steam or diesel engine.

WENDY DRIVER OAM  
PRESIDENT



Thanks to Ross Driver, Theresia Timson and David Twiss for photographs used in this report.