



Signal Post

National Railway Museum Member & Volunteer's Newsletter
Edition 7 – December 2017



FROM THE CHAIRMAN: DAVID BURNETT

Well Christmas is nearly here and 2018 is knocking on the door.

2017 has been a good year for the museum, it has kept us all busy with plenty to do.

We still have not heard any more from DPTI in relation to when regular train services will be reintroduced to the Port, nor confirmation of a physical on site works start, but there has been a lot of work going on, extensive soil testing, lots of suitably attired orange vest wearing people walking around our site and in the area outside our fence line near the Aviation Museum. I expect that we will hear something within the next month or so and once I do, I will send out information to you all.

There is a lot of work to do within the museum to get ready for the movement of all assets in and around the Jacketts area. There is a group of volunteers that are working towards getting a clear idea of what is stored in the containers on Jacketts siding, remembering that a lot of this gear has been there since the move from Mile End plus it has been added to over the years. It is no small task. I can imagine that when the Government is ready to start it will be all systems go and we need to be ready to move gear to its new home.

The Task Force that has been set up has met twice and have put a proposition to the Board that we advise John Geber the owner of the Barossa Wine Train that his three cars may need to be removed from the site. This will free up some of the required area that will be lost as a result of the DPTI project.

Mr Geber has been contacted and advised that he may need to be remove the cars at some stage early next year. In the agreement the Museum has with him three months formal notice is required to remove his rolling stock.

The Task Force has also identified and recommended to the Board (and since approved) for the dispositioning of Redhen trailer 875, OF18 and diesel loco 517. These are all owned by the Trust, which will now need to decide what its intentions are. Two M vans and one FB (owned by NRM) have also been approved for off-tracking elsewhere.

I want to thank all those who have been and continue to be involved in this large task in readying the museum for the move.

On behalf of the Board of the Museum, I want to extend our thanks for all the members and volunteers that continue to support the museum through your membership and the volunteers that give their time to keep the museum ticking along and continuing the tasks that you are working on. I wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Healthy, Happy and prosperous 2018 and look forward to continuing our association in 2018.

Christmas Party and Volunteer of the Year

Around 70 volunteers gathered on Saturday 2 December 2017 to enjoy a Christmas BBQ to thank them for what they have done during the year. It was a nice cool evening (that makes a change) and I hope that everyone enjoyed the

evening. I want to thank the gang that helped in preparation, cooking, serving and cleaning up after, thanks to Sonya, Ben, Martin, Bronwyn, Rhys and Lynda, great job guys ! I also want to thank the Adelaide City Jazzmen for the great Jazz music.

At the Christmas Volunteer show we announce the Volunteer of the Year award.

I am delighted to announce that Dale Patyi is the recipient of this award. There will be an article in the January 2018 Catchpoint in respect to this important announcement.

Congratulations Dale and thank you for all you continue to do for the museum.

Board Happenings

The Board last met on Wednesday 29 November 2017. Another busy agenda with plenty of matters requiring discussion.

Operations & Site Works Report

Bill

- Boiler returned to NRM. Re-tubing in progress.

No.8

- As a result of concern about exhaust smoke the injectors have been removed and overhauled. Inspection of engine breathing system was also conducted. It is hoped to carry out a compression test on the engine if an adaptor can be located. Injectors scheduled for re-fitting 26/11/17.
- This engine is an overhead cam type with belt drive. As these belts require periodic replacement to prevent catastrophic engine failure this belt will be replaced before loco completion.
- Body work painting preparation in progress.

Railcar 8

- Sheet metal work and carpentry work on going.
- Door and window manufacture in progress.
- Bogie work still progressing

Railcar 257 Kestrel

- Operating with no known problems. Drivers brake valves and relay valves scheduled for removal and periodic inspection by certified air brake specialist.

Loco 515

- Annual service completed. Generator and compressor air filters (12) replaced

Loco 801

- Investigating alternative secondary fuel filter as original elements no longer available.

Loco 517

- This locomotive was originally to become operational so an inspection at the time revealed that the independent and automatic brake valves were seized. These were replaced with reconditioned units as were the distributing valve and feed valves. However at present 517 will not now become operational, so the intention will be to remove these reconditioned valves and fit to 515 or 801 in the near future.

Centenary of the Trans Australian Railway



A tremendous series of celebrations were arranged to coincide with this most important railway event. These events have been reported in the latest Catchpoint. It was a delight to welcome His Excellency The Governor of South Australia Hieu Van Le AC and Mrs Le to the Museum for the cocktail party. As my wife Sonya and I were walking them out to their car they both commented how impressed they were in the museum.

The museum received amazing exposure during these celebrations. I want to thank publically our Executive Officer Bob Sampson for the incredible work that he has done to make the TAR celebrations so successful. I know that Bob has been working on this project for over 2 years and to see such great results is a testament to Bob's passions for the museum.

I also want to thank Tom Garland, Jamie Vardon, Rory Clark and Damian Hill for travelling out to Ooldea on a four day trip and again the following weekend to Port Augusta to represent the museum and to sell over \$2000.00 worth of museum wares.

Kanni

Our long-term volunteer Mick Searle continues to work with his small team on this most exciting project –

Mick has provided an update of where the project is up to –

Approval was granted from Arts SA for the removal of the ' wet areas ' comprising shower cubicles, hand basins and hot water service and toilet. Our volunteers Phil & Tony have all but completed this task including the levelling off the floor with concrete.

This has given the room a much greater storage area as envisaged. Further to that, Roller Blinds and a security screen door are under manufacture and our metalwork guys are fabricating sturdy window grills, the first of which has already been installed.

Finally, the display room continues to see additional items affixed to most wall areas and smaller displays being thought through.

Meeting Dates 2018

Please find the Board and Members Meeting dates for 2018

BOARD

10 January

7 March

2 May

4 July

5 September

7 November

MEMBERS MEETING

2 February

23 March

25 May

27 July

28 September (AGM)

23 November

Events for 2018

Below are the indicative dates for events to be held at the Museum in 2018. These events are in the planning stages and once it has been done we will be in a position to formalise the dates. Stay tuned !

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Wooden Boat Festival | April |
| Port Dock Station opening | May (#) – not sure of the actual month at this stage |
| Heritage Transport Expo | June |
| Clare Railway Centenary | 7 & 8 July |
| Family Fun Fair | 19 – 22 July |
| Steampunk | 15 & 16 September |



Staff Profile – Gabrielle Sexton

Gabrielle is the Curator – Collections at the National Railway Museum. From day to day, she works on maintaining, cataloguing and preserving the overall collection, with the help of almost 30 volunteers, and is temporarily in charge of exhibitions and displays while Moana Colmer is on maternity leave. She began working at the NRM in 2015, after completing a Bachelor of Archaeology and Honours in History, and is currently studying a Master of Cultural Heritage.

Gabrielle is known around the office for her obsession with chocolate and tea, and can frequently be seen with her signature teacup.

If you have any questions or queries please send either myself chair@nrm.org.au or Bob Sampson exec@nrm.org.au an email.