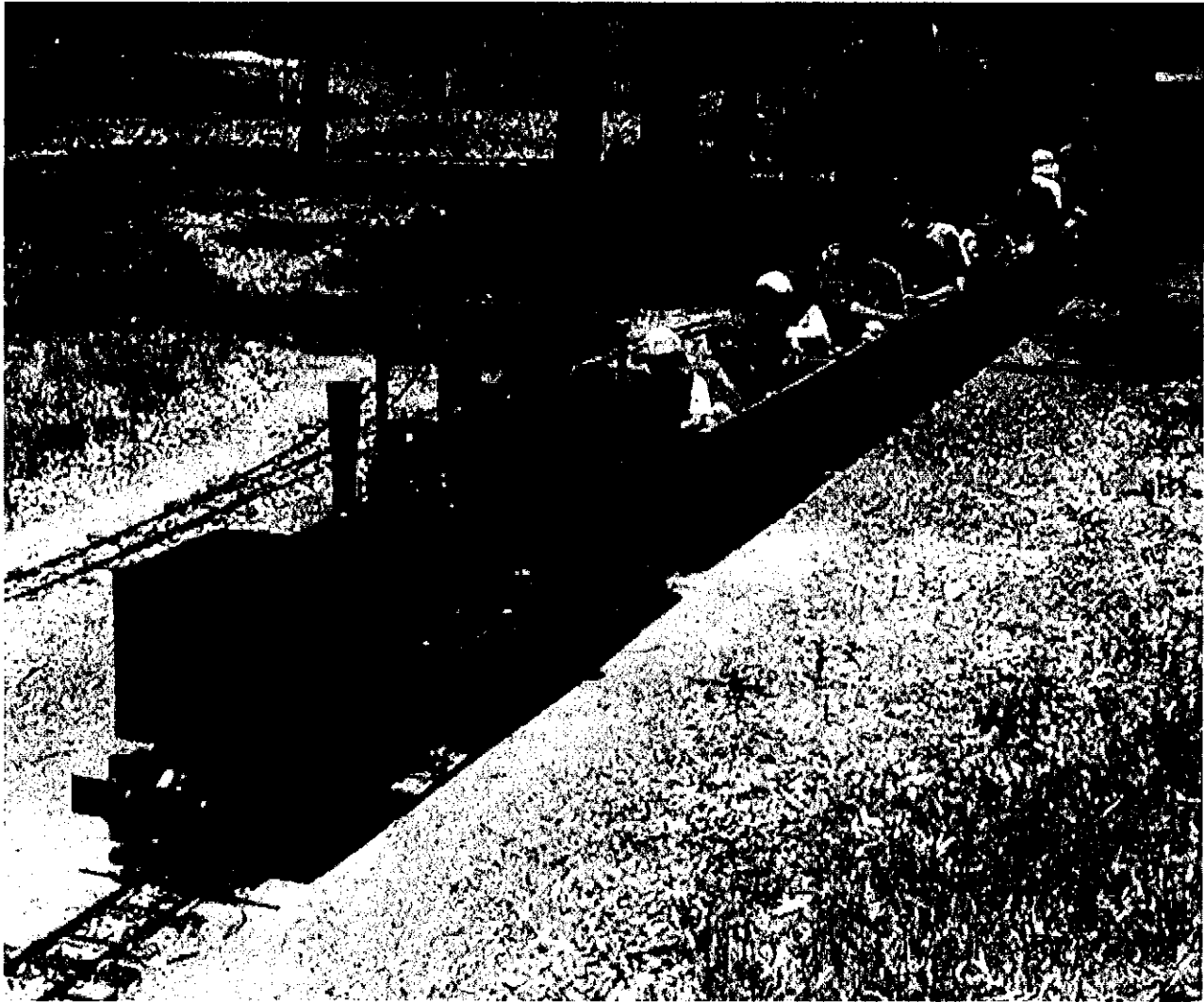


CINDERS & SOOT



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CASTLEDARE  
MINIATURE RAILWAYS  
W.A. (INC)

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SEPTEMBER 2007

ISSUE NO: 257

**Castledare Miniature Railway**

**P.O Box 337**

**Bentley WA 6982**

**Patron:** His Worship The Mayor City of Canning: Dr. M. Lekias

**Contact listing for CMR Management Committee members.**

All information on this page ratified by Management Committee 21st April 2007

**President –**

Richard Stuart – Ph: 9298 9553

E-mail: richard.stuart@bigpond.com

**Vice President –**

Victor Jones—PH: 9527 5875

E-mail: jonses12@optusnet.com.au

**Secretary –**

Ken Belcher - Ph: 9375.1223, Fax: 9375.2340

E-Mail: cmr1963@tpg.com.au

**Minute Secretary –** John Watson: 9458-9047

**Treasurer –** David Lyons –home –95930856, Mob –0410501851.

**Membership + Licenses:** Fran Jones

**Committee –**

Beth Kelly: Ph: 9495 4959

Craig Belcher: Ph: 9375 1223 E-mail: d1565@tpg.com.au

Trish Stuart: Ph: 9298.9553 E-mail: richard.stuart@bigpond.com

Eno Gruszecki: Mob- 0408908028

Chris Doody :home-9332-7527.

**Boiler inspectors,**

Richard Stuart: Ph: 9298.9553,

Keith Watson: Ph: 9354.2549,

Phill Gibbons: Ph: 9390.4390

**Qualification Examiners:** Steam Locomotives – Keith Watson, Roger Matthews,

Diesel Locomotives - Roger Matthews, Craig Belcher

Guards & Safe working – Keith Watson, Janette Sherman, Trish Stuart

Signals – Mike Crean and Ric Edwards

**Track master:** Craig Belcher.

**Editor Cinders and Soot:** Fran Jones - Ph: 9527.5875 {8.00am/ 8.00pm} e-mail: [jonses12@optusnet.com.au](mailto:jonses12@optusnet.com.au)

No personal letters will be printed without committee approval

**First Aid Officers:** Fran Jones, Keith Watson

**The Castledare Miniature Railway is sponsored by:**

Coal Supplies: Bennett Brook Railway, Whiteman Park

**Cover page: Wilson Park Station opening day,**

Garrat 3 working hard

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It is good to be back after a month on holiday in the UK. As well as visiting the "rellies", we got the chance to see a few preserved steam railways, including the Great Central, Swanage, South Devon, Paignton & Dartmouth, and West Somerset lines. The UK steam scene is impressive and expanding, and some of them routinely take on major tasks such as heavy overhauls of main line locomotives. I was looking enviously inside some of their workshops, wishing I could get stuck into some of the projects that were going on.

We got back just in time for the Father's Day run, which is traditionally our busiest day. Surprisingly, in spite of excellent spring weather, the patronage was no more than average. We had plenty of trains out to handle the expected traffic, so it turned into quite a pleasant and relaxing day. It is a very attractive time of year, particularly through the wetlands, and really shows off our railway to its best effect. As usual, Beth was busy in the canteen, while Rose Lyons cooked up a sausage sizzle. Fran was joined in the ticket box by Tania Watson (John Watson's daughter).

There has been more tree pruning work performed on site, particularly in the area of unstable ground near the access ramp to Gerry's Workshop. Some trees that were affected by ground subsidence have been removed, and it will be necessary to add some sand fill on top to compensate for the sinking ground. We owe thanks to the Canning City Council for their assistance in assessing the ground subsidence and proposing possible solutions.

Geoff Thompson has taken delivery of the repaired "Dennis P Moore" boiler, and is busy again with refurbishment of the locomotive. Geoff is putting a lot of work into this project, and it will be a real asset to the club when "Dennis" is operational again.

**Richard Stuart**

President, Castledare Miniature Railway

## MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT

The work tasks that get done in the average month are too many to mention. However, the following gives some of the progress highlights, as well as giving a look-ahead to the work coming up. If anybody else would like to join in, you will be welcome.

PROGRESS HIGHLIGHTS	ONGOING WORK
Additional tree safety pruning performed by professional arboralist.	Continuing clean-up of grounds.  Repair and upgrade boundary posts to exclude vehicles from the site.
Further development of electronic signaling systems.  Website upgrade commenced	Installation of Dual Bridge automatic signalling system.  Continuing development of remote wireless automatic signalling systems.
2007 infrastructure inspections in progress.  Risk assessment completed for driver only operation of two car trains.	Development of CMR operating procedures and safety manual

Denis P Moore boiler returned to Geoff Thompson.	Continue refurbishment work on "Denis P Moore".  Replace springs on green passenger car set.  Install stiffening gussets on green passenger car set articulation pivots.  Overhaul "Comet Vale" diesel outline loco.
Re-ballasting and levelling in Snake Gulley.  Repair accidental track damage caused by tree pruning vehicles.	Continue work on 5-inch gauge track refurbishment.  Continue track maintenance.



**FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK**

Following are some of the items that have been discussed at Committee meetings and they are listed here in an endeavour to keep members informed of the current goings on. If any members have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact a Committee member. Contact details for all members of the committee are published elsewhere in the magazine.

From the Committee meetings held:

- ⇒ Upgrade of toilet block to deep sewerage connection. Unable to proceed at this stage as a result of costing.
- ⇒ Convention sub committee still working towards 2009 AALS Convention at CMR under the guidance of Tom Winterbourn
- ⇒ New hand rails and exit ramp at Nina station to be upgraded ,any volunteers?
- ⇒ Wall on the #1 approach road at Nina station to be upgraded, any volunteers?
- ⇒ Sink holes at the rear of workshop have been excavated by the Council and are now being filled in again – this will become a future management issue as there is not much we can do to resolve the problem.
- ⇒ John Watson given approval to install a battery charging system in the loco shed
- ⇒ Major work required on the female toilet block
- ⇒ Major track work weekends (yes, both Saturday and Sunday 22/23 September and also the 13/14 October

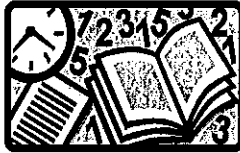
**FROM THE TRACKMASTER:**

As has been noted in the Dates for the Diary below, and also above in the Secretary's notes, it is planned to hold two MAJOR track work weekends, which will hopefully complete what is a mammoth undertaking. It is anticipated that these two weekends will see the remaining sections of timber sleepered mainlines converted to the 1:2 plastic that the rest of the track has been upgraded to. The two sections being referred to are from the main level crossing into the car park thru to the Niana Station throat and from Paper Bark Loop through to the arrival end of Wilson Platform. Large portions of the line through Wilson were done previously so if everything goes to plan it will be a case of filling in the holes. Due to the distance to be covered here it is hoped to have access to an additional set of 2 or 3 ballast cars for the October weekend. Once this sleeperring work is complete, it is envisaged that no more major re-sleeperring work need be done until after the convention unless found necessary. This will allow time to be devoted to other projects.

The Committee at their last meeting gave a major infrastructure project 'in principal' approval and in due course this will be presented to the members. Funds permitting, it is hoped to complete this project over the summer period and have it in service ready for next winter. More details of this in future reports.

The last batch of plastic sleeper material has now all been cut to size and stacked ready for the upcoming work. It is envisaged that another batch will more than likely need to be ordered in November.

Could members who are available to assist on the major work weekends, please let me know either by phone (9375 1223) or by e-mail ([d1565@tpg.com.au](mailto:d1565@tpg.com.au)) This will enable the tasks to be planned accordingly.



***DATES FOR THE DIARY:***

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> September public run day from Wilson  
Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> September workday on track and other necessary items  
Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> September workday on track  
23<sup>rd</sup> September private booking – Car Club - 11am –1pm  
Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> October general meeting and prep for public running  
Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> October public run day  
Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> October private booking check black board for more info  
Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> October workday on track  
Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> October workday on track  
14<sup>th</sup> October Railfest held at ARHS in Bassendean  
Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> October private booking – Atwell Playgroup - 10am-2pm - help needed  
Saturday / Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> November – Sandgroper Weekend at Bunbury  
Sunday 11th November private booking 11am after 2min silence – 4pm Conductive Education help needed  
Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> December private booking – Brian Gardiner Holden - 11am – 4pm - help needed

## **For Sale**

5” Freelance traction engine \$9000.00

WAGR “P” class steam loco known as Nightmare \$ 20,000.00

For further information - Contact Tim Loller