

# West Australian Railscene e-Mag

Issue twenty five 25th May 2009 free electronic railway magazine number 25/09.

West Australian Railscene e-Mag is published weekly by Jim Bisdee on rail happenings on West Australian railroads.

[WWW.WESTERNRAILS.COM](http://WWW.WESTERNRAILS.COM)

Copyright © 2009



NR16 with its distinctive rail safety message on its first run to Kewdale leads NR29 at the head of 3MP4 intermodal west of Booraan on evening of May 14th. Photo Jim Bisdee

---

A dry April was followed by an equally dry May that saw the first storm on May 21st cause considerable problems to WestNet rail. With losing power at Midland about 1230 affecting signals with trains having to be talked past signals in Midland Woodbridge area till power was restored about 1325.

---

Transperth trains had far larger problems on the three old lines losing power about 1230 on Midland line east of Bassendean, Perth-Fremantle line that received some minor overhead damage in Shenton Park area and Armadale line out south of Gosnells. Midland line was the first to have power restored 1325 with full services resuming, the other two lines were not restored for some hours with no rail services on Fremantle line. Substitute bus service was hastily arranged that proved some service to effected areas. Power was restored beyond Gosnells 1525 and 1555 on Fremantle line, with full services resuming.

The long awaited upgrading of the dual gauge Midland line commenced on May 18th with the installation of concrete sleepers being undertaken in Woodbridge and East Guildford areas that sees train services between Bassendean and Midland cancelled. This phase will run from May 18th till May 28th involving only night works including weekends. The upgrading work overran its window on morning of 19th with line not reopened in time for first train it didn't see a train out of Midland till 0700. Standard gauge ballast trains are again running in connection with this upgrading having Coote Industrial D49 running UB9902 ballast.

---

Track works were also undertaken on Armadale line at Victoria Park from late night Saturday May 16th and all day Sunday May 17th with services resuming from first scheduled service on May 18th.

---

With rain at last arriving the other problem of slipping through stations returned this problem that has been with the EMU's since their introduction again occurred at a few stations on Friday May 22nd.



P2517 named City of Geraldton that once spent most of its time in the mid west and only recently returned is seen with P2503 on wheat train at North Canna on Mullewa line on May 10th. Photo Phil Melling

---

Geraldton coal train that runs on a fourteen day pattern now operates spasmodically as Iluka the sand miner and coal customer has cut production owing to the downturn and this train now doesn't run every cycle is often stabled at Narngulu or Forrestfield for a day or two. PM

---

Locomotives allocated to Narngulu recently were: DAZ1901, DFZ2401, DFZ2404, DFZ2406, DFZ2407, P2503, P2506, P2509, P2510, P2515 and P2517. PM

---

Q4015 is the only locomotive from Scaddan head on crash still having its frame damaged repaired.



LZ3112 involved in Scaddan head on crash last September has had damage to the locomotive frame repaired returning from United Group Rail Bassendean on May 12th and is presently in ARG Forrestfield workshop.

---

AC4302 ran a week of trials from May 16th in Narrabri area of NSW with three CFCLA GL locomotives #110, #105 and #112 in dynamic to simulate a load. The locomotives returned light engine from Narrabri to Broadmeadow yard on May 22nd where GL's were detached and stabled with AC4302 then running to builder United Group Rail Broadmeadow plant for any adjustment required.

---



8112 runs 6P25 empty car movement on May 22nd under large signal gantry on dual gauge Midland loop on its way to the old workshops at Midland where EMU set #83 will be bogie exchanged. Photo Jim Bisdee

---

Fourth new Transperth EMU set #83 was delivered from builders EDI Maryborough Qld to QR for haulage to Acacia Ridge on May 14th. EMU set #83 was hauled by Pacific National on BW4 to Morandoo NSW where it was detached and attached to NY3 May 18th for haulage to Port Augusta. Set #83 was detached at Port Augusta May 19th then attached to 1SP2 to be hauled to Kewdale behind NR42 arriving 1900 on May 21st. EMU set #83 was hauled by Pacific National Kewdale yard shunter 8112 on May 22nd to old workshops Midland for conversion to 1067mm and fitting of powered bogies.

---

END page three of three

---

NEXT ISSUE TUESDAY JUNE 2ND