

# West Australian railscene e-Mag

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

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New Transperth EMU set #90 on standard gauge transfer bogies is propelled by Pacific National 8039 along line through a car park that gives access to old workshops at Midland on April 28th. Photo Justin Brown

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Avonlink railcar set failed at PTA depot Kewdale around 1700 on April 29th efforts to get it going were not successful. Spare two-car Prospector set was utilised to run evening service to Northam about 30 minutes late and subsequent morning service to Midland on 30th. Repaired Avonlink on 30th ran to East Perth Terminal 0800 to run thrice weekly Merredin service while substitute Prospector cars ran back to Kewdale.

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Eight AC4300 locomotives will be named after shire/town/city councils that the standard gauge network passes through following the results being announced of a staff naming contest.

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BHPBIO SD70MACe locomotive 4329 has been named Pilbara, 4328 Wikirra, 4336 Redmont.

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NR65 & NR62 on 4PM6 hit a cow about 1800 on May 6th around 1430km about 15kms west of Rawlinna causing the usual broken brake pipe that crew quickly repaired. Some of the animal was dragged under the locomotives caused minor damage to crew car and caused small rupture in its fuel tank that was sealed.





P2516 & 2512 run empty iron ore train round the curve as it climbs the grade at Moonyoonooka as it heads east to Ruvidini to load on May 4th. Photo Don Copley



NR41 & NR54 on 4WP2 steel train going through Midland on April 25th with four empty Orica cyanide tankers on two flattops that were attached at West Kalgoorlie. Photo Justin Brown





8039 hauls Transperth B set #90 with three gondolas containing narrow gauge power bogies through the loop at Midland on April 28th on its way to old workshops. Photo Justin Brown



P2517 runs long end leading that is common for the empty mineral sands train as it runs south between Narngulu and Walkaway in its last month of operation on May 5th. Photo Don Copley





DFZ2401 & 2512 run empty iron ore train up the grade just out of Northern Gully on another run from port unloader to mines on May 5th. Photo Don Copley



DAZ1901 & P2501 runs 5364 grain train westbound as it is climbing up the grades out of Dowerin on the way to Avon Yard then Kwinana on May 6th. Photo Don Copley



To enable heavy services, locomotive changeovers etc light engine movements are now run by ARG on Wednesdays between Forrestfield and Narngulu. DFZ2407 ran 4755 light engine to Narngulu on May 5th.

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The isolation and lack of services on Trans line means the weekly Indian Pacific passenger service picks up on westbound journey and drops off eastbound return mailbags at Forrest, Nurina, Rawlinna and Naretha.

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Stored BHPB Iron Ore SD40-2 locomotives 3081, 3085, 3082, 3083 and 3084 beside workshop at Nelson Point with ex SP tunnel motor on May 8th.

Photo Toad Montgomery

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Up to three services per day six days a week ran from West Merredin to Trayning from April 6th until May 3rd on a line that had had services suspended last year. The future of this line is very doubtful with its closure recommended and this may well have been the last services to run.

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Overcrowding on trains and lack of parking at stations remains a major complaint of suburban patrons even though more parking spaces are being provided on Mandurah and Clarkson lines. With EMU set #90 having recently arrived but not yet commissioned and the order for new EMUs not yet completed some small relief to overcrowding will be obtained. With the way the suburban system patronage is increasing rapidly consideration will have to be given to obtaining further EMUs and running all services as six car sets on very busy Clarkson Mandurah line.

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Complaints about safety and ease of access to Canning Bridge Station that is situated below Canning Highway and in midst of Freeway makes pedestrian access very difficult and parking in Como area adjacent to the station is virtually non existent as there is no parking areas near by. Queens Park station on Armadale line is to receive an upgrade. Oats Street station in a dangerous location adjacent to very busy grade crossing will be subject of a study as to possible relocation with improved parking.





In the evening light just before sunset AB1502 loads 6494 grain train at Trayning on April 30th on a line with a very doubtful future during its reprieve during April.

Photo Don Copley



AB1504 runs 6496 empty grain train on the up hill down dale lightly laid developmental West Merredin to Trayning line south of Nukarni on April 30th.

Photo Don Copley





P2516 & P2517 run loaded iron ore train up the grade east of Narngulu on April 27th with another load on the virtual conveyor belt operation between mine and port. Photo Phil Melling



5664 & 4328 approach Car Dumper One at BHPB Iron Ore Nelson complex on May 8th with load of Yandi fines ore to be dumped yard control is the tower in the background. Photo Toad Montgomery





6003 & L3118 running QR National intermodal 3MP1 in the mist through Midland on April 30th with the poor visibility having closed Perth Airport. Photo Jim Bisdee

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