

West Australian railscene e-Mag

Issue number 107/10

November 1st 2010

free electronic railway magazine

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

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8030 Qube latest engine with 1874 on works trail departing Forerstfield October 26th. Photo John Bollans

Overhauled Qube locomotive 8030 one of the units sold as part of purchase of South Spur Rail Services by POTA from Coote Industrial ran its light engine works trail with 1874 from Gemco Forrestfield to Toodyay West on October 26th. 8030 that had spent a number of years stored out of service at Chullora NSW following its sale to Silverton Rail by Pacific National that following Silverton takeover by SSRS came part of Allco leasing fleet eventually reverting to SSRS/Gemco ownership. 8030 was hauled to Parkes in early 2009 then hauled by SCT006 & SCT015 on 5PG1 delayed owing to Curtin derailment arriving overnight February 7th/8th 2009 it was shunted into Gemco for overhaul by ARG on 12th. Overhaul was nearing completion by September 26th with the locomotive out in Gemco yard having final adjustments made.

1874 hauled two further container flats from Forrestfield to SSRS/Gemco yard on October 26th prior to running works trial with 8030 to Toodyay West. These container flats have been taken off their bogies and are now on the ground as are their bogies.



B6 at Walkaway outside old Midland Railway Company goods shed October 23rd.

Photo Phil Melling



W933 a locomotive from WA now operating in SA with a Pichi Richi train in Port Augusta Station being passed by NR120 on 6MP4 a Pacific National intermodal to WA April 4th 2009.

Photo Chris Carpenter



P2515 & DBZ2308 at Moulyinning on wheat train to Albany October 22nd.

Photo Daryle Phillips



8030 & 1874 run 3SS8 return 8030 trial to Toodyay West at Bellevue on October 26th. Photo Simon Barber

The forthcoming wheat season of 2010/2011 looks like one of the smallest for many years with the severe drought suffered in most of the South West of WA this year. The only areas with average or above crops are in Esperance, Ravensthorpe area in south east and Northampton in north. This crop will be about 5.5million tonnes against usual crop of in excess of 12 million tons. The effects of this poor harvest will spread through the communities and also will have profound effect on train operations on the wheat lines this year. One of these lines in the Mid West the Narngulu Perenjori line will commence to haul iron ore in 2011 so its traffic will increase substantially. While other lines especially the tier three lines will see their traffic virtually disappear as they have no other traffic.



AB1502 at narrow gauge loco on October 27th following its release after repainting. Photo John Purcell

ZB2120 & ZB2129 ran to Kwinana to turn on Kwinana triangle during the morning on October 29th as narrow gauge locomotives are no longer turned on Woodbridge triangle. ZB2120 & ZB2129 ran light engine out of SSRS Bellevue to Wagin to continue working ballast trains on October 31st following return of KA212 & R1902 to Bellevue on 29th.

With imminent commencement of building apartments and offices in old Midland workshops block one all the remaining Rail Heritage WA rolling stock was removed from the building on October 30th. WBE brakevan and ex Commonwealth Railways steel car is on the remaining track in workshops yard while railcars ADG612 and ADA762 are at rear of Midland Redevelopment Authority building.

BHPB Iron Ore SD70ACe #4314 has been named Jalkupurta.



DBZ2303 & P2503 run wheat train into Wagin on October 22nd now approaching 30 years old Clyde/EMD built DBZs are still a modern looking locomotive. Photo Daryle Phillips



K206 on 4S36 hauls 1874 and empty rail train through Bellevue October 20th. Photo Jim Bisdee

AB1502 has been repainted at ARG workshop Forrestfield into ARG [QR] yellow livery. It was thought that all future ARG repainting would be in new QR National livery but it appears now that is not the case. At this stage it's not know if or when the first ARG locomotive will be painted in QRN livery.



8030 now on the mainline and able to accelerate pours out smoke as it departs Forrestfield the first time it has operated in a number of years as it runs with 1874 to Toodyay West on works trial. Photo John Bollans

All of the 18 new SD70ACe recently delivered from builders EMCC of London Ontario have now entered service. They have been running in the triple locomotive break in workings of three new SD70ACe then following acceptance have been split and are running in normal service.