

West Australian railscene e-Mag

Issue number 143 July 4th 2011 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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002 & 001 passing Durack Station limit south board with loaded Christmas Creek ore train running through the S curves on its way to unloaders at Port Hedland June 20th. Photo Jim Bisdee

Transport Minister Mr Buswell announced on June 30th a six month trial of a free 4:00am train service on Saturday and Sunday mornings from City on each of the five commuter lines Fremantle, Clarkson, Mandurah, Midland and Armadale. This follows a campaign on Facebook that attracted some 35,000 followers and lobbying by Seb Brodie and Scott Bronsens for this service. This service aimed at Northbridge nightspots patrons who experience difficulty with lack of taxis in getting home will become permanent if receives sufficient patronage. Existing 2:15am services will now depart at 2:00am and is expected to cost about \$1 million over the trial period.

Armadale line beyond Cannington was closed from 7:15pm on Saturday July 2nd to first train on Monday 4th to enable works to take place at Kelmscott on bus interchange and ballast tamping.



C1702 & XA1401 stored at Dwellingup with W920 shunting in yard June 26th

Photo Daryle Phillips



FMG ballast plough BP01 stored at Barker crossing loop June 19th.

Photo Toad Montgomery

5MP9 SCT Melbourne to Forrestfield freight found broken rail at 1423.800km on north rail that also had sleeper broken around 0830 on June 25th. QRN intermodal 5MP1 was next service due that crossed it very slowly about 2-3kmph with crew member observing following 5MP1 getting through it was deemed unsafe for any eastbound train to cross around 1110am. This caused 6PM7, 6PM6, 6PM9 to be held till the break was plated for temporary repair about 1430 with gang departing Parkeston run 350km to perform more permanent repair around same time and arrived about 1800. This delay of some 3-4 hours to eastbound trains saw the crews run out of time with 6PS7 stabling on crossing loop Forrest 6:40pm till 00:55 am on 26th, 6PM7 stabled crossing loop Reid 8:10pm for mandatory rest period, 6SP6 and 6SP7 were stabled at Cook till crews had their mandatory rest period, with 5MP7 being relieved by taxi at Zanthus 2045. Further services were delayed east of Cook resulting in delays to services arriving in Kewdale.



Q4012 on 1430 sulphur train rounds the curve at Bellevue June 21st.

Photo Sean McGarraghy

P2510 & 2512 returned north to Avon Yard around June 25th with P2506 & P2517 running south to Albany to operate only grain service running at present on a shortened consist. DD2356 & P2509 have been running woodchip service recently with P2504 being stabled as spare locomotive at workshop.

The remaining SD40s at BHP Billiton Iron Ore that were used on works trains were due to be withdrawn by July 1st following the completion of RGP5 track duplication from Bing to Yandi Junction. Some nine SD40s were involved in this project being 3078, 3079, 3080, in ICE blue and yellow livery, 3086, 3089, 3091, 3092, 3093 and 3097 all in BHPBIO bubble livery stored /stabled at Flashbutt yard Bing, 3082, 3083, 3084 and 3085 are stored at Finucane Island in undercoat while 3081 in undercoat with 3087, 3088, 3090, 3094, 3095 and 3096 all in BHPBIO bubble livery are stored at Nelson Point. SD40s were withdrawn from mainline ore haulage end of October 2009 some still saw occasional use as yard shunters into May 2010.



Q4003 & LZ3107 on grain at Toodyay on June 21st.

Photo Sean McGarraghy



W920 climbing the grade out of Isandra on return to Dwellingup June 12th.

Photo Simon Barber



Former Sundowner Observation Car now a restrant in Port Hedland June 19th.

Photo Jim Bisdee



P2516 & P2517 on empty grain at Bellevue passing under the new bridge construction as part of the Roe Highway and Great Eastern Highway interchange June 21st.

Photo Sean McGarraghy



010, 904 & 008 on empty rake departing port on 904 test run to mine on June 17th.

Photo Jim Bisdee



ACN4147 and ACN4148 passing through Lincoln Gap SA on run to WA July 1st.

Photo Geoff Hann



ACN4148 being hauled through Lincoln Gap SA on July 1st on run to WA.

Photo Geoff Hann



6077 & 5658 on loaded cross 6072 & 5643 on empty on the dual trackage at Broome Road South Hedland on June 17th now a rare sight on BHPBIO a cross with no SD70ACe's on eighter train. Photo Jim Bisdee



W920 on HVR trip back from Isandra crossing Scarpe Road June 26th.

Photo Daryle Phillips



4328 hauls dead 5640 and two fuel tankers from Boodardie to Nelson Point on June 18th. Photo Jim Bisdee



001 & 002 propel two idler cars out of Port to Rowley Yard for repair June 18th.

Photo Jim Bisdee

AC4304, Q4003 dead attached Q4006 & L3118 ran 4314tonne, 1450metre 2426 overnight freight to Forrestfield on June 27th while on 28th 3426 freight ran as Q4012, LQ3121, ALZ3208 dead attached Q4011 for 93 wagons, 5020tonne, 1759metres. These huge overnight mixed freights continue to run 7 days a week to serve the mines at Kalgoorlie and would be with the SCT freight services the heaviest mixed freights in the Southern Hemisphere with only those run in North America being bigger.
