

# 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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DC2215 & LZ3111 on 6443 freight just north of Kalgoorlie September 9th.

Photo Peter Donaghy

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Work commenced re-sleepering PTA line from Armadale to Mundijong on September 7th with Australind service the only train operating on this section terminating at Mundijong. Rail replacement bus service runs City to Mundijong and will be for most of this month to allow uninterrupted re-sleepering and ballasting. This upgrading commenced at 34.2km few hundred metres north of Thomas Road Byford reaching Cardup Siding Road Cardup 38.9km on 13th completing the first section. The second section is Cardup Siding Road 38.9km to Mundijong Junction 41.6km with resleepering commencing September 19th and expected to be completed by September 29th.

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PTA locomotive MA1862 ran to ballast siding in old Midland yard on September 11th attached the five XM ballast hoppers there hauling them to Armadale and stabling in the storage sidings. Ballasting commenced on 12th with a ballast stockpile and loading point on the main line at south end of Armadale yard. Initial ballasting commenced north of Thomas Road working south towards Cardup with lifting and ballast tamping commencing on 16th. The five XM hopper ballast train worked by MA1862 runs some four or so ballast drops a day hauling the train out then propelling back to Armadale to reload.





ACN4149 and ACN4151 on transport floats at Meckering to overnight September 9th. Photo Lois Wade



MA1862 on 1UB2 empty ballast train under the wires at Maddington September 11th. Photo Jim Bisdee





Cabs of ACN4149 & ACN4151 on transport floats at Meckering September 9th.

Photo Lois Wade



MA1862 dropping ballast at Wungong on September 13th.

Photo Simon Barber





Completed FMG SD9043MAC 905 and 909 in NS Juniata shops yard parked adjacent to Fourth Avenue Altoona PA on September 11th.

Photo Megan Salter



GTLX 8541 SD90MAC stripped down to become FMG 908 following rebuilding into SD9043MAC in the yard at Norfolk Southern Juniata Works Altoona PA in late August.

Photo AltoonaWorks.info



FMG907 formerly PRLX/UP8531 had its conversion from SD90MAC-H and rebuilding into SD9043MAC completed at Norfolk Southern Juniata Shops in Altoona PA mid September following its repainting.

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Rebuilding and conversion of the final two SD90MAC-H into SD9043MAC for FMG is well underway at NS Juniata shops with GTLX/UP8541 to be FMG908 and GTLX/UP8530 to be FMG906.

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**Correction** the Southern Shorthaul Railroad 49 class locomotive with two QRN ACB units on their light engine trial Chullora to Penrith and return on September 9th was 4904 not 4901.

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ACN4147 long end leading at Kewdale on 6122 light engine trail to Kwinana on the first run of new ACN class locomotives on the mainline in West Australia September 16th.

Photo Jim Bisdee

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Clarkson line was closed from 11:00pm on September 9th till 1:00am on September 12th between Stirling and Perth Underground to enable work to take place on turnback siding being constructed at Leederville.

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Spate of fatalities at pedestrian crossings on Armadale line has occurred recently with the usual memorial tributes being constructed adjacent to the site and in some cases memorial vigils were held at the site of the fatality. A lot of publicity has been given for need to take care around rail lines and to never place your self at risk but it appears the message is not being heeded. The effect on others especially the EMU drivers is not being thought of by those who become fatalities or those that build memorials with their constant reminder.

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Q4017 hauled 6010 and 6002 as 2155 light engines to UGR Bassendean on September 12th for the units to be modified to enable them to operate in West Australia.





DC2205 now the local transfer unit at West Kalgoorlie in QRN livery September 15th. Photo Peter Donaghy



MA1862 on ballast crossing over to access loading site at Armadale September 12th. Photo Brendan Cherry





DAZ1903 on sleeper train crosses Greenough River September 10th.

Photo Phil Melling



30 AOPY shortened former Leigh Creek coal wagons removed from storage few months ago and returned to service here on rear ore train at West Kalgoorlie on September 11th.

Photo Peter Donaghy





DAZ1906, AB1502 & AB1504 on 30 wagon ballast train CFCLA CHNY ballast wagons with XK and XM ballast wagons at Wicherina on September 11th. Photo Phil Melling



Earthworks underway on new QRN Narngulu East facility on September 10th. Photo Phil Melling



6005 and 6008 were hauled to WA for use but returned interstate almost immediately for continued use on QRN intermodal services. 6010 that has seen some use as a remote unit and 6002 so far not used are the only 6000s at present to be used on QRN WA operations.



DBZ2304 on 5257 empty coal on north leg of Brunswick triangle August 26th.

Photo Jim Bisdee

Out of zone grain continues to be loaded then hauled out of Albany CBH terminal to MGC Forrestfield for domestic consumption with P2505 & P2514 arriving on September 12th loading on 13th then running as 3306 to Forrestfield. P2501 & P2504 were operating the woodchip shuttle service. P2505, DBZ2308 & DD2358 arrived on 4305 with 37 empty XT grain wagons on 15th for loading at CBH terminal Albany and also attach the ten XT wagons left in Albany by 2305 empty. DD2358 was detached and P2501 attached with loaded 5306 grain departing as P2501, DBZ2308 & P2515 on evening of 15th. DD2358 was attached to woodchip train on 15th to operate it with P2504.