

# West Australian railscene e-Mag

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DC2213 on 2148 container train waiting to depart Kwinana Yards November 28th. Photo Kieran Wright

Construction of the standard gauge Karara line from Morawa to Karara mine site some 80kms east is still underway with the line virtually complete from the mine to location of the Koolanooka mine site. From there west tracklaying is underway in the section between Yalgoo Road and Murray Road with much of the tracklaying in this section complete. Tracklaying is underway at present over the creek beds where a number of culverts were constructed and formation was only recently completed. Ballasting of the completed track is underway west from Falcon Road adjacent to Koolanooka mine site and Murray Road with a loading site some two or so kilometres from end of present running authority at Murray Road.

Mt Gibson Blue Hills mine north east of Perenjori has commenced production with its ore being hauled by road to a loading site on southern outskirts of the town. Sufficient ore had been stockpiled by December 12th when first train ran to Perenjori to load adding this town to the growing number of towns in WA where mining or loading iron ore now takes place.





Q4019, Q4005 & Q1012 run 7426 freight past Q4011 DPU on 7414 empty ore at Binduli December 11th.



Q4019, Q4005 & Q4012 on 7426 pass empty ore at Binduli December 11th. Both photos Peter Donaghy

Mt Lawley Station on the Midland line is the first station to under go an improvement programme to enhance their functionality particularly for any person with disabilities. These improvements began on December 3rd with station being closed till December 22nd the station will again be temporarily from January 14th and 30th to enable these works to be undertaken. Mt Lawley Station will have the whole platform resurfaced, a new larger and improved shelter, improved lighting, handrails and signage for disabled passengers. The gap between the EMU railcars and the platform will be minimised to enhance safety. The car park will remain open, as will the bridge linking Railway Parade and Whatley Crescent. A coaster bus will convey passengers to Maylands Station to board services for the durations of the works.



DAZ1901 works the loaded rail train discharging rail to be used on the future Leda loop on Perenjori the line December 16th this will be the third new loop on this line when commissioned. Photo John Stephens

From 8:00pm on Friday 16th until the last service on Sunday 18th there will be line closures for the Perth City Link works that will affect all services on the Fremantle line with services 10:00am to 10:00pm on Saturday and Sunday all departing from platform 1 Perth Underground. On the Midland line all services will depart platform 6 and as they trains are not running thought to Fremantle the unusual sight of two services in Midland Station at the one time occurs. One service departs just after the other service arrives that has seen both platform 2 and 3 in use. On Mandurah, Joondalup, Midland, Fremantle and Armadale/Thornlie lines there will be no services after 9:30/10:00pm depending on line with rail replacement bus service operating.

Owing to Fremantle services running out of Perth Underground and connection between Midland/Fremantle line not available the rare use of B series EMUs operating regular services on Fremantle line occurred.

Lightning strike at Mandurah during an electrical storm about 1610 on December 12th caused significant delays south of Rockingham as signalling was knocked out till repaired about 1800 or so.



ACB4401 and ACB4402 were hauled dead attached on 7025 freight to West Kalgoorlie on December 10th arriving on morning of 11th where they were detached and stabled. These two locomotives were hauled dead attached behind L3108 on 1443 fuel train to Esperance on December 11th arriving at Esperance early morning on 13th to enter service on iron ore traffic. ACB4403 was hauled dead attached to West Kalgoorlie on 2025 freight behind AC4308, LZ3104 & Q4102 on December 12th arriving on morning of 13th. ACB4403 entered service hauling 4443 fuel train long end leading to Esperance on 14th hauling dead attached LZ. ACB4404 had its modifications completed at UGR Bassendean and was hauled to Forrestfield on December 14th by DC2213 on 4154 light engine movement.



DFZ2401 & DFZ2404 run 6723 recently commenced Mt Gibson ore train Perenjori to Geraldton up a grade north of new Bell crossing loop on December 16th. Photo John Stephens

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FMG rebuilt SD9043MACs #905 thru #909 arrived on heavy lift ship MV BBC Congo at Port Hedland from Dampier on November 30th. BBC Congo berth at Port Hedland town jetty on December 1st to unload these locomotives onto 116 wheel floats to be hauled to FMG Rowley Yard for commissioning. These five locomotives were unloaded by December 3rd with BBC Congo then sailing.

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GM30 offered for sale in October 2010 has not been sold and remains at Forrestfield with the locomotive now being cannibalised for parts.

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Overhaul of DBZ2309 is continuing with the unit expected to be released to traffic in February 2012 when the final DB to be overhauled and converted to DBZ DB2311 will be withdrawn for conversion.

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MMY32 rail grinder returned to flashbutt yard on December 10th following completion of standard gauge rail grinding programme at Kalgoorlie.





NR18 & NR17 both short end leading on 5SP5 at Parkeston on December 10th.

Photo Peter Donaghy



NR18 on 5SP5 crosses NR54 & NR109 at West Kalgoorlie December 10th.

Photo Peter Donaghy





6001, CLP11 dead attached final ACB of the current order ACB4406 on 2MP1 QRN intermodal departing West Kalgoorlie yard on December 7th. Photo Peter Donaghy



NR116 & AN3 on 6MP4 at Toodyay on December 11th. Photo Alex MacAay





AC4302 waits while AC4308 hauls detached Q4017 to West Kalgoorlie then AC4302 will run back onto a very late 7419 ore with ACA6002 & Q4011 to run to Esperance December 10th. Photo Peter Donaghy



ACA6005 & ACA6010 on 5035 empty ore at Toodyay West November 28th. Photo Kieran Wright





Setting the road to enable DC2215 to enter loop at Parkeston December 10th.

Photo Peter Donaghy



Sticker promoting ladder safety and taking care on steps attached to side of DC2215. Photo Peter Donaghy



QR National 2204 was hauled to Forrestfield on 2MP1 behind 6001& CLP13 arriving on morning on December 15th. 2204 was then stabled on loco ladder Forrestfield.

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A DPU trial was conducted with 2416 empty ore on December 5th to Koolyanobbing and return. Following the trial limited DPU operations of about one train per day resumed for the remainder of the week then near full DPU resumption took place week commencing 11th December.

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DFZ2401 & DFZ2404 on 6723 ore train approaching Canna at dusk December 16th. Photo John Stephens

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All of the crossing loop extensions on Esperance line have been completed and are operational except for Grass Patch. With a further 159 ore car trial scheduled before Christmas and depending on result a limited running of 159 car DPU trains may commence. Deliveries of new ACB locomotives and new WOE ore cars has been progressing with sufficient now on hand for a limited phase in.

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Commissioning of CTC at Hampton that was expected to be operational earlier in the month was completed on December 15th following installing and testing of signalling and point motors over previous few days. During this commissioning Pilot Key working was in force between Binduli and Hampton.

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As has been a tradition since Australian National days on the isolated Trans line and for more than 20 years a Christmas Special Indian Pacific has ran. It now runs the 4300km across Australia as Indian Pacific Outback Christmas Train Tour performing in WA on this run at Rawlinna and Kalgoorlie on December 9th and other remote communities interstate. Pop star Jessica Mauboy was performing on this years train with proceeds from the concerts raising funds for Royal Flying Doctor Service. The special part of the regular Indian Pacific 5AP8 only runs east west and the special cars that make up this service were hauled dead back to Adelaide on 1PA8 Indian Pacific on Sunday 11th.



**MERRY CHRISTMAS and a  
HAPPY NEW YEAR to all our readers  
from West Australian Railscene e-Mag**



I would like thank all those that have helped me with photos and information throughout 2011 and wish my contributors my readers and everyone a brilliant Christmas have a great and enjoyable day with family or friends. Have a very Merry Christmas everyone Jim Bisdee publisher.

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