

West Australian Rails

NUMBER 3 A free monthly photo e-Mag of railway happenings in WA during March 2018

PUBLISHER Peter Donaghy Email: peterdonaghy2@bigpond.com Copyright: Peter Donaghy © 2018



NRs 90 & 39 on 3SP7 enter Parkeston main and cross NR9 & AN6 with the stabled ARTC ballast train on the engineer's siding, March 1st. Photo: Peter Donaghy

Cleveland Cliffs formally notified their contractors that the final shipment of iron ore from their 11 million tonne per annum Koolyanobbing mining operation would occur by June 30, 2018. Southern Ports have around 130 staff in Esperance; iron ore accounted for 75% of their exports in the last financial year. Aurizon employ around 90 drivers on the route, based in Esperance and Kalgoorlie. ARC Infrastructure, which owns and maintains the line, also anticipates redundancies. There are claims other parties are interested in taking over the mine but Cliffs say they have had no approaches.

Unless another mining company does take over very soon, locomotive redeployment will occur in the months ahead; former Aurizon Intermodal unit 6029 was forwarded east, dead hauled, on 6PM9 ex Perth on Fri 6th April. This is the only member of its class not to have entered Kooly ore service, instead remaining on Perth-Kalgoorlie general freight duties since being transferred west from the closed Intermodal division late last year.

The hopper fleet will surely see rationalisation; around 45 AN green and gold AOPY hoppers (shortened former Leigh Creek coal hoppers) currently remain in storage at Salmon Gums, many suffering corrosion, and not having been in regular traffic for several years. Some of the old WO/WOA/WOB/WOC/WOD hoppers also appear badly corroded so many will possibly be scrapped.



Beautiful light bathes P2504, P2505 and P2517 on 6725 loaded ore at Northern Gully, March 2nd. Photo: Phil Melling



NR27 leads 7PX4 steel train through South Guildford, March 3rd.

Photo: Jim Bisdee



A smoky Q4007 departs West Kalgoorlie on March 3rd with train 7027, ammonia to Malcolm, but also conveying empty rare earths containers and WN nickel hoppers for Leonora. The usual Leonora train 7479 had not run overnight.



NR30 approaches West Kalgoorlie with 7AK2 from Esperance, March 3rd.

Both photos: Peter Donaghy



Just on a year since repaint, Q4008 brings 7C74 empty cement/lime shunt in from Parkeston, 3/4.

Photo: Peter Donaghy



7035 empty ore is led through High Wycombe by NR47 & MRL006, March 3rd.

Photo: Simon Barber



1PA8 Indian Pacific races through Middle Swan behind NR35, March 4th.



NR6 & NR26 on 1PS6 including a big load of pipes, Herne Hill, March 4th.

Both photos: Simon Barber



NR97 & MRL006 lead 1032 Polaris ore through South Guildford, March 5th. Photo: Jim Bisdee



Q4012 on 1430 empty sulphur from Malcolm, passing through Midland, March 5th. Photo: Simon Barber



Above and below: NR30 brings 2AK2 “recorder cars” into Kalgoorlie from Leonora, March 5th. Both photos: Peter Donaghy





Faulty NR11 was removed from the Esperance fuel train at West Kalgoorlie, leaving NR105 solo; NR53 was dropped off by 7MP5 a few hours later to replace NR11 prior to 2445's departure. 6029 & Q4014 stand at the head of 2426 to Perth, March 5th.



NRs 89, 23, 18 and 94 on late 2PM5 pass stabled NR9 & AN6 on ARTC ballast, Parkeston, 6/3. Both photos: Peter Donaghy
Page 8 of 28



The last rays of sunlight catch NRs 89, 23 and hauled pair 18 and 94 on a very late 2PM5, Parkeston, 6/3. Photo: Peter Donaghy



NRs 93 & 100 on 1MP2 steel train, South Guildford, March 7th.

Photo: Jim Bisdee



4AK2 passes through Woodbridge behind NR30, March 7th. NR30 had worked it right across the desert. Photo: Simon Barber



4AK2 track inspection train to East Perth at East Guildford, March 7th.

Photo: Jim Bisdee



4AK4 from East Perth passes through Bassendean, March 7th.

Photo: Jim Bisdee



6021 & ACB4406 (6022 & AC4303 DPU), 4414 empty ore rounds the west leg of Binduli, 7/3.

Photo: Brendan Cherry



AN6 leads NR9 and the empty ballast in from the desert, Parkeston, March 8th.

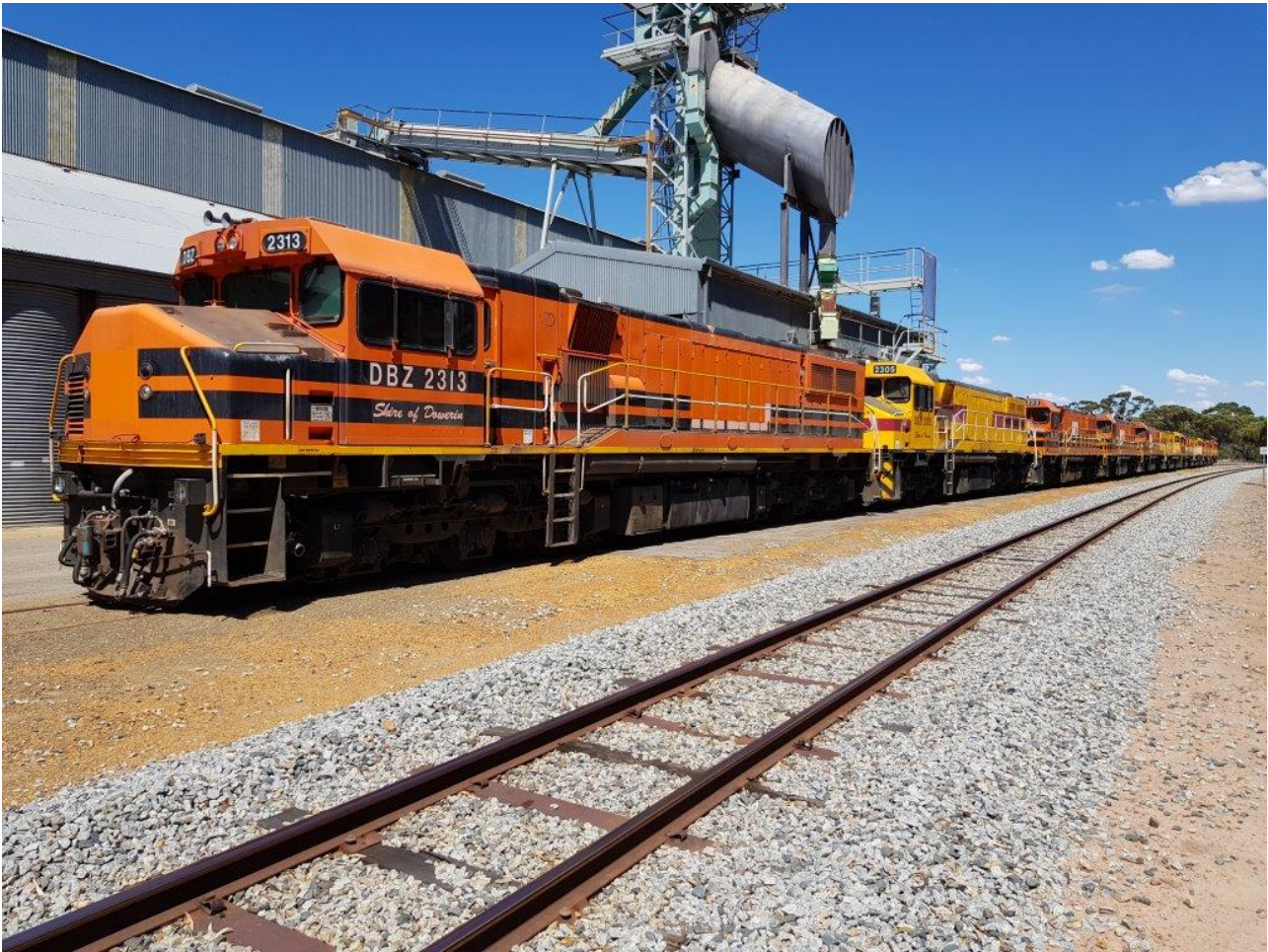
Both photos: Brendan Cherry



Two of the three remaining orange Qs, 4005 & 4003, lead 4029 sulphur to Malcolm away from West Kalgoorlie, March 8th.



NRs 100 and 93 lead 4PM6 past stabled NR9 & AN6, Parkeston, March 8th. Photo: Brendan Cherry



CBH's ten DBZ class locos stored at Beverley grain loop, March 8th. Photo: Matthew Hopper



Following an overhaul which took just over a year, Q4009 finally emerged on March 7th for a run to Kalgoorlie, seen here the following day ready to return to Perth. Note the bogies weren't repainted. Photo: Peter Donaghy



Finally, a change of loco! NR103 leads 6AK1 through Swan View, March 9th. Early on 11/3, NR6 on 6PM7 seized an axle at Cook; NR103 was removed from the AK cars to replace it. A few hours later, 7PX4 arrived with NR84 hauling NR30 – with the latter being pinched to haul the AK cars once again! Photo: Simon Barber



SCT006 and LDP003 work 3MP9 through Stratton, March 9th.

Photo: Simon Barber



Plain white LDP004 leads SCT002 on 5PM9 towards Parkeston, March 9th.

Photo: Brendan Cherry



Returning to Perth from workshops attention at Port Augusta, yard shunter 8121 is sandwiched between NRs 67 & 119 on 4MP5 as it departs Parkeston, March 9th.
Photo: Brendan Cherry



NR67, 8121 & NR119 on 4MP5 arrive on the main at West Kalgoorlie while NRs 20 & 48 stand on the arrival road with 6445 empty fuel to Esperance, March 9th.
Photo: Peter Donaghy



NRs 20 & 49 on 6445 empty Esperance fuel, West Kalgoorlie, March 9th.

Photo: Brendan Cherry



Ps 2509, 2511 & 2504 alongside CBH008 & a sister unit, Geraldton Port, March 9th.

Photo: Phil Melling



NRs 84 & 30 lead 7PX4 through Herne Hill, 10th March. NR30 would be removed 1500kms away at Cook the next morning to resume AK car duties.
Photo: Simon Barber



Qs 4012 & 4011 approach West Kalgoorlie with 6029 Malcolm sulphur, March 10th. Photo: Brendan Cherry



LDP002 & SCT015 on 5MP9 at West Kalgoorlie, March 10th.

Both photos: Brendan Cherry



AC4303 & 6022 (DPU AC4308 & 6027) on 7415 ore departing Binduli for Esperance, March 10th.



LDP003 and SCT011 on a late 6PM9, Binduli, March 10th.

Photo: Brendan Cherry



NRs 77 & 91 bring 5MP5 into Parkeston, crossing NRs 10 & 118 on a very late 6PM7. The two trains had just completed a shunt, MP5 donating its crew coach to cover for the failed coach PM7 was hauling, March 10th.

Photo: Peter Donaghy



NRs 84 & 30 on 7PX4 approach West Kalgoorlie yard at sunset, March 10th.

Photo: Brendan Cherry



NRs 84 and 30 bring 7PX4 onto the arrival road at West Kalgoorlie on dusk, bisecting NRs 77 & 91 on 5MP5, and Qs 4009 & 4016 on 7426, March 10th.

Photo: Peter Donaghy



Q4019 & 6029 depart West Kalgoorlie on 1C71 to Parkeston, March 11th.



NRs 107 and 1 depart West Kalgoorlie on 5MP2 steel train, March 11th.

Both photos: Brendan Cherry



First of an order for ten new TransPerth suburban trains, set 117 on 5MP2 departing West Kalgoorlie, March 11th.



AC4306 & ACC6032 (DPU ACB4405 & 6025) depart Binduli, 1414 empty ore, 11/3. Both photos: Brendan Cherry
Page **23** of **28**



CBHs 008 & 006 lead an empty grain through Beachlands, March 11th.

Photo: Phil Melling



AC4305 & ACB4402 (DPU ACBs 4403 & 4404) on 1413 ore at dusk, Kurrawong, 11/3.

Photo: Brendan Cherry



NRs 107 & 1 lead 5MP2 through Millendon Junction, March 11th.



New TransPerth B set #117 on the rear of 5MP2, Millendon Junction, March 11th.

Both photos: Simon Barber



Qs 4010 & 4007 on 2426 freight from Kalgoorlie to Kwinana, Wattle Grove, March 13th. Photo: Jim Bisdee



NR9 & AN6 stabled on the ARTC ballast, Parkeston, soon after sunrise, March 16th. Photo: Tim Philp



AN6 stabled on the ARTC ballast at Parkeston, March 16th.

Photo: Tim Philp



NRs 32, 68, 117 & MRL002 on 3P24 light engine to UGL, South Guildford, March 13th. Photo: Jim Bisdee



Q4001 leads 5430 empty sulphur from Malcolm through South Guildford, March 16th.

Photo: Jim Bisdee

A number of Perth and Geraldton railfans made the pilgrimage to Kalgoorlie during March and early April to photograph the Koolyanobbing ore trains while they're still running. Due to the large number of photo submissions, there will be a second March edition to cover the latter half of the month, hopefully uploaded this coming Saturday.