

West Australian Rails

NUMBER 1 A free monthly photo e-Mag of railway happenings in WA during January 2019

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It's 0450 and the sun about to rise over Kalgoorlie for the first time in 2019 as 1GP1 crosses Bulong Road into Parkeston behind SCTs 013 & 001, 1st January. Photo: Peter Donaghy

Mt Gibson iron ore trains into Geraldton ceased on 1st February following the completion of mining at Extension Hill. Several new projects are possible for the region in the coming months/years, including other iron ore mines and mineral sands, but for the moment the Perenjori branch has become grain only and many P class will be placed in storage, allegedly including 2502, 2504 and 2515. P2503 has already been a parts donor for several weeks, having apparently suffered a major failure.

ACBs 4401 & 4405 were hauled east on 5PM9 ex Perth on Thursday 10th January; they will join Aurizon's Hunter coal fleet. The other four ACBs are yet to be transferred, with ACB4402 still the only one in traffic. ACC6031, AC4302, AC4303 and AC4305 all remain in storage, along with Qs 4004, 4005, 4010, 4012, 4013 and 4018.

PN's 8222 returned east in early February after several months as the Esperance Port shunter. NR10 is currently performing the shunt duties; the three triple-headed ore trains are running with a combination of MRLs and NRs. Generally one MRL is out for servicing at UGL Bassendean at any time; in late January three were failures, necessitating six NRs on the ore trains to assist the three active MRLs for a week or so. Along with the two fuel train NRs and the port shunter, Esperance had nine NRs!

As this issue was being prepared, 5PS6 derailed just east of Kultanaby in the Tarcoola – Port Augusta section around noon WA time on Saturday 16th February. 700 metres of the train has piled up, with around 150 metres of track damaged. A deviation was constructed around the site, reopening at 1000 SA time on Thursday 21/2.

A heavy Kalgoorlie focus this month with two railfans visiting the city during January.



5AP8 Indian Pacific led by NR28 passes through Herne Hill on 8th December 2018.



NR75 and AN11 at PFT Kewdale after bringing in 6MP1 freight, 23rd December 2018.



ADP103, ADQ121 and ADP101 form 2209 Australind service at Perth railway station, 24th December 2018. Note the extraction hoods over the railcar exhausts to remove fumes from the enclosed station. All three photos: Evan Jasper



Mountain class S542 is a static exhibit at East Perth station, 31st December 2018. “Bakewell” is the second member of a class of ten, being the first locomotives to be designed and built in WA.



3-car Prospector set 3 ex Kalgoorlie arrives for a cross with its eastbound counterpart at Merredin, 31st December 2018; preserved shunt loco T1808 is visible on display in the adjacent rail museum. Both photos: Graham Saunders



It's 2215 on 31st December and as 2018 draws to a close, Prospector set 2 has arrived in Kalgoorlie. Photo: Graham Saunders



VLs 361 & 357 run 3S57 light engine to Grass Valley to collect hoppers, South Guildford, 1st January.

Photo: Jim Bisdee



SCTs 009 & 006 ease 2PM9 along the main line at Parkeston, 1st January.

Photo: Peter Donaghy



ACNs 4172 & 4174 haul 3763 loaded Karara ore through Bringa, 1st January.

Photo: Phil Melling



Now consigned to history, Ps 2508, 2506 & 2514 lead 3722 empty Mt Gibson ore, Beachlands, 1st January. Photo: Phil Melling



CBHs 013 & 015 rattle through Woodbridge with 3K63 empty Watco grain, 1st January. Photo: Jim Bisdee



3558 loaded standard gauge grain passes through Woodbridge behind CBHs 121, 120 & 119, 1st January.



The only active member of the six-strong ACB class, ACB4402 leads 3029 Malcolm sulphur through Woodbridge, 1st January.
Both photos: Jim Bisdee



CBHs 007 & 005 work another empty grain through Woodbridge, 1st January.

Photo: Jim Bisdee



Former BHP shunter #49 shuffles cement tanktainers through the sidings at Cockburn Cement Limited at Parkeston on 2nd January. All rail traffic through this terminal has consisted of tanktainers for the past 2-3 years. Photo: Graham Sanders



NRs 63 & 41 lead 2MP5 from the Trans line and onto the freight main at Kalgoorlie, 2nd January. The Leonora line curves off to the top left, the passenger main through the station platform is to the lower right.



ACC6032 pulls away from Parkeston with 4C74 shuttle to West Kalgoorlie, 2nd January.

Both photos: Graham Saunders



NRs 100 & 112 on 4MP7 (entering main line) cross SCTs 013 & 001 on 4PG1 (loop), Parkeston, 3rd January.

Both photos: Graham Saunders





Q4014 hauls Caltex wagons from the tank farm up the shunt neck, West Kalgoorlie, 3rd January. Both photos: Graham Saunders



AC4304 arrives into West Kalgoorlie yard with a rake of loaded sulphuric acid tanks from Hampton, 3rd January.



AC4308 approaches West Kalgoorlie yard with 5C74 from Parkeston, 3rd January.

Photo: Graham Saunders



Following crew change, MRL006, NR94 & MRL004 depart Binduli with 5030 empty ore, 3rd January.

Photo: Peter Donaghy



Thick with road grime, CBH008 leads sister 003 on 5G51 loaded grain at Beachlands, 3rd January.

Photo: Phil Melling



Evening sun glints off MRL005, NR80 & MRL001 as they roll into Binduli with 5033 ore, 3rd January.

Photo: Peter Donaghy



As soon as 5030 arrived at Binduli, 5426 raced through behind ACC6030 & Q4002, 3rd January. Both photos: Graham Saunders



Just after sunset, Q4015 approaches West Kalgoorlie with 5478 nickel ex Leonora, 3rd January. Both photos: Graham Saunders



Ps 2509, 2503 & 2513 light engine at Narngulu East, 4th January.

Photo: Phil Melling



SCT011 & LDP002 ease 5PM9 around the former loco depot and past Kalgoorlie station, 4th January. Photo: Graham Saunders



5PM9 overtakes 5PS6 at Parkeston, 4th January.



SCT011 & LCP002 lead 5PM9 across Bulong Road as they depart Parkeston, 4th January.

Both photos: Graham Saunders



NRs 74 & 89 on 5PS6 wait for a new crew, Parkeston loop, 4th January.

Photo: Graham Saunders



Originally Queensland Railways' 2465 (built in 1980), then rebuilt as 2372 in 2001, transferred to WA in late 2008/early 2009 and renumbered DFZ2405, leading 6923 caustic tanks through Harbour Junction, 4th January.

Photo: Simon Barber



NRs 15, 34 and 67 on 4MP5 and NRs 60, 104 & 8 on 6445 at West Kalgoorlie, 4th January.



4MP5 accelerates away from West Kalgoorlie, 4th January.

Both photos: Graham Saunders



NRs 60, 104 & 8 on 6445 empty fuel, 4th January. NR104 would replace MRL006 on ore workings. Photo: Graham Saunders



NR34 & MRL002 on 7PX4, Bellevue, 5th January. The load includes 18 MHPY ore hoppers for Esperance. Photo: Jim Bisdee



Ps 2507 & 2517 lead 60 hoppers on 7720 Mt Gibson service at Bringoo, 5th January.

Photo: Phil Melling



NRs 63 & 41 on 6PM6 refuel and await crew change on Parkeston loop, 5th January.

Photo: Graham Saunders



Rain across the country makes locos grubby – filthy SCTs 008 & 010 approach Parkeston (above) and pass the former yard tower at West Kalgoorlie (below) with SMP9, 5th January. Both photos: Graham Saunders





The air above ACC6032 shimmers from hot exhaust as 7C74 departs Parkeston, 5th January.

Both photos: Graham Saunders



NRs 111 & 1 power into Parkeston with 5MP5, 5th January, having stopped briefly to allow 7C74 to depart.



NRs 111 & 1 squeal through the curves into Kalgoorlie with 5MP5, 5th January.

Photo: Graham Saunders



Eight RMOY car carriers on 6MP4, 6/1. 10-12 car carriers was once common, now usually just 2-3.

Photo: Peter Donaghy



MRL002 and a rake of MHPY hoppers stabled on the engineer's siding, Parkeston, 6th January. Photo: Graham Saunders



1033 loaded ore crawls around the west leg of Binduli triangle behind NRs 78, 43 & MRL003, 6/1. Photo: Peter Donaghy



The Esperance crew wait to replace the Kalgoorlie crew on 1033 ore at Binduli, 6th January.

Both photos: Peter Donaghy



1033 ore races past the disused rail welding facility and an overloaded hopper pair at Hampton, 6th January.



MRL005, NR80 & MRL001 lead 1030 empty ore between Hampton and Binduli, 6th January. Photo: Peter Donaghy



A loaded grain train passes through Northam behind CBHs 119 & 121, 6th January. Photo: Phil Melling



Kalgoorlie visit over! Prospector set 2 forms 1084 to Perth at Kalgoorlie station, 6th January.

Photo: Graham Saunders



VLs 357 & 361 with a loaded Graincorp train at East Hines Hill, 6th January.

Photo: Phil Melling



Prospector sets 2 & 3 cross at Merredin, 6th January.

Photo: Graham Saunders