

# West Australian Rails

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W945 leads a Hotham Valley service on the last steam day of the season, 1<sup>st</sup> November. Photo: Mark Bennett

MRL003 emerged from UGL Bassendean following DP installation on 12<sup>th</sup> January, with MRL004 being shipped the same day, the last of the class to receive its module. Only CF4407 of the four leased units remains to be equipped, and departed West Kalgoorlie on 19<sup>th</sup> January, on transfer to UGL.

The three ACBs which were sent to Hunter coal two years ago were to be collected from Paterson (NSW) by SCT on 16<sup>th</sup> January but the move was cancelled the previous day. The ACBs had apparently been at Progress Rail, Cardiff, presumably for a quick service and clean-up prior to their trip "home", but perhaps weren't ready in time.

Christmas Eve 2019 Jumperkine accident lead unit NR80 emerged from rebuild at UGL Bassendean on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021, now renumbered as NR122. It departed Kewdale the next day, hauled behind NRs 60 & 62 on 7PM5.

One or two ore trains per week are now loading at Mt Walton; these will travel to Kwinana to unload in the near future but are currently still using Esperance alongside those which load at Koolyanobbing.

For anyone who has an interest in what was a rather unusual locomotive on the Australian scene, Peter Guild has produced a book on the WAGR's Metropolitan-Vickers X class. Available through these three sites, amongst others:

[https://www.railheritagewa.org.au/sales/sales\\_1.php](https://www.railheritagewa.org.au/sales/sales_1.php)

<https://arhsnsu.com.au/product/the-x-class-era-in-western-australia/>

<https://www.boffinsbooks.com.au/books/9780648225614/x-class-era-in-western-australia-an-illustrated-history>





The motion gear on W945 (above), as it hauls a Steam Ranger passenger service with former Midland Railways F40, 1<sup>st</sup> November. Both photos: Mark Bennett







W945 (with F40 as backup) hauls a Hotham Valley service on the final steam run of the season, 1<sup>st</sup> November. These trains run from Dwellingup into the Darling Ranges forest. Both photos: Mark Bennett







W945 and F40 on a Hotham Valley service on a wet 1<sup>st</sup> November.  
Page 4 of 30

Photo: Mark Bennett





W945 leads F40 on another Hotham Valley passenger run, then returns with the English Electric diesel trailing, 1<sup>st</sup> November.  
Both photos: Mark Bennett







W945 steams through the Darling Ranges, 1<sup>st</sup> November.

Photo: Mark Bennett





S3302 runs a caustic train through Mundijong, 1<sup>st</sup> November.

Photo: Mark Bennett



Two new Woolworths refrigerated trailers aboard 6MP9, 1<sup>st</sup> November.

Photo: Peter Donaghy





An overview of Kwinana Yard (above), with a couple of Q class at left on the standard gauge and S3308 to the right on a narrow gauge bauxite, then the latter departing (below), 2<sup>nd</sup> November. Both photos: Mark Bennett







CBHs 120 & 118 bring 2S56 from Forreestfield into Kwinana, 2<sup>nd</sup> November.



Qs 4007 & 4006 ease 2025 Kalgoorlie freight out of Kwinana, 2<sup>nd</sup> November.

Both photos: Mark Bennett





VLs 357 & 361 ex Hampton enter West Kal yard as Q4016, a ballast regulator and MR1 loaded ore stand by (above - note 1km peg); then are slotted in behind NRs 2 & 78 on 3PM4 for transfer home, 3/11. Both photos: Peter Donaghy







Two trains approaching the Goldfields Highway bridge: 3PM4 eastbound (above), 3<sup>rd</sup> November, and NRs 119, 84 & 121 in rare all cab ahead formation lead 3SP7 westbound (below), 5<sup>th</sup> November. Both photos: Peter Donaghy







Standard gauge CBHs 122 & 118 on 3S58 loaded grain, Northam, 10<sup>th</sup> November.



CBH023 waits as CBH010 loads 3K06 grain at Brookton, 10<sup>th</sup> November.

Both photos: Phil Melling





CBHs 005 & 025 arrive at Brookton (above) with 4K05 grain, then run around and load (below), 11<sup>th</sup> November.  
Both photos: Phil Melling







Qs 4007 & 4006 haul CFs 4408 & 4405 ex DP install on 4025 approaching West Kal, 12/11.

Photo: Peter Donaghy



CBHs 10 & 11 work 5K05 empty grain north of Brookton, 12<sup>th</sup> November.

Photo: Phil Melling





WN529 buckled upper portion during unload, awaits construction of a new top, West Kalgoorlie, 13<sup>th</sup> November.



1MR1 approaches West Kal behind AC4301, CF4408 & NR12, 15<sup>th</sup> November.

Both photos: Peter Donaghy





The two new small antennae on the roof of CF4408 are part of the newly-installed distributed power unit, 15/11.



1MR1's units have run around their rake and added CF4405, 15<sup>th</sup> November. Both photos: Peter Donaghy





An extremely rare NR-led ore: NR12, CF4408, AC4301, CF4405 on 1MR1 midway Binduli-Hampton, 15<sup>th</sup> November.



FL220 and ballast rake stabled on ballast siding, Hampton, 15<sup>th</sup> November.

Both photos: Peter Donaghy





After several failures, Q4004 awaits attention at Gemco Forrestfield, 15<sup>th</sup> November.

Photo: Phil Melling



ACB4404, AC4307 (to remove at Binduli for service) & NR76 depart Hampton on 1040, 5/11. Photo: Peter Donaghy





Aurizon-crewed 1040 empty ore's DPU are MRL003 & AC4302, Hampton, 15<sup>th</sup> November. Photo: Peter Donaghy



Bogie-less Q4015 waits at Gemco Forrestfield for its turn to commence CCO, 15<sup>th</sup> November. Photo: Phil Melling





English Electric RA1918 on display at the ARHS Railway Transport Museum, Bassendean, 15/11. Photo: Phil Melling



Jacaranda is in bloom as NRs 112 & 35 pass Woodbridge on 1PM5, 15<sup>th</sup> November. Photo: Graham Saunders





CBHs 002 & 001 stabled at Mingenew with an empty grain rake, 15<sup>th</sup> November.

Photo: Phil Melling



CBHs 007 & 010 power 1K63 empty grain through Woodbridge, 15<sup>th</sup> November.

Photo: Graham Saunders





1025 Kalgoorlie freight is led through Woodbridge by Qs 4002 & 4001, 15<sup>th</sup> November. Photo: Graham Saunders



Qs 4014 & 4011 have hauled AC4307 & CF4406 (DP fit) back from workshops on 4025, 19/11. Photo: Peter Donaghy  
Page 22 of 30





FMG's new bridge crosses over the Rio Tinto conveyor from Silvergrass, Brockman mine, 19/11. Photo: A. Nonimas



On its first run for SCT is former Aurizon coach QCAY5K. 6PM9, SCTs 001 & 010, 21/11. Photo: Peter Donaghy





ACNs 4174 & 4141 pass through Northern Gully on 7763 loaded Karara ore, 21<sup>st</sup> November.

Photo: Phil Melling



Qs 4002 & 4006 on 1C71; Q4013 on 7029, to be replaced by Qs 4011 & 4014, 22<sup>nd</sup> November.

Photo: Peter Donaghy





ACB4404 & NR76 (above) with DPU CF4405 & AC4301 (below) on 1040 empty ore, halfway between Hampton and Binduli, 22<sup>nd</sup> November. Both photos: Peter Donaghy







Only the second time a CF has led a Kooly ore – CF4408, AC4305 & CF4406, 1MR1, near Hampton, 22<sup>nd</sup> November.



PN crew coach RZBY911D refreshed following a service, Parkeston, 22<sup>nd</sup> November.

Both photos: Peter Donaghy





Coaches RZAY944 and former Overland RZEYs 2, 1 & 3 await their next use, West Kal, 25/11. Photo: Peter Donaghy



Q4006 hauls LZs 3120 & 3119 for reactivation, 4112 Avon-Forrestfield, Herne Hill, 25/11. Photo: Simon Barber





Ps 2515, 2504 & 2508 cross Greenough River, Eradu, with 5721 loaded Mt Gibson ore, 26/11. Photo: Phil Melling



4MP7 climbs away from Parkeston behind NRs 74 & 75, 26<sup>th</sup> November. Photo: Peter Donaghy





So much red – NRs 74 & 75, 7MP7; ACC6031, MRLs 006 & 001, 5042; Binduli, 26<sup>th</sup> November. Photo: Peter Donaghy



DBZ2310 runs 7853 caustic soda at Worsley, 28<sup>th</sup> November.

Photo: Simon Barber





2721 loaded Mt Gibson ore west of Bringo, behind Ps 2508, 2502 & 2515, 30<sup>th</sup> November.

Photo: Phil Melling