

West Australian Rails

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Q4013 enters West Kalgoorlie yard on Christmas Eve 2020, 24/12, hauling train 5111, 66 WOC/WOD/WOE hoppers retrieved from storage in Avon Yard and reactivated for Kooly-Esperance ore traffic. Photo: Peter Donaghy

On Mon 22/2/21, Q4002 was working 2C74, Parkeston – West Kalgoorlie empty cement shuttle. At 1700, they struck the side of a loaded 3-trailer ore road train at Yarri Rd level crossing, just out of Parkeston. The force of the impact forced the Q off the rails. Unfortunately, both train drivers were seriously injured, one critically, with both airlifted to Perth after a lengthy extraction from the cab of the Q. One remains in hospital in an induced coma as of early March; our thoughts and prayers are with the crew and their families, for a rapid and full recovery from their injuries.

After the ATSB and police had finished assessing the site, the Q was dragged aside, clear of the crossing, and track repairs undertaken. Fortunately track and road damage was not too serious, with the line being reopened at 0730 on Tue 23/2, and the road reopened early that afternoon. The Q remained on site with 24/7 security, until it was finally lifted by several cranes onto a heavy-duty trailer on the morning of Tue 2/3 for road haulage to Perth, arriving the following evening.



Ps 2516, 2502 & 2505 on 1720 empty Mt Gibson, Bringo East, 27th December.

Photo: Phil Melling



S3301 leads 1271 lime through Harvey, 27th December.

Photo: Simon Barber



The final 720, 2720 empty Mt Gibson, Bringo West, Ps 2516, 2502 & 2505, 28th December.

Photo: Phil Melling



CBHs 017 & 013 prepare to depart Albany on 1A74 empty grain to Cranbrook, 28/12.

Photo: Graham Saunders



2A74 empty grain approaches Small Park, Mt Melville (above), and Old School Rd, Cuthbert (below), 28th December.
CBHs 017 & 013 provide the power. Both photos: Graham Saunders





Ps 2508, 2515 & 2514, final 721 loaded Mt Gibson ore: 2721, Geraldton port, 28th December. Photo: Phil Melling



Almost like a decade ago! Nine RMOY car carrier wagons on 7MP5, 28th December. Photo: Peter Donaghy



3720 empty Mt Gibson ore to stable at Narngulu; Mahomets Flats; Ps 2516, 2502 & 2505, 29/12. Photo: Phil Melling



CBHs 013 & 017, 3A73 grain to Albany approaches South Coast Hwy, Marbelup, 29/12. Photo: Graham Saunders



3A73 approaches Albany's CBH facility (above and below), led by CBHs 013 & 017, 29th December.

Both photos: Graham Saunders





After unloading, CBHs 017 & 013 head back to Cranbrook for another load of grain. 3A74 empty hoppers passes Albany station (above), and Mt Elphinstone (below), 29th December. Both photos: Graham Saunders





P2515 and two empty hoppers between Separation Point and Beachlands, 29th December.

Photo: Phil Melling



The usual coach balance on 1MP2 sees three behind NRs 76, 10 & 13, 29th December.

Photo: Peter Donaghy



CBHs 013 & 013 haul 4A73 loaded grain to Albany near Cuthbert (above), and approaching Gledhow (below), 30th December.
Both photos: Graham Saunders





4A73 loaded grain passes Albany station behind CBHs 013 & 017, 30th December.

Photo: Graham Saunders