

West Australian Rails

NUMBER 7 A free monthly photo e-Mag of railway happenings in WA during July 2018

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AC4306 leads 5158 fuel train through Cockburn, 21st June.

Photo: Kieran Wright

Koolyanobbing ore trains are planned to recommence running this financial quarter; rumour suggests late September, using a mix of MRLs and 82 class. There has been no official announcement yet of the rail operator but PN have recently advertised for additional drivers in Kalgoorlie and Esperance. The four MRLs (1, 2, 4 and 6) which had been stored at Mt Walton were hauled back to Kewdale on August 1st, to be prepared for return to service.

Many standard gauge Aurizon locos remain stored – AC4302, 4303 and 4305, along with ACBs 4401, 4402, 4403, 4405 and 4406, plus ACC6031 have seen no traffic since being returned to Perth. Perth-Kalgoorlie traffic is handled by ACs 4301, 4304, 4306 to 4308; ACB4404 and ACCs 6030 and 6032. Some of June's "missing" Qs have since returned to service but others have disappeared – at present, Qs 4004, 4006, 4010, 4012, 4013 and 4018 are out of traffic.



Watco's DR1564 finally made an appearance on rail at the end of June, delivered to Gemco for twist testing. 29th June.

Photo: Kieran Wright



NR29 departs Midland with 1PA8 Indian Pacific, 1st July.

Photo: Jim Bisdee



NR41, AN11 & dead NR106 lead 1PM5, Woodbridge, 1st July.



NRs 61 & 26 run 6SP5 through Woodbridge, 1st July.

Both photos: Jim Bisdee



HVR's W945 tender departing Pinjarra, bound for Dwellingup, 3rd July.



HVR's W945 heading to Dwellingup from Pinjarra, 3rd July.

Both photos: Jim Bisdee



ACNs 4168 & 4152 pause for reflection on a stabled Karara iron ore train, 5th July.

Photo: Phil Melling



NRs 48 & 108 lead a late-running 2PM5 at Woodbridge, 5th July.

Photo: Jim Bisdee



A very late 4426 from Kalgoorlie runs through Midland behind a now-common GE pair, ACs 4307 & 4308, 5th July. 426 ex West Kalgoorlie on 31st July had triple ACs!



NRs 84 & 50 struggle to make up lost time on 2SP7 at Midland, 5th July.

Both photos: Jim Bisdee



G511 visited Forrestfield workshops on 6th July; stored Q4013 in the background.

Photo: Kieran Wright



6K06 Watco grain races through Midland behind CBHs 024 & 001, 6th July.

Photo: Jim Bisdee



Running very late, SCTs 006 & 005 rush 5PM9 through Woodbridge, 6th July.



LDPs 002 & 001 hurry another late SCT working through Midland, 6th July.

Both photos: Jim Bisdee



NR25 leads 7PX4 through Bellevue, 7th July.



1PA8 Indian Pacific runs through Midland behind NR97, 8th July.

Both photos: Jim Bisdee



1721 loaded ore is captured west of Narngulu, hauled by Ps 2507, 2505 & 2513.

Photo: Phil Melling



NRs 54 & 44 await departure from Perth Freight Terminal, Kewdale, 9th July. At the front of the loading are twenty flatracks of pipes for the 270km Wentworth to Broken Hill pipeline, to provide reliable water supply to the “Silver City”. Two or three Perth-Sydney services every week each convey around fifteen pipe loads for the project.

Both photos: Evan Jasper





Ps 2514, 2511 & 2508 bark through Tenindewa with 5720 empty ore, 12th July.

Both photos: Phil Melling



Two ore trains stabled under threatening skies at Narngulu on 15th July - ACNs 4172 & 4142 keep ACN4151 company.



Q4009 leads 7430 empty sulphur from Malcolm through a wet Midland, 15th July.



The puddle reflects CBHs 006 & 011 as they work 7K74 Watco grain, Midland, 15th July.

Both photos: Jim Bisdee



NRs 87 & 40 lead 1PM5 through Hazelmere on a wet and gloomy 15th July.

Both photos: Jim Bisdee



Near the end of their journey across the continent, NRs 90 & 82 ease 6SP5 through Hazelmere, 15th July.



A curtainsider came unwrapped on 1PM5 and was shunted out at West Kal for attention. 18th July. Photo: Peter Donaghy



CBHs 011 & 006 hurry 5G51 loaded grain through Bootenal, 18th July. Photo: Phil Melling



NRs 7, 32, 104 & 61 lead 1PM5 through Woodbridge Junction, 19th July, an engine-balancing working. Photo: Simon Barber



8121 shunts Sadleirs loading at Perth Freight Terminal, Kewdale, 20th July. Photo: Evan Jasper



7720 empty ore at Old Grants, led by Ps 2505, 2507 & 2506, 21st July.

Photo: Phil Melling



FMG's 907 & 011 depart Port Hedland with an empty rake, including some new hoppers at the front, 21st July. Reclaimers and stockpiles of ore dominate the skyline.

Photo: Mark Bennett



An empty FMG train departs Port Hedland behind 907 & 011, 21st July.



FMR's 005 departs Kanyarri with two hopper pairs ex repair and seven new pairs, 21st July. The move was from Thomas Yard to Port balloon loop and back, to have the hoppers facing the correct way to enter traffic.

Both photos: Mark Bennett



New FMG hoppers about to enter service, Kanyirri, 21st July.

Photo: Mark Bennett



SCT015 & LDP002 lead 6PM9 past stabled AC4306 at Parkeston, 21st July.

Photo: Peter Donaghy



P2516 approaches Brunswick Junction with an empty alumina working, 21st July.

Photo: Alex Mackay



A rare PN triple header in the west – NRs 79, 91 & 50 lead 5MP2 away from West Kalgoorlie, 22nd July. Note two fuel tank wagons behind the crew coach, for workshops attention in Perth.

Photo: Peter Donaghy



At the rear of 5MP2 on 22nd July was TransPerth B set 120 on its delivery run.



5MP2 approaching Binduli, the narrow gauge bogies for EMU set B120 at the rear.

Both photos: Peter Donaghy



DBZs 2308, 2303, 2301, 2306, 2307, 2304, 2302, 2312, 2305 & 2313 stabled at Beverley CBH siding, 22nd July.



New TransPerth B set 120 at Perth Freight Terminal, 23rd July.

All three photos: Evan Jasper



NRs 83 & 14 on 2P52 Sadleirs train at Kewdale, 23rd July.

Photo: Evan Jasper



AC4306 departing Kewdale on the BP fuel shunt, 25th July.

Photo: Mark Bennett



Late running was a common problem for SCT for much of July; SCTs 011 & 006 lead 2MP9 through Midland, 26th July. The late arrivals provided photo opportunities in Perth which are normally not possible.



ACB4404 & Q4017 bring 4430 empty sulphur from Malcolm through Midland, 26th July. ACB4404 is the only member currently active of the six-strong class.

Both photos: Jim Bisdee



5K24 Watco grain runs through Midland behind CBHs 025 & 007, 26th July



Prospector set 2 works 5484 ex Kalgoorlie through Midland, 26th July.

Both photos: Jim Bisdee



NRs 4 & 88 wait to depart West Kalgoorlie arrival road with 6445 empty fuel to Esperance, 27th July. Photo: Evan Jasper



Ps 2513, 2507 & 2505 lead 7721 loaded ore east of Nola, 28th July. Photo: Phil Melling



Wearing three different colour schemes, Ps 2509, 2517 & 2501 lead 7720 empty ore up the grade through Eradu, 28th July.



ACNs 4150 & 4152 with DPU ACN4144 at the rear work 7763 loaded Karara ore at Tenindewa, 28th July.

Both photos: Phil Melling



The former Leighton Yard tower has now been demolished, 28th July.

Photo: Jim Bisdee



In the past fortnight, freshly repainted containers have begun appearing on some PN services. Coded DRCX, nine have been sighted so far. These formerly wore the white Linfox scheme (quite tatty in recent years), and were originally green and yellow Boxcar boxes. DRCX263 is aboard 5MP5 on 28th July.

Photo: Peter Donaghy



DFZ2405 arrives at Yalup Brook with empty caustic soda train 1924, 28th July. Photo: Alex Mackay



ACNs 4146 & 4168 with 1761 loaded Karara ore at Narngulu East, 29th July. Photo: Phil Melling



7430 empty sulphur rattles through Midland behind AC4306, 29th July.

Photo: Jim Bisdee



P2502 hauls an empty caustic soda rake near Beela, 29th July.

Photo: Alex Mackay



P2504 runs through Yarloop with an empty alumina consist, 29th July.

Photo: Alex Mackay



FL220, HL203 & G511 work 3145 port shuttle through Wattle Grove, 31st July.

Photo: Jim Bisdee