

West Australian Rails

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One of Roy Hill's new hoppers is about to be placed on the rails while another awaits unloading from a truck, Flashbutt Yard, Port Hedland, 11th July.

Photo: John Mathews

Rail traffic between the eastern states and WA was disrupted around 1045 on Sun 19/8 when 7MP7 derailed at the eastern end of Coonana, 170kms east of Kalgoorlie, putting NRs 54 & 120, crew coach BRS223 and the first few platforms of a skeletal 5-pack "in the dirt". Fortunately the crew had almost managed to pull up, the derailment occurring at around 30kph thus nowhere near as severe as it could easily have been, the drivers were unhurt. A short deviation was constructed around the destroyed points, linking into the loop and opening at 0600 on Thursday 23/8.

Mining has recommenced at Koolyanobbing under new owners Mineral Resources. A stockpile of Mt Walton ore is to be railed from Kwinana to Esperance, first train loaded at Kwinana on Thursday 13th September, then stabled at Forrestfield. It will depart the latter location late morning of Sunday 16th September, to arrive in Esperance around 24 hours later, with ships to commence loading in November.

Many of Aurizon's standard-gauge GE fleet remain stored in Forrestfield; ACB4402 re-entered service in recent weeks but ACB4404 appears to have been stored at that time so there is still only one member of that class active.

CSRs have made a big return to the West, amid rumours three of SCT's five leased LDPs (003, 004 & 005) will join LDPs 006-009 at PacNat in mid September.



A rake of newly commissioned Roy Hill ore hoppers await traffic in Flashbutt Yard, Port Hedland, 23rd July. Photo: John Mathews



The “standard” power nowadays for the overnight freighters between Perth and Kalgoorlie – a pair of GEs from the AC/ACB/ACC classes. ACs 4306 & 4304 are already on the acid tanks, awaiting the rest of the loading to be shunted onto the rear, 2nd August.

Photo: Peter Donaghy



CBHs 009 & 002 on a grain train at Marchagee CBH, 4th August.

Photo: Phil Melling



7832 passes through Roelands behind ACN4143, 4th August.

Photo: Simon Barber



CSRs made a return to the West in August, 006 leading LDP001 on a very late-running 5MP9 due to a loco failure at Bookaloo, about to enter Grass Valley (above) to cross 1PS6 and departing Avon Yard (below), 5th August. Both photos: Alex Mackay





NRs 45 & 76 haul 6SP5 through Hazelmere, 5th August.



1PM5 rumbles through Woodbridge behind NRs 31 & 8, 5th August.

Both photos: Jim Bisdee



5MP9 nears the end of its journey as it passes through Midland, CSR006 & LDP001, 5th August. Photo: Alex Mackay



A load of alumina is hauled through Roelands by ACN4174, 5th August. Photo: Phil Melling



ACN4147 leads an empty alumina rake through Roelands, 5th August. Photo: Phil Melling



Running about 18 hours late, 5MP9 led by CSR006 & LDP001 at Hazelmere, 5th August. Photo: Jim Bisdee



Corporate-liveried S3311 leads an empty bauxite consist through Alumina Junction, 6th August.



A beautiful reflection of S3309 on an empty Bauxite at Keysbrook, 6th August.

Both photos: Phil Melling



Due to 5MP9 arriving 18 hours late, 1PM9 ran correspondingly late. LDP001 & CSR006 hustle through South Guildford (above) and Herne Hill (below), 6th August.
Photos: Jim Bisdee (above), Simon Barber (below)





SCTs 008 & 007 lead a very late 2PM9 through Bellevue, 7th August.

Photo: Simon Barber



Due to room for only one SCT train at a time in their Forrestfield terminal, one late runner cascades onto the next few services. 7GP1 was held back awaiting its slot, SCT010 and LDP004 very late through Hazelmere, 7th August.

Photo: Jim Bisdee



SCT010 and grubby LDP004 head a late 7GP1 at South Guildford, 7th August.



A tight fit under the bridge! 7GP1 rolls into Forrestfield behind SCT010 & LDP004, 7th August.

Photo: Jim Bisdee



7GP1 crosses the culvert at the entrance to Forrestfield yard, 7th August.

Photo: Jim Bisdee



New TransPerth B set #120 at Midland following fitting of its narrow-gauge bogies, 10th August.

Photo: Simon Barber



A loaded caustic train led by ACN4175 at Olive Hill on the Collie line, 11th August.



“Classless” 2512 on a loaded alumina train at Brunswick Junction, 11th August.

Both photos: Phil Melling



ACN4168 hauls a load of alumina through Burekup, 11th August.

Photo: Phil Melling



The peace at Woodbridge is disturbed by 7PM5 behind NRs 34 & 108, 11th August.

Photo: Jim Bisdee



1PM5 is led through Woodbridge by NRs 46 & 52, 12th August.

Photo: Jim Bisdee



2062 Avonlink arrives at East Perth terminal, 13th August.

Photo: Evan Jasper



Cars WEA031 / WEB041 form The Avonlink at Merredin, 13th August.



S3308 emerges from the workshops in the new simplified Aurizon livery, 23rd August.

Both photos: Evan Jasper



In August, Mainfreight introduced ten boxes and ten curtainsiders. MFAU000001 on 7SP5, 13th August. Photo: Peter Donaghy



AC4306 leads 5430 empty sulphur from Malcolm through Swan View, 17th August.

Photo: Simon Barber



Last and first: CBHs 024, 025 & 001 run 6K04 light engine from UGL Bassendean to Forrestfield, west leg of Woodbridge triangle, 17th August.



Late again! 5PM9 passes through Woodbridge behind SCTs 008 & 010, 17th August.

Both photos: Jim Bisdee



Twin CSRs 001 & 006 lead a late 3MP9 through Midland, 17th August.



CSRs 001 & 006 head back eastward through South Guildford with 6PM9, 18th August.

Both photos: Jim Bisdee



6PM9 passes through Swan View behind CSRs 001 & 006, 18th August.

Photo: Simon Barber



6PM9 at Middle Swan, 18th August.

Photo: Alex Mackay



6PM9 approaches Avon Yard, 18th August.



6PM9 runs through Grass Valley, 18th August.

Both photos: Alex Mackay



CBHs 008 & 006 with a grain rake at Bootenal, 18th August.

Photo: Phil Melling



NRs 28 & 100 haul 1PS6 through South Guildford, 19th August.

Photo: Jim Bisdee



SCTs 005 & 009 lead a late 5MP9 through South Guildford, 19th August.

Both photos: Jim Bisdee



The Australind has run as only a two-car set in recent times. 1209 to Bunbury passes through Queens Park, 19th August.



NR29 leads 1PA8 Indian Pacific away from Midland, 19th August. This train would only travel 120kms before being turned around at Northam and returned to East Perth due to the Trans line closure at Coonana following the derailment of 7MP7.

Photo: Jim Bisdee



1760 empty Karara ore passes through Mullewa behind ACNs 4142 & 4170 on 19th August.

Photo: Phil Melling



Empty Watco grain 1K11 led by CBHs 010 & 007 at Midland, 19th August.

Photo: Jim Bisdee



Ps 2506, 2505 & 2509 roll 1721 loaded ore through the Mullewa countryside, 19th August.

Photo: Phil Melling



Grubby CBH012 “Piesseville” leads CBH005 on 1A43 grain at Newdegate, 19th August.



1A43 grain skirts around Lake Biddy behind CBHs 012 & 005, 19th August.

Both photos: Roland Depth



CBHs 012 & 005 lead 1A43 grain past the rusting water tank at Burngup, 19th August.

Both photos: Roland Depth



3300hp MP33CN CBH012 leads 2700hp MP27CN CBH005 on 1A43 through Buniche siding, 19th August.



Following its cancellation and return from Northam NR29 leads 1PA8 over to the PTA line at Midland, 19/8. Photo: Jim Bisdee



NR29 leads cancelled 1PA8 through Guildford on its return to East Perth, 19th August.

Photo: Alex Mackay