

Atherton-Herberton Historic Railway Inc

CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITIES



Newsletter



January 2020

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Issue 10

Welcome to the first newsletter for 2020 and we wish you a safe and happy New Year.

This will be an exciting year for AHHR. There is so much planned with some projects nearing completion and new ones being started. There will be different activities available for interested people to volunteer their time to help out in our organisation.

Keep in touch to see what unfolds.

Jacaranda Day was very successful with lots of people, many from out of town, visiting to see what progress has been made on all of our projects.

Thanks go to members who gave up their Sunday to help out. We also have non-members like Trevor and Esther Hackett from Malanda who help Ross on the bric-a-brac stall raising funds for the restorations. Val Marlow once again travelled from Brisbane to sell raffle tickets for us.

Speaking of the raffle, thank you to all the people who donated the fantastic prizes for the raffle. They helped raise a large sum for the restoration kitty.

Thank you also to Lionesses, CWA, Friends of the Hospital Foundation and Margaret Mills as it is their market stalls that give the day a festive air. The Mining Museum also had an information desk to help people understand the rich history of Herberton and the importance of the railway to the area. This community involvement is very important to the success of the day.

The MAS Choir kept the crowd entertained with a few train songs, changing some of the words to reflect the Herberton theme.



The sleeper cutter display is always a hit along with the Lionesses' purple cream on their scones.



Visitors riding the Jacaranda Express



Trevor and Esther helping on the bric-a-brac stall.



Lawrie and Mel on BBQ duty cooking the sausages and jacket potatoes.



*Bill talking to visitors about the restoration already completed on the Peckett and what also needs to be done.

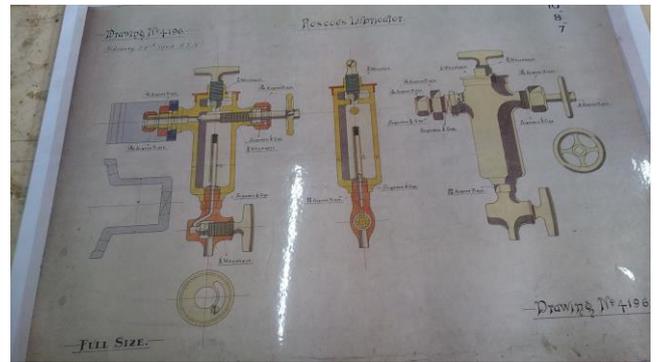
*Selling raffle tickets and souvenirs.

SBS aired the UK series *Secret Railways* late last year. *Cairns to Herberton Railway* was the first episode to be seen. It was wonderful to see so many locals involved in the programme.

To be included in an overseas production shows how important our railway was to the history of North Queensland. This history needs to be preserved!

Something to celebrate!

With the help of the Lotus Glen Farm workers, Peter, Chris, Paul and Rob have completed laying steel sleepers from Platypus Park Station to the Hastie Road crossing.



Mark and Steve are fabricating Roscoes lubricators from these original drawings done on February 28th 1903. These are just some of the many parts that have had to be fabricated to get the Peckett 1069 on the track. All of the pipe work also needs to be made as it has all disappeared over the years.

Above: The Roscoes lubricator
Below: The oiler



Also at Platypus Park Station the SOA bike riders have been donating their time to plant trees along the track to help beautify the area. Tableland Pumps and Pipes also donated fittings and pipes for the irrigation system. Thanks for the support everyone.

The model railway is moving along too. Power is being installed. Thanks to a couple of locals who donated \$100 worth of figures for the display.

Thanks to Minister Kate Jones and our local member Shane Knuth for \$40 000 which will allow us to do a feasibility study.



Now that the BL759 carriage is almost finished, John Mac has a team of helpers to help him with the big job of gutting BL769 carriage so that restoration can begin on it. It is now down to the bare bones.



The lights are on in the almost finished BL759 carriage. Seats are going in too so members decided to try them out.



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Station Café at Platypus Park

A great place for a quiet coffee and something to eat.