

WHEELTAPPER

NEWSLETTER OF THE

WESTERN PROVINCE LIVE STEAMERS

President	Arthur Zuhlsdorff	Date	Sep 2013
Vice President	Bernard Ridley		
Chairman	Ian Dorrat	Postal	WPLS
Vice Chairman	Bobby Moore		P.O Box 15810
Secretary	Wouter Bergakker		Panorama
Treasurer	Mervyn Knickelbein		7506
Committee	Basil Lotter	Track	Bertie Genade St.
	Bernard Taylor		off Frans Conradie
Editor	Justin Shaw		Parow
Public Running	First Saturday of Every Month	Web Site	www.wpls.co.za
		Club Day	15th Sep 2013

Around the club

Running days continue to be well supported by the members and public.

July was a busy month as we were hit by another crime wave, the copper/metal thieves definitely have set their eyes on the club with about 6 separate incidences during July & August. The coal store, signal cabinet and coach storage were broken into. Copper cable, track, tools, air & water fittings and hand railing in the station were taken. A big thanks to all the members who take the time to help further secure, fix and replace things when we have these incidences.

Union Pacific to restore famed steam locomotive 'Big Boy 4014'



By John M. Glionna via <http://www.latimes.com>
July 29, 2013 1:23 p.m.

It has been called the last of the giant freight locomotives, a lumbering behemoth known as the "Big Boy 4014." For half a century it has been on display at the Los Angeles County Fairgrounds in Pomona, drawing railroad buffs from around the nation. Now the mammoth steam engine is about to take another trip -- to the vast plains of rural Wyoming. Union Pacific Railroad officials recently announced that the company has reached an agreement to acquire the locomotive from the RailGiants Train Museum at the fairgrounds. The railroad said it plans to move the engine to maintenance shops in Cheyenne, where crews will try to get it back to running condition.

"We're really excited about the acquisition of the 4014 Big Boy," railroad spokesman Aaron Hunt told the Los Angeles Times, adding that Union Pacific will post updates about the move, planned for the near future. Updates will be posted on Twitter @RailGiants. Hunt said the Cheyenne maintenance shops also maintain other operating steam locomotives, but the Big Boy restoration promises to be an enormous undertaking for the company's Heritage Fleet Operations Team, given the locomotive's age and complexity.

Twenty-five of the massive and powerful engines were built in the 1940s to haul heavy Union Pacific freight trains over Wyoming and Utah mountains. The last was retired in 1962. Union Pacific donated No. 4014 in 1961 the RailGiants Train Museum.

A year later the locomotive arrived in Pomona, according to a company news release.

"Our steam locomotive program is a source of great pride to Union Pacific employees past and present," Ed Dickens, senior manager of Union Pacific Heritage Operations, said in the release. "We are very excited about the opportunity to bring history to life by restoring No. 4014."

The Pomona railroad museum said the locomotive would remain there through the end of the Los Angeles County Fair in September. "Our board of directors decided to return the locomotive to Union Pacific for restoration and operation because it will be the best way to preserve this locomotive for future generations of rail fans and students of railroad history," the museum said. Built in 1941, the Big Boy No. 4014 logged 1,031,205 miles hauling freight until its retirement on July 21, 1959.

On the web

See Camera man Hannes Paling's pictures of the 2013 steam meet held at PMES:

<http://goo.gl/6Hq9sL>

How accidents happen



Worker sleeping on a railway track with his head on the rail under the train wheel

The Tunnel

Current progress on the tunnel. Drivers point of view.



The arch is almost complete!! Next work items will be to cover the arch with plastic and put some doors on to stop unwanted guests.

Alarm system upgrade



Copper thieves had all the time they needed to peel away the meshing and walk away with an estimated R 8000 worth of fittings, tools, paraffin hand pump and a lathe motor.

In light of the recent crime wave, the committee has decided and agreed to proceed with upgrading the clubs alarm system with outdoor infrared eyes and have it linked up to an armed response company. Hopefully this will cut down the time the thieves have to steal stuff.

Members projects

A much welcomed suggestion to add a section to the newsletter where we explore the progress on member's projects.

Gerald Martini is a very skilled machinist who spent many years fixing machines in the textile industry. After retiring in Cape Town he started working on a 3/12" Britannia, the castings had traveled with him between different continents as he never had time to work on the project. After completing the locomotive and running it a few times, he realized it was too small and decided to build a 5" Britannia which has become a valuable passenger hauler on public running days.



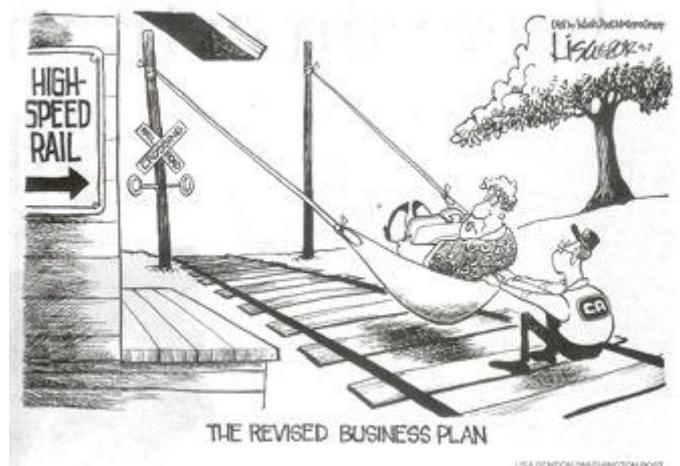
Gerald Martini with his two Britannia's displayed on the wall in his lounge.

After seeing a donkey pump running, he decided that it would be a great addition to the 5" engine, but this would be no easy task as many modifications needed to be made to the original design so that the pump could fit on the Britannia's running board.



The donkey pump been completed for over a year and runs perfectly on air, it just doesn't run on steam. Gerald keeps on persevering with it and is determined to get it running on steam.

Cartoonist's view



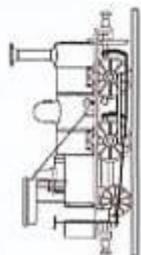
Club calendar 2013

Date	Time	Event
Sat Sep 7	9:00 – 17:00	Public Running Day
Sat Sep 21	14:30	Annual General Meeting
Sat Oct 5	9:00 – 17:00	Public Running Day
Sat Nov 2	9:00 – 17:00	Public Running Day
Sat Nov 16	9:00 – 17:00	Club Play Day
Sat Dec 7	9:00 – 17:00	Public Running Day

Annual general meeting

The 2013 AGM has been arranged for the 21st of September at 14:30, please make a note in your diaries. Wouter Bergakker has resigned as club Secretary and we thank him for his many years of service as Secretary. We are looking for a new Secretary and a third committee member as well as any other nominations you would like to put forward. Please fill out the nomination form below and bring it to the AGM:

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Western Province
Live Steam Society

Nomination Form

Nominee:

(First name and Surname)

(Signature)

Position (Mark with a ✓):

President		Chairman		Treasurer	
Secretary		Committee		Other	

If other, specify: _____

Proposed by: _____

(Signature)

Seconded by: _____

(Signature)

Date: _____
