

As the festive season approaches, I would like to extend to all members, volunteers and crews many thanks for all your efforts during 2019.

It has been a challenging year with drought and fires, which have had a big impact on our passenger numbers, being well down on previous years.

Our steam locomotive 971, has not been operating for 12 months due to the conditions and the repairs that were required.

Here's hoping for better times in the New Year as we have set our program for 2020, including a few special weekends.

There will be a Toowoomba Steam Weekend in March for 3 days [20-22] when we will be making four 2 hour return trips to Wyreema.

These will be ideal for families with younger children and are priced accordingly.

On May 2/3/4 there is another exciting adventure out to Goondiwindi, with optional trip to Toobeah and bus ride to the end of the line at Dirranbandi.

Keep an eye on our website for other developments.

Meanwhile, here's wishing you all a very happy Christmas.

Peter Gregory
SDSR President



Towards 2020 & beyond

Plans are well under way for a major development on the vacant land we own on the right.
More news in the next few months.



"Bumble Bee"

Cottonvale Museum now has its own branch line!

Freshly restored inspection car Bumble Bee, the trike and our two man pumper car have already taken up residence.



Future Plans

2019 has seen SDSR expand and evolve on many fronts. Watco's arrival and operations, planning for the new Discovery Centre on Lot 9, securing the Warwick Railway Station, numerous new building projects and many more members involved on a weekly basis keeping maintenance, operations and administration humming.

We have big plans for 2020 and beyond.

- * Implementation of many of the activities started in 2019.
- * The diesel DH45, now owned, will be refurbished over Christmas.
- * The upgraded loco water tanker will come on line after modifications are completed.
- * The Warwick Railway Station internal renovations will take most of 2020 to complete.
- * The Allora line should be upgraded and hopefully we will run regular tours into Allora later in the year.

We need more members to come down and help. Some members come for one day, some 2, others work as carriage attendants on the weekends, some do gardening, others renovation of carriages, mechanical, boilermaker etc, but we always need more helping hands.

Please drop in and see how you can help keep us operational.

Merry Christmas
Kelvin Hutchinson
Secretary/Treasurer



**Happy
Christmas
to all our readers**



WATCO Freight train news



Lots of action for fans of Diesel Electric locomotives!

Ex QR/South African unit 2188 out in the sunshine after her refit and repaint and rumbling around are 4 brand new locos from the States 001-004. All are having radio & track safety equipment fitted whilst trials are undertaken. A busy time for the old Goods Shed and the SDRS yard.



Thanks to John Bryant, from Margate Qld for sending the photos of our loco restoration project 802.

It is seen here in a park at Roma in Oct 1998.

This was before restoration and use at Gympie on the Mary Valley line. It still looked complete and thankfully not vandalised. Cheers John



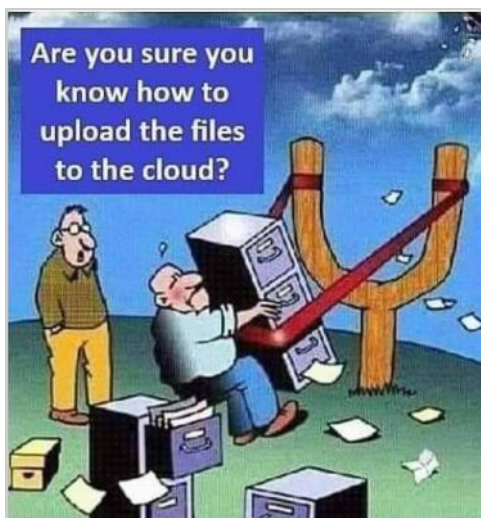
FINAL REQUEST FOR MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Please note that any outstanding non-renewed memberships will be removed from the files at the end of December.

If you are unsure if you have renewed your SDRS membership, please contact Jan Walker, who will be happy to check

0432 854 450

Trev's Shed up and running... Anyone know what happens upstairs? There are rumours of tea parties and late night card games...no, surely not!



CityView
Motel

2 Yangan Rd Warwick Qld
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ON THE BOX.



Dave, Kelvin & Peter with the WIN TV crew who gave us some excellent news coverage regarding the purchase of loco number 802

HOOKED!



VERY BEST WISHES TO KELVIN & JULIA FROM US ALL!!



With water, or the shortage of it on all our minds, the guys in the workshop are busy converting this ex fuel wagon into a new water tanker for steam operations. The old water 'gin' is flat bottomed and difficult to extract from. This one is going to serve several uses, as it will have a pump and fire-fighting hose built in, plus carrying capacity at each end for coal and other requirements needed on our longer weekends away.

It would be a good place to display a company sponsorship logo!! HINT

**TOOWOOMBA
STEAM
WEEKEND
MARCH
20-23**

**TWICE
DAILY TRIPS
TO WYREEMA**

**KIDS...
BRING YOUR
PARENTS
THEY'LL
LOVE IT!**



**Corner of Fitzroy & Palmerin Street
\$10 Breakfast Specials!
Great Coffee**

GIVE US A BRAKE

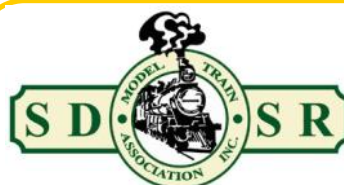


**Westinghouse Braking System workshop
19-30th October 2019**

Part of our remit to provide full staff training in the safe operation and maintenance of all aspects of the railway

Nine SDSR personnel attended, all passed

Thanks go to Bernie Watson our tutor



The new SDSR Model Train Assoc Inc is up and running and will be based in the Rail Institute building.
INTERESTED? Contact Brad via
info@sdsr.com.au



We are located in the old railway precinct near Warwick station at the corner of Fitzroy & Hamilton Streets.

A not-for-profit, volunteer-run project, for rail enthusiasts of all ages.

Working days are Wed & Thurs every week. Visitors welcome!

Carriage restoration BL 573



Following on from the report in the last newsletter, work is progressing fast.

Once again, we tried to capture Rob Hoffman at work, but the camera either had a fault, or recent bushfires were creating too much smoke and our reporters were unsuccessful.

OUR TRIPS FOR 2020 - see website nearer the date

SOUTHERN DOWNS STEAM RAILWAY PROPOSED TRAIN TIMETABLE 2020



JAN	26	SUNDAY	CLIFTON - AUSTRALIA DAY
FEB	8	SATURDAY	WALLANGARRA
FEB	22	SATURDAY	CLIFTON NIGHT TRAIN
MARCH	7	SATURDAY	WALLANGARRA
MARCH	20/22	FRI - SUN	TOOWOOMBA [trips from Toowoomba to be finalized]
MARCH	28	SATURDAY	WALLANGARRA
APRIL	11/12	SAT & SUN	HENDON & WHEATVALE [EASTER]
APRIL	18	SATURDAY	WALLANGARRA
MAY	2/3/4	SAT-MON	GOONDIWINDI, DIRRANBANDI, TOBEAH
MAY	16	SATURDAY	WALLANGARRA
MAY	30	SATURDAY	CLIFTON
JUNE	6	SATURDAY	HENDON & WHEATVALE
JUNE	13	SATURDAY	WALLANGARRA
JUNE	27	SATURDAY	CLIFTON
JULY	4	SATURDAY	WALLANGARRA
JULY	18/19	SAT & SUN	HENDON & WHEATVALE, 2 TRIPS JJJ
JULY	24	FRIDAY	HENDON NIGHT TRAIN
JULY	25	SATURDAY	HENDON & WHEATVALE, 2 TRIPS JJJ
AUGUST	8	SATURDAY	WALLANGARRA
AUGUST	22	SATURDAY	CLIFTON NIGHT TRAIN
SEPTEMBER	5	SATURDAY	WALLANGARRA
SEPTEMBER	19	SATURDAY	WALLANGARRA
SEPTEMBER	26	SATURDAY	TOOWOOMBA - CARNIVAL OF FLOWERS
OCTOBER	10	SATURDAY	INGLEWOOD
OCTOBER	24	SATURDAY	WALLANGARRA
NOVEMBER	7	SATURDAY	WALLANGARRA
NOVEMBER	14	SATURDAY	CLIFTON NIGHT TRAIN
NOVEMBER	28	SATURDAY	WALLANGARRA
DECEMBER	12	SATURDAY	CLIFTON

Our 6 month timetable Jan-June 2020

DATES	DEPART	TIME	ARRIVE	TIME	SINGLE	RETURN	OPTIONS
WALLANGARRA February 8 March 7 & March 28 April 18 May 16 June 13	Warwick	08.00	Stanthorpe	10.15	\$ 55 [10]	\$80 [30]	RETURN TO WALLANGARRA \$110 [40] SINGLE EITHER WAY \$60 [20] Buffet lunch at Wallangarra Station Adult \$27 Child \$15 Warwick to Stanthorpe return, inclusive of winery tour and lunch \$150
CLIFTON [Night Train] February 22	Warwick	17.00	Clifton	18.45	\$ 30 [15]	\$50 [20]	Night Train pub evening meals available in town. Check at time of booking for options. Live Music
CLIFTON January 26 - Australia Day May 30 June 27	Warwick	10.00	Clifton	11.45	\$ 30 [10]	\$50 [20]	AUSTRALIA DAY OPTIONS Pub lunches / cafe lunches Township entertainment
HENDON & WHEATVALE April 11&12 - Easter June 6	Warwick	10.00	Hendon & return	11.30	\$ -	\$25 [10]	Short return trips to Hendon and to Wheatvale ideal for young families who want to give their children the railway experience.
TOOWOOMBA STEAM WEEKEND March 20/21/22	Warwick [Friday]	12.00	Toowoomba	15.30	\$ 50.00	\$100.00	Warwick to Toowoomba single or return. STEAM SPECIALS Short return trips from Toowoomba to Wyreema ideal for families, morning and afternoon.
GOONDIWINDI, DIRRANBANDI & TOBEAH May 2/3/4	Warwick [Saturday]	08.00	Goondivindi	16.00	\$ 100 [50]	\$190 [80]	Includes lunch at Inglewood station. Optional train trips to Toobeah morning & afternoon. Or optional bus trip to Dirranbandi \$40.00 [20] return. Accommodation package options: see website

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Prices in brackets indicate child price 5-14 yrs. Under 5 free

**Steele's
Bakery**
Fitzroy St
WARWICK

Southern Downs Steam Railway

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Olsen's Hardware
Fitzroy St Warwick



Grafton Rose B & B
Grafton St Warwick