



NEWS September 2019

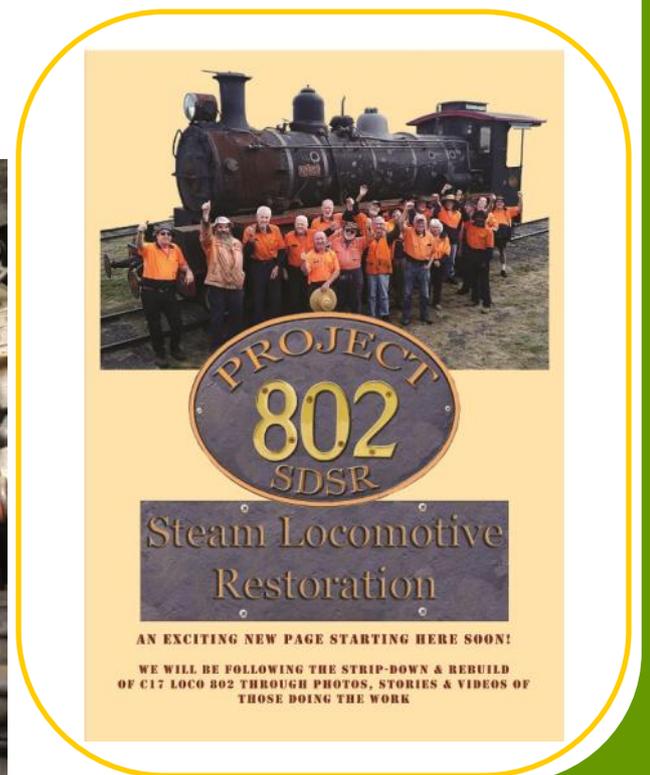
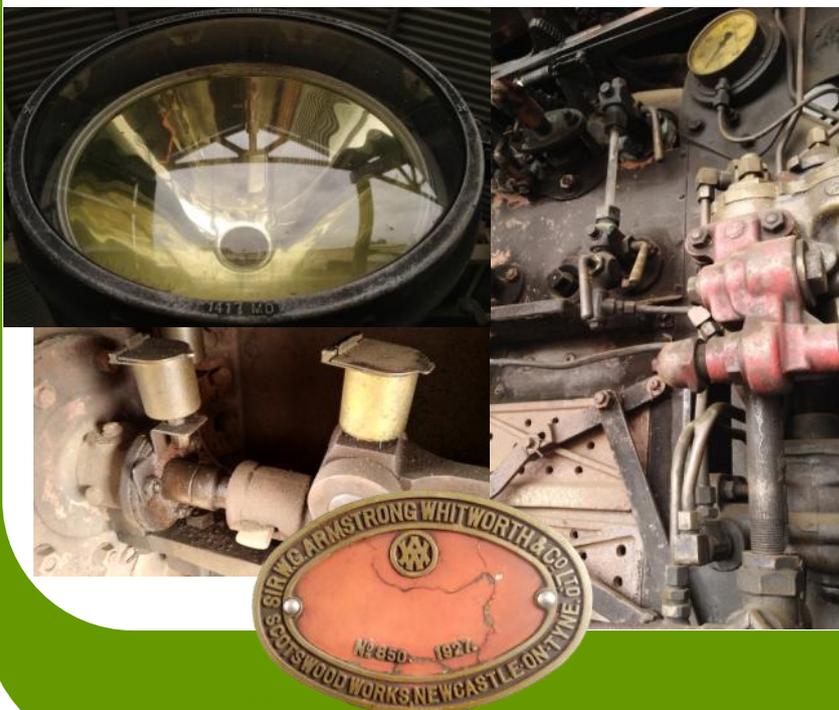


Our 1951 C17 locomotive number 971, built in Maryborough is almost back in one piece after more modifications to the boiler fittings. Meanwhile, her great auntie number 802 sits in the foreground, built in the UK in 1927 awaiting her big restoration. Her boiler is in a bad way and the one shown to the right is being investigated as a replacement.

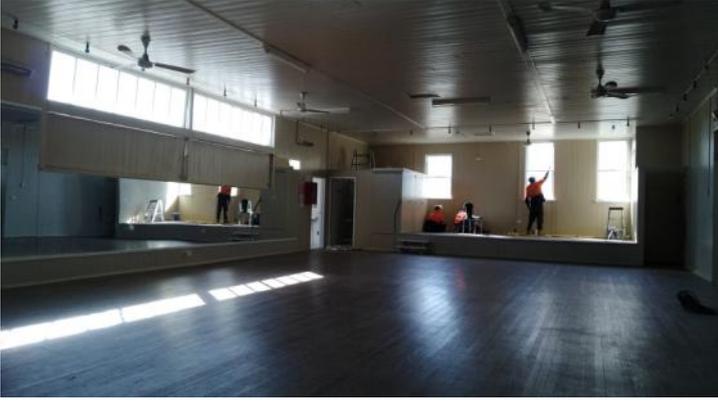
We intend to set up a dedicated webpage on the SDRS website, called Project 802 which will follow the whole process including video reports and interviews with the volunteers doing the hard work. Hopefully this will also be a good place to arrange fund raising ideas with links to other social media.



Number 802 captured in her last active role at Gympie station on the Mary Valley Rattler



Railway Institute



The ex QR Railway Institute complex is getting a lot of interest from local groups wanting a venue for everything from dance and yoga to band practice. SDSR became landlords when we purchased the adjacent parcel of land.

Above: the main hall is looking good after repainting and a tidy up. It is proving very popular with other community groups as it has this splendid timber dance floor.

Below: This building once housed a model railway layout and club...and soon this will be happening again.

Thanks to Grace and Gavin and the Southern Downs Industry Education Association group for all their hard work.

SDIEA aims to give people a range of trades skills to help them with their future career options.

They have been a wonderful asset in helping a voluntary group like ourselves to undertake building improvements for which we would never have had enough manpower.

Once the fit-out is completed, long time SDSR volunteer Brad Gibson can begin building the bench tops for the model railway layout.

There has already been a lot of interest in the new model club with offers of track and old collections of rolling stock. Watch out for exciting developments in future news up-dates.



Cottonvale Station Museum



Bookings officer Lindsay [left] with Michelle and Kevin in the fabulous new museum housed in the old Cottonvale Station. Kevin assisted by Michelle, has done a wonderful job of sorting out all railway memorabilia that we have gathered over the years. Now the museum is a place we will be proud to show to our many visitors and at some time in the future may act as our public entrance and gift shop.

Watco locos

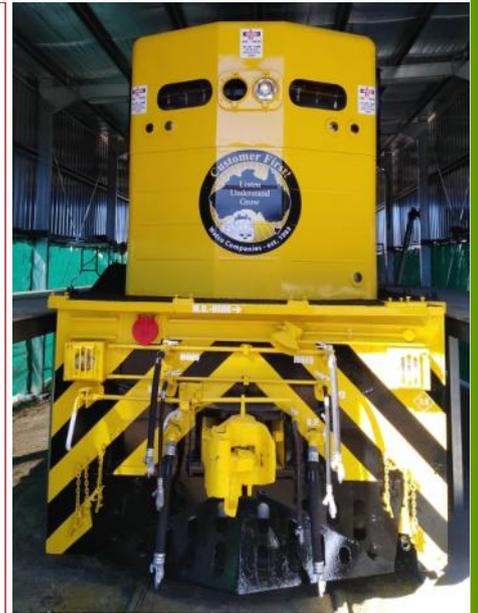
The first of the large diesel locomotives has undergone a remarkable transformation in the past four weeks.

It now looks magnificent in the Watco livery of black and yellow complete with the company emblems.

Full credit to Jake for the paintwork and Noel for the sign writing.

We are all looking forward to hearing the 2100 horsepower V16 engine starting for the first time since it arrived back in Qld from South Africa.

There are already two more waiting for the same treatment.



CityView 
Motel

2 Yangan Rd Warwick Qld
Phone: 07 4661 5000
W.cityviewmotelwarwick.com.au





Track fettler gang



It must have been a very tough life building and maintaining the track in the early days...especially out west in the middle of summer.

Owen, John and Neil [below] are part of our own gang who have been up-grading the track within the Precinct. Luckily most of it is done before the temperature starts to climb again.

There is going to be a lot of heavy gear in and out of the place as Watco's freight business gets going and the big diesels come in for inspection and routine servicing.



**SDSR
ANNUAL
GENERAL
MEETING**

**SATURDAY
14 SEPT
BBQ LUNCH**

**HAVE YOUR
SAY**

**ALL
WELCOME!**

WANTED

Non-metric spanners and workshop tools that you no longer need.

Small 'Bar' fridge.

Second hand timber, especially silky oak and T & Groove.

Useable canvas tarps.

Model train materials

info@sdsr.com.au

Grant aid from SDRC secures DH45

Adrian and Joanne Hurley have shown great generosity in past years in allowing us to 'lease' their diesel loco.

This machine has kept us operational through steam break-downs, fire-bans & now the worst drought to hit the Downs.



Southern Downs Regional Council has stepped up and helped our railway in the form of substantial grant aid to finally purchase DH45 and therefore further secure our future as a major draw card in bringing rail fans and visitors to Warwick.

Image: Warwick Daily News



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



Another carriage rises from the ashes...I say ashes, as that was our first impression of how it should end up when it first arrived after years sitting out in a paddock near Aratula. However there were two of them and the parts from both will see BL 573 restored to near original condition. Rob Hoffman has been leading the project but he moves so fast that it has been impossible to get him in the photos. Or, he may be on holiday again.

Office refit



Amanda, Peter & Kelvin enjoying some space to work. Thanks to the carpentry guys Hervey, John & Neil for making the units and Julie, Darryl & Amanda for the paintwork...great job!

**Steele's
Bakery**
Fitzroy St
WARWICK



Congratulations to the Mary Valley Rattler
Great to see steam in action once again on the Gympie to Amamoor line...well done to all the volunteers!!



OUR REMAINING TRIPS FOR 2019 - see website to book

SEPTEMBER	7	SATURDAY	HENDON & WHEATVALE, 2 TRIPS
SEPTEMBER	21	SATURDAY	WALLANGARRA
SEPTEMBER	28	SATURDAY	TOOWOOMBA - CARNIVAL OF FLOWERS
OCTOBER	12	SATURDAY	INGLEWOOD
OCTOBER	19	SATURDAY	CLIFTON, PLUS SEPARATE GREENMOUNT TRIP
OCTOBER	26	SATURDAY	WALLANGARRA
NOVEMBER	2	SATURDAY	CLIFTON
NOVEMBER	23	SATURDAY	WALLANGARRA
DECEMBER	14	SATURDAY	CLIFTON

Fairmont Speeder



Now we just have to find a Fat Controller to ride around the yard with red & green flags.

This 'section car' inspection vehicle sat for years collecting dust, now thanks to the anonymous restoration team who don't want to be photographed [their wives probably think they are doing some real work] have done a fantastic job...AND it works!



Southern Downs Steam Railway

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