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3801 LIMITED NEWSLETTER

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Big Year for this little railway: A Period of Rebuilding

From the Chairman - Annual Report:

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2009

This current review year has been one of building further the business base of the Company, its staff (volunteer and paid), operations, equipment, systems and relationships with government and the rail industry following the turbulence of recent years. It is very pleasing to report the steady resolution of threats to our operations and the Company can now look forward to the future with increasing optimism.

Cockatoo Run/ Illawarra Tree Top Flyer.

The major effort invested by the Company last financial year in developing extensive business relationships with the Illawarra Tree Top Fly and Robertson Heritage Railway Station Inc. has given excellent results this year.

The Cockatoo Run/Illawarra Tree Top Flyer operated on 27 Sundays and 12 Thursdays during this reporting period. 2,339 passengers availed themselves of this combined service in the reporting period with 809 passengers to Tree Top Fly and 1,530 on Cockatoo Run ticket for train travel only to Robertson or Moss Vale.

Future Directions for 3801 Limited.

During the year under review, discussions have been taking place with the Office of Rail Heritage and senior RailCorp Management regarding our future needs

3801 Limited entered into a "Licence to Occupy" the Large Erecting Shop, Eveleigh with State Rail in 1986. With the formation of the Redfern Waterloo Authority (RWA) in 2005, the Large Erecting Shop was slated for transfer to RWA. Hence the Company made formal application to

RWA for continuing tenure.

These plans were reversed in October 2008 when the RailCorp Board resolved to retain the Large Erecting Shop for heritage purposes. "It did so on the basis of a metropolitan rail heritage strategy" and this included as an objective "retaining an operating and maintenance centre for 3801 Limited." Subsequently RWA has formally notified the Company that it has no redevelopment plans for the site.

Recognising this profound change in the planned future of the Large Erecting Shop and implications for our ongoing operations, the Board appointed Mr. Rob Schwarzer (a highly respected senior member of the rail industry) to undertake an independent study "to identify the rail infrastructure necessary to support the current and future operation of the Company safely and efficiently and to assess the potential impact of a proposal by the Office of Rail Heritage to vary the arrangements for usage of the Large Erecting Shop which has been the depot facility for the Company since 1986."

This confidential Report has been shared with Mr. Rob Mason, CEO, RailCorp who made a personal inspection of the Large Erecting Shop on 24th April 2009. In Mr. Rob Mason's letter in response, he referred to the metropolitan rail heritage strategy and the fact that 3801 Limited's operating and maintenance facility will catered for in the Large Erecting Shop. Discussions are ongoing.

In May 2008, the Office of Rail Heritage called for Expressions of Interest in RailCorp heritage assets that were offered for disposal. 3801 Limited responded to this "tender style" request seeking retention of

those assets currently in our possession. At the time of writing, we await the results of this EOI.

Collaboration with Lachlan Valley Railway (LVR) & The Powerhouse Museum.

Various opportunities have arisen during the year for 3801 Limited to hire steam locomotives. The first of these was on 5th October 2008, when the Powerhouse Museum kindly chartered locomotive 3830 for the operation of the Cockatoo Run to mark the Robertson Railway Spring Fair. Over 200 passengers enjoyed that experience.

During October 2008, LVR brought their locomotive 5917 to Eveleigh for an extended stay during which it operated the Cockatoo Run to Moss Vale on 4 occasions; 30th November and 7th, 11th & 14th December. The last mention was a remarkable trip with over 400 carried including our own volunteers for the annual end of year Christmas celebration.

Maitland Steamfest on Sunday 19th April 2009 was a highlight in collaboration. The Powerhouse Museum made 3830 available to us for the event with LVR bringing 5917 & 3237 to Eveleigh, resulting in the spectacle of a triple headed steam train out of Sydney. At Maitland, the huge train divided with 3830 operating the ever popular Tiger Moth Race Train whilst 5917 and 3237 worked a shuttle to Branxton and return. We carried 320 passengers from Sydney that day with a further 500 carried on the Steamfest trains.

The 3801 Limited Board specially thanks these organisations for their dedicated support.

The Independent Transport Safety and Reliability Regulator (ITSRR).

On 28th May 2009, our Notice of Accreditation under the new Rail

Safety Act 2008 was received. This sets out the operations, types of rollingstock and purposes for which the Company is accredited.

ITSR conducted its annual compliance audit of the Company on 1st & 2nd October 2008. All non-conformances of the previous audit were closed out as having been addressed.

Several additional non-conformances were highlighted with action being taken to meet these requirements.

Staff Training.

Significant efforts have been made to enhance the training and competence of staff and volunteers in the following areas:-

- Four operating & maintenance staff completed a 2 day Certificate IV course in Training and Assessment.
- 16 staff and volunteers have current basic First Aid qualifications.
- 25 staff and volunteers updated their Track Awareness qualifications. Six volunteers serving in the Buffet attended a Basic Food Preparation course.

Financial Position of 3801 Limited.

During the review year, a surplus of \$3,737 was achieved compared with a surplus of \$64,268 in the previous year. However this latter figure included sale of our locomotive 4908 in that period that resulted in a “one

off” profit of \$75,000. When this exceptional item is taken into account, the operating result for that year (2007-8) was a deficit of \$10,722.

This excellent outcome was achieved with the following factors having a significant affect on the outcome:

- The greatly increased patronage of the Cockatoo Run and Tree Top Flyer.
- The greatly increased expenditure on locomotive and carriage maintenance.
- Increased diesel fuel costs and coal costs for steam trips.
- The purchase of new hand held radios for operating staff.
- Painting of the Office Carriage.

Over the past 20 years, over 500,000 passengers have traveled on 3801 Limited trains with 4,206 being carried in this year of review representing a 33% increase on last year; an excellent result.

In all its activities this Company depends critically on the dedication of its staff, both voluntary and paid. On behalf of the Board, I wish to express our deep gratitude for the remarkable commitment of all our staff that loyally remained with us during this review period.

Everyone who has contributed has helped the Company during a very difficult period and helped continue the outstanding service to the general community that has been our hallmark for over 20 years. To all the paid staff, our grateful thanks to you for your continued support.

To our very dedicated and loyal volunteers, our sincere appreciation for your various valued contributions.

I wish to pay tribute to the Directors who have persevered in very difficult times and provided sound advice and stability. Peter Abba has rejoined us as a director after an absence of one year. Peter’s enthusiasm and commitment and his special interest in serving the Illawarra region is valuable to have back on the Board.

After the previous stressful years, this has been a period of rebuilding. The Board remains very hopeful that government will recognise the outstanding success of the past 20 years and give the Company a clear future.

John Glastonbury
Chairman and General Manager

<u>Key Performance Statistics</u>	2009	2008
<u>Financial:</u>		
Total Income	\$1.813m	\$1.787m
Rolling stock maintenance	\$246,552	\$180, 527
Surplus (Deficit)	\$3,737	\$64,268
<u>Operations:</u>		
Passengers		
Mainline Tours	\$1,684	\$1,246
Cockatoo Run & Illawarra Tree Top Flyer	\$2,339	\$1,808
Charters	\$183	\$110
Total	\$4,206	\$3,164
<u>Staff & Volunteers:</u>		
Permanent & part time		
Management and office	6	4
Maintenance	4	4
Total	10	7
Casual		
Accredited drivers, firemen and guards	39	35
Volunteers	115	54

All volunteers have passed "Track Awareness" course and 8 have first aid qualifications.

In the News: Charters, Launches and Celebrations

Photos & Text By
Frederick Sawyer

Tertini Wines on father's day.

6th September:

Sunday 6th September marked the celebration of Fathers Day aboard the Cockatoo Run. 3801 Limited ran the train with the usual characters but this particular trip was to be different. Peter Mills was the PSM and at the start of the day we were all prepared and ready for today's special trip. Upon arrival into Wollongong, Robert Kay (the sales manager from Tertini Wines) boarded our little train with some treats for the passengers onboard. In conjunction with 3801 Limited, Tertini Wines were conducting a special 'cheese and wine' tasting for the passengers aboard the train. Wines ranging from desert time whites such as the desirable Rieslings and Pinots through to a range of blended reds like cab-savs mixes with a merlot. All these gourmet ranges were most certainly enjoyed by all the passengers onboard at no extra charge. Just a few had their strict choices of wine, which is fair enough anyway since Robert had lots to give around. Once the train arrived in Robertson, people with their booked tickets for the Illawarra Tree Top Fly walk boarded the transfer bus with Stuart and myself. Along the way Stuart not only provided good assistance and direction to the group, but also played "Mr. Comedian" person and as always put on a good show for the crowd. Other than the usual Tree Top Fly procession, people who just booked tickets to either Robertson Township or Moss Vale also had a great time on and off the train, taking advantage of all the interesting and wonderful eateries and activities to look around while in this quaint part of the Southern Highlands.

Another successful day on the Cockatoo Run enjoyed by all, as well as a new way to attract the Wine taster!

3265 Official Launch

20th September:

On the morning of Sunday 20th of September, the Powerhouse Museum's 3265 was pristine and prepped for a good days work as it shone in the morning light down by the "Large". The special thing about this particular day in 2009 was that this year 3265 (Former P Class 584 in the old code) had been newly restored by the Powerhouse Museum's hardworking workforce and volunteers for about the last 15 years. Today was the official launch of its recommissioning back into public service, and 3801 Limited was to provide the Rolling stock and Crew.

The day's events would start with a launching ceremony at Sydney Terminal, Platform 1 with special dignitaries and guests from all over Sydney and New South Wales, as well as several politicians. The day would be planned followed by 3 Shuttles around the Bankstown line via Sydenham and onwards to Strathfield. The first shuttle itself was of particular excitement on account that the special guests enjoyed the first official trip. The media were also around capturing the morning's historical events (a few Crews and Passengers could probably recall seeing themselves appear on that nights run of ABC or Nine TV news!). The last two shuttles were enjoyed by mostly families and children who thoroughly enjoyed the day's journey. This occasion would not have been possible without the Powerhouse Museum's hard work and dedication restored into this fine locomotive, especially that 3801 Limited Staff and Volunteers had the pleasure of being involved in the running of this train from the mechanical branch right down to the Passenger Attendants and Buffet Staff.

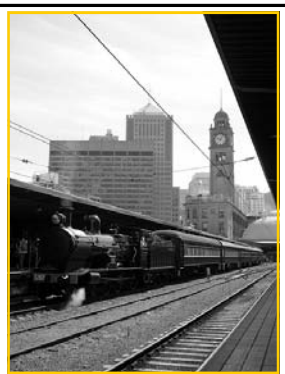
Robertson Station Spring Fair - 3265 on the Cockatoo run.

27th September:

This particular Cockatoo Run coincided with the Robertson Railway Station Spring Fair. The Cockatoo Run was steam hauled and once again 3265 was utilized for use with 3801 Limited. Despite the depressing weather, 3265 was in full steam for the day's journey. Upon arrival into Robertson the passengers disembarked to their respective recreational activities. Robertson Heritage Railway provided tickets for people who boarded the train for the short ride to Moss Vale and return. This was 3265's first time to the South Coast and Southern Highlands and everyone enjoyed the trip with great excitement. Ian Wallace of the Robertson Heritage Railway Assn. commented on how much of a great effort the crew on the train provided a great attraction to the Spring Fair and was the highlight of the day event.

Right: 3265 during its launching ceremony at Sydney Terminal

27/09/09



Above: Tertini Wine Tasting Father's Day 6th Sept on the Cockatoo Run. 11/10/09

He would like to thank the Powerhouse Museum and 3801 Limited on how they could make 3265 available for the day's events. As well as the usual Cockatoo Run passengers enjoying the day with trips to the Illawarra Tree Top Fly and travelling to the town of Robertson and Moss Vale, locals from the area got to enjoy the festive fete activities that were put on at Robertson Railway Station such as rides, food, agriculture and shows thanks to Ian and the people at the Robertson Heritage Railway precinct for their hard work as well.

Sydney to Hurstville Railway Quasiquicentenary Celebrations

125th Anniversary 1884 - 2009

10th October:

To quote a recent article on a local Fairfax Community Newspaper by Marianna Papadakis, "Many southern Sydney Residents will recall the sights and sounds of the steam train". October 2009 signified the 125th Anniversary of the railway line built to the suburb, then township of Hurstville which was constructed on the 15th October 1884.

Yet again, 3801 Limited in partnership with the Powerhouse Museum had the pleasure of providing staff, rolling stock and a steam locomotive for the celebratory trip. 3265 once again was given the duty of hauling the historical recreation of the first run down to Hurstville. The day's events included lunch at the local RSL Club and a shuttle up to Sydenham and back, plus a return trip back to Central to conclude the day.

A number of passengers were even dressed to the appropriate styles and fashions of the late 18th Century which added a bit of novelty to the day. This particular trip would not have been possible without Peakhurst School of Arts secretary and event organiser Brain Shaw, who in collaboration with 3801 Limited and the Powerhouse Museum would not of made this particular trip possible.

In the News: Alco Group's Little Project and around the Shed.

4464s Rebirth Continues!

(Extracted and slightly amended from Glenn Ryan's article from the Lachlan Alco Locomotive Group's October 2009 Newsletter)

The re-panelling work on 4464 has now been completed at Bradken's workshop at Braemar (near Mittagong in the Southern Highlands). Last month in October saw 4464 being moved to the paint shop for the repainting of its cab and its exterior back to the traditional NSWGR Indian red and chrome yellow livery, that includes the red striping.

Goodwin Alco were able to supply Goodwin Alco builders plates and the NSW Department of Railways coat of arms for mounting on 4464.



Left & Right: 4464 has now had its re-panelling work completed at Braemar.

Bradken photographs



Carriage to last into the 21st Century: Recent upgrade work done on SBN2195

By Keith Audet



Photos taken in the Large Erecting Shop, Eveleigh. Fred Sawyer



3801 Limited has recently upgraded popular sitting car, SBN2195. The car is now fitted with a closed retention toilet system designed by 3801 Limited engineering staff. Two ceramic pressure discharge toilet bowls are located at each end of the carriage and are connected to a large 1400 litre underfloor holding tank. The toilet bowls were originally designed for marine application and are similar to those fitted to Captain Cook Cruise ships.

The holding tank is manufactured from welded polystyrene sheeting enclosed in a protective steel box. The system features electric flushing, a tank level gauge and discharge points which means they can be serviced at Railcorp's facilities such as at Meeks Road Junction in the XPT Centre. The carriage has also been fitted with new heavy duty train batteries to handle the increased electrical load imposed by the toilet flushing system.

The car has also been fitted with new wheels and axle bearings at Chullora Workshops. This upgrade works should ensure that SBN2195 is a reliable vehicle for many years to come.

Upcoming Events: Christmas and the New Year

Upcoming Mainline Tours & Charters*

November:

- Thursday 19th - Cockatoo Run
- Sunday 22nd - Cockatoo Run

December:

- Wednesday 2nd - Shuttle to Rosehill (Children's Special)
- Sunday 6th - Cockatoo Run (Christmas Trip **All welcome!** Volunteers & Staff)
- Thursday 17th - Cockatoo Run

January:

- Sunday 3rd - Cockatoo Run
- Sunday 10th - Cockatoo Run
- Thursday 14th - Cockatoo Run
- Sunday 17th - Cockatoo Run
- Sunday 24th - Cockatoo Run

February:

- Saturday 20th - Lachlan Alco 15th Anniversary - 4833/4501 trip to Kandos

***Subject to change without notice**

Volunteers & Staff Christmas Trip - 6th December On the Cockatoo Run to Robertson for BBQ!

3801 Limited in partnership with Robertson Heritage Railway Station Inc. will be hosting a free trip on the Cockatoo Run and BBQ to be held at Robertson Station for the volunteers and staff of 3801 Limited.

Anyone volunteer or staff member who wishes to join will be able to bring one partner/friend along for the day and will only have to pay \$10 for a food voucher for them. Just simply contact either Stuart or Allan at the office



Lachlan Alco Locomotive Group 15th Anniversary - 20th February 2010 - 4833/4501 to Kandos

3801 Limited and the folks from Lachlan Alco Locomotive Group are pleased to announce that on the 20th of February 2010 there will be a celebratory trip out to Kandos.

This trip is planned to celebrate the 15th anniversary of Lachlan Alco's ownership of 4833 since it was acquired by the group in 1993. Anyone keen to join us on this unique trip are asked to please keep an eye out for further publications and/or watch our website for and updates.



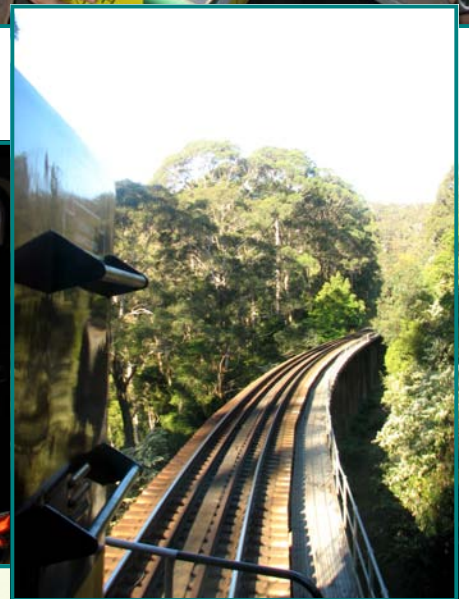
Above: Powerhouse Museum restored 3265 'Hunter' arrives into Robertson Township with the Cockatoo Run from Sydney bound for Moss Vale and return. **Photo: Ian Wallace 27/10/09**

Photo Page

On the Cockatoo Run

Life on the Cockatoo Run - left to right: 1. Company Representative and Veteran Train Guard Alex Crass treats the passengers of the Cockatoo Run of the spectacular Illawarra Coastal views from Summit Tank lookout half way between Unanderra (Wollongong) and Robertson with his intriguing address about the local landscape. 2. Lucky Passengers win the raffle with a prize of a cake! 3. A driver's eye view of the photogenic high viaduct near Mt Murray (east of Robertson). Taken from the cab of vintage diesel locomotive 4918 hauling the Cockatoo Run back to Sydney. 4. Passengers enjoy the view of the South Coast as the train transveres through Stanwell Park.

Fred Sawyer - 6th September (Fathers Day)



Left: 3265 returns to Sydney with the Cockatoo run on the 27th of October as it departs Robertson and the Railway Springtime Fair that was held on this particular occasion.
Photo: Ian Wallace



For more information and reservations please contact our office at 1300 65 3801 or check out our website for more tour dates and if you wish to do an online booking.