

24/12/57

Dear Mr Southern,

Thank you for the pile of photos which arrived this morning. I don't think it's quite fair you sending me such a pile when I'm not able to return a like number.

Steam passenger trains are rare now & since the holiday train services came in on Friday, I've seen the following

Sat 21st

A² 941 on 7am Ballarat to Geelong
R 734 " 9am Geelong " Ballarat
R 753 " 8.40am Mell " Ballarat
A² 945 " up from Maryborough
R 734 12.15 pm Ballarat - Maryborough
A² 945 4.15pm " " mixed

MONDAY

23

R 710 on down Portland
714 " " 7.10 am to Maryborough mixed

Tues 24th

PURE STINK!

S 302-301 2nd Overland

Rest all B class -
No interest.

W. Jack

31 York St.

Ballarat East

16-12-58.

Dear Jack,

Thank you very much for your Christmas card & for the batch of photos. They are lovely and to see what a real engine is. I certainly like the N.S.W. D59 which looks like a combination of V.R. N + S.A.R. 740 classes.

Very little steam is about and the only ^{steam} train passenger work is the 7.10am to Dayborough mixed & its mate back in the afternoon, plus 4.15pm Sats only (mixed). I generally see the last named. Recently A² 828 hauled the 4.15pm on two Saturdays. Tried for a shot both times but weather was rotten. Actually, we have had one fine weekend (mostly Fri & Sats) since 1st Aug.

My health is no good, in fact I'm getting worse - the heart doesn't get enough blood especially in cold weather. This afternoon I had a job of painting my brother-in-law's house and I happened to look up over the Nth towards East Loco & blow me down if there wasn't 3 jets of black smoke racing skywards. They were on the 1.30pm to Geelong. He can't see the trains from this part of York St but the smoke shows up alright. Last 3 steam hauled goods I saw was on 8/9/58. (See enclosed print)

Regards the steam locos stored in Ballarat. At Loco are the following N401, R701, 703 (stored) while D'565, R715, 716, 718, 763 are held for the shops.

There are quite a few R² at the Workshops, but I can't give

full list. However, here goes. N° 11 crane loco & Y127 are the shops pilots. K145 is in parts & I doubt if it will see service again. R713, 732, 749 are some of the R class.

Yard pilots at Ballarat East Loco are: Y106, D'564, D²595, 600 D³626, 647. also K143 & 183 are often used on such work.

Below is a list of Loco at rest at Ballarat East Sheds, last Sunday 14/12/58.

Y106

K143, 175, 183, 184

N 401, 426, 458, 467, 476, 493, 499

J524, 535, 544

D'564, 565

D²595, 600

D³626, 647

R 701, 703, 715, 716, 718 733, 734, 747, 763

— = ~~to~~ denotes stored or out of use.

A² 828 is now attached to Maybrough depot. I've only seen two C class N° 15 & 16 in the last 4 months and no X class.

I'm not interested in diesels, to me they are not railway locos. On 27/11/58, the B on the 5.25pm down Ballarat passenger caught fire at Dunnstown & a steamer had to be sent out to haul the "stinker" & cars to Ballarat. I wasn't able to find out the loco N° concerned.

Last time I saw H220 was at Benalla from the Down Albury Express. April '55. The V.R. heads are like the Sydney & Adelaide tram chiefs. - Diesel mad.

Must close now,

Wishing you all the best,

Yours sincerely,

Wal Jack.

23/12/60

31 York St

Ballerant boat

626, 647, 651, 652, 402, 498

Dear Jack,

Just a hurried note to tell you my Xmas card which I've placed went off to you in time. Sorry for being so late.

Many many thanks for the check you so kindly sent me, especially for £19 + 26 shillings.

Regards the best of Y.R. loves
CI was at B. Boat last Saturday and so was R705, 712, 769 etc in evening

Y106 + 127 was gone - all that was wrong with 106 was the broken crank pin (near oil)

K159 at Ballerant boat. (after O/H.)
K167, 178 still at Ballerant boat.

172 at B. Boat last Saturday
822 " " " " " " " " " " " "

938 to N.H. Boat stop during November
D⁴ 285 sketched at N.H. Boat stop (only)

E 377 that in Ballerant work it for his museum at M/boat. Y.R. wants £930 plus cost of moving it

Newport - Ballerant.
N402 is a Ballerant Marine List (Ballerant area)

468 B. Boat here (most in book only) coal house
430, 431, 432 all lower at B. Boat.

621 of B. Boat about, now gone to N.H. Boat stop
623 (Ararat) often seen all over the place, Sharnell, Ballerant

+ looking near Croag (not far from dinner at evening)

23/12/60

31 York St.
Ballarat East.

Ballarat shunters

626, 647, 651, 657, 702, 468

Dear Jack,

Just a hurried note to slip in my Xmas card which I'm afraid won't get to you in time. Sorry for being so late.

Many many thanks for the slides you so kindly sent me, especially old Z19 + 26 classes.

Regards the list of V.R. locos.

C1 was at B East loco last Saturday and so was R 705, 712, 769^{old} in service

Y106 + 127 now gone. - all that was wrong with 106 was the broken crank pins (near drivers)

K159 stored at Ballarat East. (after O/H.)

K167, 178 still at Ballarat East.

172 at B. East last Saturday

822 " " " " "

938 to Nth Ball Stops during November '60

D⁴ 285 shunter at Nth Ball Stops (only)

E 377 chap in Ballarat wants it for his museum at W/Heip. V.R. wants £930 plus cost of moving it Newport - Ballarat.

N402 is a Ballarat yard's petrol (Ballarat area)

468 B. East loco (used in district only) coal burner

430, 431, 432 all based at B. East.

621 at B. East about Oct, now gone to Nth Ball Stop.

623 (Ararat) often seen all over the place, Stawell, Ballarat + Geelong via Cressey. (report from driver at Cressey)

Ballarat Shunters 626, 647, 651, 659, 402, 468
stored B. East Loco.

159, 167, 178, 701, 715, 716, 718, 747, 763

Dear John,

I will return list in January. To ask a couple of

Lovely smoke ~~seen~~ ^{seen} from here at 10 AM + 1.30 PM
almost daily. Haven't been able to get out very
much.

Must close + once more many many thanks
for the slides.

Best wishes always

Wal Jack.

② Who now owns N°1, 0-6-0 ST of South Belle
Colliery Co.?

I am enclosing a couple of spare negatives you
can have, if of any use of the X38, it was the
last X-loc to run from Ballarat 9 Nov 59

Last Saturday 18th I saw C9 at Ballarat East and
it started for the shops, maybe for repairs as it
looked complete. Must have been used that morning as
there was 25th of steam on gauge.

N° 990 was also outside with a hot box. Inside
was dear old K700 with C22 a few stalls away.

31 York St.
Ballarat East
Vic
22-3-61

18-3-61

Full list at B. East at 3pm were.

Dear John,
I am writing especially to ask a couple of questions. A friend from Adelaide, was given some negatives, which he said were taken at Port Kembla. He asked me for details and I was able to answer all but one or two.

Questions are -

① Builder, B/N^o and date of A.I.S. "BANTAM" 0-6-0ST loco? (I think A.I.S. built her, also 'Bunawa', 'Badger' and 'Brongewing')

② Who now owns N^o 1, 0-6-0 ST. of South Bulli Colliery Co.?

I am enclosing a couple of spare negatives you can have, if of any use. Of the X38, it was the last X class to run from Ballarat 9th Nov '59.

Last Saturday 18th, I saw C9 at Ballarat East and its marked for the shops, maybe for repairs as it looked complete. Must have been used ^{very} that morning as there was 25 lbs of steam on gauge.

A² 990 was also outside, with a hot box. Inside was dear old R700 with C22 a few stalls away.

18-3-61

Full list at B. East at 3pm were.

C 9, 22. K 159, overhauled but stored 167, 172

N 400, 402, 430, 468, 472, 480, 479, 493.

J 546, 556, D³ 647, 651 ← under exams, 659.R 700, 701, 715, 716, 718, 747, 763 A² 990

underlined, held for shop, except 159.

I've seen a couple of the ex X class tenders now used to carry Loco fuel oil. No 551 + 553. These are single units & have auto couplers at both ends.

Hope you received your V.R. Loco list safely. I posted it on 12/1/61.

My driver friend at Toolamba, (Vic) tells me the bridge at Toolamba, has had it. Foundations are cracked, and only D, K, T classes are permitted, 5 mph being the Maximum speed. Two empty trucks have to be marshalled between loco & the loaded wagons on all freights.

On Fri 10th, he ran the 7.20pm down pass to Echuca with K155 and on the Monday, 13th D³ 675 was used on 4pm up to Seymour. The above friend is a Nth Ballarat chap & last Nov & Dec. he was touring Ceylon, India, Pakistan, Siam & ~~Malaya~~ Malaya. Tells me the tank locos used on the ~~Darjeeling~~ Darjeeling hill railway would interest me. Coal being carried on top of boiler between cab & steam dome. He also had a cab ride

31 York St
Ballarat East
Vic
22-3-61

in a Clyde built diesel in Pakistan.

I saw Les Poole & his mother on the 13th for an hour. Gee Les has got thin & no wonder with his mother unable to get around.

The Ballarat City Council had asked V.R. for an "E" class (Phoenix). V.R. states it is unable to give them the loco owing to the high price of scrap metal, but they can have it for £930 at Newfort. The APEX club also tried earlier for a Phoenix E or Y and the cost was £920 plus haulage from Newfort. Club states it would cost around £1400-1500 to set down in a park here. Nothing doing. Another chap, Bill Goodie, has a private museum at the old Waverley Brewery, (½ mile Nth of W. R.S.) and he was after Y106, then wanted E 377 (I think) but the cost was, I suppose too much.

He (Goodie) has been here several times, but I don't ~~the~~ care for him. He doesn't know one class from another, except for the modern range N. J. R. yet he reckons he is going to do the research & we A.R.H.S. knows nix or close enough to it. Copies photos by the score!

Must close with best wishes.

Yours sincerely
Wal Jacks.