

Thursday Report 12th February 2009

Well, if you had planned to scratch your name, or any other graffiti, into the concrete for the new platform at Glenreagh West, you are too late. Ron, Rex and a band of helpers were on hand at sparrows, when the ready-mix truck and pump arrived. The pour took place successfully, and makes the whole complex look like a station. Ron has sent me a bunch of pictures, and these will be posted on the web site over the next couple of days.

The surplus concrete was used to create a ramp at the north side door to the main shed, which will eliminate the step between the grass of the showground and the path. Don, with the assistance of Dennis on the backhoe and a few others organised the excavation and formwork, so one more step up the safety ladder.

Dennis has been busy around the place with both lawnmower and brush cutter, and the whole area is now looking pretty spick and span. We were hoping to do a bit of spaying amongst the weeds that are not easily accessible, but, unfortunately, the weather forecast was for rain, so this was held over for more clement weather.

Terry and a bunch of willing helpers continued with the general cleanup around the shed. He is starting to organise all of the spares and other bits and pieces into a rather more rational order. For instance, all of the parts of the CPH have been placed inside it, so that they are all together. In addition, Ron Paul worked on general safety issues, and the loco team have started to organise the area around 1919. In general, the shed looks much the better for all of their efforts. I know tasks like this do not seem to be very rewarding, but the opportunity while we are not running is too good to be missed, and will pay dividends in the future.

Clare Collins has been doing sterling work in fundraising, and over the last few weeks has organised and helped operate a cake stall in Coffs Harbour, and a BBQ at Bunnings CH. These efforts have raised a useful amount of money, and her efforts, and those of her helpers, are to be applauded. The BBQ at Bunnings was as a result of a cancellation by another group, so the thing was organised at very short notice. Clare has put our name down for any other cancellations, as regular spots are very hard to come by, with so many groups are competing for them. Claire needs all the help that she can get, so if you are willing to go and help out please give her a call on 6654 3234 so that she can put you on here list as potentially available. There is no obligation for any particular day, but the more she has on her list, the better chance she has of putting together a crew quickly, should another opportunity arise. In particular, help is required for setting up and packing away at the beginning and end of the day. Claire tells me she need men for this, as it involved moving BBQs, erecting tents and tables, and so on, but we are not allowed to say that in these politically correct times, so if anyone out there is able bodied, and capable of turning a snag on a BBQ, please give her a call. These efforts will help GMR enormously while we are not generating income from ticket sales.

Andrew

