



## *Friends of Atlantic Rail*

*Klub Nuusbrief  
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Welkom by die vierde uitgawe van die Friends of Atlantic Rail nuusbrief, die Atlantic Meyl. Ons het die jaar op 'n baie hoë noot afgesluit met die finale voorbereidings voor ons treine en die loop van 'n volle VYF ritte! Welgedaan aan die Atlantic Rail span, sonder hulle harde werk om die treine goedgekeur te kry en vol te maak sou weinig ander moeite iets beteken het.

From my side, I wish each and every member and reader a very blessed Christmas. May you and your family be filled with His grace and love. We are thankful for an extremely successful start to our part of the operations and trust that He will also be with us during 2011 so that the club and Atlantic Rail will just go from strength to strength.

Of course I still want to invite each and every one to send me their news pieces, photos, stories etcetera to be included in a future Atlantic Meyl. To attract a bigger audience, it has now been decided to make the Atlantic Meyl freely available. However, I still invite guest readers to join the club as a paid member. Becoming a member has lots of benefits and the assurance that the money goes towards a good cause!

### *Breaking AR head-office news:*

"09 January - (Fishhoek) - Bookings still open and looking very strong.

30 January - (Fishhoek) - Bookings open

The Atlantic Rail team will be sitting down early in the new year and will discuss the possibilities of Valentine trips for February and Easter trips for March/April. As soon as we have a confirmed schedule of dates, we will forward it to the mailing list.

Please send me any photographs you may have from the 11th, 12th and 19th of December trips that you wouldn't mind us using on our web-site. All pictures will credit photographer, as always.

Kind Regards,"

*Sarah Nielsen*



Santa David Hopley pose with some happy passengers after our second successful running on 12 December 2010  
Photo: Luca Lategan

### From the Chairman:

“After more than two years of struggling to get all the necessary permissions and agreements in order, Atlantic Rail have **finally** run their first trains! Five trains have been run in two weeks, all of which were a huge success. Two ‘Santa Specials’ were run to Bellville on Saturday 11 December, and another two on Sunday 19 December. A day trip to Fish Hoek was also run on Sunday 12 December. The first three trains were sold out well in advance, resulting in the additional ‘Santa Specials’ being run on the 19th.

Of course Friends of Atlantic Rail was heavily involved in both the preparation and operation of these trains. The club’s membership provided volunteers for the cleaning and preparation of the locomotive and coaches, the decorating of the train and station, firelighting, loco minding and coach controlling. We are also lucky enough to have qualified footplate crews in our membership base, who were appointed by Atlantic Rail and used on these trips. These included Kimberley steam driver Peter Odell, fireman Jan Botha, and steam fitter Patrick Bruwer.

Club members worked very hard on these trains, with many members spending entire weekends at the station. Exco would like to extend a huge thank you to all those who were involved in the successful operation of these trains, and hope to have many more members involved with our future trains.

On a side note, there has been some confusion recently about the connection between Atlantic Rail and Friends of Atlantic Rail. To clarify any confusion, FoAR is not a stand alone club. We are closely affiliated to Atlantic Rail, who are the operators that hold all the necessary Interface and Commercial Agreements with the national operators, as well as the RSR Operating Permit. We exist as a support base for Atlantic Rail, providing a volunteer work force needed to run their trains. Please be aware of this to avoid any further confusion.

I would also like to take this opportunity to wish all members well over the Festive Season, and trust that 2011 will be a year filled with much success.

Yours in steam”

*Brett Radloff*

### Outing photos:



Runpast at Glencairn beach during AR’s first trip since 24 Sept ’08. Fireman Jan Botha smiles broadly as the wind rips through his hair.

*Photo: Luca Lategan*



Tender first running during the second Santa on the 19th. Our Pilot from above, Hennie Pretorius, checks the signals.

*Photo: Stefan Andrzejewski*

### Report back on Atlantic Rail 's first Santa Specials

"On the 11<sup>th</sup> of December Atlantic Rail played host to over 290 enthusiastic passengers when we held our very first Santa Special trains and it was marvellous to see all the happy excited children arriving. It was difficult to say whether they were excited about riding behind a steam engine or seeing Father Christmas. Many told us that they were there to see Thomas the tank engine and one little boy told me, "no this is Gordon as he is stronger and can pull a big train." So it looks like we are capturing the enthusiasts of tomorrow!

The carriages looked very festive and thanks must go to Amy, Jenny and Charlotte for their excellent work in decorating them.

The role of Santa on the first train was taken by Malcolm Ridgard (CWVT) and he was a very convincing Santa expertly helped by Brittany who gave out the gift packs. It was wonderful to see so many children and parents crowding round the engine, complete with Santa face, to have their photos taken with Santa and his helper. Some of the passengers stayed so long that it gave us very little time to get the carriages ready for the next departure. The second Santa was played convincingly by David Hopley, again ably assisted by Brittany. Once again all I heard were positive happy comments from the passengers.

We can consider the day a huge success and our thanks must go to Sarah for her excellent work with the bookings and seating plans, the decorating teams, the FoAR and all the operating staff."

*Frances Smith*

### Die Staatmakers:



The heroes of the first weekend! Without this team and their hard work, nothing would've been possible. *Photo: Greg Smith*

Running weekend photos (All Photos: Luca Lategan):



Chairman, Brett Radloff, lighting the first fire since our August open day. Because of strong winds this was quite a tricky job.



Almost two hours later there's at least some smoke coming out of the chimney.



Stoker, Jan Botha, kook bietjie koffiewater in sy pas-voorbereide vuur.



Oral langs die pad het ons mense in verwondering gelaat. Hiërdie mense het definitief nie beplan om dié dag 'n stoomtrein te sien nie.



WE DIT IT! The *City of Cape Town* finally made it to the Indian Ocean! Pictured here at Glencairn station.



A tired, but happy footplate crew after a very long weekend.  
fltr: Peter Odell, Jan Botha, Hennie Pretorius & Frikkie Gerber

## Simonstad-spoorlyn rehabilitasie

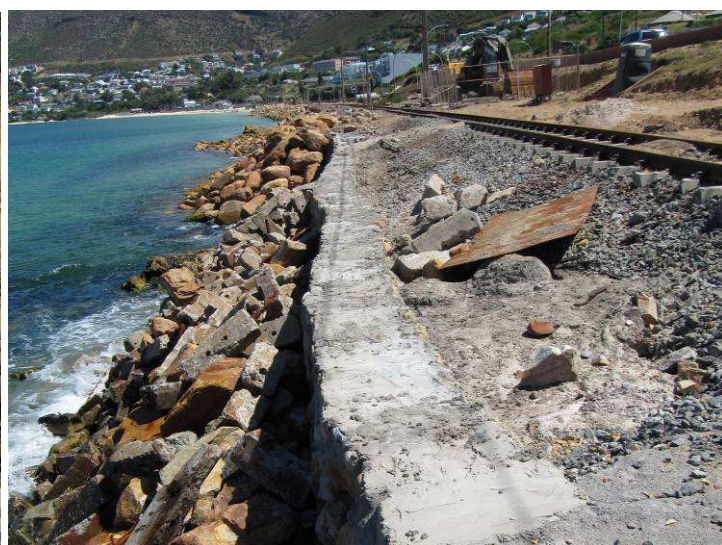
Werk aan die Simonstad-lyn is tydelik gestaak vir die Feestyd. Sedert die vorige nuusbrief wil dit voorkom asof daar nie veel meer rots afgelewer is nie. Daar is eerder gefokus om rots wat wel afgelewer is in hul eindposisie te kry. By *Dido Valley* is die berg rots byvoorbeeld tot twee klein hopies verminder (sien vorige uitgawe). Die drie slootgrawers is nou hoog-en-droog aan die pad se kant van die lyn geparkeer en die sand-en-klip skuinste waarteen hul voorheen afbeweeg het na seevlak is nêrens te vinde nie. Ongelukkig kon *Sea and Shore* nie bereik word vir kommentaar nie, maar *Railways Africa* het op die 19de Desember vir Riana Scott aangehaal waar sy 'n openingsdatum van middel of laat Januarie 2011 gee. Hierdie datum laat nie veel tyd vir PRASA se spoorbaan-span om skade wat aan die spoor-infrastruktuur self aangerig is (ballasklippe, spoorstawe, dwarslêers, bobaan ens) te herstel nie. Sonder om pessimisties te klink wil ek sê dat indien dit wel gebeur mag dit weliswaar een van die vroegste wonderwerke van 2011 wees. 'n Vroeëre datum beteken natuurlik groot voordele vir Atlantic Rail! Onder volg twee pare toe-en-nou foto's, links s'n van 29 November en regs dié van 23 Desember.

## Simonstad Foto's



Let op die verskil tussen die hoeveelheid *kaal* muur te siene na drie weke se werk. Oorblywende werk is hoofsaaklik rondom twee areas waar stormwater onder deur die lyn loop en ekstra stabilisering nodig is.

Foto's: Luca Lategan



Gedurende die maand is daar ook 'n ekstra seemuur gebou. Dit mag dalk nie die prys wen vir die reguitste muur nie, maar hy dien sy doel. Hierdie punt is byna heel regs op die foto's hierbo. Meer werk skort ongetwyfeld hier.

Foto's: Luca Lategan

## *Blast from the Past*

FoAR lid, Kenny Campbell het hierdie maand se “Blast” verskaf. Hy skryf:

“These two pics where taken in 1987 while 3655 was transferred from Touwsriver to Goodwood after being donated to Cape Western. I was on the footplate during this trip.”

Check out the newly updated Wikipedia articles about the SAR's 24-class, mainly compiled by FoAR supporter, André Kritzinger.

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South\\_African\\_Class\\_24\\_2-8-4](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_African_Class_24_2-8-4)



*Foto's geneem deur: Kenny Campbell*

## *Opkomende Verjaarsdae:*

Die Vriende van Atlantic Rail wens ons staatmaker stoker, Jan Botha, 'n vreugdevolle verjaarsdag op die 31ste Januarie toe. Mag al daai stokke reg getrek wees gedurende die jaar wat voorlê!

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## *Steam Gala:*

Steam-in-Action will be hosting an 8 day long **Narrow Gauge Steam Gala** at Sandstone during April 2011. SIA writes, “It will be world class... 8-days of continuous steam. Beat that?” A small group of FoAR members are flying up. Please contact Luca Lategan for more information **AND VISIT THE WEBSITE!**

Besoek gerus die Steam-in-Action webtuiste vir kraakvars nuus rakende die groter stoomprentjie in Suid-Afrika. Sluit aan om blitsig al die nuusbriewe te ontvang en word deel van die familie van meer as 1000 lede wat reeds besig is om 'n positiewe verandering in die Suid-Afrikaanse stoomlandskap te maak.

[www.steam-in-action.com](http://www.steam-in-action.com) or [www.sandstone-estates.com](http://www.sandstone-estates.com)