Sandstone Estates Steam Railway News 7 June 2017



Highlights of the Month!



















Seb's Railway Line



It has been a while since we last reported from the Sandstone Steam Railway and we thought we would do a short report especially on the construction of the Seb's Railway line and various other tasks we attended to.





Below are images taken over a period of time on the construction of the Seb's Railway line. A total of 2,5km of track was tamped and aligned and we now are busy with the last 500M of track to complete the construction of the line

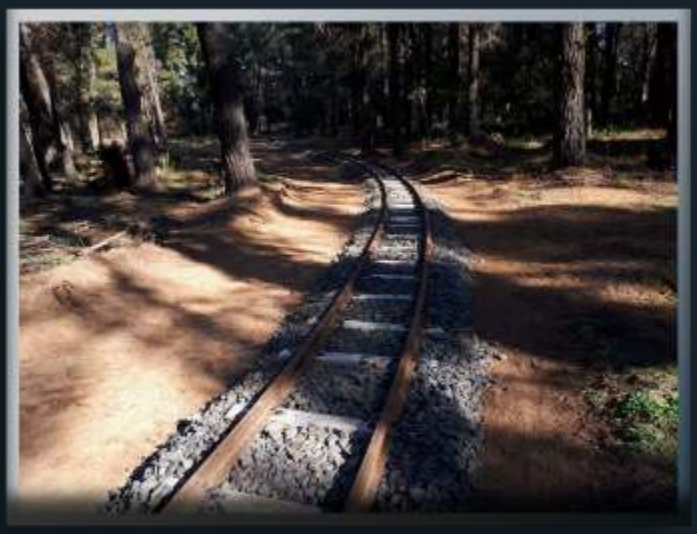




Seb's Railway Line













Seb's Railway Line





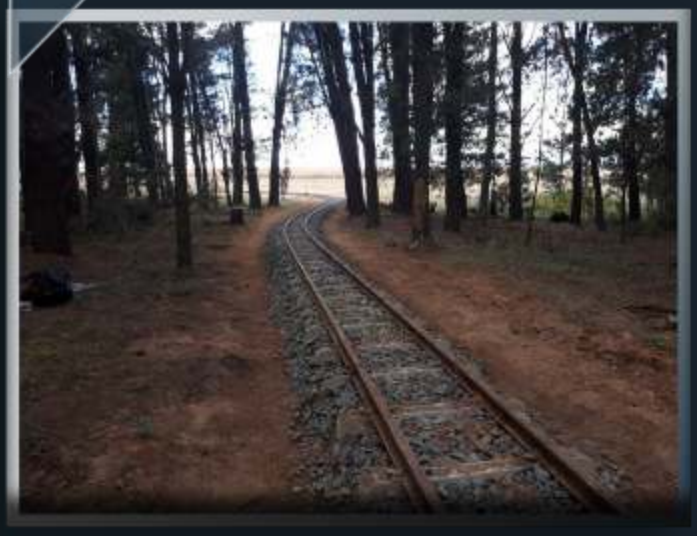




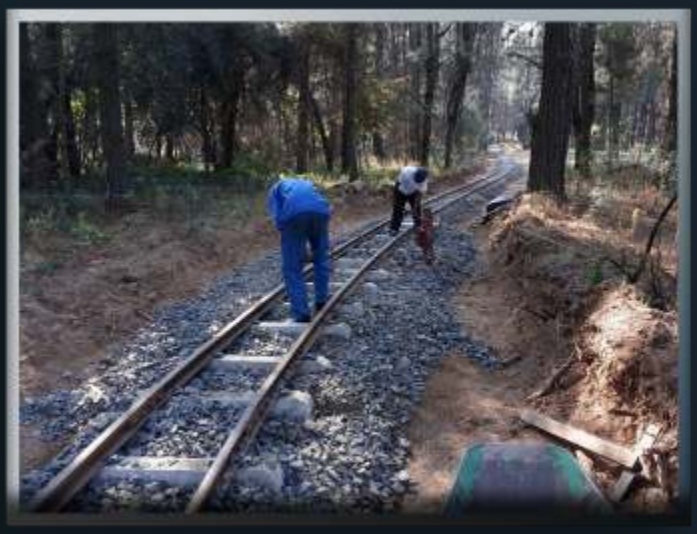




Seb's Railway Line











Seb's Railway Line









The last stretch from the culvert to Seb's points is yet to be finished.





New Caboose



Sandstone Estates also have acquired a new caboose and we assisted Henry in moving the caboose from Vailima to the Class 10CR.









Hoekfontein ash pit



Below is the construction of he new ash pit in Hoekfontein Station Northern side. This will help quite a bit on busy operating days.







Kommandonek Locomotive upgrading



We also attended to our small fleet of 3’6” Locomotives and rolling stock at Kommandonek siding. All the tenders were cleaned and the locomotives were painted with red an black oxide. One very special 25NC is 3496.





The fleet includes 2 x 25NC’s, 15CB and one 15F with a few goods wagons. We still needs to paint the one 25NC and 4 goods wagons to complete this task.





Class 16CR cladding.



Our team also tackled the missing cladding on the Class 16CR. The one side is now complete and we will finish the left side in the coming week. Brian will then do the final paint work needed to complete the cosmetic restoration of the Class 16CR.









3’6” Goods wagon restoration.



Ernest and Johannes stripped the first 3’6” goods wagon in Hoekfontein Station and cut and prepared the new planks that will be fitted in next week.





Below: The new planks almost dry and ready to be fitted.



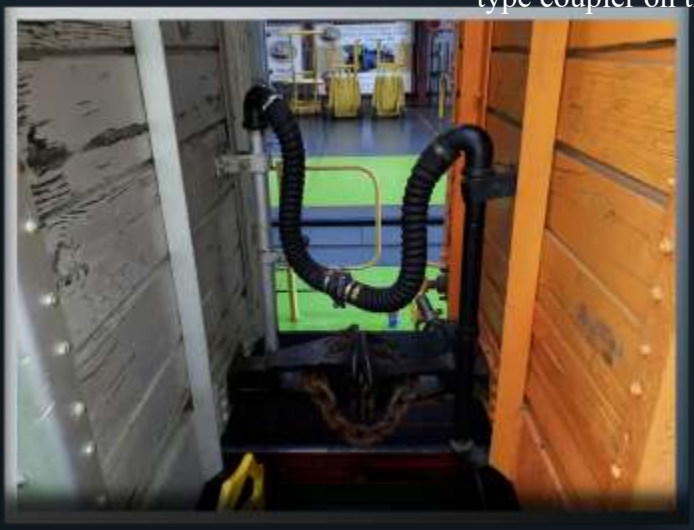


The construction of coach 29 has also started but more of this in the next report.

NG Goods wagon restoration.



Wouter went on with wagon maintenance and restorations. He has completely rebuilt 4 x B wagons and did maintenance on about 20 goods wagons. This also included the changing of couplers so that we will have a standard Bell type coupler on the Sandstone Steam Railway.





A total of 38 couplers were changed over the period since Stars 2017..





Class NGG 16 number 153



We have also lifted 153 from both her engine units to enable us to start with extensive repairs needed. One of them is the sharp flanges on the pony wheels.





Proper maintenance will be done before we will fit her back together.





Class 25NC Cab



A new display in the Steam shed, a Class 25NC cab of number 3479 finally found a peaceful and safe place in the Steam Shed.





The cab was fitted onto wooden sleepers to give it a final rough view of what once was the pride of a driver.





Outlook for the next 2 weeks!



Tasks

1.) Class 16CR Cladding
2.) Class 16CR Paint
3.) Seb's Railway line
4.) Wagon Maintenance.
5.) Coach 29

Next Steam Report Date: 21 July 2017!

Blast from the Past





Class 25's numbers 3496 and 3536.

How fortunate are we to have both these 25NC's in our fleet at Kommandonek Siding.

Ready for the return trip, 3496 at Touwsrivier 14th of April 1969 just prior to departure for Beaufort West. This engine worked the special from Beaufort West to Touwsrivier on the forward journey (12th April) and again over the same section on the return trip 14th April. 3496 was stationed at Beaufort West Loco but was sent to Salt River Shops for special "polishing treatment" prior to hauling the special. It won the trophy for the best engine on the trip. By Les Pivnic.

Below: Class 25NC number 3496 at Kommandonek Siding

