



CANBERRA RAILWAY MUSEUM

**STRATEGIC PLAN
2022-2027**



OUR MISSION

"Keeping Canberra's Rail History Alive"

OUR VISION

An iconic Canberra institution, recognised for our engaging and informative railway heritage museum and train operations.

WHO WE ARE

Canberra Railway Museum has been drawing attention to the ACT's rich railway history since 1984. A not-for-profit institution run entirely by volunteers, the Museum highlights the contribution of the railways to the story of Canberra, from the Griffin Plan to Light Rail.

Canberra Railway Museum is located in the historically significant Kingston railway precinct, the ACT's connection to the NSW mainline since 1914, which has seen the arrival of countless people, including politicians and immigrants, and freight such as beer, oil, and building materials for some of Canberra's historic landmarks.

The Museum is an established attraction for both local and interstate tourists, with a significant collection of historical rolling stock, including the ACT Heritage Listed steam locomotive 1210, and other artefacts that are increasingly being made accessible to visitors. Each year we will add more specific detail to our plan to ensure we meet our mission and achieve our vision. Wherever possible the Canberra Railway Museum aims to engage Canberra region businesses to support us in our endeavours.

**Canberra Railway Museum is comprised of:
Capital Region Heritage Rail and
ACT Heritage Rail Holdings**

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS SO FAR

- Reopened the railway museum to the public in 2019
- Achieved ever-growing public attention and museum visitorship
- Endured the COVID-19 pandemic, surviving 2 shutdown periods
- Purchased new scaffolding for our volunteers' safety
- Participated in the ACT Heritage Festival with great success
- Commenced the restoration of luggage van LHY 1613 as a dedicated, permanent volunteers facility
- Completed the internal refurbishment of our main visitor building
- Installed brand-new signage around the museum
- Made progress in improving accessibility with paved footpaths, and new wheelchair ramp into the main building
- Constructed an interactive model railway for museum visitors
- Internally refurbished power van PHA 2393 for public display
- Made great strides in museum trackwork, including the extension of the loco siding road and re-ballasting of 2 road
- Leased our operational carriages for use on Sydney Rail Services' Picnic Train
- Returned steam to the ACT by partnering with SRS over Easter 2022





Our Overarching Strategies:

FOR OUR HERITAGE RAILWAY MUSEUM

Provide a core permanent exhibition outlining the history of rail in Canberra and the broader region.

Capture the attention of the ACT community and attract tourists with exhibitions and events bringing Canberra's rail history to life.

Develop relationships with other rail heritage organisations and Canberra institutions to partner and host exhibitions and events.

Provide a range of training and development opportunities for our volunteers.

Grow our membership and volunteer numbers.

FOR OUR HERITAGE RAILWAY OPERATIONS

Maintain and enhance our track and other infrastructure to provide a safe working environment and facilities for the maintenance and preservation of heritage railway assets.

Be an accredited Rail Transport Operator for both Rail Infrastructure Management and Rollingstock Operations.

Maintain a fleet of railway vehicles and other key assets to enable heritage train operations.

Enable the hire out of heritage assets to other organisations as a key revenue stream to fund the fleet's maintenance and preservation.

Our plans for 2022-2027:

THE NEXT 12 MONTHS (2022-2023)

FOR OUR HERITAGE RAILWAY MUSEUM

Launch a new website that highlights the Museum's attractions and better connects with our members.

Enhance our historical display to present more of the story of the contribution of railways to Canberra and the region.

Hold our first signature annual event at the Museum.

Improve facilities for our members and volunteers by restoring our LHY luggage van for display and conversion into a member's room.

Increase the number of days that the Museum is open each week.

Explore options with the ACT Government to secure tenure for the Museum and associated yard precinct.

Improve our signage, site map and the way we guide our visitors at the Museum.

FOR OUR HERITAGE RAILWAY OPERATIONS

Complete the restoration of passenger carriage FS 2023 and commence repair of our other operating fleet carriages, including those under any rolling stock hire contract.

Establish funding appeals for the restoration of locomotives 3016 and 1210. Finalise plans and arrangements for the restoration of steam locomotive 3016.

Confirm interim arrangements for a Rail Transport Operator for both a Rail Infrastructure Manager and Rolling Stock Operator for the Museum.

Provide Heritage rail motor rides using our diesel powered rail motors CPH 27 and 37. Make sure our track is able to support rail operations.

Improve facilities in our Loco Shed to support maintenance of our heritage operating fleet. Partner another provider to arrange at least one heritage train visit to Canberra.

A man wearing a black cap, a dark blue long-sleeved shirt, and a bright orange high-visibility safety vest is working on a train carriage. He is looking out of a window, possibly inspecting or adjusting something inside. The train carriage is maroon with gold-colored window frames. The background shows a clear blue sky.

THE NEXT 24 MONTHS (2022-2024)

FOR OUR HERITAGE RAILWAY MUSEUM

Introduce new activities that will heighten the experience of families and young children at the Museum, such as a train driver simulator.

Further improve disability access to our Museum and displays.

Enhance our museum grounds to make them more accessible and attractive to visitors and provide more facilities.

Establish the Museum as a venue for private and corporate events such as birthdays, weddings and school tours.

FOR OUR HERITAGE RAILWAY OPERATIONS

Enter into an arrangement for the supply and operation of a locomotive suitable for shunting in the Museum Yard.

Commence the restoration of steam locomotive 3016.

Develop a Conservation Plan for the restoration of Heritage listed steam locomotive 1210.

Expand the scope of our heritage rail operations and work with other providers to host regular heritage rail tours to Canberra.

THE NEXT 5 YEARS (2022-2027)

FOR OUR HERITAGE RAILWAY MUSEUM

Expand our presentation for visitors by using static rollingstock and other structures to provide a larger venue area for activities, exhibits and events.

Create 'hands on' exhibits of unique railway operations, such as signalling and safety.

Capture wider community interest and attract more local visitors and tourists by holding two major annual events at the Museum.

Create a railway themed children's area with exciting and entertaining activities.

Enter into partnerships with other organisations to use the Museum's facilities.

Host seminars and presentations of written, photographic and sound media that promote the study and preservation of rail history.

Employ various unusual railway artifacts, already in our possession or available to acquire, to present new engaging attractions at the Museum.

Collaborate with other local organisations to partner events and exhibitions in the broader ACT community.

Enhance our Newsletter/ Journal to better inform members and engage them in railway history of the region.

FOR OUR HERITAGE RAILWAY OPERATIONS

Obtain accreditation as a Rail Transport Operator for both rail infrastructure management and rolling stock operations for the Museum Yard and our heritage train operations.

Hold an event with 3016 in steam to mark the progress of restoration.

Commence restoration of steam locomotive 1210 for special events and display at the Museum.

Develop a rolling maintenance programme to ensure our operating fleet meets our objectives.

Complete the backlog of repairs and maintain our track and infrastructure.

Implement training and skilling arrangements to enable members to participate in more activities in delivering the Museum's train operations.



3016 in Molonglo Gorge – a vision of the past... and the future.



Canberra

Railway Museum

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