



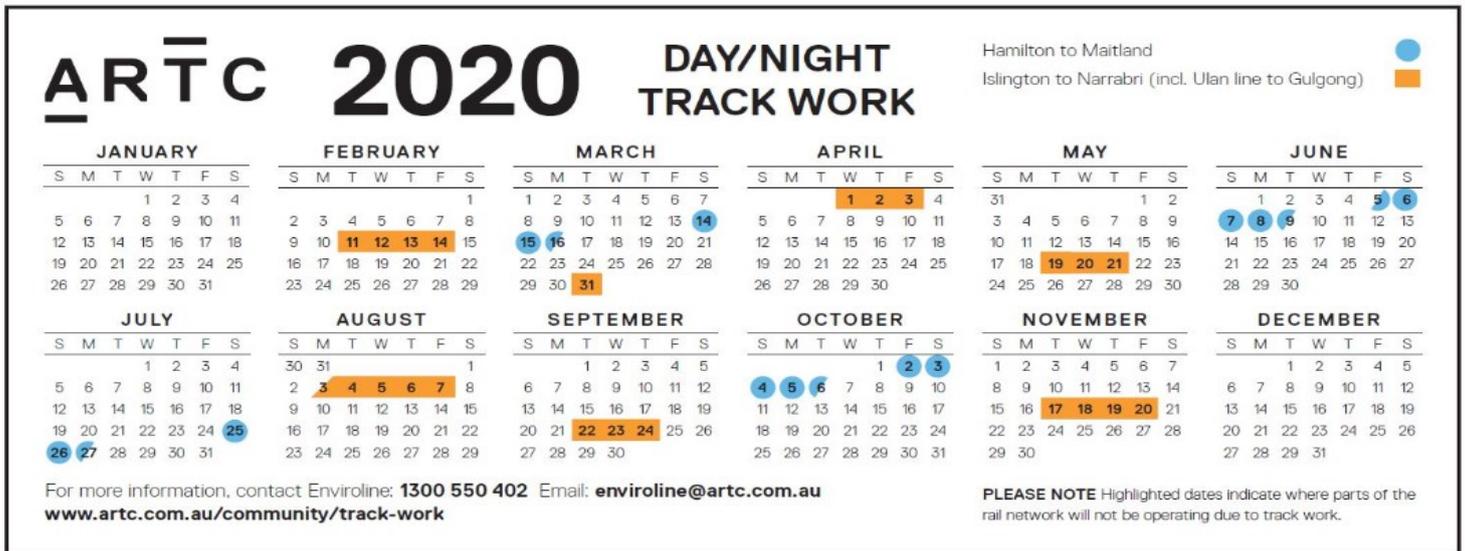
Wayne Johnson

Wayne Johnson, Group Executive — Hunter Valley Network, ARTC

DEAR NEIGHBOUR

We hope you've had a safe and happy holiday period. After 5 years of strong leadership of the Hunter Valley team, Jonathan Vandervoort will retire from ARTC in February this year. We wish him all the best for his next adventures. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the new Group Executive for Hunter Valley. I am looking forward to working with you to understand how we can better operate within our local communities. In the meantime, I hope you enjoy reading about a few of our key activities from 2019.

Please see below our Track Work Calendar, which shows our planned maintenance periods for 2020. During these times most trains on the Hunter Valley network will cease movement to allow us to safely complete essential works. For further information on our track work you can contact us on 1300 550 402 or by email to Enviroline@artc.com.au.



Please Note: highlighted areas indicate where parts of the rail network will not be operating due to track work. If you have trouble reading or have any questions regarding the calendar please contact us on 1300 550 402 or email to Enviroline@artc.com.au

RAIL GRINDER AND TRACK MACHINE 6-MONTHLY SCHEDULE

Track machines are an essential part of our maintenance works, which operate most days of the year including planned maintenance periods. It can be difficult to predict the exact location ahead of time, however we have included an indicative program of up-coming track machine work to provide you notice of where they are planned to be in the coming months.

We also provide information on track machine activity on our website www.artc.com.au/community/track-work/

Location	January			February			March			April			May			June		
	Early	Mid	Late	Early	Mid	Late	Early	Mid	Late	Early	Mid	Late	Early	Mid	Late	Early	Mid	Late
Islington to Sandgate					✓			✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓		
Sandgate to Maitland		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓			
Maitland to Muswellbrook		✓			✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓				
Muswellbrook to Werris Creek			✓		✓		✓	✓	✓				✓	✓				
Werris Creek to Gunnedah			✓		✓				✓	✓			✓	✓				
Gunnedah to Narrabri					✓				✓	✓			✓	✓				
Muswellbrook to Ulan			✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓			✓	✓				

HIGHLIGHTS: GOWRIE GATES BRIDGE



Before



After

In partnership with the RMS, the upgrade of the New England Highway rail bridge at Gowrie Gates in Singleton has been safely delivered on schedule and under budget. The project involved replacing the existing rail bridge with a new design that enabled widening of the New England Highway.

Unlike the previous design, the upgraded bridge is ballast topped, which has significantly reduced the noise made by trains crossing the bridge. Speed restrictions over the bridge have also been lifted, resulting in trains no longer needing to brake as frequently when entering Singleton.

As approximately 22,000 vehicles travel through Gowrie Gates every day, including over 4,000 heavy vehicles the project has addressed a significant pinch point on the road network and has resulted in safer and improved pedestrian and cycleway access.

ARTC IN THE COMMUNITY:

VARIETY BASH

In October, members of our ARTC's Network Control team participated in the annual Variety Club Bash, with support from ARTC.

This year's Bash brought together 82 cars and 14 support vehicles with the aim to raise \$800,000 over the week-long journey.

The participants from ARTC entered three cars in the Bash, an EB Ford Falcon, a Jaguar XJ6 and a support vehicle to help out the other drivers.

The ARTC team were stunned by the support shown by their colleagues and ARTC, raising over \$20,000 for the charity.

The funds raised by the Variety Bash help to support schools in remote areas by delivering a unique range of goods and services. Deliveries included iPads and play equipment for schools, book packs for kids as well as supporting children across a diverse spectrum of specific physical, emotional and financial needs through NSW.



From left to right the EB Ford Falcon, Jaguar XJ6 and the support vehicle driven by the participants from ARTC in the 2019 Variety Bash



Our track reconditioning project in progress at Lochinvar in August 2019. Large amounts of machinery are required for these type of projects

SPOTLIGHT ON: TRACK RECONDITIONING

Track reconditioning projects form a large part of ARTC's track maintenance work and are critical in maintaining the safety of the rail network.

The large scale of the work requires the project teams to work around the clock during our possession periods in order to complete the job safely and with minimal disruptions to our neighbours and the rail network.

A typical track reconditioning project requires a large volumes of material and machinery and involves the full reconstruction of the track formation or track bed.

The projects can include the installation of structural earthworks, a capping layer and new ballast followed by new rail and drainage restoration.

A successful reconditioning project results in a safer, more resilient track that requires less maintenance.