



**Heritage Listed “Sandfly” Locomotive Restoration
Project – 2008/2009**

**Motor Vehicle Enthusiast’s Club Incorporated
Old Qantas Hangar, Parap, Darwin**

Motor Vehicle Enthusiast's Club

- In 2008, the MVEC raised concerns with the NT Government over the deterioration of the “Sandfly” locomotive from salt exposure corrosion, as the result of being openly displayed on Stokes Hill Wharf.
- In response, the MVEC was invited by the NT Government to undertake the restoration of the “Sandfly” within a 12 months timeframe.

Arrival at Qantas Hangar

11 July, 2008



Unloading The “Sandfly”

(Leo Izod’s forklift proved invaluable to the restoration project)



Dismantling is Underway



Nearly There



Frame Lifted off Wheelsets



Restoration Commences

- All components of the locomotive were abrasive blasted, where possible, and painted with POR15 protective coatings to minimise further corrosion.
- A range of industrial top coatings were then used to provide the optimum long lasting finish.

We Call Him - The STIG

He worked tirelessly in the blasting cabinet.

Peter Soulos, unmasked at last



Wheelsets Refurbished

Ready for the Axle Boxes



“POR15” Protective Coatings



Axle Boxes Refurbished

(Ready to be re-fitted to axles)



Frame Ready for Rebuild



Axle Boxes, Wedges and Keeps Fitted and Adjusted in Frame



Motion Gear Ready for Protective and Final Coatings



There were Plenty of Bits to Restore

(And yes, we knew where they all belonged)



Frame Ready to Lower onto Wheelsets



- Shows how the Adelaide River railsets allowed the restored wheelsets to be rolled out of the carport ready for the frame to be lowered onto the axles.

Back on Her Wheels at Last

(Rowan and Tom engage in wild celebration)



Time To Repaint The Cab

(Kurt applying some Dulux "Brunswick Green")



Buffers Before and After

(Restored by Barry Stach - painted with Dulux "Glowing Coals")



Saddle Tank Repainted

(Dulux “Brunswick Green” super enamel does the trick)



Rolling Chassis Placed in Hangar

(All motion gear re-fitted)



Boiler Restoration Proceeds

(Static preservation only – Not for live steaming)

Cladding back to bare metal



Primed and ready for painting



Boiler Lifted Back into Frame

(With help from “Richard’s Cranes”, 29 January, 2009)



Saddle Tank Lowered onto Boiler

(So nice to be working inside the Hangar)



Painted Finish Looks The Part

“Septone” Gold Chrome



Copper Metal Spray



Now for the Old Buffers

That's brightened her up.

Barry Stach and his handiwork



Nearly There



Final Touches to Paintwork



Finished at Last

Back L-R: Tom Bertenshaw & Rowan Charrington
Front: Peter Soulos, Leo Izod, Kurt Mussiger & Barry Stach



What a Beauty

“Well Done MVEC”

