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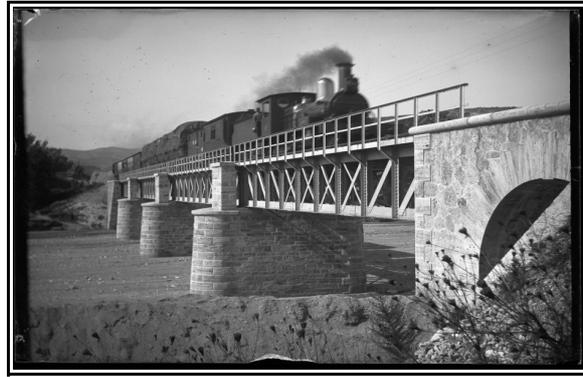
# THE ZURGENA RAILWAY NEWS

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July 13<sup>th</sup> 2021

Nº 12

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Albox river (rambla) bridge.

We are back on Gustave Gillman again. This is an early photograph (September 1898). I am sure that you have all seen this bridge connecting Almanzora and [Los Garcias](#) . We know the photograph is pre-1900 (as well as Gustave telling us!) as there was terrible flooding in 1900 which washed the two centre spans away. One can see now that the [new centre spans](#) are higher to hopefully protect the bridge in the future.

## NEWS

Well, we are finally going to be working on the site this Monday whereby we will have a town hall JCB to expose the rails. Feel free to come along and watch the 'fun'. I really hope that we will be able to get all of the work done in one day!!

Regarding subscriptions, I have spoken to Ray Gaskell, the treasurer, and we feel that now it would be reasonable to put the subscriptions up to 20€ per year (1.67€ per month) which will help us to move on with works. Rafael has spoken to the bank and I will talk to him about organizing direct debits. Please let us know what you think about this.

I have some more news for you from Rafael - I repeat it here verbatim:

Good afternoon everyone, as I have already mentioned a few times, we are behind the recovery of historical railway material for our museum project and restoration workshop at the Zurgena train station. I have been behind for years to get a railroad unit that circulated along the line from Baza to Lorca along with other models of rail cars such as the Renault ABJ, the Ganz, etc. In the attached photo you can see a Ganz railcar unit on the left and, on the right, a ferrobús unit at the Almendricos train station, very close to Zurgena. Last June the mayor of Zurgena sent a letter to the mayor of El Rincón de la Victoria, Málaga, current owner of the ferry that we want to bring to Zurgena, explaining that it is a project of great importance

for Zurgena and its region and that They will call us to reach an agreement to transfer this unit but, until now, we have not received any response.

As today I woke up with a bit of a bad temper;), I picked up the phone and called the office of the mayor of El Rincon de la Victoria, who is also the president of the Malaga Provincial Council and I have told his secretary that It was a shame that this issue ended with a criminal complaint for the destruction of the Spanish industrial heritage before the Civil Guard against that City Council for allowing this rail car to be destroyed by abandonment and acts of vandalism after having been lying in an unguarded field for fifteen years.

For the record, I am not usually so abrupt but this week has been especially difficult for me and my patience is beginning to run out in certain matters, there are good days and bad days.

And, oh miracle, an hour later the mayor's chief of staff called me on the phone asking me for a thousand excuses for the delay in answering and asking me for a copy of all the documents and photos of the rail car that I have sent to your City Council these past two years With the commitment to study it immediately and give it a solution as soon as possible, it is clear that today was the day to lose patience and achieve some result, thank you my God.

So I hope a response soon to this issue and to be able to tell you that we have the first unit to restore, it is destroyed but it is not a complicated job to do, it is only work, yes, a lot but the result will be very satisfactory, I am sure.

Kind regards to all, Rafael

I have been in this push-me-pull-you and it has been allowed to deteriorate to a shocking state. This is probably its last chance. If we can win this one, we could then be looking at the two coaches rotting away in Guadix station.

Stay well. Best regards

Max

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