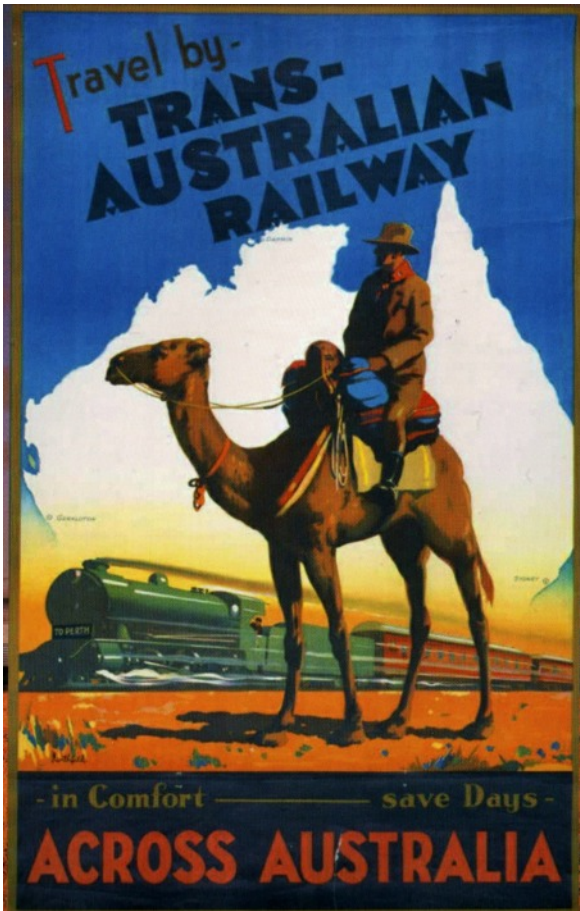


On page four of this story, is a poster for the Australian Coast to Coast Railway. This is based on the real railway poster below left.



Below a residence's house in Wangaratta, Victoria state, Australia, has been invaded by the Hairy Panic tumbleweed. See the notes accompanying this story. (Copyright BBC).



I found the below picture of the old railway station at Cook on the www. Taken in the 1950's possibly. The town (if it can be called that), only had a small population. According to Wikipedia -

'In 2009, it was said to have a resident population of four and is essentially a ghost town. The town was effectively closed in 1997 when the railways were privatised and the new owners did not need a support town there, although the diesel refuelling facilities remain, and there is overnight accommodation for train drivers. Cook is the only scheduled stop on the Nullarbor Plain for the Indian Pacific passenger train across Australia and has little other than curiosity value for the passengers. The bush hospital is closed, but the town maintains some medical supplies in the event of a train disaster.. The hospital advertised itself at the station with the catch cry "If you're crook come to Cook"

Photograph copyright Hawke.

