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PLEASE SEND CONTRIBUTIONS TO EDITOR BY E-MAIL : patsy.scott@xtra.co.nz

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EDITORIAL

I am publishing Journal a bit early this month in order to concentrate on final arrangements for Conference.

We have a good number of delegates registered so will no doubt have the usual productive and enjoyable time, especially with visits to THREE member sites. There is still time for you to register if you are considering attending.

We have important business for the AGM, not least replacement of two longstanding Executive Members, and consideration of future funding options.

Coach to Conference - Seats available. We do still have a good number of seats left on the coach from Christchurch to Oamaru and return so if any of you want to reconsider driving from Christchurch and take the coach let Trevor know (trevor.burling@xtra.co.nz) and we can book you on it.

This edition contains all the usual newsy stuff related to legislation and government and a special section on the Budget. Little here for rail heritage other than a drop in ACC levies for those that employ staff. Also a further \$94 million to Kiwirail for the "Turnaround Plan".

Members News. As always we have some news from members. I get many newsletters but if I am not getting yours I cannot spread your message. Please make sure I am on your e-mail list, patsy.scott@xtra.co.nz.

See you at conference and look for all the news in the next Journal.

Scott Osmond

NATIONAL DIGITAL FORUM

FRONZ is enrolled as a Partner organisation with the National Digital Forum. The National Digital Forum is a network of people working together to enhance digital interaction with culture and heritage. NDF also runs an annual conference, regional barcamps, and a soon to be launched professional exchange programme.

As a network, NDF connects together the folk who are shaping our new digital culture; and works closely with museums, archives, art galleries, libraries, government, and the creative sectors to support their initiatives.

The National Digital Forum was established in 2002, and became a registered Incorporated Society in 2010.

Anyone interested in furthering their digital knowledge in relation to heritage activities should look at the NDF website at <http://www.ndf.org.nz/>

**JOURNAL IS FOR ALL OF YOUR MEMBERS. PLEASE
FORWARD IT TO ALL ON YOUR E-MAIL LISTS**

NZTA NEWSLETTER APRIL

NZTA Rail Safety Update - April

The latest NZTA Rail Safety Update was released late in April.

All rail licence holders should ensure they are familiar with its content. In the April issue there are items on:

- Police and NZTA Memoranda of Understanding
- Accident/Incident notification
- Notification of your management/personnel changes
- Emergency Brake Valves on Passenger carriages.
- plus other general information

CATERPILLAR EXPERIENCE CLOSED

Many readers will have enjoyed the visit to The Caterpillar Experience museum of earthmoving and forestry equipment of that name as part of the FRONZ conference in Rotorua last year. Sadly it has been noted that the attraction has closed. The web site <http://www.caterpillarexperience.co.nz/> simply says, "These old CAT's are making tracks to a mighty new home - so keep your eye on this website for further information". We shall watch for further developments.

WORKPLACE HEALTH & SAFETY INDEPENDENT TASKFORCE REPORT

The Independent Taskforce on Workplace Health & Safety publicly released its report this week. This Taskforce was established by the Minister of Labour in June 2012 to assess whether the workplace health and safety system in New Zealand is fit for purpose if we are going to reduce serious injuries and fatalities.

Among their recommendations are establishing a new workplace Health & Safety Agency and a complete update of H&S legislation.

Their report is comprehensive and the recommendations arising are far reaching. It can be accessed in full on the web-site: hstaskforce.govt.nz

Source: Rural Women Bulletin Aotearoa

LOTTERY COMMUNITY APPLICATION PROCESS: CHANGES?

The Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) has released a consultation paper on changes it's proposing to the way applications to Lottery Community committees are made. It says:

- aspects of the application process can be confusing for community organisations and DIA staff, when it comes to deciding whether they should be considered by LNCC (Lotteries National Committee) or by a RCC (Regional Community Committee);
- some funding agreements have not kept pace with changes to organisations (for example, national offices being disbanded, or a regional structure changing to a national structure);
- considering multi-regional funding applications (both LNCC and RCCs do this) can also create confusion between organisations and DIA staff; and
- the policy of community organisations receiving more than one grant per year from Lottery community committees needs clarifying. Among other things DIA is proposing that collated funding arrangements* would no longer be considered by the LNCC; all multi-regional applications would be considered by the LNCC; and community organisations would be able to receive a maximum of one single year and one multi-year Lottery community committee grant per financial year.

For organisations that make a single application to one LNCC each year there will be no impact resulting from these proposals.

*Collated funding arrangements are made when a national office and all or some of its branches each make individual applications to Lottery National Community. Each of these applications is currently considered separately.

Submissions close on 4 June 2013. They go to Submissions on Lottery community committees, Operational Policy and Business Improvement Team, Community Operations, PO Box 805, Wellington 6140, or to communityoperations@dia.govt.nz. You can also make your submission online at www.surveymonkey.com/s/Z3JS5R7. More is at <http://www.communitymatters.govt.nz/Latest-updates>

Source: Rural Women Bulletin Aotearoa

THE NEW NOT-FOR-PROFIT REPORTING STANDARDS

The External Reporting Board (XRB) and the NZ Accounting Standards Board (NZASB) have published proposals for accounting standards for simple format reporting by not-for-profit groups. These would apply from 1 April 2015. They are suggesting four different levels (called "tiers") of reporting requirements, depending on the levels of the not-for-profit group's expenses. Most not-for-profits in NZ are likely to fall within either tier three (those with expenses of less than \$2 million - that choose to be in this tier) or four (not-for-profits allowed by law to use cash accounting - with operating payments less than \$40,000 - that choose to be in this tier). Tiers one and two will need to meet much higher standards of reporting (called PBE Standards).

The proposals up for comment are:

- an amendment to Standard XRB A1 establishing the structure;
- a Simple Format Reporting Standard to be used by not-for profit entities in Tier 3;
- a Simple Format Reporting Standard for not-for profit entities in Tier 4; and
- optional templates and associated guidance notes for Tier 3 and Tier 4 not-for-profit organisations so they can prepare "performance reports".

With each proposal comes an "Invitation to Comment."

Submissions close on 28 June 2013. They go to Chief Executive, External Reporting Board, PO Box 11250, Manners Street Central, Wellington 6142, or to submissions@xrb.govt.nz. There is a backgrounder at <http://www.socialdevelopment.org.nz/featured/how-will-new-reporting-standards-affect-you/> and the consultation is at http://www.xrb.govt.nz/Site/Accounting_Standards/Exposure_Drafts/Proposals_for_SFR_Stds_for_NFP_Entities.aspx

Source: Rural Women Bulletin Aotearoa

COMPARING/SWITCHING ELECTRICITY RETAILERS

The Electricity Authority's Retail Advisory Group (RAG) has released a consultation paper called "Review of options for promoting retail competition by increasing consumers' propensity to compare and switch retailers".

The RAG believes more consumers would be likely to switch if there were awareness programs that:

- targeted consumers who are less likely to switch, highlighted the possible advantages of switching to older or lower income consumers, or targeted people who might be quite open to new products such as metering options, time of use tariffs etc.;
- ran at the times of the year when it's more likely that consumers would be thinking about switching electricity retailers (e.g., when price changes occur, or before winter starts); and
- targeted consumers in regions where there is less competition between electricity retailers (these are generally in regional areas).

Submissions close on 4 June 2013. They go to Submissions, Electricity Authority, PO Box 10041, Wellington 6143.

Email electronic submissions to submissions@ea.govt.nz with "Consultation Paper -Options for increasing consumers propensity to compare and switch retailers" in the subject line. A discuss paper is at <http://www.ea.govt.nz/our-work/consultations/advisory-group/options-for-increasing-consumerspropensity-to-compare-and-switch-retailers/>

Source: Rural Women Bulletin Aotearoa

PRE-BUDGET BUDGET 2013: CONSERVATION

Budget Day this year is Thursday 16 May, and a series of budget announcements have already been made. Amongst them: an additional \$20 million over 4 years (\$5 million per year) is to go to the Department of Conservation (DoC). Some \$15 million of this funding, or around \$3.8 million a year, will be used to increase DOC's frontline workforce by around 60 (these positions will include visitor information and support staff along with rangers involved in work on huts, tracks and protecting threatened species). The other \$5 million of the funding, or around \$1.2 million a year, is for recreational facilities (this will help DOC respond to the increase in use of popular and high profile facilities, with the funding focused on the network of walks and new cycle trails).

More is at <http://www.beehive.govt.nz/release/budget-2013-support-frontline-conservation-work>

Source: Rural Women Bulletin Aotearoa

I am not sure how this announcement stacks up against the well publicised DOC restructure and funding cuts so thought it was worth including for that reason alone. Ed.

WORLD WAR ONE CENTENARY FUNDING

The Lottery Grants Board has set aside \$10 million for projects of national significance and \$7 million for community projects and events for project commemorating the First World War. A first funding round granted close to \$1.7 million of this to support sixteen community projects, and a second funding round is now open. Decisions from that round will be made in October.

Applications close on 29 May 2013. More, including a list of decisions from the first round will be published shortly. Go to <http://www.communitymatters.govt.nz/Funding-and-grants---Lottery-grants---Lottery-Environment-and-Heritage>

Source: Rural Women Bulletin Aotearoa

EMPLOYERS' SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY INFLUENCES POTENTIAL EMPLOYEES

Recruiting experts Hays' "Tomorrow's Workforce" paper (based on a recent survey) looks at four key issues affecting the future of NZ's workforce: the advancement in technology, globalisation of the jobs market, diversity, and the Christchurch rebuild.

It indicates that an employers' attitude to social media access at work is now having an effect on whether or not a candidate will take a job. Latest figures show one in four candidates (25.7%) would turn down a job if they did not have reasonable access to sites such as Facebook at work.

The researchers found that two thirds of employees access social media at work for personal reasons. Of these, 23.7% said they access it daily, while 42.1% access it occasionally.

As for employers, 38.1% believe that allowing employees to access social media at work will improve their retention levels. Already 32.8% of employers surveyed allow their employees to access social media at work, while a further 46.9% allow limited access, and 20.3% allow no access at work.

The results suggest employees now and in the future will expect to be allowed a reasonable level of access to social media at work for personal use.

For more information about the white paper, please go to <http://www.hays.net.nz/media-centre/index.htm> and select "Tomorrow's Workforce" on the top left hand side.

Source: Rural Women Bulletin Aotearoa

REVISED CONCRETE MASONRY BUILDINGS STANDARD

NZS 4229:2013 "Concrete masonry buildings not requiring specific engineering design" sets a minimum standard for the design and construction of reinforced concrete masonry buildings. The Standard has been revised to ensure it is consistent with the loadings values and requirements given under the AS/NZS 1170 loadings Standards (a lot of these changes have to do with earthquakes).

You can order NZS 4229:2013 or NZS 1170.5:2004 from www.standards.co.nz, or call 0800 782 632 during business hours, or email enquiries@standards.co.nz. A backgrounder can be found at

<http://www.standards.co.nz/touchstone/Issue+48/Building/Revised+Standard+published+for+concrete+masonry+buildings+NZS+4229.htm?print=true>

Source: Rural Women Bulletin Aotearoa

KIWIS TAKING FEWER DAY TRIPS

Kiwis are taking fewer day trips than they used to, latest Roy Morgan research shows. In the three months to January 2013, 44% of Kiwis 14+ (1.6 million) took at least one day trip in a car – down from 52% a decade ago. The 8% point decrease mirrors a rise over the period in the proportion of NZers who have recently cut down on spending: from 57% in early 2003 to 65% now. Aside from increasing budget-consciousness, the decreasing numbers of day trips is also probably due to overall trends toward indoor leisure, personal rather than group entertainment, and computer-based gaming and socialising.

Across the Tasman, the proportion of Australians taking day trips in the car is also at a decade low: 37%, down from 44% in 2003, with 67% reporting recent cuts to personal spending.

More is at <http://www.roymorgan.com/news/press-releases/2013/2049/>

Source: Rural Women Bulletin Aotearoa

HOW TO MAKE NEWSLETTERS MORE COMPELLING

With more non-profits choosing to communicate directly with their supporters through e-newsletters it's important that that your news and updates are really connecting with your audience. Here are six ways to make your e-newsletters stand out from the rest:

- **have your e-newsletter reflect your mission** - in other words, start thinking about how your e-news can support the kind of social change your non-profit wants to make;
- **offer compelling content that people really want to read** - creating information that engages people can be one of the most difficult parts of writing any e-newsletter;
- **personalise your e-newsletter** - from including your supporters' name in the greeting to sending out individualised content to different types of supporters, even small changes can create a more engaging newsletter;
- **use your e-newsletter for fundraising** - make it a multi-tasker;
- **you need substance and style** - never underestimate the importance of details like frequency, day, time, and layout; and
- **make sure your email gets your e-news to your supporters' inbox** - just because you hit the "send" button doesn't mean your e-mail ever got there - you need to check that it has.

The source article for this comes from the March 2013 NZARCT newsletter. The article is at http://www.associations.org.nz/_blog/NZARC_Blog/post/How_do_you_make_your_e-newsletter_get_noticed/ (inside the article, there are also links to other useful information)

Source: Rural Women Bulletin Aotearoa

NEW INSIGHT INTO REGIONAL ECONOMIES

The Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment (MBIE) has released a report on the economic performance of NZ's 16 regions. The report shows that household incomes in Northland, Gisborne, and Manawatu-Wanganui continue to trail the rest of NZ, while the West Coast has almost caught up with Wellington and Auckland. And when rent costs are taken into account, Coasters are the best off in the country, ahead of Wellington, Auckland, Waikato, Taranaki, and Southland. Northland comes off worst. Specific findings include:

- Auckland and Wellington at the top of the average, annual household-income ladder, on \$89,700 and \$88,900, respectively;
- the West Coast recorded \$86,000, reflecting its mining and dairy industries, while strong oil and gas and dairy returns are credited for keeping Taranaki and Waikato above the \$80,600 average;
- Northland recorded both the lowest average household-income, of \$60,000, and employment rate, of 56% (and its unemployment rate is 9.5% compared with 6.9% nationally);
- Gisborne's income figure is a little better at \$63,500, the employment rate is 63% and unemployment is 8.1%; and
- at less than half of one percent, Manawatu-Wanganui recorded the lowest growth in employment over 10 years (on income, it fared slightly better than Gisborne, at \$66,000, but both its employment and unemployment rates were worse at 61% and 8.3%, respectively).

The report is available at: www.mbie.govt.nz/regions

Source: *Rural Women Bulletin Aotearoa*

POKIE TAKINGS DOWN

Gaming machine spending in the country's 1367 pubs and clubs in the first three months of 2013 dropped 10% on the takings for the last three months of 2012. Spending dropped from \$214.6 million in the fourth quarter of 2012 to \$192.7 million in the first quarter of 2013. And for the 12 months ended March 2013 spending was down 4% from \$865.4 million to \$828.7 million.

Nationwide there were fewer licence holders, gambling venues, and gaming machines at the end of March compared with 12 months earlier. Licence holders fell from 359 to 353, venues declined from 1403 to 1367, and the number of gaming machines decreased from 18,001 to 17,542.

More is at <http://www.dia.govt.nz/press.nsf/d77da9b523f12931cc256ac5000d19b6/c56c96af238af007cc257b5d0011f95e!OpenDocument>

Source: *Rural Women Bulletin Aotearoa*

KEIGHLEY & WORTH VALLEY RAILWAY JOINS FORCES WITH NRM

The Keighley & Worth Valley Railway has revealed it has entered into a partnership with the National Railway Museum in York.

It could lead to a new visitor attraction at one of its stations and exhibitions from the national collection being loaned to the line.

The museum described the partnership as an "exciting opportunity" to allow people to see its collection in a traditional environment.

Attracting more than a million visitors a year, the museum is the largest railway museum in the world, with 300 vehicles, rail-themed art and a thorough history of the nation's 300-year-old rail network.

The partnership means exhibits could soon be seen at stations along the Keighley & Worth Valley Railway, including items not on display at the museum in York or its sister site in Shildon.

The line and its trains will receive much wider promotion and the museum will offer expertise to volunteers on how best to display the exhibits already at the various stations.

A museum spokesman said: "This is an exciting opportunity to take our collection beyond the boundaries of the York museum and showcase a part of the collection that otherwise doesn't get to be on display."

Rail enthusiast and Bradford councillor Ralph Berry said the partnership was a coup for the area. He said: "Visiting exhibits will draw more visitors to the area, especially from the enthusiast fraternity. For the railway to get something like this shows they have a high level of quality in how they look after things. It is a tribute to the volunteers."

Source: <http://www.thetelegraphandargus.co.uk/>

BUDGET 2013

Rural Women of NZ have published a special bulletin covering the Budget Announcements made by Government. Items of possible interest to rail heritage readers are reproduced below:

Removing Student Allowance Eligibility for Those Aged Over 65

Student allowance eligibility for those aged 65 and over is to be removed from the start of next year. The lifetime limit for student allowance eligibility for those aged 40 and over will be reduced from 200 weeks to 120 weeks from next year. This means they will only be able to study for three years. And, the student loan and allowance standdown period for permanent residents will be increased from two years to three years from next year.

Planning & Consents: Special Legislation

Special legislation (The Housing Accords and Special Housing Areas Bill) has been introduced. The bill has a three year life and provides for the Government to enter accords with regions to fast track development in designated special areas. But where they fail to reach an accord, or a council misses performance targets within an agreed accord, the Government will have the power to step in and designate the areas itself and issue consents.

ACC Levies

ACC levies will be reduced for households and businesses with cuts of \$300 million next year and \$1 billion in the following year. Further cuts were likely in following years.

Transport (including Kiwirail)

KiwiRail will receive \$94 million in 2013/14 to help make its rail freight business self-supporting.

Other transport spending includes:

- the SuperGold Card off-peak public transport concession scheme gets extra funding of \$14 million over the next two financial years;
- \$7.2 million to replace NZ's search and rescue satellite ground station; and
- \$1.4 million of additional funding for the MetService in 2013/14 only, to pay for the increased costs of the weather forecasting services it provides.

Interacting with Government Online

Eight government departments are contributing (reprioritizing) a total of \$2.9 million of their funding to a club funding arrangement, the aim of which is to enable more people to interact with the Government online (the target is for 70% of NZers' most common transactions with government to occur online by 2017).

MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT BUDGET COMMENT

KiwiRail Turnaround Plan

Overview

The original Turnaround Plan, which was put to government in 2010, identified the need for a total Crown investment of \$1.1 billion over the 10 year life of the plan. The first \$750 million has now been fully appropriated. The \$94 million for the 2013/14 financial year is a new commitment by the Crown to the Turnaround Plan.

What has the \$750 million towards the KiwiRail Turnaround Plan from Budgets 2010, 2011 and 2012 been spent on?

KiwiRail has successfully undertaken a significant investment programme over the 2010/11 to 2012/13 years including:

- new locomotives and refurbishment of current fleet (20 new DL locomotives with a further 20 locomotives on order)
- increasing and improving wagon fleet - delivery of 535 new wagons with a further 300 on order
- Aratere Cook Strait ferry extension – creating 30 percent more capacity for rail and trucks and improving passenger facilities
- renewals and upgrades of the rail network to improve transit times, remove capacity constraints, improve reliability and continue to bring the national network to a sustainable level - particularly on the main trunk route between Auckland, Hamilton and Tauranga.

What will this \$94 million be spent on?

The \$94 million will be put towards buying new wagons and locomotives, and track and infrastructure renewals.

Source: <http://www.transport.govt.nz/news/newsevents/Pages/budget2013.aspx#kiwirail>

NEW YORK TOWNS SKEPTICAL OF TOURIST TRAIN

The battle over use of a historic railroad corridor through the heart of the Adirondacks in New York State escalated this fall, with a growing number of local government leaders questioning the value of an excursion train that would operate from Old Forge to Lake Placid.

Regional development officials, meanwhile, affirmed their support for the Adirondack Scenic Railroad, describing it as an important tourism attraction and suggesting that the entire line could be back in regular use within two years, carrying visitors from as far away as New York City.

As of press time, six towns and villages along the line—along with St. Lawrence County's legislature—have passed resolutions raising doubts about that vision. Some have urged state officials to reopen a unit management plan, written in 1992, that governs use of the state-owned corridor. Others have simply urged the Department of Transportation to tear up the tracks. "To keep the snowmobilers, that's a key thing for Tupper Lake," said Supervisor Roger Amell after the town board voted in October to ask the state to revisit the plan.

Amell argued that the railroad tracks are limiting winter recreation, making it difficult for remote communities along the corridor to connect to the booming snowmobile industry in Inlet and Old Forge. "Unless you have plenty of snow, you can't use the tracks," he complained. His views contrast sharply with other locals in Tupper Lake, who say the tourism train would bring new visitors to the community.

In September and October, officials in Harrietstown and Saranac Lake also voted to urge a review of the state plan, while elected officials in Lake Placid, North Elba, Piercefild, and St. Lawrence County went further, passing resolutions "respectfully requesting" that tracks be removed immediately.

Doubts about the tourism train have simmered for years. In 2010, North Elba Supervisor Roby Politi told the Adirondack Daily Enterprise that the effort was "a financial boondoggle." In August 2011, a coalition of activists calling themselves the Adirondack Recreational Trail Advocates launched a campaign calling for the rail bed to be converted into a multi-use trail.

The full sad story is at <http://www.adirondackexplorer.org/stories/2012/12/21/towns-skeptical-of-train/>

See also <http://www.adirondackrr.com/>

FRANKTON STATION NEW HOME

I stumbled across this information purporting to be the old Hamilton station building re-located within the Waikato University grounds in Hillcrest Road and in a new role as a Cafe and Function Centre. Refer the web site at www.station.co.nz. This is presumably the old Frankton Station. It looks like it has been given a very classy renovation in its new role. Pictures from the web site.



NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS

CYCLOPS MOVES TO NEW HOME

On 21 April (after the drought broke!!), Cyclops was moved to its new home at the Rimutaka Incline Railway at Maymorn. Cyclops having crossed the temporary connection, with the Kiwi Rail locos DBR 1200 1267 waiting on the main line at right, while the digger works to restore the mainline. Once again we see cooperation between two FRONZ members, Rimutaka Incline Railway Heritage Trust and Wellington Heritage Multiple Unit Preservation Trust
Photo: Ben Calcott



GLENBROOK VINTAGE RAILWAY RAILFANS DAY

In March (before the drought broke!!), GVR held one of their popular and lucrative Railfan's Days. Nigel Hogg made the big trek north and got these pictures.



SILVERSTREAM RAILWAY

From "Pantograph" April.

The past few months has seen a huge amount of outdoor activity due to the almost uninterrupted fine weather that the region has enjoyed. The downside of this is that it has left the ground very dry and the whole region is now under a fire ban. This has precluded the use of our steam locomotive fleet for the duration but has given our two De Locos an opportunity for an airing. We are fortunate to be able to call upon a vast stable of motive power to suit almost any requirement. This is due to the dedication of members who have nursed these locomotives back to health. Unfortunately the same can not be said for our carriage fleet, but as will be seen we are endeavouring to level the numbers up with the overhaul of F139 which will give the added bonus of being able to carry disabled people, something we are unable to cater for at present. We were fortunate to receive a sizable contribution from The Lion Foundation towards materials required for this work.

Passenger numbers have been steady since the beginning of the year, with our Children's Day event this year being the most successful ever. A slightly different format this year with Barclay 1749 and L4246 running in place of RM30. This proved enormously popular and we could have easily filled two wagons every trip. Instead of running turn about with the regular train hauled by C847, we ran the Barclay twice for each one trip of the 847 train to cope with demand.

PLEASANT POINT CAR RESTORATION



Pleasant Point Museum and Railway is restoring the 1912 former NZR carriage, A1142, which is being restored to its former glory. Don Spencer is "the team Leader" in its restoration along with a small team of workers.

Pictures: Left-Timaru Herald. Right-Bryan Blanchard

WELLINGTON TRAMWAY MUSEUM TRAM 17



Recently local media have reported the restoration of Tram No 17 at the Wellington Tramway Museum. Used as a bach at Raumati from 1945 to 1986 it was given to the WMR where it is hoped it will be running again by 2014 for the "celebration" of 50 years since the last trams ran in Wellington public service.

Source: <http://www.stuff.co.nz/dominion-post/capital-life/8607968/Tram-No-17-bach-from-the-dead>

BUSH TRAMWAY CLUB PECKETT 1630

As reported in "Pukemiro Junction"

February 13 was a momentous day as the loco was passed by the boiler inspector and a certificate was issued. The loco still has a few problems to sort out but was in steam during April open day, running up and down the Junction yard.

A large part of the year will be spent sorting out the problems and training our crews, who haven't ever fired a steam loco before.

Richard Ellis recently spent a week at the Junction and painted all the lower parts of the loco.



CHRISTCHURCH TRAMS UPDATE



In anticipation of a return to the roads of Christchurch Ferrymead "Tram Tracts reports that Dunedin Boxcar no 11 Tram is undergoing restoration for the city tramway.

Tracts reports that work on track repairs should start late in May. The tramway operators along with some businesses and individuals have all made submissions to the city "Three Year Plan" for funding for an early resumption of the tramway and part of the extension.

Photos - Ken Henderson.



PICTURE OF THE MONTH



A recent night time charter trip on Plains Railway produced the opportunity for David Oakley to obtain these dramatic night time photos of Vulcan Railcar Rm50. The mostly clear sky is punctuated with the odd wavy cloud pattern showing the upper level wind flow over mid-Canterbury. We are visiting the Plains Railway on Friday 31 May en route to the FRONZ Conference in Oamaru..



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