



# JOURNAL

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## THE FRONZ TEAM

We have been remiss for not confirming some of the changes to our management that were made at the FRONZ AGM back in June.

Our Executive team now consists of:

President	Grant Graig
Secretary	John Peterson
Treasurer	Clark Simmonds
Executive Member	David Maciulaitis
Executive Member	Nigel Hogg
Executive Member	Scott Osmond
Executive Officer/ Chair: Network Heritage (Engineering) Committee	Trevor Burling
Executive Member (Co-Opted)	George King
Executive Member (Co-Opted)	Lindsay Challis

Our conveners are:

Awards Convenor	Reid McNaught
Boiler Convenor	Nigel Hogg
Chair Network Heritage (Operations) Committee	Grant Craig
Infrastructure & track Advisor	Paul Heighton
Insurance Convenor	Henry Brittain
Network Operations Communications & Data Recorders	Graeme Clover
Occupational Health Advisor	Currently Vacant
Rail Planz Database	Chris Mann
Rail Retention Advocate	Don Selby
Rolling Stock Register	David Maciulaitis
Steam Driven Vehicle Qualifications	Collin Jenner
Steam Engineering,	Lindsay Challis
Tramway Matters	Dave Hinman

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

## RAIL150

Labour weekend RAIL150 events at Christchurch and the Kiwirail Special Train all happen over Labour Weekend. All the best to everyone going. Sadly I cannot be there. Do send me your photos. Any other groups holding special RAIL150 events, let me know and I will publicise them here in Journal. *Scott Osmond*

## STEAM INCORPORATED SPECIAL TRAIN

### PAEKAKARIKI FAMILY EXPRESS – Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2013

To celebrate the 150th anniversary of the first passenger train to run in New Zealand on 1st December 1863, we will be running a series of short trips between Wellington and Paekakariki. Motive power will be shared between steam loco Ja1271 and heritage diesel Da1431.

Three round trips will operate departing Paekakariki at: 8.50am, 11.55am & 2.55pm. Wellington departures are at: 10.25am, 1.25pm & 4.25pm (one way).

Return fares Adult \$30, Child \$15. One Way Fares Adult \$20, Child \$10.

For more in this and other Steam Incorporated excursions see <http://www.steaminc.org.nz/>

## SILVER STREAM RAILWAY

2013 marks 150 years of Railways in New Zealand. Silver Stream Railway plans to mark this special occasion with our own event.

Help us celebrate 150 years of New Zealand Railways, with a weekend of railway heritage. Full details to be revealed over the next few months. Expect to see at least 4 steam locomotives, diesels, railcar and plenty of steam era rolling stock and infrastructure in action. Something for everyone, you won't be left disappointed.

Saturday 30th November will feature a Railfans day, exclusively dedicated to photographing and videoing our equipment in action. Bookings for this day will open shortly, places will be strictly limited to those who have booked.

## PLAINS RAILWAY

The Plains Railway is excited to announce our participation in this year's Rail 150 Celebration - celebrating 150 years of railway transportation in New Zealand!

### Saturday October 27th - 6pm Onwards

We will be running a handful of evening trips, with the first trip scheduled for 6:30pm, with another at 7:00pm with a possible third at 7:30pm depending on demand. The locomotives will then be parked up for twilight/night photos into the later evening. Locomotives are likely to be Oamaru Steam and Rail's B10 and our own A 64.

### Sunday October 27th - 11am -4pm

Locomotives B 10 and A 64 will be in action throughout the day, with some double headed trips taking place.

### Monday October 27th - 10:30am-4pm

Locomotives B 10 and K 88 will be in action throughout the day, with some double headed trips taking place.

We have organised a food caravan to be on site, so you can fight the hunger and keep watching the trains!

As a very special treat we have organised for a visiting locomotive B10, all the way from Oamaru.



# KIWI RAIL SPECIAL DISPLAY TRAIN

Many readers will have seen the Kiwirail special train as it moves around the country during October. It is well worth a visit. Also good to see a number of FRONZ members also taking the opportunity to display some locomotives and projects at many locations. The pictures on this and the previous page were taken by The Editor at the Auckland display.



**LETTER TO FRONZ FROM NZTA CEO GEOFF DANGERFIELD****Improving the Transport Agency's rail safety regulator function**

I am writing to outline a number of steps we are taking to improve our work as New Zealand's rail safety regulator.

The business model for our rail safety activities has been in place for around 20 years. While there have been various changes in approach over the years, it has been timely for us to undertake a more fundamental assessment of how we give effect to our regulatory role within the rail sector to improve overall safety outcomes. Over the last year there has been an increasing focus on workplace health and safety, with the Government now establishing a new workplace health and safety regulator and setting about reforming the health and safety legislation.

Earlier this year we commissioned Australasian Transport Risk Solutions (ATRS) to undertake an independent assessment of the current legislative framework for rail safety, the NZ Transport Agency's operational policies as rail regulator, and how our operational activities compared with other jurisdictions (in particular Australia). In response to findings of their report we are developing a programme to assist in developing and embedding an organisational approach to delivering on our role as rail safety leader and regulator.

To assist with this programme we are repositioning our internal leadership focus and lifting the resourcing of the rail safety team to ensure appropriate support for required changes.

Effective from Tuesday, 15 October, Russell Burnard will be the Acting Manager of the Rail Safety Team. He brings significant experience in regulatory roles across a range of public sector organisations and sectors, and is a strong change agent and leader.

John Freeman will move to another part of the Access and Use Group to support the development of our regulatory approach and the future business changes required to deliver on our role.

Celia Patrick will take an active leadership role for strategic and safety related activities for rail and will take on the role of "Director Rail Safety" - as a distinct part of her work as Group Manager Access and Use. This will ensure that the rail safety issues and our regulatory performance are more directly brought into the Transport Agency senior leadership team and into the dialogue with the Board.

As Chief Executive I will be working to ensure that the rail safety activities of the Transport Agency are effective and appropriately resourced, and well linked to the broader safety environment in the transport sector.

Over the coming months we will want to discuss with you and keep you informed as we further develop our role for securing safe operation of the rail transport network.

## ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM RURAL WOMEN BULLETIN AOTEAROA OCTOBER 2013

### Proposed Pokie Reform

It's proposed to change Class 4 gambling (non casino gaming machines) in four main areas:

- increasing the transparency of Class 4 grant-making decisions;
- increasing the minimum rate of return to the community;
- increasing the proportion of proceeds returned to the communities that generated them; and
- reducing compliance costs for Class 4 operators.

Submissions close on 25 October 2013. Submissions can be emailed (as a Word document or PDF) to [class4submissions@dia.govt.nz](mailto:class4submissions@dia.govt.nz). Or you can post your submission to: Department of Internal Affairs, PO Box 805, Wellington 6140, Attention: Community Well-being Policy Team. The consultation document is available at: [http://www.dia.govt.nz/pubforms.nsf/URL/Gambling\\_Public-consultation-on-four-Class-4-gamblingproposals\\_September-2013.pdf](http://www.dia.govt.nz/pubforms.nsf/URL/Gambling_Public-consultation-on-four-Class-4-gamblingproposals_September-2013.pdf)

### Changes to Charity Financial Reporting

Charities with annual expenditure of \$500,000 or more will be required to have their financial statements reviewed by a qualified accountant. Also, charities with annual expenditure over \$1 million will be required to have their financial statements audited.

Amendments to enable these changes will be included in the Accounting Infrastructure Reform Bill (which will amend the Charities Act). It's expected these changes will come into force for financial years starting on 1 April 2015.

More is at [www.med.govt.nz/business/business-law/financial-reporting-framework-review/audit-and-assurance-for-registered-charities](http://www.med.govt.nz/business/business-law/financial-reporting-framework-review/audit-and-assurance-for-registered-charities)

### International Volunteer Managers Day

International Volunteer Managers Day (IVM) is being held on 5 November 2013. Volunteering NZ (VNZ) will be hosting an online event on 5 November with other volunteer involving organisations leaders and managers.

Briefing and design material for IVM can be found at <http://www.volunteeringnz.org.nz/news-events/events/ivmday/> and includes posters for free download, a Facebook banner, logo designs and key messages. To become involved in IVM, email: [office@volunteeringnz.org.nz](mailto:office@volunteeringnz.org.nz)

### WWI Centenary Military Commemoration Dates

Dates have been set for key NZ domestic and overseas commemorative and ceremonial events which will be marked during the First World War centenary from 2014 to 2018.

The major national commemorations to be held in NZ (all at the National War Memorial in Wellington) are: *25 April 2015* (Anzac landings in Gallipoli); *15 September 2016* (War in France); *12 October 2017* (War in Belgium); *October/November 2017* (War in Sinai/Palestine); and *11 November 2018* (Armistice).

The NZ national commemorations to be held overseas are: *25 April 2015* (Anzac landings at Gallipoli - Turkey); *15 September 2016* (Battle of the Somme - France); *7 June 2017* (Battle of Messines - Belgium); *12 October 2017* (Battle of Passchendaele - Belgium); *31 October 2017* (Battle of Beersheba - Israel); and *4 November 2018* (Liberation of Le Quesnoy - France).

New Zealand will also be involved in a range of other commemorations including those marking the outbreak of war, the capture of German Samoa and the departure of the Anzac convoys from Albany in Western Australia. It is expected that NZ will be officially represented at other nations' centenary ceremonies and other centennial events.

One person in ten of NZ's then population of 1,000,000 served overseas during the First World War, of whom more than 18,000 died and over 40,000 were wounded.

More is at <http://www.beehive.govt.nz/release/first-world-war-centenary-military-commemoration-dates-announced>

### Papers Past Hits 3 Million Pages

Papers Past is the National Library's online collection of digitised NZ newspapers and periodicals, incorporating 83 separate titles dating from 1839 to 1945. The latest batch of newspapers to be digitised and bring up the three millionth page on Papers Past are: Timaru Herald (1901-1920), Mt Ida Chronicle (1869-1926), Oamaru Mail (1876-1920), and King Country Chronicle (1906-1920).

Papers Past can be visited at: <http://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz>

### Funding Round Opens for Tourism Growth Partnership

The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) is calling for tourism operators to submit investment proposals for the first funding round of the Tourism Growth Partnership (TGP). The TGP aims to boost innovation and lifting productivity to generate greater commercial and wider returns from international visitors. \$8 million will be available each year to co-fund projects that will create new opportunities and overcome barriers to growth in the tourism sector.

Applications for the first round close on 1 November 2013. More is at: <http://www.med.govt.nz/sectors-industries/tourism/tourism-growth-partnership>

## NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS

### RIMUTAKA INCLINE RAILWAY HERITAGE TRUST

History was made at Maymorn on Sunday 6th October 2013, when the RIRHT had it's first public operating day. There were locomotive cab rides, jigger rides, and food available.

The Trust has signed an agreement with The Taranaki Flyer Society for RIRHT to take over steam locomotive Ab 745, currently located at Stratford. The Taranaki Flyer Society is closing up and have offered the locomotive to us "free to a good home".

### RETURN OF CHRISTCHURCH CITY TRAMS FURTHER DELAYED

We still wait expectantly for the re-opening of the Christchurch Tramway. October "Tram Tracts" reports the latest updates:

The strong winds we had last month caused a lot of damage including power outages to many places. The workers that were scheduled start erecting the traction wire for the trams were redeployed to the more urgent task of reinstating the power supply to those who had lost it. That job now done, the traction wire should be completed soon.

On Thursday 3 October, at the final Council meeting of the current term, the Council unanimously passed recommendations in regard to the re-opening of the tram.

### CANTERBURY RAILWAY SOCIETY

"Branchlines" reports plenty of work taking place before the big RAIL150 celebrations:

The commissioning into service of electric unit has now been and gone. A successful event including the training held just prior to this. Well done to all involved and to those who completed unit driver and guard training. The unit will be a helpful addition to the operating fleet; able to move large amounts of passengers between Ferrymead and Moorhouse with little effort.

Privately owned Dg 783 has moved to a new site in Oamaru.

The track gang has extended the diesel depot siding. This has since been relaid and will be used for storage during Labour weekend and in the summer the DTG will place DI 1102 on blocks there to allow for overhaul of the bogies.



*Dm27/D163 back "home" at Ferrymead.*

*Photo: Joe Pickering.*

### GISBORNE CITY VINTAGE RAIL

Well what a great day we have had today (Friday 19 October), our Opening day for the Season. Wa165 and her four carriage consist performed well. We did two return trips from Gisborne to Muriwai with School Children in the morning and members of the PGG Wrightson Angus Beef Forum this afternoon - appreciative people from all around the World. We are indebted to Russell Glendinning (Kingston Flyer) who is now our Track Inspector and shared driving with our Bob Abel (ex NZR).

GCVR have a number of running days over Labour Weekend and in December, January.

## BUSY TRAMS AT MOTAT

A tram ride while visiting MOTAT is becoming a "must-do" for patrons. This has been reflected in the July statistics where 18,697 passengers were carried, 71 per-cent of the visitors to MOTAT that month.

This was 15 percent up on the figure of the previous year, and is reflected in the overall statistics where passengers numbers were up 11 percent on the previous year.

The commemoration of two major anniversaries is planned for next year at MOTAT. The first is the 50th anniversary of the museum, and the second is the centenary of the start of World War 1 (known at that time as the Great War).

The latest aid for track maintenance has recently emerged from the workshops. It is a self contained water blasting unit that will be used mainly to water blast around points.

The interior has been getting most of the recent attention as work continues on the restoration of Melbourne SW6 tram 906. Most of the long-run ceiling timbers that were removed for de-moulding and cleaning, are now going through a varnish programme.

Work is proceeding on the restoration of trailer 21 on two fronts, the woodwork, and the metal fittings.

The bulk of the woodwork is carried out by the Tuesday evening volunteers, and the metal work by the Sunday volunteers.

## MEMBERS CLASSIFIEDS

### GLENBROOK VINTAGE RAILWAY LOCOMOTIVE STRIFE

This morning (18/10) Ja 1250 Diana suffered a catastrophic boiler failure when the dry pipe collapsed in service. Ww 480 is out of service, initially for a similar failure, but subsequently the boiler has been condemned. Ww 644 has serious crown sheet problems and is also out of service. The GVR operating season starts next week with no operational steam locomotives.

The GVR is seeking a medium sized steam locomotive to lease for the next year. Any assistance would be gratefully received.

David Black  
General Manager  
Glenbrook Vintage Railway  
021 482 345

### PLAINS RAILWAY DSA 218 FUNDING

The Plains has recently come to an agreement with Alliance's Pukeuri Works (near Oamaru) to purchase their former NZR DSA diesel shunter, DSA 218.

We need to move it sometime in November as the works need the site where it is currently parked, as such we've set up a 'Give A Little' page to accept donations,

<http://www.givealittle.co.nz/org/ThePlains/project/DSAPurchase/>

Give a Little accepts donations of \$1 or more, so if you have a spare dollar or two we'd really appreciate your help!



### UNION PACIFIC BIG BOY: THE REBIRTH OF A LEGEND

Trains magazine reports, the world's largest steam locomotive returns to the rails.

Through the 1940s and 1950s, Union Pacific's 25 4-8-8-4 Big Boys symbolized powerful, big-time railroading in the wide-open American West. Now, Union Pacific is bringing one of these legendary locomotives, No. 4014, back to steam.

No. 4014 has been on display at the Los Angeles County Fairgrounds for 51 years, but it will leave soon to begin a multi-year restoration that will return it to steam.

## THE VATICAN RAILWAY

From our International Reporter - Tim Fishcher

### Tiny Vatican railway has record 2011 year

After years of little activity, in one sense, 2011 has been a record year for the Vatican railway. In May 2011 there was the Caritas Express and Thursday 27 October saw the Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI, make his first train trip out of the Vatican as Pope, to Assisi with Religious Leaders, to pray for peace. It was a successful 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemoration of the initiative of Pope John Paul II.

Australian Ambassador to the Holy See, Tim Fischer, observed that with the Papal train this week, total passenger train movements through the Vatican wall and across the international boundary between the Vatican and Italy, for 2011, are an all time record.

"I praise the efficiency of elements of the Governatorato of Vatican City and elements of Trenitalia, who on all occasions that train movements were taking place this year, did so with great efficiency, safety and punctuality that compares very favourably with intricate rail operations in Australia, France or Germany," Mr Fischer said.

"In May 2011 there was the successful Caritas Express running from the Pope's platform to Orvieto and raising funds for earthquake victims. It engendered some six movements through the wall as a steam locomotive was brought in, hooked onto heritage carriages and did some extra photo runs."

"Then a week ago there was a trial run of a regular Silver Arrow (Frecciargento) Trenitalia High Speed rail set in and out, then yesterday the actual Pope's train operated punctually. The last rail movement was an old reliable Trenitalia diesel electric locomotive (No 445 1069) repositioning three storage wagons after the Pope and guests had alighted and his train had returned to the Italian network, in total through October some six further movements were generated.

"All in all there have been a dozen (12) or more train movements for the smallest shortest railway in the world in 2011, with its 300 metres of track and I would further observe the operations were all done very efficiently and safely. Full marks to all involved and the bonus, a lower carbon footprint.

Mr Fischer said that when presenting credentials in 2009 he noticed the rusting rail tracks in the Vatican but was assured they were in working order. Happily this has been proven, as the Pope's train came back from Assisi to the Vatican in just 88 minutes, creating a new record!

Rome 28 October 2011



*In Tim Fischer's latest book there is a fascinating Chapter on the Pope's railways after Tim as then Ambassador from Australia to the Holy See helped create the Caritas Express and saw use of the Pope's railways for the first time in years. Here the Caritas Express is about to depart and cross the international boundary from the Holy See and Vatican City into Italy. "Holy See, Unholy me : 1000 Days in Rome" is an ABC Book and can be obtained via [www.booktopia](http://www.booktopia) and follow the links with some book net proceeds for charity.*

## THE MAWHERAITI RAILWAY HOUSE

Article and pictures from Bruce Shalders

On Saturday September 28 The Reefton Historic Trust Board celebrated the completion of the refurbishment of a 1940s railway house with a grand opening ceremony.

The house itself was relocated from the old Mawheraiti station site some years ago and has been restored as part of the Reefton railway precinct which also includes the original station, engine shed and a weighbridge. There are also plans to erect a wooden water vat that is held on site and to relocate the turntable so that it can again be used.

The exterior of the house has not been altered while the interior has been modified in a creative way to make it more useful for its intended use as holiday rental accommodation although it may be leased initially to recover some of the outlay.



*Above: The house viewed from the station platform.*





*Interior*



*Above: Train 844, 28 September 2013.*

### **SEPTEMBER PICTURE OF THE MONTH CREDIT**

Soon after publishing Journal 125 with the un-credited picture (left) of the Bush Tramway Club Peckett 1630 on the back page, I received an e-mail from the photographer's mother which is copied below:

*My son, Elliot Baptist, was absolutely delighted to see his photo (the Pukemiro Bush Tramway Peckett 1630) at the bottom of your September newsletter. I'm not sure if you're able to add the photo credit but if you can it'd be fantastic. Not a worry if you can't he's just 'stoked' to see his photo.*

*Kind regards,*

*Miranda Baptist*

Well done Elliot. A lovely photo.



PICTURE OF THE MONTH



On Saturday 13 September 1969, Cran Julian organised a lineup of locomotives at Linwood Locomotive Depot and with help from a friendly LE, Wilson Lythgoe obtained this magnificent shot of (from left) We375, C864, Ab754, J1234, Kb968, Wf403 and some assorted early mainline diesels. Only 1234 was actually in steam. The others have had oily rags lit and then thrown down their funnels to create the illusion.

Photo supplied by Bryan Blanchard

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