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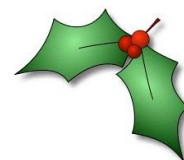
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SEASONS GREETINGS

A somewhat thinner than usual Journal this month as I wanted to get it out before the season's silliness really begins.

Many of you will of course be spending time at your rail hobbies during the next few weeks and hopefully squeezing some time into your schedule for a family festive season as well. Remember family first!



From the FRONZ Executive team best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.



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

ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM RURAL WOMEN BULLETIN AOTEAROA JULY 2013

Building Amendment Act 2013

This Act introduces measures to protect consumers and encourage the building and construction sector to “build right first time”. There is also changes to the types of work that don't require a building consent, higher penalties for building work without the appropriate consents, and additional powers for councils to restrict entry to buildings that may be located near dangerous buildings. Further changes will come into force in 2014. These include requirements for builders to provide clients with information about their credentials and to enter into a written contract for work over a specified amount. The new Act will also change the way dams are defined and measured to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the dam safety scheme.

More is at <http://www.beehive.govt.nz/release/law-changed-improve-building-process>

WoF Frequency Changes from January 2014

From 1 January 2014, light vehicles first registered anywhere between 2004 and 2008 will be required to have an annual, rather than the current six-monthly warrant of fitness inspection. From 1 July 2014, annual inspections will be extended to include all light vehicles first registered anywhere on or after 1 January 2000. Also from this date new vehicles will receive an initial inspection, another one when they're three years old, then annual inspections for their lifetime. Vehicles first registered anywhere before 1 January 2000 will remain on six-monthly inspections for their lifetime. Motorists won't have to do anything different in relation to getting their Warrant of Fitness. When they take their vehicle in for inspection at its next due date, the inspection agent will assign the appropriate date for its subsequent inspection. The changes also include extending the variable frequency range of certificate of fitness inspections. From 1 July 2014, well-maintained heavy vehicles will be eligible to have a certificate of fitness applied from a range of 3 to 12 months, increased from the current 3 to 9 months. The default frequency will remain at 6 months.

More is at www.nzta.govt.nz/wof

Kiwi Philanthropy Survived the Global Financial Crisis (GFC)

More than three quarters of respondents in the first national survey of grantmakers say they have either not changed the amount of money they award, or they have slightly increased it. The survey, “Grantmaking in New Zealand: Giving That Works”, was completed by 40 NZ grantmaking organisations completed the survey; and in-depth interviews with 12 of them were carried out. One issue the survey has highlighted is that the philanthropy sector in this country is dominated by a few very large grantmakers. The 40 organisations that took part in the survey have philanthropic assets of \$5 billion; however, 75% of those assets are owned by just six organisations. The researchers say this raises the question of how people who are involved in philanthropy can support the smaller philanthropic organisations. What are their needs, and how can it be ensured they have a voice nationally?

More is at <http://www.scoop.co.nz/stories/BU1311/S00969/nz-philanthropy-has-survived-the-global-financial-crisis.htm>

Getting Facebook Likes Translated into Support

There's no doubt it's a good thing having loads of “likes” on your charity or association Facebook page and having a good profile. But this has to be translated into donations or membership – in other words, getting a return on your online investment. Your opportunity is to supplement your online strategy with traditional communications tools which is, in the authors' opinion, vital to maximizing your success. Many non-profits face the challenge of ensuring the efforts they put into developing an online presence translate into return on investment. Some really practical ways of getting action beyond just a Facebook “like” can be as simple as:

- be clear about what you want your audience to do – have a clear proposition about “what's in it for them” and tell what it is you want them to do next;

- ensure that other methods of promotion are in line with your Facebook strategy and that there are other methods of communication i.e., newsletters, donation devices etc.;

- measure how successful Facebook is with achieving your objectives - especially if it ties in with a campaign; and provide regular updates about a campaign or specific drive by regularly posting about results on Facebook as they come to hand – this will re-engage and inform at the same time.

More – including a link to further tips – at http://www.associations.org.nz/_blog/NZARC_Blog/post/facebook-likes-translating-into-support/

Tourism Sector Report

The Tourism Sector Report is the fifth in a series of seven that make up the NZ Sector Reports Series. The report shows tourism generates \$9.8 billion year in exports to the NZ economy, with more than 2.6 million international visitors last year. Though visitor numbers are increasing, there have been significant changes to NZ's international visitor markets. There has been steady growth in visitor arrivals from Australia and China. Australian visitors have almost doubled in the 10 years to 2013 to 1.2 million, while visitors from China grew by 31% from 2012-2013 to reach 210,000. This year has also seen a recovery in US visitor numbers. The report highlights the fundamental shift in the type of visitor coming to NZ, both in terms of the country they are coming from and the purpose of their visit. Visitors are no longer content with observing; they find more value in experiencing Kiwi culture and interacting with it. The key challenge facing NZ tourism firms is how to generate higher returns. Industry feedback suggests that this will (in part) involve developing products that are more relevant and attractive for a range of markets, segmented by country and culture, by demographic, by purpose of visit and by visitor expectations of experience.

More is at <http://www.mbie.govt.nz/what-we-do/business-growth-agenda/sectors-reports-series/tourism-report>

Windows XP Users: Time's Running Out

Microsoft New Zealand would like customers using Windows XP "to get a move on" upgrading their operating systems. That's support for the 12-year old operating system ends next April. From then customers will no longer get upgrades or security fixes. Normal technical support will also cease on that day, although there are expensive alternative options. Microsoft says companies and users who don't upgrade will place their systems at risk. One reason is because online crooks will view people and companies running XP as an easy target.

More is at <http://www.scoop.co.nz/stories/HL1311/S00042/microsoft-warns-windows-xp-holdouts-on-security-risks.htm>

Kiwis Leave Home Before They See the Country

Results of a Facebook survey of 6,000 NZers show that Kiwis are far more likely to have visited Australia or the USA than our own iconic National Parks. Survey results reveal that although almost two thirds (62%) of NZers have visited Australia and one third (33%) have been to the US, only one quarter (25%) have been to Fiordland National Park, and 31% have been to Abel Tasman National Park. The Facebook survey also revealed that Kiwis may fly routinely to Australia, the US or elsewhere but few North Islanders have visited the South Island's national parks and fewer still South Islanders head north to Tongariro National Park and beyond.

More is at <http://www.scoop.co.nz/stories/CU1311/S00560/new-zealanders-leave-home-before-they-see-the-country.htm>

2014 National Not-For-Profit Conference

This conference is being held 13/14 February 2014, in Auckland. This year's conference is about "Getting your Ducks in a Row", or ensuring that NFPs get the basics right. It will focus on Leadership, Governance, Human Resources, Strategy and Building Revenue Streams.

More is at <http://grow.co.nz/national-not-for-profit-sector-conference-2014/>

BRITISH RAIL INCIDENT REPORT

Locomotive failure near Winchfield, Hampshire.

The British Rail Accident Investigation Branch is investigating the failure of a steam locomotive hauling a passenger train, which occurred between Fleet and Winchfield stations on Saturday 23 November 2013.

Train 1Z94, the 17:48 hrs charter service from London Waterloo to Weymouth, was approaching Winchfield, where it was due to stop for the locomotive to take on water. While the train was travelling at about 40 mph, the right-hand connecting rod of the locomotive, former British Railways (Southern Region) 4-6-2 34067 "Tangmere", became detached at the leading end (referred to as the small end), and dropped down. The end of the detached rod struck the conductor rail, and there was some electrical flashing. This was noticed by the locomotive crew, and the driver stopped the train immediately, about one mile outside Winchfield station. After running along the conductor rail for some distance, the connecting rod dropped onto the sleeper ends just before the locomotive came to rest.

The locomotive's support crew dismantled the connecting rod, and the train was then assisted by the diesel locomotive that was attached to its rear as far as Basingstoke, where the passengers transferred to another train to continue their journey.

The RAIB's preliminary examination found that the small end assembly, in which the connecting rod is secured in the crosshead by a gudgeon pin and associated nut and cotter, had come apart. The gudgeon pin was found intact, lodged on the locomotive, but the nut and cotter have not yet been recovered.

Full story at http://www.raib.gov.uk/publications/current_investigations_register/131123_winchfield.cfm_investigations_register/131123_winchfield.cfm

The 4-6-2 34067 "Tangmere", locomotive



NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS

RETURN OF CHRISTCHURCH CITY TRAMS



Yes it has finally happened. The most exciting news and a real step in the Christchurch rebuild has seen the return of the trams to the city, albeit on a limited route in the short term. A colleague visited in the first week and a few of his photos of a very different city are shown here. Photos by Brian Seager.





To round off the tram trio
Bryan Blanchard has sent this
image, below, of 178 changing
direction at the museum.



FERRYMEAD TRAMS CELEBRATE 40 YEARS

Tram Tracts reports: Thursday 23 January 2014 will be 40 years since tram 22 entered service at Ferrymead. Come and join us for rides around the track and listen to members reminiscing about those past 40 years. *One of Phyllis's famous suppers will be provided.* Cost for the night \$2 Start 7.30pm.



GLENBROOK VINTAGE RAILWAY SUCESSFUL THOMAS WEEKEND

Glenbrook Vintage Railway had a very successful Thomas The Tank Engine weekend in November. With only one steam locomotive in service, backed up by Da1429 they hosted 8000 visitors over the two days. Even the sausage sizzle created records and over 3000 were sold in the weekend.

Contributing to the success of the weekend, both Kiwirail and Transdev jointly arranged to run a suburban unit to Glenbrook from Papakura as a shuttle service.



NZ RAILWAY & LOCOMOTIVE SOCIETY/STEAM INC.

The NZR&LS reports in the November newsletter "Turntable", that their AGM was held at Ferrymead during Rail150 at Labour Weekend and next year will be the 70th anniversary of the founding of the society. The 2014 AGM will be held in Wellington and will have special celebrations planned.

The NZR&LS locomotive AB608 "Passchendaele" is nearing the completion of restoration by Steam Incorporated at Paekakariki. Internal pipe fitting is left to be completed and the locomotive and tender are now joined so it is looking like a real locomotive again. Completion is expected before this 1915 locomotive reaches its 100th birthday.



HELENSVILLE RAILWAY STATION NEW MUSEUM OPENS

Featuring a working HO scale model railway based on Helensville in the 1950s, the new Helensville Railway Station Museum was opened by Chairperson of the Rodney Local Board of the Auckland Council, Brenda Steele, on 30 November 2013. The model, including track, buildings and rolling stock, was built by the late Ross Hughes over a period of 35 years in his home in Auckland and moved to its new home earlier this year. Situated in a new building adjacent to the Helensville Railway Station the museum also houses two working tablet machines that follow train movements between Helensville and Kaukapakapa and other rail related exhibits including a "refreshment room" and "waiting room", as well as the Stationmasters Office. The museum is open Thursday to Sunday from 10am to 3pm and worth a detour on State Highway 16 north of Auckland. Further information at www.helensvillerrail.org.nz.



Opening crowd and display. Photos Scott Osmond



PICTURE OF THE MONTH



For our Christmas picture we have a picture taken by Ian Wiley at the Glenbrook Vintage Railway Thomas Weekend in November. Featuring “Thomas” the 1932 Mainline Steam Bagnall locomotive and the Auckland Transport ADL that ran a shuttle service from Papakura to Glenbrook over the weekend. See story page 6.

FRONZ CONFERENCE WANGANUI
30 MAY—2 JUNE 2014

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