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NEW FRONZ MEMBER - CLIMAX 1650 STEAM TRUST BOARD

We welcome a new FRONZ member this month, the Climax 1650 Steam Trust

Latest update on their Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Climax1650SteamTrust>

An update on progress from Pitcorn Engineering's workshop in Te Kuiti: Work is well under way on the final components of the bogie overhaul, including boring and facing the wheels in preparation for new axles, machining new drive shafts, and universal bushes.

All good progress. John is running out of components to overhaul, so reassembly of both bogies will commence once the axles are machined.

The plan is to return the overhauled rolling chassis to the Bush Tramway Club's Pukemiro Junction by the end of 2015. There it will re-join it's boiler, well on it's way to being overhauled.

Picture: One of Climax 1650's wheels in the lathe being bored for new axles, and faced to run true against the brasses.



CORRECTION

We have been advised of a change in the list of Convenors in the last Journal for Dave Hinman, Tramway Convenor. His correct e-mail address is dhinman@ccc.govt.nz

OCTOBER JOURNAL

Your editor will be away in Hawaii for most of October taking a well earned train-free break. Journal 149 will appear late November.

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

GISBORNE LINE WORK CAN NOW START

"Gisborne Herald" – Sat 19th Sept 2015 by Sophie Rishworth

Official papers to lease the railway line from KiwiRail are now signed by Gisborne City Vintage Railway and work can start on repairing the track for the first tourism trip for the city's steam train Wa165 next month.

This has been a huge breakthrough for the group, which has fought to keep at least part of the line open after the entire Gisborne to Napier railway track was mothballed after storm damage in 2012.

The historic locomotive will come out of its extended hibernation on November 18 to take tourists from the cruise ship "Golden Princess". Cruise New Zealand cited the steam train as the primary reason for including Gisborne in its itinerary.

"Forecasts indicate the cruise ships will have a \$5 million economic benefit to the region for the 2015-16 season alone," said Eastland Community Trust general manager Leighton Evans. "The economic benefits spoke for themselves, and the vintage rail's track record was an important aspect of ECT granting the group \$142,000". Mr Evans said when the donation was made back in June. "With 40 cruise ship visits booked well into 2019, it's vital we ensure the viability of the line and by extension, those opportunities for our wider business community."

Tourism Eastland chief executive Stuart Perry is delighted work on the line can commence and the service will be up and running for arrival of the "Golden Princess".

"This is not only good for cruise visits but a valuable asset for domestic and international visitors out east. It is an attraction that will bring enthusiasts and people interested in history, so has a wide appeal across the visitor sector. I'm looking forward to my first ride on the train."

Gisborne City Vintage Rail president Geoff Joyce signed the license agreement this week to occupy the track between Gisborne and Muriwai. The papers are on route to Wellington for KiwiRail representatives to sign.

KiwiRail has said that GCVR must maintain the track if it wants to operate trains on this section of the line. This will mean ongoing cost of out-of-town contractors to do maintenance as needed.

"The fundraising for us has shifted from rebuild to the purchase of essential equipment required for upkeep. Fortunately donations continue to roll in – with \$227,000 raised so far to bring the track and bridges between Gisborne and Muriwai back up to standard for trains to operate. Every cent counts and Gisborne people had been amazing", said vintage rail fundraising officer Dale Smith.

* Meanwhile, KiwiRail's request for proposals for the rest of the Napier-Gisborne line closed this week as well. KiwiRail expects respondents to be notified of the outcome on October 8. The process opened early last month for tenders from tourism or freight rail operators interested in running services on the Napier-Gisborne rail line.

KiwiRail group general manager of asset management, engineering and innovation David Gordon said the tender was an opportunity for the company to work with interested parties for investigate alternative uses on the line.

NOT SUCH GOOD NEWS FOR THE KINGSTON FLYER

From "Stuff"

The Kingston Flyer maybe taken off a heritage list to save it from "demolition by neglect".

The Queenstown Lakes District Council have removed the two steam locomotives and seven wooden carriages from the Heritage Register in the 2015 District Plan.

Council district plan manager Matthew Paetz said the council sought legal advice and were told it was inappropriate to have a historic protection on items that could be moved and relocated.

"We understand the attachment the community has to the train.

"We came to the conclusion it wasn't appropriate to give protection to a vehicle that could go in and out of the district." It could also make sure the flyer had further chances of being restored and less of "demolition by neglect", Paetz said. The flyer's Renwick owner David Bryce, bought the steam train in 2011.

Bryce said the flyer was sitting idle and he had no plans for the future of it at this stage. "It doesn't really worry me (having them removed from the heritage register)."

He said he "hasn't really been consulted" about the council's plan to take it off the register and the only news he received about the future plans of the train had been what he read in the media.

Earlier this month, Invercargill businessman Bryan Campbell confirmed plans he was working towards setting up a board of trustees for the Southern Steam Train Trust to have the flyer relocated to Southland. Campbell's vision was to secure and restore the train to run on a twice-daily trip between Invercargill and Bluff.

NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS

These items are obtained from numerous e-newsletters that our member groups publish. Members are welcome to submit these or any other information they would like to share with the wider rail and tramway heritage community by e-mailing to scottosmond@xtra.co.nz

MAINLINE STEAM

Good to see Mainline Steam back out after a time due to the withdrawal of the Kiwirail charter carriage fleet.

Marklin Express Sunday 25th October 2015

Steam hauled excursion from Plimmerton to the Pahiatua Railcar Society on the out skirts of Pahiatua.

Enjoy spectacular views of the Kapiti Coast as we travel up into the Manawatu region and through the impressive Manawatu Gorge. If time allows we will make a few photo stops.

The Pahiatua Railcar Society will have their depot open and provide Railcar rides. An optional BBQ lunch is also available.

FEILDING AND DISTRICTS STEAM RAIL SOCIETY

Feilding Steam Rail have a busy few months of planned excursions to end the year.

On 26 July WAB794 went to Taihape.

On 13 September a diesel hauled excursion went from Feilding to National Park. Patrons were then taken by coach to The Chateau for Lunch.

18 October sees a steam trip to Woodville and return.

1 November a diesel trip to Hawera with side trip to the Tawhiti Museum.

14,15 November open weekend at Feilding depot.

21 November. Dinner train excursion to Dannevirke.

The group is also holding a competition to design a new logo. Hopefully it will be more successful (and cheaper!!) than the NZ flag debate.

Their latest newsletter also features a report from their "Young Steamers" a group of young workers who are well utilised and obviously enjoy their varied tasks. Their report is reprinted below.

Hi all.

2015 is going very well and us young steamers are kept busier than ever. Atze and I have been busy cleaning out the smokebox on the Wab and the F. Of course, we come out black head to toe! We are also busy with Car stewarding on trips. We also have a 3rd young steamer and possibly a 4th. Dereck has helped with cleaning the rods on the Wab and has also help with a few light ups. Brittany has been helping from time to time with light ups and has helped me when I cleaned out the smokebox on the Wab. We hope the rest of 2015 will be a piece of cake. Happy steaming everyone!!

Joel Mclean

PLAINS RAILWAY

DSA 218 turned its wheels for the first time under its own power since arriving at The Plains Railway in April last year on Saturday 29 August 2015.

There were smiling faces all round as the engine roared into life!

The restoration now moves onto fixing up a few other minor issues discovered today, and to the bodywork of the locomotive.

Picture: MBH Photography



ORMONDVILLE RAIL PRESERVATION GROUP INC.

Yippeeeeeee! The new wood-burner fire has finally been installed at the station. It has been a bit strange being there this year with an electric heater - the chimney having been declared a bit too suspect due to its age (but nothing an insert couldn't fix).



BAY OF ISLANDS VINTAGE RAILWAY

Work has commenced on the "Long Bridge". This will be a major step in the progress of opening the railway between Kawakawa and Opuia.

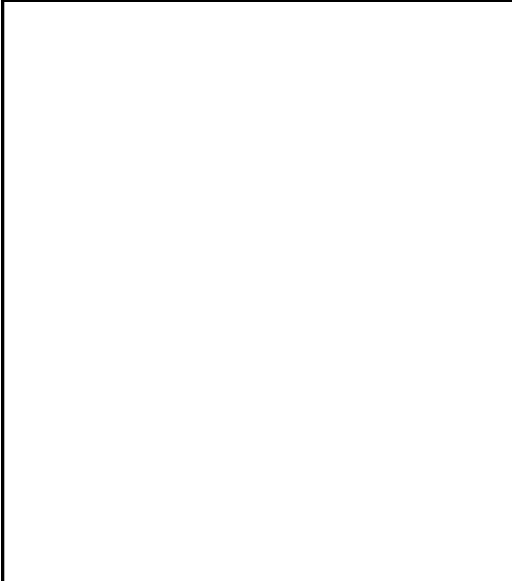


DUNEDIN RAILWAYS



Loco Dj 1227 & the Dunedin Silver Fern railcar at the Greymouth railway station on the recent excursion to the West Coast.

These three images of the Dunedin Railways Silver Fern from D.L.A. Turner on Friday 11 September 2015 were taken on the Cass Bank, Lake Sarah on the right of the top image, with the Southern Alps behind.



AWAKERI RAIL ADVENTURES—OPEN FOR BUSINESS

With an official opening on 30 October, and public running from 1 November, Awakeri Rail Adventures are all ready to get up and running on a 9km stretch of the old Taneatua Branch.

For more information visit the web site at awakeri-rail-adventures



FACEBOOK FRIENDS

While we all love running trains mostly during the summer our members do not take a break over winter because that is when the real work gets done. Those that were running made a big show of Fathers Day attractions. Here are some examples and other news from our members Facebook pages.

Silver Stream Railway

Right: Putting the final (apart from asphalt) touches on the end of McKirdy platform ready for our Fathers Day Special.

Below: C847 and PWD531 being lit up this morning in preparation for our Fathers Day Special this morning. Gates open at 11am and with the two steam locomotives running two separate trains throughout the day. Dads get half priced entry when accompanied by an over 5 year old. The last train departs at around 3:45pm.



Our 6th Annual Fathers Day Special this year saw C847 and PWD531 doing the honours. C847 was recently returned to service after being out of action since October 2014 and is in its last year prior to requiring a full boiler overhaul. After the recent work it is steaming much better than it has for many years and crews are once again enjoying themselves again. Over 400 people came to ride behind both locos, the long queue for rides behind 531 proved again how popular this small loco and its regular companion L4246 can be.

Canterbury Railway Society



First train of the day. We're open for rides. Come on down and see where you could lend a hand as a member.

The Plains Railway

The fire is lit and so far the weather is holding out! Come down and see us from 11am. Remember all Dads ride free with a fare paying child for Fathers Day!





Pleasant Point Museum & Railway

The team's been making the most of the quiet season, replacing more sleepers along the line. It's hard work, but someone's got to do it!



Diesel Traction Group

Di 1102. Out in the sun today, bodywork progress evident. 22 Aug 2015.

Glenbrook Vintage Railway

During our yearly 'Shut Down' season our workshop volunteers carry out any maintenance to our engines if they so require it.

Ja 1250 is currently undergoing some boiler checks and is having a general look over.



Helensville Railway Museum

HAPPY FATHERS DAY !

To all the dads out there , may it be a day of family gatherings and a time to reflect to thank you for all that you have done .

Come on up today to spend time with your dad on this special fathers day . Enjoy looking around the displays at the Helensville Railway museum then take him over to the Ginger Crunch Station Café for a hot drink and a bite to eat .



MEMBERS CLASSIFIEDS

OAMARU STEAM & RAIL - TURNOUTS

Oamaru Steam & Rail have for sale or a trade, We have two sets of 56lb turn outs they are in good order for their age but they are not on sleepers. We have up graded all of our turn outs to 70lb and we have no need for them.

Also we have about 1000, one inch whitworth nuts, new and still in there drums, for sale or a trade.

If any one is interested please in all of this please contact GM at Oamaru Steam & Rail Harry Andrew clean_cut@xtra.co.nz or phone 0272774678

PRIVATE PROJECT

I am looking for a V Twin engine as fitted to some of the early motorised jiggers. Condition, all considered. Contact Rhys Nolan. E-Mail: cyclekartsnz@gmail.com or phone 0274 732 696.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

BRITAIN'S NEWEST RAILWAY

UK: The first public passenger trains for 46 years ran between Edinburgh and Tweedbank on September 6, when revenue services began over the 48 route-km Borders Railway.

The launch of revenue service comes amid a week of celebrations marking the reopening of approximately a third of the former Edinburgh – Carlisle 'Waverley Route' which was closed in January 1969. On September 9, a royal opening by Queen Elizabeth II at Tweedbank station is expected to attract more than 3 000 visitors.

Claimed to be the longest domestic railway construction project in Britain for 100 years, delivery of the Borders Railway has been undertaken by Network Rail on behalf of the Scottish Government at a cost of £294m; lead contractor was BAM Group. Civil works began in April 2013 and the first track was laid in the Bowshank Tunnel near Galashiels in August 2014.

The railway largely follows the formation of the former Waverley Route, requiring the refurbishment of 95 bridges and two tunnels plus the construction of 42 new bridges. Seven new stations have been built. Operator ScotRail is offering a 30 min interval service, with an end-to-end journey time of 55 min. Some steam-hauled tourist trains will be running on a trial basis until the end of October.



'The Borders Railway is now open for business.

Many people have waited a very long time to hear those words and I am proud and excited to be able to say them', said Scottish Infrastructure Minister Keith Brown. 'The Borders Railway will be a real catalyst for growth in the Scottish Borders and Midlothian. It will open up new opportunities for work, leisure, study and investment and business for these areas which will, in turn, benefit the wider Scottish economy.'

Brown put the government's total investment in the railway project at £353m. This includes a range of ancillary initiatives to deliver wider economic and social benefits to the Borders region, including a £10m Borders Railway Blueprint which is intended to inform businesses about investment opportunities along the line, stimulate residential development, and fund bus and cycle links at stations to support tourism.

From Railway Gazette

PICTURE OF THE MONTH



To help celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Bush Tramway Clubs formation the Museum of Transport and Technology made available L 207 (PWD 507) for a few months of operation on the clubs line at Pukemiro.

The image, with nice steam and fog effects, shows PWD 507 built in Bristol in 1877 leading the clubs Peckett 1630 also built in Bristol but in 1923.

Photo: David Maciulaitis



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