



JOURNAL

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IN THIS ISSUE

FRONZ Conference 2016	1	FRONZ Annual Awards Report	9-12
Hon Tim Fischer	1	Classifieds	13-14
Conference Report	2-8	Picture of the Month	15

FRONZ CONFERENCE 2016 – AUCKLAND JUNE 3-6

Most of this edition of Journal (published early this month) will contain a full wrap of the FRONZ Conference held at Auckland from 3-6 June. As one of the organiser's I hope all delegates, partners and visitors had a worthwhile experience. We managed to get through plenty of discussion in many of the current issues facing the rail heritage movement and enjoyed additional presentations from our visitors from Australia, Japan and Taiwan. We also had very successful visits to the Glenbrook Vintage Railway. Museum of Transport & Technology, and a cruise from Auckland to Coromandel where we visited the wonderful Driving Creek Railway and potteries, the amazing legacy of the late Barry Brickell. Thanks to D.L.A. Turner and David Maciulaitis for most of the photos in the following articles.

HON TIM FISCHER, AC.

Our special guest this year was Australian, Tim Fischer. Tim has had an extensive career in farming and politics but is well known as a railfan and supporter of rail transport in all its forms on the international scene.

Following Conference the following message was received from Tim.

Greetings from Australia,

My salute to you all at FRONZ 2016 on a great Conference and visit to MO-TAT and all. I learnt much from the formal and informal meetings that took place and I thank the team for all the arrangements which were very well thought out.

Rail Heritage goes to the core fabric of most nations and helps underline history but also boost tourism and therefore regional jobs. In addition remember a steel wheel on a steel rail has one seventh of the friction of a rubber tyre wheel on a bitumen surface!

I am planning to return in Feb 2017 on the Celebrity Solstice with TravelRite if all goes well, President Grant if the Captain of the ship seeks to bypass Dunedin then I may conduct a mutiny!! We are due Thu 23 Feb at Dunedin I gather but please note this is not yet finalised.

Yes I also enjoyed the Kiwi Rail premier product, namely the Northern Explorer (see photo on page 2), after a day full of sunshine and volcano vistas. It arrived five minutes early at the Strand within sight of Auckland but clearly a long way from Britomart.

Again best wishes, you have a diversity of rail heritage that is outstanding.

*Sincerely,
Tim Fischer*

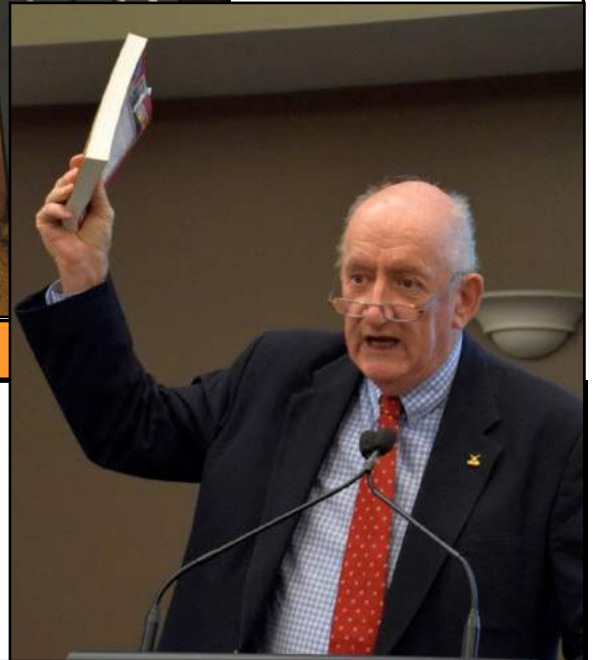


**JOURNAL IS FOR ALL OF YOUR MEMBERS. PLEASE
FORWARD IT TO ALL ON YOUR E-MAIL LISTS**



Left: Tim travelled from Wellington to Auckland on the Northern Explorer train prior to conference. Nice to see Kiwirail turned out one of their branded locomotives in pristine clean condition for his cab ride part of the way.

Below: At the Conference Awards Dinner Tim auctioned off his latest book "Trains Unlimited" with the proceeds going to FRONZ.



GLENBROOK VINTAGE RAILWAY CONFERENCE VISIT

On Friday before conference a large group visited the home of our host group for the conference, Glenbrook Vintage Railway. A special train of Ww 644 and the newly restored parlour car and dining car took us to Waiuku where an excellent lunch was catered by the Waiuku Cosmopolitan Club.



Above: Glenbrook signalbox signals and crane.

Top left: Framed in the Glenbrook platform are three of the FRONZ Executive. From left Scott Osmond, Lindsay Challis, and President Grant Craig.

Left: WW 644 doing the honours.



Left: Delegates enjoying the ride in the GVR Parlour Car. GVR are billing this as an option for future charter groups which form a large part of their income.



NZ TRANSPORT AGENCY
WAKA KOTAHI

SATURDAY CONFERENCE SESSIONS

Our first task at conference was to record the recent death of Paul Dillicar, the father of FRONZ, who died on 6 May. President Grant Craig read our obituary to the co-founder and long-time leader of our organisation.

Conference was opened by **Mike Lee**, a leading Auckland Local Body Politician who has always been a supporter of good public transport. One of his key projects in the 2000s was successfully pushing forward the electrification of Auckland's rail network, and on construction of a city centre rail tunnel to increase the capacity of the rail system.

We were welcomed to Auckland by our conference host group. Alan Verry spoke on behalf of Glenbrook Vintage Railway and Railway Enthusiasts Society, followed by Tim Fisher's interesting and entertaining keynote presentation. Our primary Conference sponsors, New Zealand Transport Agency gave three presentations during the day.

Erin Moyle in conjunction with John Gurney discussed the recent incident on the Driving Creek railway in which a young child fell from a train. This gave us insight into how an incident investigation is managed and how the need for remedial work is handled.

Of course effective risk assessment is the key to avoiding accidents and this aspect was discussed in a presentation by Rob Gould. Rob introduced the new assessment report template to be introduced over the next 12 months. Focus from the regulator will be more on risk assessment and risk profiling.

Chris Ballantyne spoke about guidance available in developing Safety Management Systems. Robust documentation is expected to demonstrate safe thinking. He emphasised how our industry is not the place for those who see safety as a compliance burden. The risk management process is the first step, not something thought about after the business is established. Operators are expected to know their Health and Safety risks and manage them proportionately. Each heritage rail business is unique.

Emphasis is no longer on "eliminating" risk, but rather what is achievable versus what is possible. It is important to note operators still need to advise both NZTA and Worksafe separately about incidents (after other emergency services) and freeze any accident site.

We also had our annual Kiwirail update from David Gordon.

Our Saturday conference sessions wound up with further presentations.

Megan Drayton spoke about the work presently being undertaken by Tracksafe New Zealand. Megan gave statistics of improvement in rail crossing and pedestrian incidents with the exception of deliberate incidents which are prevalent in



Above: Auckland Councillor Mike Lee opening Conference



the busy Auckland and Wellington suburban areas. Distraction by people listening to devices is also a factor.



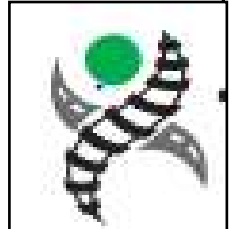
**RAIL HERITAGE TRUST
OF NEW ZEALAND**

We assisted Navigatus Consulting with completing a survey on Rail Risk Work they are undertaking.

Barry O'Donnell the new Executive Officer of another conference sponsor, the New Zealand Rail Heritage Trust, was introduced by Chairman, Murray King. Barry gave us an insight to his rail interests and an update on current NZRHT projects.

Finally on Saturday we were treated to a fascinating presentation by our other Australian visitor, Nic Doncaster. Nic spoke of his research on Heritage Rail Safety. The Burden of Regulatory Compliance.

Left: Megan Drayton from Tracksafe addresses conference.



FRONZ ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



Above: The scene is set. Business is about to begin.

The FRONZ AGM took place as usual on Sunday morning. The President and other Executive positions, other than treasurer, were re-elected without opposition. Clarke Simmonds elected to retire as FRONZ Treasurer after many years of sound financial management. Hugh McCracken of Rimutaka Incline Railway Trust was elected to replace Clark. Clark's wisdom and detailed knowledge of all aspects of FRONZ will take some replacing but he will remain as long as necessary to guide Hugh in the Treasurer role. Hugh also brings new experience and skills to the FRONZ Executive and we welcome him.

The various FRONZ Convenors reports were discussed where necessary.

Finally we heard the annual tramway update from Dave Hinman and a presentation from the Asia Pacific Heritage and Tourist Rail Organisation from Kyoichi Oda, and a look at Taiwanese Heritage Rail by Nai-Yi Hsu and his Alishan Heritage railway.

MOTAT VISIT

After lunch at Novotel we all boarded two Pavlovich Coachlines coaches for the quick trip to MOTAT. What a great afternoon was turned on by the various MOTAT groups. The rail section had their train running and we got to take a good look round their workshops and upgraded yards. The rail area looked very well kept, tidy and well managed.



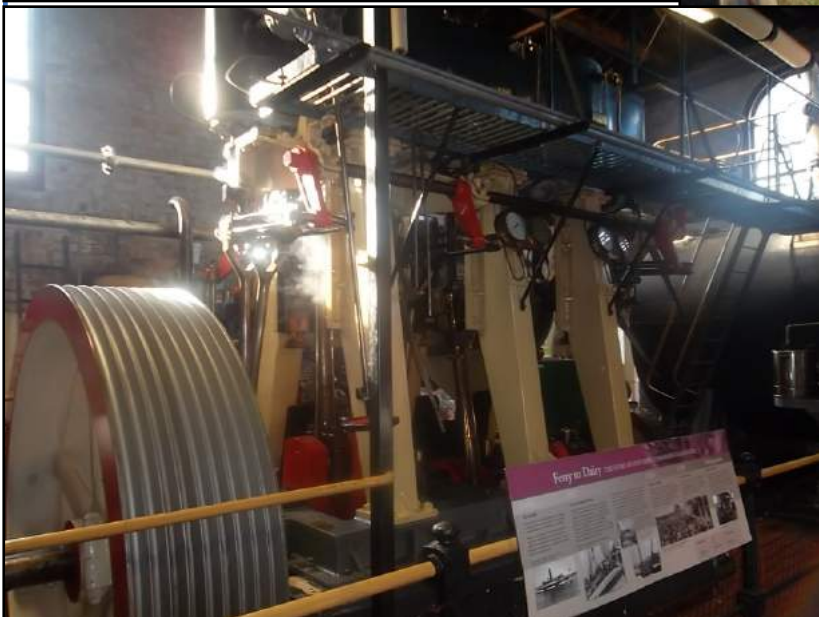
Above left: Y542 was the locomotive running the MOTAT train for the FRONZ visitors. Right: F180 Meg Merrilies, well on the way to restoration at MOTAT



Above: This view was from inside 47 (ex Wellington) as it was passed by Auckland's 44, framed in 47's window, at the passing loop at the Main Entrance to MOTAT from where the tramway to the Sir Keith Park Memorial Aviation Display starts.

Through the front could be seen the ex-Sydney/Castlecliff Baldwin steam tram with the front of 47 reflected in its head-light. On board 47 was a happy load of travellers enjoying their vintage ride.

The Western Springs Tramway excelled themselves by running all of their operational trams including the Sydney/ Castlecliff steam tram.



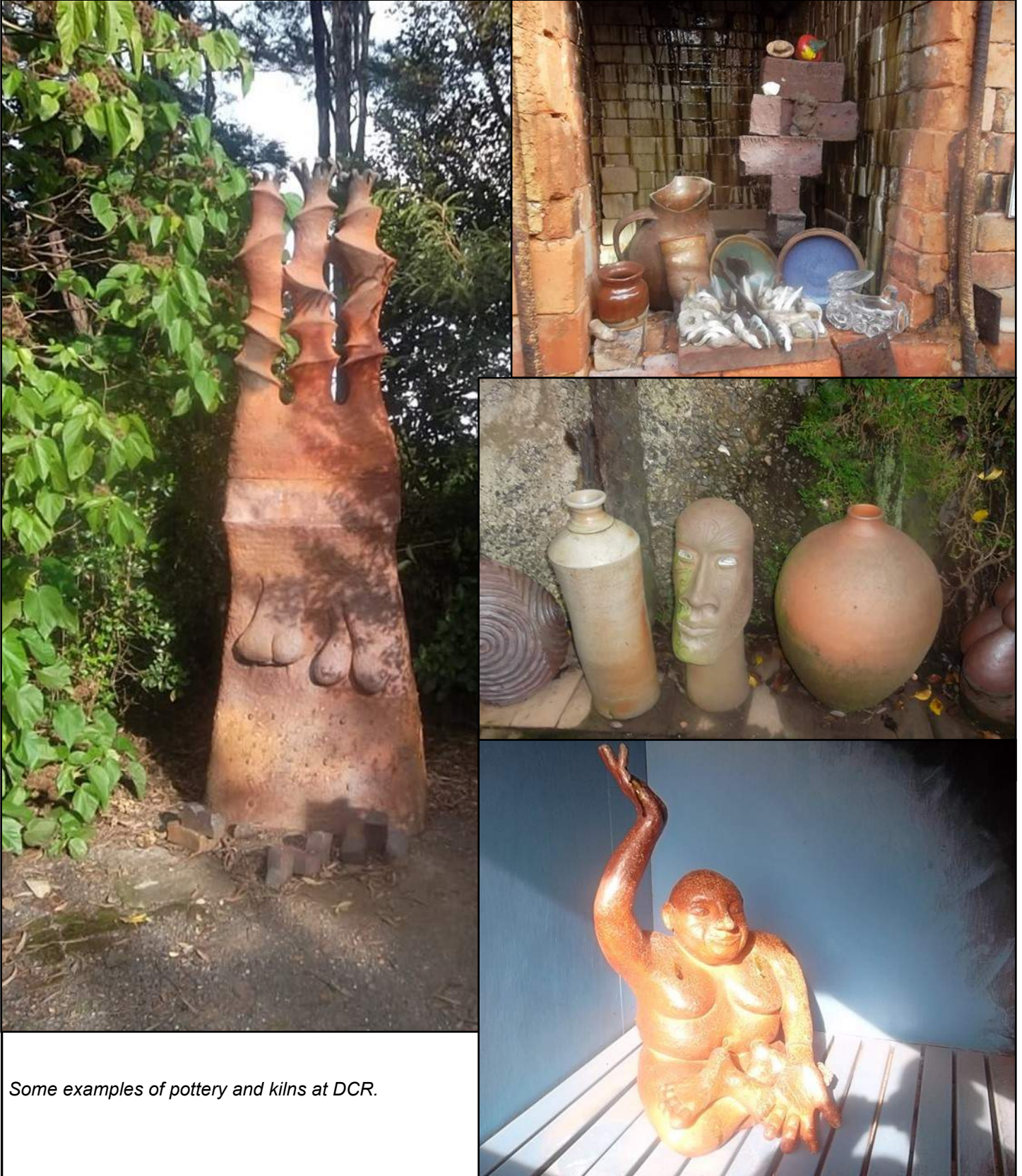
The steam hall was also in operation with a number of stationery engines working including the wonderful unique triple expansion steam ferry engine.

Congratulations to all the volunteers and staff from MOTAT that turned on a really special afternoon for the FRONZ Conference visitors.

DRIVING CREEK RAILWAY VISIT

Our Monday day trip was really a pilgrimage in honour of the creator of the unique Driving Creek Railway and pottery. The vision of one man, artist and engineer, Barry Brickell, who sadly died in January 2016. Barry had invited FRONZ to hold a conference at Coromandel a short time before he died so we managed the next best thing, a conference visit to his magnificent creation. We travelled to Coromandel from Auckland on a schedule fast ferry service, a two hour cruise on a cloudy but thankfully fine winter's day with only a moderate sea running as we crossed the Firth of Thames after leaving the shelter of the Hauraki Gulf islands. This was a more exciting option then the three hour drive over winding and hilly roads from Auckland.

Dr David Black, who was closely associated with Barry for many years and is on the Trust that now runs DCR and ensures it will remain a prominent attraction, accompanied the 35 FRONZ visitors and provided a full explanation of the attraction and its founder to us.



Some examples of pottery and kilns at DCR.



"Snake", one of the three trains.



Passing one of the cuttings supported by a readily available supply of wine bottles, consumed by Barry and his friends.



On two sections the railway takes a zig-zag route and the end of the section is built suspended over the hillside below.



This is the view from the opposite end. The train has exited the tunnel on to the overhang and now heading downhill.



The engineering masterpiece on the line is the double viaduct. Here the train is on the lower level. It will travel ahead, uphill round a 180 degree curve, to gain height and cross the upper level.



The view of Coromandel town and harbour from the top of the railway at the "Eyefull Tower".

FRONZ AWARDS 2016

Here is the full illustrated list of FRONZ Awards presented at the FRONZ Annual Awards dinner held at Novotel, Ellerslie, Auckland, as part of the annual FRONZ Conference.

THE KIWIRAIL INFRASTRUCTURE AWARD

Winner receives KiwiRail Infrastructure Improvement Award, \$2,000 & Trophy.

Awarded to Western Springs Railway-MOTAT, Auckland. For Improvements to Track Layout to improve operational efficiencies.

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Marty Radford - MOTAT Track and Infrastructure, Tim Fischer, and Richard Croker - MOTAT Tram and Infrastructure Manager.

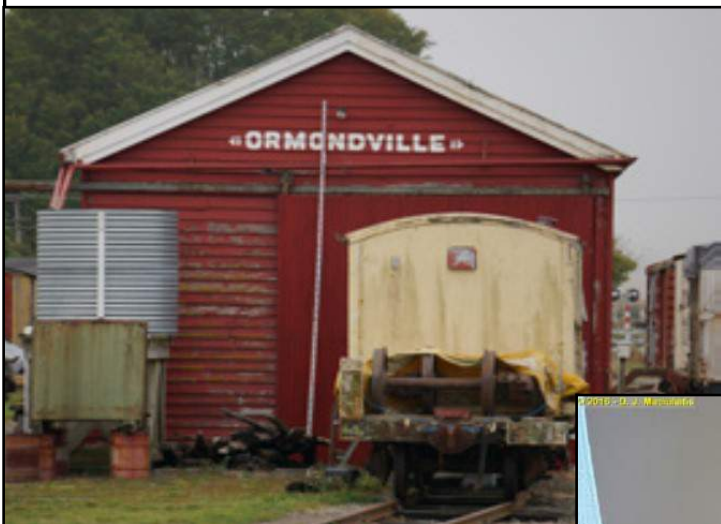
NZ RAIL HERITAGE TRUST RESTORATION AWARD

Winner receives Rail Heritage Trust Restoration Award Plaque

Awarded to the Ormondville Rail Preservation Group Inc. for their work in restoring the Ormondville goods shed.



RAIL HERITAGE TRUST
OF NEW ZEALAND



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Dr. Murray King from the Rail Heritage Trust, and Tom Williamson from Ormondville Rail Preservation Group.



GOODS WAGON RESTORATION AWARD

Winner receives Certificate and \$500 towards a "Study Trip to an Australasian destination" courtesy of 'The MoTaT Society'

Awarded to the Silver Stream Railway for their restoration of La 18921.



Tim Fischer and Jason Durry, General Manager, Silver Stream Railway.

THE DUNEDIN RAILWAYS PASSENGER VEHICLE RESTORATION AWARD

Winner receives Trophy and \$500 Winners Cheque.

Awarded to Mainline Steam Heritage Trust for the restoration of Ex KiwiRail Charter Fleet Car AO 48

DUNEDIN RAILWAYS
WORLD CLASS TRAIN TRIPS

Grant Craig – Dunedin Railways Operations Manager and Rob Martin, Mainline Steam.



SHANTYTOWN STEAM SCHOOL LOCOMOTIVE RESTORATION AWARD

Winner receives Steam Locomotive Restoration Award trophy and \$2,000.

Awarded to Mainline Steam Heritage Trust for the restoration of Ja 1240 'Jessica'.



Michael Tolich - Mainline Steam, Ian Tibbles - Shantytown Steam School, Gary Farquar - Mainline Steam



TRAMWAY RESTORATION AWARD

Winner receives Certificate and \$ 500 towards a "Study Trip to an Australasian destination" courtesy of 'The MoTaT Society'.

Awarded to the Wellington Tramway Museum for the restoration of Tram 260 of 1952, the last street tram to be built in New Zealand.

The tram will re-enter service at Queen Elizabeth Park as soon as the Museum Power Supply is restored and final certification of the tram is complete.



Tim Fischer, and Henry Brittan - Wellington Tramway Museum



MINI TANKERS AWARD FOR NON STEAM LOCOMOTIVE RESTORATION

Winner receives Certificate and \$500.00 voucher toward fuel. Awarded to Mainline Steam Heritage Trust for The Restoration of former Milburn Cement Co A&G Price No 213.



Lindsay Challis - Mainline Steam Christchurch Depot, and Grant Craig - FRONZ President.



INAUGURAL NZTA TOURIST AND HERITAGE RAIL SAFETY AWARD

Winner receives NZTA Tourist & Heritage Rail Safety Trophy and \$2,000

Awarded to the Goldfields Railway Inc. for their pro-active approach to raising level crossing awareness in their community.



NZTA National Manager Rail Safety on the left, Debbie Despard, centre Dennis Blake, Goldfields Railway, and Rob Gould, NZTA.

PAUL HEIGHTON MEMORIAL TROPHY FOR EXCELLENCE

Winner receives P S Heighton cup and \$500 towards a "Study Trip to an Australasian destination" courtesy of 'The Mo-TaT Society'

Awarded to John St. Julian for his work managing the mechanical section on the Glenbrook Vintage Railway.

Below: John St. Julian and Tim Fischer



The Imperial 66 typewriter has a long and legendary role to play in the annals of FRONZ history in relation to the late Paul Heighton. D. L. A. Turner went above and beyond the call of duty to bring this example (shown beside the Paul Heighton Cup) from Christchurch to conference in memory of its most renowned recent user.



THE AON YOUNG ACHIEVERS AWARD

Winner receives up to \$1000 towards the costs of attending next year's Conference.

Awarded to Elliot Baptist (right) from The Bush Tramway Club.

Weta Workshops Award for Creativity and Imagination in Rail Preservation.
This award not presented this year.

OUR CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF THE WINNERS OF THE 2016 AWARDS AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO ANOTHER LINE UP OF DESERVING ENTRIES AT DUNEDIN IN JUNE 2017.

SEE YOU THERE!



NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS

This section is held over till next Journal due to length of Conference news. Normal news and updates will be back in July.

CLASSIFIEDS

LITTLE RIVER STATION TRUST—CARRIAGE FITTINGS



The Little River Railway Station Trust is proud to announce the arrival of a railway carriage into the station for the first time since 1962.

This was the B Car in the Dunedin Railways set up, and has travelled, according to the records received, from Bluff to as far north as you can go, a well-travelled Carriage. It will be much loved and looked after in its new home.

Thanks to support from Pub Charity we were able to get it moved from Dunedin Railways to Little River, resting overnight at BTR Transport yard on the outskirts of Christchurch. Once a conservation report has been done and a repair and maintenance programme worked out, we will overhaul the carriage for display purposes at Little River.

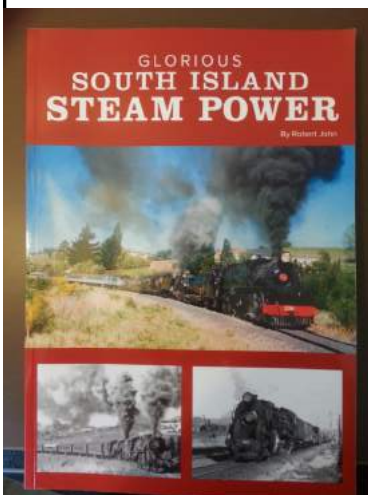
We are short one No2 plate, two drawbridges, two end telescope rails and window catches for 24 windows (see picture). If you can help please contact Andrew Wilson, 2 Riverton Terrace, Halswell, Christchurch. 021 273 3047 ajwilsonnz@hotmail.com. Plans for the summer include continued tidying up of our historic items and improving facilities for our visitors (watch this space). The Christchurch Little River Rail trail will be completed to our platform this Spring.

We welcome you all to our site.



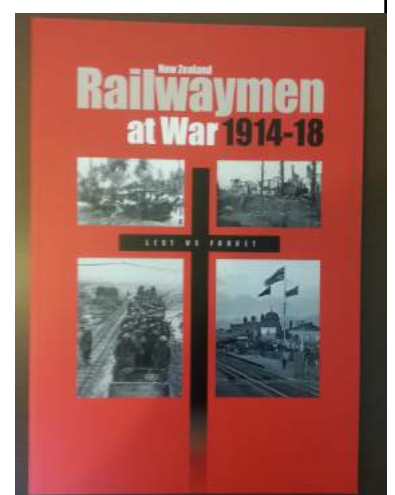
BAY OF ISLANDS VINTAGE RAILWAY

At the FRONZ Conference a couple books were made available. Could you please pass this on to your members as they may be interested.



Glorious South Island Steam Power - a book on the last years of steam down south. Soft cover 122 pages wholesale \$30-\$35 and retail \$50-\$55. For orders contact Robert John 5/87 Wallace Road, Papatoetoe, 2025. Phone 09 2782973.

NZ Railwaymen at War 1914-1918 - published by Kiwirail in association with the NZ Rail Heritage Trust. Soft cover 64 pages. Wholesale \$15, retail \$25. For orders contact NZ Rail Heritage Trust. P.O. Box 593, Wellington, 6140. Phone 04 4983089.



WEIGHBRIDGE – PLEASANT POINT

We have been offered this weighbridge for our museum installed at the old NZR Willow Bridge station siding that closed some years ago. We do not want it. Does any group interested in it AVAILABLE as a donation from the farmer who owns the land. They will take it out for any group who wants it for preservation.

If interested - contact the writer below who will put you in contact with the owner.

Bryan Blanchard
Pleasant Point Museum & Railway
President.

P = 03 686 2269

E-mail = ba.mc.blanchard@xtra.co.nz



CANTERBURY RAILWAY SOCIETY – EO TRACTION MOTOR

The Canterbury Railway Society has a modern Eo electric loco traction motor available at scrap value. Contact Kevin Prince at kevin@access1in5.co.nz.

BURNHAM KINDERGARTEN LOCO STRUCTURE

Burnham Kidsfirst Kindergarten have an old "train" that has been a play item for our children for many years. It is a Hudswell Clarke D591. As we are redeveloping our area we are looking to remove the train and we were hoping that someone might want to purchase it from us as opposed to selling it for scrap metal! If you could help us with this we would surely appreciate it. Kind Regards Mark Lewis mark.lewis@kidsfirst.org.nz.



SALE OF ASSETS MIDLAND RAIL HERITAGE TRUST SPRINGFIELD

The Midland Rail Trust is putting the following listed assets up for sale. Contact Alan Roberts Trust Chariman 0274-485 -442 or email westfield@clear.net.nz.

2 901B Turnouts \$15,000 each \$30,000 (Left Hand and Right Hand)
D.S. Shunter \$25,000 (Originally Islington Freezing Works and well maintained)
Surplus 50lb Rail \$ 4,000 (Scrap price)
Gantry Crane \$15,000 (ex Otira workshops) XPC 481
A Class Carriage \$15,000
Generator \$ 8,000 (12kva industrial type)
Y Wagon (ballast \$ 6,000)
Wheel Lathe \$25,000 (ex Hillside workshop 1.2m)
15 HP approx Boiler \$ 6,000.

Z WAGONS- MATAMATA

Matamata Historical Society have two Cargo Wagons (*believed to be Z wagons. Ed.*) which will shortly become surplus to our needs. Do you know of any Organisation that could make use of them? They do need some maintenance on the Superstructure. Ernie Keene, President erniekeene@xtra.co.nz

PICTURE OF THE MONTH



FRONZ Conference 2016 Group taken at Novotel, Ellerslie, Auckland by D.L.A. Turner.

**FRONZ CONFERENCE DUNEDIN
2—5 JUNE 2017**

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