



# JOURNAL

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## FRONZ CONFERENCE 2019

Latest news on the 2019 FRONZ Conference at Timaru . Friday 31 May to Monday 3 June.

We have confirmed accommodation and a conference venue which are about 1.5 km apart.

Michael Boyton has agreed to bring his coach down from Nelson and he will do all the running around moving us over the weekend. No doubt some delegates and guests will drive their own vehicles to conference and they are urged to use them so that people without their own transport can use the bus. Michael can do multiple runs within Timaru between the conference and accommodation venues but not the out of town trips. We will offer the option at a small additional cost for Michael to transport members from Christchurch Airport to Timaru on Friday 31 May leaving the airport at 1300, and returning from Timaru to arrive at Christchurch Airport by 1500 Monday 3 June. Air NZ does have flights from Wellington to Timaru for those who prefer to use this option. They are infrequent and more expensive than flights to Christchurch. Once conference bookings open on 1 April 2019 bookings for the coach transfer from and to Christchurch will be taken until the coach is full.

During the weekend we will be holding conference sessions on Saturday and Sunday as usual and will also be visiting two of our operating member's railways. Our host Group Pleasant Point Railway and Museum and also the Plains Railway at Ashburton. The 2019 FRONZ Conference Awards Dinner will be held Sunday night.

We have had requests from member groups who have an operating railway to hold a separate breakout session (in addition to the Mainline Operators and Tramways Operators groups). This will be held on the Saturday afternoon when the other two groups hold their breakout sessions. It will provide an opportunity for rail operating groups to discuss issues specifically relating to them. FRONZ Executive Member and Treasurer Hugh McCracken has agreed to facilitate this first meeting of the operating Groups but we are looking for someone to volunteer as Rail Operating Groups Convenor to lead this group now, so please get in touch with Grant Craig or Hugh McCracken now and express your interest.



*Our 2019 FRONZ Conference Host Group features in this edition on page 7 at their recent 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations. Pictured here is their newly overhauled steam locomotive Ab699. Photo Bryan Blanchard*

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

## UK HERITAGE LOCOMOTIVE DERAILMENT

Details of a UK heritage locomotive derailment report can be found at [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/730631/D062018\\_180725\\_Clogwyn\\_y\\_Gwin.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/730631/D062018_180725_Clogwyn_y_Gwin.pdf)

Several crucial points are noted below. The hook arrangement looks a bit different to NZR practice but the concept and consequences of fatigue failure in a suspension component is no doubt also possible here.

Derailment of a passenger train near Clogwyn y Gwin South foot crossing, Welsh Highland Railway, 10 June 2018

This derailment demonstrates the importance of heritage railways ensuring that specific and appropriate inspections and checks are built into the vehicle maintenance and overhaul regimes to monitor the integrity of all safety critical components which could cause derailment in the event of failure, and also to ensure that such components are reassembled correctly after overhaul. This is of particular importance on narrow gauge lines and railways that operate in mountainous areas.

The accident occurred as a result of the failure of a suspension component on locomotive 143, resulting in the complete unloading of the left leading wheel.

Examination of the locomotive post-derailment also found that two suspension components had been erroneously interchanged during the re-assembly of the locomotive during the 2015 overhaul.

*Thanks Nigel Hogg for this information.*



*Above: Locomotive 143 at Rhyd Ddu station travelling in same direction (right to left of photograph) as at the time of derailment.*

*Right Top: The derailed leading wheelset. The leaf spring suspension and associated components had become disarranged as a consequence of the failure (photograph courtesy of Ffestiniog and Welsh Highland Railways).*

*Right Lower: The undamaged opposite side of the leading wheelset on locomotive 143, taken after the locomotive had been recovered from the derailment site, showing the normal suspension arrangement. The undamaged equalising beam is arrowed.*

## OUR SMILING PRESIDENT

Not content with a starring role on a recent TV series about Mark Twain's 1895 travels in New Zealand, our FRONZ President recently celebrated 20 years of service with Dunedin Railways and a rather exceptional cake.



## KINGSTON FLYER

Six years have nearly passed since the Kingston Flyer last operated but the latest attempt to reinstate it is looking promising.

Maintenance work on the train and railway line between Kingston and Fairlight has been a familiar sight to locals in recent months.

The Pounamu Tourism Group has leased the train off the Kingston Flyer Ltd and is in the process of preparing documentation for resource consent from the Queenstown Lakes District Council and Southland District Council to operate the train as a tourist attraction.

Engineer and an independent consultant Neville Simpson is overseeing maintenance work on one of the train's two locomotives, the railway line and facilities.

"One of the locomotives is in good condition but the other needs extensive work to the boiler and there's nothing planned for it," Simpson said.

A joiner has assessed replacing window sashes in the seven carriages.

Broom and other vegetation is being cleared from the railway line and either side of it for an independent track inspection in the next few weeks. The total number of sleepers needing to be replaced would be known during the inspection.

The Pounamu Tourism Group's plans also include introducing a ferry on Lake Wakatipu to transport tourists from Queenstown to Kingston for train rides. The ferry service operating to and from both destinations would be available to residents in the areas.

Talk of flyer possibly returning was welcome news to Kingston cafe and bar owner Gessica Veras.

"It's going to be great ... a lot of people always ask about the train," she said.

The Pounamu Tourism Group, of Blenheim, was committed to restoring the train, its managing director Paul Jackson said.

"It's probably New Zealand's most iconic train."

Kingston Flyer Ltd completed negotiations to buy the train off the Bryce family in December.

He will also use the expertise of his Marlborough partner, Steam Incorporated.

## RAIL HERITAGE TRUST 2019 RESTORATION AWARD

*Rail Heritage Trust have asked for early information to be circulated for their 2019 Restoration Award. Full details will be circulated along with all FRONZ Annual Award details in the next couple of months.*



**RAIL HERITAGE TRUST  
OF NEW ZEALAND**

The restoration of any building or structure (including groups of buildings or structures in a precinct) that:

- (i) was designed or built for railway operating purposes
- (ii) is of heritage significance

2. Entries will be judged on the following criteria:

- (i) the scale and complexity of the project, including the state of the building or structure prior to restoration work beginning
- (ii) the quality of workmanship
- (iii) the extent of voluntary labour used
- (iv) where appropriate, the degree of public access after the project's completion
- (v) where the building or structure no longer serves its original function, the extent to which the new use
  - (a) ensures its survival
  - (b) is sympathetic to its heritage qualities
- (vi) the overall attention given to the integrity of the project in terms of attention to detail, finish, materials and original design, including the relevant provisions of the ICOMOS New Zealand Charter 2010, [www.icomos.org.nz/docs/NZ\\_Charter.pdf](http://www.icomos.org.nz/docs/NZ_Charter.pdf).

3. Entries to be received no later than 30 April 2019.

4. The Rail Heritage Trust Board will select the recipient and their decision will be final.

5. The recipient to be publicly announced at the 2019 FRONZ Conference.

For further information please contact the Rail Heritage Trust at:

Email: [railheritage@railheritage.org.nz](mailto:railheritage@railheritage.org.nz)

Phone: 04 498 3089

Postal address: P.O. Box 593, Wellington 6140

## OBITUARY - JOHN SHANKS

We are saddened to hear of the passing of John Shanks, who was a leading pioneer in the heritage tramway movement in Christchurch.

Many will have known John as a spirited historian, mainly about Christchurch and Canterbury. John was a founding member of the Tramway Historical Society and the first manager of the Ferrymead Historical Park in the earlier days when the place was mostly mud and which John referred to as "Ferrymud". John was a very eloquent speaker and frequently presented snippets of the history of the Christchurch tramways. He would often mention a desire to see trams back in the streets of Christchurch. This has been achieved and was a result of John and others advocating for such a venture.

He will be missed by many around New Zealand and overseas. Our condolences to Margaret and family. Trevor Burling.



*Above Left: Over 50 years ago, John was brakeman on horse tram 43 running on Papanui Road using the original tram tracks for the last time.*

*Above Right: In June 2005 we lit Bowman Street after dark and used Christchurch #1 for some heritage night photos. John on the far right. Photos: D.L.A. Turner.*

## OBITUARY - COLIN DASH

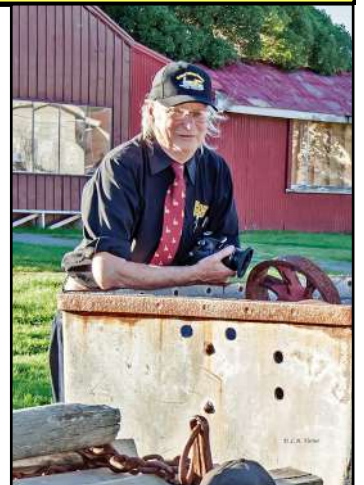
After several years of deteriorating health, Colin Dash passed away at Christchurch Hospital on 14 February 2019.

Colin was very active in the administration of the Canterbury branch of the New Zealand Railway & Locomotive Society (registered as the Canterbury Railway Society in 1988), the Diesel Traction Group and the National Railway Museum all based in the Ferrymead Heritage Park in Christchurch.

At various times from the late 1970s to the 1990s Colin was treasurer, president, secretary, or member of the Canterbury Railway Society committee, and the editor of their magazine, *Branchlines*. He also was active this century, until the onset of his failing health, in many aspects of their railway operations including as a railcar driver, diesel shunter driver, guard, stationmaster, and signaller.

Colin is seen in this image during the *Ferrymead 150* celebrations in October 2013. His many and wide-ranging contributions to railway preservation and to the Ferrymead Heritage Park will be missed by all.

*Text and Picture, D.L.A. Turner*



*And from the Diesel Traction Group:*

We pay tribute to foundation DTG President, Colin Dash, who has passed away. In the early 1980s Colin's vision for rail preservation dared to go beyond 'steam' preservation. His determination to save some diesel traction led to the establishment of the DTG. His battles for diesel preservation, were not only with the then NZR & LS Canterbury Branch, but also with NZR. There was very little faith that an 'enthusiast group' could restore and operate diesel-electric locos.

## 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 [scottosmond54@gmail.com](mailto:scottosmond54@gmail.com)

### BUSH TRAMWAY CLUB

#### *From January Newsletter*

The 1pm train on Sunday 2 December was the first passenger train to run to the new terminus at the top end of the line. We now run all the way to Glen Afton. This was the first passenger train since 1972 to reach this final point of our line.

To celebrate the occasion, the Peckett led the train and was helped by the two Meremere diesel locos at the rear.

Founding member Colin Jenner had the privilege of driving the train on this very special occasion.

Before the trip set off our Chairman Peter Cairncross gave a short speech and this was followed by a few words delivered by the WDC Mayor Allan Sanson. Then it was all aboard and we set off for Glen Afton. The train was welcomed to Glen Afton by a bagpiper and a number of interested residents. We also had our local Councillor Shelley Lynch with us on the train.

Unfortunately, the Peckett disgraced itself on the return journey and started several fires about half way between Pukemiro Jct. and Glen Afton. These were mostly put out by our members but one got away and we had to have the assistance of the Huntly Volunteer Fire Brigade. Luckily, they were able to get close enough to help put out the fire.

The carriage shelter extension is now completed thanks to the generosity of the Waikato District Council. As prices had increased a bit since the original quote was received the Club made up the balance. We can now keep 4 carriages under cover.



*The Peckett arrives at Glen Afton, 2 December 2018.  
Photo: B. McLuckie*



*Left: Pete Cairncross, Colin Jenner, Mayor Allan Sanson & Councillor Shelley Lynch and (centre) an adoring crowd prior to the first train to Glen Afton. Right: The carriage shelter extension (R. Ellis)*

### OAMARU STEAM & RAIL

#### *From January Newsletter*

Happy New Year! With summer weather arriving at just the right time, a flurry of local, domestic and overseas visitors passing by, and with B10 as an additional draw, we carried 1446 passengers in December.

Despite higher running costs on steam days, this is a massive financial and PR boost for the club that helps fund our ongoing projects. The corresponding passenger count for last year was 871, so this is a big increase.

A new battery and power supply was installed in the Guards Van during its 2018 electrical upgrade, and the train wired along its length for carriage light power and for audio. B10 is now attached to this trainline via a jumper cable.

On a steam loco, electrical power has traditionally been supplied from a steam-powered generator. This uses up steam, which uses up coal – so this seemingly insignificant change will save us money. Plus, B10's generator has been removed, so that's another item that doesn't need to be maintained.



## SILVER STREAM RAILWAY



31 December 1978 saw the first passenger trains run at Silver Stream Railway. To celebrate 40 years of regular Sunday operations the open wagon to the train for Sunday 6 January's consist was hauled by steam locomotive L509. The open wagon L4246 was used for the first passengers so it is fitting that 40 years later it carries a few more. The picture below shows one of the first trains with Planet 2166 and L4246.

## NELSON RAILWAY SOCIETY



The DSA with passengers at Tui Station after, running the loco around the loop to be on the front of the train again for the ride back to the station and a nice summer view of the mountains west of Tasman Bay behind a lonesome wagon at Tui

## OAMARU STEAM & RAIL

Despite the on-and-off summer weather, we had a great start to 2019 with 983 passengers carried in January. Another big increase from 770 last year.



Our defences at the crossing of Humber Street opposite Steam-punk HQ have been bolstered by the installation of barrier arms at the railway crossing. This complex project, spanning many months, covered not only the obvious infrastructure but also the technical aspects required to bring the arms into service.



## CANTERBURY STEAM PRESERVATION SOCIETY

*Nice to get a newsletter from this group.*

### 50th Anniversary Saturday 27 October 2018.

This was the official celebration of the 50 years, and the day started with some 10 traction engines and 2 steam trucks lined up in



front of the Museum for their photo shot. There was time to chat and look at photos etc. after the AGM, and then Lianne Dalziel, Mayor of Christchurch unveiled the official plaque. 130 people were there to see and hear her, and agreed she did a splendid job.

This event was followed by an evening meal, 107 attended, and this function too was very enjoyable. John Hawkins continued to MC, and did a great job keeping it running smoothly. Three life honorary memberships were given out, to Colin Barry, Peter Harris and Peter Boyes.

The New Zealand Blacksmiths Preservation Society was fully incorporated on the 26th July 2018 and will take residence at the grounds of the Steam Scene. The purpose of the newly formed Society is to promote Blacksmithing through the acquisition and preservation of Blacksmithing equipment and via the delivery of education in Blacksmithing techniques. The Society aims to become over time a "Hub" for information and skill sharing for anyone interested in the Blacksmithing and will be targeting interested people nationwide not just the Canterbury region.



### Extravaganza April 13 – 14 2019

Once again, the Board of Management has set its eyes on staging a larger than before event. They are planning to have more exhibits than previous years. One new exhibit will be the Blacksmith Shop, a fully operational shop with Blacksmiths show how and what was done in the past, with the basic of tools to work with.

## BAY OF ISLANDS VINTAGE RAILWAY

*From January Newsletter*

Hopefully in 2019 we will have a successful application to the Provincial Growth Fund. This will enable us to restore the track from Longbridge and thus complete the restoration of the historic rail link back to Opuia, build a new station, build a new Café and facilities in Kawakawa and together with the Far North District Council complete the building of a permanent cycleway Longbridge to Opuia. The economic benefits for not only Kawakawa but also the Bay of Islands and Northland would be huge. *Johnson Davis—Chairperson/Editor*

### GABRIEL.

Boiler and smokebox removed and sent to boiler makers for replacement. Waiting for finance.

Frames stripped, cleaned, repaired as required and painted.

The bogie was removed, stripped and cleaned. Wheels were sent for turning. Bearings repaired Complete new springing system made and installed. Bogie painted, reassembled and put back under engine.

Cylinder covers removed, pistons removed, old rings found to be very worn. New rings made in house, fitted to pistons and rod refitted to cross heads. New gaskets made, cylinder covers replaced and cylinders now ready for use.

Valve gear stripped, new bushes made and fitted, valve gear reassembled.

Engine now ready for new boiler and smokebox. Cab and tanks fitted and considerable amount of new piping; air, oil steam and water to be made to fit new boiler. *Mike Bradshaw.*

Below. "Esmae" commences her first Tour of Duty. 28 January 2019. Heading up the Main Street and passing the world famous Hunderwasser Toilets.



## TRAMWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

From Ferrymead Tram Tracts

Since its arrival at Ferrymead, 'Brill' 194 has undergone some minor touch-ups prior to being opened to the public as an interpretative 'tram bach' display.

The latest round of track work has been focused on the line past the Cranmer building to the Reserve, soon to be hometo 'Brill' 194, which will be positioned alongside fellow tram bach 'Standard' 126. The first photo shows early stages of work with grass scraped off and some rail removed. On 2 February, Ken Henderson was busy supervising reassembly of the track. New ballast will soon follow, and 194 will be moved to its new 'home'. Photos: Dave Hinman.



## CANTERBURY RAILWAY SOCIETY

On Sunday 20 January, The English Electric unit was carrying out the Sunday operating day service, and Ec 7 was undergoing testing after servicing, and the annual Westinghouse Brake code test. Photos David Maciulaitis



## MAINLINE STEAM HERITAGE TRUST

Another excellent weekend in Whanganui in January for the Whanganui Vintage Weekend of 2019.

Mainline Steam is pleased to announce that it has purchased two Dc Class locomotives for restoration and preservation. The locomotives are Dc4248 and Dc4369.

At the Christchurch depot Congratulations to Cameron Carter and Liam Griffiths for passing their Diesel Shunt Locomotive Drivers Tickets.



*Far Left: Bursting out of Fordell Tunnel on the first Ruatangata shuttle.  
Photo - Jack Still.*

*Left: Cameron Carter and Liam Griffiths.*

*Above: The two Dc's awaiting delivery to Plimmerton.*

## GLENBROOK VINTAGE RAILWAY

Progress on DBR 1254 really speeding up now. The short hood edging, doors, and electrical equipment is all getting attention. Electrical and other parts for this now vintage locomotive are being sought out and sourced from around the globe. On the more cosmetic front the correct lino and paint colours are being sourced for the interior and engine bay, with preparation of the body work beginning in anticipation of GVR's second DBR repaint.

Ww 480 having its spark arrestor checked and refitted as well as the usual clean and polish for our normal operations.

Glenbrook have also announced the purchase of Dc4818 from Kiwirail.

*Below: Ja 1250 disassembled to aid inspection and evaluation.*

*Right: DBR 1254.*

*Below Right: The third Thomas Weekend of the season is scheduled for March.*



## BLenheim RIVERSIDE RAILWAY

Annual Heritage Day was held on Waitangi Day.

Lots to see and do at Brayshaw Park and the railway was running 2 trains to Beaver Station and the railcar to Omaka Station and back between 10am and 4pm.



*Donald on display at Brayshaw Park Station.*

*The two trains crossing at Chinaman's Creek crossing loop.*

## WAIMEA PLAINS RAILWAY

es - the long arm of the law is far reaching. Even along railtracks!  
K92 may be 140yrs but with Trust Chairman, Colin Smith, was happy to help Constable Melissa promote safety on the roads (& rails).



## CLASSIFIEDS

## FEILDING STEAM RAIL

Feilding Steam Rail have several items of track equipment and car seats for sale.

70lb rail track complete right-hand turnout  
85 lb right-hand turnout (almost complete)  
Blades and other track bits and pieces.  
12 First Class Car Seats

Contact Rod Bertram [rodbnz@gmail.com](mailto:rodbnz@gmail.com)

## FUTURE MAINLINE EXCURSIONS

This feature in Journal is a list of forthcoming mainline excursions by our members. Hopefully all are covered from newsletters and web sites but if any members have excursion plans please send them to Journal at [scottosmond54@gmail.com](mailto:scottosmond54@gmail.com).

### Glenbrook Vintage Railway Scenic Rail

30 March	Te Kuiti Muster	Waiuku—Te Kuiti	(KR Diesel)
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### Steam Incorporated

24 March	Heartland Flyer	Paekakariki-Woodville	(Steam)
5 May	Heartland Flyer	Paekakariki-Woodville	(Steam)
9 June	Kapiti Family Express		(Steam)
23 June	Waipukurau		(Diesel)
8 September	Daffodil Express		(Steam)
1 December	Christmas Grand Circle		(Diesel)
4 January 2020	River City Express		(Steam)

### Marlborough Flyer

Readers looking to ride the new Marlborough Flyer, a joint arrangement between FRONZ members **Steam Incorporated** and **Pounamu Tourism**, should see their booking site at [www.marlboroughflyer.co.nz](http://www.marlboroughflyer.co.nz) for their regular summer excursions between Picton and Blenheim. 2018-2019 season runs from 3 October 2018 to 21 April 2019.

### Mainline Steam

#### Tui Brewery future excursions.

10 March 2019. The popular Tui Express with lunch at the Tui Brewery.  
 28 July 2019. Vintage Car Day  
 10 November 2019. The popular Tui Express with lunch at the Tui Brewery.  
 15 December 2019. Christmas at the Brewery.

### Pahiatua Railcar Society

Saturday 6 April	Woodville-Ashurst (Gorge Shuttles)	RM31
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### Gisborne City Vintage Railway

Gisborne to Muriwai—  
 Saturday 20 April 2019  
 Sunday 12 May 2019  
 Sunday 2 June 2019

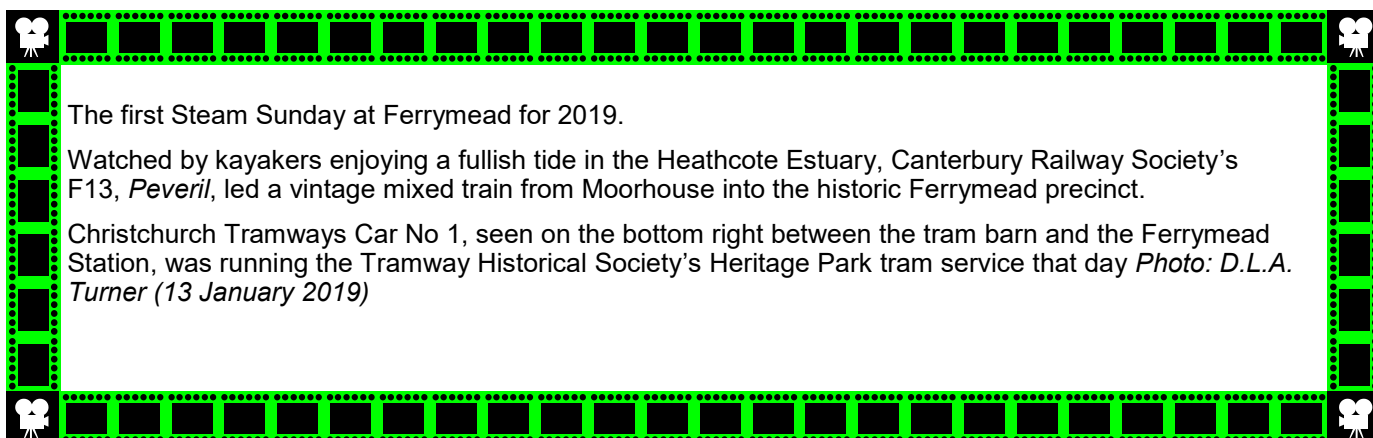
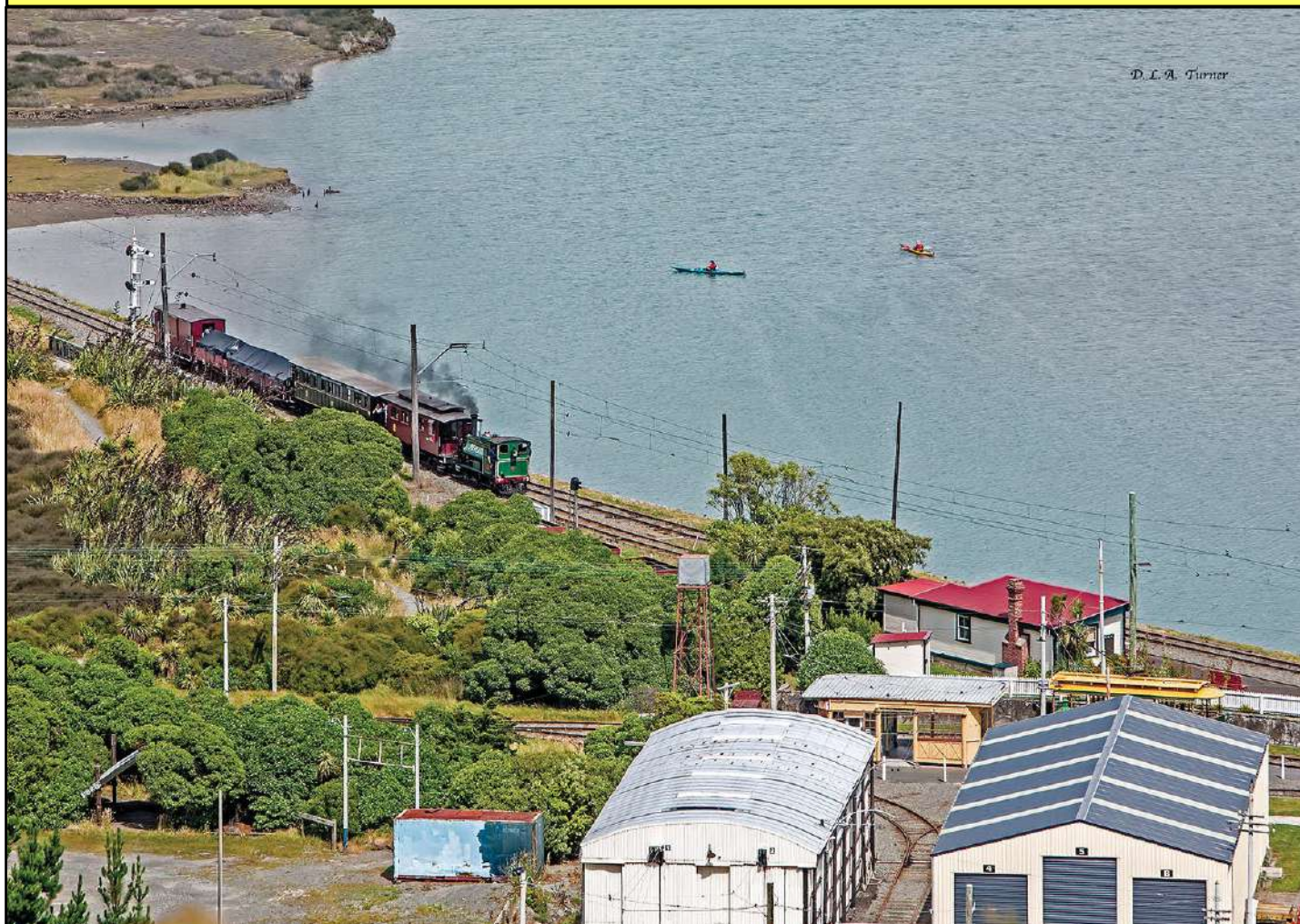
### Feilding & Districts Steam Rail Society Inc

7 April 2019 F163	Feilding—National Park	(KR Diesel)
13 April 2019	F163 Manawatu Gorge Enthusiast Photo Excursion	
14 April 2019	Ashurst-Woodville (Gorge Shuttles)	(F163)

### Dunedin Railways

Regular Taieri Gorge and North Line services plus rail tours.  
 13 April 2019. 6 day Silver Fern tour Dunedin-West Coast  
 26 April 2019. 7 day Silver Fern tour Dunedin-Invergargill  
 3 May 2019. 7 day Silver Fern tour Dunedin-Invergargill  
 28 May 2019. 7 day Silver Fern tour Dunedin-Picton

# PICTURE OF THE MONTH



**FRONZ CONFERENCE TIMARU**  
**31 MAY– 3 JUNE 2019**

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