NOVEMBER 2021, ISSUE #217

FRONZ: JOURNAL

Federation of Rail Organisations of New Zealand Incorporated



The three Silver Fern Railcars. Photo: Givealittle



Peter Jenkinson attaches the number plate on to D140. Photo: Wayne McClintock

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FEDERATION of RAIL ORGANISATIONS of NEW ZEALAND INCORPORATED



PICTURE OF THE MONTH

Ja1260 nears the end of the line at the Plains Railway, 50 years after the last steam operations with NZR. Photo: David Oakley

FRONZ UPDATE

The FRONZ Executive met by Zoom in November and the following items were among those considered.

- The resignation of KiwiRail CEO Greg Millar was noted.
- Carbon Emissions. Work on this issue continues.

-FRONZ are looking at employing consultants to measure rail heritage emission footprints and likely carbon offset costs.

-It was noted that the SS Earnslaw which is a major railway interest item plying Lake Wakatipu is due for a new boiler and is considering changing to electric power. This could set an unachievable precedent for rail groups. We agreed to look at sending a letter to Real Journeys, the vessel's owner, protesting the Earnslaw going electric.

- The issue also affects traction engines and vintage car operators.
 - We are continuing to lobby the Ministry of Transport.
 - A Zoom meeting was held on the 25th of November for all groups to discuss issues related to use of plain bearings in rail stock.
 - Training / support for NZTA audits.

-One member group has asked us to have a look over their safety documents. -Looking at formulating a generic template.

- Insurance. After some investigation, it appears that there is no exclusion on insurance for wood burning locomotives.
- Mainline issues. NRSS11 re-write. All the parties involved have been contacted and they need to make submissions before KiwiRail's deadline in early December.
- Finance update.
- -Network levies sent to all mainline groups.

-Five outstanding memberships are being followed up.

- RAIL. No activities due to Covid issues. No inspections or training undertaken.
- Conference update (see separate article).
- FRONZ sent a representative to the foundry at Hillside, which is being demolished, to see if there is anything of use. There were no brake block castings or patterns. The wooden stuff is under asbestos dust, so we would have to pay for its cleaning, and it wouldn't be in our interest. There was some signalling gear testers, lights, ground lights etc. It has been arranged for Canterbury Railway Society at Ferrymead to be the repository for this as it should be kept together and go to one group and could be made available to other groups.
- Boiler inspector shortage: FRONZ will write a letter to SGS about the importance of boiler inspectors and complimenting SGS. SGS have a community focus and a letter could help secure boiler inspectors who can inspect heritage boilers.

CONFERENCE 2022



Planning is continuing for our 2022 conference in Invercargill from Friday 3rd to Monday 6th June.

This is the first time the FRONZ conference has been held in Invercargill and we will be offering a great experience including rail heritage information which all members should share, as well as several field trips and tours of the Southland area including rail heritage sites and the great unspoilt Southland country.

Our host group, Waimea Plains Railway are looking forward to welcoming us to conference. We will be highlighting the theme of climate change and how it will affect rail heritage operations.

We cannot visit Invercargill without visiting the world renowned Bill Richardson's Transport World and Motorcycle Mecca, and the Burt Munro motorcycle display at Hayes Hardware department store. We are planning to see some of these attractions with a local tour on Friday June 3rd where numbers will be limited- you will need to arrive on Thursday June 2nd to join this as it will be a full day.

Well known Bluff resident, local councillor, and presenter of the "Off the Rails" TV documentary series Marcus Lush will be our keynote speaker on Saturday morning. This will be followed by an introduction to Southland Railway History by a local member of the Southern Steam Train Trust, Lindsay Buckingham.

Our Rail Safety Regulator Waka Kotahi will present in the main morning session. On Saturday afternoon we have presentations from KiwiRail, and speakers on alternative fuels as well as how organisations can best adapt to the requirements of impending climate change legislation and actual effects. Saturday sessions will conclude with breakout groups meeting to discuss the various issues of Tramway, Rail Heritage, Mainline rail groups.

Sunday morning will start with the FRONZ Annual General Meeting then several presentations from RailSafe, NZ Rail Heritage Trust, a Tramways update, and a video view of Southland railway history with a presentation from Lindsay Benbrook from Majik Video Systems.

On Monday June 6th we have planned a day trip to visit and ride the Kingston Flyer and Lumsden Railway Station. We will be back in Invercargill in time for Air NZ flights to Christchurch and other cities currently timetabled to depart at 1625 and 1815.

The conference venue is the Ascot Park Hotel which offers various accommodation options. Conference bookings will open from 1st April 2022.



CONFERENCE 2022

continued

At this time the proposed cost of the full conference package including all events on Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th of June will be \$280. This will include conference sessions all day Saturday and Sunday morning with morning, afternoon teas, and lunches provided, plus the trip to Waimea Plains Railway and Croydon Aviation Centre on Sunday afternoon and the FRONZ Awards Dinner Sunday night.

For those that also want to join our tours of the Invercargill area on Friday June 3rd and the Kingston Flyer on Monday June 6th, there will be a separate cost for these two tours of \$70 each.

So, start saving the pennies now for this unique event.



Waimea Plains Railway Trust. Photo: Got It In One Photography



The Kingston Flyer. Photo: NZ Herald



Croydon Aviation Heritage Centre. Photo: Stuff

NEWS FROM AROUND THE RAILWAYS

UNANIMOUS SUPPORT FOR SILVER FERN RAILCAR GRANT

Stuff; 8 November 2021

At their Wednesday, October 29 monthly meeting, the Tararua District councillors unanimously agreed to grant \$60,000 from the council's Heritage Reserve to help fund the Pahiatua Railcar Society's (PRS) purchase of three Silver Fern railcars from KiwiRail. A lengthy discussion concerning the viability and potential of the purchase ensued, proponents arguing:

- The price of \$60,000 for three railcars and parts conservatively valued at \$500,000 was a bargain;
- The potential for tourism in the Tararua was huge;
- There was a prospect of an engineering training facility;
- The PRS has been entrusted with the caretaking and restoration to mainline certification of these railcars;
- The society has a skilled and enthusiastic group of volunteers;

The project aligns with the four wellbeings in the Local Government Act and its Long Term Plan strategic objectives of building a vibrant economy through tourism, business and training.

The council report also outlined the challenges of storage and security fencing as well as restoration costing up to \$400,000. It concluded: "This is a unique offering in New Zealand. As Hobbiton is to Waikato and Weta Workshop is to Wellington, these are the only Silver Fern railcars in New Zealand and they are in Tararua."

Councillor Hull said the PRS volunteers were a hard-working and skilled bunch and she envisaged the railcars travelling all over the North Island once Covid alert level 1 is in place, while Councillor Franklin said she dreamed of a trip to Tangiwai at Christmas. Mayor Collis said the PRS has a long history of reliability and a good track record (pun unintended) in management with a wide level of expertise.

The motion was passed without dissent.





RM5 with the Silver Fern Railcars. Photo: Pahiatua Railcar Society Inc

The Silver Fern Railcars post graffiti removal. Photo: Tararua i-SITE Visitor Information Centre

NEW CARRIAGE SHED

Weka Pass Railway - Facebook

Our new carriage shed is finally being put to its intended use.

One of our "tin-belly" carriages A 1733, currently under refurbishment, was moved into the "Car Shop" this afternoon. Our team are very excited to use this superb facility, and we are eternally thankful for our generous donors.

Additionally, we are very grateful for all of our passionate volunteers who have helped make this happen; a special mention must go to Alan Blee of Alexandra - a talented and extremely generous electrician (and rail enthusiast) who has spent countless hours working on the electrical fit-out. Pictures cannot show just how bright the interior lights are!



The new carriage shed at Weka Pass Photos left to right: Weka Pass Railway and Dustin Waldron

GVR'S DBR1254, AND CREW ON MOVING HOUSES

TVNZ 1

Moving Houses, hosted by Clarke Gayford featured the Glenbrook Vintage Railway crew and their DBR1254 on November 2nd.

A couple purchased car SXC1742 with the intentions of transporting it around Lake Taupo, to their property in Hastings to create accommodation.

The episode is available to watch on TVNZ OnDemand.



The renovated carriage, with many original features remaining.



Clarke Gayford. Photos: Stuff

PIGEON POO PRESENTS A PREDICAMENT AT RAILWAY STATION

Otago Daily Times- Shelley Inon; 2 October 2021

With their home in Pleasant Point's St Mary's Church destroyed by diggers, the clocktower's feathered freeloaders have found new digs at the local railway station.

The Pleasant Point Museum and Railway volunteers claim that the new tenants are not paying board, and are leaving large piles of pigeon poo on the well-loved train platform and station walls. Bill Noble is the volunteer in charge of the bird situation, and has been dubbed by other volunteers the "Minister of the Pigeons".

While his main method of eradicating poo from the station involves rushing out each day to shoo the birds off, he is also working on altering the shape of the veranda, as its supports are bent rails, which the pigeons prefer.

If that did not work, volunteer Stewart Frew also had a plan for pigeon removal.

"We need them to hurry up and finish that [new] church, so that the pigeons can go back home." Although Mr Frew hoped that the pigeons might make his job of painting the station redundant, as "they are already doing a good job by themselves".

"If someone collects pigeons they are welcome to them."

It was not the first time the railway had had a pest problem.

Over the years it had had influxes of sparrows, but the pigeons were much bigger, resulting in larger deposits.

Volunteer Leon James is pragmatic about the problem.

"At least it hoses really well."

While annoyed with the extra work of cleaning up after the unruly bunch, the volunteers found humour in the situation.

They had all agreed that if they were used as homing pigeons — with messages tied to their legs — they would be able to deliver the mail faster than most postal services struggling in lockdown. Neville Walker, who has been a member of Toastmasters for some time and has had practice at giving speeches in alliterations, was eager to help with the perfect headline, "Plentiful pigeon poo

puts Pleasant Point people in precarious predicament".

The group's president Bryan Blanchard believed it was "like a family".

He was hopeful more volunteers would come forward to keep the railway going,

as the volunteers "aren't getting any younger".

The main requirement was "a good sense of humour".

There were benefits to becoming a part of the team.

Mr Noble assured potential volunteers, "We can train you to drive, it is just a matter of learning how".

GISBORNE CITY VINTAGE RAILWAY

Our revamped website is now up and running at <u>https://www.gcvr.org.nz/</u> - thanks to Webfoot and Design Arts for their work.

Although it was still raining heavily on 4th November and the tracks immediately outside the engine shed had disappeared under water (this was in the middle of the 200+mm of rainfall that Gisborne city received within about 36 hours), Wa165 was fired up for and passed an insteam boiler inspection.

NZTA gave their consent for us to operate DSC2759 on test runs prior to a Heritage Diesel Inspector examining the locomotive (which hopefully will have happened by the time that you read this). The first test run (on 18th November) was solo out to Gisborne Airport and back, without needing to cross the runway. A second test run was made on the same day towing the complete train (empty apart from safety crew) out to Muriwai and back, simulating a normal operating run. The DSC performed well on both runs.

Preparations are continuing for a busy few months – hopefully the whole country will avoid any major covid problems over the summer period.

-DSC2759 about to attach to the train for the first time

-GCVR train at Muriwai, hauled by DSC2759. The service wagon not only carries the spare water for the steam locomotive (Wa165), but also the electrical generator to supply power to the passenger carriages - still required with the diesel-electric pulling the train!





Photos: Graeme Scott

STATION BUILDING ON THE MOVE

Waitara Railway Preservation Society Inc. - Facebook

Today marked the start of the relocation of the former Waitotara Station building from the Waverley Station yard to our yard at Brixton.

The transport was done by Agtrans, of Hawera, who have today taken the building as far as their depot, where it will be stored until completing the journey to Brixton soon. Our appreciation goes to today's Agtrans crew, who did an excellent and efficient job.



The Waitotara Station Building on the move. Photos: Waitara Railway Preservation Society Inc.

PROGRESS CONTINUING ON A 199

Lumsden Heritage Trust

A199 now has its brass First and Second class plates fitted. Work is continuing on the First Class headstock and platforms, with gates going on this weekend. The final pieces including windows in the doors and fitting steps will soon be completed, so not too long until it will be ready for the public!





Car A199. Photos: Lumsden Heritage Trust

FEILDING & DISTRICT STEAM RAIL SOCIETY INC.

Letting Off Steam

WAB794

Boiler- The repair to the bottom of the boiler has been completed, MPI checked and SGS have been and has been passed. The repairs to the cracks in the top of the boiler and the tube plates were inspected and have been passed. The tubes were found to be some 30mm too long and all had to be cut and cleaned ready to go, in however after an inspection of the dry pipe it was found to be wasted in a section close to the front tube plate . This meant it needed to come out and the pipe replaced. The pipe has been removed. However some repairs are required on the front tube plate and new bolts will have to be made as they are special bolts. The gunmetal ends of the previous dry pipe have been prepared to accept the new pipe. A section of new pipe has been located.

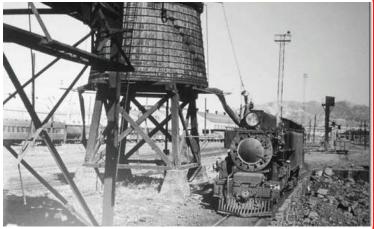
Superheater Manifolds- Some problems were detected with the superheater manifolds and have been removed for repair . Some machining was required on the sealing faces and that is being carried out by PML engineering just down the road .Superheater seats have been refaced.

Side tanks- The paint for the inside of the tanks has been purchased and when the tanks are stood up and cleaning finished they will be painted. The side tanks have now been moved and are standing up ready for cleaning ,then painting on the inside

Bunker Work- on the bunkers is progressing repairing the holes .



WAB794 in the workshop. Photo: Ivan McCutcheon



WAB794 taking on water in the Wellington yards, early 1950s. Photo: Kerry Willard

OAMARU STEAM AND RAIL

From the Oamaru Steam and Rail Digest

The railway has not operated since August because of the COVID lockdowns and restrictions, but is expected to begin running again on the 21st of November. Despite this, there has been plenty of activity on the railway.

• The Track Inspection was completed for NZTA

• The boiler inspection on B10 was passed, plus plenty of maintenance has been attended to - checking, cleaning, overhauling and adjusting of small and large valves, gauge glasses and injectors. Both cylinder glands have also been repacked.

• TR 35 is 'up in the air' having its wheels and bearings looked at as its overhaul continues.

• Our cute little Guards Van has had its lookouts replaced, guards quarters cleaned up with some seat and armrest repairs, new vestibule floorboards, and step repairs, and dog box door painting. Some wonderful work has been done on this van recently.

• The trees have been pruned by Harbourside station.

- Several sleepers have been replaced on the curve near Humber Street and the track is being lifted slightly into level and packed with ballast.
- A section of track containing a turnout is being replaced between the workshops and the main line.

• The Husky suffered a bad water leak around the head gaskets; fortunately it was not in passenger service at the time. The heads are off being machined and new rubber washers and gaskets are being fitted between the block and heads.

• Our vehicles have passed their annual 'Warrant of Fitness' inspections.

Wanted: Ticket Seller

The club is looking for someone who enjoys dealing with customers to sell tickets at our small shop in Harbourside station on Sundays. No experience necessary! Contact Harry or Luke!

D140 RETURNS TO OPERATION

Canterbury Railway Society- Branchlines; Wayne McClintock

The return of D140 to operation on Labour Weekend was an encouraging time for me and I hope it was just as enjoyable for our members and other visiting rail fans as it was for me. To see what an excellent overhaul that has been done by our team working on the locomotive, and observe her operating again after eight years of absence was a delight. When I turned up at the locomotive shed on the Sunday morning, both F13 and D140 were being prepared for the day's operations. D140 was having its valve gear lubricated and number plates fitted, while F13 was still inside the shed being cleaned. D140 was the star of the show that day and her livery looked resplendent in the sunlight. There was a short delay before the first train headed by D140 departed from Moorhouse Station, but the public were not kept waiting as there were no visitors standing on the platform. With the number of people entering Ferrymead Heritage Park being restricted by COVID, my impression was that the number of passengers riding our trains on both Sunday and Labour Day was relatively low. However I'm sure those of our members who were on the operating roster for these two days enjoyed themselves, while those members who had devoted a lot of time to overhauling D140 must have been thrilled to see her back in action. There were a lot of opportunities for photography with two steam locomotives in action. With their contrasting liveries and appearance they were a delight to watch and hear.



D140 and F13 (and crew!) at Ferrymead Heritage Park. Photos above: Kevin Prince, below: Dustin Waldron





PLEASANT POINT RAILWAY

Talking point

Well another year just about over – it certainly has had its problems world wide, New Zealand and our museum's operations with the Covid-19 Delta Pandemic. No overseas visitors or their tour parties, plus the lock downs when we could not operate. Working bees were also cancelled for round 2 months too.

Our working bees now concentrate on keeping our railway locomotives and rolling stock clean and tidy, keeping our site tidy plus chain sawing up and collecting steam locomotive firewood. This at present we are getting from fallen tress donated to our Society by David and Faye Bishop, Pages Road, Timaru. Also our railway track always needs work on it to keep it up to operating standard.

Our Steam and Craft Festival, Labour Weekend, on the Sunday and Monday 23 rd & amp; 24 th October with a number of craft stalls in our Keanes Crossing big shed and Ab699 operating over those two days proved popular again, with round 650 riding on our railway and a number coming to the Craft stalls. "Get to the Point " was cancelled at the last moment this year on the 6 th November, we decided to operate and we had been advertising it and a small number of sites were still going to operated on the day. We also had a good number of the craft stalls back in our Keanes Crossing shed. We had Ab699 operating again but were a lot quieter than we would have been if " Get to the Point " was operating. 165 rode on our rail way with a number coming to see the craft stalls.

With the holiday operating period coming up for our railway, the Steaming days are on : December 27th & 28th * January: 2nd, 3rd, 9th, 16th & 23rd * February 6th. The rail car will also be operating on these days. First train is at 10.30pm and the last one at 4pm.

1925 Ford Model T Railcar – only operating days, : when the steam railway is not operating, is daily from 27th December 2021 to 27th February 2022. The Rail car leaves the Pleasant Point railway station on the hour : 11am, 12 Noon, 1pm, 2pm & 3pm – this includes a guided tour of our museum, seeing our operating model railway and a short historic movie in our movie theatre.

ON TRACK TO KEEP TRAINS RUNNING

Otago Daily Times, 20 November 2021- Grant Miller https://www.odt.co.nz/news/dunedin/track-keep-trains-running

The future of Dunedin railway services — including the Taieri Gorge line to Hindon — could be secured until mid-2024.

Dunedin City Council staff have recommended keeping the Taieri Gorge route and continuing to operate on KiwiRail's coastal line north from Dunedin while strategic analysis is carried out about longer-term options.

Maintaining limited services on both lines has been presented as the best way to keep options open amid lingering uncertainty resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic.

The council's company, Dunedin City Holdings Ltd (DCHL), would again be instructed to absorb losses.

Keeping the trains running is expected to cost up to \$2.4million a year, offset by about \$250,000 in ticketing revenue.

The council had already instructed DCHL to fund the 2021-22 loss-making operation, which could extend the red ink by about \$2million.

The company could also face a one-off cost of about \$400,000 for an alternative storage space while Dunedin Railways' workshop in Cumberland St is needed by KiwiRail during redevelopment of the Hillside workshops.

City councillors will debate the council staff report and analysis from economist Benje Patterson next week.

•••

However, at least \$6.5million of capital investment would be needed for the Taieri Gorge line in the next decade and as much as \$2.8million more for Dunedin Railways' rolling stock. Mr Patterson said stopping services on the Taieri Gorge line would dramatically reduce capital investment, but would leave Dunedin Railways "operating in a manner that was inconsistent with historical visitor demand patterns".

"The reality is that most passengers in a pre-Covid world rode along the Taieri Gorge," he said.

Council staff said Dunedin Railways aligned well with the city's brand and identity. Visitors continued to show interest in the city's heritage.

Other factors in the mix include the possibility of a cycle trail between Middlemarch and Wingatui, or a not-for-profit entity operating the railway.

The Otago Excursion Train Trust has recently developed a business case, including proposed governance and operating structures for consideration.



The Taieri Gorge train waiting to cross at Hindon. Photo: Courtney Kilner

UPCOMING MAINLINE EXCURSIONS

Excursions are subject to Covid Restrictions- check directly with operators prior to travel

Glenbrook Vintage Railway

GVR have multiple First Class Experience & Steam Train Experience dates available, along with Discover Ruapehu Rail Tours; for more details visit - <u>www.gvr.org.nz/events/whats-on</u>

Steam Incorporated

Steam Incorporated have the Grand Circle Rail Cruise operating on the 5th of December, and the Summer Spiral Limited on the 30th of January. More information is available at- <u>www.steaminc.org.nz/book-train-trip</u>

Dunedin Railways

Another Summer of "Trains not Planes" is set to begin soon, with the Seasider and Inlander both operating regularly over the summer. There are also special trips including the Twilight Train and Christmas Inlander running. More information is available at- <u>www.dunedinrailways.co.nz/journeys</u>

Gisborne City Vintage Railway

Running days for the summer from Gisborne to Muriwai are now being advertised. More information is available at- <u>www.gcvr.org.nz/bookings/</u>

Fielding and District Steam Rail Society Inc

Around the Block 7 - To Wellington is operating on the 4th of December. More information is available at- <u>https://events.steamrail.org.nz/?page_id=4#page-</u> <u>content</u>



Photos: Diesel Traction Group

DIESEL TRACTION GROUP 2022 CALENDARS

From Facebook

Our 2022 calendars have been very successful, that the first 50 have sold out fast! Get in quick for our next batch coming soon, we are able to ship overseas at an extra charge, to Australia NZD \$8 or Europe NZD \$10. For online orders, email us at finance@dtg.co.nz. The National Railway Museum of New Zealand shop in Ferrymead Heritage Park are selling some of these from the Moorhouse railway station, from tomorrow's night market evening onwards, where you can pay and collect on a Canterbury Railway Society operating day. Don't forget that Di 1102 will be at the helm operating passenger trains throughout the evening. Also, Leslies Magazines - Lyttelton NZ has kindly stocked some of our calendars in their shop, which are now available for purchase on the shelf! We would like to thank both shops for showing their interest in selling our calendar stock and we are very appreciative of their support towards our group!





Photos: Kevin Prince

GREAT RAIL EXPERIECES OF TASMANIA TOUR (GRET) 2022

We ran an article and the poster for a GRET Tour in the May 2021 Journal for the GREAT RAIL EXPERIECES of TASMANIA Tour for October, which regrettably had to be cancelled because of Covid on both sides of the ditch.

Now that the rules have been explained and pretty much anybody can come into Australia and Tasmania after 15th December, provided they are fully vaccinated and can produce a negative test within 72 hours before arrival, the tour has been rescheduled to March 2022. Return to New Zealand is still subject to MIQ stays but is being reviewed this month. See <u>https://covid19.govt.nz/travel/quarantine-free-travel/travel-with-australia/</u>

The tour has been designed to start in Hobart especially to help New Zealanders who may want to use the Auckland - Hobart flight which is planned for Thursdays at the moment. That would be 10th March and finishes the 22nd March in Hobart, two days before the return flight.

The GREAT RAIL EXPERIECES of TASMANIA Tour (GRET) 2022 is on again and we are accepting bookings now.

The Tour commences Thursday 10 March 2022, when passengers will be picked up from their hotels in Hobart or at the airport (12.30pm) en route to Launceston. You may fly direct to Launceston if you wish and check into the Best Western Hotel where your reservation will be waiting for you. The tour will finish in Hobart on Tuesday morning 22nd March, your last 4 nights will be at the Hobart Grand Chancellor which is on the waterfront and very close to the CBD, Salamanca and many café's and restaurants.

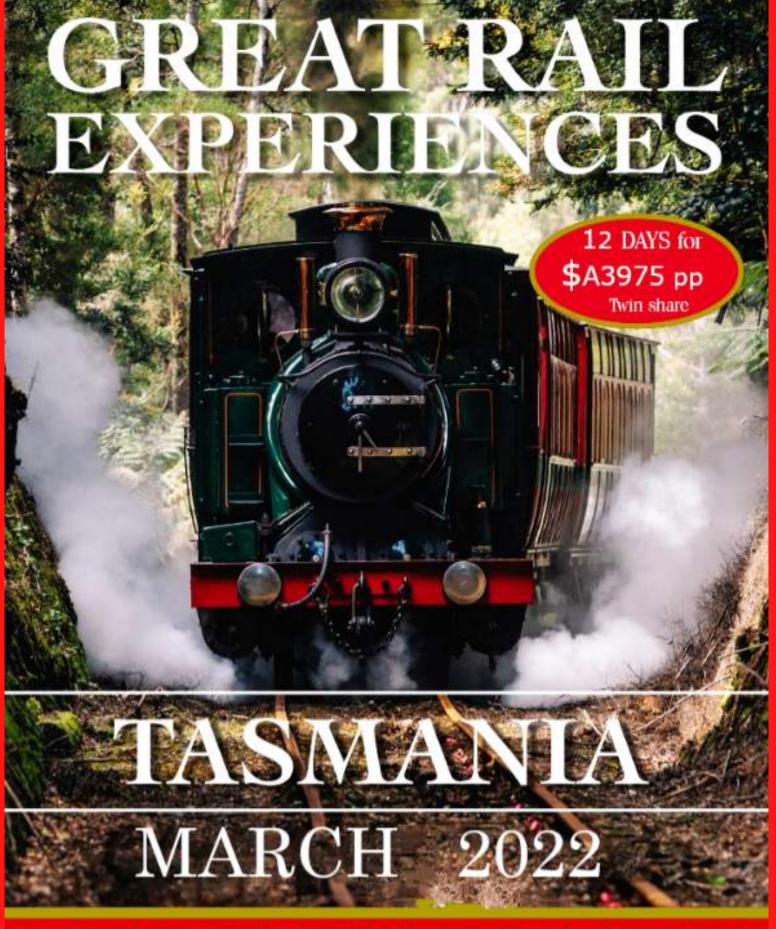
Tour highlights include a visit to the Beaconsfield Gold Mine centre, now famous for the rescue of two miners in 2006, the only museum in Tasmania that you can ride on a fully restored Launceston tram, the Don River Railway, a day trip to Stanley, a whole day at Steamfest, the Wee Geogie Wood narrow gauge railway, two nights in Strahan includung a trip up the Gordon River, Strahan to Queenstown on the West Coast Wilderness Railway, the Tasmanian Transport Museum (live steam) a day trip to Port Arthur and much much more.

Tour costs \$AUD3,975 per person on a twin share basis, add \$AUD915 for the single supplement (\$AUD4,890) and includes 12 nights accommodation, 12 evening meals and breakfasts, 4 lunches and all entry and admission charges.

For futher information and the itinerary brochure, you may message back attention Rod, email: admin@greatrailexperiencestasmania.com.au

Phone Judy: 61434 846 697 or Rod: 0428 386 843.

Visit website - tours.greatrailexperiencestasmania.com.au



Explore Tasmania's rich transport heritage and picturesque scenery. Hotels, breakfast included. Enquiries: call +61 434 846 697 or email admin@greatrailexperiencestasmania.com.au



NEW JOURNAL EDITOR

Hello!

I thought this would be a good time to introduce myself, and to thank Scott for the fantastic help and guidance he has offered me in this transition.

I am based in Dunedin, am on the Executive for the Otago Excursion Train Trust, and a member of Ocean Beach Railway. There is quite a strong family connection to the railways, so genetically I'm sure I was bound to end up involved! My experience is pretty broad, having worked at Dunedin Railways in the cafe, booking office, on the train centre radio and then finishing up as a guard and locomotive assistant. Although my time there was cut short, I have been lucky enough to be co-opted onto the FRONZ Executive and look forward to meeting you all!

Please send through your newsletters to journaleditor@fronz.org.nz, as well as any pictures/articles that may be of interest to us!

Scott; thank you for your advice and tips over the last few months, I'm sure you'll be helping me settle in for a few editions yet. Your hard work has left me with a great newsletter to work with.

Courtney Kilner

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CONTENTS MAY BE REPUBLISHED WITH ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.