

# Pukemiro Junction



T H E B U S H T R A M W A Y C L U B I N C .

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Welcome to 2014- now another year has started, what happened to 2013!

We hope that you all had a merry Christmas and happy new year.

This time of year means it is the start of a new financial year for the Club. Subscription forms will be sent out shortly. They **must** be filled in correctly and signed, otherwise they will be returned to be completely properly.

We hope that all Members will renew their subscriptions promptly.

## **O P E N D A Y S :**

November was pretty busy with a group of 'Steampunks' and a large contingent of photographers plus our normal passengers. A few more passengers would have made the day even better.

Some photos from the event have been posted online at: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/550439301691109/photos/>

December was a free day for the kids. Santa was present, handing out lollies. Unfortunately we didn't have a lot of passengers for a large part of the day but the first two trains were pretty full. For the first time in many years we had two locos in steam at the same time.

Thanks to all who come and help make these days a success.

The Peckett hauled the trains on both days on the bottom section of our line but did start a few fires which were promptly dealt with.

As usual after the last train for the year, we had our BBQ and social gathering. This was well attended and I noticed some having second helpings.

As at the time of writing  
I am overseas, this  
newsletter will look  
somewhat different to  
normal. I look forward  
to returning to a more  
normal production qual-  
ity next newsletter.

-EB

**UPCOMING WORKING BEES**

These are held on the Sunday of the 4<sup>th</sup> full weekend of the month and are very important in keeping our railway running. There are always jobs to do. The last couple haven't been very well attended. The next ones are:

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> January**

**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February**

Please turn up and help maintain our railway

**TRACK WORK DAYS :**

Ian B plans on holding a couple of working bees solely on trackwork. They are:

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January**

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> February**

If you are able, please turn up and help.

**CHARTER TRIPS :**

Our last one for 2013 was run just after our December Open Day for Chartwell Lions in Hamilton for under-privileged kids. It was on, then off, then on as they were coming to have lunch at the Junction in any case.

**AGM :**

This will be held on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> March at 1:30pm.

The morning will be taken up with our annual shunting school.

Formal notice will be sent out later.

**CARRIAGE SHELTER :**

Bruce has done a lot of work on the design for this. It will go over the back track where the steam cranes are presently parked.

We have received a grant of \$7500 from WEL Energy Trust towards the cost of this shelter. This grant is very welcome and many thanks to

From Ian B.:- What is a 'gricer'?

Answer later in the newsletter.

WEL Energy Trust. Any money from the sale of our old steam crane #256 is also going towards the project.

**STEAM EXTRAVAGANZA :**

McLean's Island in Christchurch will be holding a Steam extravaganza on 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> April 2014.

There will be two steam showman's engines at the display, one of them was in NZ a few years ago.

**TRACK WORK :**

Enough progress has been made on the line to Glen Afton to enable the vehicles stored at the end of the line to be parked another 150metres towards Glen Afton. Unfortunately, trees and shrubs have grown around the phone line to the Jenner residence to the extent that it has come down. It has been repaired but is now lower than before. No trains must go through the gates across the line at present.

Russell has continued his good work around the Junction. Unfortunately a thoughtless act by one of our members has meant Russell has gone back to Rotorua.

**BATTERY ELECTRIC HUT :**

A lot of work has been done on this hut and it has been slept in. I have spotted the door being taken off at least six times – I thought doors were just supposed to open or closed, not taken off all the time.

**FLAT TOP WAGON :**

This wagon is back on its wheels and has been shunted around the bottom part of the Junction yard. It still needs the cross-bracing to be fitted to the bogie that was replaced.

*(Continued on page 3)*

**CLIMAX 1650:**

The work on the boiler has been at a standstill lately but work on the underframe and engine unit is progressing very well. The whole of the underframe, engine unit and bogie gears have been re-built.

**#3 CAR:**

Work continues on this car. It is now at the stage that approx.  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the tongue and groove is now nailed in place and enough T&G painted to complete the side.

**CRANE 256:**

Work continues on the dismantling of this. Ian B., Russell and Bruce have done most of the work. Most of the easily removable bits are now off the crane and it is a bit more difficult to dismantle now.

**PECKETT 1630:**

This loco continues to run well. Richard Ellis spent a week at the Junction recently and repainted the smokebox and replaced all piston and valve glands.

**PADLOCKS:**

As from 1/1/14 the padlock on the gate at the bottom of the driveway up to the Junction has been changed. The old one was found broken this morning & those particular padlocks are now unobtainable. Most of our members who have keys to the old padlock will need a new key to the new padlock. These are obtainable from C. Jenner. Not all members are entitled to a key. We intent gradually changing all gate padlocks to the new ones, the gate across the railway line just downhill from Hangapipi Rd already has a new padlock on it.

**NATIONAL RAILWAY MUSEUM:**

This is slowly taking shape at Ferrymead, Christchurch. We have just received an email form

them offering membership. Normally this costs \$20 per year but for any member of a Federation of Rail Organisations member club, the membership is \$15 per year.

Anyone interested should contact them at [treasurer@nzrailmuseum.com](mailto:treasurer@nzrailmuseum.com), please mention that you are a member of BTC.

**CB 117:**

This loco returned from its year at MOTAT in late November. The ramp was used for the first time and worked perfectly. MOTAT took away the last of the 70lb rail.

**NEW SHED:**

Progress on the earthworks for track access into the new shed are progressing very well and look almost complete.

Please remember that the tractor is NOT to be run around the yard when there are people around or lots of cars.

**INTERNAL AUDIT:**

This was carried out during our November working bee by Chris. His main concern is when propelling a train within Pukemiro yard. As a result of this, we are fitting a connection from the Westinghouse system up to the edge of the rear platform of both our operating carriages. This means the guard can apply the brakes if necessary.

-CJ

**FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S  
DESK:**

Firstly I would like to express sincerest condolences to Mary Burns and family for their sad loss following the passing away of Eric on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January.

Eric was a devout Railway enthusiast and preservationist. Was a member of most railway groups in this part of the island as an officer and worker for those groups and as a teacher. He has taken with him a wealth of knowledge and experiences that he gained during his life. Rest in peace Eric.

**Welcome to 2014:**

Since last newsletter the Cb has returned from MOTAT and took part in the December open day along with the Peckett which is steaming well. It is now survey time for these locomotives which means that some other jobs will go on the back burner for now.

The crane demolition is progressing slowly, anything that could be easily removed has been, Thanks to Lindsey, Chris L and Allun for assisting with the removal of the steam engine cylinders. Now it is time for some serious cutting to start on this. If anyone has oxy-acetylene cutting experience then you are most welcome to help with this job. It would get this crane demolished quicker with some expertise.

A grant from WEL Energy trust for \$7500 has been received for the carriage shelter project. Many thanks to WEL Energy Trust.

Chris Lucas and his team are now making inroads on their project and hope to start some track work soon. This will be a good chance for anybody wanting to learn this aspect of the railway, track sets and a point need to be put together. Good fun when working as a team.

The AGM will soon be held. I would like the members to think hard about whether they would be able to help with positions on the committee. It is being left to the same few people to do the behind the scenes jobs.

Remember to work safe and act safe when at the Railway.

I look forward to your participation this coming year.

Bruce McLuckie  
Chairman

**A COUPLE MORE  
OF TREV. TERRY'S  
PHOTOS:**

Answer to question: A Gricer is a train spotter

Re-sleeping when we were all a lot younger in August 1979.

Left to right: Rupert Aldridge, Dave Haenes, CJ, Dick Lawrence.

Rupert and Dick passed away many years ago and Dave hasn't been a member for a number of years.

-CJ



Acquiring track material!!

Our train in October 1979 returning from Rotowaro. This section of our line was taken from us for the Rotowaro open cast mine. The bridge in the background is the Hangapipi Rd. overhead bridge.

-CJ



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