

# Pukemiro Junction



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

## GREETINGS

By the time you receive this newsletter, 2014 will be half over. Not sure where the time goes (Probably an interstellar space-time distortion vortex –Ed).

## SUBS

Reminder notices have gone out to all unfinancial members, several of which have now paid their subs. Thank you.

## OPEN DAYS

The May Open Day was fairly busy while June was reasonably quiet. June we were a bit short of ladies in the shop so Ian Bettison put on his pinny and ran the kitchen while Russell was chief sausage burner. Beryl was behind the ticket counter and Joy was at the souvenir table. Many thanks to all those who turn up and help with these Open Days.

## CHARTER TRIPS

During May we had a new Kindy from Taupiri come for a ride and they really enjoyed themselves. We have an over 60's group booked for mid-July and an enquiry for a large charter early in October.

If you know of any group that may like a charter trip please contact us.

## AGM

This was held on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2014. The meeting was attended by 18 members, down on last years. The Committee is the same as last years with the addition of Richard Ellis as Secretary. There were no really contentious issues raised.

*A poem is never finished,  
only abandoned.*  
*-W. H. Auden*

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**QUIZ:**

Where might this little station be?



Clue: It's only been there since 2008...  
 Answer on page 5

Next year is the Club's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and 100 years since the railway arrived at Pukemiro Junction. A small subcommittee has been formed to pull together ideas for our celebrations. These ideas will be passed onto the club committee for consideration.

**JUNCTION AREA**



Russell continues to keep the area looking like a park. We get a lot of very good comments about the look of this area, particularly from visitors who have not been there for a number of years. He has planted out a lot more trees and shrubs usually home-grown in his nursery.

**SAFETY SCHOOL**

This was held on the morning of the AGM and was well attended.

**UPCOMING OPEN DAYS**

Our next open days will be on:

- Sunday**      3<sup>rd</sup>              **August**
- Sunday**      7<sup>th</sup>              **September**
- Sunday**      5<sup>th</sup>              **October**

We need as many members as possible to turn up and help run these Open Days.

**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's always something to do. The next ones are:

- Sunday**      27<sup>th</sup>            **July**
- Sunday**      24<sup>th</sup>            **August**
- Sunday**      28<sup>th</sup>            **September**

**Please turn up and help improve our railway!**

**NEW LOCO SHELTER**



Chris and his crew continue with progress on this. During the last working bee they compacted some crusher dust into the floor area. They also bent some of the rails that will form the siding into the shed.

**TRACKWORK**

We have had a few more visits from the community work crews. Several sleepers were replaced between the Junction and the 3 km mark.

They have replaced some more sleepers at the Glen Afton end of the line, enough to allow us to

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move the wagons up another 40 metres. We are now starting to replace sleepers in the last cutting before Glen Afton 300-400 metres away.

We have just purchased 640 new screw spikes from Kiwi rail. They are not cheap but they reckoned they don't have any second hand ones now. Guy and Elliot spent part of a day tightening up several loose rails.

**H U T S**



A lot of work has gone into revamping the huts at the Junction. So far the jigger shed has been completed and another shed partly done. The work has largely been done by Russell but helped along by Derek and Gail. Any rotten timber has been replaced and the huts painted.

This is the first time for very many years that these huts have been worked on.

**P R I C E E**



As the photo in the last newsletter shows, our Price E was lifted onto its separate section of track while the crane was here lifting the WMR car. Russell has painted some rust killer on part

of the main frame. The water blasters have returned and finished the cleaning of the chassis and bogies.



**N O . 3 C A R**

Not a lot has happened on this car since last newsletter as Robin was in hospital for a few days and not allowed to do anything for approx. 6 weeks.

**C L I M A X 1 6 5 0**



The welder was up from Wellington for a week working on the boiler. Some rivets were put in the dome and the new tube plate welded in.

**W M R C A R**

This was loaded onto a transporter on the Tuesday after Easter and was in Wellington a day later. It is now under cover in the NZ railway and loco society shed at the north end of Silverstream in the Hutt Valley.

## CRANE 256



Ian Bettison continues to dismantle this crane. Another 10 tonnes of scrap was recently sold, the proceeds going towards our carriage shelter.

## FRONZ CONFERENCE

This year it was held in Wanganui during Queens Birthday weekend. There were a series of talks, the main ones that affect us will be a re-vamped Health and Safety Act. At this stage it could affect us as a solely volunteer club. This act will not be passed before the elections because of MP John Banks resignation.

The other main item to come out of the conference was that FRONZ is to contract a person to prepare a comprehensive boiler code for loco type boilers. We presently have one but it has never been officially recognised and doesn't really cover repairs.

As usual there was an awards (see next page – Ed) and annual dinner evening. The following visits or trips also formed part of the conference. A 2 hour trip on the paddle steamer “Waimarie”. A visit to Steam Rail Wanganui's base. They use part of the KiwiRail yard beside the river at Wanganui.

Bruce McLuckie, Richard Ellis, Jan Jenner and Colin Jenner attended the conference. A visit was made to the newly restored Wanganui tram just down the road from the paddle steamers wharf. The tram had its first public running day on Monday of Queens Birthday weekend.

-Colin Jenner, General Manager

## FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S DESK

Hi members, To those unable to attend the AGM I am once again the Chairman for another year.

The next 18 months are going to be fairly busy with on-going projects to push on with and also planning for the clubs 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and the centennial of the railway opening to Pukemiro junction.

Within the Club's membership are members of long standing that have been there from the start of the club and will have seen all of the changes and know of the effort that has gone into building the Bush Tramway Club into what it is today. All were young in the beginning with great ideas and plans of what directions needed to be taken. Now it is coming up to the time when we can celebrate those achievements and remember those who have contributed but are not with us anymore.

A small sub-committee has been asked to make plans for next year's Open Days so we will wait to see what they come up with.

I would like to do an update and reprint of the clubs 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary book with newer photos and more early history included. Hopefully we can get funding for this.

Winter means a slowdown of work on the big projects but hopefully some sunny days will allow the Price “E” to get a coat of paint on it. Water blasting has been completed allowing the frame and boiler to be treated and undercoated. Two of the original side rods have been cleaned up ready to go back onto the bogies. There should be two more around somewhere but as yet we have not come across them.

I would like to remind members that work areas must be left clean and tidy at the end of the day as just lately the workshops have been left in a mess. Please make sure any tools that you use are clean and returned to their proper place. Sweep the floor as well.

That's it for now, look forward to seeing you all at the Junction some time.

-Bruce McLuckie, Chairman



## FRONZ AWARD WINNERS

- **Steam Locomotive Restoration Award:** Steam Incorporated for the restoration of Ab 608 "Passchendale"
- **Diesel Locomotive Restoration Award:** No entries this year
- **Carriage/Guards Van Restoration Award:** Pleasant Point Railway for their restoration of A 1142, a 47<sup>1/2</sup> foot passenger carriage
- **Goods/Service Wagon Restoration Award:** Glenbrook Vintage Railway for its set of restored wagone including E2101 (Workmans Hut), Lc , Yh 950
- **Rail Heritage Trust Award:** Glenbrook Vintage Railway for the restoration of Bright's Road Bridge near Victoria Avenue Station, built in 1921
- **KiwiRail Infrastructure Improvement Award:** Canterbury Railway Society for the construction of the turning triangle at Ferrymead
- **AON Young Achievers Award:** No Entries this year
- **Tramway Restoration Award:** Mornington Cable Car No. 111
- **Weta Workshops for Creativity Award:** Wairarapa Railcar Society for the restoration of the Eketahuna Railway Station and surrounding grounds
- **P.S. Heighton Award for Excellence:** Canterbury Railway Society for the great team effort of running Rail 150 celebrations during difficult times in 2013

# The Gallery

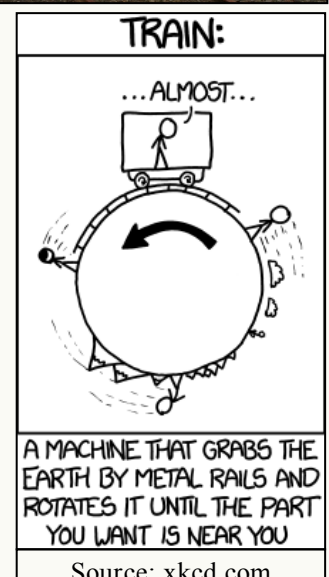


Top Left: All aboard for the last train of the May Open Day! With just enough time to have a gander at the Peckett beforehand.

Top Right: Also of the last May train, this image shows a rare visit by the Peckett to the top of the line and the Jenners' house! Usually it only takes from the bottom of the line to the station but with only one carriage in tow it climbed the longer top section with ease. Scrambling down the bank after a quick bit of digital image taking can be seen Guy followed by some of the MOTAT chaps. The eagle-eyed of you may also spot CJ down the back coupling up the diesel loco for the trip back down the line.

Right: For those who haven't seen it already, this cartoon offers a different perspective on rail based locomotion. Who knew the Peckett was powerful enough to move the world!

Video recommended by the chairman: "Steampunk Express 2013 - Huntly, Waikato" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e-qPLAYiVV0>



**QUIZ ANSWER:** Why it's the newest station of the Nelson Railway Society!