

Pukemiro Junction



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

GREETINGS

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Welcome to another newsletter.

OPEN DAYS:

September open day was only fair passenger wise. The same for October.

October was helped by a bus load from Auckland, the third time the driver has brought a bus load to visit us.

Trevor continues with burning the sausages (some might say cooking for flavour –Ed.). He sold out again during the October Open Day.

Thanks to all those who turn up and help with these days as without you we could not run. We could do with more help on these days both as train crew and in the station. We can soon train you to help on the train. Please give this some thought.

CHARTER TRIPS:

Since last newsletter we had three kindies on one morning, rather hectic but we coped. We also had a visit from a bus load from Taranaki who really enjoyed their visit.

By the time you receive this newsletter, we will have had a visit from a heap of photographers.

*You're in pretty good shape
for the shape you are in.*

- Dr Seuss



Many thanks to all who turn up and help with these trips. Are there any other members who can help?

AROUND THE JUNCTION:

What a pretty place the Junction is at present! A lot of the plants Russell has planted are in flower. One day Russell and Dave Mann planted out sixty trees, shrubs and flaxes. Russell has a good nursery close to his caravan.

Chris Lucas has resigned from the club so his project is on hold at present. We hope that some of his team will continue with it.

We recently were visited by a classic car club mostly from Auckland's North Shore. They did not want a train ride, just a look around. A magnificent collection of cars were on show while they were at the Junction.

TRACKWORK:

We have had a few more visits from our Community work crews. The sleeper replacement continues between the Junction and Hangapipi Rd. Ian B and Russell have cut down a large pine tree that was growing very close to the line towards Glen Afton. They cut it into rings and stacked them by the firewood shed. The rings were split and stacked in the shed by a CW crew in a short time one afternoon.

For some years about half way between the Junction and the present end of the line there has been a very slow moving slip. It moved slightly during August so a CW crew dug the toe of it out and cleaned out the line side drain. It has moved again during September but much larger than previously. We were able to get by during the October Open Day but only just. Looks like another job for a CW crew.

PRICE "E":

The boiler has been largely painted a medium grey by Dave Mann. The side rods on one side have been fitted by Bruce and Russell.

PRICE "CB":

This has been in steam during Open Days running up and down the yard. The loco has had a good coat of paint.

CRANE 256:

Ian B continues to dismantle this. The runner wagon has been dealt to and has gone for scrap. There

UPCOMING OPEN DAYS

Our next open days will be on:

Sunday 2nd November
Sunday 7th December

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

UPCOMING WORKING BEES

Working bees are held on the Sunday of the 4th full weekend of the month and are very important in keeping our railway running. The last couple have not been very well attended. Please turn up and help improve our railway. The next ones are:

2014:

Sunday 26th October
Sunday 23rd November
Sunday 28th December

2015:

Sunday 25th January

Please turn up and help improve our railway!



was not much left of this wagon, it had really rusted away. The bogies though are being on sold to another group. The back road is looking fairly clear (thankfully there's still plenty of other rusting hulks to maintain the charm some people seek –Ed.).

NO. 3 CAR:

Robin continues to work on this car and now has two windows fitted in place and a section of the barge board above the windows. Bob Webb has almost fitted the replacement end section immediately under the roof. This was made by Dave Scott many years ago. Robin is helped by Derek and Gail.

WEATHER:

We have certainly had our fair share of high winds and rain since last newsletter. The wind has just blown down a tall, small diameter pine tree and as you can guess it is across the track. None of our culverts has shown any sign of ponding after heavy rain. A section of our safety scheme states that we must inspect the track after heavy rain or high winds.

PECKETT:

This continues to run extremely well. Keep your fingers crossed. It is usually crewed by Chris and Neil but occasionally driven by Bruce or Colin and fired by Guy. Chris and David keep the loco fairly spotless.

PINE TREES AT THE JUNCTION:

For many years there have been some large pine trees growing at the top end of the junction yard. These trees are growing on both sides of our railway and cause problems with their needles dropping all over the track and the occasional root lifting the rails. We have so far had two cut down for free in exchange for some of the wood. There is enough wood left over for us to keep us going for a long time. Some has been cut up by Ian B. and Russell then stacked in our firewood wagon. Heaps remain to be cut up and stacked for future use.

2ND MAMAKU JIGGER:

Ian reports that he is well on the way with the overhaul of this vehicle. He has just about completed the rear passenger compartment in all new timber. It is to have a canvas roof and roll up sides. One of the complaints from passengers that ride the present one is that they cannot see the country side.

DECEMBER OPEN DAY:

After the trains have finished we will be having our usual end of year BBQ. Please join in and bring something to help out. –CJ

LATE BREAKING: DS AWAY

The Ds shunter has been sold to The Rimutaka Incline Railway trust at Maymorn in Upper Hutt. It was loaded up on the 19th and is now on its way south. –Bruce McLuckie



The Gallery



Top Left: The Peckett steaming in the September morning sun

Top Right: Fire crew and guard having a quick word before the Peckett takes the train back up to the station

Above: The Cb sizzling quietly as the Mamaku Jigger trundles past

Left: The Ds beginning its long journey south

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