

Pukemiro Junction



T H E G L E N A F T O N L I N E

GREETINGS

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Welcome to another newsletter, 2016 is halfway through already.

SUBS

Thanks to those who have belatedly renewed their subs. If you haven't, your name is automatically removed from our mailing list.

Welcome to our new members, we hope that you will come along and help run the Club and the railway.

OPEN DAYS

May was only busy for half the day. The 12 and 1 o'clock trains were packed out but the rest of the day was reasonably quiet. We were very short of helpers, particularly at the station.

June was very quiet with only one carriage being used and pulled by the Peckett all of the way to the Glen Afton end (Quite a fun day—Ed.).

Thanks to those who came and helped out with these Open Days, we cannot do it without you.

ANNUAL SAFETY MEETING

We will be holding our annual safety discussions on **August 28th starting at 10.30am**. All members of our operating crew are required to attend.



Another one makes it to the top. The Mamaku jigger joins the exclusive list of vehicles to make it to Glen Afton once more. (Image: I.J.)



Mixed goods shunting with the Peckett at the end of the June Open Day. New green paint on show. (Image: C.M.)

GLEN AFTON END

The contractor is due shortly to scrape and clean all the mud off the top of the sleepers and tidy up the drains. We have received some funding from Waikato District Council to do the work. We are presently obtaining price quotes for the next stage of this development which is the replacement of up to 800 sleepers in this section. (Outline of Glen Afton development plans later in newsletter—Ed.)

TRACKWORK

Ian Bettison has been trimming back some of the line side growth. We are slowly working our way through the faults found by Ian during his last track inspection.

The broken point in rotten row has been largely re-railed, this was a pretty big job.

Our Community Work team have during three days in between the rain been replacing sleepers in Pukemiro yard. They have also unloaded and stacked 50 new sleepers.

NOTABLE PASSINGS

Recently two people who were not members of our club but were well known to our older members and the railway preservation scene have passed away.

PAUL DILLICAR

He was for many years the president of the Federation of Rail organisations of NZ (FRONZ). In this capacity he visited us usually once a year.

A very small number of clubs like ours formed FRONZ in 1975 and he was elected as the first president, a position that he held until 1994 when he stood down but stayed on the executive. In 2004 he was re-elected as President, a position he held until 2010 when he suffered a bad stroke within a few weeks of the conference. He spent the rest of his life confined to a wheel chair.

IAN STEWART

Ian spent many years as the leading light behind the Tramway section at MOTAT and was the driving force behind the establishment of their tramway. When we started our club at MOTAT the tramway section held their midweek working bees the same night as ours so we were well known to them.

The Bush Tramway Club was represented at both funerals.

Steam Engines

PECKETT

This loco continues to perform reliably and is now sporting a new coat of green paint on the tanks and cab sides thanks to Peter Cairncross.

UPCOMING OPEN DAYS

Our next Open Days will be on:

Sunday	3rd	July
Sunday	7th	August
Sunday	4th	September

From steam loco drivers and diesel driver trainees to sausage sizzlers and photographers for the newsletter, we always need as many members as possible to come and help run these days.

UPCOMING WORKING BEES

The next ones are:

Sunday	26th	June
Sunday	24th	July
Sunday	28th	August

Remember there is always something to do on these days. Some independent examples are:

- Oiling the points
- Trimming the bush ever encroaching on the line
- Giving the locos a good wipe down



Peckett sanding, undercoat, colour coat and result! (Images: P.C.,C.M.)

CB117

This passed it's "in steam" inspection in late May.

HEISLER

David Mann continues to work on this loco. His main job at present is drilling the crown sheet stays where they are screwed into the firebox crown sheet, not an easy job as the stays are above his head.



The Heisler looks better and better. (Image: E.B.)

Rolling Stock

CAR A1319

Richard paid a short notice visit to us during May. He concentrated on getting the windows fitting right. All the fan light windows are in place. He has repaired or replaced most of the interior panels that fit above the windows. Those working on the Car with Richard are Russell, Dave, Rob and Sue.



Car A1319 is going to be quite a useful carriage. Electric lighting, tables, the passengers will love it! (Image: E.B.)

Projects

WATER TOWER

All permanent bracing for the stand has been bolted on. The mounting bolt holes are being cut out and drilled through the wood and hopefully the permanent holding down bolts will be installed soon.

Around the Junction

NEW EQUIPMENT

We have really splashed out and purchased some new equipment to try and make life easier at the railway.

We have recently bought a new weed spray unit after the old one gave up the ghost. And we have just bought a new petrol trimmer that has an extendable pole and a hedge trimmer along with a chainsaw attachment. This will allow us to trim back growth from the track side much more easily.

A second-hand ballast tamping unit has been purchased by one of our members from another Railway preservation group and will arrive soon. This will make the job of packing ballast under the sleepers much easier.

RIDE ON MOWER

Unfortunately the ride on mower that Russell was using for the lawns has packed a sad. This was a second-hand machine. The valve seats in the motor are steel and the body of the motor is aluminium. The valve seats had worked loose and can't be repaired reliably so we are in the process of applying for a grant to get a new mower (Thanks again CJ—Ed.).

CAMPERS

Will are still getting the occasional camper van coming to stay at the junction.

NEW CULVERT ON ROTOWARO ROAD

Rotowaro road was closed for the two weeks of the school holidays. During that time the old culvert below Pukemiro Junction was pulled out and new con-



Plenty of room for them, free driveway maintenance for us! (Image: B.M.)

crete sections put in place to give a twin culvert. The job of tidying up, including a the new road surface, was finished by the end of the 3rd week of June. The road was open again on the Saturday evening just before our Open Day the next day.

While the contractors for the roading job were here the opportunity was taken to get the driveway from the bottom gate up to the station re-metaled with the contractors using their grader and rollers to dress it up for us. They had been parking their machines in the clubs carpark for security at night.

FRONZ CONFERENCE

The 2016 conference was held in Auckland this year. The main thing learnt at the conference was that NZTA are changing the way we are assessed to a more risk analysis type of assessment with much more “continuous improvement”.

At the conference dinner it was announced that our Chairperson Elliot was the winner of the Young achiever’s award. This entitles him to attend next year’s conference (in Dunedin) with all expenses paid up to \$1000.

Well done Elliot.

STATION AREA

Russell continues to keep this whole area in really good shape despite the weather. He is often planting out more trees or shrubs. The Dalia’s will look superb next summer too.

That’s all for now. -CJ

The Gallery



Early morning steam with the classic light through the pines on the June Open Day. (Image: E.B.)

Notices

FIREWOOD

We still have some firewood for sale. \$60 for a 6x4 trailer load.

BOTTLE OPENER KEY-CHAINS



When you need a bottle opened, or even when you don’t. Let a new Glen Afton Line keyring be your best pocket pal!

T-SHIRTS & CAPS



Due to the popularity of the first batch of T-shirts and caps a further production run of each has been done. We now have T-shirts available in Navy Blue and Charcoal from the station shop along with more black caps.

If you would like to post a notice here, send it through to: secretary@bushtramwayclub.com

THANKS NEW WORLD NGĀRUAWĀHIA

Thanks to the manager of New World Ngāruawāhia for the donation of steel shelving. Useful for storing all the bits that will come out of the old hall when demolished.

- Ashley Turner via Elliot Baptist



Thanks to Ian Bettison and his friend Stephen Hooper, we have a new sign in Huntly with the new “Glen Afton Line” name shining bright (Upper Left). A length of rope proved a handy substitute for a tape measure! The old Huntly sign was recycled as our new sign for the bottom of the junction driveway (Lower Left), a definite upgrade from the rather worn sign of many years (Above). (Images: T.B.)



The old boiler long ‘stored’ by the top end of Campbell's crossing has been pulled out for Johnny McClune to have a crack at. (Images: P.C.)



Ian Jenner managed to get pretty far into Glen Afton with the Mamaku jigger right up to where the rails are still buried. Good to see he had the tablet too! (Images: I.J.)

David’s cutting seems the best new photography spot on the line. Unfortunately the Peckett has to wait at entrance while the lighter Planet and Mamaku jigger have run of the place. Even so the steaming Peckett looks at home in the bush. (Image: C.M.)



The Planet with three loaded wagons in tow on one of David's many trips to work in the cutting. In this trip overhanging trees were cut down and drains kept flowing. Just a continuation of the impressive effort on David's part to get to where we are now. (Image: E.B.)



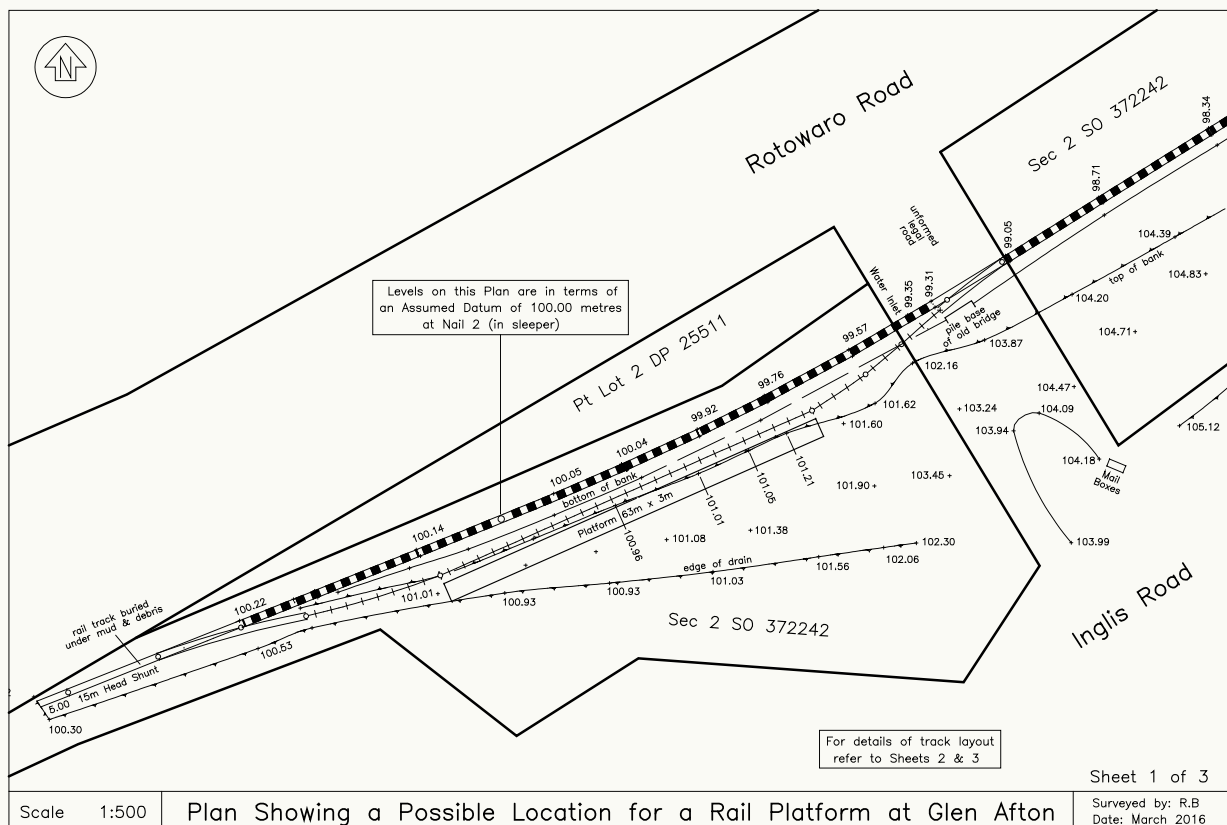
THE GLEN AFTON DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Some months ago the Club Committee decided to set up a separate Glen Afton Development Sub-committee consisting of Elliot Baptist (chair), Teresa Bettison (fund raising), Richard Ellis, Colin Jenner, Ian Jenner and Bruce McLuckie. One outcome of it's inaugural meeting was the detailing of the current plan of attack for the project. I've outlined these plans below to give everyone an of idea what's been done and what's coming up:

- Phase 1 – Clear the track up to the cutting past Colin's place.
 - Complete.
- Phase 2 – Stabilise existing track up to same.
 - Complete.
- Phase 3 – Dig drainage and remove mud from remaining line to GA.
 - Contractors to arrive shortly.
- Phase 4 – Re-sleeper and re-ballast remaining track to GA (400 metres).
 - Funding being sought.
- Phase 5 - Clear station area, build loop track and platform with access road.
 - See draft plan (thanks to Rob Beaumont) below.
- Phase 6 – Build a station structure.
 - Ian Jenner slated to build NZR style shelter as kitset.
- Phase 7 – Landscaping and fencing.

As part of this we've developed a double sided flyer outlining our plans for Glen Afton residents and interested people in the wider community. Find it attached to the end of this newsletter if you wish to print out and let others know about our exciting plans!

-Elliot



WANT TO BE KEPT INFORMED?

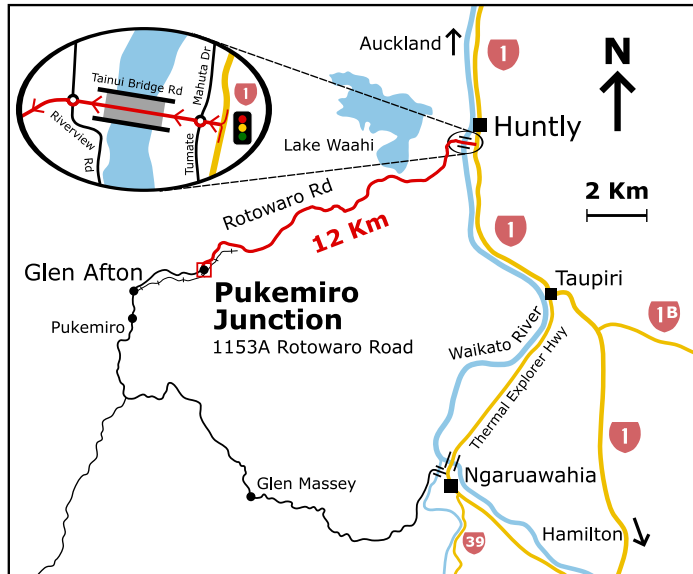
Send your email address to:
secretary@bushtramwayclub.com
and we will send you periodic updates on the project.

Glen Afton Line

Heritage Railway

Owned and operated by The Bush Tramway Club Inc.

WIDER AREA MAP:



FIND US AT:

www.bushtramwayclub.com
www.facebook.com/TheBushTramwayClubInc/

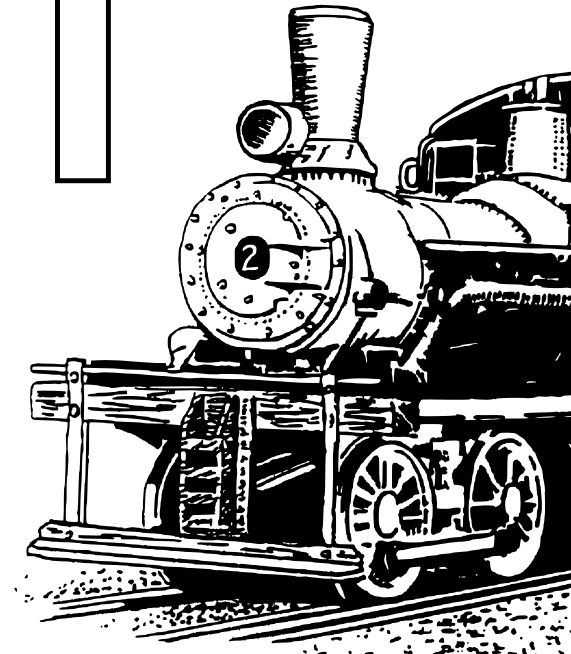
CONTACT US AT:

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R.D.1 Huntly 3771

WE'RE COMING To...

GLEN AFTON

Planning Schedule



WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT THEN?

- We are The Bush Tramway Club Inc., operators of a Heritage Railway 12 km West of Huntly.
- Our goal is to extend our train operations to Glen Afton, the original terminus of the line.
- To achieve this, 400m of track needs re-laying, a new loop track laid and passenger platform built.
- With help from our members, sponsors and the community at large, we can bring the railway back to Glen Afton for all to enjoy!



GLEN AFTON MANY YEARS AGO

Work remaining to bring passenger trains to Glen Afton includes

Phase 4

- Track Reconstruction

Phase 5

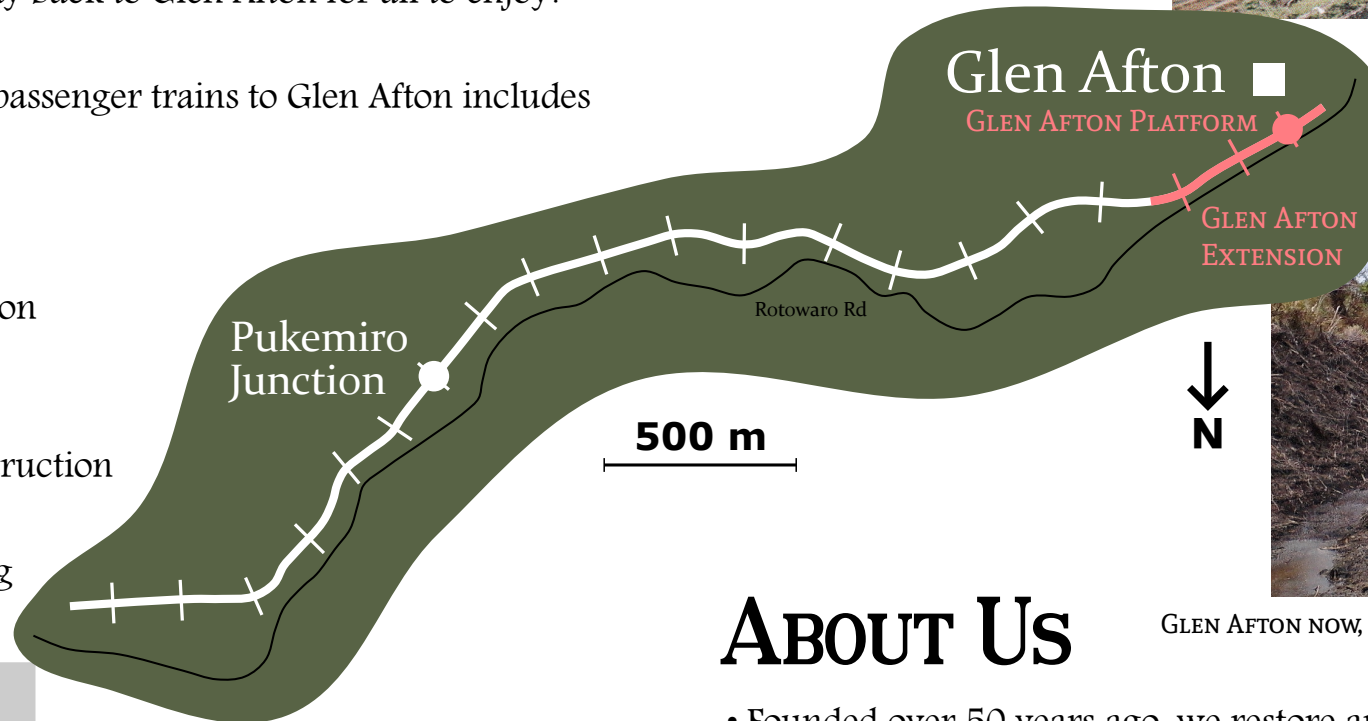
- Loop Track Construction
- Platform Construction

Phase 6

- Platform Shelter Construction

Phase 7

- Landscaping & Fencing



GLEN AFTON NOW, HELP US TURN MUD INTO A RAILWAY!

Target completion date
2019

CURRENT STATUS

Currently we are planning and fundraising for Phase 4, Track restoration.



HELP US GET THIS TRAIN TO GLEN AFTON!

ABOUT US

- Founded over 50 years ago, we restore and operate heritage locomotives and rolling stock from coal and timber railways.
- Our members are all volunteers of many different backgrounds and ages.
- Every 1st Sunday of the month, April - December we run passenger trains for the public.
- We are the biggest visitor attraction in the area, boosting the local economy.