

Pukemiro Junction



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

GREETINGS

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Greetings members. Welcome to the first newsletter for 2017, 2016 is now but a memory.

This time of year means that it is time to renew your subscriptions. We hope you will all renew. Notices have been posted out, if you haven't renewed by the end of May your name is automatically removed from our membership roll. Remember all donations over \$5 are tax deductible.

AGM NOTICE

Sunday 26th March at 1pm

After the morning Safety Refresher

OPEN DAYS

The November Open Day was somewhat quieter than the previous couple, never the less a fairly healthy total was banked. We were extremely short of members that day to operate our trains.

December was busier with Santa present. Again a healthy banking occurred.

We have been very privileged to have had a lot of car clubs visit us on our Open Days. During November we were visited by a group of Morris cars and during December we had a wide variety of Chevrolet cars ranging from 1929 to 1965. These cars are always on display for a couple of hours and get a lot of attention from other visitors to our railway.

A big thank you to all of our members who turn up to help run these Open Days, without you they could not happen. It is often difficult for the General Manager to work out "who" is going to do "what" as often it comes down to seeing who is going to turn up.



The Steampunks descend upon us! (Image: I.J.)



The water tower rises above us! (Image: R.E.)

CHARTER TRIPS

We had a visit from the Steampunk group at the end of October. Not as many turned up as had been expected but it was a good day with lots of photographs being taken by our visitors.



A special thanks to all of our members who answered the call for help, especially Andrew who turned up dressed in Steampunk theme. It is always great having this group at Pukemiro Junction.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our 2017 AGM will be held on **Sunday 26th March at 1pm**. Please mark this date on your calendar.

As usual the morning will be devoted to bringing members up to date with changes required to the way we do things brought about by our annual assessment.

NZTA'S LATEST ANNUAL ASSESSMENT

Most of the items raised in our annual assessment have been dealt with and closed. There are some major changes awaiting us including 2 yearly refresher training for our operating members in all their competencies. We will keep you posted on this issue. (Please attend the mandatory Safety Refresher the morning of the AGM –Ed.)

UPCOMING WORKING BEES

An important requirement for keeping our railway going. The next ones will be:

| | | |
|---------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Sunday | 29th | January |
| Sunday | 26th | February |
| Sunday | 26th | March |

Safety session (Morning) and AGM (1pm)

Some examples of things to do are:

- Oiling the points
- Giving the locos a good clean
- Helping keep the weeds down
- Picking up the rubbish left at the bottom of the drive



Obituaries

JULIE SOBIEAKI

Our treasurer Ian Jenner's wife passed away very suddenly on 12th October while in Wellington. She occasionally visited us at the Junction but was right behind Ian's work for the Club, The BTC was well represented at her funeral.

KELLY GIFFORD

Kelly passed away on 26th July after a period of illness. He was one of the Battery Electric team and really enjoyed his time at Pukemiro Junction.

JOHNNY McCLUNE

Johnny passed away very suddenly on 11th November at age 32 not far from his home in Wanganui. He had a life commitment to steam machinery in all forms and had very recently obtained all of the steam gear from the Huntly power station steam museum. Most if it was set up at his home in Wanganui and actually run under steam. Johnny had acquired Eric Burns Steam crane from Pukemiro Junction and had it transported to his property.

He was very involved in work on the Heisler's boiler and had plans to get it back in steam. Johnny owned a Traction engine that he bought up to the Junction last year as part of our 50th anniversary year along with a trailer mounted steam engine and generator that he brought along one weekend.

Some of our members attended the service at his home and it was a very large gathering indeed.

EWAN MCQUEEN

Although never a member of our Club he would occasionally visit us as Chairman of the Rail Heritage trust. He had a genuine interest in preserving buildings from NZR days. He passed away on 29th August.

Locomotives

Both the Peckett and the Cb are out of service for their annual boiler surveys.

PRICE E

A further step in tidying up this loco has been a rebuild of the bunker and water tank. This was carried out by a local contractor. It is due back at the Junction soon. The next job is the construction of the new cab floor. This work has been made possible with a grant from Trust Waikato.

MAMAKU JIGGER #2

Ian J. has been working overtime on this Jigger and hopes to have it running by mid January.

Rolling Stock

CAR 1319

Richard has been back to the Junction twice since the last newsletter.

All of the seat frames have been cut out, assembled and painted. The new seat squabs have been made and are stored at the Junction. The best part of a weeks work saw the new ceiling panels painted and put up in place. Looks very nice now with all of the varnished wood panels nearly completed. The carriage was pulled out of the workshop and given a water test of the roof to check the new roof covering.

Russell has been busy replacing the ends of the air brake pipework as they were badly corroded.

Work remaining on this job is the fitting of some of the fiddley pieces of the interior. Those helping Richard have been, Russell, Dave, Sue, Rob and new member David Harrison

Projects

WATER TOWER

The construction of the water tank has been completed and com-



pletely painted inside and out. It was lifted into place on its stand on a recent Monday afternoon. The plastic internal tank was placed inside the wooden surround just prior to the tank being lifted up onto the stand.

The outside was painted by our member Tony Hinton (pictured) from the UK who was visiting NZ. He even brought his own paint brush!

Thanks to Les Harrison Transport for the Hiab to do the lifting job. Bruce was assisted by Ian B. and Russell on the day. The next phase will be getting the water supply hooked up to it from our main tanks on the hill above the Loco shed.



TRACK WORK

On the Hangapi road slump, we have met with our local council's engineers and although they acknowledge the slump was probably caused by their roadside drain, they seem unable to help us get the slump repaired. The water tables either side of the road above the crossing at this point have still not been attended to by the council at this time.

Ian B. and Dave have been out and done some more line side scrub clearance mostly near "Coal cutting".

SURVEY WORK

Mention must be made of Rob Beaumont and his wife Sue. Rob has been busy carrying out various surveying jobs for the BTC. He has done a lot of work at the Glen Afton end and more recently has been surveying the area of the slump at Hangapi Rd. Another job was determining the heights of the water tanks on the hill in relation to the new water tower.



Around the Junction

The place looks a picture at present with all the flowers in blossom.

Russell is still planting new gardens, the most recent one in front of the welcome sign near the top of the driveway up to the Junction.

Maarten and Lesley returned to the Junction for a short stay before continuing their travels. Maarten has been kept busy doing all sorts of jobs around the Railway.

LIVE MUSIC AT PUKEMIRO JUNCTION

During two of our recent Open Days we were fortunate to have a local family band to play for us. They are called "Rhode Worx" from Glen Massey, about 10 minutes from the Junction. They play all sorts of music and the whole family is involved.

We look forward to seeing as many members as possible at the Railway in 2017.

-CJ



Notices

None this time

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

The Gallery



Members enjoying the end of year BBQ after the December Open Day. (Images R.E.)



If they're waiting for a train, they may be waiting quite a while... (Image R.E.)



The steampunks even brought their own band (Image I.J.)