

Volume 12 Issue 3

Established 1965

May 2018

Pukemiro Junction

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

Page 1



SPECIAL MEMBERS EVENT – SUNDAY 10th JUNE – PAGE 2

SPECIAL MEMBERS EVENT – SUNDAY 10th JUNE, 2018**“LAUNCH” OF A1319 CARRIAGE AT PUKEMIRO JUNCTION**

Members and their families are invited to the inaugural run of carriage A1319 following a 3 year rebuild on Sunday 10th June. It is hoped to have the Peckett in steam. Commencing with a short ceremony at 11am, a number of runs up the line with the carriage will be made. A free lunch will be provided.

PLEASE ATTEND THIS CLUB SOCIAL EVENT!

GREETINGS

We are now into the second third of 2018. Where has the year gone so far. The weather is still pretty hot and dry but we have had occasional showers.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Many thanks to all who have renewed their 2018 subs. To those who haven't, we hope you will. If you have not paid by the beginning of June you are automatically removed from our mailing list.

Welcome to all of our new members and we have had quite a few. We hope you will join in with our activities, be it train running on open days and its associated necessary additions like the shop, souvenir sales, tickets etc. There is also plenty of work to do on the maintenance side of our railway.

OPEN DAYS

March open day was reasonably well patronised but April was much better. At least 3 of the April trains were full.

We had had some showers on afternoon and during the night before the April open day so we decided to use the Peckett by itself to haul the train to the bottom end of the line. This worked very well. Thanks to all who turn up and help make these days a success.

CHARTER TRIPS

Ian and his team have run two charters for a tour company from Masterton along with at least one other group. He tells me that he has three more booked and an enquiry for one in 2019!! We also have a potential charter for the Australian Railway Enthusiasts in late 2018.

Thanks to his team for running these midweek charter trips.

S H U N T I N G S C H O O L

This was well attended and a few new shunters were put through their paces.

A G M

This was held on the 25th March and attended by 25 members, a good turn-out.

As previously announced, Elliott stood down as Chairman.

Peter Cairncross was elected to take his place. Ian Bettison stood down from the committee this year as well.

The following are the Officers and Committee for 2018.

Chairman: Peter Cairncross

Treasurer: Ian Jenner

Secretary: Richard Ellis

General Manager: Colin Jenner

Committee: Bruce McLuckie, Richard Stratford, Ashley Turner, Guy Coker, John Soffe and Geoff Boyle.

The Club owes a great vote of thanks to Elliott and Ian B for their help and guidance.

This particularly applies to Elliott who has led the Club into the digital age (sometimes kicking and screaming) coming up with his younger ideas for the running of the club. We wish him well as he sets off on his great O.E..

There were no contentious issues raised at the AGM.

S O U V E N I R S

These continue to be sold by Beryl. We have got a further supply of T shirts. Buy now whilst stocks last and advertise & support your Club with a quality garment!! \$35 each.

T R A C K W O R K

Our CW crews have been out to the Junction a few times since the last newsletter. They have replaced some sleepers around the Station yard and a few at about ¼ k down the line.

We recently received 1 ½ trailer loads of flax bushes, some of these have been planted close to Glen Afton others have been dropped off there and about ½ way between the Junction and

Glen Afton where there are 2 slips close together. We hope that the flax will help stabilise these slip areas.

Dave Mann continues with his lineside pruning of the spectacular growth that has occurred this year. He has also done a lot of weed spraying with a backpack sprayer. Russell has weed sprayed the whole line.

S T E A M L O C O M O T I V E S

The Peckett and Cb have both passed their annual surveys with no problems.

Climax boiler: Richard S has spent a few weeks working on this since last newsletter. He is presently cutting out firebox stays that need replacing then reaming out the holes and rethreading them to a larger size. So far he has done about 35.



The Peckett at the station on the May 2018 Open Day – Image C. Mann.

D I E S E L S

Meremere 402 has had idling problems and a Mechanic from Shaw Diesels has been down from Auckland and made adjustments to fix the problem. The Tr ran during the April Open Day and after considerable work by Mike Andrews seems to have got rid of its limp.

ROLLING STOCK

A1319. This has been completed except for a couple of small jobs. NZTA have now approved it to carry passengers.

A1477/No.3 car. The carriage group have recently got stuck into this car. All of the T&G from the unrestored side has been removed. What is re-usable is being cleaned back to bare timber. This way we can find out how much new T&G timber we need to get. Part of the framework on this car is in bad condition. We have decided to convert the 2 window spaces on the eastern end into a balcony.

La 17313. Bruce has been cutting up the steel supports for the roof that will go on this wagon.



A1319 will be launched into service on 1th June.....Image R. Ellis

AROUND THE JUNCTION

Russell continues to keep the lawns mowed and the grounds looking good.

Old shanty washing machine: This has for many years resided on the shanty porch and been used by all who stay at the Junction for washing their working clothes. Being 70 years old it finally gave up the ghost in late March. Another machine was bought as a replacement and as it was not in peak condition Richard S managed to work his magic on it and got it going. The beauty of these old wringer machines is you can put your really dirty overalls in it and leave it going for at least ½ an hour or more and end up with respectably clean garments.



The old machine has a bright future as a flowerbed whilst the “new” machine gets some expert attention (Images R. Ellis & T. Bettison)

G L E N A F T O N E X T E N S I O N

No new news on the extension as we await the arrival of a contractor to carry out the work so we can run trains right to the end of the line. However this work is imminent & could make huge difference to the prospects for the Club.

S A F E T Y C A S E & S A F E T Y S Y S T E M

NZTA’s assessment last year focused on the health and safety side of things. They recommended changes to our schemes which we have now completed and had accepted by them. They also recommended that our training be computerised. This has largely been completed. All of this has meant a lot of work for Richard Ellis and Peter Cairncross.

WANTED – Member Richard Stratford is looking to buy a copy of “The Era Of The Bush Tram In New Zealand” by Paul Mahoney. If you have a spare copy contact secretary@bushtramwayclub.com.

Gallery



Due to coal supply issues, bagged coal has been used recently on Open Days; and a happy charter group pose for a photo in early 2018 (images T. Bettison)



The Heisler & Tr being shunted on a wet May Open Day morning – Image C. Mann



Sue Beaumont washes the pie warmer crumb tray at the April Open Day & the Peckett looking good at the May Open Day (Images R. Ellis; C. Mann)



Blast from the past Bb's 144 & 636 at Pukemiro (Image Keith Cullen)



Blast from the past: Bb636 at Pukemiro (image Trev Terry)



Heisler 1082 at Ongarue in the early 1960's – image Keith Cullen

THE END