

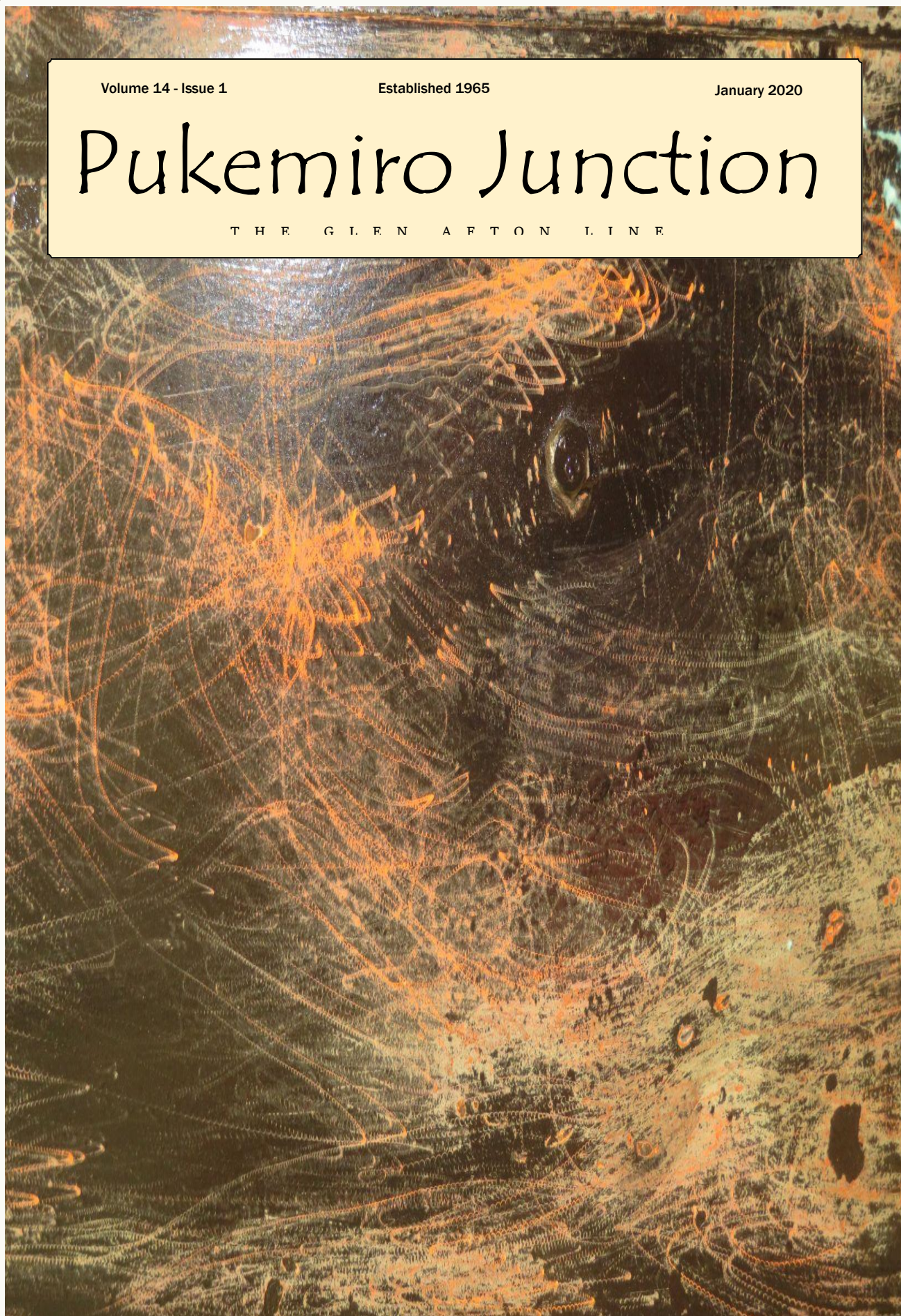
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Established 1965

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# Pukemiro Junction

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



The panelling of newly arrived diesel locoTr367/105 is rubbed back before painting in November 2019 (Image: R. Ellis)

**THE NEXT OPEN DAY IS ON SUNDAY, 5<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2020****GREETINGS**

Although the weather is starting to warm up, it is still pretty wet. Another year has gone & a new one is just beginning. Wonder what 2020 will bring us (hopefully not the NSW bushfires currently encircling me! – Ed).

**2019 OPEN DAYS**

November was not too bad passenger wise but December was the quietest we have had for many years. The drier weather meant that the Peckett was confined to the yard both days. The Cb was running up & down the yard during the November Open Day. The Peckett earned some money by allowing members of the Public to have a (supervised!) drive up the yard.



The Meremere diesels remain as the key locomotives on Open Days (C. Mann)

Both days, the Mamaku jigger was in use carrying passengers almost to Glen Afton. We are still running our passenger trains only from the top of Pukemiro yard to the bottom end of the line. Once again our passengers didn't have long to wait between trains.



Members & guests enjoy the December 2019 Open Day (Karleen Kopa)

Many thanks to all who turn up & help out with these days in any capacity. You are always needed but we need more members to train in the various jobs so that we can get a break during the day. Apply to join the team by contacting Colin Jenner via [secretary@bushtramwayclub.com](mailto:secretary@bushtramwayclub.com).

### **CHARTERS / GROUPS**

There are no charters until our trackwork is completed & we can run the full length of our railway. We have enquiries for 2020/21 including from overseas!

### **SUBSCRIPTIONS**

With the start of a new year, comes the start of our new financial year. Which means subs are now due!! Renewal forms will go out soon. We hope you will all renew your subs.

### **ALONG THE LINE**

Repair & maintenance of our line remains our main priority. This time the problems are up past Pukemiro Junction. Our contractor has had a lot of personal problems but should be here sometime in January.

We have just received a grant of \$5000 from WEL Energy Trust towards the cost of getting our contractor back. One of our members has very kindly offered us a loan to cover the rest of the contractor's costs. A lot of replacement sleepers have already been laid out.

Our CW crews have been busy replacing sleepers on the bottom end of our line. They were gauged & screwed down by Pete C. & John S. Approximately 30 sleepers still need replacing.

The spring has produced the usual weed growth along our railway. Dave M & CJ have been spraying selected parts of the undergrowth using knapsack sprayers. The whole line was sprayed by Richard S. & Dave M. recently.

John S. & Pete C. have been busy measuring & gauging the top part of our line. This gauging is being done every metre, a long & back breaking job.

### **AROUND THE JUNCTION**

Russell W. continues to keep the lawns cut & the driveway sorted out. Heavy rain has caused scouring of the metal on the driveway.

Patricia A. has offered to try & keep our gardens in order & has been down once so far with more trips planned.

Maarten R. continues to empty the hall. We recently sent off a skip load of steel

scrap metal while Ian J. has taken two loads of scrap brass & copper to sell as well. Once the hall is empty, it will be demolished.

### LOCOMOTIVES

Both steam locos are out of service for their annual surveys.



The Peckett seen at the December 2019 Open Day – now under survey (C. Mann)

401: This loco hasn't been firing on all cylinders since the injectors were changed so we got Raglan Diesel out to sort the problem out. They found that the fuel pipe wasn't correctly attached to 3 of the injectors. This was sorted out & the engine now runs very well. Richard S. & Dave M. did an oil change on the engine. There are still a few jobs to do on this loco.

Tr367, (was Tr 105): Richard E. was over during November & early December & spent most of his time working on this loco. It has had a coat of red paint on the bodywork & a very light cream on the radiator grill & the cab interior. Those helping were Russell W., Rob & Sue B, Trevor T, Dave M., Maarten R. & R. Stratford. The loco runs very well but has only run a short distance so far.



Russell Webb, Rob & Sue Beaumont & Trevor Townsend work on the new Tr loco in November 2019. End result seen below (R. Ellis)



Heisler: Chris M. spent most of the November Open Day removing the chimney & the Westinghouse air compressor from the smokebox of this loco. He has recently obtained quotes to overhaul the boiler & is now looking to see who we can apply to for grants for this work.

### **ROLLING STOCK**

A1477: Dave H has been lining the inside of this car with plywood. Richard E has drawn up sketches of changes to the framework of this car necessary to enable the balcony to be extended. Chris Mann's company is converting these into working drawings.

La 17313: Bruce M. has been working on the air brakes on this wagon

### **SECURITY**

Two of our CCTV cameras were stolen recently. Unfortunately for the thieves they thought they had cut the wires to the cameras but had cut the phone wires instead. We got quite a lot of very clear pictures of them & the number plate of their car.

We have reported this to Police but haven't heard anything yet. The cameras have been replaced.

The bottom gate of the drive is still not always being locked at night. Please ensure that if you are the last to leave or if you arrive late at night, that you lock the gate.

### **STATION**

The painting has been completed & looks very good. The job took 5 weeks. The painters found some rotten timber which Bruce M. has undertaken to replace. The spouting on the front has several holes in it & needs replacing. We have long intended having a new downpipe from the drive end of the spouting to run along the end of the building, under the drive & over the bank. We have just had a local plumber company come & look at the job to give us a quote.

All materials for the job are stored in the station.



Rob & Sue Beaumont replace the stolen CCTV cameras on the newly painted station. Dave Mann also did considerable work on this. (R.Ellis)

**DECEMBER OPEN DAY “NOSH UP”**



Attendees of the December 2019 “Nosh Up “ Christmas Celebrations (Photo: Jeff Ansto)



**A . G . M .**

This will be held on Sunday 22/3/2020 at 1.30pm at the Junction. It is important that as many members as possible come to elect the committee, hear progress of the Club & the railway in general & put forward their ideas.

A shunting refresher course will be held in the morning starting at 10.30am.

**O P E N D A Y S**

The next ones will be on 5<sup>th</sup> January, 2<sup>nd</sup> February & 1<sup>st</sup> March 2020. We hope that as many members as possible will come & help make these days a success.

**R E C R O O M / C A F É**

Dave H. has done a few alterations to this building & will be doing some more. Bruce M. has designed a shelter for the front of this building. We applied to Waikato District Council for a grant to purchase the materials. We were successful, the materials have been ordered & should be delivered soon.

The idea of the shelter is to give protection from the sun & rain to our passengers while they are sitting at the picnic tables eating our delicious food.

**N Z T A V I S I T**

NZTA are visiting us on 15/1/2020 for their annual assessment of our railway.

**C W P E R S O N**

We have just signed up a CW person as an agency placement with our railway. He has some engineering skills & has been with us before. We have heaps of jobs lined up for him to do during his time with us.

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**FROM THE OLD DAYS.....**

The "F" being unloaded at Rotowaro in the 1970's (R.J.Mann collection)



The old Rotowaro Station is seen here in the process of being relocated to Pukemiro Junction in the 1990's (R.J.Mann collection)



The Heisler locomotive and car van at Pukemiro Junction in the 1970/80's (R.J.Mann collection)

This newsletter is produced by Colin Jenner & Richard Ellis. Send your contributions for future editions (including images/photos to [secretary@bushtramwayclub.com](mailto:secretary@bushtramwayclub.com). We especially want old photos & reminiscences of days of old... & let's get these newsletters enhanced with more member views & reviews!