



Turntable

The bi-monthly Newsletter for members of the
New Zealand Railway and Locomotive Society Inc

NUMBER 144
November 2013

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

For those of us who were in Christchurch over Labour Weekend to help celebrate N Z Rail 150, what a great weekend it was. The excursions were popular and the open days at Ferrymead saw plenty of rail activity. It was good to meet so many members during the weekend. Starting from *Observer* 322 we will be featuring a selection of photographs of the festivities.

The Society's Annual General Meeting was held on the Sunday evening of Labour Weekend at Ferrymead. Although attendance was slightly down on what was expected it was a good meeting with the business taking one hour and discussion over supper lasting one and a half hours. That is the way it should be.

By the time you read this message, the Society's new look website should be operational. If not, it will not be long before it is on line. We are developing a members section in which more information, like past issues of *Observer*, will eventually be on line. One of the discussion topics in general business at the Annual General Meeting was the digitising of our archives. The Board is talking with an organisation that does this type of work and it is hoped that over time sections of our archives held at Ava will be available for members to view at www.railsoc.or.nz

Looking forward to next year, 2014 will be the 70th birthday of the Society. This year's Annual General Meeting decided that the next year's meeting should be held in Wellington and the Board is considering making the meeting - and weekend - a special time of celebration. As arrangements are finalised members will be advised, but I urge members to start thinking about being in Wellington some time next October.

The Society is also planning to have an open afternoon at our North End building at Silver Steam railway in late March in which the building will be officially opened and our sponsors will be thanked for their contributions. Specific details will be in the next *Turntable*, but again this will be a great occasion for members to meet and enjoy their hobby.

2014 will be a good year for the Society, and my wish is that you and yours will also have a good year and Christmas will be a blessed time together,

Graeme Carter, President

NEW MEMBERS

We have four new members who we welcome to our Society in this issue of *Turntable*. We are pleased to greet:

4809	Martin Gimblet	Levin
4810	Oscar Webb	Auckland
4811	J B Naughton	Nelson
4812	Russell Hopkins	Scarborough, Queensland.

We hope you will get much pleasure from joining in with our Society and our activities. You are very welcome to use our services and to buy our publications at the special prices we offer you as members.

2013 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This year's Annual General Meeting was held at Ferrymead Historic Park 7.30 pm on Sunday, 27th October, 2013. President Graeme Carter spoke of the challenges the Society has had to respond to following the deaths of Alan Spencer and Don Rudd. These men and their wives, Jan and Esther, have carried the brunt of the Society's administration for some 15 years or more.

Graeme noted that 2014 will bring the Society's 70th anniversary of its inception. A decision will be made during the year, but the 2014 AGM will be held in Wellington

Graeme announced the winners of the readers' choice of the best articles in the *Observer*, Volume 69,

Category A: Best single Article:
The Troublesome Makarau Tunnel, by Philip Wrigley;
Category B: Serial Articles:
Research notes 163 to 167 by Graeme McClare;
Category C: Best of... photo features:
Newton Candish, selected by Bill Prebble

There was no election this year, the next triennial elections for the Society's Board are due in 2015.

DISTINCTION FOR OTAGO MEMBERS

Longstanding NZRLS member Bill (W J) Cowan was presented with a life membership of the Otago Railway and Locomotive Society on 21 September for his contribution to that society over many years. Bill joined our Society in 1952 and has played an active role in Dunedin over many years. Initially he took part in our Otago Branch, which later decided to become a separate society after the establishment of the Ocean Beach Railway at St Kilda, Dunedin. In more recent times, Bill was one of those who set up our present Dunedin Group of NZRLS members. We congratulate Bill on his distinction and wish him many more years of enjoyment of active participation in our rail heritage movement.

At the same meeting of ORLS life membership was presented posthumously to Peter McCallum for his contribution to the ORLS over the years. Peter worked for many years as Engineer Manager for Taieri Gorge Railway and was a longstanding Secretary of the Federation of Rail Organisations, New Zealand. We are pleased to learn of this distinction and regret that Peter was fated not to learn of the award to him.

Due to recent budget cuts, the light at the end of the tunnel has been turned off.

ORAL HISTORY

We have recently taken possession of two recorders. If you have a project in the back of your mind to make some oral recordings of railwaymen, we have two recorders to lend. Contact Bill Prebble on (04) 234 1680 or bill_prebble@goodyear.com to make arrangements to borrow these.

PROGRESS WITH FITTING OUT SILVERSTREAM NORTH END BUILDING

A number of members have worked to finish lacquering the MDF board used to line the new storage and amenities area inside our North End building. Various tasks to finish the planned facilities in the workshop are being finished off and more outside lighting at doorways is being installed.

The Lundia storage system for archival material is complete. Bill Prebble has commenced loading it.

Clive Davis, Project Manager.

RESTORATION OF WELLINGTON & MANAWATU RAILWAY CARRIAGES

WMR No. 48's internal partitions at the toiled compartment are substantially complete, almost ready for door hanging and for varnishing. Undercoat paint is being applied to window sashes, ready for the addition of fittings such as catches, etc before top coat is added and the windows mounted in their frames. The 32 main window sashes are being fitted with springs, under-coated, and got ready for fitting of catches.

Graeme Bennett is doing a good job of fettling the many small castings already made for windows and doors.

Clive Davis, Project Manager

Pleasant Point Museum and Railway

Steam train runs:

December 8, 12.30pm – 4.00pm last train.

December 27, 28, January 2, 3, 5, 12, 19: 10.30pm – 4.00pm last train.

The Ford model TT railcar will be running on the hour from 11 am to 3 pm December 26 – March 23.

Fares are Family, \$30; Adult \$10; Child, \$5.

For recorded information on running, phone 03.614.8323. Otherwise contact Bryan Blanchard ba.mc.blanchard@xtra.co.nz, ph 03.686.2269.

Edition/author	Volume	Year Published	Price (postage extra)	Edition/author	Volume	Year Published	Price (postage extra)
First edition	1	1944	\$10	Reprinted 1990	1-3	1944-46	\$20
First edition	3	1946	\$10	Reprinted 1991	4-5	1947-48	\$20
First edition	5	1948	\$10	Reprinted 1994	8-9	1951-52	\$20
First edition	7	1950	\$10	Reprinted 1995	10-11	1953-54	\$20
First edition	8	1951	\$10	Reprinted 199	12	1955	\$20
First edition	9	1952	\$10	Reprinted 1997	13	1956	\$20
First edition	9 (dirty cover)	1952	\$9	Reprinted 1998	14	1957	\$20
First edition	10	1953	\$10	W N Cameron	A Line of Railway	1976	\$70
First edition	11	1954	\$10	Palmer A N &	Cavalcade		

OUR NZRLS ANNUAL DESK CALENDAR, 2014

NOW ON SALE

Another great Society calendar has been produced that is an absolute “must have” for your desk during 2014. As usual there are 13 great photographs taken by a very wide range of photographers from throughout New Zealand.

Starting with a spectacular cover shot of We 376 on the Rewanui Incline by Dave Mill, trains from a wide range of eras feature in spectacular colour, as do two electric tramways. Be in to order your copy while stocks last!

Prices:

NZRLS members in New Zealand, each	\$12
3 or more copies, each	\$11
NZRLS members overseas, each	\$15
NZRLS Groups and Affiliates, each	\$10

Available from our Society,

New Zealand Railway & Locomotive Society, Inc.,
P O Box 5134,
Lambton Quay, Wellington, 6145,
New Zealand.

Order from us at www.railsoc.org.nz

We accept Visa and MasterCard.

SECOND-HAND PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE

The Society has a number of second-hand books that have come from deceased members' estates. These are duplicates of books already held in our library and archive, so are surplus to our needs. We therefore are offering these to members wanting to catch up on past publications for your personal collections.

As space and time permit, we will list some of the spare publications held, for you to buy if you wish. There are many others, so it is worth asking us if you want a specific title.

Send your order (e-mail is simpler for you!) , and we will advise you which of the second-hand books you want are still available, and the price including postage to you. We will hold these for a fortnight, for your reply and remittance.

List No. 1 of Second-hand books.

				Stewart W W	of New Zealand Locomotives Covers worn)	1957	\$25
First edition	12	1955	\$10	Palmer A N & Stewart W W	Cavalcade of New Zealand Locomotives (2 nd ed.) (Covers worn)	1965	\$30

All enquires should be sent to:

Preferred means of contact: nzrls@actrix.co.nz

Or to

Second-hand books, NZRLS,

P O Box 5134, Wellington. 6140.

PROGRESS WITH OUR LOCOMOTIVE, Ab 608

Most significant recent work on our locomotive Ab 608, which is leased to Steam Incorporated, has been the rebuilding of the tender bogies which have since been refitted under the tender and the coupling up of the tender & engine units. Current work includes fitting a new dry pipe and steam pipes between the dome and cylinders. As soon as a large shipment of copper tube arrives, there is the fitting of lube and steam lines to be done. Add to that fabricating a new spark arrestor and fitting new super heater elements (already assembled), and the loco will be essentially complete.

Once that is achieved, it will be time for the paperwork of getting the engine certified to the satisfaction of KiwiRail for use on the main line, including road tests. Ab 608 is recorded as entering traffic in October 1915, so we think we have a good chance of seeing it running as a 99-year old!



The reassembly of our Society's leased locomotive Ab 608 continues to progress at Steam Inc., Paekakariki. The tender is now on its own bogies again and is coupled to the engine. At the time this photograph was taken one name plate had been fitted. The other was still being re-painted., November., 2013.

Photo.: John Bovis

LOCAL GROUPS AUCKLAND

The Auckland Group meets on the third Wednesdays of February, April, June, August and October, and the second Wednesday of December. The next meeting will held on Wednesday 11 December at 18 Lloyd Avenue, Mt Albert (on the corner of Thomas Avenue), commencing 8.00 pm. Enquiries to Sean Millar ph (09) 815-3885, or seanmillar@orcon.net.nz. Attendance and supper are free of charge. Wives, partners, and new and out-of-town members are all welcome.

WAIKATO

Meets 7.00 pm at St Andrews Library Hall, Braid Road/Taylor Terrace, Hamilton. The Group's last meeting for this year will be on 14 December. Admission a gold coin, please, and members bring a plate, please.

This Group suffered a significant loss when longstanding member, Secretary-Treasurer, Kevin O'Neill, resigned in July. Kevin had worked in this role since 1995, and before that was Vice Chairman of our then Waikato Branch 1992-95. Kevin has made a big contribution to our movement in Waikato Region and he will be missed. Kevin is thanked for the many hours of work he has contributed and the Group wish him well in the future.

The October meeting heard a talk on "Tales from the Postal Van". A rather different focus from usual.

BAY OF PLENTY

Meets on the third Thursday of each month February-November at 7.30 pm. Bay of Plenty Group meets in the Model Engineers' clubroom, Memorial Park, Tauranga. All enquiries to and details of next meeting from:

David Kent, 33 Gunbar Drive, Welcome Bay, RD 5, Tauranga, 3175 Ph (07) 544-6144

HAWKES BAY

Meetings are usually held in the Old Customhouse, Customs Quay, Ahuriri, Napier on the second Monday of April, June, August, October and December starting at 7.30 p.m. All welcome but please contact David Pryor to say you will be going. His address is 37 Trent St, Taradale, Napier, 4112. Ph. (06) 844-8795.

MANAWATU

Meetings are held at Milson Community Centre, Milson Line, Palmerston North, on the fourth Saturday of each month, starting at 7.30 pm. The last meeting for 2013 will be held on Saturday, 30 November, when Graeme Jupp will be presenting his material on the history of RMS "Titanic" and his trip to the North Atlantic Ocean for the commemoration of the centenary of the ship's sinking on 14 April, 1912.

In September members "visited" three countries, Tunisia, Israel, and India (the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway), through members' DVDs or videos. For the October meeting Ces Richardson spoke of his career as an NZR engineman from 1941.

Secretary/Treasurer: Stu Ingram,
12 Woburn Place, Palmerston North, 4412.

Ph: (06) 357-5216 E-mail: stu_i@inspire.net.nz

WAIRARAPA

Meetings are held at the Fell Locomotive Museum, Featherston, at 7.30 pm on the 4th Tuesday of each month February-November inclusive.

Tuesday 26 November will be our last meeting for 2013 and we look forward to having Brian Moosman with us for the evening to present a slide show on his recent overseas travels. Our group has enjoyed a good year and looks forward to 2014.

Organiser is George Watt,
24 Costley Street, Carterton, 5713
Ph. (06) 379 6937.

WELLINGTON

Meetings will be held in the Brian Davis Room at St. Pauls Cathedral, on the Molesworth Street/Hill Street corner, Off-street parking is available.

Next meeting is Monday, 9 December, at 5.45 pm for our 6.15 pm meeting. We will hear Brian Moosman, covering some exploration in Switzerland and a day on the Romney Hythe and Dymchurch Railway.

Contact people for Wellington Group are:

Len Chisholm: nzrailways@paradise.net.nz ;

P O Box 24-090, Manners Street,
Wellington, 6142. Ph (04) 235 5462

Chris. Benson: ph (04) 971-8934.

CANTERBURY

Canterbury Railway Society at Ferrymead has extended an invitation to all NZRLS members in Canterbury to attend its members' night meetings. These meetings are held on the last Tuesday of each month except in December and January.

The meetings are held in the Lions Club building at Ferrymead- access via Gate A off Truscotts Road and the building is on your right. The meeting format can vary from slides to talks and for November 20th the Tramway Historical Society and CRS will visit each others workshops to view current work projects.

To defray the cost of the provided supper and room hire a gold coin donation is taken at each meeting.

If further details are required contact:

Colin Barry (03) 358 3681 or

Bruce Shalders (03) 352 9340.

DUNEDIN

Last Tuesday ten members attended an informal gathering at Bill Cowan's place, 12 Cornwall Street, where the Group viewed a selection of Ian Wylie's early slides. Of particular interest were a number taken during the 1959-60 Otago and Southland Rail Tour hauled by A 178.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, 25 February 2014 at a venue yet to be advised. Enquiries can be made to Bill Cowan: (03) 454-5673

INVERCARGILL

Meetings of our members are held at Graham Aitken's home, 4-15 Clifton Street, Invercargill, 9810, 7.00 pm, on the fourth Sunday of the month except December. Check with Graham, the date may vary.

Contact person: Graham Aitken, Ph (03) 217-5986;

E-mail, gaaitken@clear.net.nz.

Copy closes for *Turntable 145* on 15 January, 2014.

This issue of *Turntable* was edited by Rob. Merrifield.

Turntable is the official newsletter of the Society. We welcome contributions from members. Any views expressed will only be those of the contributor, who will be identified.

Send your contributions to The Editor, *Turntable*, by letter to P O Box 5134, Wellington, 6145, or by e-mail to linrob@paradise.net.nz