

# ***The New Zealand Railway Observer***

ISSN 0028-8624

Volume 71

Issues 324 to 329

New Zealand Railway and Locomotive Society Incorporated  
PO Box 5134, Lambton Quay, Wellington, 6145, New Zealand

## **Principal Contents**

Auckland's Electric Multiple Units.....	5
The Changing Face of the Paekakariki Line 1885-1963.....	11
The Otira Rail Tour of 1956.....	18
Some of the Smaller Engines – the D and L Class Tank Locomotives.....	22
An Assistant Guard in Wellington in the 1960s.....	45
ANZAC Morning at Ferrymead.....	50
The Life of Ab 608 <i>Passchendaele</i> .....	52
The Last Decade of the Thames Branch.....	57
A Day in the Life of the Little River Branch.....	62
A Review of NZR Locomotive Numbering from 1890.....	85
KiwiRail in Eastern Bay of Plenty.....	93
My Taumarunui Years - Part One.....	102
Why the 3 ft 6in Gauge?.....	106
The Wab/Ws Class Steam Locomotives.....	125
Temporary Switchout Tablet Stations.....	134
<i>Passchendaele's</i> Load Test.....	138
My Taumarunui Years - Part Two.....	142
Train trips with the Corsair Social Club.....	165
The Co-operative System of Constructing Public Works.....	172
The Magic of the Raurimu Spiral.....	177
NIMT Railway: Basic Requirements for Electric Locomotives.....	182
Wellington "A" Signal Box and Guard Duties.....	205
Jubilees @ Ferrymead.....	214
The Future of Commuter Trains North of Waikanae.....	223
Bridge Strengthening in Conjunction with NIMT Electrification.....	226

## **Research Notes (All by Graeme McClare)**

No 175, A Couple of Mysteries Solved?.....	17
No 176, The Early Stations of Onehunga.....	71
No 177, A New Zealand Railway Preservation Pioneer.....	96
No. 178, Leaving for the Front.....	150
No. 179, Blowing the Whistle on an Early Society Member.....	170
No. 180, An Elaborate Funeral Train.....	212

## **Regular Features**

Book and DVD Reviews.....	38, 78, 116, 158, 197, 236
Down at the Station.....	31, 73, 112, 153, 193, 234
From the Top of the Raurimu Spiral.....	4, 44, 84, 124, 164, 204
From the Collection Of .....	26, 67, 98, 130, 188
Letters.....	36, 77, 114, 156, 196, 236
Obituaries.....	34

## INDEX

**Accidents:**

Melling Accident	112, 155
Slip at Kakahi, 8 February, 1959	142-143

**Authors:**

Alecock, Graeme	182
Arnold, Robert	93
Barry, Colin	165
Bates, John	102, 142
Blow, H J H	172
Bosward, Albert	5
Boult, A A	22
Denley, Martin	182
Hart, David	11
Holmes, Philip	226
Knowles, John	106
McClare, E J	52, 125
McClare, Graeme	17, 71, 96, 150, 170, 212
Nelson, Dave	57
Prebble, Bill	67, 98, 130, 230
Russell, Robin	177
Sutherland, Wallace	98-101
Spicer, Don	62
Taylor, Bruce	223
Terry, J A T	134
Thomson, Ray	45, 205
Turner, D L A	50, 138, 214
Wrigley, Philip	85

**Book & DVD Reviews:****Books**

A Steam Odyssey	158
Auckland's Western Line Station Upgrades	237
Ferrymead 50 – the story of a railway	237
From Survival to Revival	117
Motat Locomotives	38
NZ's War Memorial Locomotive Ab 608 <i>Passchendaele</i>	116
North Island Provincial Stations – A Contemporary Pictorial	78
Salute to the Hudswells	236
South Island Railway Stations – a Contemporary Pictorial	117
The Thames Branch – End of an Era	197
The Wairarapa Class Railcars and the Rimutaka Incline – inception, design, operation	238
Trains Through Time – 2015 calendar	197
"Tringamoot"	117

**DVDs**

NZ Rail Scene No. 78 (Majik Video)	78
NZ Rail Scene No. 79 (Majik Video)	118
NZ Rail Scene No. 80 (Majik Video)	197
NZ Rail Scene No. 81 (Majik Video)	238

**Carriage Stock**

Concerns over Chinese Made Bogies on AK Carriages	73
Auckland's Diesel Units and Carriages for Sale	73

**Bridges and Viaducts:**

Big Kowhai	233
Bridge Strengthening in Conjunction with NIMT Electrification (Holmes)	226
Makatote	227-229
Makatote Viaduct to be Repainted	193
Makohine	227-229
Overbridge at Okahukura Removed	193
Toi-Toi	227

**Construction:**

The Co-operative System of Constructing Public Works (Blow)	172-176
---	---------

**Financial:**

Bad Year for KiwiRail	153
Flat Six Months of trading for KiwiRail	31
KiwiRail to Sell Clifford Bay Land	113
More Money for KiwiRail	112
Napier-Gisborne Railway	154
Napier Gisborne Railway Limited	112

**Freight Services:**

A Day in the Life of the Little River Branch (Spicer)	62-65
Bathurst to Defer Mining	32
East Town Log Transfer Terminal	154
Extra Coal Trains on the Midland Line	32
Fertiliser Stops Being Railed	154
Increased Rail Services with Ports of Auckland	153
Inter-port Rivalry at Rolleston	194
KiwiRail in Eastern Bay of Plenty (Arnold)	93-95
Longburn Freight Hub	154
More Westland Milk Railed from Canterbury	194
Ports of Auckland Uses Rail More	32
Port of Tauranga Buys South Island Freight Hub	32
Port Change of Ownership Affects Timaru	155
Temuka Transfer Yard Underutilised	194
The Last Decade of the Thames Branch (Nelson)	57-61
Tokoroa Road-Rail Terminal	153

**Heritage & Rail Trails:**

Ab 608 Passes Steam Test	33
Ab 608 Dedicated	75
Ab 608 Star Attraction at Glenbrook	195
Another Diesel Locomotive at Maymorn	195
Another Dumped Locomotive Discovered	33
Another WMR Carriage [42] for Restoration	74-75
ANZAC Morning at Ferrymead (Turner)	50-51
Christchurch Tramways	155
Dunedin Railways	194
FRONZ Awards	113
Gisborne Vintage Railway Suspends Operations	75
Good News for Bay of Islands Railway	113
Jubilees @ Ferrymead (Turner)	214
Kingston Flyer's Future Still in Doubt	33
Kingston Flyer Saga Continues	235
Lauder Station on the Move	155
Lumsden Heritage Trust	195
Model T Railcar Damaged	33
New Branch Line in Blenheim	195
Opening of New Eketahuna Station	75
P Class Locomotives	155
Picton Station for Sale	235
Problems with Oamaru Station	195
Rainforest Express to Remain Closed	235
Re-opening the Gisborne Line Inches Forward	193
Restoration of Price E	75
Restoration of Single Fairlie R 28	155
The Kingston Flyer's Future	195
Wanganui Tram Runs for the First Time	33
Whangarei Railway Station	195
Woodside Goods Shed for Sale	235

**Letters:**

Cabbage Train	37
Editorial	114
Enjoying NZRLS	114
Incorrect Caption	114
John Snell	77
Kakahi	196
Ken Hoddinot	36

<i>Kingston Flyer</i>	236
Little River Branch	114
Locomotive Numbering	196
New Lynn Signal Box	196
Paeroa	156
Pororo-o-Tarao Tunnel	157
Roy Gay's Photographs	236
<i>Silver Fern</i> Railcars	36
Tangiwai and Blenheim Recollections	36
Taumarunui	156
Welded Rail	37

# **Locomotive Notes and Illustrations:**

(Each entry refers to a page where a photograph includes the locomotive listed or a comment.)

## **Old Bush Locomotives**

Hudswell Clark, <i>Dunedin</i>	32-33
Price E	75

## **Old Steam**

Some of the Smaller Engines – the D and L Class Tank Locomotives

A	97, 216-218, 220-222, 240
D	22-23, 172
F	69-71, 190, 240
L	16-17, 24-25
P	155
R	155

## **Steam**

A	20, 28
Aa	xx
Ab	1, 27, 42, 52-56, 62-65, 131, 132, 138-141, 195, 200, 227
Ad	150-151
B	231
C	119, 132, 191, 205
G	28, 132, 189
H	35
J	102, 179-180
Ja	18, 119, 121, 131, 132, 179, 188, 231
Jb	146, 149
K	12, 102, 144, 213
Ka	26-27, 102, 105, 142-149, 159, 213, 227, 239
Kb	20, 233
Q	99, 227
U, Ua, Ub, Uc, Ud	21, 98, 100, 189
W, Wa	50-51, 68-69, 215, 216, 218, 219, 220-222, 232
Wab	101, 125-129
We	67, 85
Wf	68, 101
Ww	150-151
The Life of Ab 608 <i>Passchendaele</i> (McClare)	52-56
The Wab/Ws Class Steam locomotives (McClare)	125-129
<i>Passchendaele's</i> Load Test (Turner)	138-141

## **Diesel (including DMUs)**

ADC (ex-Perth)	161
Ds, Dsa, Dsb	21, 130
Tr	70, 86, 87

## **Diesel-Electric**

DA	103, 104, 143, 147, 149, 227
DBR	57-60
DC	60-61, 79, 80, 89, 122, 180
DGP	39
DE	195, 219
DF (GM)	82, 91
DFT	80

DH	72
DL	93, 153, 160
DSC	88
DX	90, 181, 201, 227
DXC	79, 81, 202
DXR	39
DL Locomotives Withdrawn from service	31
DL locomotives Slowly Re-enter Service	73
DL locomotives Back in Service	153

## **Electric (including EMUs)**

Auckland's Electric Multiple Units (Albert Bossward)	5
Auckland's EMUs Continue to Arrive	31
Ganz-Mavag Units Leave for Africa	31
North Island Main Trunk Railway: Basic Requirements for Electric Locomotives (Alecocock & Denley)	182-187
AMA, AMT, AMP (Auckland)]	5-10, 41, 120, 161
D, DM (English Electric)	219
EM, ET (Ganz-Mavag)	2
EA	186
Ec	184
Ed	48
EF	122, 160, 178-179, 187, 227
Eo	19, 183, 219
Ew	45

## **Industrial**

Dun Mountain Railway	106, 108-110
Fowler (PWD)	167
Mitsubishi (Ohai Railway Board)	199
Price-Barclay	61

## **Miscellaneous Locomotive Items**

A Review of NZR Locomotive Numbering from 1890 (Wrigley)	85-92
<i>Dominion of New Zealand</i>	170-171
My Taumarunui years – Part one (Bates)	102-105
My Taumarunui years – Part two (Bates)	142-149
North Island Motive Power Crisis	31

## **Obituaries:**

Eric Frederic Burns	34
John Bernard Snell	34

## **Operational:**

Greater Control of Trains	234
New Seismic Alert System	73

## **Passenger Services:**

A Good Summer for KiwiRail Scenic	32
Christchurch Commuter Rail Possibility	74
Concerns over Chinese Made Bogies on AK Carriages	73
Doubts over future of the <i>Capital Connection</i>	194
<i>Overlander</i>	177-178, 180-181
The Early Stations of Onehunga (McClare)	71
The Future of Commuter Trains North of Waikanae (Taylor)	223
Train Trips with the Corsair Social Club (Barry)	165-169

## **Railcars:**

Auckland's Diesel Units and Carriages for Sale	73
Drewry	19, 130
Vulcan	18-19, 219, 230

## **Shipping:**

KiwiRail Confirms <i>Arahura</i> Replacement	234
--	-----

## **Signals and Signal Boxes:**

Automatic Signalling Rules	154
Signalling Changes at Te Rapa	153

Temporary Switchout Tablet Stations (Terry)	134-137	New Era in Rail Travel in Auckland	73
Wellington "A" Signal Box and Guard Duties (Thomson)	205	Property Purchases for Central Rail link	112
		Reduced Cost for Central Rail Link	153
		Transport Agency Supports an Early Start on Rail Link	193
<b>Station Photographs:</b>		<b>Wellington:</b>	
St John's	26	An Assistant Guard in Wellington in the 1960s (Thomson)	45-49
Whangamomona	29	<i>Capital Connection</i> Reprieve	234
<b>Stations, Yards and Lines:</b>		Continuing Noise Problems on Johnsonville Line	74
Auckland	239	KiwiRail Confident about Wellington Commuter Contract	155
Ferrymead	217-221	New <i>Matangi</i> Units Being Tested	235
Johnsonville Station to Have Two Tracks	154	New Timetable for Wellington Commuter Trains	32
Kioreroa Service Siding	137	Punctuality Issues in the Wairarapa	234
Lauder Station on the Move	155	Upper Hutt News	235
Lumsden Heritage Trust	195		
Moorhouse	217-222	<b>Christchurch:</b>	
Napier-Gisborne line – A Political Issue	73	No Commuter Services for Christchurch	155
Oamaru Railway Station for Sale	75	Support for Christchurch Commuter Service	113
Pororo-Tarao Tunnel Siding	135		
Problems with Oamaru Station	195	<b>Track and Permanent Way:</b>	
Service Sidings, Drury-Paerata	134	Why the 3ft 6in Gauge? (Knowles)	106-110
Service Siding, Mt Eden-Morningside	134		
Stratford-Okahukura Line	148	<b>Tramways:</b>	
The Changing Face of the Paekakariki line 1885-1963 (David Hart)	11	Funding Issues for Wellington Cable Car	112
The Magic of the Raurimu Spiral (Russell)	177-181	Wanganui No. 12	40
Tirohia service siding	135		
Upper Hutt Railway Station	155	<b>Tunnels:</b>	
Waitette viaduct service siding	135	Kaimai Tunnel floor being Replaced	193
Wellington Railway Station is Strengthened	154		
Whangarei service siding	137	<b>Wagons:</b>	
Whangarei Station	195	Automatic Couplers Fitted	153
<b>Suburban Commuter Lines:</b>		Covers for Coal Wagons	113
Commuter Rail Contracts	113	GT Wagons Withdrawn	155
Short List for Wellington	234	IAB Wagon Repair Work Completed	234
<b>Auckland:</b>		<b>Workshops:</b>	
Auckland Central Business District Rail Link	31	New Traverser at Hutt Workshops	194
Auckland City Rail Link Delayed	234	Removal of Asbestos from DL Locomotives	112
Auckland's Diesel Units and Carriages for Sale	73	Repair of Wagons at Picton	112
Auckland Electrification Complete	193		
Increased Auckland Rail Patronage	112		
Milestone in Auckland Electrification Project	153		