Northern Views



Issue No. 333 March 2020

Clubrooms and Running Track at Whangarei Heritage Park SH14 Maunu Website: www.wmec.org.nz



Club Notices

Running day 3rd Sunday - March 15, 2020, 10 am - 3 pm

Mid-week Workdays - Generally Every Wednesday, 10 am - 3 pm

Extra running days - none advised this month

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From the Editor

Only 4 pages not a lot to report this month, what with fire bans and an unusually long warm dry spell it seems to have kept everyone seeking shade and cool.

I had a visitor from England this week, the builder of my loco Alain Foote and his wife Rosemary (after who my loco is named) were on holiday here in New Zealand and got in touch to arrange a meet up and we had a pleasant evening at the Parua Bay Tavern. Since he built the Wren he as gone on to build another Kerr Stuart locomotive in 7 I/4in "Hampton" a loco from the Metropolitan Water Board Railway in London. He is currently building another loco "Fiji" a Hudswell Clarke sugar plantation loco.



Alain's loco Hampton on the turntable at its home track at Rugby MES (note the Shay in the background)



The full size Fiji at Porthmadog on the 600mm gauge Ffestiniog Railway in Wales

3rd Sunday Running

As we are in the middle of an extended dry spell and having a total fire ban in force it was decided not to run steam (even though as an enclosed appliance we may have been technically allowed) due to the proximity of dry grass and bush to the track.

The Santa Fe and 444 were the main duty locos, and coped with the demand until just before lunch time, but as the queue started to build Lloyd's shunter was pressed into action to help ease the queue.

After lunch a bit of drizzle blew in which thinned the crowds and the rest of the afternoon was relatively quiet allowing us to get packed up comfortably for 3pm finishing time.

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Martin with a full load behind 444



Santa Fe climbs the bank with ease



444 unloading passengers after another lap



Jayden with a full load for the Santa Fe



Lloyd with the shunter after the queue had eased



444 with another full train towards the end of the day

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Open Day Invitations



TSGR OPEN WEEKEND 28/29 March 2020

Fellow enthusiasts

Please be aware that the Thames Small Gauge Railway Society is having their annual OPEN WEEKEND over the period 28/29 March 2020.

We invite fellow enthusiasts and club members with an interest in small gauge railways to come along to the open weekend, with, or without a locomotive.....

For those with locomotives wishing to run on our picturesque seaside railway, please enquire with Vice President (Operations), Ken Nation mariannenation@gmail.com for the detail.

Our society would be grateful if you forwarded this notification to any individual or organisation who may have an interest in attending our open weekend, either as a visitor or as a participant.

Many thanks Russell Skeet

Secretary

Thames Small Gauge Railway Society

LIST OF MAIN CLUB OFFICERS

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